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JULY-SEPTEMBER 2018



THE Sunburst



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE SUNSHINE DISTRICT BARBERSHOP HARMONY SOCIETY

WOW!!!!



SUNSHINEDISTRICT.ORG

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Promote your chapter shows!

Brag on your chapter quartets!

**Next Sunburst Deadline
September 15, 2018**

NEW Deadlines: Mar 15 • Jun 15 • Sept 15 • Dec 15

See back page for more information.





Chuck Steiner III
Sunshine District President

WOW! What a week- the SUN really shined brightly in Orlando!

The 2018 International Convention in Orlando, by all accounts, was a smashing success. Your Sunshine District Events Team and hundreds of volunteers made it so.

There are far too many people to thank for making the culmination of 2+ years' worth of planning, plotting, meetings, conference calls, and lots of travel made an enjoyable week for all who attended. I had to laugh a bit as Orlando was the "cool spot" in the lower 48 during the week.

The folks "in the trenches" stepped up big time to make everything from risers to transportation to judges hospitality, to registration to Harmony Marketplace, Convention Offices, and offering pure SUN hospitality seamless. That, my friends, is one of the reasons why our District is so special- our people. Our Team.

Led by **Convention Co-Chairmen Nick Schwob and Bill Billings**, a small army of Team Leaders made sure that everyone who attended felt at home and had a hassle-free time. People like **Dave and Louisa Kannberg, Roger Smeds, Bruce Checca, Bryan Hevel** (who worked the entire week with a major sinus infection- went and got a steroid shot and everything!), **Paul Carter, Danny and Bryan Wunderlin, Dave and Barbara Riches, Rich, Sean, and Maureen Barry** (and really, the *Orange Blossom Chorus* as a whole), **Cathie Billings, Sean Stork, Roxanne Clapp, Daniel Proctor, Steve and Kimberly**

Cragg, Debbie Cleveland, Paul Agnew, Tony Fortune, your SUN EVP **Arne Helbig**, and SWD President

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for more info.**

President's Message

John Schneider (who we proudly call "one of us" when big events roll around), The *Toast of Tampa Show Chorus* for the use of their risers, and the countless volunteers who manned doors, scanned tickets, directed traffic, answered questions, picked up VIP's at the airport, got daily bulletins and contest scores out timely, took pictures, worked with hotel and OCCC staff, got the competitors where they needed to be, numbered those (*insert bad word here*) individual chairs by hand, picked up/delivered/moved risers *multiple* times throughout the week...the list could fill an entire page. All of these things that go on behind the scenes you don't know about unless you are doing it. I know I left some folks out- I'm sorry, but there were so many people helping!

And as if that wasn't enough, YOUR SUN District Quartets and Choruses made us so very proud!

-**On Point** placed 10th in the NextGen Quartet Contest with a 74.7 score

-Our newest entrant onto the International stage, **The Simple Life**, placed 27th overall with an 87.4. Looking forward to watching that quartet grow and continue to rise.

SUN had three (3!) quartets place in the top 10 (with 2 of those finishing in the top 3)!

-**Rooftop Records** broke into the Finals and finished in 10th place with a 86.3; what a joy to watch then ascend! The guys are humble, hilarious, and come from pretty good stock!

-**Throwback** continued their tight, strong sound, finishing with **3rd place bronze medal** with a score of 91.2- the crowd loved you, and so do we- great job, gentlemen!

(continued on next page)

President's Message

-Our stand-up men from **Signature** finished with a **silver medal in 2nd place overall** with a 93.8 score. Grace, poise, and such respectable men. Your talents on stage are equal to your character and how you represent our District in all that you do. We could not be prouder of you!

SUN congratulates **After Hours** for taking the quartet gold this year, and even though they are an Illinois District quartet, we'll take the liberty of calling **Drew Ochoa** "ours." Oh, by the way...*After Hours will be performing at our Labor Day Jamboree*, so don't miss out on that!

Our choruses were pretty darn impressive, as well:

-T.H.X. were gracious as the mic testers for the chorus contest, and they represented well, as they always do. Thanks for showing the depth of our District, guys.

-Jacksonville's *Big Orange Chorus* made some major waves with a **15th place finish**, scoring an 83.8, with their highest score ever.

Very excited for what is happening in The River City right now! SUN is stronger when Jax is strong...and they are bringing it!

-Tampa Bay's *Heralds of Harmony* finished in 6th place overall with a score of 91.7 (the highest in chorus history), and the spread between 6th and 3rd place was a mere 1/2 point- it was that razor thin!

Rarefied air for us, and we won't be leaving that stratosphere any time soon. Bet on that!

SUN would also like to congratulate the outstanding men of Dallas' *Vocal Majority* for taking the chorus gold- what a classy organization in every viable way!

It takes a LOT of hard work to make it to the big stage...it takes even harder work to get there

and do well. All of our representatives did just that, and will only get better as time marches on...who'll be the next SUN quartet or chorus to make the jump?

The SUN is also bright in another way as we enter a new chapter of our Society's history. **Everyone in Harmony** took quite a dramatic turn just before International, when BHS announced that "Everyone" means...well, "Everyone"! This new line of thinking allows you to have added options, if you choose to use them. Branch off and create a Mixed Chorus in addition to your men's group- *if you want to*. Go "full in" and BE a Mixed Chorus- *if you want to*. More Members means more music, more harmony, more fun, and yes, more money...but most importantly- sharing the passion of our hobby/craft with everyone. No one is going to force anything on anyone. But- there are now available people around the table who were not allowed to "officially" be there before. **And that's a pretty cool thing!** The Sunshine District has always been welcoming to women taking our stage, whether it's a SAI quartet performing for us, a mixed quartet competing on our contest stage, a local non-BHS chorus, or a high school chorus...SUN has been and will continue to be a District of Opportunity and inclusiveness. Our Leadership Team plans to work closely with C&J and Headquarters to get answers to the unknown. We found out the exact same time as everyone else did! So, if you do have questions that we don't know the answers to quite yet, that's why. We'll get the answers, and we will make this work to our benefit.

