



# The Captain's Log

Newsletter of the Stockton Portsman  
June 2019 - Issue #15



## **June 2019 President's Message: by President Harry Williams**

Hi Youal. Well here we are ½ the year is almost gone. We once again had a great experience participating in the Memorial Day Observance program at Cherokee Memorial Park in Lodi. What a great way to remember and honor our Fallen Heroes and Veterans.

A big shout out for our music team as they continue to lay the ground work for our future chapter events. New music is being ordered, new ways to handle chapter practices being discussed, and lay outs for upcoming events being discussed.

We have coaches planned for future chapter meetings as we prepare for the Oct. district competition and our Fall Show.

We had a board member change our Secretary stepped down and Sue Atkins replaced him for the rest of 2019. The very first lady to hold an upper position in the history of the Stockton chapter. Way to go Sue!!!

Another great month in Barbershop Music.

Till next month`s Captains Log  
Pres. Harry

## Musical Director's Message: by Bill Litz

Last week, one of the new *Portsmen* members told me **singing with the chorus was helping him find his smile**. That is exciting to me for a number of reasons.

First, it makes me know that he is **enjoying connecting with the Portsmen family**. Next, it shows that the style of music we do and the song selections are **creating a positive energy and joy** in his life. Those combine to create the physical feelings that **recharge his batteries** and make him come back week after week.

For me, the real excitement is that **singing with a smile** - that feel-good emotion – is **creating a better sound** in the chorus. I'm seeing (and hearing) that type of singing from more members every week. The next step in the singer's evolution is to develop "**the inner smile**" - the secret to great resonance. It's really not about showing off your pearly whites and saying cheese. It's about the shape you achieve on of the inside of your mouth when the outside of your face appears to be smiling. The notion of an inside smile is simply another way to describe the lifting of the lower pads of your eyes and the roof of your mouth (the palate) which creates more resonant space inside your mouth.

*Arden Kaywin* wrote an article that includes a video that speaks to the question "Have you ever noticed that really great singers always seem to be smiling when they sing?". It is a discussion of the singers smile - [How Smiling Will Improve Your Singing](#). Another resource [demonstrating ways to lift the palate and keep it up](#) has a clip of *Celine Dion* showing some vocal exercises that may speak to you.

Here are a number of descriptions of how to achieve an inner smile that are worth a try. See which one makes sense to you.

- Doing a gentle yawn
- Flaring the nostrils
- Biting an apple
- Smelling the brownies
- Widening the ears

These visual concepts on how to **create resonant space** that will yield **better singing tone**, feel a bit like a **mechanical formula** to me – like pressing keys on a piano.. Sometimes formulas like "*inner smile*", or "*singer's posture*" or "*breathing techniques*" or "*vowel shaping*" are what we need to kick start our singing when we feel tired or unmotivated to sing with emotion. But I hope that as you try different techniques of singing, that **the ultimate goal is communication and eliciting emotion**.

As you sing this month, see if you can find an "*inner smile*". Then go one step further and inject your singing with **heartfelt emotion** that will transform the *inner smile* to genuine emotion, that in addition to communicating with our audience, carries **joy and a smile** into your daily life.

## Tune Struck Quartet



May held one performance opportunity for Tune Struck, the return to the Hospice of San Joaquin Derby Fundraiser. The quartet has supported the Hospice in several ways over the years, and this was our second year at the Derby Event. As before we ran into a few folks we know, including the Roman's, where Bob confessed that he had been in a quartet in the Mid-west many moons ago. It's always a good feeling when noted musicians enjoy what you are doing.

The summer is event-less until August so far, but we will have to find a replacement to cover for Al, whose vacation conflicts with it. Think that our friend Austin Spurlock has stepped up.

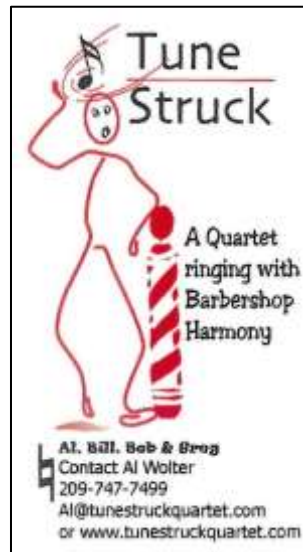
Al Wolter

Tenor - Tune Struck Quartet

209.747.7499

[www.TuneStruckQuartet.com](http://www.TuneStruckQuartet.com)

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



## **mixed meta4**

by Nick Adams, Bass

Well, May has been a bit quiet for mixed meta 4. Joan and Al have been RVing around Northern and Central California. Dave is traveling – he mentioned Nebraska. We continue to fine tune our repertoire – 40 minutes so far! Jim Clancy's arrangement of Danny Boy is still a challenge, but we'll have it nearly perfected in time for the Fall Portsmen concert.



