

Double Your Pleasure, Double Your Fun!

Joan Golding Photo

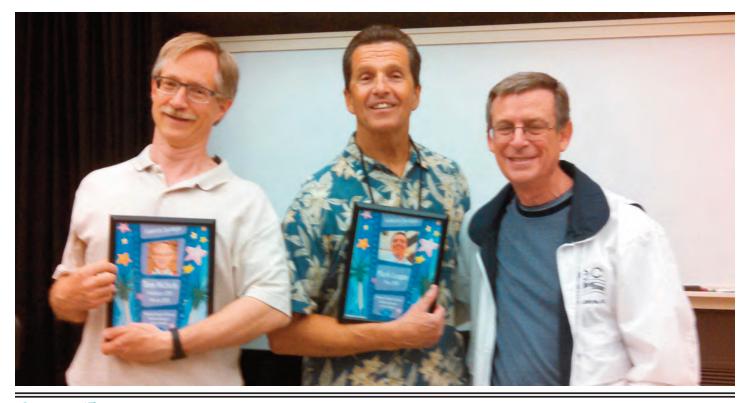
At our rehearsal on June 2 our

by Jay Campbell

president, Ken Klein, presented Barbershopper of the Month awards to two different recipients.

The first award went to Tom Nichols. It was for the month of February and was earned by Tom for all the hard work he did on our Singing Valentines program. Tom spent many long (sometimes frustrating!) hours programming and coding the routing software and keeping the database working and up-to-date. As a member of the Singing Valentines team, I must say: "Well deserved, Tom!"

Ken also presented the Barbershopper of the Month award (for May) to Mark Logan because Mark recently agreed to "step up" and take on the postition of Chorus Manager for the Orange Empire Chorus, replacing ----. Good luck, Mark, you have some big shoes to fill!



Contributors to this issue:

Our Heroes... Steve Hansen, Ken Klein, Jay Campbell, Steve Sarandis, Mike Evans, Don Derler, Pete Saputo and Tom Nichols.

The "Harmonic Heartbreakers" **Entertain the OEC**



On May 6th, the "HARMONIC HEART-BREAKERS" quartet performed during Tuesday night rehearsal.

by Jay Campbell

The quartet is composed of four of our newest members from La Habra High School: Andrew Hernandez (Lead), Josh

Salgado (Tenor), Tristen Urban (Bass) and **Justin Gabriel** (Baritone).



Justin Gabriel, Tristen Urban, Andrew Hernandez, Josh Salgado

April Barbershopper Of The Month Was A Couple!



Joan Golding Photo

By Jay Campbell

At our rehearsal May 12th, Ferdi Roades unveiled and presented the Barbershopper Of The Month award

(for April) to Rick ("Pretzel") DeLung and his wife, Kelley DeLung. They were given this unusual joint award because they were instrumental in writing the script for the "Great Egg Caper" lunch and dinner show performed by the Orange Empire Chorus at the Fullerton Community Center on April 25th.

As all of us know who attended the "Great Egg Caper" show, Kelley performed magnificently as "Lady Landsworth of Bun-

dle" and Pretzel was an awesome "Sergeant Schulz". Pretzel was also responsible for the disappearance and subsequent reappearance of the giant bejeweled Fabergé dinosaur egg.



The last I heard Kelley and Rick were working on some new ideas for next Spring's show...we'll have to wait until next year's show to find out what they are!

Sugar Daddies Back Together



By Mike Evans

Summertime is a time for travel and vacations and the *Sugar Daddies* are no different. With each of the members going separate ways we were finally able to get back together for the *Nixon Library* performance with the Chorus. The Nixon Library

is always a great venue and we always seem to get a good

Our fearless audience. director, Craig Ewing, began trying out some of the material that we will be incorporating in "Traveling Show". Jokes and songs and other interludes helped to round out the show and all was well received by the Nixon Library crowd. The Sugar Daddies even tried out some of their newer material and had a grand time performing.

