



Sunshine District

Barbershop
Harmony
Society



The Sunburst

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Oct.-Dec., 2016



Rooftop Records, District Champions



Easy Street, Qualifies for
International Seniors Quartet Contest



Tampa's Heralds of Harmony Director, Tony De Rosa
Tampa Qualifies for International Chorus Contest.

www.sunshinedistrict.org



Rooftop Records 2016 District Champions
 TR, Chase Guyton LD, Dustin Guyton
 BR, James Breedon BS, Jackson Pinder



Easy Street
 TR, Paul Carter LD, Dave Cross
 BR, Charlie Nelson BS, Bryan Hevel

Easy Street qualified for International Seniors Quartet Contest in San Antonio



Signature Mic Testers
 TR, Will Rodriguez LD, Daniel Cochran
 BR, Matt Clancy BS, Dan Walz

Due to illness, the photographer who was to supply the photos for the quartets competing in the district competition was not available. It was necessary to use pictures from earlier contests or pictures from other sources and some were not available to the editor. I am sorry that three quartet's pictures were not included in this issue.

District Officers for 2017

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| 1. President | Chuck Steiner |
| 2. IPP | Nick Schwob |
| 3. EVP | Arne Helbig |
| 4. Secretary | Brian Wunderlin |
| 5. Treasurer | Dave Kannberg |
| 6. VP Financial Development | John Spang |
| 7. VP Harmony Foundation | Dave Richards |
| 8. VP Events | Nick Schwob |
| 9. VP Chorus Director Development | Steve Jacobsen |
| 10. VP Contest and Judging | Steve Janes |
| 11. VP CSLT | John McGoff |
| 12. VP Communications and IT | Roger Smeds |
| 13. VP Chapter Development | Bart Van de Mark |
| 14. VP Music and Performance | Sean Stork |
| 15. VP Youth in Harmony | Steve Craggs |
| 16. Member at Large | Ralph Brown |
| 17. Member at Large | Ernie de la Fe |

How it was presented at contest.

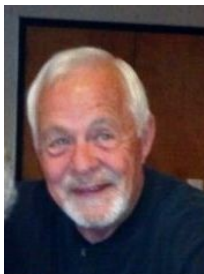
Please Join Us to Celebrate! The 100th Birthday of Dr. Clare McCreary (Suncoast Chapter)
Date: Friday Night's Quartet Contest Time: When he SINGS on stage in a quartet, "The Doctor is In"

Join the Sunshine District in a massive surprise Birthday Salute to

The society's oldest quartet competitor,
 and our district's very own 100 years "young" member,

Dr. Clare McCreary

A LONG, standing-O is required! And then, the audience will Serenade him with
 "Happy Birthday"



Nick Schwob
President

Well, the past six years have flown by. Having served for three years as your EVP and another three as your District President, I have been fortunate to travel the State and meet with a number of Chapters, whether it be for just the fun of it or to help them work through some of their concerns. In either case, when all was said and done, everything was extremely positive and worth the time that we were able to spend together. For this alone, I will always be appreciative.

As I have said in the past, Sunshine District is very well respected within the Society as evidenced by the number of our members who have been on the Society Board through the years. The past leadership of the District has

President's Message

been extremely helpful to me as I am sure they will be to my successor. I have called on them numerous times when facing a situation that I was unfamiliar with, and never once did they not take the time to give me their thoughts and knowledge, and for this I will be forever grateful.

The District Board next year is typical of the Boards in the past. Succession planning works especially well with us in that we have been able to move members up through the ranks and also bring new members onto the Board who have been very willing to assist in any way that they could. It's going to feel strange to me to step back and "smell the roses", but I know that I am leaving the District in good hands for the future.

Thank you again for allowing me the honor to help in some small way to continue the tradition of Sunshine and all that we stand for.

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.

