

THE Sunburst



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE SUNSHINE DISTRICT BARBERSHOP HARMONY SOCIETY

2019 Fall Convention October 25-26

REGISTER NOW!

DON'T MISS
THIS CONVENTION!

EXCITING LINE-UP!

AND DON'T MISS THE
Saturday night

SDAQC Show

(Sunshine District Association
of Quartet Champions)

FEATURING

Signature

2019
1st place
International
Gold Medalists

Headline

2018
SUN
Quartet
Champions

Main Street

2017
1st place
International
Gold Medalists



plus... The SDACQ Chorus directed by Tony De Rosa

See you there!

President's Message

Chuck Steiner III
Sunshine District President

Hello Sunshine!

I am going to keep this one short (all exhale!).

First- a HUGE shout out to the SUN Events Team/LDJ Crew for pulling off a great event under extremely difficult circumstances. LDJ is a different animal than conventions; you cannot reschedule like you can with a convention...with LDJ, people are flying in from all over the country... not just the attendees, but the majority of the talent! So, pulling that off and providing two high-quality shows in one day was quite the feat. The District could have lost multiple thousands of dollars had we canceled. Very stressful days, and very hard decisions- all made with safety in mind first, lots of scrambling, and it worked out. Appreciate the support of this signature Sunshine District event- it's definitely not the best-kept secret anymore!

At LDJ, the SUN Seniors Chorus (**SUNSHINE STATESMEN**) held their first "all-together" rehearsal after a series of statewide "pod rehearsals." Despite a Cat 5 hurricane churning away, 38 men showed up and produced a sound that I know will make the District proud! If you're 55 or older, please check out the "Sunshine Statesmen" section on the front page of our District web page. Your voice is needed to qualify at Fall Convention, and then to take the big stage at Midwinter in Jacksonville! We have 60+ confirmed for Fall Convention, and I'd love to have 80+ on stage in Jacksonville. **Jack Slamka** is doing a helluva job as our Director- we are lucky to have him. SNOWBIRDS- you can join us when you get here. Some learning media is on the website. Come qualified (that means know your part cold!) and you can take the stage with the STATESMAN!

Lastly, the 2020 slate of officers is being formed as I write this. If you or someone you know is interested in a District Board position, please contact **Nick Schwob** or **Dan Brinkmann** (make sure the person you're nominating/recommending is aware!). We have several open positions and EVERY office needs a successor...so if you're interested in future service as an officer or committee service, let us know.

That's it. Really!

Okay, I lied.

Come to Fall Convention!

The SDAQC Show will be on Saturday night, and we'll be featuring **MAIN STREET**, celebrating the perpetual "Golden SUN Medal" with our brothers in **SIGNATURE**, and sending our 2018 SUN Champs, **HEADLINE**, out with a bang! Plus, our always stellar *SDAQC Chorus*, under the direction of **Tony De Rosa**. And a few special surprises, as usual!

The magic button
for convention info.

www.sunshinedistrict.org is where to find all information regarding conventions and events- including **LeadAc** coming up fast in January 2020!

Hope to see you all in October!

Your very proud President,
Chuck

Chapter Happenings

Greater Pinellas Chapter

Frank Kemnetz

Frank Kemnetz, president of the Greater Pinellas Chapter of BHS—The Florida Suncoast Chorus—passed away suddenly on August 16, 2019, from complications from a brain aneurism. At the time of his death, he was surrounded by his family. Frank was 61 years old.

Frank loved to sing in the Florida Suncoast Chorus, lending his precise bass voice to both the chorus and several quartets.

He was also a masterful leader of the chapter during a time of transition and growth. He served first as chapter secretary and for the last four years as chapter president.

The chapter's sympathies go out to his wife Suzie, his four children, and to all of his family.

Before retiring in 2014, Frank worked for 34 years for ExxonMobil, eventually heading up ExxonMobil operations in the Middle East.

Throughout his life, he carried forward the dedication to hard work and sense of individual responsibility that he developed growing as one of ten siblings on a



farm in Illinois. As he would say, he grew up milking cows “morning and night, seven days a week.”

After his retirement, in addition to serving as chapter president, he was a member of the Most Holy Name of Jesus church choir and president of the Fairway Bay Community Association.

The chapter will remember Frank for his hard work, his concern for others, his attention to detail, his perseverance, his patience, his fine intellect, his sense of humor (which was quite dry), and his insistence that we could all be better than we thought we could be.

He was an exceptional and principled leader and friend, and he will be missed by all.

