



OLD GUYS RULE, finished in 11th place in the Seniors Quartet Contest in Tucson, AZ.

HD Chorus, Plateau AAA Champions, turned in the highest score in the Youth Chorus Festival with an 83.5 AVG







Action Photos from the International “Midwinter Seniors Quartet Contest” / “Youth Chorus Festival Contest”

Photos provided by:  
Shawn York, Miller Photography and Lorin May



*John Spang*  
President

As we welcome in another year, we're all looking forward to what awaits us in 2012. I personally hope that 2012 will be a transitional year for both our economy and for our District. Change will be a key component of what's occurring in our District this year. Over the past several years, our District has overhauled many of its internal procedures for the purpose of getting our financial house in order. The results of this action have been excellent as our conventions have once again become profitable enough to begin supporting District programs as they have done in the past. In 2012, we will continue to pursue financial stability for our District, but we will also begin focusing on ways to improve each and every member's barbershop experience. We hope you will become a part of this transition by offering your suggestions on how your District Board can work to improve the barbershop experience of each of our members.

One of our biggest changes for 2012 will be that our spring and fall conventions head to Punta Gorda in SW Florida. The Punta Gorda venue should be excellent for both our audience and competitors alike. We'll also have the opportunity to learn more about our host city, Punta Gorda, and all that it has to offer. We hope that our return to SW Florida allows some barbershoppers that haven't been to a District Convention in some time to take this opportunity to get involved and see what they've been missing.

Membership will also be a priority this year as Operation Harold Hill rolls into our District. This Society wide program offers one on one help to Chapters within our District from hand-picked "Harolds" that give of their extensive barbershop experience

## President's Page

to assist them in getting their membership numbers up. Why not take advantage of this program so you too can grow your Chapter?

I recently attended our Mid-Winter Convention in Tucson, AZ and came away in awe of the event. The senior quartet contest was said to be the best ever held while the youth chorus festival was just incredible. As a result of that experience, it's clear to see that a youth movement is upon us and is the future of our Society. To help this movement along, we will be establishing a youth advisory group that will look for ways to improve the barbershop experience for those less than 30 years of age. We hope that the input provided by this group will allow us to grow the number of younger members by offering barbershop opportunities that appeal to them. Want to experience this youth movement for yourself? Plan on attending the next Mid-Winter Convention next January that will be held right here in Orlando. You don't want to miss the opportunity to see these young men in action!

Other changes coming will be our move away from the plateau system for our chorus competition toward a system that rewards actual improvement in our singing and presentation. We also hope to bring back more singing at conventions by finding additional ways to get barbershoppers more involved throughout the convention weekend.

As we all are aware, nothing happens without someone making it happen. Your Board of Directors is dedicated to providing the very best in barbershoppers experiences to our membership, however, they can't do it alone. If you would like to be a part of making our District a better place to be a barbershopper, contact a board member and ask to get involved. You'll be glad you did!

John Spang

**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.**

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Music & Performance



### THE ANNUAL FILING REQUIREMENTS REAR AGAIN.

Congratulations to all our chapters and chapter leaders. All of the current leaders of Sunshine District Chapters have been entered into the Society web site. That's one thing we don't need to worry about until next year. BUT,

Secretaries and other chapter leaders--it is once again time to confirm your Florida state incorporation status renewal is complete. This must be done by May 1. If you find your chapter is deficient in this status, you can renew immediately online at <http://www.sunbiz.org>. If this function is normally done by the chapter Treasurer, then please confirm that it is complete. If you are late, your chapter may be required to pay a late fee to complete the transaction.

#### **Caution:**

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 technically 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 quartets 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.**

Another annual housekeeping function regards filing your taxes. Again, this applies to all chapter leaders and especially Treasurers. The 990s for fiscal year 2011 should be filed by May 16, 2012.

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Chapter Tax Time

# 7

Lets Talk Craft

*Dan Brinkmann*  
District Secretary



Instructions can be found at <http://www.barbershop.org/document-center/category/67-tax-documents.html>. AND once you have completed this, it is imperative that you log onto eBiz (<https://ebiz.barbershop.org/ebusiness/>) for your chapter and complete the "Financial Filings" entries for the fiscal year 2011.