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**DON'T
MISS OUT ON
THE OPPORTUNITY
TO ADVERTISE
IN THE
SUNBURST !**

**PROMOTE
YOUR CHAPTER
SHOWS
AND/OR
QUARTETS.**

**Next Sunburst
Deadline
Feb. 15, 2017**

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 one-time 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

Brian Wunderlin
Secretary



budget...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

Contest & Judging

Just a quick note this time to remind everyone that Spring Convention is fast approaching. We changed the dates just so you could participate! But you really have to start thinking about it now. March 10-12 will be here before we know it!

So get that quartet or Chorus music out and start learning your part so you can join us this coming Spring. Or grab your wife or girlfriend, find another couple and form a mixed quartet. All are welcome for our Spring Convention. And don't forget – you can be in a large combined chorus, too. Come join all the fun!

Steve Janes
Contest & Judging



Don't forget – registration for everyone planning on joining us on stage begins December 16th via the BHS website for all BHS registered quartets/Choruses and the Sunshine website for mixed quartets and combined chorus members. The cutoff date is February 10th, so start planning now!

See you in Orlando in March,



Dave Kannberg
Treasurer

If you were at the House of Delegates meeting in Orlando last month, you heard me talk about a possible chapter assessment of up to \$10 per person. I/we the board of the Sunshine District don't take these words lightly. I am not planning on having to do an assessment at this time. The reason why we are talking about one at all is because of the Fall Contest. First, Hurricane Matthew hit us badly on attendance. But Matthew isn't the whole story. Coming into the weekend when we were originally supposed to have our convention, I was looking at ticket sales. Just a touch over 400 tickets sold. Not bad, you say. With the show that Sunshine District Association of Quartet Champions was putting on that weekend, I, and others, were expecting a larger turnout and increased ticket sales. I mean, being able to see Keepsake, Backbeat and others would be well worth the convention registration any time. We will end up losing money on this fall convention. I am trying to curtail the bleeding.

We have now moved our contests to what the membership wanted, unofficially with this last

Treasurer's Report

convention. Spring Contest next year is in early March, Fall Contest is the weekend before Halloween. Please support your district by attending District Events.

Leadership Academy is coming up in January. Send your incoming officers so they can learn from the instructors and other officers exactly what they are doing and how to avoid pitfalls. Leadership Academy is January 14-15 in Ocala, Florida.

Lastly, we are hosting International in Orlando in 2018. To that end, we are trying to raise money for new risers to be purchased in time for International. We have collected \$1100 so far and I have commitments from others for two sections of risers. The District is contributing money also. I have a commitment from two of our District Officers that they will match the next \$2400 worth of donations. One officer will match the first \$1200 and the other officer will match the second \$1200. No donation is too small. Chapters can donate along with individuals. If you would like to make a donation, make the check payable to Sunshine District, 13948 Sheffield Court, Wellington, FL 33414 and mark it "riser fund".

Any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at treasurer@sunshinedistrict.org.



Timpoochee Chorus In The Round

District Chorus Contest



Tampa Director, Tony De Rosa Qualifies to Represent the District at International Contest



Sunrise Director, Alex Rubin



Orlando Harmony Director, Marshall Webb District VLQ Champions



Capital Chordsmen Director, Greg Hilliard



Orange Blossom Chorus Director, Matthew Boutwell District Most Improved Chorus

District Chorus Contest (cont'd)



Space Coast Chorus Director, Russell Light & Lee Romano



Central Florida Sound Director, Matthew Boutwell

District Quartet Contest

Quartet Pictures not Available

Mixed Tricks 2016 Mixed Quartet Champion
TR, Jennifer Poore LD, April Qualls
BR, Byron Poore BS, Jerry Johnson

The Doctor is In
TR, Jeffrey Paul LD, Lance Lubin
BR, Clare McCreary BS, Kurt Popp

Easy Does It
TR, Marty Jahnel LD, Bob Schall
BR, Glenn Siebert BS, Jim Schubert

District Quartet Contest



Rooftop Records

TR, Chase Guyton
BR, James Breedon

LD, Dustin Guyton
BS, Jackson Pinder



Fuego

TR, Eddie Mejia
BR, Kevin Mendez

LD, Albert Rico
BS, Amos Velez



Back Street 4

TR, Joseph De Rosa
BR, Tony De Rosa

LD, Aaron Stratton
BS, Brock Stratton



Easy Street

TR, Paul Carter
BR, Charlie Nelson

LD, Dave Cross
BS, Bryan Hevel



You Bet!