Congratulations to our own **Randy Loos** for his election to the Society Board of Directors as a Board Member at Large.

I cannot allow this article to end without

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President's Message

thanking **Tony De Rosa** for literally having his hands in almost every single event, show, and contest throughout the week. Your SUN Barbershopper of the Year was the most involved performer, presenter, and Director, and made each and every event that he touched a lot more special, which I know he takes great pride in. From the District-sponsored **Monday Night Show** to the **AIC Show** to the **Saturday Night Spectacular**, Tony's fingerprints were all over this Convention. **The Voices of Liberty** (30+ of them!), **Voctave**, **Mariachi Cobre**, **The Humdingers** (a.k.a. **The Dapper Dans**- a small army of them, too!), and our outgoing Champs, **Main Street**- plus an AIC Chorus that was the best I've ever heard- were all planned, directed, or set up by Tony. A Servant's Heart and a demand for excellence in all that goes on stage and behind the scenes is a rare thing. We have that in Tony, and our District looks great because of it!

In closing, be proud of what we just did. It cost some dollars to be there for those that were.... but we have to be very aware that our District events must and will go on, and they need

you there! **LDJ** and our **2018 Fall Contest** are coming up in September and October. A new, re-vamped **LeadAc** and the debut of **SUN Harmony College** will be in January... **VP District Education Matt Crisostomo** will have more on that exciting new venture.

As always, check in on www.sunshinedistrict.org for updates and calendar events/shows/tickets.

Until we meet again (SOON!)- sincerely I am,
Chuck Steiner III

Very proud President- Sunshine District

Next up:

Aug 31-Sep 2 SUN Labor Day Jamboree
Orlando, FL
(Marriott Airport-Lakeside)

Oct 26-28 SUN Fall Convention
Orlando, FL
(Marriott Airport-Lakeside)



**Click here
to REGISTER for
Fall Convention!**

**Early Bird discounts
now thru Oct 1st!**

*Watch for hotel reserrvation information
coming soon.*



Sunshine District LeadAC/Harmony College



Big Changes for 2019 LeadAc

In addition to our revamped Leadership Training classes, The Sunshine District, by popular demand, is proudly debuting our very own Sunshine District Harmony College! These programs will help strengthen, broaden, and build up our chapters and our members as singers and musicians.

New Affordable Location:

The Rosen Plaza Hotel
9700 International Drive
Orlando, FL 32819

Classes being offered include but are not limited to:

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|
| ♪ Music Fundamentals | ♪ PVI (individual for one/one) |
| ♪ Sight Reading | ♪ Director's Class |

Instructors Include: David Mills, Bruce Cokerof, and Shane Scott just to name a few.



www.sunshinedistrict.org

Secretary's Message

CHAPTER REQUIREMENTS AND UPCOMING HOD MEETING

Wow... what an exciting summer it was with the 2018 International Convention being held right here in our back yards. The 2018 Convention in Orlando will without doubt go down as one of the best run conventions of all times thanks to Convention Team and of course the awesome volunteers who worked countless hours. I am very proud to say I am from the Sunshine District, most definitely the best district in the Society!!!!!!

Now back to business... If you remember in the last Sunburst I reminded all of you about the requirements that keep us legal? You know, state incorporations, taxes, ASCAP, BMI/SESAC—those things. With the new Member Center I am currently not able to check your chapter's status so it will be up to you to make sure your chapter is indeed compliant and legal. Again here is a list of items you as a Chapter Secretary are required to maintain.

State Incorporations:

All chapters are required to file with the state for nonprofit status. After doing so you need to update the chapter records with the society in the Members Only Section on the Harmony Society Website. Please verify that your chapter is indeed compliant and that the Member Center information for your chapter is updated.

Taxes, Taxes, Taxes:

Another annual housekeeping function regards filing your taxes. Each chapter is required to file their 990 each year and as stated above make sure the Member Center Information for your chapter is updated to reflect completion of this. Again, the tax documents may have been filed but the chapter records need to be updated.

Brian Wunderlin
Sunshine District Secretary



Financial Review

There is one other “business” type requirement that has been somewhat ignored, and that is the Financial Review. Delinquency in any of the requirements puts the chapter in jeopardy of incurring penalties including disqualification from competition. You can check to see if your chapter is in this category by simply going to the chapter financial records on the new Member Center. If you have questions or need assistance, let me know.

ASCAP

Don't forget this form now is to be sent directly to the Barbershop Harmony Society and no longer come to me. You can find the updated for in the Documents Center of the Society Website; there you will find the new form providing instructions on how to submit. Remember if your chapter had a performance where admission was charged, then you must pay ASCAP fees. Some of you have already submitted your payments and those have been processed. The fee currently is \$245.00 **if your chapter does not gross more than \$30,625.00** in ticket sales for ALL performance(s) during the year of 2018. When submitting your fees please fill out all required sections of the ASCAP submittal form and mail it directly to the Barbershop Harmony Society with a check made out to **BHS** for the minimum amount - **\$245.00**. 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.