We did well regarding payment of ASCAP fees for last year's performances—almost 100% compliant. The ASCAP fees, payable to the Barbershop Harmony Society, have changed once again for 2012. If your chapter grosses less than \$51,111.11 in ticket sales for **ALL** performance(s) during the year 2012, you will be required to submit an ASCAP reporting form with a check for the minimum amount of \$230.00. Last year the annual minimum fee to ASCAP was \$222. Make your check payable to the Barbershop Harmony Society, and send it directly to me with your BMI/SESAC Show fees. This process applies to 95% of our chapters. Keep in mind the annual minimum fee is just that—an annual fee, not a per show fee. Download the form and more information from the Society web page at <http://www.barbershop.org/document-center/category/71-show-clearance-and-legal-ascap-etc.html>

BMI/SESAC licensing is no joke. We pride ourselves in being able to show our friends and family all the hard work we put into learning our craft. However, if your chorus fails to submit a BMI/SESAC for show clearance, your time and effort could end up behind locked doors. That's not the worst of it. If you fail to obtain proper show clearance, you may not be properly covered for insurance purposes. So, check, double check, and triple check that you have that show clearance on hand the day of your performance.

On a sad note folks, I have the unpleasant task of announcing that Chapter P-041, Suwannee Valley has turned in their charter. We wish them well on future efforts.

I look forward to seeing all of you at our next convention.



**Chad Bennett**  
V. P. Events

Your 2012 Spring Convention is almost here, so it's time for another update of what's going on. We'll be gathering in Punta Gorda April 13-15. Your headquarters hotel is the Four Points by Sheraton, and the secondary is the Wyvern hotel. In late January, our room blocks in both hotels were filled. You might get lucky and find a cancellation, but your best bet is to go ahead and book a room at the overflow hotel, the Country Inn & Suites. Contact numbers and more information can be found on the website at [www.sunshinedistrict.org/conventions](http://www.sunshinedistrict.org/conventions). While the Four Points and Wyvern hotels are adjacent to our contest venue, the Charlotte Harbor Event and Conference Center, the Country Inn & Suites is about a ten minute drive. The good news is, parking is free at the venue. If you haven't purchased your all-events registration, time is running out to take advantage of the early bird price of \$45. On March 24, the cost goes up to \$65, and on April 9 it becomes \$75. You can go online to purchase your registrations, or you can send in the registration form located in this issue.

Your Spring Convention is shaping up to be a great weekend! On Friday night, we'll begin with the 2012 International Preliminary Quartet Contest, for college and open division, plus the District Seniors Quartet Contest. While scores are being compiled, you'll get to hear from our current chorus champion, the Tampa Heralds of Harmony. We're planning some fun Friday night activities for those of you who wish to stay up a little later. Information will be posted on the website as it becomes available. On Saturday, we'll kick things off with the 2012 District Chorus Contest, followed by several awards and

## Event Horizons

presentations, including naming our 2011 Barber-shopper of the Year. Saturday evening, the Quartet Finals round will be followed by some top-notch entertainment, including a parade of International Qualifiers. The Saturday night District afterglow will be held at the same venue as the competition sessions.

Just for you, we've negotiated some special deals with local businesses in Punta Gorda. The Fisherman's Village Waterfront Mall, Resort, and Marina is offering us some great coupons and discounts for many of their boutiques, shops, and restaurants. Flyers will be available at registration for anyone who wishes to take advantage of the deals. Also, Fish Cove Mini Golf is offering a two-for-one deal for those of you who are interested in a round of family fun just across the bridge from our headquarters hotel. If mini golf isn't your thing, we're partnering with a couple pro courses in the area to offer special discounts on full rounds of golf. On April 1<sup>st</sup> you can check the website to find out how to book your golf outing. I know some of you would love to get in some swings before leaving on Sunday, so here's your opportunity.

In addition to the competition sessions, there are several events throughout the weekend that you can enjoy with your all-events registration. There's another Video Vault feature showcasing some of your favorite Sunshine District groups from the past, as well as some potential educational sessions and special presentations. There are many great reasons for you to join us in Punta Gorda, so make plans to attend your 2012 Spring Convention now!

See you there!

Chad Bennett  
SUN VP Events



- 8 Contest & Judging
- 9 Conv. Registration
- 10 Chapter Happening

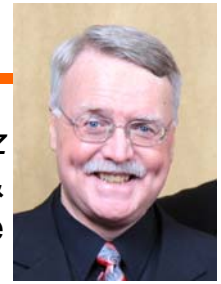
Greetings! I am proud to be your new District Vice President for Music and Performance. I have a lot of things to work on and will be seeking assistance to make sure my efforts are successful.

