



Top - Easy Street, 2017 Seniors International Contest No. 5
 Main Street, 2016 International Contest No. 3
 Signature, 2016 International Contest No. 4



Easy Street,
2017 Seniors International Contest No. 5



Easy Street,
2017 Medal Presentation

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**Next Sunburst
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May 15, 2017**



Chuck Steiner
President

Hello Sunshine District, I am honored and humbled to be the Sunshine District President and am committed to continuing to make our District the very best in the Society. This is my first letter in *The Sunburst* as President...and it will be the longest (promise!).

Your 2017 Board of Directors and VP's is largely intact from last year, so you should only see a few new faces and some swapping of roles:

Arne Helbig (Tampa) is your new *Executive Vice President*, and his experience in the District and Society will be invaluable as we move forward. Arne is replacing **Chad Bennett** who has moved to Nashville. Chad is currently working for BHS, so while we "lost" him in the District, we have an inside set of eyes and ears right at BHS headquarters. That's a win for us, even as a loss!

Nick Schwob, who you all know, has diligently served the District as President for several years, has moved into my former role as *VP of Events*, as well as serving as Immediate Past President. Coincidentally, he occupied the Events role prior to being President, so he is in familiar territory. His counsel and guidance is very much appreciated (and needed!). I have past presidents Schwob, Brinkmann, Elswick and Spang in my ear and on call if needed, plus our assigned Society representative Don Fuson...so yeah, I'm good.

Steve Cragg (Tampa) will be assuming the role that Arne had- *VP of Youth in Harmony*, and will be an excellent addition to the District Board. He has a passion for youth and getting them involved in our Harmony Explosion Camps...I know that he will do a great job. And Arne will be right there to assist.

A new face for our District is **Dave Richards** (Melbourne), who has moved to the Sunshine State recently. Dave has accepted the VP of Harmony Foundation role, and we look forward to working with him- welcome, Dave!

Everyone else has retained the same positions. The full board and all Chairmen and Committee members can be found on our website at <http://sunshinedistrict.org/home/leadership/> Your District Board is in place to serve YOU!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- District President: Chuck Steiner
- Immediate Past President: Nick Schwob
- Executive Vice President: Arne Helbig
- Secretary: Brian Wunderlin
- Treasurer: Dave Kannberg
- Board Member At Large: Ralph Brown
- Board Member At Large: Ernie de la Fe
- VP of Financial Development: John Spang
- VP of Harmony Foundation: Dave Richards
- VP of Events: Nick Schwob
- VP of Chorus Director Development: Steve Jacobsen
- VP of Contest & Judging: Stephen Janes
- VP of CSLT: John McGoff
- VP of Comm. & IT: Roger Smeds
- VP of Membership Development: Bart Van de Mark
- VP of Music & Performance: Sean Stork
- VP of Youth in Harmony: Steve Cragg

I encourage everyone to visit our District website (www.sunshinedistrict.org) and poke around. *VP Communications and IT Roger Smeds* continues to improve our online presence every day and most questions and information (including documents, forms, leadership information, Contest/Convention info, Chapter Shows, and much more!) can be found on our web site thanks to his awesomeness!

Ok, ...enough housekeeping. On to some news. Nick, Arne and I just returned from Midwinter in San Antonio- wow, what a well-run Convention, a great time, and a great city! Arne and I attended the District President's Council Meetings (a first for both of us), as well as the Society Board Meeting, and a lot of information was learned. We have our work cut out for us...but I will brag a little bit and say that Sunshine is often looked at as a leader in *many* areas of the Society. We should be very proud of the foundation laid out for us by our prior Leadership.

We were delighted to watch our very own **Easy Street** quartet win 5th place bronze in the Seniors Quartet Contest- congrats, guys! We are proud of you and look forward to your future!
(continued on page 5)

BUSY END OF YEAR TASKS

Busy Busy Busy!!! All the year-end stuff the chapter secretary needs to do.

By now, all of you have had your chapter elections and when you had the elections. I'm sure you recorded the persons who were there when the elections were made. You know the old rule about a quorum and stuff like that, right? OK, that's taken care of so now all you need to do is record the new leaders in your chapter section eBiz.

Ok, that's done. What next? Well if you had a show during the year, then ASCAP fees need to be paid. What? Gotta pay that in addition to the BMI/SESAC fees we paid when we got the license for the show? Yep! This is a onetime fee for all the performances for the entire year. Forms to calculate the ASCAP fees are on line at the Society web page.

