



The Chord Trimmings

Voice of The Redwood Chordsmen

Santa Rosa Chapter, Society for the Preservation & Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America

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January 2002

Board Officers

President: Wayne Hovdesven
Music VP: Larry Wendt
Membership VP: Jack Young
Program VP: Val Pizzini
Chap. Dev. VP: Dave Bowman
Secretary: Noel Lyons
Treasurer: Mike Ferrell
Members at Large:
 Ray Crowder
 Chris Hines
 Ron Murray
 Gabor Toth

Additional Officers & Chairpersons

Chorus Director: Melany Huston
Quartets: Jeff Reynolds
Librarian: Scott Douglas
Chorus Mgr: Jack Young
Valentines: Ray Crowder
Public Relations: Judith Light
Newsletter: Scott Douglas

The Redwood Chordsmen
 c/o 3138 Carvel Drive
 Santa Rosa, CA 95405

SPEBSQSA, Inc is a non-profit, educational & fraternal society



A United Way agency



Happy New Year!!!



2002 Officers Installed

On the evening of December 2, the Redwood Chordsmen held their Annual Installation Dinner, to formally introduce and install chapter officers for 2002, and to present special awards for activities during 2001. The dinner was held at the Quail Inn in Oakmont, and in spite of the rain over seventy Chordsmen and their guests were in attendance.

After a friendly cocktail hour and very pleasant dinner, Master of Ceremonies and card-carrying Chordsman, Robb Olett, entertained a receptive audience as he introduced each officer. Here is our outstanding slate of officers for 2002:

President: Wayne Hovdesven
Music & Performance VP: Larry Wendt
Membership VP: Jack Young
Chapter Development VP: Dave Bowman
Program VP: Val Pizzini
Treasurer: Mike Ferrell
Secretary: Noel Lyons
Members at Large: Ray Crowder
 Chris Hines
 Ron Murray
 Gabor Toth

Congratulations and appreciation to our new Officers!

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Revamped Christmas Cabaret a Success

For our 6th Annual Christmas Cabaret held December 8th, at St. Rose Parrish Hall, Cabaret Chairman Gabor Toth decided to try something different. In the past our Cabaret has featured a delicious tri-tip dinner and one evening show, which left members (and their helpful spouses!) exhilarated but exhausted.

The show has also been oversold for the past several years, so Gabor decided to make this annual event both less and more. Less, in that instead of a full dinner, light snacks and desserts would be offered, and more as there would be two shows instead of one.

Gabor also took the initiative in expanding our inclusion of high school groups, inviting singing groups from Santa Rosa, Montgomery, Maria Carrillo, Elsie Allen and Piner High Schools to participate in the concerts. The young folks' joyful voices brought a special energy to the show and confirmed the Chapter's commitment to "Teaching the Children to Sing." Backstage it was especially fun to see chapter quartets trading songs with high school groups in a cross-generational a cappella singout.

(Cabaret continued on page 2)

(Cabaret from page 1)

Onstage, several chapter quartets including One More Song, Souvenir, and Sound Committee added their own tuneful selections to the holiday songfest. The highlight of the show was our featured quartet, Pacific Heights. They pulled selections from a large repertoire of barbershop, doo-wop, jazz, and modern favorites, performing each with their characteristic Pacific Heights style. These gentlemen remain one of the Chordsmen's favorite quartets, featuring one of our chapter trainers, Al Zemsky, on lead, and a certain red-haired tenor who is occasionally seen driving our director to chorus rehearsals. We are always glad to have them appear as our guests and to be able to listen to them once again. Thank you again guys for your participation on our show.

Later during the evening performance, Gabor somehow got hold of the microphone, and proceeded to give a heartfelt 'thank you' to all the people who helped pull the show together. His most grateful thanks went to his wife, Mary Jo, for her handling of all the details that Gabor "just wasn't interested in dealing with." After presenting her with flowers Gabor asked all his friends to stand up, and although a third of the audience stood, by that point your editor thinks that Gabor had a whole room full of friends, and deservedly so.

The Chordsmen congratulate Gabor and Mary Jo on a fantastic cabaret, with further support provided by a long list of family, spouses, students, parents and program sponsors. Believe me, the singing part is easy compared to all the work that goes into putting a show like this together. Thank you all.



God Bless America!



**Calling All Quartets:
Valentine's Day is
Fast Approaching!**
(Yes, it's still February 14th)

Gather your Singing Buddies together and spend a few hours getting ready for this annual Chapter fundraiser. It's Fun! It's Rewarding! It's a Day Off From Work! Call 528-2661 for more details about appropriate songs and other details. Then, go out and Make Someone's Special Someone Happy!

Ye Editor's Message

Welcome to a New Year and a new hand at the helm of the *Trimmin's*. I'm looking forward to make this newsletter an informative and entertaining tool that will keep us all updated as to the goals and focus of the Chapter. In doing so, I'll be following the fine example of the former Editors who proceeded me in this task and would like to thank them in advance for any advice and/or encouragement.

