



Swipes & Tags

The official Newsletter of the Sacramento Capitolaire, Sacramento, California
Chapter of the Far Western District of the Barbershop Harmony Society



Where Singing Happens!

63 YEARS OF BARBERSHOP SINGING IN SACRAMENTO

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July-August, 2009

Capitolaire to Host and Compete in Far Western District Chorus Contest

The Sacramento Capitolaire won the NorCal East Division Plateau A Chorus Contest Championship in Fresno, May 16. They will be competing against two dozen choruses from the West Coast in the Sacramento Memorial Auditorium on Saturday, October 10.

Bill Borah, Director, and Gib Hertler are co-chairs of the Far Western District Convention to be held October 8-11, 2009. FWD Convention Headquarters will be in the Hyatt Hotel with the competition to take place in the Sacramento Memorial Auditorium.

The Committee Chairs include Afterglow, Winston Char; Auditorium (Front of the House), Joe Samora; Auditorium (Back of the House), Ron Black; Awards, Bill Borah; Barbershop Store, Don & Rosye Salz; Chorus and Quartet Hosts, Don Salz; Contest Flow, Jim Minoudis; Finance, Russ Burgess; Housing, Paul Griesen; Judges Hospitality, Allan Stroppini; Meeting Rooms, Gib Hertler; Program/Printing, Keith Slater; Publicity (Barbershop), Clark Abrahamson; Registration, Al Treadway; Secretary, Frank Kinnison; Special Events/Tours, Al Swanson; Tickets, Jim Corson; Transportation, Norm Smith and Website, Al Treadway.

Members are needed to volunteer for committees. Keith Slater needs program sponsors, Don Salz needs chorus and quartet hosts, and Joe Samora needs ushers and Will Call table help. The Sacramento Capitolaire have the opportunity to show the district that we can put on a GREAT SHOW. Think how you can help!

Our chorus will be the last one competing on Saturday night so we will need replacement hosts, ushers and Will Call table help while we are in rotation. Your family and friends are welcome to volunteer but should contact the Committee Chair for training.

The Sacramento Capitolaire meet every Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. at Sierra Arden Church of Christ, 890 Morse Avenue, Sacramento. Check out our website www.capitolaire.org



Barbershoppers of the Month

Congratulations to Mark Coldiron, July Barbershopper of the Month, for his time and effort as the Polecat Trainer. **Great job Gerard Negrete**, August Barbershopper of the Month, who is recognized for learning his music in record time..

Welcome New Officers

President Norm Smith recently made these appointments: Steve Allison, Chorus Manager; Clark Abrahamson, Membership Vice President; and Mark Coldiron, Music Librarian. Steve will be involved with working with the chorus during performances regarding staging, lighting and sound. Clark replaces Joe Samora. Mark replaces Al Treadway and will be reviewing all the Guest Song Books plus make sure all of us have copies of the latest sheet music.



Keith Slater has returned as the Weekly Update Editor. Thank you, Keith, for always being available to help when needed. Being informed on a weekly basis will help the Chapter gain and keep members.



Music Program Vice President's Noteworthy Comments

Jim Minoudis

A dozen new yellow logo shirts have been ordered. A search is under way to find a new tie color for our formal uniform.

The chorus sang religious songs during services in July and August for Arcade and Rancho Cordova United Methodist churches. Our next church performance will be for Arden-Sierra Church on September 20. The chorus will sing during the service and present a show after lunch in Pilgrim Hall. Quartets are needed for the show.

Marcia Ghormley's birthday party is August 29 in Folsom. An ardent supporter of the Capitolairens for many years, she has invited members to bring a guest and sing a few songs. Clark Abrahamson is writing the show script.

Compellingly Attractive Chapter Meeting Programs and Harmony University were discussed by Bill Borah and Ron Black. CACM is expected to be presented to Chapter officers at Leadership Academy (COTS) on November 14.

The new songs are "Just In Time" and "Love Me and the World is Mine". Sheet music and learning CDs will be provided or members can burn their own CDs from the Chapter website. Learning methods for the new songs were sent to all members in the Weekly Update. It includes four steps: listening, doo-doo-doo, muscle memory and full singing.

