



The Captain's Log

Newsletter of the Stockton Portsman
November 2019 - Issue #20



November 2019 President's Message: by President Harry Williams

Hi Youal. I promised you fall weather last month, here we are near the end of Oct and it's going to be above 90 degrees today. Go Figure!!!

We just finished the convention contest in Modesto. The chorus sang good. Another great time had by one and all.

Looking ahead to the rest of October, we will continue to practice and prepare for our fall show on November 9th.

We have been invited to participate in the all city V.F.W. program at the downtown Fox Theater on Nov.11th Veterans Day.

I'm sure other events will come up as we go through Nov.

Looks like another great month in Barbershop Music!!!

Till next month`s Captains Log
Pres Harry

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Musical Director's Message: by Bill Litz

In the wake of **completing the 2019 contest cycle**, we all end up doing a lot of **reflection**. I would bet that pretty much every chapter, every quartet, and every singer comes away from that experience feeling like they aren't as good as they hoped they were. At least those that didn't finish in first place, and even they all fight their own personal demons and disappointments.

I personally felt on top of the world... We improved so much as a chorus and as individuals in the process of preparing for contest. During our warm-up on Saturday, **I couldn't have been more proud** of the impromptu performance we did in the lobby of the *Double Tree Hotel*. Everyone was **smiling**, our **musicality was wonderful** and we felt like winners. Passers by seemed to share in that feeling with us. Even with the glitches in getting to the stage (and after seeing the video of our performance), I was (and still am) very proud of our performance. ...Then when the scores came out, and we faced the comments of the judges, that feeling turned to **frustration, failure** on different levels, and **maybe not being good enough**.

The master has failed more times
than the beginner has even tried.

With that **personal struggle** going on in my brain – **success vs. failure** – I happened across a YouTube video titled ["I Was Arrogant To Say This..."](#). It challenges us to *"Always see yourself and think like a beginner"*. All of the Portsmen ARE beginners – some to singing, some to barbershop, some to the contest world – but all of us to making music together as an ensemble that changes every day with different songs and different members.

In the beginner's mind there are
many possibilities, but in the
expert's mind there are few.
Zen Master Shunryu Suzuki

Consider insights to not be scared of being a beginner, starting each experience with an open mind to learning:

- 1. Document the progression** – Seeing the change is a great reward.
We have and I was reminded about how much more entertaining and musical we are compared to a year ago.

- 2. Rely on a community for education, support and inspiration.**
*Friends can make you feel joyful even when things get rough.
Keep a smile on your face no matter how you feel inside (that acceptance allows help to arrive).
You might need words of encouragement – accept those words and make celebrations of successes.
Sometimes your support will leave you "behind" – you might feel on your own but keep trying and growing.
Talk yourself through something - too many talk themselves out of things.*

- 3. Experience has more value when it overcomes a little bit of failure or fear.**
*There will be tough uphill battles – sometimes the conditions will be far from perfect.
Being out of your comfort zone will create emotional moments – cry, laugh, rest, gather thoughts, start again.
Even when you start to feel confident – other crashes will come - take a deep breath...continue.*

- 4. Accept help, accept guidance and let your helpers challenge you.**
*Be the worst "player in the room" - when everybody in the room is better it gives you incentive to grow.
Don't delude yourself into thinking you are the best in the room
- objectively or subjectively, you will tend to "half-ass" it.*

5. We only regret the things we don't do.

Most adults avoid being bad at anything. Growth is trial and error. Mostly error! 😊

- You gotta have the guts to be bad long enough to get good!

6. Although it's sometimes good to be competitive, sometimes there really is no competition there.

Remember everyone is on their own journey and there is enough room for everyone to succeed.

Everyone at the top of their game, everyone competing at any level, or exhibiting incredible talent, has failed hundreds, if not thousands of times. There isn't a problem with failing. It's how you deal with it and how you pick yourself up again. There is no time for bad behavior or showing off your insecurities – just time to prepare for the next performance.

Trivia Question

How do you know who the best barbershopper at a contest is?"
Is it their outfit, the songs they know, how loud they sing, their circle of friends or the score they achieved?

The real answer is that, "Somewhere at the contest, some one person got more fun out of the day than anybody else. That person wins, and they are the best barbershopper of the contest."

Celebrations

November Birthdays

Al Wolter	11/7
Bob Yater	11/23



Tune Struck Quartet



After Greg's extended tour of the nation and visiting his grandchildren, the quartet has only had a complicated of chances to sing together. Bob had to leave quickly after our District performance in Modesto to harvest his late variety walnuts, so Derick Sturke stepped in the to sing a couple of songs in the VoCal Afterglow Room.

Derick will also be filling in for Bob for the Fall Show.

