

In the News

Barbershop Harmony Society Membership Now Open To All

A message to Chapter Leaders,

The Barbershop Harmony Society believes that what we offer -- the experience of singing together in harmony -- is meaningful to all people, and should therefore be accessible to people in all combinations. [Since the announcement of the Strategic Vision last June](#), the Society Board and staff leadership have been involved in ongoing discussions about the best way to achieve the vision of Everyone in Harmony.

Today, we are thrilled to announce our next step in the realization of that vision.

Effective immediately, membership in the Barbershop Harmony Society is open to EVERYONE. Beginning today, we welcome women to join the Barbershop Harmony Society as members.

Everyone means EVERYONE -- people of every age, of every background, every gender identity, every race, every sexual orientation, every political opinion or spiritual belief. Every person who loves to harmonize has a place in our family.

Your barbershop experience will always be yours to choose.

Your participation -- as a chorus singer, quartetter, leader, musician, fan -- is what you choose to make of it. Ultimately, we want to ensure that every person who loves barbershop will be able to forge a path into the barbershop world in a personal, devoted, continuing way.

While Society membership for everyone becomes immediately available, district and chapter membership for women will be available beginning January 2019. In the coming months, we'll be developing and sharing materials that will help BHS chapters choose among many options. A chapter can choose to stay exactly the same as they are today. A chapter might choose to add a mixed chorus, or a new, distinct women's chorus. New chapters might form -- male, female, or mixed. This is about adding, not subtracting. More people, sharing more harmony, and more joy, in more ways.

We believe that preserving the experience of men singing together AND welcoming women as members of the Barbershop Harmony Society are compatible ideas.

Everyone in Harmony suggests that different participation options, much like the different voices of a barbershop quartet, are not in opposition but entirely necessary. In this way, we remain an organization that supports brotherhood and men singing together while also providing opportunities for everyone to experience harmony, barbershop music, and the benefits of group singing.

For decades, women have been deeply engaged in the Barbershop Harmony Society as directors, coaches, and as students and faculty at Harmony University. Women have directed choruses onstage in contests since 1994. In 2009, the Society began offering Associate status as a means for women to become more deeply a part of the Society, while maintaining a male-only membership model. With our Strategic Vision focused on Everyone in Harmony, we now can support many kinds of barbershop activities -- men's, women's, mixed -- in many different ways.

The Barbershop Harmony Society will continue to provide all of the services it has offered up to this point, and will expand those offerings as new resources become available. There will be no immediate changes to our current International contests for men's quartets and choruses, or to the current Next Generation Barbershop festivals. We

will continue to publish music for men's, women's, and mixed voices and teach the art and craft of barbershop harmony at our events and online.



Everyone in Harmony means living your best barbershop life, the way YOU want to live it.

The last decade has seen the emergence of new ways to participate beyond "membership," from Harmony Platoons to online communities of multi-trackers, and that barely scratches the surface of possibilities. Our aim is to expand opportunities, expand relationships, expand ways to have fun singing together that may or may not involve a membership card.

In the coming weeks and months, you will start seeing updated language in our Society governing documents, on our website, and in our regular communications. Specific information about chapter and district membership options, women's and mixed quartet registration, and expanded services is being developed, so you can expect a series of updates throughout the remainder of the year via email, in the Harmonizer, and on our website.

The Board of Directors and the BHS staff leadership are committed to supporting the many ways that everyone can enjoy a full, enriching barbershop life. Together, we will live our vision of Everyone in Harmony.

In Harmony,
Skipp Kropp
Society President

Welcome

The Nugget

Volume 6, 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

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A Full and Fulfilling Second Quarter of Activity April

Editor's Note: The following notes were provided by Dave Kennedy. We have decided to reprint them as provided because of their informational value. Thank you, Dave.

1. Kenny Rios explained that originally the Silver Statesmen approached Nellis AFB with an offer to entertain the troops returning from deployment on Valentines day, but Nellis had already made plans for a program then. They liked the idea, however and asked if the Silver Statesmen could entertain at the "Spring Fling" which is an annual celebration for the children of Military families from all services. We accepted and soon were informed we would be the main entertainment for the event.

2. We invited The Sweet Adeline's Lady Luck Showtime Chorus to join us on the stage and they accepted. Their quartet, Ringin' Again, the 2017 Regional Quartet Champion, would also perform.

3. Silver Statesmen Quartets : 4 Ever Yours, Cross City Harmonizers (District High School Quartet Champion), Old Folks Quartet, Good Times.

4. The event offered free food and there was a constant line at the food booth. After the show, the Silver Statesmen and the Lady Luck Showtime choruses all had some food.