I'm pleased to announce that Society Music Specialist Mike O'Neill will be visiting Sunshine District this spring! He will be here from March 12<sup>th</sup> through the 15<sup>th</sup>. He will be visiting southwest Florida on Monday (Cape Coral), central Florida on Tuesday (Winter Park), possibly southeast Florida on Wednesday (TBD), and in south central Florida on Thursday (Orange Ridge). There will be town hall-type meetings on these nights, in these areas. I urge all chapters in these areas to alter their meeting nights that week to participate and support this visit by Mike.

I wanted to take the opportunity to remind everyone about the Standing Ovation Program. This is an excellent means of getting positive feedback on your chapter show. If you have been involved in doing SOPs and are still interested in participating in the program, please contact me directly at hnantz@cfl.rr.com. I will be contacting the Society in the near future to set up a training session to get everyone up-to-date. For more information on this resource, check out the Services tab on the Sunshine District website.

Also, another resource that is available is the Coaches Guild. This is a list of gentlemen here in

*Harold Nantz*  
V. P. Music &  
Performance



the District that are available to provide coaching to your chapter. There is a request form that needs to be filled out and submitted to get something set up. I have tried to make the request form a little more user friendly. Let me know what you think. Further, my intent is to make it so that you can submit it directly to me via the form itself. I'll let you know when that is up and running. Additional information (as well as the request form) is available on the District website, under the Services tab.

Spring Contest is coming up soon. This year's venue is in Punta Gorda. I hope everyone is planning to attend. Even if you don't plan to compete in a chorus or quartet, be sure to participate and cheer on your favorites.

Finally, the Society's new program geared towards increasing membership, Operation Harold Hill, is cranking up. I urge all of our chapters to participate in this important program. The Music & Performance VPs for each chapter should coordinate with their membership folks to insure that they have a well-planned and successful program.

That's all for now!

## Tucson MidWinter Update

The results are in from the MidWinter Convention in Tucson, AZ and the **HD Chorus** took top honors at the International Youth Chorus Festival. With a score of 2254 (83.5 average), they are the Plateau AAA Champions and received the highest overall score by a margin of 160 points. Congratulations to Director Alex Rubin and all the young men of the HD Chorus. In other Tucson news, Rusty Pipes (JAD) is the new International

**11** Tag Composium

Seniors Champion, and our representative to the contest, **OLD GUYS RULE**, finished in 11th place. 5th place International Medalist and current Sunshine District Quartet Champions **Main Street** was unable to perform on the Friday night show, but the audience was delighted by another SUN favorite, **The Humdingers**, who appeared in their place closing the evening with a high energy show. Next year the MidWinter Convention will return to the Sunshine District, so make plans to attend January 8-13 in Orlando.

**12** Chapter Happenings

**13** Eternal Chapter

[Sunshine District Website](#)



**Dave Kannberg**  
Treasurer

By now, all the chapter treasurers should have sent out 1099-Misc if they paid anyone over \$600 without expense receipts. If you haven't done so, get it done quickly.

You should now be working on your Federal tax return that is due on 5/15. Use either the 990t, EZ or 990 to file, send a copy to Nashville either electronically or by mail and record when you filed on Ebiz. If you were at any of the Leadership Academy sessions, you know how to do it. Please file timely. As I told the attendees at LeadAc, 4 chapters in this district have lost their non-profit status for failure to file with the IRS for 3 years or more. You don't want to know what it will cost you in time and money to get your non-profit status back.

## Chapter Tax Time

The liability insurance policy is available on the BHS website under documents. You can download it from there.

We are into a new fiscal year for the district and are doing fine for now. Please support all district activities (conventions, Sizzle, Harmony Explosion, LeadAc, and Labor Day Jamboree) if you are able.

If you ever have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me. I know we have a number of new chapter treasurers in the district. I and others who are knowledgeable are available to help, you just need to ask.

We will see you in Punta Gorda for the spring contest.

Dave Kannberg, SUN treasurer

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

## Let's Talk Craft - Vowel Matching

*Tom Raburn*

Question: When does  $2 + 2 = 5$ ? Answer: When barbershop harmony is sung correctly, creating harmonic overtones and "expanded sound."

