

The Silver Statesmen Chorus Qualifies for District Competition

Above the Lawn is new FWD Super Senior Champ and Time Wise is Southeast Division Senior Champ.

Far Western District competition to be held in Bakersfield, California this fall will include the chorus of the Las Vegas Chapter, The Silver Statesmen Barbershop Chorus. On Saturday morning May 13, 2017 at El Monte High School in El Monte, California the chorus, singing in position 13, scored 1220 points to qualify for District competition. Any chorus awarded 1116 or more points by the triple judging panel earned the trip to Bakersfield. The chorus scored 615 points singing "Sweet and Lovely" and 605 points singing "Wait 'til the Sun Shines, Nellie". Music scores were the highest at 420, followed by Singing at 405 and Performance at 395. The chorus performed under the direction of Jim Halvorson.



With a score of 1213 points *Time Wise* became the new Southeast Division Champion at competition held in El Monte California on May 13, 2017. The quartet scored an average of 67.4% for each song for each judge. The quartet has qualified for District competition in the fall based on the scores of all senior quartets competing at Division contests. Also singing in El Monte was the quartet *Above the Lawn* competing as a super senior quartet and scoring 1116 points thereby becoming the FWD Super Senior Champion! Both quartets will compete in Bakersfield. Congratulations!!!





Above the Lawn is Buddy Seeberg, Dave Kennedy, Chuck Wines and Jeff Swart.



Time Wise is Warren Hettinga, Chuck Wines, Jeff Swart and Gordon Lankenau.

The Nugget

Volume 5, Number 2

Published quarterly by the Las Vegas Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society, Far Western District.

Chartered December 1960

The **Silver**
Statesmen

SilverStatesmen.com

President: Greg Dreyer

Music Director: Jim Halvorson

Editor: Peter Feeney

5320 Coral Gables Drive
Las Vegas, Nevada 89130

702 971-0241

Peterfeeney@embarqmail.com



The Silver Statesmen Perform in Boulder City

The Boulder City Art Guild held its 32nd Annual Spring ArtFest on Saturday and Sunday April 22 and 23, 2017 in Bicentennial Park in Boulder City, Nevada. The Silver Statesmen were featured each day together with two chapter quartets.

Under the direction of Jim Halvorson and wearing their new formal shirts, the chorus performed a 20 minute set each day opening each set with the National Anthem.

Also performing were the quartets Good Times and Time Wise. Each performed a short set, delighting the audience with the warm and wonderful sound of barbershop harmony. Master of Ceremonies for the performance was Gordon Lankenau.

The 13th Annual Winter ArtFest will be held November 11 and 12, 2017.





Good Times



Time Wise

Founded in 1985, the Boulder City Art Guild's Spring Art Fest is held every April in Boulder City's Bicentennial Park and is open to artists of all media. Over the years, the show has grown, and by 2011, there were 130+ artists with attendance at over 15,000. Every year, Boulder City Art Guild hosts two art festivals, one in spring and one in winter. The art festivals date to 1986 when the first one was held as a way for local artists to display their art that they had been working on all year. A second art festival was added later. In 2004, the Boulder City Art Guild began a second show called the Winter Art Fest. The show is held each November at the Boulder City Parks & Recreation Building. The indoor event hosts artists and fine crafters from the southwest and provides holiday fun for families. The art fest is an annual fundraiser for the Boulder City Art Guild and funds mini scholarships for local youngsters and senior citizens.



What Do Tin Pan Alley, Woodshedding, Al Jolson, Richard Rodgers, Cliff Friend, the Four Harmonizers, and the

Bluegrass Student Union Have in Common?

By Ivan Lambert

Tin Pan Alley is the name given to the collection of New York City Music publishers and songwriter who dominated the popular music of the United States in the late 19th century and early 20th century. The name originally referred to a specific place: Tin Pan Alley started in 1885, when a number of music publishers set up shop in the same district of Manhattan. This era ended at the start of the great depression in the 1930's when the phonograph, radio and black and white motion pictures supplanted sheet music.