The Sugar Daddies were invited once again to perform for "The Friends of the Arboretum" at their Summer concert series. This is one of our most enjoyable performances. When we arrived, the folks were all seated on the lawn enjoying a picnic style dinner. They obviously recalled last year when they were in small groups

scattered across the lawn and our quartet had to keep moving around so that everyone could hear. This year they were all seated in a single group facing in one direction. They even left space so that we could stand in the shade while performing. We did two 30-minute sets and the audience responded well. We even noticed a few folks singing along with a few of the more familiar songs, so during the break we chatted with them and found out that they had a family member who had previously sung Barbershop. When names

were mentioned, **Tom Nichols** was the only one of us who remembered (vaguely) the names.

After getting to know our audience (while they enjoyed some ice cream) we sang our second set. The best thing about a small audience is the responses you get. We were pretty close to the people and could see that they were having fun with us. This really makes the performance more fun and the quartet seems to get more animated and



even sings better. Being that close to your audience also helps with the jokes as it sometimes becomes two ways. What a blast it is when you can banter with your audience. I sure hope we can do it again next year. But for now, we are looking forward to our next performance at the Muckenthaler Cultural Center on August 27th. I hope to see another great crowd there. Until then I think we have a few more trips planned.

Hugo Michael Calachi (May 1, 1923 - June 15, 2015)



Joan Golding Photo

By Jay Campbell

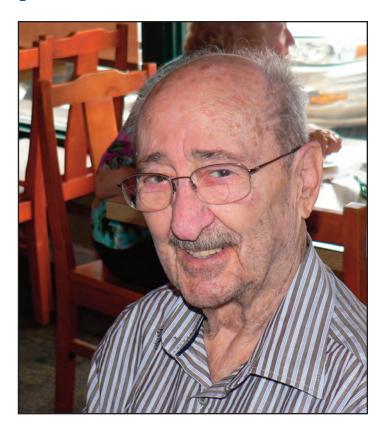
On Monday, June 22nd, about 18 members of the Orange Empire Chorus attended the memorial service for **Hugo Calachi** at the Queen of Heaven Mortuary in Rowland Heights. Hugo was born in New York City and served 14 years in the Marines, seeing action in World War II and in Korea. Hugo

was married to his wife, Juanita (Bennet) Calachi, for almost 60 years and they had 4 children; **Linda ("Terry") Kalich, Agostina Kenoyer, Peter Calachi and Julia Jewell**.

Hugo was a bass singer with the Orange Empire Chorus for many years, before moving away from the Fullerton area about 10 years ago. He subsequently attended several "Harmony For Lunch Bunch" events and loved to sing Barbershop Harmony. At least one of Hugo's daughters developed a love for Barbershop Harmony and would frequently sing with her dad in quartets.

Since one of Hugo's favorite songs was "Shine On Me," we were honored to sing it (along with "Ride The Chariot" and "The Irish Blessing") during his Celebration Of Life. The attendees seemed to love our performance!

The funeral mass was followed by a military flag ceremony performed by two U.S. Marines. They stood at attention at each end of his flag-draped coffin while "Taps" was played and then they - very expertly and very ceremoniously - folded the U.S. flag 13 times before presenting it to Juanita.



A reception was held after the service at the Calachi home in Brea. Although I was unable to attend the reception, three of our "Barbershoppers" (**Jim Eacret, Dick Cote** and his wife, **Kay Cote** and "**Smoky**" **Briggs**) were there.



Larry Ray Photo

Youth in Harmony

by Pete Saputo VP YIH

I had the privilege to attend the end of year dinners for *Fullerton High School's* Drama and Music departments. The students, parents and teachers celebrated the past

year's achievements and highlights of the students. Among these activities of the past year was the participation of the students in our Spring Show "The Great Egg Caper". The students played an important role in helping with the logistics of serving and clean-up. Students also played several characters in the play that we presented. The main role of secretary (Caroline Newlove) to Lady Landsworth was played by **Nicole Wormley**. She did a masterful job in presenting the proof of Lady Landsworth's duplicity in the valued egg's disappearance. Also part of the presentation

were the "Egg" guards, who, were not successful in protecting the "Egg" from being removed from sight in front of everyone. But I am getting far from the subject at hand.