If your chapter grosses more than \$30,625.00 in ticket sales for ALL performance(s) during 2018 check the procedure at the Barbershop Harmony Society Website. The ASCAP form is to be completed to comply with the agreement

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Secretary's Message

between The Society and The American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP).

Once again, checks should be made out to the "**Barbershop Harmony Society**" NOT ASCAP and need to be mailed directly the Barbershop Harmony Society for recording and processing. Download the form and more information from the Documents section of the Society web page.

Upcoming HOD Meeting:

This is a reminder we have a House of Delegate meeting scheduled for Friday October 26th, 2018 at 2pm in Orlando during the Fall Convention. Please remember to have your Chapter Delegates who will be representing

your chapter updated on the Members Center Section of the society's website. I will be sending the agenda to all the Presidents and Delegates prior to the meeting so make sure this information is correct on the member website so you and your delegates receive advanced notification. Remember your chapter can designate one "Delegate" to represent your chapter along with the Chapter President; if the President or delegate is unable to attend the meeting your chapter will then have only one representative present as a voting member. Thank you in advance for your assistance in this matter.

Thanks,
Brian Wunderlin, Sunshine District Secretary



Labor Day Jamboree 2018 is right around the corner!

by Byron Poore, LDJ Chairman

Hosted at the Airport Marriott Hotel over Labor Day weekend (August 31st – September 3rd), LDJ is one of the best barbershop events all year and you won't want to miss it!!

The talent for this year's shows will feature your current BHS champions, **After Hours**, as well as 3rd place BHS bronze medalists, **Throwback**, and World Mixed Champs, **Double Date**.

As usual we expect to have some local SUN and Region 9 talent as well as a surprise or two.

Only \$114 per night for a Double/Double or King room (Saturday and Sunday show tickets sold separately). Visit www.labordayjamboree.com to book your room today.

It is going to be fun and rooms are booking quickly!!

Click here or visit www.labordayjamboree.com to book your room today!

Executive Vice President's Message



Arne Helbig
Executive Vice President

Hi Everyone,

I know you'll be reading a lot about the Orlando convention in this publication but I'd be remiss if I didn't also extend my sincere appreciation to Co-Convention Chairmen **Nick Schwob and Bill Billings** for their outstanding leadership, and the entire convention team and volunteers who took time out of their busy schedules to ensure the convention was an absolutely outstanding event!

Congratulations to all our Orlando competitors, **Signature, Throwback, Category 4** (yea, we're claiming them too!), **Rooftop Records, Simple Life, Wildfire, On Point, the Heralds of Harmony, the Big O and mic-testing chorus THX!** What a thrill it was to see Sunshine so well represented, and check out those scores! Wow! Special thanks to outgoing champs Main Street. They are amazing ambassadors for the Sunshine District. Their contribution to the entire Orlando Convention was unparalleled!

Harmony Explosion Camp was amazing! Thanks to **Steve Cragg** for his leadership as Camp Director

of this year's camp. His IT savvy and great ideas made the new HX website and camp better than ever! Thanks to everyone who donated funds to the camp. We could not have held it without your help! Hopefully you were able to watch our 90+ member partial HX Camp Chorus perform on the Saturday Night Spectacular. HX Camp Clinicians **Tony DeRosa** and **Debbie Cleveland** invited teachers, chaperones and staff to sing with the students on the show. I'll never forget that incredible experience!

I sincerely encourage you to attend LDJ. **Bryon Poore**, LDJ Chairman, has put together a wonderful event including two shows that rival anything you'll see anywhere!

Start making plans to attend LeadAc. There are some new items planned that you'll be hearing about soon. It's a great time to get together with other chapter leaders, share ideas, take some classes and have fun! Contact **Matt Crisostomo** with any questions.

I know you get a lot of information from BHS, the District and your chapter leadership. If you have any questions please let me know and your Board will be happy to assist.

Thanks!

Arne Helbig, Executive Vice President,
Sunshine District



Support Barbershop
While You Shop!



Chapter Happenings

Tallahassee Chapter

by Russell Parker Collins

It was a busy June in Tallahassee, Florida for me and the Capital Chordsmen, our barber-shop chorus. We performed our annual show after 9 months of work. Also, I turned in my first ever grant application for our barbershop group to our city/county arts organization, the result of several months of work. Another thing that added to the busyness is that our Chapter is in the process of hiring a new director after our director of 7 years was offered a much better situation in Texas. Now that some of these things are behind me, I can finally devote my attention to my first international barbershop convention. I've never been to a convention where my chorus is not competing. This time I will actually watch all the competitors perform instead of sweating out last minute adjustments in the warmup rooms. Also, I've never been to a international convention but only Florida (SUN) conventions. It will be of great interest to me how our SUN quartets fare in the competition. Especially near to us is Rooftop Records. The bass in that quartet, Jackson Pinder, sang bass in our Capital Chordsmen chorus for several years. Jackson is a great bass AND a great arranger. His arrangement of "Go Tell It on the Mountain" has been an audience hit whenever our chorus sings it.



