Masters of Harmony Chronology

1985--Terry Blumenthal, President

- Oct 1 – Masters of Harmony, chartered as the Foothill Cities Chapter, met in the VFW Hall, West Covina, Calif. First musical directorship: Joe D’Amore and Jeff Ebner, co-directors; first president, Terry Blumenthal; first bulletin editor, John Dandrea.

1986--Terry Blumenthal, President

- Feb 8 – Singout at Fountain Mobile Park, La Verne.

- Feb 15 – The Foothill Cities Chapter Charter Show “Premiere” was held at the Robert Haugh Auditorium, Citrus College, Glendora. Guest artists were past international champion The Innsiders, past Far Western District quartet champion The San Francisco Storm Door and Whale Oil Company, and the Foothill Cities Sweet Adelines Chorus.

- Mar 15 – FWD Spring Prelims, Sacramento; Masters of Harmony, under the direction of Joe D’Amore, won the small chorus contest with 23 on stage. The Reno Silver Dollar Chorus placed second; Chico Bidwell Generals took third; Bakersfield Golden Empire Chorus came in fourth; and the San Mateo Golden Chordsmen finished in fifth place.

- Apr 29 – Tuesday “Ladies Night” performance at the Pasadena Elks Club. This was an hour-and-a-half of solid entertainment with standing ovations for our efforts. Participating quartets Encore, Point Blank and Vanity were fantastic.

- May 17 – SoCal East Divisional Contest, Long Beach. The MOH (with 23 men on stage), with Joe D’Amore as director, finished second behind the Whittier Choralaires. The Rancho Bernardo Troubadours took third; Fullerton Orange Empire Chorus placed fourth; and San Diego Sun Harbor Chorus was fifth.

- Jul 13 – Members, families and guests attended a “Swim-Food-Fun-Song and Pool Party” at the home of Gary Ahlfeldt’s grandparents in Monrovia.

- Jul 16 – Jim DeBusman, Society Music Specialist, provided coaching and made a presentation on warm-ups, expanded sound, vowels, facial expressions, moods, stage presence, attitudes, and most importantly, commitment.

- Sep 19-21 – The Masters enjoyed a weekend retreat in Running Springs. Coaches for the weekend were Ron Black, director of the Fresno Chapter and Gary Bolles, past director of the Walnut Creek Chapter. Gary (bari) and Ron (bass) bust chords with the Great Western Timbre Co. quartet. On Saturday night, the Masters were invited to perform at the Big Bear Elks Lodge.

- Oct 10-12 – FWD Fall Contest, Sacramento. Masters of Harmony, the smallest chorus (24 singers) placed tenth among 23 choruses.
Masters of Harmony Chronology

1987—Gary Ahlfeldt, President

- Jan 9-10 – 2nd Annual Show, Robert Haugh Auditorium, Citrus College, Glendora. Guest artists were: Great Western Timbre Co. (1986 FWD Quartet Champion); After Hours (1986 2nd Place FWD Quartet Finalist); Margerry Shardon’s Favorite Barbershop Quartet (1986 3rd Place FWD Quartet Finalist); and the Redlands Harmony Heritage Chorus. Two evening shows; tickets $7.50.

- Mar 21 – The MOH was the mike tester chorus at the International Spring Convention (Small Chorus Contest) in Anaheim.

- Oct – Performance, FWD Fall Convention & Contest in Reno. The chorus performed a two-song package an audience of about 4,000. The selections for the comedy parody were “Ghoul Of My Dreams” (a takeoff from “Girl Of My Dreams”) and “Get Out And Get Under The Moon.” The long-awaited “Munster” package and set decorations, created by Wayne Mendes, included authentic costumes, dancing werewolves, coffins, tombstones, ghouls, Dracula, ground fog, and TONS of great entertainment and singing.

- Dec 9 – First rehearsal with Greg Lyne, Santa Fe Springs Town Center Hall. There were 79 men in attendance.

- Dec 27 – First board of directors meeting of the “new” chapter. A resolution was passed giving the music committee and director total control over the musical qualification of our membership.

1988—Joe D’Amore, President

- Jan 13 – First chorus Open House.

- Mar 30 – San Fernando Chapter visited Masters rehearsal.

- May 14 – SoCal East Divisional Convention & Contest, Pasadena High School. Won first division chorus contest.

- Jun 18 – Performance, “Go For the Gold” Show, San Marino High School.

- Aug – Performance, Far Western District Judges Seminar, Redlands.