5. They expected between 1000 and 1200 to attend.

6. There were booths with games for children, Bounce houses, and displays. The Army National Guard hosted the event and had some military vehicles on display. There was a Red Cross truck there with some first-aid people from another organization. The BLM had a fire truck there. I took some photos of the event too, I think there should be enough photos to choose from. Chuck Wines didn't sing with the chorus so he used my camera when I was singing. He sang with Old Folks

Quartet, (This also included Gordon L., Ernie Krausman, and Buddy Seebert)

Near the end, we sang What A Wonderful World with the high school boys, Cross City Harmonizers singing the first verse and the entire chorus sang the rest of it.

Our last song was God Bless America and on the last reprise Jim invited the audience to join in. Actually, that was mainly the Sweet Adaline women because most of the people were milling around the many booths. I took one photo to show the spread out area with the stage at one end. The seats set up for an audience were just about filled up by one chorus while the other was performing. Few of the attendees paid much attention to the performances, however, when we sang the Armed Forces Medley, each services theme song received a smattering of applause from those close enough to hear it. Members of each of those services were invited to stand or raise a hand when their song was sung.

These notes were contributed by Dave Kennedy. Thank you, Dave.

Happy
Spring!







May

The Las Vegas
Silver Statesmen
Barbershop Chorus



Everything Old is
New Again



Saturday, May 12th, 2:00 p.m. and 6 p.m.
Doc Rando Recital Hall
Beam Music Center
UNLV Campus

www.SilverStatesmen.com
@silverstatesmen
Find us on Facebook
LVBarbershop

On Saturday May 12, 2018 the Silver Statesmen joined with the Color Country Chorus from St. George, Utah to produce two show at UNLV's Doc Rando Recital Hall. Written by Greg Dreyer and hosted by president Kenny Rios the shows included quartets and choruses from both chapters.

In addition to the Silver Statesmen Chorus and the Color Country Chorus the shows included the quartets Tonal Eclipse, Late Knights, 4 Ever Yours, The Cross City Harmonizers, and Old Folks,.



The Silver Statesmen and the Color Country Chorus

The Cross City Harmonizers



This quartet of high school students formed just this year and have already shown their talent by being named the Far Western District High School Champion at the Division Competition in Irvine, CA, this past March. They are Drake Pyatt-Baritone, Antwun Puckett-Bass, Cam Gregory-Lead & CJ Miller-Tenor

4Ever Yours



These guys have really come into their own this year and are a treat to hear. We hope you enjoy Randy Preston-Tenor, Thomas Locke-Lead, Martin Judd-Bass, & Ed Cotton-Baritone.

Old Folks



Our Senior Quartet is made up of some truly "old folks"..... Their combined years of barbershop singing is higher than some of us can count!! These guys are a LOT of fun. Buddy Seeberg-Tenor, Warren Hettinga-Lead, Gordon Lankenau-Bass & Chuck Wines-Baritone

June

On Sunday June 24 the Chapter joined with the Men's Club of Temple Sinai to host a Pancake Breakfast at Temple Sinai in Summerlin.



The **Si**ver Statesmen

**PANCAKE
BREAKFAST**
(All You Can Eat)

Sunday, June 24th
9:00 am—12:00 pm
Temple Sinai
9001 Hillpointe Rd
Las Vegas, NV 89134

Silver Statesmen Barbershop Chorus
performances at 10 am and 11 am.
Quartet performances at 9:30 am and 11:30 am



Are You Performing?

By Brian Sellnow

There's an old saying that "practice makes perfect". Most of us have learned that is not the case; what really happens is that "practice makes permanent". Repeating something often enough establishes habits, good or bad, that don't require a lot of conscious thought to follow. That can be an advantage, in the case of good habits, or a disadvantage if you develop bad ones. So what are we practicing?

There are distinct stages when it comes to performing a piece of music for our audience. The first stage comes when we hand out the music for the first time and ask people to look at it. Learning notes and words is tedious. It's not musical. And it's not much fun, to be honest. Some people are educated and talented enough to look at a piece of music and say "I see how that goes". They can see the chord progressions and tricky spots and opportunities for artistic expression and they can sing through it right away. Most of us aren't that good. Learning the music takes time and effort. So have you developed the habit of learning the music on your own, and being ready to move the next stage at our chapter meetings? Or do you "practice" waiting until Thursday night, then depend on your neighbor to know the notes and words, and expect the director to fix the parts you don't know? As I said, learning the notes and words is tedious, non-musical and not fun. We don't want our chapter meetings to be like that. Sadly, many chapters stay at this stage right up until performance time.