The subject is, that I am giving money away again. We donated \$250.00 to both the Drama Department and the Choral Music Department. This shows good faith on our part and our continuing contributions to promote music education in our schools. The students, parents, teachers and school administrators appreciate the support that the *Orange Empire Chorus* gives to the schools in our district. We have a wonderful place to rehearse and we also have the pool of students ready to help us in any way that they are able. This is due to all of the work that we do in presenting great entertainment and music experiences to the community at large.

Preferred Blend Charms a Centenarian



Joan Golding Photo

By Steve Hansen, aka "ole blue eves"

In the middle of May, just before I left for our trip to Australia, *Preferred Blend* had the great pleasure of singing for a resident of

Claremont who was celebrating

her 100th birthday. You heard it right, 100 years old!! Preferred Blend has sung at many birthday celebrations over the years entertaining birthday boys and girls of many ages; kids as young as 10 years old, and oldsters, young at heart, in their 90's. This, however, was a first for us to entertain a centenarian.

At mid-day on May 17, with great anticipation, we made our way to Blaisdell Park in Claremont and parked in a secluded parking space so we could walk to the picnic area in order to surprise the guest of honor. There we found Ruth and her entourage of about 30 family and friends thoroughly enjoying a birthday feast of food and drink happily celebrating her 100th birthday. Ruth's son, Bernie, introduced us and after we first presented Ruth with a bouquet of flowers, we sang and charmed her with our close harmony

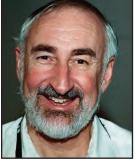
and a few funny stories. Even at the ripe young age of 100, Ruth was very alert, talkative and engaged with all present and even sang along with us to some of the "golden oldies." After our performance, the mayor of Claremont, who knew Ruth personally since she had been active in many city events over the years, presented her with a citation from the

City Council and a letter from the White House and President Obama congratulating her on her 100th birthday celebration. Afterward, Bernie asked us to enjoy some birthday cake and refreshment to which we gladly agreed. What a fun experience it was to take part in this very special birthday celebration and to charm this centenarian with our "close harmony" singing. And may we all live as long to enjoy "the ole songs!"





A Brief Physiology Of Singing



Joan Golding Photo

By Steven Sarandis

Most people don't really take any time to consider the interesting work that goes on in the body when they sing. They seem to assume that the voice just magically "appears"

whenever they will it to.

The voice is an amazing instrument. Without valves or keys we can make innumerable sounds over a wide range of pitch and loudness. We can sing in different styles and change the brilliance of our tone almost instantaneously. This flexibility is wonderful.

The initial impetus for singing begins in our brain. Once we decide that we're going to sing, it sends messages to the rest of the body to initiate respiration (breathing), phonation (making sound), resonation (amplifying sound), and articulation (shaping sounds into words).

Nearly everyone has probably heard expressions like "sing from the diaphragm" and "support the breath (or voice)", used frequently by many directors.

Singers must also take responsibility for their own progress, which includes learning about the voice. A singer cannot possibly learn how to achieve greater control over his singing voice if he does not understand the physiological mechanisms. It isn't necessary to memorize all the complex parts and functions of vocal anatomy, but it is helpful to gain a general and practical understanding of them. Vocal technique is as much a science as singing is an art form. While, initially, a singer may have to concentrate very hard

on his breathing, tone placement and muscle control, these techniques will become easier, more natural and even automatic in time, making singing much more enjoyable. Needless to say, effective breathing technique is essential to good singing.