As usual the *Trimmin's* will feature articles by our Chapter Officers and list important dates and such, but this is (pardon the cliché) *your* newsletter, and I want to tailor it to what will be most useful and entertaining to you.

Have an idea? Want to get something off your chest? How 'bout a good recipe? Send it in and I'll gladly include it in a future issue. What do *you* want to see in future issues? Member biographies will be returning so polish up those resumes and make 'em look good! And let me know how you want *your* newsletter to look.

Attention Chapter Officers and Other Interested Parties: The deadline for inclusion of your comments, articles or prognostications in the next news-packed issue of the *Chord Trimmin's* is Thursday, January 31st. Submissions on floppy disk in a PC format or emailed will be most appreciated, but your Editor will also welcome the opportunity to improve his transcription skills if you submit a paper copy.

(Dinner from Page 1)

A highlight of the evening was the presentation of special awards and certificates by President Wayne Hovdesven. *Certificates of Appreciation* were handed out to:

Judith Light for *Chorus Promotion*
Terrell "Perky" Perkins for *Audio & Amplification Support* and helping us to update our sound system
Rex Huston for *Dedication to Quartering*
Ron Murray for *Esprit de Corps*

Brent Bain received *Rookie of the Year* while Jack Young was named "*Mr. Versatile*" and Gabor Toth received the *Unsung Hero Award*

The annual *Old Bones-Hume Bacon Memorial Humanitarian Award* was awarded to Ed Lawson for his helping the Chapter raise money for local charities.

The *Ed Hildebrand Memorial-Hall of Fame Award* went to Lynn Brittan for his many years of service to the Chapter.

Dave Bowman received the *President's Award* for his outstanding service on behalf of the President.

And (drum roll, please) *Barbershopper of the Year* went to... Larry Wendt, whose late arrival was the signal for dinner to finally be served. Larry's work as Music VP has established new standards for the chorus to pursue and attain.

President Wayne began a new tradition with the perpetual awards. The past year's recipient was given his individual plaque before he in turn introduced and handed off the shared trophy to the new awardee. It was a good opportunity to recognize both former and new recipients.

Melany Huston, our esteemed Chorus Director, was

given a special box of Krispy Kreme Donuts containing a *Recognition of Merit* in remembrance of the sugar high which inspired the chorus into a first-ever tenth place finish in October at the Far Western District Contest in Bakersfield.

Special *Certificates of Appreciation* were giving to the six wonderful makeup artists who accompanied us to Bakersfield and got us all looking uniformly sharp and handsome for our turn onstage. The recipients were:

Evelyn Estrella
Susan McLean
Peg Ferrell
Chris Johnson
Becca Eaton
Rhonda Stockland

Thank you ladies for making us look like an "A" level chorus!

Of course some singing was squeezed into the festivities. Melany led the chorus in *If I Had My Way* as we dedicated it to our supportive spouses, friends and significant others with us that evening. A few Christmas songs and sing-alongs were shared as well.

A special highlight of the evening occurred when Wayne introduced previous recipients of the Barbershopper of the Year Award. About fifteen former BOTYs were in attendance and were warmly recognized.

All in all, it was an evening of good fellowship and cheer, recognizing the hard work and fine accomplishments of the past year, and looking forward to the challenges and goals of the coming year.

"There's a lot to do, in 2002!"

Mark Your Calendars for Our Annual Show
C o u r t r o o m C a p e r s
An Entertaining Romp Where Everyone Tries to Steal the Show!

March 23, 2002: Matinee & Evening shows

Tickets: 707-537-7047

**SANTA ROSA CHAPTER, SOCIETY FOR THE
PRESERVATION & ENCOURAGEMENT OF
BARBERSHOP QUARTET SINGING IN AMERICA**

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Mailing Label



Thursday Night Rehearsal, 7:00-10:30 PM,
Scottish Rite Center, 600 Acacia Lane (off Hwy 12 in
Rincon Valley), Santa Rosa



MARK YOUR CALENDERS!

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|----------|-------|---|----------|------|-------------------------------------|
| January | 7 | Music Team Meeting | July | 1-7 | Int'l Convention, Portland |
| | 14 | Chapter Board Meeting | October | 4-6- | FWD Fall Convention, Bakersfield |
| | 17 | Performance—LBC | | | |
| February | 31 | Chapter Family Night | December | 1 | Officer Installation Dinner |
| | 4 | Music Team Meeting | | 7 | Festival of Lights |
| | 11 | Chapter Board Meeting | | 14 | Christmas Cabaret |
| | 12-14 | Singing Valentines | | | |
| | 16 | Advance w/ Ron Black | | | |
| | 19 | Barclay Concert—LBC | | | |
| | 23 | Novice/High School Contest, Palo Alto | | | |
| March | 5 | Community Concerts Per- formance—LBC | | | |
| | 20 | Technical Rehearsal | | | |
| May | 23 | Chapter Spring Show | | | |
| | 3-5 | NorCal East/West Division Contest, Vasalia | | | |