CLICK HERE

to check out the District website
for up-to-date chapter events
www.sunshinedistrict.org/calendar/

Charlotte County Chapter

submitted by Paul Rothschild, VP, Marketing for the Statesmen

Suncoast Statesmen

Our director, Ray Danley, was named to the Society's Hall of Fame

2018 Hall of Fame Inductees

Dr. Ray Danley

Dr. Ray Danley joined the Society, then SPEBSQSA, in 1957. He holds an Associate of the Royal Conservatory of Toronto (ARCT) in vocal performance and earned his Doctorate from the University of Toronto in 1980. Ray worked with a select team organized by the Director of Musical Activities, Bob Johnson, to write the Society's first Chorus Director's Manual in 1973. As a member of the Ontario District, Ray directed the Scarborough Dukes of Harmony to victory in the summer of 1976, qualifying them to compete in the International competition the next year. They were the first competitor, quartet or chorus, from outside the United States to win gold. In addition, he was a semifinalist in the International Quartet Competition for 7 consecutive years (1973-1979), singing baritone in "The Canadian Heritage." Ray was a Harmony University faculty member from 1976-1982. As the director of his local Simcoe Chapter, Gentlemen of Harmony (1958-1967 and 2001-2015), Ray increased the membership from 32 in 2001 to 84 in 2015. Nominator Steven Armstrong, Director of the Toronto Northern Lights (2013 International Chorus Champions), explains, "Ray has demonstrated that in addition to his rare feat of being a multiple gold medal winning chorus director, he was a Hall of Fame barbershopper in the ways that he so generously gave of his time to develop the singers, directors and teachers that would follow him."

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Chapter Happenings

More Charlotte County Chapter News

*submitted by Ray Danley, Director
Charlotte County Chapter, home of "The Suncoast Statesmen"*

Great things that are happening in Charlotte County Chapter every Tuesday night.

Ray Danley has been a member of the Barbershop Harmony Society since 1957, and has quite the decorated past.

Throughout his directing career, he's been to the International Barbershop Convention a countless number of times directing the Scarborough Dukes of Harmony, winning their very first gold medal in 1977. Ray and The Dukes of Harmony returned to the International Competition in 1980, to win the gold medal a second time.

Ray is the only Canadian chorus director to attend the International Barbershop Convention and win a gold medal two times over. After another two-year wait, Ray's chorus decided to return a third time and won a silver medal. The Dukes of Harmony would go on to place in the top five two more times.

Danley began his humble beginnings at Simcoe High School in Ontario, Canada in the early 50s, where he was a part of the school choir. "My high school music teacher was the one to introduce me to the Barbershop Harmony genre, and helped me put my first quartet together," Ray said, as he recalled his early singing years.

After graduating high school, Ray joined a Barbershop chapter in Simcoe in 1956, and started directing them the following year at only 19 years old. He would continue to direct the Simcoe Chapter for ten more years.

Following his decade spent with the Simcoe Chapter, Ray helped compose the very first Barbershop Harmony Society Director's Manual in 1973.

The Barbershop Harmony Society invited Ray to teach at Harmony College, where he would teach chorus directors between the years of 1976 and 1982.

Danley was also involved in the development of the "Director's College," where he taught for two years from 1983 to 1985. "You can say that he literally 'wrote the book' on how to direct a Barbershop chorus," said Cronkwright, the Suncoast Statesmen's VP of Chapter Development.

Ray has been involved in a number of singing groups, including a quartet called the Canadian Heritage, where he would sing as a baritone from 1973 to 1983. The Canadian Heritage had also qualified for the International Convention, where they placed as semifinalists for six consecutive years, from 1973 to 1979.

Upon his retirement after over 30 years in education, Ray moved back to Simcoe in 2000 and began directing the Simcoe Chapter once again for another 15 years. Within this time, the Simcoe Chapter was recognized as one of the top 10 best barbershop chapters in the world.

In 2011, Ray was nominated to receive the Lifetime Achievement Award, which was presented to him live at the International Barbershop Convention in Kansas City.

Just as Ray was about to step down from his director's position for the final time in 2015, he received a call from Jack Cronkwright, inviting him to move down to Port Charlotte to direct the Suncoast Statesmen. The Suncoast Statesmen were in need of a director, and Jack felt that Ray was perfect for the job, but the rest of his fellow members in the Charlotte Coun-

(continued on next page)



Chapter Happenings

ty Chapter were a bit hesitant. "The chorus thought that with his superb background, he was way overqualified," said Cronkwright. "He was just too good for us."

Though the Charlotte County Chapter is not a competition chorus, Ray very much enjoys having this opportunity, simply for the love of music.

While Ray isn't directing the Suncoast Statesmen, he spends his remainder of the year back in Harmony Ranch in Ontario, Canada where he also directs a group called the Black River Chorus, as well as the Maple Leaf Chord Company, a Seniors Chorus based in the Ontario District.



Sarasota Chapter

submitted by Roger Murphy, VP Marketing Sarasota Chorus of the Keys

"Chorus awards four \$2000 scholarships"

Sarasota Chorus of the Keys in May awarded \$2000 each to four high school seniors who are continuing to pursue their musical interests in college.

The groups Sheridan E. Brown Memorial Scholarships went to Andrew Chalaire and Erik Murrell of Venice High School, Michael Miller of Lakewood Ranch High, and Connor Wozniak of Pine View School.

Chalaire, who will study at the Berklee College of Music, plays guitar and



Andrew Chalaire (left) and Connor Wozniak receiving their award checks from Chapter President Jeffry Oleson

performs in a number of Venice High Bands. Murrell, who will attend The University of Central Florida, plays viola, guitar, and piano, and sings in chorus. Miller, who will attend The Eastman School of Music, plays clarinet and saxophone in a number of ensembles and as a soloist. Wozniak, who will attend Notre Dame University, plays the trombone in a number of ensembles and has performed in the orchestra at Players Theatre.

