

The Las Vegas Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society

The

NUGGET

E-newsletter * June 2024

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silverstatesmen.com

Events for 2024

6/9 – “If The Lord Be Willin’” show at Windmill Library. 2 pm **Free admission!**

6/16– “If The Lord Be Willin’” show at Clark County Library. 2 pm **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 (public event)

10/18-19–FWD Fall Convention

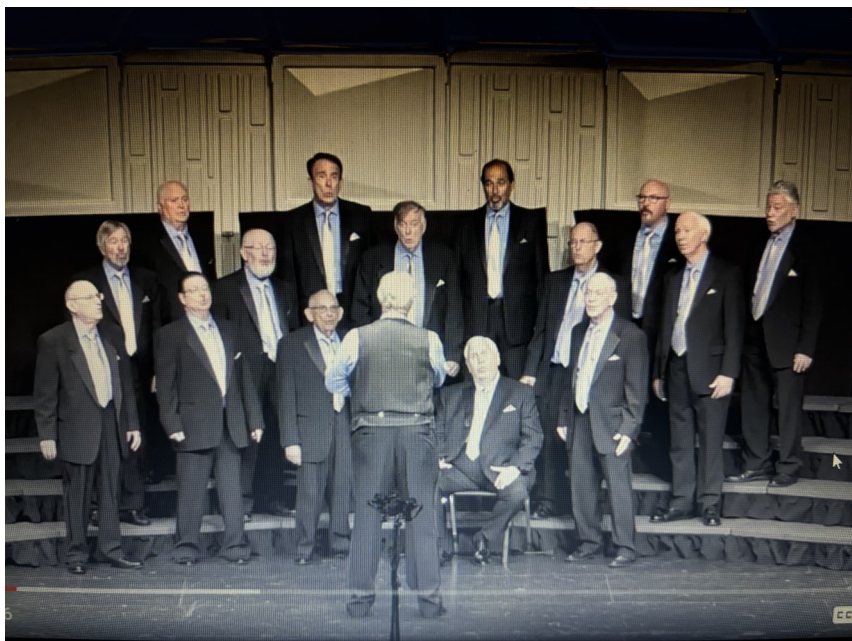
11/9–Chorus performance–Temple Sinai

11/11–Veterans Day events tba

12/14–Christmas Show Winchester Dondero Cultural Center 2 pm **\$20**



Initiation for newest member attending convention as last convention's recipient, David Dean, passes off the "famed" red suspenders to the newest convention rookie James Taylor.



President's Corner



Bill Robey



Hello again my brothers, I hope you're staying cool ☺.

As we mentioned at last weeks rehearsal, there are some changes coming to our chorus, and I think you will approve.

1st, Starting with the songs we sing. We will be greatly shrinking our repertoire, based on the input from you, the chorus.

We want you to be excited and eager to sing every song in the folder, the songs you really enjoy singing.

2nd, the music committee will be meeting regularly to create a plan for the chorus. This will include warm-ups, working on basic tonal and vocal quality, breathing, alignment and preparing the next performances well in advance. We will be tearing each song we do down to the studs and working on each aspect and rebuilding it to the best quality we can.

We will not be singing more than 4 or 5 songs at each rehearsal so we can concentrate on the parts that we need to hyper-focus on and get them right.

Again, if you have any questions about the changes coming or anything regarding our goals or methods to achieve them, please ask any member of the music committee. If you're not sure about something, I guarantee there is someone else who is also unsure.

Keep a song in your heart, a tune on your lips, and keep on singing.

Your brother in song, Bill

From our Director: Gordon Lankenau



A gauntlet of wandering thoughts . . .

Hello Gentlemen,

It's time for change. There are lots of goals being set for the chorus and chapter in the immediate future. First, having chosen a reasonable repertoire to maintain (your choices, mind you), we'll focus on performing with artistry that better entertains our audiences and adds to our own enjoyment. Together, let's come to understand the background behind the songs we sing. Second, let's build our membership. We can't keep ourselves a secret any longer. This has to be a chapter-wide effort, so let's all do our part to grow.

As a direct result of these changes and more, expect better singing and intonation through warm-ups with purpose, craft sessions (addressing vocal production, listening skills, breathing, and body alignment to name a few of an exhausting list), more section rehearsals, even ongoing music theory (it's not fair that only a few of us understand the music terminology exchanged during rehearsal and not have their eyes glaze over, lol).

I want the chorus to sing better, as I hope you do, as well. **Let's make it happen.**

Your director,

Gordon

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."