TR, Matthew Crisostomo
BR, Bryce Cline

LD, Mike Cross
BS, Danny Wunderlin



Tourist Bait

TR, Robert M. Hughes
BR, Sean Barry

LD, Kealan Rivera
BS, Donnie Ward



Dewey, Singum and Howe

Tr, Jeffrey Paul
Br, Paul McGraw

Ld, Lance Lubin
Ba, Kurt Popp



Wee Small Hours

TR, Aaron Elswick
BR, Shannon Elswick

LD, Roger Smeds
BS, Patrick Elswick

Naples/Fort Myers Chapter

Article from Spotlight Magazines

By Lindsay Hardman

hardman@swspotlight.com

They sang in church choirs and college glee clubs, performed at rock concerts and karaoke nights. Members of Paradise Coastmen Barbershop Chorus have diverse musical resumes. For 42 years, they've performed a cappella tunes — from gospel to country, Broadway and ballads— for audiences across Southwest Florida.

The singers say they find harmony in the notes they sing as well as the friendships they form. After they began singing together, bass vocalists Jack Felver and Don Kirkpatrick discovered they share a brotherly bond as members of Phi Sigma Kappa fraternity — Felver at Wagner College in Staten Island, N.Y., and Kirkpatrick at Lehigh University in Bethlehem, Pa. Others have reconnected with old friends and former business associates. "It is a lot of camaraderie.

"There are a lot of good feelings, there's a lot of good fellowship," said Jim Shubert, a chorus director for more than 25 years. "At the end of the day, everybody grabs a beer and sits down and talks."

With approximately 50 members during the winter months, singers range in age from 22 to their late 80's. Some men have little to no musical experience before giving barbershop a try. "A lot of people are afraid to come because they say they don't read music that well," said Kirkpatrick, a 14-year member. "All you have to do is listen. If you can sing 'Happy Birthday to you,' you can sing with us."

The chorus performs
at private events
year-round.

The chorus is one of about 300 chapters of the worldwide Barbershop Harmony Society. They're a cappella, gospel-rooted singing style — so

named because it originated in barbershops in the late 1800s —translates to almost any genre.

"There are unlimited opportunities, yet it's only four notes (four-part harmony)," Shubert said. "But it can fill a room. It can fill your heart." At the Villages of Emerald Bay clubhouse on a recent Thursday evening, singers wearing khaki shorts and blue polos emblazoned with chorus logos studied 12-vowel position charts. Assistant Director Glenn Siebert offered a mini-lesson on vocally brightening and darkening individual vowel sounds. "Everybody has a different sweet spot," said Siebert, a baritone who won a gold medal during the Barbershop Harmony Society's International Seniors Quartet Competition in 2011. "A sweet spot is something you have when you hit a vowel and you hit it just right." Singer Bob Slade blew an A flat on a small pitch pipe as Shubert led the group in the 1960 Johnny Duncan song "Hello Mary Lou." Bonita Springs resident Joe Scarlott, who watched rehearsal, said he is considering joining the chorus.

"I've never seen a technical dissection of the words like this," Scarlott said. "I'm utterly amazed at what's going on here tonight." In addition to its chorus, the group features a 16-person ensemble, as well as three quartets: the Chordial Four, Fifth Avenue and the Tropical Depressions. Paradise Coastmen recently performed at The Arlington of Naples, a continuing care retirement community, and sang the national anthem at a Fort Myers Miracle game. "I'm retired Air Force so it had special meaning for me," 14-year member Bob Slade said of the patriotic performance. "It's always fun to sing for a receptive audience." The chorus performs at private events year-round and expects to book several public performances as season gets underway. So far, there are two public shows set for the spring: a March 13 performance on Fort Myers Beach as well as the chorus' spring concert, scheduled for March 17 and 18 at North Naples United Methodist Church.

