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JANUARY-MARCH 2021



THE *Sunburst*



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE SUNSHINE DISTRICT BARBERSHOP HARMONY SOCIETY

***We look forward to when we can meet
and sing in person again!!***



SUNSHINEDISTRICT.ORG

President's Message

Chuck Steiner III
Sunshine District President
president@sunshinedistrict.org

Hello Sunshine!

I know you are all hoping & praying for a two-pager from me, but I don't have a ton to report on! The good news is that we are starting to see the light at the end of the tunnel; the vaccine rollout is most welcomed and seems to be moving along faster now. Still, we are unable to hold a Spring Convention, and you are aware by now that Cleveland International has been cancelled. *I was SO looking forward to going to Cleveland* (if you know me, that was dripping with sarcasm), but it is a bummer that our choruses cannot compete and perform. Quartets are still in limbo, as well. The District has lost several Members to Covid or Covid-related deaths; we did not come out unscathed, and we hold up our lost Members and their families in thoughts and prayers. We'll honor those lost when we meet again.

Our next scheduled event is **Labor Day Jamboree**, and as of now, we are cautiously optimistic that by that time, most adults will be vaccinated and it will happen. That'd be GREAT for the District, as we were the first Convention to be called off at the start of this pandemic...and it's fitting that we'd be the first major in-person event to take place on the back end! Fingers crossed.

I would like to give a BIG shout out to **Donell Torres** and **Roger Smeds**, who were the brains behind our Sunshine District Virtual Building and Hospitality Rooms at the Virtual Midwinter! A lot of work went into the design and content that was placed in our area. I hope those of you that attended checked it out.

I'd also like to recognize **Jack Klotzbach** for administering a successful Virtual LeadAc over the months of January and February. For those

that attended, thank you! We will look forward to our 2022 LeadAc and SUN Harmony College- in person!

The **District President's Council** continues to work closely with Harmony Hall. **Nick Schwob**, **Bruce Checca**, and myself are heavily involved on multiple fronts. More has gone on in the last year with no events than my previous four years on the Council, but I can attest that the trust between the Society Board of Directors, Harmony Hall, and the District Presidents has done a "180" in that time period. It is still a work in progress, but we're definitely making headway.

Mark your calendars for **Monday, March 29th!** *The Tampa Bay Herald of Harmony* is inviting all SUN Members to join us on our rehearsal night for a "*District Power Hour*" where we'll do some vocal warm-ups, a vocal technique session with Tony DeRosa, and work on a song together. More information will be emailed out to all District Members in the coming weeks.

In closing, this has been such a challenging year for so many reasons. *Keep singing, and keep your voice fresh*, because when we do open back up, we want to hit the ground running! Your District Board is ready to help you, your Chapter, and your Quartets in any way that we can. **NOW** is the time to start thinking about and implementing a "Re-Opening Plan." Sunshine District will come out of the gate like an angry horse and we will all appreciate even more the hobby we have missed and love so much.

Yours In Harmony,
Chuck

Exec VP & VP of Events Message

Bruce Checca

Sunshine District Executive Vice President

As we all know, not much has been going on in the District lately ... something we'd all like to see come to an end! Hopefully, the vaccines coming out will be effective and allow us to get back together.... But that will still be a while before we all can get the shots and let our systems build up the immunity necessary.

Are you one of the people meeting using Zoom or maybe trying Jamulus? Are you meeting in person in small groups? Drive-in meetings? Or maybe just singing on your own?

Personally, I found that it's not so much the

singing but the camaraderie I miss the most! My Miamians have come up with a great solution that tries to cover both...a zoom rehearsal one week, and a zoom afterglow the next – just a chance to get together and BS for a few hours!

No matter what your situation, I'm sure there is something out there to keep you involved in this great hobby of ours! Search it out!

Here's to the day ahead when we can all once again stand around and ring a tag!