Both Richard Rogers and Cliff Friend, had their songs sung by Al Jolson. In fact, Jolson encouraged Friend to move from California to New York City where they became part of Tin Pan Alley. For the next 15 years, Friend collaborated with numerous songwriters. One of the famous songs The Merry-Go-Round Broke Down is the theme song in the Warner Bros. Looney Tunes Cartoon series!

Cliff Friend was an accomplished songwriter and pianist. He was born in Cincinnati, Ohio in 1893, His father was the first violist with the Woods Theater Orchestra. Friend studied at the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music with the aim of becoming a concert pianist, until a three-year bout of Tuberculosis. He met while working on vaudeville shows and the two moved to Los Angeles, California where the befriended Al Jolson. Friend wrote songs "for order" for vaudevillians, radio and recording artist and dance bands. The song "I told Them All About you /your Dear Medley" was written during the Tin Pan Alley Era.



This medley has an interesting history. It was woodshedded. In fact, none of the songs the Four Harmonizers sang were written down. In 1943, the Four Harmonizers, were the first champions from the Cardinal District. The 1943 international convention was held in Chicago, Ill. The Harmonizers championship performance was almost a disaster. Lead, Leo Ives, blew the pitch for their last song, not a sound came out. However, each competing quartet had been given a harmonica as a souvenir. Thinking fast, Ives reached in his pocket for the souvenir harmonica, blew the pitch a step too low, and the quartet continued on with the song. Huck Sinclair, the baritone, was furious when they walked off the stage, and immediately announced that he quit the quartet. He later relented when they were named the champions. The Four Harmonizes were featured on the cover of the Society's September 1943 issue Harmonizer magazine. The second song of the medley was written by J Casper Nathan and the music was written by James S Summer. There is no historical information for James S Summer. On the other hand, Nathan's in 1911 published a waltz titled. "[The girl I love won't love me](#)". I attached a picture of the front cover of the arrangement.

Several other quartets from the Cardinal District Campions, including the Citations (1965) and the Blue Grass Student Union (1974) have woodshedded this fast moving fun medley at competitions

The chart we are singing with the exception of the tag and bell chords is the same as the original woodshed version. Many song writers, publishers and performers collaborated in the Tin Pan Alley era to produce some of the most memorable songs that we continue to sing.

References:



- The Harmonizer Summer 1943.
- Internet search of individual song writers and lyricists
- Performance Notes Barbershop Harmony Society

The Las Vegas Chapter Celebrates Barbershop Quartet Day



Good Times

(Mike Conner, Dave Pruszka, Greg Dreyer, Wally Smulson)

On April 11, 2017 *Good Times* quartet appeared on Fox 5 TV in Las Vegas to help celebrate Barbershop Quartet Day. On April 11, 1938 the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America (Barbershop Harmony Society) was founded in Tulsa, Oklahoma, marking the official celebration of Barbershop Quartet Day. The image of four wearing straw hats singing together with complex harmonies could be considered a cultural cornerstone of the 1940s



Broadcast

(Rick Ives, John Waugh, Roger Buehrer, Dave Kennedy)

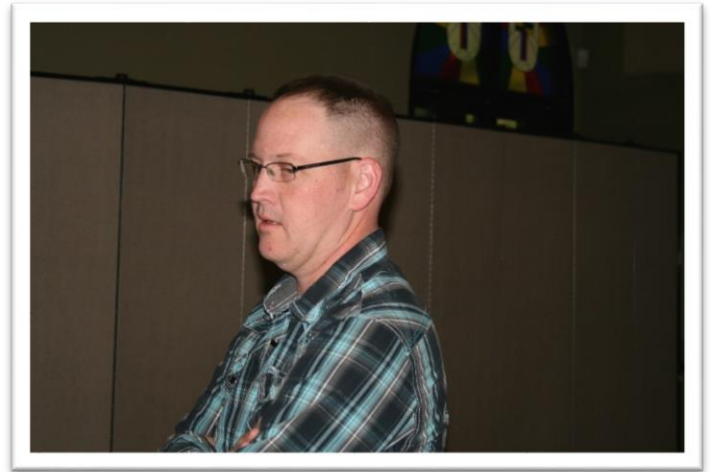


Good Times with the hosts of the TV program

Also celebrating the day with a performance was the quartet *Broadcast*. The quarter performed for the residents of Heritage Springs Assisted Living Facility in Las Vegas.