Another thing, you all need to remind your fellow chapter officers about to start thinking budget...

Brian Wunderlin
Secretary



and include in the budget process some time and funds for your new leaders to attend Leadership Academy (LEADAC). Even if you have been to LEADAC in the past, you will learn about new requirements that need to be accomplished by the chapters.

If you are having a holiday show, have a great one. Here is hoping everyone has a safe and blessed holiday season and a great new year.

Thanks for helping make the Sunshine District one of the best in the society and I look forward to serving as your Sunshine District Secretary again in 2017... and remember to continue to Support the District!!!!

Thanks,
Brian Wunderlin
Sunshine District Secretary

COMPLIANCE

For many years, you have seen articles by Sunshine District Secretary, Dan Brinkmann (and more recently, Brian Wunderlin) reminding chapter officers about a variety of business items and deadlines. Continuing that tradition, here are a few of the things that need to be done soon to keep your chapter "compliant" with BHS, IRS, and Florida rules and regulations.

Taxes

Begin now to get all your financial records ready to file your 2016 IRS form 990. The deadline for filing 990's is May 15. Late filing could result in a penalty fee. After filing with the IRS, don't forget about the requirement to update your chapter financial record in Ebiz.

Financial Review

The BHS has a requirement that every chapter complete an annual Financial Review. Several chapters have not completed this review (or have not updated EBiz to indicate completion.) Delinquency puts the chapter in jeopardy of incurring

Ralph Brown
Member At Large



penalties including disqualification from competition.

State Incorporation

Florida Not-For-Profit Incorporation annual reports must be filed no later than May 1, 2017. Earlier is fine. So why not get that out of the way now?

Solicitation Registration

This is another State of Florida requirement. Each chapter that sells tickets to performances must renew their registration annually in order to comply with state statutes. Renewal dates are different for each chapter, and several chapters are near their expiration date.

Ralph Brown
Sunshine District Board Member at Large

(continued from page 3)

We also got to see and hear the five Seniors Choruses from other Districts compete in the first ever Seniors Chorus Contest. Some surprisingly, very large and very well-trained groups performed and there is absolutely no reason why Sunshine cannot field a group of men to compete on that front. Hoping to pull that together for next year's Midwinter!

Thursday night's show at Midwinter was all-Sunshine...Main Street, Signature, The Buzz, Boardwalk (even though they claim DIX, I claim them), and Keepsake all performed one after the other. It was literally a parade of SUN. They all did us very proud!

I will be asking the 2017 Board for their individual goals and vision for our "Top Three Biggies" for the District as a whole. Many times (most times, actually), your ideas and thoughts make it into our meetings and morph into a program or new line of thought. You have a voice- either your own, or through your House of Delegates Representative. So please don't ever hesitate to contact any of us, or let your HOD representative know your thoughts.

If we don't have the answer, we will get it.

More to follow in the coming months –for now- PLEASE make it a top priority to attend, sing at, and support our District Events and Conventions this Spring, Fall, Labor Day, LeadAc and all Festivals and Youth Events in-between. That is what drives us right now. Spring Convention is coming up (March 10-11), and we need all of you there. I've also just received word that Keepsake quartet is locked in for our Fall 2017 Convention, so we will help them celebrate their 25th Anniversary of winning the Gold in their home District!

Looking forward to a very productive 2017 and beyond!

Sing well, and carry on,
Chuck

p.s. Oh yeah...2018 International is looming in Orlando. Planning for that has already begun. Volunteers from Sunshine will be needed- lots of 'em... so start talking within your Chapters because I can guarantee that Mr. Schwob is going to be calling on you!



All contest photos were provided by Lorin May / Barbershop Harmony Society.

At this writing we are looking forward to a great Spring Convention. Be sure to follow the flow of information by following our twitter feed at: <http://www.twitter.com/sunshinedist>. You can follow our Facebook page as well at: <https://www.facebook.com/sunshinedistrict/>. Our district social media czar Mike Tarlton, will be on hand at the convention to keep the live flow going and maybe even help you with your social media questions. You can reach him at: mike.tarlton@sunshinedistrict.org.

We also are working on providing a display of our live social media feed in the hall during the convention. It may not happen this Spring due to budget constraints, but we are working on it.

We have an ongoing project to build some marketing materials for our Conventions. We need help from all of you to accomplish this goal. As a reminder, we are looking for any photos or video you have taken either at the upcoming convention or at past conventions. We are not looking for "professional" quality stuff. Rather, we would like your "casual" photos or videos of your experience while at convention. We will use them to produce content that will be used in our marketing efforts both to our own members who may have forgotten what a great time we have at our conventions, as

Roger Smeds
V. P. Comm. & IT



well as to the general public to increase awareness of what we are all about. You can submit them to me for the project at: communications@sunshinedistrict.org.

