

The Sunburst

Sunshine District

Barbershop Harmony Society

The Sunburst

Volume 42, Issue 3

Oct-Dec 2011



Top: **Main Street** is our 2011 District quartet champion, fresh off a bronze medal fifth place finish in Kansas City!

Center: The **Jacksonville Big O**, is our International Chorus representative in Portland.

Bottom: The **Suntones**, fifty years after winning the gold on the International stage, they shared their gift with us one more time.



Congratulations to Shannon Elswick
2011 Inductee into
The Sunshine District Hall of Fame





Top: 2012 International Seniors Representative is **Old Guys Rule**.

Top right: **Jacksonville Big O** is the Sunshine District qualifier for International contest and AAAA Champion. Dave Jacobs presenting ribbons to **Howdy Russell** and **Tony DeRosa**.

Right center: **Fort Walton Beach** is the AAA Champion. Dave Jacobs presenting ribbons to **Paul Whittlesey**.

Bottom: Melbourne is the AA champion and most improved chorus. Dave Jacobs presenting ribbons to **Gretchen Lux**.



37th Annual Show

'HELLO, MARY LOU'

Friday, March 23 at 7:00 PM

Saturday, March 24 at 2:00 PM and 7:00 PM

North Naples United Methodist Church
6000 Goodlette-Frank Road, Naples, FL

Matinee advance sales - \$16 Door sales - \$20

Evening advance sales - \$18 Door sales - \$20

For more information - phone: (239) 352-6366

or email: paradisecoastmenchorus@comcast.net



OUR GUEST QUARTET **MAIN STREET**

Main Street finished 5th at the 2011 International Barbershop Harmony Quartet Competition in Kansas City, Missouri. Not only do they sing well, they are entertaining too!

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.



Dick Shaw
V. P. Financial
Development

I am really looking forward to the MidWinter Convention this January for several reasons but the most exciting one is the opportunity to see the Youth Chorus Contest. This new event has taken the Society by storm and given us more hope for the future than any other in recent memory. It has been the signal event that has jump started gifts to the Ambassadors of Song fundraiser by the Harmony Foundation.

It is not just the contest that is so exciting but these young men are totally into the barbershop experience. Both before and after the formal events, they can be found in the lobby of the hotel or in nooks and crannies of the meeting spaces teaching and learning the fine points of our craft amongst themselves or with experienced barbershoppers. As you might remember, the MidWinter Convention is the place where the tag singers and the purveyors of the old songs congregate for the more personal experience of four part harmony. Well, the kids have bought into it.

Ambassadors of Song is also taking off. **Ev Nau** of the Harmony Foundation has been blanketing the southeastern United States with chapter visits promoting this fundraiser that is the primary source of funding for the Youth Chorus Contest. He has had remarkable success and he has recruited others to help him spread the word. This year the Sunshine District has extended the free convention registration for first time contributors to the Ambassadors of Song program. The conditions are that you must pledge \$20 a month or more to AOS in exchange for two free registrations to our spring convention in Punta Gorda. The 30% donor choice option must be designated to the Sunshine District. You will receive a coupon from the Harmony Foundation to send in with your registration to exercise this benefit. Look for future announcements in the Sunburst or sign up when your chapter gets a Harmony Foundation presentation.

Dick Shaw



Shannon Elswick, Society Executive Vice President, was inducted into **The Sunshine District Hall of Fame** at the 2011 Fall Convention in Orlando. Shannon was welcomed into the Hall by **Dick Shaw, a 1993 Hall of Fame** member.

The award reads:

In grateful recognition of Barbershoppers who have given of themselves and have continuously contributed their talents in spreading the spirit of harmony for over 25 years.

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.



Happy Holidays to all Barbershoppers and friends. This is a great time of year to be with family.

Let's see now, we have a couple of things that should have been done by now in order for the chapter to remain "compliant" with the rules and regulations of the Society. The first is to ensure the names of newly elected leaders have been recorded in the Society data base. This critical step is essential for Society and District Leadership Teams so they may send information to chapter officials. Remember, if you don't have correct personal data on file (i.e. E-mail address), important society information can not be forwarded to you.

And reporting your 2012 elected officers is easy for chapter secretaries to do! **Just:** Log into Members Only. Once entered into the system select **My Memberships**, then **My Chapters**, then **Chapter Leaders**, then on the pull down menu, select **Future**. In this screen, you can add names for related positions. At each office, select the appropriate Chapter Member and his Role or office. Insert the **Start** and **End** date, lastly select **Add Leader**. The names are reported to Society and displayed under Chapter Officers on the Members Only page. As of this writing, all but six chapters have entered the new chapter officers in ebiz.

While you're at it, you might as well check your individual records in the data base to make sure your data is correct too!!

Did you know your chapter's 2012 Not-For-Profit (NFP) Corporation annual report must be reported to the State of Florida between January 1 and May 1? So, get it in on time. Go to <http://sunbiz.org/>. If a chapter secretary or other officer who was acting as the Corporate Agent, no longer holds the chapter job, then it is important that the forms be processed with the new agent named. The form may be submitted on the Florida Department of State, Division of Corporations website, sunbiz.org.

Failure to submit the annual report by the deadline will result in the loss of Not-For-Profit Corporation Status and in the administrative dissolution of your corporation and you will no longer be recognized as an active chapter within the Barbershop Harmony Society.

A chapter that is not incorporated is not techni-

Dan Brinkmann
District Secretary



cally in compliance with the Society Bylaws, Statements of Policy, rules and regulations, and is not eligible to compete, have a vote in the House of Delegates meeting, register quarters as part of its chapter (which will affect their ability to compete also) or be covered under any of the Society's liability insurance coverage, and subjects the chapter president and officers to personal liability. Wow, what incentive to take care of your NFP annual reports ASAP.

Here's another reminder. If your chapter held a show or shows in 2011 and your total annual gross show revenue was \$48,666 or less the chapter owes \$222.00 in ASCAP fees for the year. **Information regarding the ASCAP fees is found on pages 30 to 32 of the Chapter Secretary Manual.** This fee needs to be submitted by the end of the calendar year.