Chapter Happenings

Greater Pinellas Chapter – Florida Suncoast Chorus

Growing in Harmony

By Michael Smith, Chapter President

The Florida Suncoast Chorus is pleased to announce that it is now under new directorship and is working hard to achieve a whole new level of singing and performance. Toward that end, Stephen Ditchfield is providing some top-level coaching. The new direction comes from the wonderful collaboration of co-directors Mike Wood and Lance Lubin, who are building on the progress made over the last three years.

As Lance describes in the August issue of *The Harmonizer*, the Florida Suncoast Chorus fully embraces the BHS “Everyone in Harmony” theme. The Chorus is currently the Sunshine District Mixed Chorus Champions.

Mike Wood, who has substantial barbershop experience with the Heart of Texas chorus as well as other choruses and quartets, points out how women have helped to improve the Chorus. “The addition of women members has helped us to create a more balanced chorus,” he said. In addition to guiding and inspiring the Chorus to a higher level of performance, Mike sings in a mixed quartet, “Skirt and Ties.” He has also recruited two talented high recent school graduates to join the Chorus.

Lance Lubin, who sings with the Dewey Singum and Howe quartet, brings his unique personal touch to performances as Master of Ceremonies, as well as co-director. He provides humor and context for the songs in a running commentary throughout the shows. He is

excited that “we are constantly improving the quality of our performances.”

Instrumental in leading the improvement effort has been Gary Raulerson, Vice President, Music and Performance. Gary points out that as performances improve, “we get more positive feedback from our audiences, which makes our chorus members feel great!”

The Chorus has booked a record 22 performances for 2019 and is already scheduling shows throughout October 2020. The Chorus now receives more requests than it can accommodate. Some of those requests are handed off to the growing number of quartets within the Chorus.

In August, the Chorus experienced the sudden and tragic death of its president, Frank Kemnetz. The Chorus has responded to this grave loss by rededicating itself to realizing the goal of dramatically improving as a mixed chorus—a goal that Frank advanced and worked so hard to achieve. Michael Smith, who has been singing with the Chorus since 2015, has been named as chapter president to fill the remainder of Frank’s term.

Men and women of all ages who love to sing are welcome to join the Chorus. If you’re a barber-shopper looking for a casual, fun atmosphere, and a chorus where there is a renewed dedication to ringing chords, the Florida Suncoast Chorus may be your new home. Rehearsals are Monday evenings at 6:30 at the Largo Community Center, 400 Alt Keene Road in Largo.



Chapter Happenings & Events

OCT 13 Sun 2019	Heart of Florida – Harmony from the Heart @ New Covenant United Methodist Church Oct 13 @ 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm
OCT 25 Fri 2019	SUN District 2019 Fall Convention @ Orlando Airport Marriott Lakeside Oct 25 – Oct 27 <small>all-day</small>
NOV 16 Sat 2019	Gulf Coast Harmonizers Fall Extravaganza @ Faith Presbyterian Church Nov 16 @ 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Check out more event information on the District website!

<https://www.sunshinedistrict.org/calendar/>



Easy Does It to at Harmony University Nashville, TN

sent in by David Dallman

Jim Shubert , Rob Schall

Glenn Siebert, David Dallman

Alex, Peter, & Mo



Photo of end session of the week

**Alex, Peter & Mo were our coaches at Harmony University.
Amazingly talented individuals**

CHALLENGE ENDS SEPTEMBER 30. MAKE YOUR EFFORT TODAY!

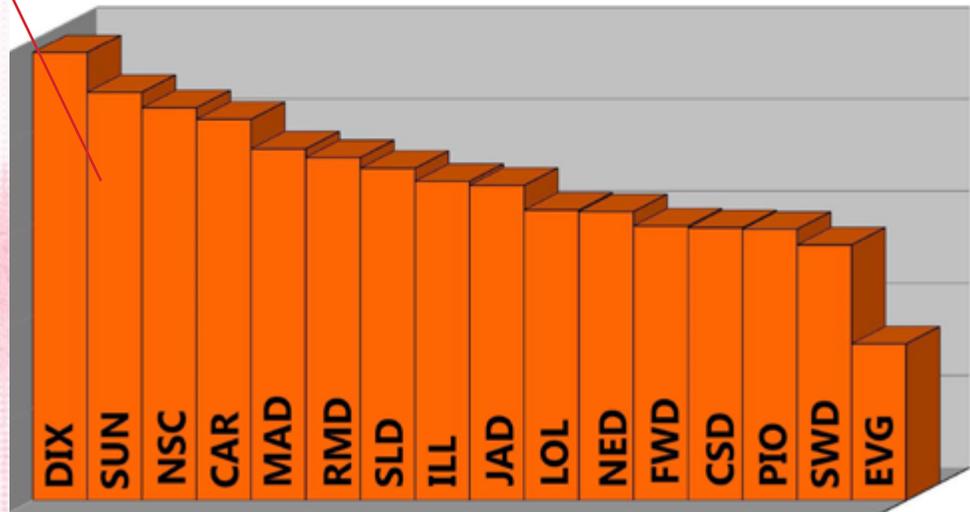
CHAPTER CHALLENGE

DISTRICTS: WHERE DO YOUR CHAPTERS RANK?