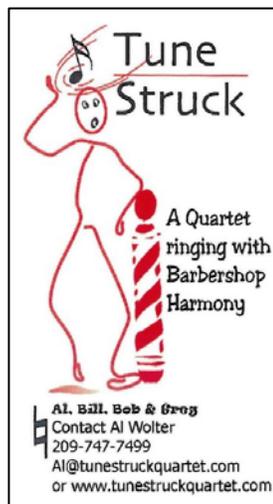
Al Wolter

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 was a card short at the Division contest in Modesto, but we added the Joker (Derick Sturke) to fill in for Paul on bass and we all got a chance to sing in the Harmony Platoon together. Also, we borrowed very tall Rich from VoCal to sing bass for a couple of songs at the Afterglow Saturday night. We had the honor of singing the National Anthem at 2 ceremonies for the SJ County Sheriff Department; first for their promotion ceremony (all officers in full dress uniforms, very impressive) and the 2nd for community members who have served as valuable volunteers such as Neighborhood Watch and other positions. Portsman's own Al Wolter was honored for his service to the town of Woodbridge. Congratulations, All!

We continue to prepare for DoWop at the Barbershop, adding an extra song which will feature the beautiful voice of our Tenor, Stephanie! 3 of us are signed up for the Fall 2020 Cruise...just trying to convince Paul that it would be a nice little vacation for him and his family! Looking forward to the Holiday season and the Novice Contest in February!



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mixed meta4



a barbershop harmony quartet
209-881-SING (7464)

Joan Ray – Tenor
Dave Harmon – Baritone

Al Farnum – Lead
Nick Adams – Bass

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

Harmony Lunch Bunch

Our long-time friend Ken Potter died in September. We sponsored a remembrance for him Saturday, October 26 at American River Community Church in Carmichael. Ken was a Barbershopper for 62 years, most of them in the Sacramento area. He knew and sang with all of the old guys from Stockton, now long-gone. Here's a publicity picture of him when we did the Music Man in Woodland. L-R, Roger Santiago, Kent Borrowdale, Richard Lund, Ken Potter.



Our next meeting will be held on Thursday, November 21st. You are all welcome to attend.

Sam's Hof Brau

2500 Watt Ave, Sacramento, CA 95821

11:30 AM (3rd Thursday of each month)

Kent Borrowdale kborro@comcast.net

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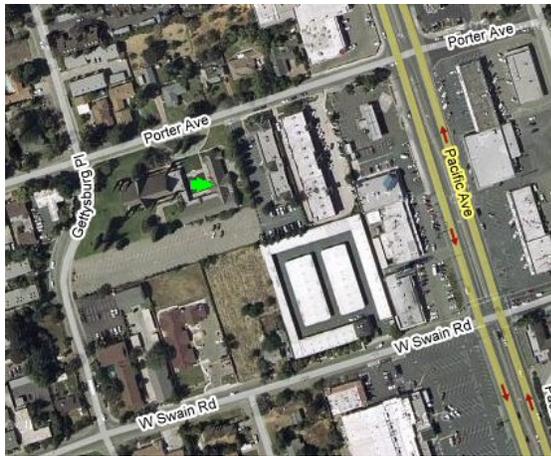
Weekly Chapter Meetings:

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

- Nov 2** The Central California Show Chapter presents... As Time Goes By
Golden Valley Chorus
Turlock, CA
(Time: 7:00 PM)
- Nov 9** **The Stockton Chapter presents...**
Doo Wop at the Barbershop
First Baptist Church Community Center
Stockton, CA
(Time: 2:00 PM)
- Nov 11** **City Wide Patriotic Sing**
Bob Hope Theatre (aka: Fox Theatre)
Stockton, CA
(Time: 9:30 AM – 11:00 PM)
- Nov 16** The Santa Rosa Chapter presents...
Singing in the Holidays
Two shows: 2PM & 7PM
- Nov 22** The Barbary Coast Chapter presents...
Fog City Singers
San Francisco, CA – Friday, Aug 22
Pleasanton, CA – Saturday, Aug 23
- Nov 24** The Marin Chapter presents...
Marin Golden Gate Barbershop Chorus
San Rafael, CA
- Dec 3** **Chapter Meeting - Offsite Rehearsal**
O'Conner Woods West Hall
(Time: 6:45 PM – 8:15 PM)
- Dec 7** **Festival of Trees**
Micke Grove, Lodi, CA
(10:00 AM – 12:00 PM)
- Dec 8** **Bob Hope Theatre**
(12:30 PM – 4:30 PM)
- Dec 14** **Chapter Christmas Party**
Barrel Room
Lodi Grape Festival Grounds
(5:00 PM – 9:30 PM)

2020 Events

- Jan 15** **Chapter Installations & Awards Dinner**
Angelina's Spaghetti House
6:00 PM – 9:30 PM
- Jan 18** NorCal Leadership Academy
Saint Mark's United Methodist Church
Sacramento, CA
- Feb 22** NorCal Novice Quartet Contest
Centenary Church - 1911 Toyon Ave
Modesto, CA
(Time: 10:00 AM)
- Mar 15** **Spring Ice Cream Social**
Stockton Elks Lodge
(12:30 PM – 5:00 PM)
- Mar 19** FWD Spring Convention: Prelims, SE/SW Divisions
- May 15** **NE/NW Divisions Convention**
Stockton, CA
- June 28** **BHS International Convention**
Los Angeles, CA
- Oct 8** **FWD Fall Convention Cruise**
Long Beach, CA – Ensenada, BC

Barbershop Links

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