Is your chapter thinking of changing the CHORUS name? Great, have at it but remember to do it the right way. If the chorus agrees, the chapter president or secretary can change the CHORUS name under EDIT CHAPTER at the top of the chapter ebiz page (chapter roster list). The chapter does not need the permission of the district nor the Society HQ to do this. However, chapters MAY NOT change the chapter name without both District and Society approval. Contact me if you are contemplating this.

All chapter shows that have been approved and cleared by the district are entered on the district calendar found on the District web page. If your show is not listed, contact me. Thanks

Till next time, Happy Holidays, and Merry Christmas to all.

Dan Brinkmann

Sunshine District Secretary

brinktenor@aol.com



Chad Bennett
V. P. Events

Greetings! Another year is almost upon us, so it's time for a preview of our upcoming Sunshine District Events. For those of you who attended our events in 2011, thank you so much for your participation! We couldn't continue holding successful events without you. Be sure to spread the word in your chapter and community about all the great things going on in the Sunshine District. And now, a brief summary of 2012 happenings.

If you've been elected to serve your chapter this upcoming year, hopefully you've already attended one of our regional Leadership Academy sessions. Instead of one location and event, we scheduled four different sessions throughout the District. The Panhandle, Southeast, and Southwest LeadAc sessions have successfully trained many new chapter leaders and there's one more session remaining. The Central Academy will take place in Ocala on January 7. At \$80 per student, it's a deal you can't afford to pass up.

Both Spring and Fall Conventions in 2012 will be held in Punta Gorda. Our contest venue is the spectacular Charlotte Harbor Event and Conference Center. We'll be using several hotels in the area, notably the Four Points by Sheraton and the Wyvern hotels. Registrations are available online now, so take advantage of the Early Bird pricing while you can. Our Spring Convention will take place April 13-15 and Fall is October 5-7. More details about the Spring Convention will be included in the next issue.

The 2012 Labor Day Jamboree will again be held at the Orlando Airport Marriott from August 31 – September 3. Along with a fun-filled family weekend and the Dave LaBar Memorial Almost Classic Classic Golf Tournament, the Saturday and Sunday night shows will feature BHS International Semifinalists Lunch Break and 4th place medalists A Mighty Wind! The LDJ tradition continues, so come join us in the pool to sing some tags.

More events are still being planned, including a re-vamp of Sunshine Sizzle and new Convention activities for the whole family. The website will be updated soon to include more information about all

Event Horizons

2012 Sunshine District events. Keep an eye out for updates in the Sunburst and on SunshineNet.

Chad Bennett
SUN VP Events
events@sunshinedistrict.org

Online Convention Registration

Sunshine District Online Convention Registration

While many of you have been successfully registering for Conventions online, there are still a few of you that are having trouble. The goal of this article is to help you learn how our online Convention Registration system works and hopefully provide answers to some frequently asked questions.

To begin the process, just go to our website: <http://www.sunshinedistrict.org> You'll start by clicking the big blue button that says "Convention Registration" on the right side of the page. This leads you to the Sunshine District Store. The next thing to look for is under "Categories" on the left side of the page. Click on "District Conventions." This takes you to the page where you can make your badge/ticket selections. The options available are listed in the middle of the page. All competitors and most other attendees will need an All-Events Registration, so we'll start there.

For these registrations, there are three choices: All-Events, Student All-Events, and 50 Year All-Events. They're pretty self-explanatory and most of us fall under regular registration. To confirm, "Student" is defined as anyone 25 years of age or younger, and "50 Year" is defined as having been a Society member for at least 50 years. No matter which one you choose, the process is the same – and you can only create one badge (registration) at a time. Click on the "All-Events Registration" link that applies to you to continue.

On this page, there are several text boxes for you to input your information: Badge Name, Chapter Name, Chorus Name, and Quartet Name. There are also some check boxes for you to add your voice part or VIP information. Once you've filled in the appropriate fields, click the button that says "Add To
continued on page 6

Online Convention Registration (cont)

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Cart” which takes you to another page listing all items you are purchasing. If you need another registration, competitor recording, or single event spectator ticket, click the button that says “Continue Shopping” which will take you back to the same product page where you entered your information. If you need a second All-Events badge, just fill in the info as before. If you need a different class of badge, or a recording, or a spectator ticket, click on “District Conventions” under Categories on the left to return to the full product listing.

If you add something to your cart unintentionally, or if there's anything that shouldn't be there, or if you accidentally added a second identical badge, you can click the trash can image to the right of each item to delete it. Once you have everything you need, click the button that says “Checkout” which takes you to the “Sign In” page. If you already have an account, you can sign in with your email address and password. If you don't remember it, you can click the phrase “Forgot your password?” to have it emailed to you. If you're purchasing for the first time, you'll need to create an account by filling all the required fields.

All credit card transactions are securely processed through PayPal. You are not required to sign up for an account, but it is recommended. If you prefer, you can check out as a “guest” through PayPal, but you will still need to enter all your information.

That's about it. If you have any trouble, or questions that aren't answered here, please contact me via email and I'd be happy to assist however I can.

Chad Bennett
SUN VP Events
events@sunshinedistrict.org

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

ADVERTISE in The Sunburst

FIGHT FOR WILL



One of our fellow barbershoppers is fighting Stage 4 Hodgkin's Lymphoma. Will is 26 and is an avid sportsman, singer and Eagle Scout who needs your help. Will says he has a few struggles ahead, not only medically, but financially. He became ill, and being un-insured, found himself in a very scary and vulnerable position. Thankfully, he has been approved by Medicaid, but because of the length and course of treatment, it will not be nearly enough.

Will does not want us to feel sad for him. He has a big heart and is fighting this battle head-on, for you and for his life. Not being afraid or seeking pity, he takes each day, one-at-a-time. He has a very positive attitude about his fight and his life.

In his own words, “I want to fight for all individuals who have unfortunately lost their fight to this horrible disease. To all of you who have ever battled Cancer, I hope to inspire you to push forward and one day walk beside you Cancer free!”

“IT'S TIME TO FIGHT!”