Blair Reynolds is the Holiday Show Chair scheduled for December. Please contact Blair, if you wish to help with the show. A preliminary planning schedule has been drafted. The Sweet Adelines have not confirmed their participation in the show yet.

The bumper stickers are a Chapter fundraiser and will be sold until the supply runs out. The purchase price is \$2.00 each. Be sure to buy several to give to family and friends.

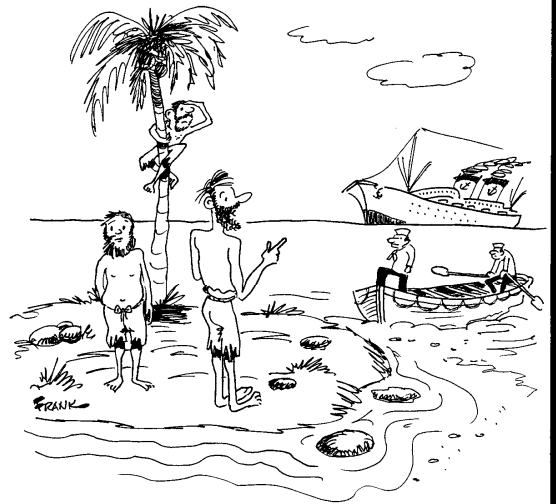


New Member Profile

Gerard Negrete sings Tenor and was sponsored by Ray Shultz. Both Gerard and Ray sing in the Arcade Church Choir. His family includes his wife, Norma and children, Christopher and Nicole. Born in Fresno and raised in San Jose, CA; Gerard is the oldest of nine children. He has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Electrical Engineering and served in the US Navy.

His community service includes coaching high school baseball and football. He is a Network Engineer and IT Project Manager.

Gerard's singing experience consists of singing in church as a youth, in high school and with a local Pop Band. He was a member of the San Jose Boy's Choir and has performed in the San Jose Performing Arts Center.



" IS THERE A TENSOR ON BOARD ? "

Gerard enjoys learning new music and the friendliness of the Capitolairens. He was selected as August Barbershopper of Month for learning his music quickly.

Few people know that Gerard is a Journeyman Tile-Setter. Great to have you harmonizing with us, Gerard!

The Barberpole Cat Program

(Mark Coldiron, Your Polecat Trainer)

Congratulations to Steve Greene!! He was the first of our current of Polecat-ers to learn all 12 Polecats and have them memorized perfectly. He was presented with the Barberpole Cat pin for this accomplishment.



As most of you know there are 12 songs referred to as the Barberpole Cat songs. These are the 12 songs that all barbershoppers have in common. Everyone is supposed to know these songs from memory and know them correctly. Then, anytime a barbershopper is with others of the same ilk, there will be at least these 12 songs they all have in common to sing together. That's why learning these songs is important. You'd hate to be at a convention and get asked to join a pickup quartet and have to tell them the only song you know is the Star Spangled Banner. Wouldn't that be embarrassing? Not to mention the fact that you'd miss out on a lot of fun as well.

If you learn and qualify on all 12 you too can get a certificate and a pin just as Steve did. Even if you are already a Polecat expert, you can learn a different voice part if you like. That would open up even more opportunities to fit in with a pickup quartet at any convention or meeting. But even if you don't care about that, you should learn them anyway for the benefit of your own personal repertoire. You can find the learning tracks on the chapter website. If you don't have the spots, let us know and we'll get them to you. Practice on your own, then join us on Tuesday nights at 6:00 p.m. to practice with a live quartet and get pointers on any problems spots. The District Convention is just around the corner and you don't want to miss out on all those opportunities to sing with these other guys (trust me, it's loads of fun)! So come and join us, the more the merrier!

Holiday Chorus Open House



The Capitolaires will host a Holiday Chorus Open House on October 13. Your friends are welcome to join us during October, November, and December. They will participate in our annual Holiday Show to be held on December 5. Guests can officially join the Barbershop Harmony Society should they decide they love singing four part harmony. In addition, they are welcome to rehearse our Polecat songs and be part of a quartet.