VP of CSLT / VP Chorus Director Development Message



Jack Klotzbach

Sunshine District VP of CSLT / VP Chorus Director Development

Hang in there Sunshine District. As we process through these strange changing times we'll get back to the in person training.

We successfully held virtual LEADAC classes for all chapter board positions except Member at Large.

I will be looking for new ways to provide training for directors, chapter boards, and choruses. We will seek opportunities to hold some Chorus Director's Workshop Intensive (CDWI) during late 2021. CDWI provides the best opportunity for personalized coaching on

things that YOU want to work on. If you are interested in participating or willing to host a workshop please contact me. jackklotzbach@gmail.com

Harmony University in 2021 will be virtual like 2020. Be sure to check out the opportunities provided by top of the line BHS instructors.



VP of Communication & IT's Message

Roger Smeds

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

Well, 2021 seems to be moving in the correct direction! With vaccinations increasing, it is likely that things will begin to return to something "more normal", although maybe not as quickly as we would like. As we start the journey to normalcy, we need to continue to work on vocal skills so we are ready when groups are able to gather and sing together. Start now to shake the rust off of those pipes!

The Communications team spent considerable time preparing the Sunshine District "building" at the BHS Virtual Midwinter. What an interesting experience that was! We learned way more about how YouTube videos work than we ever wanted to know. The whole Virtual Midwinter experience was unique and took a bit of getting used to for some. We believe that this type of gathering may become more prevalent, at least for some purposes in the future. If you compare the Virtual World with real life, one of the stand out features of the comparison is the lack of ability to sing a tag or a song with other people. Sunshine District held some tag sessions in our "building" which actually turned out to be a reasonable substitute given the circumstances. I can only believe that the technology to make that happen will improve with time.

One area that you may have seen people ex-

pand their efforts in, is the area of technology for virtual singing/rehearsal. Software like Jamulus, JackTrip, Sonobus and others have enjoyed an increase in popularity as musicians in all genres have tried to keep their groups viable in the world of COVID-19. Please be aware that if you need help with these software environments, the communications team will stand ready to be of assistance. Don't hesitate to reach out.

Hope you remember to do your online shopping at smile.amazon.com! As of November 2020, the district has received \$406 from our members supporting us on smile.amazon.com. Not a lot 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 sign 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!

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



Foundation Corner

Arne Themmen

Sunshine District VP Funding

harmonyfoundation@sunshinedistrict.org

The Harmony Society and the Harmony Foundation are each asking for donations. The Society is funding current operations and new projects that it creates. They will also credit chapters and districts as requested by the donor.

The Harmony Foundation is working with districts to fund projects that are worthy of development. The donor choice program remains in effect for up to 30% of the gift to go to chapters or Districts as designated.

At present, there is no progress on reconciliation between the two organizations.

The Sunshine District is also soliciting donations from charitable organizations and government entities. If you are aware of such organizations that support vocal music please forward said information to [Chuck Steiner](#) or to [Arne Themmen](#).



VP of Music and Presentation Message

Steve Culpepper

Sunshine District VP of Music and Presentation

With the Mid-Winter Convention behind us, now is the time to learn new music, get contest songs ready, be prepared for a time when we can all sing together again.

Take advantage of zoom seminars on vocal production, breathing and support. Keep singing! One day we Will Sing together face to face. Looking forward to seeing you soon!



Chapter Happenings

Sarasota

Chorus of the Keys

by: Roger Murphy, VP Marketing – Sarasota Chorus of the Keys

Sarasota Chapter Continues Zoom Rehearsals



*Sarasota Chorus of the Keys
February 22nd Annual Show Chorus photograph*

For approximately 10 months the Sarasota Chorus, in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic and technical hurdles, continues to meet each week for an evening rehearsal over Zoom.