One of the most important factors in the achievement of choral blend and expanded sound is unity of vowel sounds. Vowels are what we sing and sustain, separated by consonants to make words. When we match vowel sounds, we create like harmonics and the sound expands in intensity through reinforcement. In singing, vowels are created through the natural resonance of the human vocal tract. The tongue, lips and jaw are used to fashion the resonators into their vowel shapes. Some basic rules to follow when forming vowel sounds are:

- > When producing all vowel sounds, the tip of the tongue should be placed gently on the lower gum ridge, with the tip barely touching the base of the lower teeth. This helps keep the throat open so the vocal chords can vibrate naturally through the resonators (mouth, throat, and sinus cavities).
- > The jaw should be allowed to relax naturally with a swinging down and back motion.
- > The lips should leave the teeth uncovered.
- > Although the mouth must be open wide, it is not how wide it is open but the shape that is most important.

Every vowel can be sung with one of three mouth shapes: round (example—"oh"), square (example—"ih" as in sit) and oblong (example—"ah" as in pop). Refinements to form each specific vowel sound are made by the degree to which the tongue is arched in the mouth, and the degree to which the jaw is dropped. For instance, both the "oh" sound and the "oo" (as in moon) sound are made with the round mouth shape, but the "oh" sound is made with the mouth as open as possible while the "oo" sound is made with the smallest, most rounded shape.

As we sing the songs in our repertoire, keep in mind the basic mechanics of producing vowel sounds and think about the target vowel sound for each word in the song. Properly matched vowels can enable our chorus of 20-something men to "fill the hall" and create the expanded sound that makes barbershop harmony so much fun to sing and hear.

Big D Bulletin, September 1998

*PROBE Web Site*

**HARMONY  
FOUNDATION**  
*Sing...for life*



## Contest & Judging

By the time you receive the Sunburst and have read this article, we will be only a few short weeks until our spring contest in Punta Gorda. Your convention team hopes that all of you attend this contest week-end to compete in a quartet or chorus and to hear the best quartets and choruses that the district has to offer.

This spring we changed our contest entry deadline from two weeks prior to the contest to four weeks prior to the contest. This change was done so that the convention team could have all the information we needed earlier to ensure that all team members communicate to the contestants in a more timely manner, conduct the draw for communication to the Contest Administrators, Program Chairman, Contestant Services Chairman and to the contestants. Giving us two more weeks to do what we have to do hopefully will eliminate last minute communication errors.

This spring's chorus contest will have a change. We no longer will have chorus plateaus. We will be replacing the plateau system with awards for choruses who show a grade level improvement over the grade level score from the last time they competed in a spring contest. Naturally, only those choruses who show a grade level improvement will be recognized and given an award. We also will be recognizing the chorus who has the most point improvement over the last time they have competed in a spring contest.

### *Harold Lathom* Vice President Contest & Judging



We have a very talented panel of judges for our contest. We will have the current Category Specialists in Music (Jim Kahlke) and Singing (David Mills). We will also have our past Contest and Judging Chairman and past Music Category Specialist (Steve Jamison). Rounding out the panel are some very experienced gentlemen, Presentation (Steve Dorn & Bob Hodges), Singing (Tim Brooks) and Contest Administrators (Don Leonard & Woody Woods). Please take the time to thank these gentlemen for serving on the panel and sharing their talents with the Sunshine District.

For those gentlemen who have thought about entering the Contest & Judging system, now is the time for you to communicate your desire to me. Applications will be accepted beginning in the fall of 2013. If you are interested in this rewarding part of your barbershop activities, contact me via email, phone or in person at one of our conventions and I will discuss with you the application requirements.

See all of you in Punta Gorda.

Harold Lathom

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

**ADVERTISE in The Sunburst**

**14**

Portland Convention Flier

**15**

MidWinter Pictures

Just a friendly reminder that Standing Ovation reviewers across the State are willing to come to your next chorus or quartet performance - for free even - to give experienced opinions and suggestions on what they see and hear. The intent of this Society program is to bring help to local chapters, to improve Barbershop Shows nationally and give greater satisfaction to you, the performers who work so hard to make these events special.

**To schedule a review, email Jon at  
[StandingOvations@SunshineDistrict.org](mailto:StandingOvations@SunshineDistrict.org).**





# SUNSHINE DISTRICT CONVENTION SPRING 2012

APRIL 13 - 15

**PUNTA GORDA, FLORIDA**

HDQTRS HOTEL: FOUR POINTS SHERATON

(941) 637-6770

CONTEST VENUE: CHARLOTTE HARBOR EVENT &amp; CONFERENCE CENTER

**REGISTRATION**

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

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

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

**REGISTRATION ORDER****ALL COMPETITORS ARE REQUIRED TO PURCHASE AN ALL EVENTS PACKAGE****EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS 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					\$	

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

OTHERWISE SEND WITH CHECK,

(MADE OUT TO SUNSHINE DISTRICT) TO:

