



The Captain's Log

Newsletter of the Stockton Portsmen
August 2019 - Issue #17

August 2019 President's Message: by President Harry Williams

Hi Youal. Well here we are summer is almost gone. It will be Labor Day before we know it. Seems like the year is flying away.

Our July events went well. The sing at Lodi's Celebrate America was great as it always is. Our members who made the long trip to Salt Lake City for the Convention came home with great memories and new ideas for our chapter. We had our first performance since 2016 at Victory Park. It was fun to revisit our past. We finished off July with another guest night.

As we roll into August a busy calendar awaits us. We have a scheduled chapter coaching night with Gabe Caretto, followed by our mid-year sing at the Bob Hope Theater on the 11th, a return to Victory Park on the 14th and O'Connor Woods on the 20th. We will have a remote board meeting at Ron Spohn's house after O'Connor Woods. August finishes up with our Annual Chapter Picnic at John Eilers' house on the 25th, and the last chorus performance of the year for the Stockton Ports Anthem on the 26th.

Looks like another great month in Barbershop Music.

Till next month's Captains Log
Pres. Harry

Musical Director's Message: by Bill Litz

Here we are approaching the middle of summer when it seems like there are hundreds of things that can capture our attention drawing us from our barbershop experience. Every week sports a different chorus because people are on vacation. We can't decide if we are bored with all the songs we did last year or if we are overwhelmed with the new songs we are preparing for our next show or contest appearance. Maybe the summer heat encourages us down that sloth like path of least resistance. We want to be entertained instead of being productive.

I struggled this month in feeling the need to discuss the emotional letdown that choruses and quartets experience every summer. But instead of focusing on the things that make me feel concerned, and wondering what I need to do to inspire each of you, let me tell you what inspires me.

- Seeing each of your faces - experiencing the friendships that we share
- Getting to sing – feeling the physical sensations and exercise that singing evokes
- Hearing the harmonies – nothing compares to the natural sound in melting away stresses of the day
- Sensing the emotion of song – sometimes it's the way I feel and other times it's seeing your reactions
- Creating art – our art disappears as the sound fades so we need to recreate it and enjoy it in the moment
- Learning – I discover something new about myself,
about singing,
about music,
about song,
and about each of you every time we sing
- Reinforcing and improving – We can be proud knowing we have the skills to recreate artistry and to be able to correct flaws that will make our next performances more beautiful

In those moments when you think about staying home from rehearsal, remember that it takes you being there for me and your fellow chorus members to experience all those things. I also believe that you will personally feel those same things – you will go home with joy in your heart for having been with the group.

Stay the course – even when we aren't in full force, there are many special moments – when we each step up, we surprise ourselves with the talents we don't always allow to bubble to the surface.

Chorus Coaching with Gabe Caretto

August 6

Remember that Tuesday is our first coaching session for 2019.

Take some time to prepare yourself for Tuesday.

1. Our **goal** for coaching is to **sing and perform better**. Our focus isn't as much about the specific songs, it's about being better singers in general. We will be using songs that we know to give Gabe something to work with. Make sure you know:

- That's An Irish Lullaby
- I'm Looking Over A Four Leaf Clover
- Old Cape Cod

There are a thousand things we can work on but keep in mind **"If everything is important, then nothing is."**

Specific things we will work on are:

- Quality of sound – full, supported, warm timbre
 - Attack and release – being together
 - Dynamic variation – using louds and softs keeping good quality sound production
 - Visual involvement – keeping visually involved with genuine facial expression and movement
2. We will record the session so you can review it again later, but take time in between songs to share with each other things that are making an impact on you.
 3. Be open – we will all be evaluated in a sense, but we will also be inspired to change for the better
 4. Be prepared to be challenged - as we work on achieving our goals, we will be challenged to get out of our comfort zones
 5. Expect change - to achieve our goals, there is going to be a change in behavior, mindset or beliefs. This takes intentional effort. Our coach will be there to support us through this process.

A coach is someone from outside the regular ensemble who provides instruction and assistance. Coaches can come from many disciplines and backgrounds: from BHS, other barbershop organizations, theater, dance, vocal specialists, and more.

Most of us encounter coaches in the preparation stages leading to contest, bringing an ensemble to its greatest potential on a few songs. But their ultimate goal is to reinforce the teaching that happens each week, and transfer that into every performance.

WHAT TO EXPECT FROM A COACH

- **Fresh eyes and ears** -- After six weeks on a song, directors and singers alike lose the ability to hear things in a new way.
- **Different/broader perspectives** -- many coaches are plugged in to more barbershop groups throughout the Society, and bring knowledge and ideas from outside.
- **Additional skill sets** -- a great vocal teacher in front of your chorus might have no ideas on visual presentation. A coach can augment the existing skill set.
- **Train the trainers** -- A good coach will work with the director/music leadership team to make sure the lessons learned are sustained in the weeks following after the session.