The Sarasota Chorus of the Keys, a chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society, has been entertaining Suncoast residents since 1949, celebrating its 70th anniversary in 2019.

The funding source for the scholarships is the Sheridan E. Brown Memorial Scholarship Fund. The Brown endowment fund, now valued over \$100,000, was established from estate gifts donated through the wills of chorus members and their spouses.



Hernando Chapter

"Hernando Harmonizers announces the appointment of Chris Barthauer as their new Artistic Director. He replaces longtime director Doug Stewart who will remain with the chorus



Erik Murrell with Jeffry Oleson



Michael Miller with Jeffry Oleson

(continued on next page)



Chapter Happenings

in a soon to be determined role. Chris comes to the chorus with credible experience in Barbershop having performed with the Heralds of Harmony for several years. He was a section leader, assistant director under Tony DeRosa, & active in a chapter quartet. Chris earned his Bachelor's degree in Music Performance & Conducting from Indiana State University & has previously served as a church choir director & K thru 12 music teacher".

Hernando County Harmonizers boasts a chapter roster of 40+ men & women, regularly competes at District & is the recipient of several awards over the past 10 years.

Hernando feels very fortunate to have Chris whose primary goal is raise the level of quality singing both at the many Public performances in our community as well as in District Competition.

For additional information please contact Jay Gettig, Chorus Manager at jgettig39@gmail.com



Fort Walton Beach Chapter

by Jim Brown, Public Relations Emerald Coast Chorus

Announcing the Joe Breedon Panhandle Regional Festival at Camp Timpoochee (4-H Camp) Niceville, Florida - September 21-23, 2018

Attend our annual barbershop retreat intensive in Niceville, FL on the fourth weekend in September. The retreat is a District sponsored event and hosted by the Emerald Coast Chorus of Fort Walton Beach. The event has been held continuously for the past 28 years. It is held at a wonderful 4-H facility (http://florida4h.org/camps_/timpoochee/) two miles east of

Niceville, situated on the Northwest coast of the beautiful Choctawhatchee Bay. We rent the entire facility for the weekend. All facilities within the Camp are air-conditioned. There are cabins (capacity: 140 people, 5 bunks to a cabin), a large cafeteria, a small theater, and rehearsal areas. All meals are included in your registration fee. All facilities are located within a three block area, an easy walking distance. Coaches are available to help your chorus or quartet.

For a very reasonable fee, we will provide sheet music; air conditioned cabins, meals (5) and coaching for the weekend (Friday evening and Saturday). The weekend concludes with a contest and show on Saturday evening. We expect to have over 200 men and women, including high school young men and women on stage Saturday evening. The young men have been attending for many years. Last year we started inviting women a cappella choruses and high school young ladies. The weekend event will include quartet competition (men's, women's and mixed), chorus completion and a very large chorus finale.

And, yes, we DO have an afterglow - food, beverages and singing around a campfire. Come prepared to have a BLAST!!

Interested? Need more information? Contact Scott Smith at smithsksl@cox.net cell: 850-218-0649 or Phil Coty.



(continued on next page)

Chapter Happenings

Tampa Chapter

submitted by Steve Matheson, VP Marketing

HOH PLACES 6TH IN WORLD

Tampa Bay *Heralds of Harmony* recently placed 6th in International Competition. In doing so, the 105 man chorus achieved the highest score ever in their 73 year history.

The chorus performed audience favorites “*If Ever I Would Leave You*,” from *Camelot*, and the highly choreographed number “*Hard Hearted Hanna the Vamp of Savannah*.”

The *Heralds* are directed by 4 time quartet gold medalist **Tony De Rosa**. The chorus’ next scheduled performance is the annual Christmas Show on December 6 at the USF School of Music.

REHEARSALS MOVING TO TPEPIN’S HOSPITALITY CENTER

Beginning August 6 rehearsals will be held at the TPepin’s Hospitality Center, 4121 N. 50th Street, Tampa. For more information on rehearsals and performances call 813-228-7730 or go to heraldsofharmony.org.



From the Tampa Chapter: John Boatright (tenor) left, and Max Burton/ Captain America (baritone) right. Photo submitted by Joe Kane





ORLANDO

2018 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

Thank You Is Not Enough!



Bill Billings
Co-Chairman for Orlando 2018

The BHS 2018 International Convention is history and it was pulled off almost flawlessly due to the hard work of the convention committee, the team leads and the many volunteers who gave of their time during the convention to help.

The team leads worked for over a year piecing their part of the puzzle together allowing the week to run smoothly. The one thing you can be sure of is there will always be last minute changes that create challenges. Because of the team's extensive planning and understanding we were able to find a solutions that resulted in successful outcomes. Flexibility is always needed and our team members proved they were able to rise to the occasion.

However, without all the volunteers none of the plans would have worked. Many of you

Nick Schwob
VP Events



worked more than initially planned and many of you just jumped in and helped when you saw there was a need. Your willingness to give up some, if not all, of your convention experience to volunteer really was the final piece of the puzzle which made things run as smoothly as they did. It would not have been possible without each and every one of you. We are extremely grateful for your service. We hope you enjoyed your experience as much as we enjoyed working with you.

You all made the Sunshine District shine in the eyes of the entire Society. We are proud to be associated with you. It's great to be a Sunshine District Barbershopper!!!