TONY FORTUNE

2901 CYPRESS RIDGE TRAIL

PORT ORANGE, FL 32128

FAX NO: 386-760-1008

EMAIL: FOUNTAIN9@BELLSOUTH.NET

OR:



NAME AS IT APPEARS ON CREDIT CARD

CREDIT CARD NUMBER

EXP. DATE

SIGNATURE

### Hernando County

#### **\$7,000 Presented to Penny Mecklenburg!**

*by Tom Rooney*

Our 2011 Annual Show, ***Heroes in Harmony***, had two major goals: to put on a quality show for our audience, and to contribute a significant amount of money to the John Mecklenburg Fund. Both of these goals were certainly exceeded!

After the tragic death of Deputy John Mecklenburg on July 3, 2011, his widow Penny wanted to keep a low profile and not be in the public eye. But when she learned of our special show and the continuing success of the cash contribution program, she decided to attend the show as our guest, along with her 6-year old son, Andy.

As we know, the show was a smashing success! More than 600 people attended, and the Program Ad sales were twice as much as last year. This resulted in net proceeds of around \$4,600. Adding the cash contributions of over \$2,300, this allowed us to contribute \$7,000 to Penny Mecklenburg and her children. Although we didn't specify a dollar goal, none of us on the Show Committee expected we would do this well.

On November 30, 2011, we held a check presentation ceremony hosted by Sheriff Al Nienhuis. Attending were George Williamson, Doug Stewart, Allen Magnus, and myself – and of course, Penny Mecklenburg. Jean Hayes of the Tampa Bay Times covered the ceremony. Penny was overwhelmed not only with the contribution, but the show itself. She never expected it would be this "grand".

We Hernando Harmonizers should be justly proud of this accomplishment. This was by far the biggest single contribution in our history, and it certainly

signaled to our community that we are a major caring and giving organization.

#### ***A job well done!***



*Left to right: George Williamson, Sheriff Al Nienhuis, Doug Stewart, Tom Rooney, Allen Magnus and Penny Mecklenburg.*

### Suncoast-Charlotte County Chapter

We have started our second year under the direction of **Jack Slamka** and we have come out running. We are preparing for our annual show on March 10, 2012 and we are excited! The Chorus is learning songs from the era of World War II and we are accompanied by guest quartets, **"The Pursuit"** and in their first appearance since their retirement, **2003 Gold Medalist's "Power Play."** It will be a 2:00 pm show, followed by a dinner and an Afterglo. Make your plans now to attend this show and be as excited as we are. **Tickets and information are available by calling (941) 276-3658 or (941) 833-5444.**

On April 13, 14, we will be hosting the Sunshine Spring Convention and again we look forward to seeing you and meeting you during this weekend. **The Suncoast Statesmen** will be competing for the first time in many years along with a quartet or two. We have been guaranteed lovely weather for the Convention. Along with the district personnel, we are trying to make this venue a new Sunshine experience.

**Gary Branch, President**

**16** BQPA Festival

**17** Liaison Report



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

There is an aspect of barbershopping that most "Joe-barbershoppers" never get to explore or experience. It is an old-time, creative side that might appeal to some of us here in the Sunshine District: .....Writing Tags.

Here's what I propose: A gathering of folks who have written a tag on their own or with a few other guys, not necessarily a long one, but one that has some nice stuff and rings, maybe.

The gathering would be non-competitive and non-judgmental. It would consist of me and anybody else who would like to take part. You may present it in any format you'd like: i.e. musical notation; 1, 2, 3, 5#, 5b; do, re, mi; or sheer memory. It will happen at a specific time and place to be named later during the SUN Spring Convention at Punta Gorda.

## FIRST SEMI-ANNUAL TAG COMPOSIUM

If you would like constructive criticism, there will be folks there who can help. If not, that's OK, too. We'll try to put together some tags to teach Saturday night at the convention.

Imagine what it would be like to hear someone singing something you created.....and imagine how the lady with you would feel.

If you would, let me know of your interest between now and sometime before 6 PM Thursday, 12 April, before convention Friday. That'll give me a few hours to plan a time and location. That'll also give you time to create something.

My e-mail roadwarriorbvd@gmail.com. My name is Bart Van de Mark.

Below is an example of a short, pithy (sorta) tag that four guys put together woodshedding in a few minutes around a kitchen table. One made up a melody line and the others tried different harmonies. There was no instrument involved and it was notated months after it was composed using 1, 2, 3, 5#, 7b, etc by the guy with the best handwriting.

