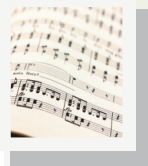




APRIL 2015



The Silver Dollar *Bill*

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

July 29 Hot August Nights
August 29 Bartley Ranch Show

VISION: Nevada's Premier Men's Harmony Group

MISSION: "Bringing men together in harmony and fellowship to enrich the lives through singing"

2015 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Jeff Healion news

In the warmup last week, we discussed listening to the "Bluegrass Student Union". On our way home from contest, our car listened to this international champion quartet and studied their technique. Instead of just listening for enjoyment, we analyzed their phrasing breathing, pronunciation, and storytelling and found their music incredibly educational. Please see if you can find some time in the next several weeks to listen to BSU with the same analysis in mind.

Below are a few free resource where you can listen to high level barbershop. On these sites you can search for BSU. Click on the links to go to their sited. You can also search for BSU on any search engine

MEMBERS

"Pete" Dwight Martens BIO

Born in 1952, Pete never liked his real first name – Dwight, named after Dwight Eisenhower's election. As a toddler, his family would call him Dwight, and he would not respond. One day his grandfather called him "Petey" (the dog in Our Gang) and it stuck. "Petey" , like the dog, enjoyed people, and developed a sense of humor, which was required for having "Petey" as a first name. Due to his size and girth during his "wonder

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Members con't.

bread with road kill years”, he was also taught to be kind to “the little people”, because he enjoyed “rough housing with his brothers, and friends, and laughing after a good brawl.

Pete always enjoyed singing, and always had music playing by parents who enjoyed all kinds of music. Encouraged to play an accordion at the age of eight by his German father, he began his quest to read music and failed. Traumatized by the black spots on the lines that blurred together, he sang what he heard, and fooled his teachers in music with memory and repetition....the method he uses today. After attempts at learning trumpet, guitar, piano, and banjo, he maintains the distinction of ..jack of all trades, master of none.

Pete was fortunate to meet Emily at Pomona College, and more fortunate when he married her 38 years ago. He got a job in sales with Nalco Chemical, and he and Emily traveled the country as he built a very successful career there. Two sons (Steven and David) and 7 houses later, they came to Reno, where he continued his success with Nalco, working mainly with the mining industry. Pete is now retired, and devoting much of his energy to promoting our chorus.

His son David sang barbershop with Corey Hunt while in high school, and their quartet won the Western Division High School Contest. And that is how Pete became interested in barbershop. He has been a member of the chorus for four years, still maintains his sense of humor, and believes he can improve as a singer without learning how to read music. His forward thinking, ability to organize and willingness to put forth the effort needed to accomplish things have, and continue to be, a tremendous asset to our group. May Pete be with us for many years to come!

Steve Shurtliff

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

From the President's Desk

Here we are after contest and looking back. What I see are many accomplishments. As a chorus, we came first in the AA division and third overall with the fifteen competing chorus entries. We had a gain of two points over the last contest. We are headed in the right direction and should be happy with the results. The judges gave us good recommendations on how we could increase our scores and eventually score into the eighties. That brings me to ask the loaded question. Bill still needs to know how many of us can go to Mesa for the FWD Convention. If we can't get enough participation, then we'll pass. We have qualified and if you are going, Bill needs to know so that he can select new music. Please let him know as soon as possible!!

Another great thing that happened that weekend our own Richard Lund was placed in the FWD Hall of Fame. Now, two of our chorus members, Richard and Sam, are Hall of Fame members. Not to diminish that accomplishment, we also have two past districts in our chorus, Carl Truman and Sam Barger. Richard just might be our third. Not bad for our little chorus,

Other events, that may have also gone unnoticed, were "Pacific Ring" with our own Ken Martin at tenor won the Novice Quartet Division Competition. And, Ryan Huff, David Queen, John Christopherson, and Jeff Healion participated in the Harmony Platoon. This event will be offered at district in Mesa and right here in Reno at the mid-winter January 2016. These would be a present great chance for more Reno singers to experience quartetting. Give it some consideration!