This guy is an inspiration to all those fighting the fight and is admired by everyone that has ever met him.

Checks made out to: **FIGHT FOR WILL**
Sent to: FIGHT FOR WILL, P.O. BOX 291086
Davie, FL 32956-1193



District Quartet Contest



1. Main Street
TR, Roger Ross LD, Tony DeRosa BR, Michael McGee BS, Myron Whittlesey



2. Flashback
TR, Harold Nantz LD, Mark Schlinkert BR, Bill Billings BS, Bryan Hevel



3. Fight 4 Will
TR, Will Rodriguez LD, Paul Saca BR, Alex Rubin BS, Amos Velez



4. Weekend Edition
TR, Jerry Anton LD, Marc Cammer BR, George Bower BS, Jerry Johnson



5. Monkey Business
TR, Paul Whittlesey LD, Jeff Lathom BR, Lucas Lord BS, Jeff Buehler



6. Easy Street
TR, Duane Smith LD, Matt Nelson BR, Chad Shreffler BS, Rob Hargen



7. The Other Guys
TR, Christopher Fuller LD, Andrew Borts BR, Joe Kane BS, Steve Thacker



8. odd MAN out
TR, Terry Ezell LD, Rob VandeVere BR, Dan Proctor BS, Dave Medvidofsky

District Quartet Contest (con't)



9. The Best of Times

TR, William Colleran LD, Robert Mitchell BR, Jim Woods BS, Chris Owens



10. CDOQ

TR, Brad May LD, Robert Banks BR, Charles Roegiers BS, Dan Smith



11. OLD GUYS RULE

TR, Dick Zarfos LD, Robert Mitchell BR, Jim Woods BS, Henry Stromenger



12. The G Men

TR, Jeffrey Paul LD, Tom Roan BR, Larry Gintert BS, Joe Roan



13. 75 South

TR, Ralph Brown LD, Kent Jenkins BR, Wm. Patrick Bauer BS, Lynn Hineman



14. Random Quartet

TR, Gary Raulerson LD, Steve Culpepper BR, Sean Stork BS, Kevin Rogers



15. Beach Street

TR, Walt Smith LD, Mike Suermondt BR, Dave Barton BS, Bob Brutsman



16. Off the Hook

TR, Eric Nelson LD, Greg Hilliard BR, Octavio De La Osa BS, Ralph Jean-Louis

District Chorus Contest



Big Orange -AAAA
Jacksonville Big O
Tony DeRosa

All Contest Photos
by Three Oaks
Photography

T.H.X. - AAAA
Ft. Lauderdale
Alex Rubin



Heralds of Harmony - AAAA
Tampa
Steve Jamison



Orlando Harmony! - AAA
Winter Park
Marshall Webb



District Chorus Contest (con't)



Emerald Coast Chorus - AAA
Ft. Walton Beach
Paul Whittlesey

All Contest Photos
by Three Oaks
Photography

Barbergators - AAA
Gainesville
David Jacobs



South East Coast Ramblers
Palm Beach County & Martin/St. Lucie
Holly St. John

Harbor City Harmonizers - AA
Melbourne
Gretchen Lux



The Youth Harmony Festival

By
Jim Brown
(Editor)
Emerald Coast Chorus
Fort Walton Beach, FL

On October 3, 2011 one of the largest Youth Festivals in the Sunshine District was held in Santa Rosa County, (Northwest Florida). This little-heralded event was the culmination of months of planning by **Carlton Cox**, the Festival Coordinator and a member of the **Emerald Coast Chorus (Fort Walton Beach Chapter)**. The Festival has been held annually for about 12 years and was started by local Pensacola Barbershop legends, the late **Jeb Stuart and Jack Champlin**. This year the Festival was held at the **Coastline Calvary Chapel in Gulf Breeze, FL**.

Carlton spent over 60 hours of actual planning (including 16 hours in meetings) and drove over 200 miles to coordinate with teachers in eight schools. The end result was over 280 men, women, young ladies and young men there for the express purpose of learning and sharing good music in the Barbershop style. The numbers included approximately 250 students, 9 teachers, 16 Barbershop members (13 from the Emerald Coast Chorus and 3 from the **Fiesta Chorus Pensacola**), 1 clinician (**Alex Rubin, Sunshine District 2010 Barbershopper of the Year and Director of the HD Youth Chorus of the Sunshine District,**) and 1 teaching quartet (**iQuartet**).

Most amazing was the support provided by all: the Harmony Foundation provided financial support for music, student lunches, and travel expenses; the Sunshine District also provided financial support and helped to arrange for the clinician and iQuartet; the schools supported the concept of the Festival and provided buses, bus drivers and authorization of this field trip for the students and their teachers; Calvary Chapel made their excellent facilities available; Alex Rubin and iQuartet willingly gave their very valuable time; and the attending Barbershop members helped coordinate events during the day.

Music was sent to the teachers early in the school year for rehearsal to prepare for the workshop. When the students arrived, they were divided by gender and then into their four singing parts. Each part went to separate rooms with a coach, Director, or teacher to learn how to sing together and how to create unit sound. iQuartet members (**Jose Contreras-Lead, Andrew Lujan-Tenor, Christian Diaz-Bass, Kevin Mendez-Baritone**) and Alex Rubin coached the young men, while the Santa Rosa County Music Educators and one Okaloosa County Music Educator did the same for the young women. After lunch, there was another short rehearsal with all the young men singing together and all the young women singing together. In the afternoon, Alex emceed and directed a show so the students could show off their singing skills.

The girls sang a set "Love Me Tender" and "Rock Around the Clock", then the boys sang their set "I

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Believe in Music” and “In the Still of The Night” , and finally the combined boys and girls chorus sang “Harmony”. It was truly an experience to see and hear all those young men and women on stage singing. Between sets, Alex told the audience, “This is tremendous. This has been one of the largest Youth Festivals I’ve attended. Kudos to the teachers for taking on the burden and teaching these

students together to the sound of four-part harmony!