THE TOP 5 CHAPTERS WITH THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGE OF PARTICIPATION IN GIVING WILL BE RECOGNIZED ON THE BHS MIDWINTER JACKSONVILLE 2020 STAGE WITH A GOLD, SILVER OR BRONZE LEVEL OF RECOGNITION.

MORE INFO CAN BE FOUND AT HARMONYFOUNDATION.ORG/CHAPTER-CHALLENGE

	# of Members	# of Donors	Participation %	Avg. Gift Per Member
DIX(B)	794	193	24%	\$110.76
SUN(P)	1233	273	22%	\$156.41
NSC(Q)	723	154	21%	\$94.53
CAR(F)	566	117	21%	\$80.76
MAD(J)	2832	540	19%	\$101.92
RMD(S)	855	159	19%	\$191.46
SLD(M)	644	116	18%	\$35.97
ILL(E)	832	144	17%	\$83.67
JAD(G)	1533	262	17%	\$84.93
LOL(H)	1448	228	16%	\$76.79
NED(K)	1392	218	16%	\$76.78
FWD(D)	2372	353	15%	\$134.38
CSD(A)	1677	248	15%	\$97.45
PIO(I)	877	129	15%	\$52.63
SWD(N)	1270	176	14%	\$76.43
EVG(C)	1425	121	8%	\$52.09



Graphs based on giving percentage for cash gifts received during the 2019 fiscal year, as of July 26, 2019.

Some of our members are not interested in donating to the foundation because they believe that they have never received any benefit, personally, from that organization.

Consider the new young front line and assistant directors, voice coaches, quartets, chapter officers, and leaders that now populate our chapters. We are all direct beneficiaries of the grants and programs supported by the Harmony Foundation that nurtured these fine young gentlemen.

The chapter challenge ends September 30. Join us now. Any amount will suffice. Participation is the goal.



READY TO GIVE?
 TEXT HARMONY TO 56512 OR BY PHONE: TOLL FREE (866) 706-8021
 ONLINE: HARMONYFOUNDATION.ORG
 BY MAIL: 110 SEVENTH AVE NORTH, SUITE 200, NASHVILLE, TN 37203
 EMAIL OUR DONOR CARE CENTER: DONORCENTER@HARMONYFOUNDATION.ORG

VP of Events Message

Bruce Checca
Sunshine District Events VP

These days, it seems everywhere you look something exciting takes place in the District!

Not long ago (well, OK, last July!), the District welcomed home so many International medalist that it's hard to keep track! We have to be proud of **Signature, Throwback, Rooftop Records**, and friends in **Midtown!**

LDJ was again on the top of the "you need to be here" list – in spite of a little weather item called a hurricane that tried to put a damper on things! It sure gave the team fits trying to keep up with all the changes, but in the end, they prevailed, giving us another great event to remember!

What else is happening?

Well, the upcoming District convention is going to see a lot of firsts – Sunshine is going to field its first district-wide seniors chorus, and for the first time, mixed and female quar-

tets will be competing for District awards!! The *Sunshine Statesmen* (the men's senior chorus) will be competing to qualify for a spot at Midwinter in Jacksonville in January! There is still room on the risers for anyone 55 or older that wants to join us! **Jack Slamka** is directing this group, and rehearsals are scheduled for several locations around the state! Check out <https://www.sunshinedistrict.org/sunshine-district-senior-chorus/> for more information! Even if you can't make it for the Fall Convention, you can still join us for November 16th and December 14th rehearsals and the convention in January!

That reminds me Midwinter Convention is going to need a lot of volunteers to help! If you have ever volunteered for an International, you know what fun it can be! Look for more information coming out soon on the District website!



JOIN US!

Jacksonville



2020 MIDWINTER CONVENTION

January 8-12, 2020



NextGen
Junior Quartets



NextGen
Junior Choruses



Seniors Quartet
Contest

World-class shows featuring
2019 International Medalists
and special guests

Barbershop.org/jax

Register now
and receive
\$55 off
regular price
through Nov 15!

SAVE \$50 when you register for both Leadership Summit and Midwinter!

