



The Captain's Log

The Newsletter of the Stockton Portsman
April 2018 - Issue #1

Location: Zion Lutheran Church – 808 W. Porter Avenue – Stockton – CA

Website: <http://www.stocktonportsmen.org/>

Follow us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/194542747456>



Weekly Chapter Meetings:

Tuesdays 7:00 PM – 9:30 PM

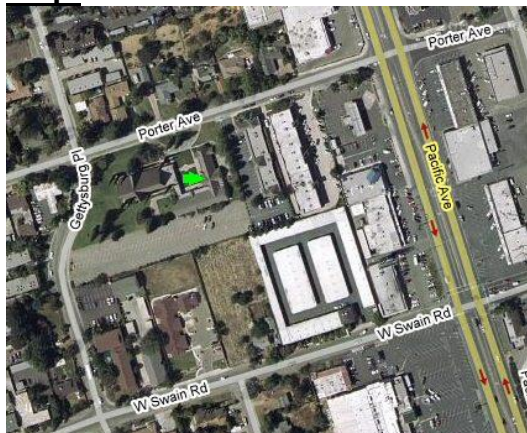
See calendar for up-to-date information

<https://www.brownbearsw.com/cal/Portsmen>

Directions:

From Pacific Avenue go west on Porter Way turn south on Gettysburg Pl then turn east into the Zion Lutheran Church parking lot.

Map:



From Pershing Avenue go east on W. Swain Rd turn north on Gettysburg Pl then turn east into Zion Lutheran Church parking lot.

We meet in Grace Hall on the northeast side of the complex.

Mission Statement:

Provide the greater Stockton area with quality Barbershop chorus and quartet music and wholesome family entertainment, while encouraging every individual of good character who loves to sing the opportunity to find their place with us.

2018 Officers:

President – Harry Williams

Secretary – Bob Yater

Recording Secretary – John Cotton

Treasurer – Al Farnum

VP: Membership/Chapter Development –

Chuck Thurman

VP: Music & Performances – John Eilers

VP: Marketing & PR – Dave Harmon

Board Member - Christian Hagan

Associate Board Members

- Carol Clark
- Joan Ray
- Sue Atkins

Immediate Past President – Bill Litz

Chorus Leadership:

Director – Bill Litz

Associate Director – Joan Ray

Committees:

Chapter Harmony Foundation

- Joan Ray

Fall Show (2018)

- Bill Litz
- Al Wolter

Fall Show (2019)

- Chuck Thurman

Guest Night

- Joan Ray

Ice Cream Social (2019)

- Harry Williams
- Joan Ray

Newsletter – Captain's Log

- Sue Atkins
- Joan Ray

Singing Valentines (2019)

- Al Farnum – Coordinator
- Carol Clark – Assistant
- Sandy Harmon

Sunshine Chair

- Nancy Hennefer

Website

- Bill Litz (Webmaster)
- Chuck Thurman
- Sue Atkins

Youth in Harmony

- Bill Litz

President's Message:

By Harry Williams



Many thanks to all of you for everything you did to make our First Annual Spring Ice Cream Social the huge success it turned out to be. Hooray`s to each of you. A special thanks to my co-host Joan Ray for all she did to make it happen. As you know, she fell ill and was not able to be there. I sure missed her during the event; all the things we had planned for her to handle.

We now look at what`s ahead for our chapter as Al, Bill, and John start putting their Fall Show together. Please remember to volunteer. Don`t wait to be asked! Get behind them, help them, just as you did for Joan and me, to make their show a tremendous event!

Summer is almost here: Anthems, Street Fairs, Fox Theater, Retirement Homes, 4th of July, Chapter Picnic, and any other ideas you come up with lie ahead.

It`s gonna be a great summer!

Pres Harry

Musical Director's Message:

By Bill Litz

In the 18 years that I've been involved with the Portsmen, the makeup of it has changed entirely. The founders of the chapter have all passed away and only a handful of members remain from when I started directing. I've often felt during these changes that the chorus was losing its reason for being and its vision.

Instead of having a group of men that committed their lives to the hobby and to each other, the chapter was becoming a place where people were looking at what they could get from their involvement as opposed the brotherhood it had once been. Our current society is filled with that instant gratification mentality.

But I'm excited to see a new attitude with the Portsmen. Even though we only have about 20 active members, the attendance at meetings and performances is always a high percentage of that. Even with many new singers with limited musical training, those members are taking advantage of learning tracks and spending time on their own to be more prepared. Even though we all have busy lives, I am seeing a caring for each other, and for the community in the way we are making music.

I challenge you all to be more diligent in knowing your music and being more involved. Don't miss rehearsals. Quartet often! We've all witnessed our successes in the Singing Valentines Program and the Ice Cream Social. That stems from getting past the notes and words and being able to share the emotions and feeling that can be put into music.

I will challenge myself to demand more musical expression from each of you, and to help you be successful in doing that.

Bill

Chorus Craft:

By John Eilers

Breath is the most important factor in singing. When and how you breathe is crucial to produce good tonal quality and provide a "wall of sound" for your chorus. Air must be provided by your diaphragm keeping constant pressure feeding your relaxed instrument. The instrument is made up of wind pipe, vocal chords, soft pallet, etc.