In Harmony,
Nick Schwob & Bill Billings,
Co-chairmen for 2018 International Orlando

“I Wonder What Our Future Conventions Will Be Like??...”

by Bruce Checca, Sunshine Director of Conventions

Our Conventions and Contests could be changing in the future now that membership in the Society is open to everyone... oh, you hadn't heard about that? A few weeks ago, the Society board announced that as part of the “Everyone In Harmony” program membership was now open to anyone that wanted to become a member at the International level! A lot of the ladies that for years have been “Associate” members have already converted to Full Memberships! Beginning in January of 2019, It will be up to the individual Districts and Chapters to determine how, or if, they want to implement this step toward “Everyone In Harmony”.

While there has never been anything that stopped a chapter from performing as a mixed group if it so desired, competition has always been a male only purview.

Quartet Contests have changed over time to encompass more chances for barbershop singers to sing together. In the past, the District added Seniors and Mixed categories for example. This didn't change much from the standpoint of how we run our convention: the majority of it falls on the Contest Administrators to just determine who qualifies in what category. The overall effect was that it usually added 3 or 4 competitors for us to enjoy and root on!

Chorus Contests have always had a VLQ category (Very Large Quartet) for smaller chorus groups as well... most times this one doesn't have any entries. Recently, the district has tried to open up the chorus contests as well... with categories like “Senior Chorus” and “Combined Chorus”. Most of our contests only

have 10 of our 37 chapters participating. But what could “Everyone in Harmony” mean for our future conventions?

Just think of the possibilities with chapters soon able to accept female members : could a Chapter now have several choruses and VLQ's - Male, Mixed and Female? And how about Senior versions of each of these? Theoretically, your chapter might have 12 different choruses! Could we have a contest where 444 competitors decided to enter 30 days before the contest? (37 chapters x 12 versions = 444)! Lots of things to think about as we go forward!

I'm sure that there will be a lot of discussions about the details in the next few months! It needs to start at the local chapter level! Will your group choose to stay all male? Or Become mixed? Or will you have several choruses? Will they have to choose which group(s) they will compete with? Can they change which group(s) they compete with in a particular contest cycle? Will a chapter be able to have more than one or two groups compete? We need to know what you think in order to come up with a plan that can accommodate things!

What does it look like in the end? Well, I can tell you that I hope it will create a lot more singing opportunities for all of us to enjoy! No matter what your group decides, the future is going to be great!



Harmony Foundation Corner

by Arne Themmen



The 2018 International convention featured many representatives from previous youth outreach programs as well as current up and comers. You should be very proud of supporting these programs through your donations to Harmony Foundation. The proof is in the pudding and you make a difference.

Anyone experiencing front seat envy should join Presidents Council in order to truly see the whites of their eyes.

Remember:

Donor choice allows you to earmark up to 30% of your gift to the District and/or your Chapter.

Anyone over age 70 and a half can donate from their IRA part of their required minimum distribution to charity reducing their taxable income.



“Table for 6,800? Step this way...”

by Bruce Checca, Front of House Chairman, Orlando 2018

So you have a week long convention – 10 sessions, 2 locations and 6800 seats! You are going to need a LOT of help! Oh, wait... “.... changes? What Changes??” “That’s the situation that faced me rolling into the Hyatt Regency across from the Orange County Convention Center on Sunday morning. It brings it all to the front really quick! Some major last minute changes to the auditorium set-up meant that the volunteer list was going to be pushed to it’s limits in order to cover what was now 3 times the doors! As they say, “The Best Laid Plans of Mice and Men...”

As Director of Conventions for the district, it made sense when I was approached about taking on a job with the Orlando International. After all, “...you did that in Montreal for the 2003 convention!” The only problem with that is that every venue is different, and it’s always a guess as to how things will have to be handled with something this big.

My crew of volunteers, many of whom are not

members of the district, did an outstanding job covering the doors and acting as ushers for the contests! Some of the volunteers were only there for a 4 or 5 hour shift covering one session, but most at these conventions sign up to man several shifts... often in vastly different areas!

In the past, I’ve done shifts manning doors, guiding quartets or choruses, scanning in attendees at registration, distributing daily bulletins, etc., all at the same convention! Each job has given me the chance to meet people from all over the country, or to make friends with some of the greatest talent this society has to offer! It’s an opportunity I wouldn’t pass up if you ever find yourself at an International with a few hours to spare! Why, there are even people that go to the conventions just to do it!

I’m sure that there will be plenty of opportunity going forward to experience it for yourself! Give it a try... you won’t be disappointed!



Harmony Explosion Camp

by Steve Cragg,
Sunshine District HX Camp Director

Did you hear these people sing?

What can I say, but WOW!!!!

What an amazing HX camp experience this year! Between June 14-16, about 190 folks made up of campers, chaperones, clinicians, and music educators took over the campus at the Florida Institute of Technology, and made some beautiful music together!

Campers! You guys were amazing! You showed up, prepared and ready to rock the music that had been given to you! It was obvious that you knew it well, and made it all the easier for Debbie and Tony to “tweak” it to perfection!

Music Educators! You folks are really the heart and soul of our camp experiences from year to year! Without your help and support, we wouldn’t have any students to attend the camp! You all keep the interest and excitement going from year to year, and I am very grateful for that!

Chaperones! You guys did a great job! All of you were picked for a reason, and were pretty darn good this year of keeping the kids on track as to where they were supposed to be when they were supposed to be there! A BIG shout out to **Susan Raabe** for coordinating our chaperone program! I couldn’t do it without you!

Clinicians! Debbie, Tony, and A-Aron!, thank you so very much for always giving your all to the campers! All three of your lives are already



so very busy, it is so difficult for me to fathom that you are able to find time to “do” camp year after year! We are so very blessed that you do!