The communications team has developed some software that automatically generates the competitor schedules for the convention team. This probably doesn't mean much to you unless you are a competitor in the flow of movement to the stage, but it simplifies the convention team and website team's work during the competition. As soon as the quartet draw for Saturday night is announced, competitors can view the flow diagram on the contestant information page within a few minutes.

Please feel free to contact me regarding questions/suggestions about the District website.

Roger Smeds
VP for Communication & IT
Sunshine District
communications@sunshinedistrict.org



The Buzz, 2005 Sweet Adelines International Champions



Steve Jacobsen
V.P. Chorus Director
Development

Steve Jacobsen
Vice President, Chorus Director Development

Greetings and a happy 2017 to everyone in Sunshine! I hope you're settling in to the year with a great plan to sing at the highest level throughout the district.

My job is to coordinate available educational opportunities for chorus directors and chapter music leadership. I'm here to assist our chapters in making sure that educational opportunities for chorus directors are available to you, and to the extent we can, put you in touch with folks in your area that may be interested in directing if you're looking for a new director, and to provide that person with the tools needed to create and/or maintain a successful music program.

Some of the things we can do for you include regional workshops (CWDI) along with Next Level, a

more advanced workshop, the Outstanding in Front program, to develop novice directors, assistant directors, section leaders and music team leadership. To attend Harmony U, be sure to fill out your application on line at:

<http://www.barbershop.org/harmony-university/scholarships/>. Scholarship assistance is available for front line directors and music educators, and others, and you apply for that assistance within the application. They've made it easy, so don't delay! As someone who has had several years of experience at the chapter level, I can tell you that getting your director to Harmony U is the best thing you can do for your music program. Please take advantage of this great opportunity!

I will be in contact with your chapter music team leaders to find out what your needs in this regard may be. In the meantime, if you're ready to either start or continue your journey to higher heights, don't wait for me to get in touch with you. Call me, text me or e-mail me. Let's get something going in your area sooner rather than later.

Harmoniously,

Steve

The LEMON BAY CHORD COMPANY of ENGLEWOOD, FLORIDA is searching for a compensated Musical Director to skillfully lead and teach our year-round chorus in chapter shows and community performances. Interested candidates please contact:
Paul Bravo (941-716-2886) or lbccdirectorsearch@yahoo.com.

Keep your personal information, home address, email address, telephone (home & cell) up to date in the Society database. Check with your chapter secretary if help is required. Do not send any personal changes to the district staff or the Sunburst editor.

NEXT SUNBURST DEADLINE
May 15, 2017

Capital Chordsmen

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SATURDAY JUNE 10 2017

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Midwinter
Saturday Night Show
All Chapter Chorus



Donny Rose, Director
also the
Director of Harmony University



Chapter Happenings

Let me please talk about tags. A tag is what got me into barbershopping. Here is the story.

I went down to a meeting of a men's singing group, my wife at the time, told me about. She kinda insisted. I thought I really had no interest in the barbershop style, but I went anyway. They were getting ready for a contest in five weeks, so I wasn't allowed to sing with them in practice. I rather enjoyed hearing it and thought I'd think about it, maybe. And then, right after the rehearsal ended, the director and two other guys took me into a room with great acoustics and asked me to just sing a note and hold it. It was the bass note on "Rose" in the end of the Midnight Rose tag. Wow! I was sold. I sang in the contest. We won. Ironically, we beat the chorus directed by Ed Waesche, the arranger of Midnight Rose.

For me, tags have been a big part of my Barber-shop joy. I like singing all kinds of tags. I've even written a few. But what I enjoy most is teaching a really easy tag to a man who's not barbershopped before and see the look on his face and in his eyes when he hears and feels that overtone, like the first sip of a great wine at a wine tasting.

So, when a visitor new to barbershopping comes into the Martin/St.Lucie Mariners' hall, before or during rehearsal, the director (me) and two members (often section leaders) take him to another room and after briefly meeting each other, and describing what we do and why we do it, we teach him an easy, easy tag with the guest singing a part (usually a one or two noter) with the others harmonizing around him. The director can tell by the look in the guest's eyes whether he feels the overtone, if there is one. There usually is. Thusimmediate success.. The director also suggests a part and the section leader becomes his "Buddy" for the evening, if that's what you want to call it. He is given a folder with the Music of the Night in order, along with the original Pole Cat Book. No bulky guest book.