### That's Why

Four SUN barbershoppers sitting around a table  
Fall, 2010

**Tag**

The musical notation shows two staves. The top staff is for Tenor Lead and the bottom staff is for Bari Bass. The key signature has one flat (Bb) and the time signature is 3/4. The melody is: 1. That's, 2. why, 3. I, 4. love, 5. you, 6. so! There are some handwritten annotations above the notes, including a '1' above the first note, a '2' above the fourth note, and a '3' above the sixth note. There are also some handwritten symbols above the notes, including a '1' above the first note, a '2' above the fourth note, and a '3' above the sixth note.



**Next Sunburst  
Deadline  
May 15, 2012**



### Singing For Charity

Paradise Coastmen Barbershop Chorus  
Gray Poehler, VP Marketing



Members are using their talents to raise holiday cash for charity.

Leader **Don Kirkpatrick** tells the heartwarming story, "We arrange for groups of our members to go to various Naples, Marco Island and Bonita Springs restaurants and sing a few Christmas songs for their patrons and then pass a Santa hat for donations to the **Salvation Army**."

"We've collected between \$4,000 and \$5,000 every year for the last few years and approximately \$42,000 since we began this program."

It gets better.

"I wonder if there is anything that the **Naples Daily News** could do to remind folks who plan to have dinner at a local restaurant on Dec. 16 to look for a band of jolly Paradise Coastmen Chorus singers wearing Santa hats and carrying a Salvation Army placard? Unfortunately, we have only enough singers to cover about 33 restaurants this year, but we look forward to the challenge."



**Bob Byron**, left and **Bob Rose**, right presenting check to Salvation Army representative. Our Guys raised \$3,150 which was donated to the Salvation Army Christmas Fund.

Naples-Ft. Myers  
**2011 BOTY & Rookie of the Year**  
Gray Poehler, VP Marketing



**Don Kirkpatrick**, the 2011 Barbershopper of the year

Don has been a member of the Paradise Coastmen Chorus for 12 years and has served as board member and VP of Music. He has

been the bass section leader since 2003, was the 2009 show chairman, and is the editor of Shop Notes, the chapter's newsletter. Don has sung in three quartets, Sanddollar, Anonymous and currently sings lead with Tropical Depression.



**Dave McNicholas**, 2011 Rookie of the Year, with wife, Patty

In Dave's first year with the chapter, he has assumed the role of photographer and graphics designer. He

also served as stage manager for the 2011 spring show and has agreed to be show chairman in 2013. Dave is also a dual member with the champion **New Traditions** chorus.

**HARMONY FOUNDATION**  
*Sing...for life*



**G. WILLIAM  
"BILL"  
AUSTIN**

**Bill Austin**, 80, passed away Jan. 12, 2012 in Orlando, FL. Bill was born July 25, 1931 in Jacksonville, FL to George

W. and Vennie Ergle Austin. He was very proud to be a fourth generation Floridian. Bill attended the University of Florida (1949-1952). He was a veteran of the US Marines during the Korean era.

In 1955, Bill began his career with F. W. Woolworth, moving frequently from 1955-1968; repeating his childhood moves of 13 cities. He re-settled back in Orlando in 1978 with his 5 & 10's store until he joined the family business (Louis C. Herring & Co., Inc.) in 1980 which he operated until 2000. Bill was a member of the Enterprise (AL) Volunteer Rescue Squad from 1969-74, a member of the Rotary Club in Enterprise, AL and Crystal River, FL, the SPEB-

SQSA (Men's Barbershop Quartet Society-1978 to present), the Orlando Jeep Club (1995 to present) and Gator Crawlers (1994 to present). His hobbies were fishing, hunting, camping, house-boating (on the St. John's), flying (1500 plus hours-instrument rated private pilot), Barbershop Harmony, Off-road Jeeping (attended 100 Jeep Jamboree events) in 48 states (including Alaska) plus Canada (1991-2011).

He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Yvonne of Edgewood, FL; son, Glenn Austin (Frankie) of Oviedo, FL; daughter, Glenda Barnes (Robert) of Floral City, FL; grandsons, Steven and Edward Fleisher and nephews, Mark and Grant Austin.