Masters of Harmony Chronology

- Oct 8 – Far Western District Fall Convention & Contest, Pasadena Civic Auditorium. Won our first district contest.

1989—Joe D’Amore, President
- Jan 7 – 1st Annual Awards & Installation Banquet, Sheraton Norwalk. Joe Palmquist was named 1988 Barbershopper of the Year.
- Feb 11 – Choreography rehearsal with Bob Calderon, South Gate Church.
- Apr 8 – Choreography rehearsal with Bob & Rosemary Calderon, Pasadena Covenant Church, Pasadena.
- May 6 – Hosted and sang at SoCal East Division Contest (no competition).
- May 20 – Retreat at Running Springs.
- Jun 17 – Performance, “Go for the Gold” Show, Pasadena City College Auditorium. Featured 139th Street Quartet, Remember When, Harmony Spectrum and Musician’s Choice.
- Jul 1 – Performance, Ventura Chapter Show, Oxnard Civic Auditorium. Featured Margerry Shardon’s Favorite Barbershop Quartet, Singular Sensation (SAI), and Larceny and Old Bass.
- Jul 8 – International Convention & Contest, Kemper Arena, Kansas City. Competed and achieved a 4th Place Bronze the first time out. Contest songs: “Miss You” and “Floatin’ Down To Cotton Town.” Stayed at the Allis Plaza Hotel. A water main broke nearby leaving area hotels without water or air conditioning. Saturday morning we had to shave and clean up in a men’s room on 2nd floor.
- Oct 14 – Far Western District Fall Convention & Contest, Bakersfield Convention Center. Won chorus contest for the second time making us eligible for San Francisco in ‘90.
Masters of Harmony Chronology

- Oct 26 – Performance, The 101st Tournament of Roses Queen Coronation, Tournament House (Wrigley Mansion), Pasadena.


1990—Paul Laemmle, President

- Jan 6 – 2nd Annual Awards & Installation Banquet, Sheraton Anaheim. Dan Fullerton was named 1989 Barbershopper of the Year.

- Jan 13 – Saturday choreography rehearsal with Bob & Rosemary Calderon. Introduced San Francisco choreography package. Pasadena Covenant Church, Pasadena.


- Mar 10 – Saturday choreography rehearsal with Bob Calderon. Pasadena Covenant Church, Pasadena.

- Apr 21 – Saturday rehearsal with Larry Ajer.

- May 11-13 – Sponsored/hosted the SoCal East Division Convention & Contest, Crescenta Valley High School Auditorium, La Crescenta.


- Jun 13 – Retreat at Running Springs with Don Clause and Larry Ajer. Paul Laemmle conducted the first chorus-bonding seminar. T-shirt slogan: “All It Takes . . . Is All You’ve Got!” (Note: Earlier this year, Paul Laemmle had also arranged an important all-day session where we broke up into small groups and candidly discussed issues related to the chorus. The breakthrough meeting was designed to tear down some of the factions that existed within the chorus because of its diverse collective origins. For the first time the chorus began to see a “we” mentality as opposed to more of an “us” versus “them” mindset.)

- Jul 7 – International Convention, Cow Palace, San Francisco. Won our first gold medal. Contest songs: “When Day Is Done” and “Mississippi Mud.” Stayed at the posh St. Francis Hotel. Enjoyed strong support from Chuck Hunter, FWD President. What a celebration! During our medal presentation, some of the young guys sang “We Are The Champions.” Seemed strange at the time, it was all so new.
Masters of Harmony Chronology

- Aug – Bill Roth took over from Paul Laemmle the editing of a periodic one-page publication (that Paul had begun several months before) and named it Weekly Bulletin, which several years later was renamed MasterLink. The major reason for this bulletin was to provide important information to the chorus without having to use rehearsal time for routine announcements.
- Aug 17-19 – Recorded our first album, Showtime, Little Bridges Auditorium, Pomona College, Claremont.
- Oct 13 – Far Western District Fall Convention & Contest, Bakersfield Convention Center. Sang as the reigning international chorus champion.
- Dec 4 – Performance, Heating, Ventilation & Air Conditioning Convention, Century Plaza Hotel, Century City.