WHAT NOT TO EXPECT FROM A COACH

- Miracles
- Overnight transformation
- Guaranteed increases in scores

**from Barbershop Harmony Society - [Coaches and Judges](#)*

In summary, remember to get the most out of our coaching investment by being prepared and focused. Coaching works best when the coachee is fully invested in the engagement. Use coaching as a time to set and achieve goals, create self-awareness, critically think, gain new perspectives, be supported, challenged, inspired, encouraged and ready to change and reach new levels.

Stockton Portsmen

PICNIC



Sunday, August 25, 2019

12:30 PM – 5:00 PM

John Eilers' Home

21355 E Walnut Drive

Linden, CA

RSVP: portsmencontact@gmail.com

(209) 881-SING (7464)



- Family & Friends Welcome!!!
- Random quartet contest
- Burgers, polish dogs & drinks provided
- Bring potluck side dish or dessert
- Bring swimsuit & towel for pool
- \$ for "Youth-in-Harmony" encouraged



Directions to John's House

- Take Highway 26 [Fremont St] from Highway 99 heading East
- Go THROUGH beautiful downtown Linden (about 3 more miles)
- When you get to Fine Road turn left
- Go about a half mile on Fine to Walnut Drive - turn left
- When Walnut turns left (about a quarter of a mile)
- go straight into John's driveway

****Save the Date****



STOCKTON PORTSMEN CHORUS PRESENT:

*Doo Wop at the
Barbershop!*

Featuring..
CAPITOL RING
2018 FWD Quartet Champions

November 9, 2019 at 2pm
First Baptist Church Community Center
33 W. Alpine Ave. Stockton, CA 95204
Tickets: \$15 General Admission
\$10 Students/Seniors

WWW.STOCKTONPORTSMEN.ORG

Nominating Committee Update

By Joan Ray

Studies have shown that volunteering strengthens communities and is good for your health. It can be challenging making the time to volunteer; however, chances are you may find a volunteer opportunity that fits into your busy schedule, and that can make the best use of your talents. Participating on our board can be very rewarding and provide the opportunity to create a more enjoyable experience in the future of the chorus. In addition, it provides an opportunity to share ideas and be heard.

Below are the following Board Positions for 2020:

President
Secretary
Treasurer
VP: Membership/Chapter Development
VP: Marketing & PR
VP: Music & Performance
Member at Large
Immediate Past President

Volunteers are also needed for the following committees:

Music Team
Singing Valentines
Ice Cream Social (Spring Show)
Fall Show

Please contact Joan Ray at (209) 712-4672 or famfem1@comcast.net if you are interested in volunteering. The nominating committee will be presenting their potential board members in the near future.

Harmony Camp 2019
5600 Sly Park Rd, Pollock Pines, CA

October 18th (5:30 pm) to October 20th (noon)

At the request of Music Educators Harmony Camp 2019 is a month later this year. Our clinician team (Gabe Caretto; Chris Lewis – Fog City Singers; Bruce Sellnow; and Ron Black) are in place as is our volunteer team. Our teaching quartets are Rooftop Records (4th place 2019 International) and Wildfire (1st place 2019 International Next Generation Contest – formerly Collegiate Contest). Our volunteer positions for HC 2019 are filled however we encourage you to join us for our Friends and Family Show Sunday morning at 11:00 am in the Sly Park Gym.

As with any endeavor, direct contact with MEs and young men is most effective. If you have a relationship with a ME in the Northern California area (we actually have a serious inquiry from a ME in Klamath Falls this year) I am happy to meet with them (and you) to discuss HC in greater detail. We also visit schools at the invitation of the ME to discuss HC. MEs may attend all or any portion of camp as the guests of the Far Western District.



Our target is high school and junior college age boys however we will consider junior high school aged youth. Again, if you are acquainted with boys of this age please let them know about HC. We have marketing materials available for you to give them. Registration and additional information is available on the FWD website <https://farwesterndistrict.org/events/youth-harmony-camp>.

If there are service or youth organizations in your area I can also meet with them to discuss HC. We are reaching out to youth organizations as a way to reach those boys who may not have music programs in their schools. Service organizations may have an interest in sponsoring youth in their community.



Mountain Harmony Camp (Sweet Adeline Camp for girls) typically takes place the weekend before Thanksgiving. If you know of a young lady interested in a cappella singing, please refer her to their website.

I am always available to discuss any aspect of camp and look forward to your questions.

Richard Lund, Director
Far Western District Harmony Camp

Tune Struck Quartet



Tune Struck took the Portsman's idea of a "Remote Rehearsal" to heart as they gathered at Spenker Family Farm in Lodi, CA to enjoy a potluck dinner and song. Since Greg has retired and purchased a new RV, he and his wife GERAL will be taking the next six weeks or so to travel across the country and see their grandchildren.

