

# The Las Vegas Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society

The

## **NUGGET**

E-newsletter \* February 2024

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[silverstatesmen.com](http://silverstatesmen.com)

### Events for 2024

2/14 – Singing Valentines - Book early!

4/13–National Barbershop Quartet Day Showcase–Winchester Dondero Cultural Center 2 pm **\$15.00**

5/11–Far Western District SE/SW Divisional Convention–Ontario, CA

6/9 & 16 – Summer shows at Windmill Library and Clark County Library. **Free admission!**

6/29-7/6–Barbershop Harmony Society International Convention–Cleveland, OH

7/3–Silver Statesmen sing National Anthem at Las Vegas Ballpark for the Aviators

10/18-19–FWD Fall Convention Bakersfield, CA

11/11–Veterans Day events tba

December 14–Christmas Show Winchester Dondero Cultural Center 2 pm **\$20**

# Spotlight on Members



**Dink O'Neal**

With the exception of two years in Silver Spring, MD, I grew up in Texas, the majority of the time being in Houston. I got into theatre and performing when I was in junior high school and never looked back.

My wife, Teri, and I have three grown daughters: Brenna and her husband Joey live here in Las Vegas and blessed us with our first grandchild, Bobby, on June 28, 2022. Middle daughter Gillian and her husband Aaron live between Seattle and Tacoma in Federal Way, WA. Youngest daughter Avery (and her dog Peanut) live in Dover, New Hampshire.

I received my Bachelors of Fine Arts Degree in Acting from the University of Texas at Austin in 1984.

I have had the pleasure of traveling around the country and even internationally pursuing a career as a professional actor. Musical theatre has been one of my strong suits, but television and film work was never turned down if it popped up.

I define myself as being "EGOT Adjacent" because I have worked with so many performers who have collected Emmys, Grammys, Oscars and Tony awards!

I hold memberships in SAG/AFTRA (Screen Actors Guild/American Federation of Television and Radio Actors), AEA (Actors Equity Association) and AGVA (American Guild of Variety Artists).

Over 30 years ago, I booked an 8 1/2 month job on a cruise ship that traveled between Port Canaveral, FL, and the Bahamas twice a week. After you've been to the Bahamas a dozen or more times, you don't even get off the ship when in port so I took up what is known as "counted cross stitch" whereby I used patterns to create a variety of now-framed pictures that I have given as gifts over the years. Since moving to Vegas, I have picked up this hobby once again.

I feel so blessed to have literally stumbled, albeit online, over the Silver Statesmen. I have always wanted to sing with a barbershop organization and now that my life isn't so hectic, it is wonderful to be a part of this group.

## President's Corner



**Bill Robey**

Hello my brothers in music!

Once again, I thank you for your vote of confidence and I will make every effort not to disappoint.

So far, 2024 has started out on a high note (pun intended). Our first concert "Songs of Love" was well-received.

We've also had new members join our ranks as well as returning members seeking reinstatement, so we are growing in numbers, a trend I hope will continue.

I see good things ahead for us and as we strive to improve our singing ability, our future is bright and full of promise.

Wishing us all a great year ahead.

Yours in Harmony

Bill

### **Our Mission Statement:**

**"To share our passion for music, to preserve the art form known as Barbershop singing, to enrich the lives of our members, community, and audiences through performance and to bring people together in Harmony and fellowship."**

The **Silver**  
Statesmen

## From our Director: Gordon Lankenau

### A gauntlet of wandering thoughts . . .



How resilient and flexible you all are to have accomplished yet another show within weeks of the Christmas season. Your versatility in working around situations resulting in some quartet cancellations is commendable and worthy of note (pun intended). Dink also did a fabulous job

anchoring the MC duties. Not everyone can do that with such ease. Congratulations everyone on a job well done.