Spring concert themes have ranged from westerns and Irish songs to last year's tunes of the 1960s. This year's theme is a cappella, paying homage to barbershop's roots.

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**The “Joe Breedon
Panhandle Regional Festival”
By Phillip Coty, Emerald Coast Chorus
Fort Walton Beach, FL**

What is a “Timpoochee”??

Camp Timpoochee is a 4-H camp located just east of Niceville, FL. The University of Florida, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS) manages it. Camp Timpoochee is a picturesque camping complex located on the shore of Choctawhatchee Bay. Comfortable sleeping, dining and meeting facilities for up to 150 people allow visitors to learn, work and plan in an enjoyable, relaxed environment. Every year, barbershoppers take advantage of this wonderful venue to do exactly that.

History of the Timpoochee Retreat

A gathering in April of 1988 of a horse club at the 4-H Camp Timpoochee spawned the idea of a barbershop retreat. Darrell James and his wife Karen, who was a teacher and judge in dressage, were at this Dressage Event and Darrell had a chance to look the camp over. Dining hall, cabins, wooden auditorium with a stage, beautiful setting on the Bay – what comes to mind? Darrell thought it would be perfect to have a retreat for the Emerald Coast Chorus at the camp for a Friday evening and Saturday of focused singing, learning, and fun with the objective of improving our chorus’ craft. He ran the idea past his long-time friend and fellow barbershopper, Joe Breedon. Joe started putting some breadth and depth on that concept and suggested expanding the retreat to the choruses in Pensacola and Panama City. The idea didn’t stop there. By the time Joe’s excitement peaked, he had put together a plan to extend the invitation to choruses across the Panhandle from Mobile, Alabama to Jacksonville, Florida. He also developed a set of objectives to which we remain true today, 29 years later.

That year, September 1988, we held our first barbershop retreat. Approximately 35 men attended. Chuck Griffith from the Big Orange chorus in Jacksonville, FL was our Dean (leader, director and teacher). He graciously accepted and, as only Chuck could, created an excellence in this combined chorus that we, in these small Panhandle choruses, had never experienced before! Chuck

surprised us all Saturday morning by insisting that we put on a “show” on Saturday evening. Our “show” ended up being an emcee, three quartets and the combined chorus singing three songs that we worked on during the weekend. The Camp manager, wife, son, and his dog named “Gator” were our audience – and we sang our hearts out!

Retreat Objectives

Joe had a vision. He wanted the key element of the Camp Timpoochee barbershop experience to be the exhilaration of singing well in a 100+ man chorus. The initial objectives included:

- Big Chorus coaching and direction by an International level Director
- Individual Ensemble and Chorus coaching
- Plenty of time to sing tags and enjoy the camaraderie with other barbershop friends, old and new
- Weekend culminates in a “show” to present our new skills
- Afterglow around a bonfire on the beach back at the Camp after the show

Over the years, Joe established other traditions that have made Timpoochee the place to go for a “barbershop fix” during the third or fourth weekend of September every year.

Growth

The word got out, and soon we topped approximately 60 barbershoppers in attendance. Chuck Griffith continued as our “Dean” for those formative years. Since then we have had other exceptional men, some serving many years as Dean, including Shannon Elswick, Bill Billings, Jeff Lathom, Alex Rubin, Wayne Grimmer, and Adam Scott. During our formative years, Wise Guys was the teaching quartet and not only taught us to sing better but taught us to really enjoy what we were doing! Mark Schlunkert’s and Brett Cleveland’s fingerprints are still on us!

Over the years, the Timpoochee retreat grew to an attendance of approximately 120 men when male youth from the chorus at Niceville High School (NHS) joined us. The Harmony Foundation has graciously supplemented this retreat with a grant supporting the youth participation.