Bart Van de Mark
V. P. Chapter
Development



Also, during the rehearsal, the guest is invited to become the fifth wheel in a quartet or VLQ and hold his music while My Wild Irish Rose or something easy is sung. And he gets to share applause. Success, again. He feels it.

We have a very high percentage of first night visitors who want to join right then. Just sayin'.

And by the way, tags don't only have to be taught in a chapter meeting. If your group is singing somewhere and a listener shows an interest... give him a trial taste. Yum!

Below are three really easy tags. They are not rangy or long. Every part is easy, and they create overtones.

Midnight Rose, Danny My Boy, Sweetheart of Mine **(See tags on page 17)**

One more thing, the Sunshine District is strongly considering reviving our music education program in some manner, possibly including it in one or more of our other events during the year. We are interested in what your interest might be. If one of the subjects were tag writing, for example, no matter what your musical theory education might be, (like the original barbershoppers) would you be interested in creating a tag or more with us? If you are, contact me at roadwarriorbvd@gmail.com. It might even enhance your music theory understanding.

Bart Van de Mark

SUN VP Chapter Development

Martin/ St.Lucie Music Director
Song writer/arranger

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2016 International Quartet Medalist



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Saturday Night Show



Forefront and Signature



Main Street and Boardwalk



Boardwalk and Buzz



Keepsake 1992 Gold Medalist



Signature, 2016 Fourth Place Bronze Medalist



Boardwalk



This is a very interesting and informative hour spent with a gold medal quartet. You get to hear a top quartet sing, “up close and personable” then hear how each member interacts with the others in the quartet to come up with a great sound.



Midnight Rose Tag (milk it)

Tenor Lead

Bari Bass

1 2 3

Lit - tle Mid - night Rose

Rose

Danny My Boy tag

Tenor Lead

Bari Bass

1 2 3 4

Dan - ny my boy, Dan - ny my Boy!

Sweetheart of Mine tag (milk₂it)

Tenor Lead

Bari Bass

1 2 3 4

of mine Sweet - heart of mine. Sweet - heart of mine.

Sweet - heart of mine.

See Article on page 10

The Sunshine District is strongly considering reviving our music education program in some manner, possibly including it in one or more of our other events during the year. We are interested in what your interest might be. If one of the subjects were tag writing, for example, no matter what your musical theory education might be, (like the original barber-shoppers) would you be interested in creating a tag or more with us? If you are, please contact me at: roadwarriorbvd@gmail.com. It might even enhance your music theory understanding.

Sunshine District Management Team



**President:
Chuck Steiner**

AL13champs@aol.com



**Immediate
Past Pres:
Nick Schwob**

nick.schwob@sunshinedistrict.org



**Exec. Vice Pres:
Arne Helbig**

arne.helbig@sunshinedistrict.org



**Secretary:
Brian Wunderlin**

wunder@tampabay.rr.com



**Treasurer:
Dave Kannberg**

dave.kannberg@sunshinedistrict.org



**Member At Large:
Ralph Brown**

ralph.brown@sunshinedistrict.org



**Member At Large:
Ernie de la Fe**

ernie.delafe@sunshinedistrict.org



**VP Financial
Development:
John Spang**

john.spang@sunshinedistrict.org



**V. P. Harmony
Foundation:
Dave Richards**

dave.richards@sunshinedistrict.org



**VP Events:
Nick Schwob**

nick.schwob@sunshinedistrict.org



**V.P. Chorus
Director
Development:
Steve Jacobsen**

swjacobsen@comcast.net



**V. P. Contest &
Judging:
Steve Janes**

janesbari@outlook.com



**V. P. CSLT:
John McGoff Jr.**

john.mcgoff@sunshinedistrict.org



**V. P. Comm.
And IT:
Roger Smeds**

rsmeds@att.net



**V. P. Chapter
Development:
Bart Van de Mark**

roadwarriorbvd@gmail.com



**V. P. Music &
Performance:
Sean Stork**

sean2576@gmail.com



**VP Youth in
Harmony:
Steve Cragg**

donutcop@gmail.com



**Sunburst Editor:
Bob Johnston**

bob.johnston@sunshinedistrict.org



Bob Johnston,
Editor

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



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NEXT SUNBURST DEADLINE

May 15, 2017

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Per Issue		Annual Rate (4 issues)		Finished Ad Sizing	
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