As you've witnessed during the past few rehearsals, our emphasis has shifted back to basics with:

1. Watching the director and breathing together for cleaner starts and stops
2. Tone production of every contributing member and the resulting group sound
3. Staggered breathing for seamless phrasing. (R and S are not our friends).
4. Dynamic contrast on repeated lyrics and phrases.
5. Internalize the forward motion and drive of the beat so as not to slow down. Energy in our soft volume makes for a more interesting result.
6. Look like you enjoy singing (smile with your eyes and keep the cheeks raised).
7. In the higher parts of your range, feather in your head voice so you can set your notes on the 'shelf,' don't reach for it or muscle it too loudly.
8. Know your part in the chord and your resulting responsibility to balance the sound: Root and 5th - dominant, 3rd high and light, and 7th is the note that creates our unique barbershop harmony, expanded sound and ring with expanded sounds (over/under tones), when we get it right.

As you can see, we're now focusing way beyond notes and words, so jump on board and hang on so you don't get left behind as we improve on the Silver Statesmen sound. While you're at it, invite a friend to rehearsal.

Sing-cerely,

Gordon

# Incoming Board of Directors

2024

**Immediate Past President**  
**Art Miller**



**President**  
**Bill Robey**



**Executive Vice President**  
**Jonathan Savar**



**Greg Dreyer**  
**Secretary**



**Treasurer**  
**Brain Sellnow**



**Music and Performance Vice President**  
**Wally Smulson**



**Membership Vice President**  
**Bob Amblad**



**Marketing and Public Relations Vice President**  
**Open**

**Members at Large**  
**Larry Paterson Rick Ives Ernie Krausmen**



# Silver Statesmen Installation of Officers and Awards Dinner 2023



**Dink O'Neal**  
*Directors Award*



**Firelight Barn**



**JD Massa**  
*Lifetime Achievement Award*



**Greg Dreyer**  
*Barbershopper of the Year*

*Rookie of the Year*  
**Cordell Hendrix**



*Presidents Award*  
**Fred Green**



Thank you to Mama's Wranglers at  
Firelight Barn for their hospitality.

# The **Silver** Statesmen

## Patron Support

The Silver Statesmen Barbershop Chorus is supported by revenues from shows, membership dues and contributions from patrons. Many of you have been a contributor in the past and we appreciate your generosity.

Tier Levels of Patron Donations:

**Bronze:** \$25 (to have your name listed in our show program and on the chorus website)

**Silver:** \$50 (same as above, and receive two tickets to events like the Pancake Breakfast or Ice Cream Social)

**Gold:** \$100 (same as above plus receive two tickets to a paid performance)

**Platinum:** \$150 or more (same as above plus a free "Singing Valentine" in February)

Thank you for your continued support.

To contribute online: [silverstatesmen.com](http://silverstatesmen.com)

To contribute by mail: send check made out to **Silver Statesmen** to Greg Dreyer, 3639 La Junta Dr., Las Vegas, NV 89120

### **PATRONS 2024**

#### *PLATINUM*

Fred & Debbie Green  
Ernie & Vicki Krausman  
David & Barbara Dorway  
Wally & Marla Smulson  
Jeff Homer  
Greg & Nancy Dreyer  
JD Massa  
Mike & Darla Conner  
Kenny & Renee Rios  
Victor Onufrieff & Laurel Andrew  
Bob & Jeri Amblad  
Andrew Family Foundation