1991—Paul Laemmle, President

- Jan 2 – Editor Ron Greene introduced the first issue of a new chapter newsletter, The Masters Voice.
- Jan 5 – 3rd Annual Awards & Installation Banquet, Candlewood County Club, Whittier. Doug Maddox was named 1990 Barbershopper of the Year. Installing officer: International Vice President Terry Aramian.
- Jan 6 – Performance, International Special Events Society Convention, San Diego Convention Center.
- Mar 3 – Performance, Operation “Desert Prayer,” Crystal Cathedral, Garden Grove. One day after the Gulf War ended, we sang “I Believe” and the “Patriotic Medley” at all three morning services. With a giant (70-ft) American flag rising behind us, this was spectacular and emotional moment. Many in the audience were crying, we really had to focus on Greg. Special guest Shirley Jones sang earlier in the services.
- Apr 6 – Saturday rehearsal at Pasadena Covenant Church with Don Clause.
- Apr 27 – City of Santa Fe Springs Anniversary, Town Center Hall, Santa Fe Springs
- May 31-Jun 2 – Retreat at Running Springs.
Masters of Harmony Chronology

- Jul 6 – International Convention, Freedom Hall, Louisville. Sang away the championship trophy. Stayed at the elegant Brown Hotel; sang “Soliloquy” from “Carousel” at the afterglow in the Crystal Ballroom with John Sasine on the solo.
- Oct 12 – Far Western District Fall Convention & Contest, San Diego Convention Center. Performed on Saturday Night Show.
- Oct 16 – Performance, Womens’ Ministries International Conference, Crystal Cathedral, Garden Grove.
- Oct 19 – Performance, Calimesa Community Concert Series, Mesa Grande Academy Auditorium, Calimesa.
- Nov 15-16 – Planning retreat at Paul Laemmle’s Monarch Bay home.
- Nov 30 – 1st Annual Christmas Show, La Mirada Theatre for the Performing Arts.
- Dec 7 – Annual Christmas Tree Lighting, Heritage Park, Santa Fe Springs.
- Dec 24 – Performance, 32nd Annual Los Angeles County Holiday Program, Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, Music Center, Los Angeles. Program aired on PBS in Southern California and throughout the nation.

1992—Dan Fullerton, President

- Jan 3-5 – Recorded our Christmas album, Caroling! Caroling!, at Little Bridges Auditorium, Pomona College, Claremont.
- Jan 18 – 4th Annual Awards & Installation Banquet, Sheraton Norwalk. Bill Roth was named 1991 Barbershopper of the Year. Installing officer: FWD President Dick Girvin.
Masters of Harmony Chronology

• Feb 1 – Performance, International Midwinter Convention, Saturday Night Show, Terrace Theatre, Long Beach. Performed three different times during the evening. Other artists on the show were The Gas House Gang, Keepsake and The Ritz.

• Feb 15 – Performance, Orange Coast College Community Concert Series, Robert B. Moore Theater, Costa Mesa.

• Feb 25 – Performance, Loma Linda School of Medicine Alumni Association, Disneyland Hotel, Anaheim.

• Feb 28 – Performance, Fundraiser for Crystal Cathedral Choir, Crystal Cathedral, Garden Grove.

• Mar 14 – Performance, Society for the Preservation of Film Music Performance, Universal Sheraton, Studio City. Film composers' tribute to Henry Mancini. We sang music from "The Hunt For Red October" with orchestra directed by Larry Curtis. The composer, Basil Poludouris, was also in attendance.

• Apr 25 – Saturday rehearsal at Pasadena Covenant Church.

• May 2 – SoCal West Division Convention & Contest, Glendale High School. We won and started the 1993 contest cycle toward Calgary in 1993.

• Jun 12-14 – Recording session, Little Bridges Auditorium, Claremont.


• Aug 11 – Board of Directors approved Jack Hines and Joe D’Amore for induction into the Masters of Harmony Hall of Fame.

• Sep 18-20 – Retreat at Running Springs. Coach: Larry Ajer.


• Oct 10 – Far Western District Fall Convention & Contest, Phoenix Civic Plaza South, Phoenix. Won our third district championship and qualified for Calgary in 1993.


• Nov 28 – 2nd Annual Christmas Show, “Caroling With the Masters,” La Mirada Theatre for the Performing Arts. Featured Panache (SAI), Nightlife and Variety.

• Dec 5 – Annual Christmas Tree Lighting, Town Center Plaza, Santa Fe Springs.

• Dec 6 – Performance, Guest choir for Operation “Restore Hope,” Crystal Cathedral, Garden Grove.

• Dec 9 – Greg Lyne celebrated five years with the Masters. Joe Palmquist moderated a special program and chronicled his many contributions and achievements with the chapter.
1993--Dan Fullerton, President

- Jan 4 – Greg Lyne became director of the Harbortlites Chorus due to the resignation of Bonnie Sherburn. The impact to the MOH was minimal.