Although members dearly miss meeting together in person, our members cherish the Zoom rehearsals as a way to warm up our voices, review the repertoire, practice new songs, and keep in touch with one another. One of the rehearsal segments, created because of the pandemic situation, is called “Barbershop Life” where a member relates his special memories and involvement as a BHS member. Regardless of whether it’s a 5 or 50 plus year membership, each person’s story relates the camaraderie and brotherhood experienced as a Society member.

Finally, the Chorus has been privileged to have numerous special guests at our Zoom rehearsals including: **Marty Monson** and **Steve Scott** of BHS, **Kevin Keller**, **David**

McEachern, **Tim Broersma** of AIC, **Jack Lyon** of Most happy Fellows, **Clay Hine**, **Steve Armstrong**, **Steve Tramack**, **Eric Dalbey**, **Sean Devine**, and **Michigan Jake** (2001 Gold Medalist).

Yes, it has been an unusual year, but the barbershop family in Sarasota continues to sing together!



Naples/Ft. Myers

Paradise Coastmen



Naples’ Paradise Coastmen Chorus is Zooming ahead in 2021

by *Gray Poehler*, VP Marketing

Not to be deterred by the ongoing pandemic, the *Paradise Coastmen Chorus* in Naples, Florida has been holding weekly Zoom rehearsals each Thursday evening since March 2020. The chorus of approximately 40 men usually has at least half of their members participating on a weekly basis.

The format of the rehearsals includes opening remarks, followed by two repertoire song selections sung twice. The group then divides into breakout sectionals working 1/2 hour on one of the new show songs for their upcoming 2022 spring

Continued on next page)

Chapter Happenings, Con't.

show titled “**Happy Days are here again**”, a celebration of the end of the pandemic and a return to normalcy.

They then have a 10 minute segment called “Getting to know your fellow Barbershopper” and features one of their members who tells everything you ever wanted to know about him but were afraid to ask :)

Also included is a craft video and a special video featuring a champion quartet or chorus with commentary from their director, Jim Shubert. Then two more repertoire songs including videos from past chorus performances.

The virtual rehearsal lasts one and one half hours and ends with five minutes of kibitzing among the members. The music team stays for an addition ten minutes as they plan the next weeks rehearsal format.

The pandemic may have caused many inconveniences but it has not dampened the spirit of the *Paradise Coastmen Chorus*. This too shall pass and we all look forward to the time we can again meet in fellowship and song as a collective group.



Venice

by Lee Frayer, Director
Directorfrayer@gmail.com
2009 Sunshine District Hall Of Fame and a 56 year member of the society

The Venice Gondoliers Chapter is saddened from the loss of two longtime members. **Marvin Kamerlander** and **Jack Sturrock**. Marvin was a great quarteter and loved the

chorus, and Jack a top executive at NASA Houston and sang with the Englewood chapter for many years.

Note: The Englewood chapter has now officially merged in with the Venice Chapter. That was a big undertaking but it went very smooth thanks to our chapter secretary Jay Tuetenburg.

Our next goal is to be ready to sing the national Anthem for the Atlanta Braves training games.

The good news is the Venice Guys and Gals are very active with 18 to 22 members singing on Zoom every Monday evening and having a great time.

And speaking of Zoom their director has been visiting other chapter zoom sessions as learning tools on how he can improve their own zoom meetings.

If you would like to invite him in on one of you zoom sessions he would appreciate it.



Tampa

Heralds of Harmony

Mark your calendars for **Monday, March 29th!** *The Tampa Bay Heralds of Harmony* is inviting all SUN Members to join us on our rehearsal night for a “*District Power Hour*” where we’ll do some vocal warm-ups, a vocal technique session with Tony DeRosa, and work on a song together. More information will be emailed out to all District Members in the coming weeks.