The primary structures of the respiratory system involved in singing are the larvnx, trachea, bronchioles, bronchi, lungs and diaphragm. Musculoskeletal structures are also involved in breathing, such as the internal and external intercostal muscles that lift and lower the ribcage for inhalation and exhalation. As part of the respiratory system, the larynx functions as the entrance and exit of the airway. The trachea is responsible for directing air to and from the bronchi and bronchioles where blood gasses are exchanged. The lungs, of course, are the organs that make the exchange of air possible, and the diaphragm, a large dome shaped muscle that separates our thoracic and abdominal cavities, is responsible for balancing air pressures within the chest. It descends on inhalation and ascends on exhalation. In singing, our goal is to maintain balanced tension between the muscles of the abdomen and ribcage so that we can sing effortlessly. If we are too stiff and straight we can create tension, but if we hunch over, no room is provided for expansion of the ribcage or belly. Posture and muscle interactions have the most impact on this balance. In this way we maximize the use of air we have inhaled and have the potential to sing longer phrases. The thing to remember is that we must release all muscle tension in the lower abdominal muscles to allow the diaphragm to drop and draw air into the lungs. We also must expand our ribcages to allow for the best breath energy, but this can't be done with a stiff posture. Therefore, a free and flexible body allows for the optimal energized release of air for phonation.



W-0-0! H-0-0!

S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. and Singing with the "Chattanooga Choo Chorus" In Tennessee



Joan Golding Photo

By Don Derler

When **Terri** mentioned that she wanted to take a trip to see her sister **Patti** and her husband **Steve** in Tennessee, my thoughts went

immediately to Nashville and

S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. headquarters! After all, Terri's sister lives only 45 minutes from Nashville and our niece lives only five minutes from *The Grand Ole Opry* in Nashville. We also decided to look up a local Tennessee Chorus to visit while we were there

as well. What's a vacation without singing?

We found some interesting chorus' on the internet and decided on the "Chattanooga Choo Choo Chorus" because they looked so much like our number fun chapter here in Fullerton.

Their chorus practice was on a Monday night so

we decided to spend the night at a hotel there in Chattanooga (since after all it was our 38th wedding anniversary). After having a nice celebratory dinner, we showed up to the meeting just before everyone else did.

We first met the chorus director, **Paul Blazek**, in the

parking lot and I have to agree with Terri he looked like he could be my cousin!! He showed us to the room where they practice and one by one the members trickled in, each greeting us with handshakes and smiles, each one reminding us that almost all barbershop singers are a friendly bunch of characters, making our







evening a fun experience to remember. I got to sing with the chorus and they even let me direct "*Keep the Whole World Singing*". If you ever get the chance, I highly recommend visiting and singing with other chapters.

The next barbershop experience in Tennessee was to go to S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. headquarters. How could we go to Nashville and miss the opportunity? **Patti** drove us to visit our niece, **Rene** who took us to visit the *Grand Ole Opryland Hotel* for lunch. Then from there we drove downtown to the Society headquarters. I wasn't sure what was in store for us there but was pleasantly surprised when we got a

personalized tour by **Kyle Snook**. They have lots of memorabilia: pictures, awards, history of Barbershop singing, old sheet music, etc. to look at and a gift shop where they sell all things barbershop (I bought some cool shirts). Next we toured the offices upstairs and Kyle asked if anyone would like to sing a few songs. Of course right away heads popped up over the desk dividers and we had a quartet! It was the highlight of the day to be able to sing "After You've Gone" and "Hello Mary Lou" with **Wayne Grimmer, Adam Scott** and **Kyle**

Snook. They were all young, excellent singers and we all agreed that we sounded pretty good!!!

I want to mention that we had an especially fun time visiting with **Patti**, **Steve** and Steve's brother **Mike**. Tennessee is a beautiful state and we will definitely go back!!



GENE B. RENCK (June 28, 1935 - May 21, 2015)



Joan Golding Photo

by Jay Campbell

On May 21st **Gene Renck**, surrounded by those who loved him, went to sing with other "Stout Hearted Men" from the Barbershop Harmony Society in the Heavenly Chorus

Gene was born in Riverside, CA on June 28th, 1935, and graduated from Riverside Poly High School in

1953. In 1955, Gene married his childhood sweetheart, **Jeanette Bleser Renck** (should be spelled "Gene-ette," because they were practically inseparable for the next 59 years!). They had two sons, **Richard** and **Kenneth**, and five grandchildren.