Keeping a "wall of sound" is necessary in chorus. The most important part of a musical phrase is the beginning and the end, thus providing a smooth flow of word sounds. This is described by FILO, which stands for First In –Last Out.

In chorus it's not necessary to sing every word. You can take a quick breath by leaving out a word or two. Usually there are words that fulfill this need like "the" and "and." Actually any word can be left out if you need to take a breath. Practice this until it becomes a normal occurrence in every song.

Do we have FUN at our Barbershop Meetings?



Chorus News:

The Stockton Portsmen Barbershop Chorus hosted an Ice Cream Social on March 18th which featured:

- The Midnight Rose Jazz Band
- The Lincoln High School Jazz Quartet
- The Lincoln High School Barbershop Quartet

Our successful event entertained over 200 music enthusiasts of all ages. It's was so successful that you will want to make sure to keep an eye on the calendar for next year's Ice Cream Social. **You won't want to miss it!!!**



Quartet News:

Mixed Meta4

Mixed Meta4 Helps at Polecat Qualifications



From left to right: Joan Ray, Nick Adams, Al Farnum & Dave Harmon

- In the next few weeks we will be reviewing all the Barbershop Polecats.
- We will be your helping quartet if you want to earn your Polecat Pin.
- Join us 6:15 - 6:45 PM Tuesday's April 3rd through May 25th.
- To qualify you need to sing all the songs in the Polecat album correctly from memory.

Queens English

Queen's English quartet regrets that they have disbanded due to the serious illness of our bass, Christian Hagan. We wish him well and a full recovery.

Your "Hard Hearted" Cohorts:

Harry Williams, Dave Harmon, and Joan Ray

TuneStruck

Website: <http://tunestruckquartet.com/>

Follow us on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/TuneStruck/?rc=p>



From left to right: Al Wolter, Bill Litz, Bob Yater & Greg Hedges

TuneStruck enjoyed celebrating St. Patrick's Day at St. Joseph's Hospital bringing some "Human Kindness" to staff and patients.



They are looking forward to singing for the Lodi Hospice Kentucky Derby Fundraiser on May 5th.

Forget Me Notes:

- We are a group of mature Portsmen chorus members and guests who love to sing but can't do the physical standing and night hours anymore.
- We meet Monday / Wednesday / Friday's 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM at the Sherwood Mall Food Court, south end.
- Our music sometimes overlaps current chorus songs, but we hang on to many oldies and funny tunes.
- Join us - Joan Ray, Lou Parrish, Don Wilson, Kep Keplinger, Glen Mortenson, and Bill Relf.

Save the Dates

Future Events - 2018

- Apr 13 Bob Hope Fox Theatre (Chorus)
(5:45 PM – 9:00 PM)
- Apr 14 Northeast & Northwest Division Convention** (Allan E. Jones performing Arts Center)
<https://www.farwesterndistrict.org/news/district/234-northeast-northwest-divisions-convention>
- May 5 Lodi Hospice Kentucky Derby Fundraiser (TuneStruck)
- May 5 Golden Valley Chorus Spring Show The Melody Lingers On a Tribute to Irving Berlin
Modesto Junior College Auditorium
7:00 PM
www.gvc.org
- May 6 Lodi St Fair (Chorus)
(7:00 AM – 4:00 PM)
- May 12 Tracy St Fair (Chorus)
(7:00 AM – 3:00 PM)
- May 19 Voices of California Presents Dreams of Gold
Harris Center for the Arts
(2:00 PM & 7:00 PM)
<http://www.voicesofcalifornia.org/>

- Jul 1 BHS International Convention**
(Orlando, Florida)
(July 1 – 8, 2018)
- TBD Fall Show (Fall 2018)
- Oct 10 FWD Fall Convention October**
(Fresno CA)
(October 11 – 14, 2018)

Future Events – 2019

- Feb 14 Singing Valentines (2019)
- Mar 17 Ice Cream Social (2019)
- Mar 21 FWD Spring Prelims NE/NW Division (2019)**
(March 21 – 24, 2019)
- TBD Far Western District (2019)**

Hire Us

Book us for your next event:

- Community Concerts
- Fairs
- Festivals
- Grand Openings
- Holiday Tree Lightings
- Memorial Services
- National Anthem
- Singing Valentines
- Summer Concerts

Performance times usually range from 20 to 40 minutes but can be adjusted up or down to fit your specific program. Contact us by email or phone below for a proposal:

- Info@StocktonPortsmen.org
- Phone (209) 881-SING (7464)

Barbershop Links

- Barbershop Harmony Society
<http://www.barbershop.org/>
- Far Western District
<https://www.farwesterndistrict.org/>
- VoCal Voice of California
<http://voicesofcalifornia.org/>

*Special Thanks to Dick Lockwood of the San Joaquin Dixie Land Association for his help and templates of the Delta Rag. Without the inspiration from the Delta Rag, the Captain's Log would not have come to fruition. We are thankful for your support.