Roger Buehrer recently finished a great gig at Spring Mountain Ranch in Las Vegas singing in the chorus for the Rodgers and Hammerstein musical, "Oklahoma". Four other guys from the Silver Statesmen Barbershop chorus were in the group, too: Chuck Wines and Larry Peckhart, bass; Warren Hettinga, baritone and Jeff Swart, tenor. "Oklahoma" contains some of the most popular songs in the American song book: "O, What a Beautiful Mornin'", "People Will Say We're in Love", and, of course, the rousing title song "Oklahoma!" The guys say they had a great time singing with the show's chorus.



BHS Representative Dusty Schleier conducted a meeting of the chapter convention committee on June 8, 2017 in Las Vegas. Dusty is the main contact for all convention arrangements.



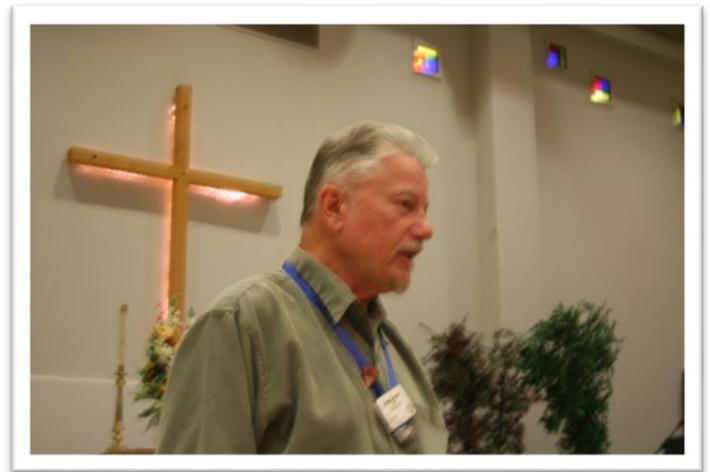
Dusty Schleier working with the committee as it plans for the Interational..

Preparations Continue for the International Convention in July



Under the leadership of Chapter President and Convention General Chairman Greg Dreyer the Silver Statesmen Chorus is pulling out all the stops to make sure the July convention is one of the best ever. This is the second time in the past three years that the Chapter is hosting the International.

In 2014 Marty Judd led the members in preparing for the convention held at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas,



Convention Chairman Greg Dreyer

This year's convention is at the Axis Theater at Planet Hollywood.



Expanded Silver Statesmen Barbershop Chorus Performs National Anthem at Cashman Stadium



Jim Halvorson directs the Silver Statesmen at Cashman Stadium before an Area 51s baseball game on June 16, 2017.

The Silver Statesmen were invited back to Cashman Stadium to sing the National Anthem by the Las Vegas 51s on June 16, 2017. The chorus extended an invitation to non-members to join with the chorus for this performance, and some did. This was a special night at the ballpark as the team produced a fireworks show after the last out.

2017 Las Vegas International Harmony Platoon

Conventioneers have the opportunity to experience the JOY and EXCITEMENT of quartet singing & friendly COMPETITION AND A COMMUNITY PERFORMANCE on July 4th (each participant will be picked up at Planet Hollywood at 1:30pm) Compete in different quartets in Luck-of-the-Draw Contests: Ø Thur. July 6th (4:30 PM) Ø Thur. July 6th (7:30 PM) Ø Sat. July 8th (11:00 AM)

<http://www.harmonyplatoon.org/>



The ultimate education experience for singers, educators, directors, leaders... and YOU.

Belmont University, Nashville
July 23 – 30, 2017

**Follow your own barbershop dreams
with more than 500 classes**



Director Jim Halvorson



Silver Statesmen Co-Host Pancake Breakfast at Temple Sinai

The chorus and the men's club of Temple Sinai in Summerlin hosted an 'all you can eat' pancake breakfast at Temple Sinai on Sunday June 25, 2017. The event, coordinated by Ivan Lambert, featured performances by the chorus and various chapter quartets.



The chorus performed three sets and a series of chapter quartets filled in the time in between. Following are some photos of the event. Thanks to the Temple's men club and our volunteer servers for making a very enjoyable time!