In Memoriam



Mr. Jack Matchley

BHS Member 50+ Years

Gulftones Barbershop
Chorus

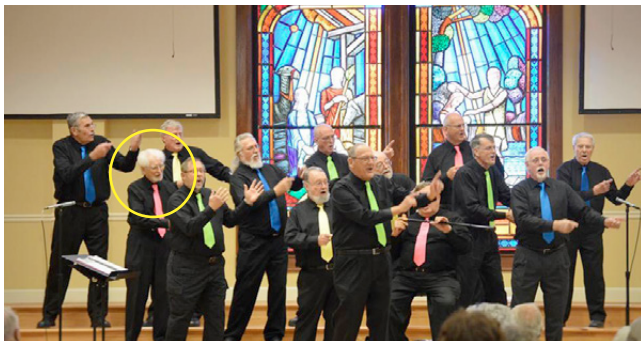
Panama City, FL

One of our oldest members of the GULFTONES BARBERSHOP CHORUS passed away at the end of 2020, Mr. Jack Matchley.

We celebrated his life with a memorial service in Panama City where he was laid to rest by family and friends.

He was a member of the Barbershop Harmony Society for 51 years and will be missed by many.

He supported every project we undertook whether it was a Patriotic Theme event, Singing Valentines, Christmas Caroling, or a visit to an assisted care center. He cared about others and often turned down help because he said “others need this more than I do.” Even though he is no longer with us he is singing in a much larger chorus now.



Donation of a Song

Don Mills of the Far Western District wrote a TTBB barbershop arrangement of a song called *Lift Every Voice and Sing*. The song was referred to as an anthem for the African American. Don, due to hearing loss, may not be singing any longer but he can still arrange!

~Lift Every Voice and Sing....tbb~

An Anthem Honoring the African American

Lyrics by James Weldon Johnson, 1901

Music by J. Rosamond Johnson, 1901

Arrangement by Donald A. Mills, 2021

12.18.20 revised

Duration: 3' 03" @ ♩. = 60 (dotted quarter note) bpm

Intro

1
8

Tenor Lead
Lift ev-'ry voice and sing, 'til Earth and hea___ ven rings. rings with the

Bari Bass
Lift ev-'ry voice and sing, 'til Earth and hea___ ven rings, rings with the

6
8

Tenor Lead
har___ mo - nies of li___ ber - ty. Let our re - joic-ing rise, high as the list___ 'ening

Bari Bass
har___ mo - nies of li___ ber - ty. Let our re - joic-ing rise high as the list-'ening

Verse 1

13
8

Tenor Lead
skies, let it re - sound loud as the roll - ing seas.____ 1.Sing a

Bari Bass
skies, let it re - sound loud as the roll - ing seas.____ 1.Sing a

[All voices, honor your 8th rests]

Arrangement Copyright 2021, Composed in 1901

OHHH... the things we've seen

by Roxanne Clapp, editor

I was gifted back copies of *The Sunburst* from a couple members of the District. In review of one of those copies, I learned that our current District logo was created in 2005 by Tampa member Jack Duffy. The logo you are all familiar with but perhaps haven't looked at closely, is a sun in the shape of a pitch pipe with a music note shadowed by the state of Florida.

Watch for more history to come next issue!



The evolution of the Sunburst masthead from 1978 to present.



Those puppets didn't age a bit! Hot Shots appear on The Sunburst cover 2006 & 2018.

Have a fun moment captured in a photo from the past you want to share? Email editor@sunshinedistrict.org

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The District is looking for a Governance Manual expert to take over for our retiring friend Dan Brinkmann. If technical writing and the exciting world of Governance is in your wheelhouse, please contact us ([Chuck](#) or [Bruce](#))

Sunshine District

Barbershop
Harmony
Society



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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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2021 Deadlines: Feb 15 • May 15 • Aug 15 • Nov 15

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	Rate per issue . . .	Annual rate (4 issues)	
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Send material to Editor@sunshinedistrict.org

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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.



The Sunshine District wants to ensure our performances and programming are accessible to everyone. Should you require a special accommodation, please contact us, and we will be happy to help you.