*"Bill was a member of the Orlando Chapter, Orange Blossom Chorus, starting in 1978 and was very active until the 1980's, including quartet activities and financial support (anonymously) for many years. He and his wife Yvonne continued to attend officer installation dinners yearly - a truly loyal barbershopper. Bill maintained his membership in the chapter until his death."*

**Roger Payne**

David F. Mangold

**David F. Mangold** passed away January 19, 2012, surrounded by his loving family. David was born in 1933 in North Tonawanda, NY and moved to Rockledge in 1985.

A carpenter by trade, David also built beautiful furniture for friends and family. He loved to fish and was a member of the Greater Canaveral Barbershop Harmony Society.

A devoted father and grandfather, he was preceded in death by his first wife, Margaret, and his second wife, Donna. He is survived by his son, David (Vicki); daughter, Heidi Beasley (Bill); son, Todd (Maryann); sisters, Linda Danforth (Ron) and Barbara Nowakowski (Ron); grandchildren, Jordan, Tyler, Brook, Josh and Shawn, as well as his loyal and best friend "Charlie".



"Dave Mangold, one of our most active members for over 10 years, passed away January 19, 2012 after a long illness. His strong lead voice was great to sing with. He enjoyed chorus and especially Singing Valentines and Group Therapy, our sub-chorus that went to assisted living centers. He always had Sylvester at his side, many times, Sylvester was the hit of the day."

"Dave worked for years helping the Chapter with stage props and scenery. He was a gentleman, always. We'll miss him...and Sylvester has found a good home with an exceptional education teacher."

Bill Ross,  
Secretary, Greater Canaveral Chapter P017





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### 2012 Spring Festival for the Barbershop Quartet Preservation Association

The dates of April 11-15 have been set for the Spring Festival in 2012, in Tempe, AZ. Once again, we have the Embassy Suites reserved for our event. The hotel is under new ownership but all of the previous amenities will continue with the added plus of having all suites receiving upgraded bed and bath linens and new flat screen TV's. Fortunately, the excellent staff has been retained and they are anxious to have us there again.

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- High speed internet

The room rate is \$102.00 per night, which is still a bargain, considering the entire package that we receive. And, because of the numbers we bring in, the charges for meeting space and set up fees are very minimal.

Our block of rooms will be held for us until March 12, 2012. After that date, the hotel is free to release the balance of our room block to others. Last year there were some very late registrants and it was not easy to get the convention room rate for them. The hotel has a very lenient cancellation policy if your plans change. This is a very popular hotel for nearby ASU and they house many of the spring sport teams and families. So, please register early and be sure you have a room.

For reservations it is best to call the hotel directly

and tell them you are coming for the Barbershop event. 480-797-7444. Use this number for the complementary airport shuttle as well.

Golf will be available on Thursday and Friday. Call Jim Milner at 480-820-2151 ([jrmilner@cox.net](mailto:jrmilner@cox.net)) to get into a foursome. Tell Jim your preferred voice part so he can make up a quartet to sing on each tee box.

A schedule of events will be posted as we get closer to the dates.

To get a jump start on your quartet weekend, plan to arrive on Wednesday, April 11th. The Arizona Quartet Chapter will again host an evening of quartet singing at the American-Italian Club, 7509 N. 12<sup>th</sup> St., Phoenix, AZ. It all begins at 5:30 pm with the spaghetti buffet provided by the club for a mere \$7.00 a plate with meatballs, salad and bread. Quartet time begins at 7:00 pm and there will be several rounds of 'draw' quartets. Transportation can be provided from the hotel. Contact me at [rmtous@msn.com](mailto:rmtous@msn.com) but please do so early enough that I can make arrangement for the cars.

See you there !!

Rex Touslee  
[rmtous@msn.com](mailto:rmtous@msn.com)  
970-988-5652

Just a friendly reminder that Standing Ovation reviewers across the State are willing to come to your next chorus or quartet performance - for free even - to give experienced opinions and suggestions on what they see and hear. The intent of this Society program is to bring help to local chapters, to improve Barbershop Shows nationally and give greater satisfaction to you, the performers who work so hard to make these events special.

**To schedule a review, email Jon at**  
**[StandingOvations@SunshineDistrict.org](mailto:StandingOvations@SunshineDistrict.org)**



**Jim Sams**  
Sunshine District  
Society Board Liaison

Mid-Winter BHS Society Board meeting  
Tucson, AZ  
January 19-20, 2012

The Tucson Mid-Winter Convention lived up to its billing with a rousing youth chorus festival, a strong Senior Quartet competition, and evening shows from the best quartets in the world of barbershopping. Despite the low attendance, less than desirable sleeping arrangements at the headquarters hotel, and cool temperatures, everyone thoroughly enjoyed this reunion of our barbershop family and were enthralled with the grand style of barber-shop harmony and brotherhood that we have become known for over the last 75 years.