## **Royal Flush Barbershop Quartet**

By Nancy Hennefer, Baritone

Royal Flush has had rehearsal interruptis due to multiple Monday's of ill quartet members. We did manage to sing the National Anthem at the Ports baseball game on May 13th. Despite last minute information that the on-field mics weren't working, we used the one handheld mic that was passed through the announcer's booth and sang to a small but enthusiastic crowd. Although we missed out on the 2019 contest circuit, we plan to be competition ready for 2020!



## **Celebrations:**

### June Birthdays

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Chuck Kenny	6/8
John Eilers	6/15
Bill Litz	6/22



## **Harmony Lunch Bunch:**

### Sam's Hof Brau

2500 Watt Ave, Sacramento, CA 95821  
11:30 AM (3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month)  
Kent Borrowdale [kborro@comcast.net](mailto:kborro@comcast.net)

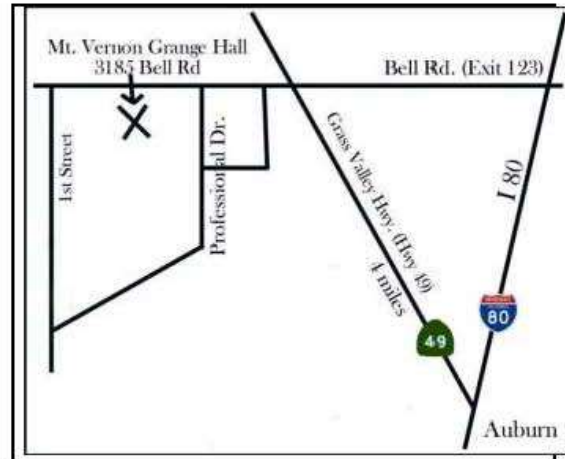
**THE TWENTY-NINTH ANNUAL**  
*John Gurulé Memorial*  
**“SOMEWHAT SERIOUS” QUARTET CONTEST**  
**and BEAN FEED**

DATE: June 11, 2019  
 TIME: 6:00 p.m. DINNER  
 7:00 p.m. CONTEST  
 LOCATION: MT. VERNON GUILD HALL  
 3185 BELL RD., AUBURN, CA

ADMISSION & DINNER: \$10.00  
 DRINKS EXTRA

CONTEST RULES

1. Quartet must have a name
2. No more than two members from a registered or organized quartet
3. Quartet sings only one song
4. A person may sing in three quartets but must change their part in the third
5. Women's & Mixed quartets are eligible
6. Matching attire optional
7. Limited to 25 entries



**MC: RICHARD LUND**

**JUDGES: The Best available**

SOMEWHAT SERIOUS QUARTET CONTEST ENTRY FORM

QUARTET NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME	CHAPTERS
TENOR: _____	_____
LEAD: _____	_____
Bari: _____	_____
Bass: _____	_____

MAIL TO: NEVADA PLACER SIERRANADERS, PO Box 4400, Auburn, CA 95602



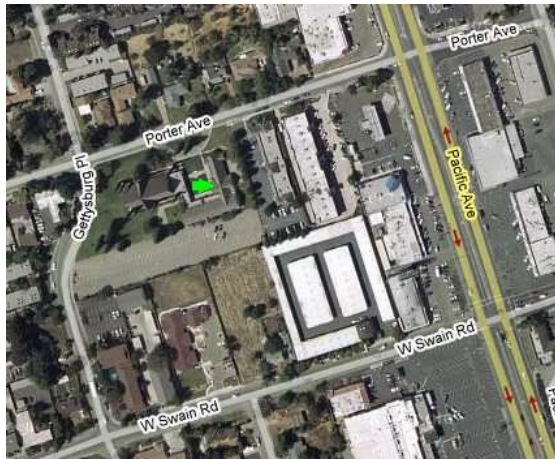
## Weekly Chapter Meetings:

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**

- June 30 BHS International Convention**  
Salt Lake City, UT  
(June 30 – July 7)
- Aug 1&3 Fog City Singers presents...  
Barbary Coast show  
San Francisco, CA  
[Click here for more info](#)
- Sept 28 Voices of California presents...  
England 2020 Fundraiser Dinner Show  
Sacramento, CA  
[Click here for more info](#)
- Oct 10 FWD Fall Convention (2019)**  
(October 10 – 13, 2019)  
(Sacramento, 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**
- Nov 23 The Santa Rosa Chapter presents  
"Singin' In the Holidays"  
Santa Rosa, CA  
(2:00 pm & 7:00 pm)

### **Barbershop Links**

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