Many thanks to those teachers and schools for their support:

Alicia Coons, the Choral Studies Coordinator for the Santa Rosa county schools, Bennett Russell Elementary School, Milton, FL; Sheila Thompson, Milton High School, FL; Joy Tyner, Avalon Middle School, Milton, FL; Lee Ann Goble, Central High School, Milton, FL; Valerie Wright, Pace High School, Pace, FL; Gina LaVere, Woodlawn Beach High School, Gulf Breeze, FL; Caroline Buechner, Navarre High School, FL; Mary Jeter, Fort Walton Beach High School (Okaloosa County), FL



kids.” iQuartet (7th place collegiate quartet at the International Convention this year) entertained the students with a couple of songs at the conclusion of the show. Many parents were able to attend the event to see their kids on stage in a huge chorus. One young lady told me, “This is great, I’ve really enjoyed it.” When I asked her how long she has been singing, she responded, “Eight years, I just love to sing.” What a finale to a day filled with music, just to know we are helping to bring young



Carlton has been asked by 2 Okaloosa music teachers to seriously consider holding an Okaloosa County Youth Harmony Festival early next year.



Jim Sams
Sunshine District
Society Board Liaison

SOCIETY BOARD MEETING
Hilton DFW Lakes Conference Center
Grapevine, TX
November 3-6, 2011

Gentlemen, I bring you greetings from the Society President, Alan Lamson, and our Interim Executive Director, Larry Deters. It was a pleasure visiting with several of your Sunshine Board members in Dallas this past weekend at the mini-Leadership Forum. The school was well attended and spirits were high. Hopefully, the energy and enthusiasm from many of the meetings will be felt throughout your district in the coming months as Operation Harold Hill comes marching into town once again!

The Society Board voted to change the time and venue for the 2011 Fall SBOD meeting from Nashville to Dallas, TX. This was primarily due to the fact that a mini-Leadership Forum was already booked for the same weekend. The SBOD saw this as an opportunity to mingle among the DP's and the other district board officers during the weekend and to gauge the impact of the forum on the attendees.

The SBOD meeting convened on Thursday morning and was adjourned around 10 pm on Friday. The meeting agenda was planned around three training sessions for the Board that were most educational, interesting, and enjoyable. Society Treasurer, Dwayne Cooper, provided a probing insight into financial issues for nonprofit governance boards. Then, board member John Miller of NBC fame astounded the Board with his knowledge of branding, advertising and utilizing social media to open up a whole new world of opportunities for promoting and helping expand the world's understanding of who the BHS is and what our impact could potentially become. Our third educational segment was a question and answer period with Jim Clancy, director of the world renowned Dallas Vocal Majority, on Friday afternoon. Several members of the Board had an opportunity on Thursday evening to attend the VM rehearsal, some of us for the first time ever. Needless to say, we were treated like family at the rehearsal and greeted warmly by the chapter. We were serenaded all evening long and even had the opportunity to join the VM on the risers to sing one of Clancy's newest arrangements. The Q&A

session with Jim Clancy, along with assistance from Board member and VM singer Gary Parker, was an inside look into the beginnings and growth of the VM and how the music team and board of directors worked together to produce a world class organization within the BHS.

Saturday was dedicated to having the SBOD intermingle in the Leadership Forum classes and participate in the discussions. President Alan Lamson and Exec VP Shannon Elswick both had opportunities to address the DP's and President Lamson made a point to address the other classes as well. It was an informative day with opportunities galore to sit with some of our liaison chapter board members and to become more acquainted with many of our district leaders. I thoroughly enjoyed my talks with John Spang, Nick Schwob, Bart Van de Mark, and Harold Nance. Sunshine is very blessed to have men of this caliber and dedication serving on its District BOD! The weekend was such a success that the SBOD is looking into joining the full Leadership Forum again next fall in Dallas.

I am excited about the prospects of Sunshine District utilizing the Operation Harold Hill program to grow its membership. There was much emphasis on the program at the Forum and everyone seemed very high on the potential this revived program could have on membership throughout our Society! A goal of 3200 new members is now in place.

Here are the highlights of the Society Board Meeting held just prior to the Leadership Forum:

- 1) The financial reports from CFO Heather Verble and Society Treasurer Dwayne Cooper found the Society finances to be in good shape, especially during these dire economic times. Heather was able to get an excellent refinance agreement in place with Sun Trust Bank for ten years with a fixed rate at 4.87%. Heather and Dwayne are continuing to work together with the Board of Trustees and the Harmony Foundation treasurer and CEO to bring the two financial programs more in line to help simplify the reporting processes and to more easily keep track of cash flow between the BHS and HFI.
- 2) The CEO report from Interim Executive Director Larry Deters indicated that registrations for both Tucson and Portland were lagging behind the comparable time frames for Las Vegas and Kansas City registrations, but it is still too early to tell. There will
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Contest & Judging By Harold Lathom

Harold Lathom Vice President Contest & Judging



I received many positive comments from our competitors regarding the quality of the Evaluation Sessions at our contest this last fall in Orlando. Not only were they receiving a review of their performance(s) but were given tips on how they can improve for future contests. The judging panel reported that they were very pleased on the positive attitude of the competitors in the Evaluation Sessions.

It was great to have so many quality quartets and choruses in our contests. The district leadership is very pleased that we are seeing more and more quartets, but yet disappointed that we don't see more choruses. It has been several years since we have seen more than 10 choruses in our chorus competition. We encourage choruses who have not competed recently to enter our future contests.

Two important changes to our contests have been approved by the Sunshine District Board of Directors, effective with our 2012 Spring Contest.

1. The cutoff for contest entry has been moved from two weeks prior to the contest to **Four Weeks** prior to the contest. Since the convention team needs to have contestant information to prepare for the OA draw, contestant flow schedules and communication to contestants, it was felt that moving the entry cutoff to Four Weeks would give all involved sufficient time to make sure that there were no glitches.

Any entries received beyond the new cutoff date will be taken in consideration but not guaranteed. To be considered for late entry, the reason must be documented and submitted to me with a final decision being made by members of the convention team.

2. We are no longer going to have chorus plateau designations, thus there will be no plateau winners recognized as in the past. After almost two years of study/discussion by

*THERE ARE TWO
IMPORTANT
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CONTESTS RE-
PORTED IN THIS
ARTICLE*

a committee, it was felt that our current plateau system was "broken" and needed to be fixed.