The Society Board spent Tuesday evening and most of Wednesday during the convention week discussing and interviewing potential Society CEO candidates. There is no doubt that the SBOD knows what we are truly looking for in a new CEO but are still in the process of finding that individual to take over the reins of the Society. We have seen a number of very talented, dedicated, and personable men involve themselves in the CEO search process, but we are still looking for the man we feel will take our Society to the next level of growth and musical excellence. In a word, the CEO search is still ongoing and in process. You will know when we know when the next CEO is found.

The board meeting agenda was not overwhelming this time and allowed time for discussion on some very important pressing issues and ongoing programs. Due to the absence of some Operations and Committee leaders and a lack of several current reports, a number of issues were tabled until the spring board meeting in Nashville. Here are some of the more memorable subjects that were covered during our meetings:

- Interim CEO Larry Deters updated the board on where we stood financially, numerically, and how the Portland convention was shaping up. No adjustments in the current budget were needed at this time. As of January 5<sup>th</sup> the Society membership stood at 24,229 with a goal of 24,787 to be reached by year's end. The number of chapters stands at 794 with a goal of 803 during 2012. With 26 weeks to go before the Portland International Convention, registrations stood at 2093 with a goal

## Society Liaison Report

of 5260 to be reached. As of January 1<sup>st</sup> at least 88% of the Society chapters had been visited by District and Society leadership. The reaction to this program has been quite positive and we are just now beginning to reap the benefits of all the collected data.

- Director of Society Operations, Rick Spencer, and Harold Hill guru, Keith Eckhardt, brought the board up-to-date on the Harold Hill Program Society-wide. The Harold Hills are now in place, the website along with a training program for Harold Hills, put together by Paul Wietlisbach, Becca Box, and Keith Eckhardt, is in place. And the website, [www.operationharoldhill.com](http://www.operationharoldhill.com), is continually being updated. The Society BOD volunteered each of its members to serve as a Harold Hill for the remainder of the year. The goal is to add 3200 new Society members in 2012. The number of Society chapter participants is growing daily.
- CFO Heather Verble and Society Treasurer Dwayne Cooper reported that in 2011 the Society had a positive net gain with lower than expected revenues and even lower than expected expenses. The Society headquarters building has been successfully re-mortgaged at a lower set interest rate for the next ten years. The Management Financial Task Force is continuing its work to help streamline the cash flows and investments of Harmony Foundation International and the BHS. This will eliminate much confusion in determining the financial status of both linked organizations. The Program Fund is being reviewed for an appropriate name change that more accurately describes its use by the Society and the current value of such fund.
- Larry Deters will be reporting later this spring on the Society's plan to increase the public's awareness of the BHS. Two additional items have been added to the Society

*Continued on page 18*



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Work Plan. These are the Harmonizer and the Marketing Initiative.

- There will also be a task force recommendation forthcoming dealing with the regulations concerning small chapters and charter revocation. Currently, the Society is depending on districts to report the need for such revocations for chapters that are non-existent or cannot operate due to lack of viable membership numbers.
- Concerns about the current lack of Information Technology, hiring is being assessed by both the SBOD and the Society office. Much work has yet to be done to fully utilize the eBiz system currently in place. Lack of available budgeting has delayed the addition of much needed IT staff.
- The District Harmony Marketplace process was reviewed by Rick Spencer and Larry Deters and changes have been made to help more Districts with the ease of ordering merchandise, returning merchandise, and improving the opportunity for increased income to the districts.
- An update on the American Harmony movie

and subsequent public advertising was delivered. A viewing of the movie will be shown on television and copies of the American Harmony DVD are being marketed and sold in a number of public venues.

- Becca Box reviewed the latest Society program to help make the dues collection process for incoming members more user friendly and easier to understand by both chapters and applicants. The new program still did not answer some of the confusion that is plaguing many chapters and the program was not approved by a majority vote.

Hopefully, this will give you an insight into the workings of your Society Board and its desire to provide our membership with every opportunity for growth and increasing musical excellence and enjoyment. The resources available are immense. Please feel free to contact me or any members of the Society Board or the Society office if we can be of further service to your district/chapter leadership or membership. And feel free to contact me for any questions or input you may desire. It is my pleasure to serve as your Society liaison during 2012.

Jim Sams

Society Liaison Dixie/Sunshine Districts



## Sunshine District Management Team



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