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A New Era of Barbershopping in the Panhandle

During the retreat in 2015, the NHS choral Director, Mr. Mike Dye told us that the girls in his choral program wanted to participate in Timpoochee. We talked about the possibility of inviting female youth to the camp, but the idea did not stop there. We ended up with a plan to ask female barbershoppers from across the Panhandle to attend. And for this first-of-a-kind event, it exceeded all of our expectations.

This year, 2016, we invited Larry Dodge as our Dean of Men along with Rooftop Records as the men's teaching quartet. Debbie Dodge was our Dean of Ladies along with Ciao Bella as the ladies teaching quartet. Sweet Adelines International (SAI), Harmony Incorporated, other adult female A Cappella groups, and the girls from NHS were the hit of the weekend. Incredibly, the women and girls outnumbered the men and boys for this epic event—45 NHS boys singing with 85 adult men, and 72 NHS girls singing with 70 adult women—272 singers at Camp Timpoochee learning our

craft and performing on stage for a large audience. Both the men's Combined Chorus and the ladies Combined Chorus learned and performed three songs each during the Saturday night show. The finale showcased all singers "in the round" at the venue (there was no way to get them all on stage!) performing the double ensemble arrangement of "Lida Rose/Will I Ever Tell You" by Mo Rector and Nancy Bergman. The audience was on its feet in appreciation of this awesome performance. We're sure Joe Breedon would be proud.

What The Future May Hold

It is hard to imagine how the future might outdo this year. But with the creativity and hard work of the Timpoochee planning committees, the sky is the limit. There is an incredible amount of enthusiasm and talent to draw on from across the Panhandle, in the Sunshine and Dixie Districts, from SAI and other female A Cappella choruses in these Regions, and from High Schools in the local area. Who knows? We may even reach beyond the Panhandle in years to come! Stay tuned. You may be surprised!



Timpoochee Ladies Combined Chorus



Timpoochee Men's Combined Chorus

Winter Haven Chapter

If you are anywhere in central Florida on February 25, you will want to make your way over to Winter Haven for the chapter's annual show. This year's headliner is Rooftop Records, our current district champion quartet. You may have heard them in the contest setting but how about when they take the wraps off and perform in a concert setting with their own planned program. We are proud to feature our own special home grown boys in an eclectic mix of old fashioned and contemporary a cappella.



Rooftop Records Quartet
TR, Chase Guyton LD, Dustin Guyton
BR, James Breedon BS, Jackson Pinder

The Sentimental Journeymen chorus has been working hard to produce an exciting and entertaining package. We have country, jazz, inspirational, novelty and patriotic offerings with a special spoof on elections, American style. Who knew barber-shoppers could be so versatile?

Want something different? How about the Jazzby-terians. This jazz combo offers some exciting and unique arrangements that give you an entirely new outlook on contemporary sacred music.

I'll bet you thought that was all. Come and enjoy Easy Street, our Sunshine District Seniors Quartet, who qualified for the International Seniors Quartet Contest in Las Vegas. We have amazing talent in this district and these guys bear that out.



Easy Street Quartet
TR, Paul Carter LD, Dave Cross
BR, Charlie Nelson BS, Bryan Hevel

Their sounds do remind you of easy street and they certainly offer the experience we appreciate so much.

We are offering a 2:00 matinee at the Polk State College Fine Arts Theater at 999 Avenue H, NE in Winter Haven. Tickets will be available at www.sentimentaljourneymen.com after January 1st. All advanced orders will be held at "will call."



Timpoochee Chorus In The Round

Looking Back.....or.... A Blast From the Past!

My Three Sons are alive and well...and still booking Barbershop and Sweet Adeline shows in the Sunshine District! There's nothing quite like four-part harmony, and when you've got the unique family blend of a father and his three sons, you've got a winning combination! Formed in 1998 in the Sarasota Chorus of the Keys, My Three Sons won the Sarasota Chapter "Grapefruit" competition, and went on to win the Sunshine District Novice Quartet Championship with a 9 year old tenor and a 10-year old lead in June of '98. They, along with their multi-talented musical family, The Ditchfield Family Singers, were invited to perform at the Ice Cream Social at the International Convention in Atlanta that July, and the rest, as they say, is history!