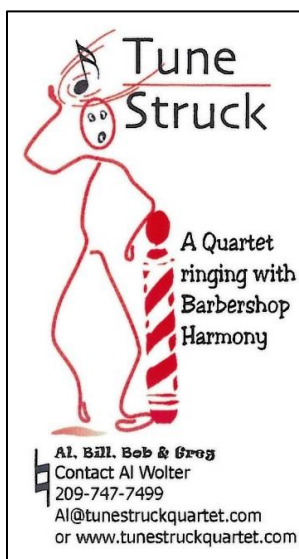
Al Wolter

Tenor – Tune Struck Quartet

209.747.7499

www.TuneStruckQuartet.com

[Click here to follow us on Facebook](#)



Royal Flush Barbershop Quartet

By Nancy Hennefer, Baritone

Royal Flush has been working on some possible songs for the upcoming fall show, and continues to work our "contest set". We will be singing at "Ice Cream on Pine" the evening of Saturday, August 10. This public event, held at the Double Dip Gallery, 222 West Pine Street in Lodi, benefits the Lodi Historical Society and will feature ice cream for purchase, raffles, other entertainment and more! Come check it out!



mixed meta4

by Nick Adams, Bass

mixed meta4 performed the National Anthem for the Stockton Ports this month. In addition, we entertained a good crowd for the Stockton Sailing Club last Saturday in the sweltering heat of a 105 with cocktails and ribs. We are continuing to add events to our schedule as we prepare for our competition songs for district with the chorus and a song for the Fall Show.



Celebrations:

August Birthdays

Dianna Goodwin	8/1
Derick Sturke	8/5
Gregg Willis	8/14
Greg Hedges	8/16
Tim Tuggle	8/19



Harmony Lunch Bunch:

Sam's Hof Brau

2500 Watt Ave, Sacramento, CA 95821
11:30 AM (3rd Thursday of each month)
Kent Borrowdale kborro@comcast.net

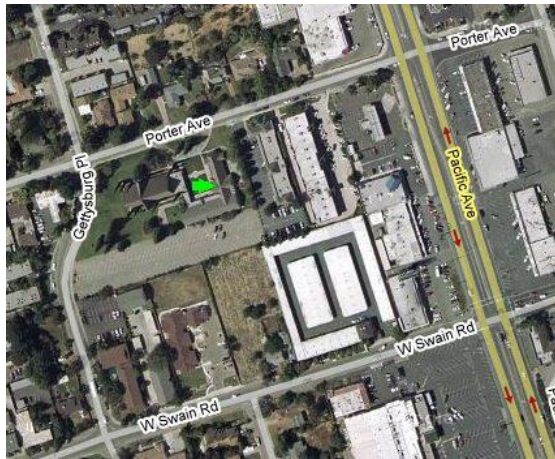
Weekly Chapter Meetings:

Location: Zion Lutheran Church –
808 W. Porter Avenue – Stockton – CA
Tuesdays: 7:00 PM – 9:30 PM

[Click here to go to Stockton Portsmen Website](#)
[Click here for Facebook Page](#)

See calendar for up-to-date information:
[Click here to access the Stockton Portsmen Calendar](#)

Map:



Directions:

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

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.



**STOCKTON PORTSMEN
BARBERSHOP MIXED
CHORUS & QUARTETS**

*****Hire Us*****

Book us for your next events

- 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**
- **Ph. (209) 881-SING (7464)**

****Save the Dates****

2019 Events

Aug 1 Barbary Coast Chapter presents...
Fog City Singers
San Francisco, CA – Friday, Aug 1
Pleasanton, CA – Saturday, Aug 3
[Click here for more info](#)

Aug 11 Bob Hope Theatre
(Chorus Performance)
Stockton, CA
12:30 PM – 4:30 PM

Aug 14 Concert in the Park
(Chorus Performance)
Victory Park - Stockton
6:00 PM – 7:30 PM

Aug 20 O'Conner Woods Remote Rehearsal
(Chorus Performance)
O'Conner Woods West Hall
6:45 PM – 8:15 PM

Aug 24 Barbary Coast Chapter presents...
Fog City Harmonia
San Francisco, CA
[Click here for more info](#)

Aug 25 Stockton Portsmen Annual Picnic/BBQ
John Eilers House
Linden, CA

Aug 26 Stockton Ports Anthem
(Chorus Performance)
Banner Island Ball Park
5:30 PM – 10:00 PM
(Sing at 6:10 PM)

Sept 28 Voices of California presents...
England 2020 Fundraiser Dinner Show
Sacramento, CA
(Time: 4:00 PM)
[Click here for more info](#)

Oct 5 San Mateo County Chapter presents...
Fall Cabaret Show
[Click here for more info](#)
(Two shows – 2:00 PM & 7:00 PM)

Oct 10 FWD Fall Convention (2019)
(October 10 – 13, 2019)
(Modesto, CA)

Oct 18 FWD Youth Harmony Camp
Pollock Pines, CA
(October 18 – 20, 2019)
[Click here for more info](#)

Nov 9 The Stockton Chapter presents...
Doo Wop at the Barbershop
First Baptist Church Community Center
Stockton, CA
(Time: 2:00 PM)

Nov 22 Barbary Coast Chapter presents...
Fog City Singers
San Francisco, CA – Friday, Aug 22
Pleasanton, CA – Saturday, Aug 23

Nov 23 The Santa Rosa Chapter presents...
"Singin' In the Holidays"
Santa Rosa, CA
(Two shows - 2:00 PM & 7:00 PM)

Nov 24 The Marin Chapter presents...
Marin Golden Gate Barbershop Chorus
San Rafael, CA

Barbershop Links

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