We will continue to have a Most Improved Chorus award, however the calculation will be based upon Raw Score improvement. In the past we have used a mathematical formula built into BBSCORES (the program used by the Contest Administrators). The raw score will compare Spring/Spring or Fall/Fall scores. The most recent Spring/Fall score will be used. For choruses that have skipped a year (or more) we will go as far back as necessary to obtain a score to be used for comparison.

The committee who proposed our changes felt that we should be rewarding improvement, not that a chorus happened to be the highest scoring of a group of choruses. We will be recognizing/awarding those choruses who have shown improvement from their last Spring/Fall Contest. We are establishing a Grade Level for posting scoring and if a chorus improves a Grade Level they will be recognized. We possibly can have multiple awards, yet there may be no awards. The Grade Levels we will use is:

Grade Level	Score From	Score To
C-	41.0	49.9
C	50.0	54.9
C+	55.0	60.9
B-	61.0	66.9
B	67.0	74.9
B+	75.0	80.9
A-	81.0	85.9
A	86.0	91.9
A+	92.0	100.0





Dave Roberts
V. P. CSLT

Sunshine District Regional Academies

We are in the process of executing our Regional Leadership Training concept and the following are some of the numbers that we have experienced. Of the twenty chapters that were scheduled to attend, eighteen have sent officers for training. The total students to date are seventy-nine.

The academies have been located in Ft. Walton Beach (Panhandle), Stuart (Southeast), and Venice (Southwest). The schools were within a two-hour driving limit from the furthest chapter.

The final academy will be held in Ocala on January 7 and nineteen chapters will have an opportunity to attend. The school costs \$80 per student and includes an intense six hours of officer training and a light lunch.

We have received some interesting comments from our students and one of the main themes is, "I didn't know that you were going to teach that". The that, of that statement is our students are being given up-to-date and detailed knowledge of each officer's responsibilities. Statements like "I almost didn't come since I have been many times before and WOW, things have really changed" have been received.

Our instructors have spent many hours of travel crisscrossing the state giving up their weekends to share their knowledge. The District is truly indebted to these guys and we certainly appreciate their contributions.

The Ocala academy on January 7 will be opened to all officers who may have missed the opportunity to attend one of the earlier academies. The only requirement is that they let me know ahead of time so that we can plan for their attendance.

Dave Roberts,

VP of Chapter Support and Leadership Training

"LEADAC"

PANHANDLE SESSION A SUCCESS

To: Dave Roberts, V.P. CSLT

Your leadership in bringing the talents from the district to the local, distant barbershop chapters is a positive step for those of us that have difficulty making the three day trip to Orlando, Crystal River or some other locality in South or Middle Florida. The programs were well prepared and the participants gained knowledge that will help to keep Barbershop Harmony Singing alive and growing in their local community. Just the legal necessities, forms, registrations and rules that were made known will help to maintain a viable, strong and legal organization that will survive. The small groups made the exchange of ideas excellent and provided a one on one approach that left no one out of the discussion.

In our case here in Pensacola, we had six men participate. If the session would have been in south Florida, we probably would have had one or none.

Here in the Panhandle, we do not have the density of population and the number of chapters that are in south Florida. To make it a more financially viable program next year, maybe the Dixie district chapters that are close could be included in a similar program. Just a thought to consider to make the program more financially viable.

Keep Smiling and Singing in Harmony,

Ralph Fisk
President
Pensacola Fiesta Barbershop Chorus





**SUNSHINE DISTRICT CONVENTION
SPRING 2012**

APRIL 13 - 15

PUNTA GORDA, FLORIDA

HDQTRS HOTEL: FOUR POINTS SHERATON

(941) 637-6770

CONTEST VENUE: CHARLOTTE HARBOR EVENT & CONFERENCE CENTER



REGISTRATION

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

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 MARCH 23
REGULAR PRICE CUT-OFF IS APRIL 8

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

ALL EVENTS PACKAGE (EARLY BIRD PRICE TO 3/23)	\$45.00	x	QTY	=	\$	
ALL EVENTS PACKAGE (REGULAR PRICE 3/24 - 4/08)	\$65.00	x	QTY	=	\$	
ALL EVENTS PACKAGE (AFTER 4/09)	\$75.00	x	QTY	=	\$	
ALL EVENTS PACKAGE STUDENT (UNDER 24)	\$20.00	x	QTY	=	\$	
ALL EVENTS PACKAGE STUDENT (AFTER 4/09)	\$25.00	x	QTY	=	\$	
SINGLE EVENT TICKET - ADULT	\$25.00	x	QTY	=	\$	SPECIFY: QTS CHORUS QTF
SINGLE EVENT TICKET - STUDENT (25 & UNDER)	\$10.00	x	QTY	=	\$	SPECIFY: QTS CHORUS QTF
VIDEOS (ONLY 1 PER CHORUS OR QUARTET)	\$20.00				\$	
GRAND TOTAL FOR ALL PURCHASES					\$	

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EXP. DATE

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be approximately 15 Youth Choruses performing in Tucson. As of October 18th roughly 56% of the Society chapters had been personally visited with a deadline of Jan 1, 2012.

- 3) The Annual Planning Cycle Committee submitted and had approved a 3-Year rolling plan to increase membership, chapters, and have chapters work at enhancing the overall BHS image via increasing their community services. It is felt that Operation Harold Hill will have a very positive effect on these metrics and on the growth of our Society.
- 4) The 75th Anniversary Task Force, under the guidance of Roger Lewis, provided an extensive report on its activities. Special music has been composed by Joe Liles and Jay Giallambardo. Even with 1 1/2 years away, various events are shaping up to provide a fabulous week in Toronto!
- 5) The CEO Search Committee continues to work behind the scenes to find our next Society CEO. All of the applications have been received and candidates are being interviewed and the elimination process is underway. Larry Lewis and his committee are working hard and are leaving no stone unturned.
- 6) The New England Harmony Brigade was approved as the newest Society subsidiary.
- 7) A huge amount of time was spent going over work plans detailing income and expenditures. The 2012 Budget looks to be adequate to manage the Society for another year.
- 8) The Society District Liaisons took time to report on each of their districts to the SBOD. It was quite interesting to see how similar the state of the districts was. One interesting detail found that most district competitors were singing better than ever but the number of registrations to district conventions has been dropping off.
- 9) Reports were received from all eight of the functional Operations Team chairs. All are gearing up for the upcoming Operation Harold Hill in January 2012.