My Three Sons went on to become a formidable quartet competitor in the Sunshine District for the next 5 years, eventually winning the 2003 Sunshine District Quartet Championship! They qualified and competed at the 2004 International Barbershop Society Competition in Louisville, and again in 2006 in Indianapolis, before college and careers and a busy performance schedule with the family group took precedence over their barbershop hobby. That's not to say that they stopped singing, however. Far from it....the quartet continues to perform between 20-30 quartet shows per year throughout Florida, in addition to the quartet numbers they perform during equally numerous Ditchfield Family shows year round. Dad

(Stephen) still sings bass, and Michael (now 29 & married to Taylor) still sings lead. Nathanael (formerly baritone) has switched to tenor, and David (now 27 and married to Katy) has been happy to take over the baritone part, relieved not to have to stretch to the tenor notes, and quite comfortable with the complex baritone harmonies his brother has been singing in his ear for 20 years!

They are particularly delighted to now have another generation of Ditchfields, Nathanael's four sons....Andrew (20), Christopher (18), Joshua (14) and Timmy (9), forming a double quartet and performing with the Family Singers as well. It's hard to believe, but for My Three Sons, this year marks their 18th year making harmony together, and their 17th annual Ditchfield Family Christmas Celebration at the Sarasota Opera House on Dec. 9th and 10th.

My Three Sons welcome inquiries from chapters interested in booking them to headline or supplement their annual Chapter Shows in the coming year. Some chapters may even want to consider booking the Ditchfield Family Singers as headliners, so you get My Three Sons featured during the first half of the show, and the whole family performing in the second half – in essence, two "special guest" spots for the price of one! With the ladies' quartet in the family group, you have all the variety you could possibly need for a crowd-pleaser! To see and hear what they have to offer, visit www.DitchfieldFamilySingers.com and call Bernice at 941-923-2013 with any questions.





Roger Smeds
V. P. Comm. & IT

What a great Fall Convention we had despite the difficulties presented by Hurricane Matthew. Kudos to our convention team for their work on putting on a great convention under other than optimum conditions!

In the last issue I asked everyone to take some “casual” photos or videos of their experience while at convention. Just a reminder that anything you can submit to our communications team will be used 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 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
Also, if you happen to have video or other

Communications & I. T.

images from previous conventions, feel free to send them along and we will consider them for inclusion as well.

I would like to introduce you to Mike Tarlton, a member of the Martin/St. Lucie Chapter who will be joining our communications team specializing in Social Media. Mike is an IT guy with the Palm Beach County school system and has experience in the Social Media area. You can reach him at:
mike.tarlton@sunshinedistrict.org

You can keep up with 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/](https://www.facebook.com/sunshinedistrict/)

Have a great end of the year and we look forward to a fantastic 2017!

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

Chapter Happenings

continued from page 10

In addition to its shows, the Paradise Coastmen support music education, offering free sheet music for classrooms. Members belt out songs for philanthropic causes, including raising approximately \$60,000 for local Salvation Army chapters over the past 11 years. It's worth the more than 150 rehearsal hours some members dedicate each year when they watch feet tapping to their simple, melodic tunes.

“One of the nice things about what we do as a hobby is we get to go and put smiles on people's faces,” Shubert said. “That's not something you can do playing golf or tennis.” To learn more about the Paradise Coastmen Barbershop Chorus, call Jack Felver, vice president of membership, at

495-8861 or visit: paradisecoastmen.org.