In Harmony,

Fred B. Watson, President SDC

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Steve Shurtliff



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NEWS FROM FIRST TIMER

JEFF HEALION (con't)

Matthew at age 13 had the privilege of being a part of the Silver Dollar Chorus as they took the stage for their competition performance at the McClellan Stadium in Sacramento last weekend. He was thrilled! His 35 fellow male members, that we have come to treasure, gave him a warm welcome in the back stage room as they gathered that Saturday morning. Various random, silly sounds of vocal were part of the normal goings on in that room. After months of learning his part, listening to the CD repeatedly (non-stop), and learning show-man ship directions from Jeff and Bill, Matthew finally got his opportunity to get on the stage! He waived when he saw his grandparents from Susanville, and his grandma Pat, brother Evan, and me, looking on from the audience.



When trying on his suit in the Mens Warehouse a few days earlier he had struck a pose with sass, loving the way he felt in a three piece! Once he put it on that Saturday morning, he wore it from 7:30- 4:00pm - long after the other Chorus members had donned their casual attire. The six minutes of performance flew by and before we knew it we were getting critiqued with gusto! As a chorus they loved the clever hop-step choreography the front row had seamlessly pulled off, but wanted more, bigger, fuller movements and were shown how to do the wave.. All three judges had their unique assessment and possible improvements that they wanted to see. My mom and I thoroughly enjoyed performances from all of the choruses, quartets, even high school quartets brought to the day Megan Reger

Such as Google.

Barbershop.org—This is the main society website which provides lots of videos of quartets and choruses.

[Youtube.com/user/barbershopharmony38](https://www.youtube.com/user/barbershopharmony38)—This is the societys YouTube channel with hundreds of videos of quartets and choruses

Pandora.com—Internet radio which provides free streaming with several barbershop channels.

Live365.com— Another internet streaming music service with deep library of barbershop music

Barbershoptags.com—phenomenal new resource of more than 2700 tags—most with tracts & music

AWARDS

QUARTERLY: Most improved in their section

A different section is awarded each quarter

The award consists of a framed certificate and a pitch pipe or item of equal value

Jeff Healion Excellent performance Award

SEMI-ANNUALLY: Best performance expression

Weekly recipients will be given a badge to be worn the following week. The member who earns the most on the weekly basis will be th recipient of the semi-annual award. He will receive a framed certificate and polo shirt with the award logo anthe sleeve

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NEWS FROM PETE MARTENS—MARKETING VP

Seeds of Harmony Project

My fellow Harmonists,

Recently, the Silver Dollar Chorus was awarded a grant to provide funds to “reach out” to our community, and share the wealth and wonder of our music by providing singing groups opportunities to sing with us. The concept was “home grown” to here in Reno, using the project name “Seeds of Harmony” to award singing groups funds, music, and support to learn two songs that would be provided by the BHS, in four part harmony.

The singing groups can be quartets, octets and or larger, and do not have to be all men. Again it is our goal to share the wealth of music the BHS has collected and produced over the years. We were awarded \$3,850 for this purpose, and the project will be in effect for 15-18 months

We are in the early stages of the project which is the initial “reaching out” to different singing groups. We are targeting area high and junior high schools. College groups, and church groups. The goal is to have 10-15 new groups learning, and willing to perform two BHS format songs by this Fall or Winter. The Chorus support of these new groups is essential to promote the practice and development

of their sound, and that specifically means members of our chorus as mentors to the different groups. Sound interesting? We have a wonderful opportunity to promote or sing and recruit new members, and to be in contact with some of the good voices that are in our music community now. You can help the groups choose their music, encourage and participate in their practice, and be a true mentor to new faces in our chorus. There are no strings attached for these groups to join our chorus, but only to try our banquet of music.

If you want to learn more, and be involved in this project, contact Pete Martens and join our committee of mentors. This is a great opportunity for you to reach out and help our chorus grow, enrich the lives of other singers, and provide talent for our shows, contests, and our future.

Silver Dollar Chorus Job Fair

All jobs may be temporary in nature, and will have a goal and a deadline to complete:

August 29th Fundraiser—Reno Sings Under the Stars.

Committee members to participate in show organization and implementation
See Pete Martens, Bill Kuehn & Dave Galloway

Grant Search and Application Submission

See Pete Martens & Richard Lund

“Seeds of Harmony Project”—Youth High School Chorus

To develop and mentor singing groups in our community and develop youth chorus. See Pete, Joe Young, Dave Gaunt, Dave Queen

Silver Dollar Chorus Awards Committee

Help recognize our members who improve their singing, performance, and give their time to making our chorus worthwhile and rewarding