Step two is learning to sing the music. Not just following along with the learning track, but being responsible for your own contribution to the ensemble. Learning to sing means agreeing on the vowel sounds, tempo, unit sound, interpretation, everything that makes us a chorus rather than a collection of soloists. Following the director is paramount at this point, and you can't follow the director if you're still looking at a sheet of paper. We may still need to fix a couple of things that weren't learned correctly, but at this stage we have to be off the spots. This can be enjoyable, like when a chord locks and rings for the first time, or when the director introduces the interpretation of a passage that brings the song to life. The song may not sound too impressive at this point, but now we've established a goal that we can all work towards together. Many choruses get to this phase, and at showtime they sing and afterwards people make comments like "Well,

that sounded okay." Well, mediocrity is the enemy of excellence. Once we've practiced singing the song as the director wants it done, we can move on to the next stage; learning to perform the song.

What's the difference between "singing" a song and "performing" a song? I would say that we sing for the director, but we perform for our audience. We all know good singing and bad singing when we hear it, but how many times have we heard something, thought "they sang that well" and then promptly forgotten about it? Singing is the mechanical side of it. Performance is where we bring artistry into the picture. We practice singing – we rehearse a performance. When we sing, we get the notes and words right, get soft or loud, fast or slow, whatever the director has decided. Now that we have that down, we can use the song to tell a story to our audience. We don't have to worry about what the words to the next line are, because we've practiced it enough that it's muscle memory, like tying your shoelaces. Performing a song can include choreography, but just "adding the moves" to a song does not turn a mediocre rendition into an artistic masterpiece. We can use our faces to express the story, instead of having a "deer in the headlights" look. Although singing a song really well is fun, using that song to bring a director's vision to life is truly rewarding.

And that leads us to our final phase, rehearsing the performance. There are acts in Las Vegas which have been on stage for years. They've got their performances so ingrained that they could perform blindfolded. They're good enough and they've practiced

enough that they make it look easy, even though they're doing things most of us aren't capable of. They aren't trying to think about what comes next, or hoping that the other performers remember their part. Instead, they use all their energy to connect with the audience. We don't have the luxury of constant shows. Typically, we perform a show once or twice, then move on to different material. But we can practice performing, every night. It takes time and hard work and dedication, but the payoff – that moment when we connect with our audience and take their energy and send it right back and then hear their applause – is worth every minute and every drop of sweat.

What do you want to practice?



In Memoriam

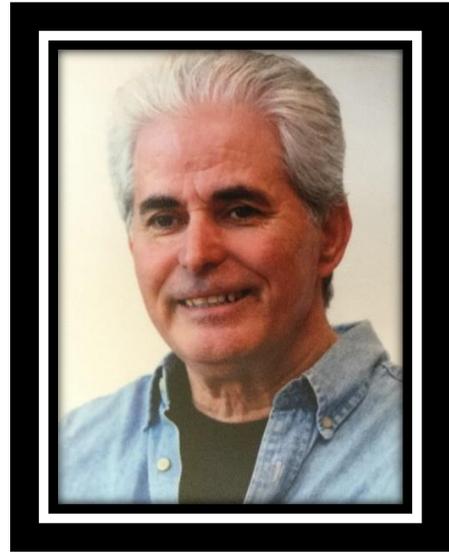


Carl Truman 1923 – 2018

Carleton Richard (Carl) Truman, former FWD President and 48- year member of the Reno and Las Vegas chapters, was born on June 3, 1923 in Detroit, Michigan and passed away at age 94 on May 7, 2018 in Reno, Nevada. Carl served as President of the Far Western District 1998-1999, and was an officer of the Reno, NV Chapter, serving as Vice President of Music & Performance 2006-2009, as Chapter President in 2010, and as Immediate Past President 2013-2015.

He was also a seasoned quartet man, singing lead or tenor over a span of 22 years in such quartets as: Snap, Crackle, Pop & Junior, Barbershop Express, Almost All Rebuilt Parts, The Contemporaries, Rumble Seat Daze, Pacific Sounds, Gas Lampe Revival, Clavimonium, Snap Crackle and Pop Pop, and Four Old Partners.

Carleton was the beloved husband of Wilma for 76 years. He is survived by his son, Carl Howard (Linda); daughters, Elizabeth (Tom) and Nora; grandchildren, Elizabeth (Jerry), Melissa (Daniel), and Olivia; and great-grandchildren, Gavin, Shane, Taylor, Avery, and Lily. Special thanks to Kindred Care and Kindred Hospice.