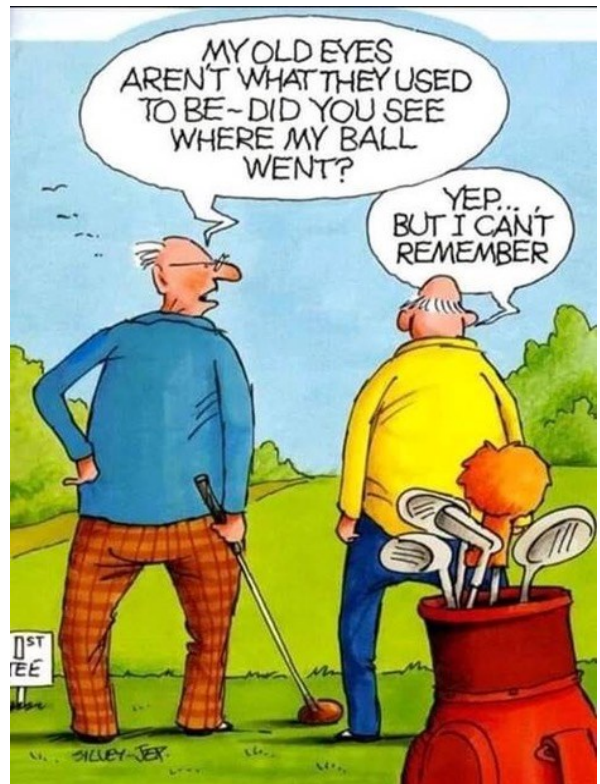
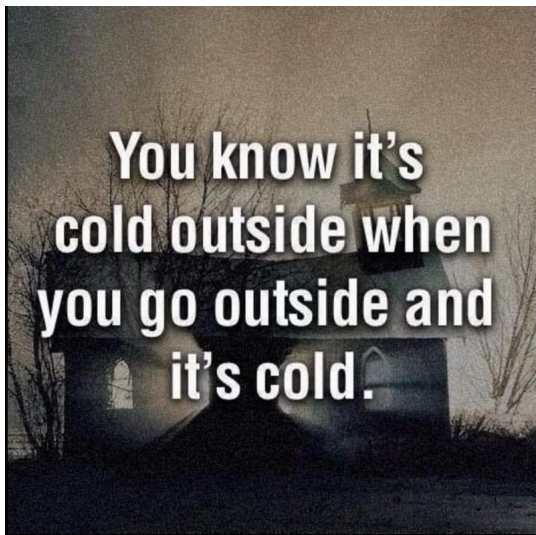
#### *GOLD*

Cindy Cardwell (in memory of Herb Craig)  
Jonathan & Robin Savar  
Andrea Olson CPA Inc

#### *BRONZE*

Thomas Brill  
Larry Paterson  
Kurtis Harrold

# On the lighter side



*You should have fun when you sing. Like each other and share in the joys of making great music because you don't know when you won't be able to do so again.*

My therapist set half a glass of water in front of me. He asked if I was an optimist or a pessimist. So, I drank the water and told him I was a problem solver.

~Unknown



**Got up at 5am, 8km run completed, came back prepared a vegetable smoothie for breakfast....  
Don't remember the rest of the dream....**

**Smile often . . .**

**It keeps other people guessing**

## **Come Sing With Us!!!**

**What:** Weekly Chapter Meeting and Rehearsal

**When:** Thursdays 7-10 pm

**Where:** Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church  
10265 Bermuda Rd. Las Vegas 89183



Our chorus and quartets love to sing for our audiences and to share our love of "Barbershop".

You are invited to join us to enjoy an evening of camaraderie and great barbershop harmony. Don't miss out on the fun! Come see what it's all about.

**"I LOVE TO HEAR A CHOIR. I LOVE THE HUMANITY... TO SEE THE FACES OF REAL PEOPLE DEVOTING THEMSELVES TO A PIECE OF MUSIC. I LIKE THE TEAMWORK. IT MAKES ME FEEL OPTIMISTIC ABOUT THE HUMAN RACE WHEN I SEE THEM COOPERATING LIKE THAT."**

*Paul McCartney*





SILVER STATESMEN  
BARBERSHOP CHORUS

Presents

**SINGING**

**TELEGRAMS**

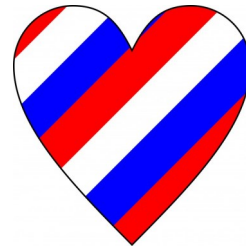
**FOR VALENTINE'S DAY**

Wednesday, February 14, 2024

For your sweetheart,  
get **2 LOVE SONGS** from a quartet,  
a **PERSONALIZED CARD**,  
and a **ROSE**.

Delivery to homes, schools, offices,  
restaurants (or wherever you send us)  
throughout the Las Vegas Valley.

Place your order at  
[www.silverstatesmen.com](http://www.silverstatesmen.com)



## National Barbershop Quartet Day Showcase

Winchester Dondero Cultural Center

3130 McLeod Drive

\$15.00 each \* Kids 12 and under are free

Tickets available at the door or in advance at our website:

[silverstatesmen.com](http://silverstatesmen.com)

Featuring Quartets from the Silver Statesmen Barbershop Chorus:

*Twilight, Good Times!, Amazing Grays, Til Mornin Comes, and High Stakes*



***Twilight***



***Good Times!***



***Amazing Grays***



***Til Mornin' Comes***



***High Stakes***