- 10) The President's Task Force/Guest Members chaired by Montana Jack Fitzpatrick found that non-member participation in various chapters was considered to be a minor problem in the Society and not worthy of any further board action.

"Love is Music is love is..."

In harmony,

Jim Sams

Society Board Liaison-Sunshine District

Warren LeBaron

Sept 27, 2011



I'm sorry to report that, **Warren LeBaron**, long time member of the **Greater Canaveral Chapter** passed away in his sleep. Warren had been a member since July, 1976 (35 years).

For years, he set up the appearances, directed and sang bass in the Greater Canaveral mini chorus, **Group Therapy**, was the original bass in the Quartet, **Anytime, Anyplace** and the **Space Coast Chorus** Bass Section Leader.

Warren brought song and laughter to many over the years and will be missed by all that knew him.

Regretfully,

Bill Ross

Secretary, Greater Canaveral Chapter
Tenor, Anytime, Anyplace
Space Coast Chorus

From the Director's Point of View

More Planning

As we prepare to start a new year, with our chapter's new board, it's a great time to look back at 2011 and see what worked and what we could do better, and if you're like me, planning is one area that needs improvement. Our choruses spend 90% of their time in rehearsal and only 10% in performance. (Your mileage may vary, but you get the idea.) Because of this, it's critical for us as directors and chapter leaders to make sure we are prepared for the year ahead.

I'd hazard a guess that in many of our chapters, there was a big rush in the month before our show to get the show music in performance shape. Often we spend the 4 to 6 weeks before contest perfecting our contests set; we pull out our patriotic music in June so we can get ready for our 4th of July performances; and most of us started working on Christmas music in mid-October.

There has to be a better way to plan the year! In fact, could a lack of advanced planning be a factor that slows the learning process for your singers?

So, imagine this... Let's say our chapter's "musical year" begins right after our annual show and culminates with next year's annual show. So, if you do a March show, the "musical year" starts in April and ends with next March. It would be ideal if you sit down with your music team now and plan out the entire next "musical year". Choose songs for the summer, next Fall's Contest/Convention, next year's Christmas show, the Spring Convention and next year's annual show now and create a calendar of when each new song needs to be learned, ready for rehearsal. Once you've chosen the repertoire for the next musical year, go ahead and procure arrangements and learning materials now. And here's a key... What if we made the songs and LEARNING MATERIALS FOR NEXT YEAR available to our singers NOW?

We all have singers who learn quicker than others... Why not let those guys learn new songs at their own pace? This will keep them entertained and involved. AND, when it's time for the whole chorus to work the song, you have singers ready to help teach the song to the chorus which keeps your quick learners involved, and takes some work off your plate.

The keys to this idea... Plan the year ahead. Choose music and get learning materials early. Make it all

Dave Jacobs V.P. Chorus Director Development



available to the chorus before the "musical year" even starts.

A chapter "member's only" website could be a great tool to make this happen. If you don't have one, you might want to take a look at [Groupanizer](#). It's a web tool for choral groups, created by **Tom Metzger, the bass of "Realtime"**. My chapter started using it this fall, and I can really see communication and organization improving drastically

Even More Planning

Here at budget time, remember that Director education could be the best money your chapter could ever spend. The chapter chorus director leads the musical success of your chapter. Music VPs, make sure your chapter has funds in your budget for director education.

This would include Society events like:

- [Harmony U/Directors College](#) – July 29-Aug 5, 2012 – The premier event for Director education. Scholarships are available for first time attendees.

District organized events like:

- [LeadAc](#) – Your district's leadership academy for all of your chapter leaders.
- [CDWI I/CDWI II](#) – Intensive one day workshops for front-line directors.
- [Next Level](#) – Individualized coaching to help your chapter reach the "next level".
- [Outstanding in Front](#) – Excellent training for music team and assistant directors.
- [Coaching for your chorus](#) – Contact Harold Nance, SUN – VP Music and Performance, and bring in members of our outstanding Coaches Guild to work with your chorus.

Maybe even local training like:

- [Voice lessons](#) for the director – what could he/she learn that could be taught to the chorus?
- [What else can you think of...?](#)

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Photo by: Doug Stewart

Citrus County, FL, Chorus of the Highlands

Celebrate their 12th Year of High School
Music Festivals

Thursday, November 3, 2011 - Citrus County High
School BSH Workshop/Music Festival
Clinician: **Jeremy Conover** – Of “**The Pursuit**”,
2010 Sunshine District Champions

Teaching quartet: “**Vigilantes**” quartet, 2011 Silver
Medalist, International College Quartet

Clinician: **Camille Sanabria**, Region Nine, (FL) SAI

Teaching quartet: “**So Devine**” quartet – (Citrus
High School) Young Women in Harmony, “Rising
Stars” program Region 9 (FL), SAI

Three Citrus High Schools (Lecanto, Crystal River,
& Citrus High), with 135 young women and 54

young men. Total: 189 students and 35 adults,
quartets, clinicians, teachers, and helpers from **Citrus, Hernando, & Tampa** chapters, (BHS) and **Sweet Adelines Inc.** hosted the 12th year of this Florida program for high school choral music students.

Young ladies teaching quartet were from our own Citrus high school in Inverness. Workers were men from the Citrus Chapter “Chorus of the Highlands”, Hernando Co. chapter “Hernando Harmonizers”, Tampa “Heralds of Harmony” and women from “Suncoast Harmony Chorus” of Sweet Adelines Int'l. Visitors included Citrus School Board rep (**Bob Brust**) and parents invited for the ‘show’.