Spotlight on Members



Roger Buehrer

Born: 12 July 1946 in Toledo Ohio

I was raised in Pandora, Ohio, a small rural community about 70 miles south of Toledo. I graduated from Pandora-Gilboa High School in a class of 39. I started singing barbershop in junior high school with a quartet of classmates. I was introduced to this great hobby by my father, who was an outstanding musician, and sang in a gospel quartet. I also sang in my church choir and the high school chorus. I took six years of piano lessons, which has helped immensely in reading and learning new music.

I was taught the value of hard work by my mother. I had a paper route for six years, sold Christmas cards door-to-door, and laid field tile for a ditching crew. I helped my uncle harvest potatoes, and worked in the fields hoeing cucumbers and tomatoes. In high school I worked in a tomato cannery, a fertilizer factory, and raised bees while working for an apiarist. In college, I paid all my expenses by driving sugar beet trucks in the fall, and helping a farmer who raised chickens and hogs.

My late wife, Lana and I were married 46 years, and we had two sons, Aaron and Nick. Aaron worked for T-Mobile in Nampa, ID for 17 years until he developed Long-haul Covid in 2021. This left him on full disability. Nick is employed by Southwest Gas and lives in Las Vegas. He and his wife Krystal, have four children. Lana passed away in 2019 as a result of complications from diabetes. In 2022, I married Karen Holien, a retired nurse and water aerobics instructor. I met her and her husband while she was teaching water aerobics. Her husband passed in 2017 after 48 years of marriage.

Education:

Bowling Green State University, ('68)

Bowling Green, Ohio

BS Degree, journalism and public relations, minors in speech and sociology

American University ('72)

Washington, D.C.

MS Degree, communications, minor in education

Professional Studies:

The Ohio State University

University of Michigan,

Toledo University

University of New Mexico

After graduating from Bowling Green, I taught high school English at Continental (Ohio) High School, before entering my chosen field, journalism. In 1972 I took a position as the city editor of the Defiance-Crescent News, Defiance, OH, and, in 1976, I took a position in the Public Relations Department of Toledo Edison, Toledo, OH, serving as spokesman for customer service department and the company's nuclear power plant.

In 1983 Southwest Gas, here in Las Vegas, offered me a position as manager of Customer Information, serving as spokesman for the company and coordinating its speaker's bureau. I stayed with the company 22 years before retiring and offered a position with the Southern Nevada Water Authority, serving as spokesman on service interruptions and water quality. I retired in 2012.

While working at the utilities, I taught Public Relations courses for the Greenspun School of Journalism at UNLV, and marketing at the Clark County Community College. I also developed and coordinated a certificate program in public relations for UNLV's Continuing Education Program.

After high school, barbershopping took a backseat to my career until I joined the North-Westernaires in Defiance, OH, under the direction of Jim Shisler, tenor in the International Champion "Ritz" quartet. After moving to Las Vegas, Dave Larson, Roc Pucci and Dick Rosborough asked me to join the Las Vegas Gamble-Aires in 1985. I sang baritone until John Waugh, our director, "told" me to switch to tenor in 1998. I have sung in numerous quartets, "Draw Four," "Double Down," "Hooked on Harmony," and "Older'N Dirt." In 2012, I joined "Broadcast" and sang with them until 2021, when our bass, Dave Kennedy, decided to retire—at age 80. I was selected as "Barbershopper of the Year", recipient of the Director's Award, held all the offices in the Gamble-Aires Chorus—except treasurer. I have four "men-of-note" awards, and still love the camaraderie. In addition to Waugh, I have to thank Albert Weiss, and Rick Ives for my growth in this hobby. Without them I would still be struggling with singing baritone, and probably would have left the organization.

I have been a long-time supporter of community service programs. I was president of the local Red Cross Chapter, president of the Area Health Education Centers, sat on the boards of Girls Scouts of America, East Valley Family Services, Family and Child Treatment Center, SERTOMA (Service to Mankind in America), and the Breakfast Exchange Club. For these efforts Southwest Gas honored me with its prestigious "Constant Flame" Award, given annually to an individual for their community service. Since remarrying, I have joined the Vegas Vikings Sons of Norway Lodge. I served a term as secretary and currently (2024) chair the Lodge's Marketing Committee.

My faith remains strong and is the center my life. I have been a member of University United Methodist Church for 40 years, and currently serve on its Administrative Lead Team, chairing the personnel committee. I have sung in the church choir all that time

Professionally, I remain a member of the Public Relations Society of America and am an accredited member of the organization. In 2001, I was elected to its prestigious College of Fellows, and am only one of two members of the College in the State of Nevada. I served on the Association's Board of Ethics and Professional Standards for nearly 10 years, helping rewrite its Code of Ethics in 1999. For that I was presented with the Key to the City by then Mayor Oscar Goodman. In that same year, the local chapter presented me with the Pinnacle of Achievement Award, an award that now carries my name in perpetuity.