Gene obtained his bachelor's degree in Deaf Education from California State at Los Angeles in 1958 and taught deaf children at Madison Elementary School in Santa Ana for

eight years. Gene continued his studies and received his Master's Degree in Audiology. After working a couple of years in Grossmont, CA as an audiologist, they moved back to Orange County. Gene then taught deaf children and practiced audiology in the Centralia School District of Buena Park. He subsequently went into private practice in Anaheim in 1977 and retired in 2003.

After Gene's retirement he and Jeanette enjoyed traveling all over the United States in their motor home, frequently with the Pacific Trailer Club, of which they were active members. Gene loved taking care of his family, his friends, his neighbors and his dogs (not necessarily in that order!). He was one of the most caring and hard-working men I've ever known.

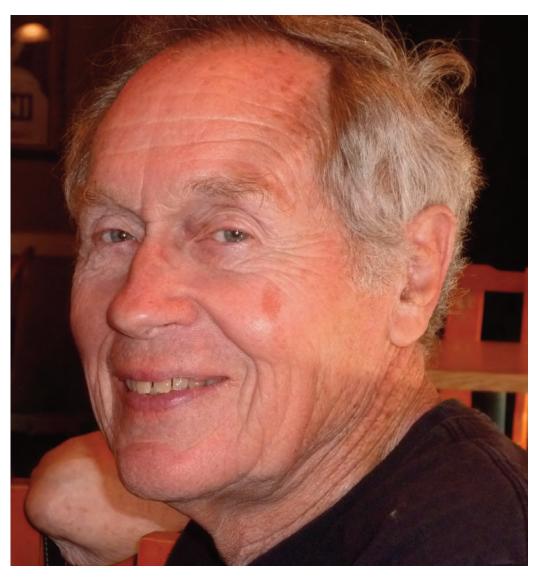
On Saturday, May 30th, most of the members of the Orange Empire Chorus attended his Memorial Service at the First Lutheran Church of Fullerton. Gene was a long-time member of the OEC (about 45 years!), having served in many positions on the Board of Directors, including that of president in 1974 and, most recently, Chorus

Manager. Gene was a bass singer and often stood almost directly beside me or behind me on the risers when we were performing...I always felt comfortable knowing that "Gene had my back!"

Gene was my neighbor - two houses away - for about 10 years (before I moved to my current address about three years ago). It was primarily due to Gene's gentle, but oft-repeated urgings that I became a Barbershopper with the Orange Empire Chorus about 10 years ago.

On Monday, June 1st, a few of us Barbershoppers attended his graveside service at Olivewood Memorial Park in Riverside. He was buried with full military honors, since he had served in the California Air National Guard for 8 years.

I am blessed to have known Gene and his family. Gene was a man of good moral character, he was dependable and he "wore many hats" for the OEC - frequently "under the radar" of many of our members. May we always remember him and may he rest in peace ## e - ter - nal - ly ##!



Preferred Blend Meets Uncle Sam



Joan Golding Photo

By Steve Hansen, aka "ole blue eyes"

Preferred Blend was proud to join the good people of Claremont, commemorating America's birthday at their annual 4th of July city wide celebration. The event took place at Memorial park and the day-long celebration

featured numerous city services display booths, various delicious food venues, guest lecturers, and a wide variety of entertainment groups. We sang on stage for about one half hour and had the audience join us in singing "America the Beautiful." We then provided roving entertainment singing to small groups

of patrons throughout the park for another couple of hours. Singing for small groups is always very well received and really brings our "close harmony" up close and personal. Greeting Uncle Sam was a real "highlight" for us. What a great guy, a true American "icon" and he was definitely someone you could really "look up to!" All in all, it was a great day, on this most patriotic of American holidays. Singing the "ole songs" to fellow Americans on this very special "All American Day" was indeed a very joyful experience.