Bob Spence, the coordinator said, “This was **one of the best ever**” and that young men were again told of the summer program of Harmony Explosion, a free camp in Sunshine District and told to contact their vocal music teachers who will notify the chapter, if interested. For more information contact (352) 382-0336.

**Next Sunburst Deadline
February 15, 2012**



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.

The 2011 *Confederate Harmony Brigade* Rally was held in *Mobile Alabama* on September 9 & 10 and was a success despite the reduced attendance, likely due to the economy & high gas prices.

We had a very productive General Staff meeting and none of them fell asleep even though their bellies were full of good southern style seafood. Our thanks goes out to **Col. James Ely** from the *Mobile* chapter for that one. The food was great and the environment truly suited for some great harmony, as we sang for the wait staff and a surprised gentleman that was celebrating a job promotion and transfer within his company. It was like we were on stage as we sang from the upper level to the full table below.

Friday's Events

Due to the reduced attendance, only 10 quartets were formed on Friday and, in my estimation, the overall quality was higher than in previous years. The pizza, as usual, was hot, thanks to the efforts (again) of camp follower (at least at that time **Frank Roberts** from *the Citrus County Florida* chapter. He always seems to find the food warmers at our hotels.



Gen. Deters (L) pins the gold C.G. stars on the new Com. Gen. Dwain Chambers

General Meeting

Saturday's general meeting went smoothly under the leadership of **Gen. Larry Deters**. As many of you may not know, **Gen. Deters** is our acting *Society CEO*. He is also in line to be the next Dixie District President and due to these increased responsibilities, had to retire as Commanding General, handing over the reigns to the very capable **Gen. Dwain Chambers**. To fill the vacancy of *Deputy Commanding General*, **Howard McAdory** was promoted to that position. I also decided that some new ideas and approaches were needed for the posit-



New Dep. Com. Gen. Howard McAdory (L) receives his stars from Gen. Chambers

ion of Brig. Gen. Marketing & PR, so the newly promoted **Brig. Gen. Mike Curry** has assumed those duties. He is our very capable historian and will, I am sure, do a great job.

The Camp Follower chorus did an outstanding job under the direction of **Jim DeBusman** and included the members of the outstanding Dixie District quartet "*Lighthouse*". It was rightfully mentioned that this chorus was the best we've heard since 2003! Of course, a top quality quartet helps in that respect.

Congratulations are in order for our two newest Colonels, **Frank Roberts** and **Jerry Evans**. Jerry (from the *Mobile* chapter), by the way, was awarded the Camp Follower

plaque this year. Congratulations on that accomplishment. **Col. James Ely** sponsored **Jerry** and yours truly sponsored **Frank Roberts**.



New Col. Frank Roberts (L) & his sponsor Ron Hesketh

Special Award

A very special award was presented at this year's Brigade Rally. Past Commanding General **Larry Crabb**, from the *Stone Mountain Chorus*, was elected by the membership to the Confederate Harmony Brigade Hall of Fame.



Gen. Larry Crabb (L) accepts the Hall of Fame plaque from Gen. Mike Curry

A long time member, **Gen. Crabb** is most noted for his uncanny ability to get the membership to do all the work while he received all the glory. It really takes a talented "in tune" professional to accomplish this. Congratulations **Gen. Crabb** for this well-deserved honor.

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Saturday Show

The Saturday night show, hosted by the *Mobile* chapter, was greatly appreciated by all who attended. In the first half, the *Pride of Mobile* chorus performed and it also included their chapter quartets.

The second half included the Dixie District quartet, "*Lighthouse*", the comedy quartet, *Quicksilver* from *Memphis* and the Seniors Champion quartet, *Segacity*. Assisting in the directing duties were retired **Comm. Gen. Larry Crabb**, **Brig. Gen. John Phillips** & **Col. Lee Franks**. The finale, under the direction of **Brig. Gen. Chad Bennett**, was a remembrance of those who perished in the September 11, 2001 tragedy and



Col. George Luken from Nashville receives the B.O.A.R. plaque from Gen. Deters (L)

a tribute to all the heroes and to all who either had or are currently serving in the armed forces. Even though the video tribute experienced technical difficulties, the overall effect of the *Mobile* chorus joining with the *Brigade* chorus for the finale arranged by **Clay Hine** in 2001 was tremendous, generating a standing ovation from our audience. A special thanks is in order for the entire *Brigade* and their musical director, **Gen. Chad Bennett** for a wonderful show and to the *Pride of Mobile Chorus* for hosting this event.

Saturday Quartet Finals

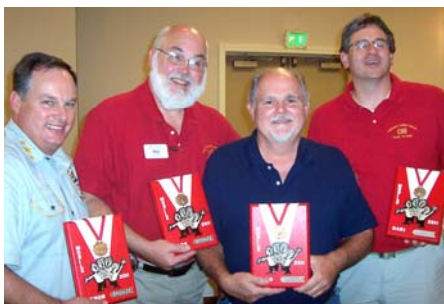
The quartet plaques, which are always hand made by Brigade members for the top three quartet contest winners, were made this year by **Col. George Luken** and what an outstanding job! This was also a strong point in his favor as he was presented the *BOAR* award (Barbershopper of the Annual Rally) by **Gen. Deters**. Congratulations, **George**, for a well-deserved accomplishment. The top three quartets received their plaques once the quartet contest ended late that night.