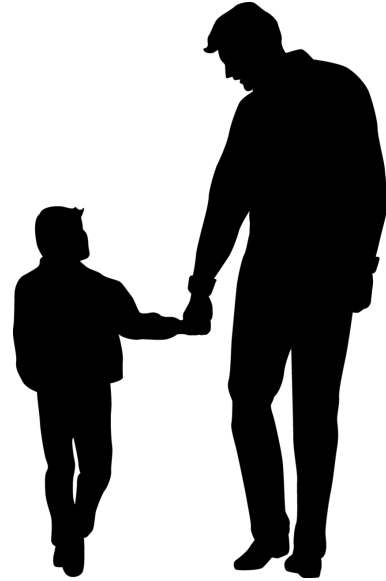
The School of Journalism at Bowling Green State University named me as Alumni of the Year for 2003.

In Memoriam for those who gave their all.

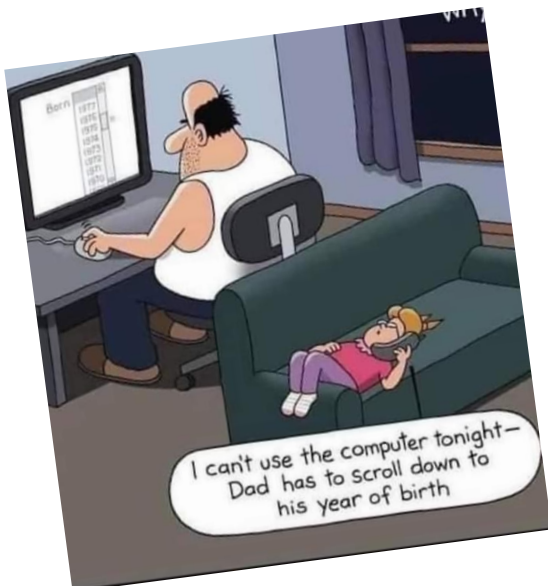
Woodlawn Cemetery Annual Event for the Silver Statesmen.



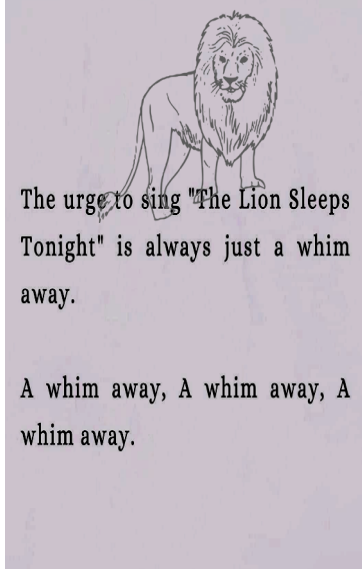
HAPPY FATHER'S DAY



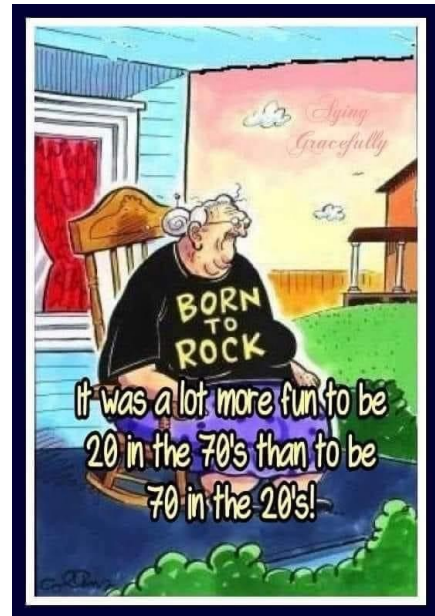
Thank you for being there every day, offering just the love and guidance I've needed to find my way through life.



On the lighter side



My kid called me an old man this morning. We both laughed and laughed. Then I changed the WiFi password.



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.



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.

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

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
In memory of Dick Morrison

BRONZE

Thomas Brill
Larry Paterson
Kurtis Harrold



Las Vegas-Clark County
**LIBRARY
DISTRICT**

silverstatesmen.com



**With Special Guests:
*THE SWING IT! GIRLS***

IF THE LORD BE WILLIN'

FREE SHOWS

JUNE 9, 2024 - 2 pm
WINDMILL LIBRARY
7060 W. WINDMILL LN
LAS VEGAS 89113

JUNE 16, 2024 - 2 pm
CLARK COUNTY LIBRARY
1401 E. FLAMINGO RD
LAS VEGAS 89119