Barbershop in Edinburgh



Joan Golding Photo

By Tom Nichols

On a recent Tuesday night, Janet and I jumped in our rented Peugeot and drove a few blocks down the street to pick up Chris, a member of the *Rolling Hills Chorus*. While I drove, Chris directed us on a convoluted path through the streets of Edinburgh, Scotland to the church where the chorus meets.

Except for the chapter treasurer, we were the first to arrive, so I helped set up the risers – they are a lot lighter than ours.

As other chorus members showed up, they introduced themselves, greeted Janet and I, asked where we were from, told us stories, and made us feel welcome. I have heard stories about how difficult it is to understand Scots, but we had no trouble conversing with these guys.

They quickly started their very focused and productive rehearsal, jumping into a medley of about 16 traditional Scottish songs arranged for barbershop by their director, **Nick Hayes**. They had been working on this music since

January, getting ready for their show coming up on Aug 21-23. This is their major concert and fundraiser for the year, and they perform their show for the tourists attending the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. If you happen to be in Edinburgh, I recommend the show. Based on what we saw and heard, it is going to be really good. It tells the story of Bonnie Prince Charlie and the Jacobite rebellion of 1745-46 in which Scottish highlanders persuaded Charles Stuart to lead a coup against the Hanover King George II and take back the English throne for the Stuarts. The rebellion failed and the English retaliated by

destroying the highlander clan culture. This resulted in a lot of songs written in minor keys. The Rolling Hills Chorus sings those songs with a lot of fervor and a big, robust sound.

Nick Hayes also wrote the script for the show, and we heard what I think was its first reading. The man playing Bonnie Prince Charlie entertained the chorus by improvising his lines, not unlike some members of our own Fullerton chorus.

The second part of the Rolling Hills show is about another rebellion, last year's Scottish referendum on independence, which also failed (the rebellion, not the show). Like us, they make use of parodies, and repurposed some other songs without changing the words – "Breaking Up Is Hard To Do", the theme from "The Godfather", and "This Is the Moment", among others. We didn't hear the lines that tied these songs together, but it was pretty clear that they enjoy making their audience laugh.

Nick is a terrific director, and they have built up their chapter over the last ten years from small beginnings to about 30 guys. They made us feel at home. They even let me conduct "Keep the Whole World Singing", though like the Orange Empire Chorus, they took my direction as advisory. I hope someone from their chapter will return the visit so we can teach them about afterglows – I think that is something they would appreciate.



rebellion failed and the English retaliated by Nick Hayes exhorts the Rolling Hills Chorus of Edinburgh to their finest efforts.

Editorial *



Musings

By Don Derler, Publisher/Editor

Terri Derler Photo

Well, I finally completed the May/June & most of July issue. Sorry it's s-o-o-o late but I've had a full plate. I promise to do better next issue.

It looks like a lot of us had a great summer and a lot of fun.

The **OEC** went to contest and was awarded "Most Improved Chorus". That's

a pretty big deal. We should be proud of that.

Our chapter quartets were very busy throughout the summer and some new quartets were formed. That's a healthy sign.

Sadly, we had to say goodbye to Hugo Calachi and Gene Renck. The base section of the "Heavenly Chorus" has a couple of fantastic new members. We will remember both of them fondly.

Our "Youth in Harmony" activities are going strong thanks to the outstanding efforts of **Pete Saputo** and **Tom Nichols**.

As a final note, I'm happy to say that the board has made membership growth a priority. There are lots of ideas being tried and hopefully, some will have success. Keep some of our cards with you at all times and make membership one of your priorities. You never know when you might meet a prospective member.