Blair Reynolds will chair the Holiday Show Committee. More details are forthcoming. This year's show is expected to be held in a "new" location rather than in the Towe Auto Museum as in years past. Volunteers are needed to make

the show a success. Invite your family and friends to attend. Let's make every effort to make this event one of our biggest fundraisers.

"It Is Well With My Soul"

(Song history is contributed by Bill Cale)

Horatio G. Spafford was an attorney heavily invested in real estate in Chicago when the great fire destroyed the city in 1871. He lost his only son, four years old, to scarlet fever during that time period. Despite, or because of his losses, he dedicated himself to rebuilding the city and helping the thousands of homeless left after the fire.

In November of 1873, feeling a need to get away, Horatio packed up his wife and four daughters and headed for Europe to attend evangelistic meetings being held by D. L. Moody and Ira Sankey. In New York, something came up that required him to stay behind while sending his family on ahead.

On the night of November 22, 1873, their ship, the Ville Du Havre, collided with an iron sailing ship and sank. His wife Anna survived by clinging to a piece of wreckage but all four daughters and 222 others perished. Only 47 survived. Upon landing in Cardiff, Wales, she cabled her husband, "Saved Alone."

Horatio booked the next available ship. On a December night, the captain told him they were passing over the spot where the Ville Du Havre had sunk. When Spafford went back to his cabin, he found it difficult to sleep. He said to himself, "It is well, the will of God be done." These words became the basis of his famous hymn.

"The melody for 'It Is Well,' titled 'Ville Du Havre,' was written by Philip Bliss who was himself soon to perish, along with his wife, in a terrible train wreck in Ohio."*

*"Then Sings My Soul" by Robert J. Morgan
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Capitolaire's Display for Rock & Roll Show, 2009

Calendar of Events

Sacramento Kings Audition	September 19
Sierra-Arden Church	September 20
Youth Harmony Camp, Sly Park	September 25-27
FWD Convention, Sacramento	October 8-11
Holiday Chorus Open House	October 13
Leadership Academy, Stockton	November 14
Holiday Show	December 5

For details on specific events check the Weekly Update.

Capitolaire's Annual 2010 Retreat

It is not too early to think about attending the annual retreat at Lodestar Camp Grounds (near Jackson). A guest coach will assist members to learn effective singing techniques. Mark your calendars. The retreat is February 26-28, 2010.

Accommodations include cabins with bunk beds and a centrally located lodge for rehearsals and meals. This will be a great weekend get away to harmonize.

Pictured on the right are the Capitolaire's at the 2009 retreat. The guest coach was Ron Black.



Did you?

By Ed Hinkley, Asst. Chorus Director, Sarasota, Florida of the Keys—Taken from the Harmonet

- Did you call a friend and offer to pick him up and take him to a chapter meeting?
- Did you offer to sit in the role of buddy for a visitor?
- Did you spend some extra time working on the new music so that your contribution at rehearsal will help speed up the learning process?
- Did you practice your stage face in front of the mirror?
- Did you help the librarian distribute the new music?
- Did you offer to help make learning tapes for all the guys who don't read music?
- Did you set an example in your section by keeping the conversation to a minimum?
- Did you compliment the new man on his performance at the last sing out?
- Did you hold out your hand and smile at the guys coming in the door?
- Did you sing all the notes and words in the new song.....correctly?
- Did you help set up the risers for rehearsing the new choreography?
- Did you find it hard getting to sleep after the great rehearsal?

How many of these things are on your checklist?



Do The Write Thing

**Help Your Editor
With a News Item
For The Next Issue**

Joe Samora, Editor & Public Relations Vice President

The mission of the Swipes & Tags is to provide members with timely and relevant information. Newsletters will be every other month and include color photographs. Copies will be emailed to members and hard copies made for our guests. A copy of each newsletter will be posted on the chapter website.

Swipes & Tags deadlines for the remainder of 2009 are October 15 and December 15. Send submissions to Joe Samora at tm39samora@comcast.net.

News articles and photographs are appreciated. Thank you Bill Cale and Mark Coldiron for the articles in this issue. I am grateful to have Mark Coldiron proof read my newsletters before distribution.



A Lead tries to hit the Tenor notes!