Teaching Quartets! –Adrenaline and Signature, all eight of you fully embody the spirit of Harmony Explosion camp! Ladies, although you were the “rookies” this year, the girls surely would follow you into battle! Great job! Guys, Signature has become a name synonymous with Sunshine District’s Harmony Explosion Camp. It’s amazing to see you guys connect with the campers every year, and for us to see them get bitten with the “barbershop bug”!

What a great concert provided by the *Voices of Liberty* from EPCOT Center, along with a stunning quartet/ensemble contest made up of our campers! 7 ensembles made the big stage for our final show! (The ice cream was pretty darn good too!)

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Harmony Explosion Camp

And to cap it all off, your amazing voices caught the interest of the Barbershop Harmony Society, and the next thing we know, you guys were singing in front of 6,000 people! I am still



getting compliments about how wonderful you were!

A big “thank you” to **Arne Helbig** who got “promoted” into the higher ranks of the Sunshine District and had to hand this job off! I am truly grateful to have inherited it!

Thanks also to **Chuck Steiner**, our Sunshine District President, for joining us, and emcee-ing the beginning of the show! These kids are amazing-yes?

Keep singing y’all! We will see you next year!



**Photos courtesy of Mr. Dan Brinkmann*

Larry Swan Obituary

Larry Swan was a former Sunshine District President, BOTY and Hall of Fame awardee and was well regarded by many of our members for his talents as a Director and a comedic quartet singer.

Lawrence {Larry} F. Swan 84, of Sarasota, Florida, peacefully passed into his Heavenly Home on Thursday April 19, 2018.

Larry was born in Union City, Michigan in July of 1933 to Geraldine and Maurice Swan Sr., during the tough times of the depression.

In fulfilling a dream of owning a farm, The Swan family moved to Athens, Michigan with his 2 brothers, Maurice Jr. and Kenneth, where Larry grew up and graduated from Athens High School in 1951.

This is where he met the love of his life and high school sweetheart, Nancy Louise Randall. On January 7th, 1951, they married on the Randall farm.

After marriage, they moved to the "Big City" of Battle Creek, Michigan to find work and raise their family consisting of 3 children; Douglas L. {Mary} of St. Pete, Florida, Stephen R. {Cyndi} of Sebring, Florida, and Debora L. {Raymond} Pontoni of Osprey, Florida.

In the early years of their marriage, Larry worked for Post Foods while taking TV repair classes on the side. His dream was to eventually own his own TV repair service business one day. This is where he met his future partner Don Loggins. So in 1958, Eastern TV Sales and Service was born. It grew and thrived during the booming time of new technology of the 60's for 21 years.

Besides raising children and a new business, Larry had many outside interests through the years. In his spare time he took up roller skating and became the Captain of the "Midway Wildcats" back in the last 50's, and 60's. The team achieved many National 1st place awards under his leadership.

From there Larry and Nancy's interest spread to a less physical activity, Square Dancing. They were hooked and loved the fun and fellowship with friends. Nancy enjoyed making all their matching outfits.

Larry was a man of many talents from sports, building things with his hands, to fixing things. But mostly he enjoyed being a funny guy and performing. Anyone could tell you that he earned his High School nick-name "Corky" for a reason. He loved to act and sing, especially in a quartet. His sharp comedic timing was a God given gift at an early age.

After being introduced to Barbershop music, he knew he was hooked. He was a natural for the 4 part harmony style and made a "Hobby" of it as a member of the Barbershop Harmony Society {SPEBSQSA} for 53 years. He joined the Battle Creek Cereal City Chorus in 1964 and quickly got into a quartet with other great guys. He was in quite a few quartets through the years but the one he was most known for was the "Harmony Hounds Comedy Quartet". From 1968 to 1979, he was known as the "Big Dumb One". While with the Hounds, he had an opportunity to entertain audiences across the US, Canada, and abroad. In 1970, the Hounds were asked by the US Government to go on a USO Tour to sing for the wounded service men of the Vietnam War for 21 days.

The Hounds also were asked to go to Europe to help open new horizons of Barbershop Harmony cross the pond. It was said that, "They never won a contest, but they have never lost a show!"

Larry was also instrumental in taking up the leadership role as a

Chorus Director, Coach, and a Mic Man. He MC'd many shows and contests in his day.

He became director of the BC Cereal City Chorus and along with the ladies Battle Creek Sweet Adeline's in the 60's and 70's.

Larry held many roles in his days, President, Show Chairman, Script writer, you name it, he did it.

He was the recipient of many awards in the Pioneer District of Michigan. "Barbershopper of the Year", "Boty Award", and "Hall of Fame Award". With recruiting a whopping 32 "Men of Note" in his 53 years in the Society.

In 1979, due to Nancy's health, the decision was made to sell the business and head south to sunny Sarasota, Florida. They dabbled into Real Estate then Larry was hired at Comcast Cable as their Commercial Accounts Executive in Sales in 1980. He excelled there till his retirement in 1996. In that time they moved from Sarasota to Ellenton, Florida to be closer to friends. They began living their dream of traveling in their motor home across the country.

When moving to Florida, It didn't take long for Larry to dig his heels in and get involved in the Sarasota Chorus of the Keys organization. Plus finding another comedy quartet, "Joker's Wild" to sing in. They traveled the state of Florida in the 80's and 90's. Due to his leadership abilities, he was then voted to the position of Sunshine District President in 1995 & 96. He MC'd many shows and District Contests as well. It earned him the coveted District "BOTY Award" and Hall of Fame Award.