LEADERSHIP SUMMIT *Vision 2020*

January 5-8, 2020

Not just for officers. For everyone!

Inspiration • Connection • Empowerment

Together we will:

- Learn how to expand your barbershop events
- Incorporate inclusive activities in your chapter night
- Develop skills to recruit and lead others back home
- Network with fellow BHS leaders
- Hear the latest and greatest from BHS CEO/Executive Director Marty Monson

Barbershop.org/summit

Develop your leadership skills, invest in your barbershop community, and elevate your collective artistry!

VP of Communication & IT's Message

Roger Smeds

Sunshine District VP for Communication & IT

Well, LDJ was a bit of a nail biter, wasn't it? Fortunately, mother nature saw fit to spare Florida and slow **Hurricane Dorian** down so that we could actually have the event, although a bit compressed, to keep our members safe and allow them to make sure their families were safe and secure. Not so good for our neighbors in the Bahamas though. Thank goodness that Dorian also stayed a bit offshore and didn't cause more serious damage in Florida. I guess that's one of the chances we take living in paradise! Personally, I was out of the country during Dorian which has its own set of difficulties. Imagine trying to organize boarding up your home and securing everything from 8,000 miles away. Plus, some of our local news stations block traffic from foreign locations. Understandable with all the hacking that goes on around the world currently, but really frustrating when you are trying to get reliable local information to make decisions. Kudos to Channel 12 in West Palm Beach for providing live, local coverage! They even have an app for that.

We continue to distribute District news via our ConstantContact emails. Please know that this is one of our main sources of current information about District happenings. I know that you all get a ton of email, but please know that we only put out information via ConstantContact that will keep you informed. If you unsubscribe, you lose that source of current information. We strongly suggest that you keep your email address up to date in the BHS member center as we use that as a source for keeping our email list current. If you follow Sunshine District on Facebook or Twitter, don't be surprised if you see links to the ConstantContact emails we send out on those platforms as well. We are just trying to make sure we reach as many members as possi-

ble no matter where they get their news.

If you were in Orlando for LDJ and took photos or videos on your mobile device, please send me copies of what you have. We would still like to produce a collage of the event in order to show some of our members who have not attended a convention or LDJ recently, or members of the general public, what they are missing out on by not attending. Please send them to me at communications@sunshinedistrict.org so I can include your creativity.

Are you always on social media? Do you post to Facebook, Twitter, Instagram etc, on a regular basis? Would you like to help out with the District's efforts relating to social media? If so, please contact me at communications@sunshinedistrict.org and we can discuss how you can help the District in this area.

Don't forget to support our District programs through purchases at smile.amazon.com! As of August 2019, the District has received \$241.00 from our members supporting us on smile.amazon.com. Not a lot you say? Maybe, but it is money the District would not have received otherwise to help support our programs. If all of our membership who shop online at Amazon were signed up, it could be a lot more. It is easy to sign up and there is always a link on the home page of the district website that will take you to the right place to sign up. Please consider doing so, if you haven't already. Every little bit helps!

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

Roger Smeds

VP for Communication & IT
Sunshine District

SAVE THE DATE

Sunshine District LeadAc/Harmony College 2020

January 3, 4, and 5, 2020.

The Rosen Plaza Hotel
9700 International Drive
Orlando, FL 32819

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Sunshine District

Barbershop
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Harmony
Explosion Camp!**
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donate.**

Please send photos, articles, and other interesting tidbits for inclusion in future publications of
The Sunburst.

Send to Editor@sunshinedistrict.org

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Barbershop while
you Shop!



You shop. Amazon gives.

Next Sunburst Deadline December 15, 2019 (for January publication)

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

SUNBURST ADVERTISING INFORMATION

Ad Size/Dimensions	District Member Rates		Corporate rates Per issue/Annual
	Rate per issue . . .	Annual rate (4 issues)	
Business Card (2" x 3.5")	\$15	\$50	\$25/\$85
1/8 Page (3.75"w x 2.3125"h)	\$25	\$85	\$50/\$170
1/4 Page (3.75"w x 4.875"h)	\$50	\$170	\$75/\$250
1/2 Page (7.75"w x 4.875"h)	\$75	\$250	\$125/\$425
Full Page (7.75"w x 10"h)	\$125	\$425	\$225/\$800

Send material to Editor@sunshinedistrict.org

Send payment to:
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Attn: Dave Kannberg
13948 Sheffield Court, Wellington, FL 33414

Keep your personal information, home address, email address, telephone (home & cell) up-to-date in the Society database. Check with your chapter secretary if help is required.
DO NOT send personal changes to District staff or *The Sunburst* Editor.