First Place: L to R, Kirk Jordon, Chad Bennett, Steve Pendley, Dean Manning



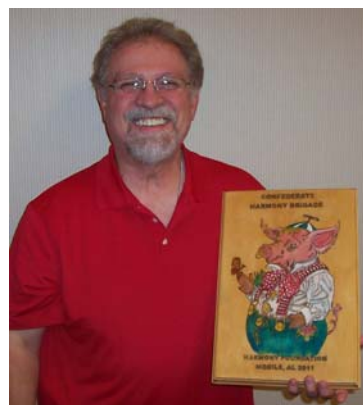
Second Place: L to R, Gary McPherson, Chad Bennett, Mike Curry, George Luken



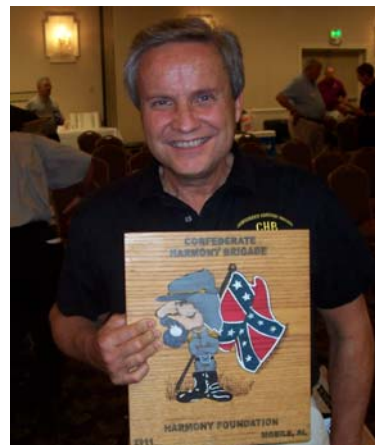
Third Place: L to R, James Ely, Paul Blazek, Al Wade, Lee Franks

Raffle

The 2011 edition of our annual raffle was extremely successful. We were blessed with some great items this year. Gen. Owen Sterner, although unable to attend this year, sent two plaques and a plate. His handiwork was as great as ever, as can be seen in the following pictures with the



Jim DeBusman with the 1st Owen Sterner original for 2011



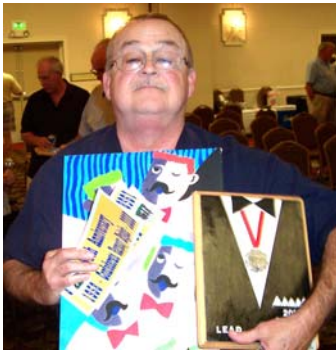
Steve Pendley with the 2nd Owen Sterner original for 2011



Lee Franks with the 3rd Owen Sterner original for 2011
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CONFEDERATE HARMONY BRIGADE (con't)

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Gen. Curry with the Luken Original #1

winners. In addition, we learned that **Col. George Luken** has talents never before displayed. It looks as though he is an accomplished artist. He donated two originals for the Harmony Foundation raffle. Each piece on it's own would probably be excellent auction items anywhere. The following winners were very happy to receive them. One other item brought for the Raffle was a commemorative clock that was hand made by yours truly. It was made

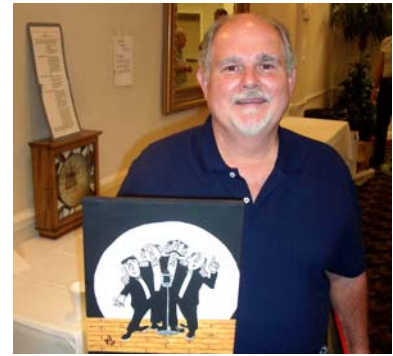
from a piece of mesquite wood and I had a lot of practice on my new scroll saw cutting out the Brigade figurines & lettering.

In Conclusion

Whew! Hopefully I have covered the important points of this year's Rally. As of this time, the 2012 location is in the works and will probably be announced later this year. The **CHB** is always looking for leaders from all levels. If you know of a prospective member that has served at any level from chapter to the Society level, don't hesitate to approach him and let



Camp Follower Tim Stewart with the Hesketh clock



Camp Follower Al Wade with the Luken Original #2

him know just what he is missing by not coming to our Rallies. If you need assistance, contact **Brig. Gen. John Phillips (Dixie District)**, **Brig. Gen. Jeff James (Carolinas District)** or **Brig. Gen. Harold Lathom (Sunshine District)** and they would be more than happy to give you any assistance required. Until then, be safe, enjoy each day as it comes, and be sure to make melodious chords ring. Remember, "*Singing is the seed that makes the trees of life grow. Plant at least one each day.*" (**Ron Hesketh**)

Chorus Director Development (cont)

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Director of Excellence -2011

Chapter Presidents, in early January, each of you will receive an email from me asking for nominations for Sunshine District Director of Excellence. The Director of Excellence award was created by my predecessor, **Byron Poore**, as a way to recognize chorus directors in our district for their musical leadership, service and contributions to our Society. **Gene Cokeroft** of the Miamians was the first recipient of this prestigious award. Please return your nominations to me by February 15th, 2012.

Chorus Director Workshop Intensive - CDWI

Plans are under way for at least 3 CDWI and CDWI II events in 2012. If you are a director who is interested, please contact me so I can make sure you're on my hot list.

If your chapter is interested in hosting an event (i.e. being the workshop chorus for the director training), please

let me know. You'll need to provide a venue for the event, and a chorus for the afternoon, but your director can attend at no cost.

Dave Jacobs
SUN – VP CDD
cdd@sunshinedistrict.org

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.

Sunshine District Management Team



President:
Keith Hopkins
Keith.Hopkins@sunshinedistrict.org



Exec. Vice Pres:
Nick Schwob
nickschwob@tampabay.rr.com



Immediate Past Pres:
Bill Billings
Bill.Billings@sunshinedistrict.org



Secretary:
Dan Brinkmann
Dan.Brinkmann@sunshinedistrict.org



Treasurer:
Dave Kannberg
dave.kannberg@sunshinedistrict.org



V. P. Financial Development:
Dick Shaw
dickshaw@sunshinedistrict.org



At Large Member:
John Spang
johnspang@sunshinedistrict.org



V. P. CSLT:
Dave Roberts
Daver1103@aol.com



V.P. Chorus Director Development:
Dave Jacobs
d.jacobs@juno.com



V. P. Contest & Judging:
Harold Lathom
HLathom44@yahoo.com



At Large Member:
Bob Brutsman
robertbrutsman@comcast.net



V. P. Marketing & P. R.:
Eric Christensen
highgear3@gmail.com



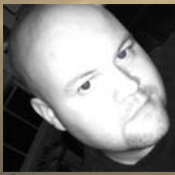
V. P. Youth in Harmony:
Arne Helbig
Arne.Helbig@sunshinedistrict.org



V. P. Chapter Development:
Bart Van de Mark
roadwarriorbvd@gmail.com



V. P. Music & Performance:
Harold Nantz
harold.nantz@sunshinedistrict.org



Webmaster:
Ken Delaney
ken.delaney@sunshinedistrict.org



V. P. Events:
Chad Bennett
chad@humdingers.org



Director Conventions:
Jerry Johnson
jerry.johnson@sunshinedistrict.org



Sunburst Editor:
Bob Johnston
bob.johnston@sunshinedistrict.org

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Bob Johnston, Editor
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Melbourne, FL 32901
321.727.3338
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