Clippin's Publishing & Policy Information

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1991, 1992

Bob Hein - FWD Bulletin Editor of the Year

1993, 1994, 1995, & 1996

Bob Hein - FWD Bulletin Editor of the Year - Second

1996

Bob Hein - International Bulletin Contest - Most Improved Bulletin

1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005

Dick Cote - FWD Bulletin Editor of the Year

1998

Dick Cote - International Bulletin Contest - Third Place

1999, 2000, 2005

Dick Cote - International Bulletin Contest - First Place

2011 Dick Cote - Selected for PROBE Hall of Honor
 Note: Dick Cote - elected to suspend contest entry in 2005

Fullerton Chapter SPEBSQSA Mission Statement

To enhance the enjoyment of music in the barbershop style for our chapter members and our audiences by always singing well and being entertaining; to participate in both quartet and chorus singing as a means of experiencing the thrill of barbershop singing and helping others to do the same; to actively support Society and District efforts to perpetuate our art form; to warmly welcome other singers into our musical fellowship; to contribute to the cultural quality of our communities through our charitable activities and youth harmony programs; and to have fun doing all of this.

President's Corner



Larry Ray Photo

By Ken Klein, President
A Light At The End Of The
Tunnel

We've seen and heard of the demise of a number of choruses, whose numbers declined until they were not able to function as they once had. Our numbers have declined as well from what they used to be. But what is it about our chorus that gives me confidence that

we will not go the same route others have? It's the vision that is shared by **Craig Ewing** and the Music Committee to create a road show, as well as annual shows that break the mold, Don Derler's efforts to keep the meetings fun, Art **Clayton's** efforts to not only put quartets together to sing for events, but his guidance on keeping us innovating for the Cabaret and our other performances, Mike Evans's efforts to spearhead the growth of our chorus through social media and getting ourselves out there as a chorus and in quartets, and Craig's willingness to jump in and sing with quartets that go out and show others our hobby. It's inviting friends and acquaintances to visit our meetings, and showing them a great time when they do visit. It's the spirit of our group to make something magic happen when we sing for others, and our willingness to learn new songs that break the mold of what has been done in the past.

On July 4th **Craig** joined me, **Mike Werner** and **Gary Maxwell** in performing for our park. See the picture below. In a number of gatherings at the park since that time my wife **Sandie** and I have both been asked if the quartet could return for one of the monthly Saturday night dinners. Already taken care of, we respond. The whole chorus will return for the dinner in November, and they will see a number of quartets. For that show I am counting on *The Sugar Daddies* to do the *Minnie the Moocher* song, one that will certainly win the crowd over, and I'm also hoping we can get the high school girls back to sing with us. **Tom Nichols** is working on that.

You can't help but feel the magic that is now emerging in our performances and in our spirit. That my friends is my light at the end of the tunnel.

Ken Klein





Don Derler, Publisher/ Editor P.O. Box 3331 Fullerton, CA 92834 714-441-1864 don@derlerart.com

CHORUS CALENDAR

Recurring Dates

- The ORANGE EMPIRE CHORUS meets each Tuesday from 7:00 to 9:30 P.M. at the Fullerton High School Choir Room, 201 East Chapman Ave. Fullerton CA.
- The BOARD OF DIRECTORS meets at 7:00 P.M. - the 4th Monday of the month, at the home of Steve Serandis, 1451 West James Way, Anaheim. All members are welcome
- The MUSIC COMMITTEE meets the third Tuesday of the month, after rehearsal.
- HARMONY FOR LUNCH BUNCH meets each Friday at around 11:30 A.M. at Giovanni's Pizza. Southeast corner of Euclid & Williamson in Fullerton. (One block south of Commonwealth.)

We meet Tuesdays, 7:00pm at **Fullerton High School Choir Room** At back of Plummer Auditorium 201 East Chapman Ave. (Corner of Chapman & Lemon)

Guests Are Always Welcome!

24-hour Barbershop Hotline: 714-871-7675 (Art Clayton)

Visit us at www.oechorus.org

Chartered July 1957 Home of the

ORANGE EMPIRE CHORUS

Craig Ewing, Musical Director

Associate Directors Tom Nichols, Dennis Woodson





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Pete Saputo

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