Contributed Music of the '60s was last year's spring concert theme. Contributed Paradise Coastmen Barbershop Chorus performs at last year's spring concert. The chorus is one of about 300 chapters of the worldwide Barbershop Harmony Society. Their a cappella, gospel-rooted singing style— so named because it originated in barber-shops in the late 1800s — translates to almost any genre. “There are unlimited opportunities, yet it's only four notes (four-part harmony),” Shubert said. “But it can fill a room. It can fill your heart.” At the Villages of Emerald Bay clubhouse on a recent Thursday

From The Big Orange Chorus

To the members, families and friends of the Sunshine District, GREETINGS!

First, I'd like to take this opportunity to wish you all, on behalf of the Big Orange Chorus, a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

As our year ends with the presentation of "Sounds of the Season" on December 17th, I would like to share a little bit about the coming year for the Big Orange Chorus. I have exciting news to share with everyone! The Board of Directors, along with the chorus members present, have voted unanimously to embark on a new adventure, in partnership with the incomparable and mega-talented Jay Giallambardo, toward;

1) Participation in the competition at the 2017 Sunshine District Fall Convention for the purpose of qualifying for the opportunity to compete at the 2018 International Convention in Orlando.

2) Selection of Jay as our permanent director at the end of 2017.

I'm extremely excited about having a consummate, talented and accomplished, barbershopper like Jay, become a part of the chorus. And, based upon my

conversations with Jay, I'm also excited about what it can mean for the Sunshine District.

The chorus will be starting off next year, this year! We will be introducing our contest package for distribution right after our Christmas show on December 17th. As individual chorus members, we will be working over the holidays to get a solid start on the package. We will be having, in addition to regular rehearsals, weekend workshops to ensure the best results of time and effort. We are also holding these workshops to ensure that everyone who desires to join us on our journey, or just get some great intensive coaching, has the best opportunity to do so. The workshops are going to be set to occur on Friday night and Saturday. For those scheduled weekends our regularly scheduled Thursday rehearsals will move to Friday. We expect to have the first sessions over the weekend of January 27-28. Those dates aren't fully firm yet, so stay tuned in and connected so you won't miss out! If the great adventure of working through an exciting vision is for you, then I sincerely encourage you to either plug in (or plugged back in) to the Big Orange Chorus!

One - Two - Three - Four, it's great to be a Big O!

Terry Ezell
President



Citrus County “Barbershoppers” and Hernando Co. “Harmonizers” of the Barbershop Harmony Society, (BHS), Celebrated their 17th Year of High School Music Festivals in Citrus County, FL!

The workshop was held on **Friday, September 23, 2016, with over 220 Citrus County high school students attending.** The BHS Clinician was **Sean Stork** from the **Sunshine District Board** and the teaching quartet was “**Orlando Exchange**”, of Orlando, FL – Winners in the quartet competition in the Sunshine District – state of Florida! *The Sweet Adelines International* Clinician was **Denise Helbig, Region Nine, (FL) SAI.** The teaching quartet was “**Little Debbie’s**” from Debbie Cleveland’s Chorus – Region 9 (FL), SAI.

The students were taught, furnished music, fed, and performed at the First United Methodist Church in Homosassa. They sang all day and performed their concert at the conclusion of the workshop.

Adult workers were men from the **Citrus Chapter “Chorus of the Highlands”, and Hernando Co. Chapter “Hernando Harmonizers”,** and the



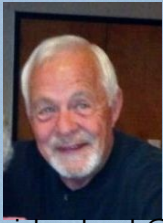
women from “**Suncoast Harmony Chorus**” of Sweet Adelines Int’l.

Bob Spence, the Citrus County Coordinator said this was ‘An outstanding workshop’ and that young men & young women were invited to the summer program of “**Harmony Explosion**”, a 3-day training camp in barbershop harmony in the Sunshine District @ Melbourne, FL and told to contact their vocal music teachers if interested. For more information please call (352)382-0336.



Next Sunburst Deadline Feb. 15, 2017

Sunshine District Management Team



President:
Nick Schwob

nick.schwob@sunshinedistrict.org



Immediate Past Pres:
John Spang

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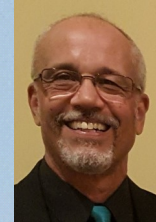
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