Gary Greene 1943 – 2018

Gary Lee Greene lost his battle with Alzheimer's disease at 8:00 pm, June 3, 2018. He passed away peacefully at home in the arms of his wife, Mary. He was born December 25, 1943 in Los Angeles, California. He was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease in 2002. Gary is survived by his wife, of 32 years, Mary Greene; and his brothers, Phillip and Michael Greene.

Gary had a successful business as a massage therapist for over 30 years. He was a member of the Las Vegas Gamble Aires Barbershop Chorus for 25 years. At one point in his life, Gary was a beekeeper who had over 200 beehives.

Because he was so gifted, Gary was able to accomplish many ambitious projects. He was a poet, a published author, an inventor and an entrepreneur. His thinking was unconventional and ahead of its time.

Gary also built the home that he and Mary lived in for 28 years. This is the house where Gary took his last breath on June 3rd.

Gary was caring, gentle, thoughtful, compassionate, and considerate. He loved traveling, hiking, camping and most anything outdoors. He was adventurous and fearless living and loving life on his own terms.



Calling all current and prospective barbershop leaders: This event is for you!

The [Barbershop Harmony Society Leadership Summit](#) is a four-day intensive workshop that brings together past, present, and future music leadership from across the world, from all levels of organization and backgrounds.

This year the Leadership Summit will focus on our strategic vision: [Everyone In Harmony](#). The Society recently announced **all people** are now welcome as Society members, and each chapter will have the freedom to choose whether it wants to welcome female members to its chapter. **No chapter will be required to make any change.** We anticipate the framework will be in place for chapters to welcome women as full members by [January 2019](#). Leadership Summit attendees will be challenged to identify key answers to questions about the core of their chapter, such as:

- **Who** are we as a chapter? **Where** do we stand, and **why** do we exist?
- Are *we* impacting our community and inspiring *others* to sing barbershop?
- Have *we* started moving towards the goal of Everyone In Harmony - outside of our normal circle of comfort? If not, **how** do we do that?

The course offerings are designed to help you answer those questions and more. [Preview the 2018 Leadership Summit course offerings here.](#)

[REGISTER NOW!](#)

The Far Western District will celebrate its **71st Annual Convention in Fresno, California** on October 11-14, 2018.

Hosted by the Fresno Chapter, the quartet and chorus contests will be held at the beautiful **William Saroyan Theater** – often referred to as the “Jewel of Central California” – that is located in the Fresno Convention & Entertainment Center, while meetings and other events will take place at the headquarters **DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel** across the street.

The FWD Fall Convention is rated one of the best in the Society. In fact, it's often referred to as the "**Mini-International**" because we offer so many events besides the contests, and it's literally a non-stop weekend of fun and singing for everyone. Our Events Team, along with the Fresno Chapter are working very hard to make this year's convention the best ever. In fact, you could say we're ...

“Raise the Bar in Fresno”.



TOP FIVE reasons YOU should attend the 2018 Leadership Summit:

1. **Indulge** in the latest leadership curriculum from BHS and staff. Whether your goal is a **healthy chapter** or a thriving district, learn how you can adapt these tools into reality. We suggest bringing some of these courses to your next district leadership academy!
2. **Interact** face to face with BHS staff and other district and chapter leaders. This is the perfect opportunity for you to *network with others*, and get answers to all those pressing barbershop questions you've harbored for so long!
3. **Meet** with BHS leadership operations team members to learn ways to include other BHS [Healthy Chapter Initiative](#) recommendations into your upcoming district schools.
4. **Understand** your leadership approach, and learn how to **empower** others. You'll have time to organize and prioritize your barbershop thoughts and finally answer the question, *"What should I do next?"*
5. **Experience** the fun and fellowship of barbershop on the beautiful Belmont University campus in Nashville, TN. This is the best atmosphere for networking with the barbershop community and catching up with old friends.

[REGISTER!](#)

Calendar



- July 3:** Sing the National Anthem at the 51's Baseball game. Silver Statesmen t-shirts will be worn, tucked in, with black PANTS, NO SHORTS. Bring a change of clothes if you wish
- July 1-8:** International Convention – Orlando, FL
- October 12-14** FWD Fall Convention – Fresno, CA
- December 16:** Christmas Show(s) Clark County Library December 16 @ 2 pm & 6 pm (Sunday). There may be additional show dates.
- 2019**
- January 12:** Real Men Sing, Desert Oasis High School
- March 30:** Spring Show – Winchester Community Center
- May 11:** Southeast Division Convention /Competition – Southern California
- September 7:** Fall Show - Starbright Theatre at Sun City Summerlin. Details to follow.