His last quartet of his career was named "Sunny Side Up". It kept him busy in his golden years as he loved singing with his buddies till his retirement in 1999.

It was then that Nancy had her 1st stroke and he dedicated his life to her care till her passing in 2007. He then moved in 2008 to Sebring to be closer to son, Steve. Larry lived there till 2016, when due to ill health, moved back to Sarasota to Sunnyside Village ALF to be closer to daughter, Deb.

Larry drew closer to his faith in recent years and focused on his love for his Lord and his family.

He leaves his 3 children, 4 Grand Children; Sonny L. {Sandra} Swan of Germany, Darin R. Swan of Philadelphia, PA., Jeremy M. Swan {Brenna} of Oviedo, Fl., and Abbey L. Collins of Pinellas Park, Fl. and 7 Great-Grand Children; Caleb, Zoe, Christopher, Cooper, Camden, Colby, and Caitlin. They were all his pride and joy! Survivors include: Sister-in-law, Frances Swan, Battle Creek, Mi., Ann Brewer, Kalamazoo, Mi., Darlene Randall, Athens, Mi., Oma Randall, of Texas, Jane Olmsted, East Leroy, Mi. Also cousin Jean Brough of Battle Creek, Mi. Plus many beloved nieces and nephews.

Proceeded to Heaven are; his parents, his loving wife Nancy of 56 years, brothers, Maurice Jr. and Kenneth. Brothers-in-law Harvey, James, and William Randall.

A "Celebration of Life" service was held in Larry's honor, Friday April 27th, 2018 at Sunnyside Village Chapel in Sarasota, Florida, conducted by Chaplain Jarvis Hochstedler and Stephen Ditchfield.

Memorial contributions in Lawrence Swan's name: Barbershop Harmony Foundation, 110 7th Ave. N., Nashville, Tenn. 37203, c/o "Keep A Melody Ringing" fund. harmonyfoundation.org

VP of Communication & IT's Message



Roger Smeds
Sunshine District VP for Communication & IT

We are still looking for someone with Social Media savvy to help out with our district Social Media accounts (Facebook, Twitter, etc). So if you are that person, or know someone who would be interested in helping the district in that regard, please contact me at the email address below.

Don't forget to keep your email address up to date in the BHS member center, as that list is what we use to keep ConstantContact up to date. If you are not receiving emails from the district, you can reach out to me at the email address below and I will make sure your entry in ConstantContact is correct. You can make those changes yourself at: <https://members.barbershop.org/> or you can ask your chapter secretary to do it for you.

The **2018 International Convention in Orlando** was a great success. With two quartets winning medals (**Signature** 2nd place Silver medals & **Throwback** 3rd place Bronze medals), **Rooftop Records** finishing in the top 10 at tenth place and **The Simple Life** in 27th place, Sunshine District was well represented in the quartet contest. In the Chorus contest, the *Heralds of Harmony* placed 6th and *Big Orange Chorus* placed 15th in a very tough chorus competition. Scoresheets for all contests are located on the BHS website or on our own District website at: <https://www.sunshinedistrict.org/2018-international-orlando/>. Copies of the online version of the Daily Bulletin, **Sunbeams** can also be found in those locations.

Kudos to **Nick Schwob** and **Bill Billings**, who were the co-chairs of the hosting committee, for doing a great job of running a very smooth operation. Thanks also to all the many volunteers, both from Sunshine District and elsewhere, for

all the help in making the convention a success!

During the convention, I was responsible for producing the Daily Bulletin (called **Sunbeams**) both print and online versions and printed versions of Scoresheets for all the contests. I would like to express my sincere thanks to the many volunteers that made that whole process possible and a success. Special thanks go to our own **Roxanne Clapp** (Sunburst editor) who provided the design template and technical advice for the Daily Bulletin layout. Also, huge thanks go to **Bill Ross** who served as my Production Manager and made sure the physical print process went smoothly as well as assisting with editing and research for articles. We also had a great team of reporters and photographers who helped provide the content for the Daily Bulletin. Reporters were: **Parker Collins, Andy Sugiyama, Ken Smeds** and **Tom Campbell**. Photographers were: **Dave Cross, Randy Harner, Peter Noel, Lyle Southam, Debbie Shapiro** and **Stu Shapiro**. Distribution of Daily Bulletin and Scoresheets (no small task due to the walking distances involved) were ably handled by **Dick Worsena, Keith Jones, Chazz Keopke, Scott Smith, Nathan Bell** and **Jim Woods**. I would also like to convey very special thanks to my wife and supreme gofer, **Paddy Smeds** who kept me in food and filled in wherever and whenever needed.

Don't forget to support our district programs through purchases at smile.amazon.com!

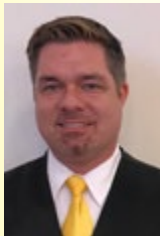
Please feel free to contact me regarding questions/suggestions about the District website at communications@sunshinedistrict.org

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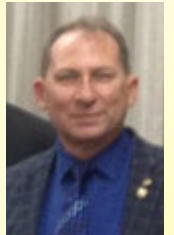
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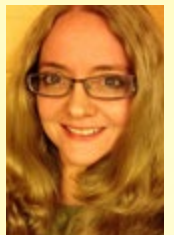
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You are encouraged to send photos, articles, and other interesting tidbits for inclusion in future publications of *The Sunburst*.

Send to Editor@sunshinedistrict.org

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Next *Sunburst* Deadline September 15, 2018 (for October Publication)

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DO NOT send personal changes to District staff or *The Sunburst* editor.