- Jan 9 – 5th Annual Awards & Installation Banquet, Sheraton Norwalk. Wayne Mendes was named 1992 Barbershopper of the Year.

- Jan 13 – Frank Ortega became editor of The Masters Voice.

- Feb 20 – Performance, Bakersfield Chapter Show, “Barbershop Coast to Coast,” Bakersfield Convention Center. Second appearance with the Golden Empire Chorus.

- Mar 13 – Performance, Calimesa Community Concert Series, Mesa Grande Academy Auditorium.

- Mar 20 – Performance, Las Vegas Chapter Show, Artemis W. Ham Concert Hall, University of Las Vegas, Nevada. Matinee and evening performances.

- Apr 14 – Special coaching session with Larry Ajer.

- May 1 – Performance, Lestonnac Family Free Clinic Banquet, Anaheim Marriott Hotel.

- May 5 – Greg Lyne accepted a dream position at Arizona State University (Tempe, AZ). It’s an opportunity to work with doctoral students in the field of choral conducting. Greg made it clear to the MOH administration that he would continue directing the chorus and his commitment to the Masters of Harmony.


- Jun 5 – Performance, Modesto Chapter Show, “Barbershop Harmony - International Championship Style,” Modesto Centre Plaza.


- Oct 9 – Far Western District Fall Convention & Contest, Saturday Night Show, Pasadena Civic Auditorium.
Masters of Harmony Chronology


- Dec 4 – Annual Christmas Tree Lighting, Town Center Plaza, Santa Fe Springs.


1994 – Dan Fullerton, President

- Jan 7-9 – Recorded our third album, Masterpiece, Little Bridges Auditorium, Claremont.

- Jan 15 – 6th Annual Awards & Installation Banquet, Sheraton Norwalk. Chuck Leavitt was named 1993 Barbershopper of the Year. Installing officer: Carl Hancuff.

- Feb 19 – Performance, Orange Coast College Community Concert Series, Robert B. Moore Theater, Costa Mesa. Guest quartet: Nightlife.


- Apr 27 – As part of our continuing musical and artistic growth, we look to outside people from time to time to share their talents with us. We brought in Zonnie Bauer, professional choreographer, with a 13-year background in stage and other media. In addition to designing choreography, Zonnie specializes in teaching basic choreographic principles.

- Jun 4 – Performance, Modesto Chapter Show, “Barbershop Harmony - International Championship Style,” Modesto Centre Plaza. Second appearance with the Modesto Melody Makers Chorus.

- Jun 11 – Performance, Las Vegas Chapter Show, Artemus Ham Concert Hall, University of Las Vegas Nevada. Featured Sound Expression and Tumbleweeds. Matinee and evening performances.

- Jul 1 – Performance, Mormon Church Benefit, “America Sings,” La Mirada Theatre for the Performing Arts.


- Jul 9 – International Convention, Pittsburgh Civic Arena. Sang away international championship trophy. Performed at the Far Western District’s Afterglow Spectacular (Grand Ballroom of Hyatt Regency Hotel) with the Phoenicians and Pot O’ Gold choruses.

- Jul 28 – Performance, Summer Concert Series, Ramona Bowl Music Association, Ramona Bowl, Hemet.

Masters of Harmony Chronology

- Aug 31 – Publication date for the first issue of the *MasterLink*, the renamed weekly bulletin of the Masters of Harmony; Bill Roth, editor.

- Sep 10 – 7th Annual Fall Show, “Fall Concert,” Terrace Theatre, Long Beach. Featured Nightlife, the Kingsmen Chorus from Kingsbridge, England (under the direction of Roy Hann) and The Aliens.

- Oct 16 – Performance, Glendale Community Concert Series, Glendale High School.

- Nov 20 – Performance; reprised the Masters Class, SoCal COTS, Radisson Hotel, Irvine.


- Dec 3 – Christmas Tree Lighting, Norwalk City Hall.

- Dec 3 – Annual Christmas Tree Lighting, Town Center Plaza, Santa Fe Springs.

1995--Chuck Leavitt, President

- Jan 7 – 7th Annual Awards & Installation Banquet, Queen Mary, Long Beach. Frank Ortega was named 1994 Barbershopper of the Year.


- Mar 22 – Performance, Annual Men’s Chorus Festival, Loyola Marymount University, Westchester.


- May 13 – SoCal East Division Convention & Contest, Ramona High School, Riverside. Won the contest and started the 1996 contest cycle.

- May 17 – Doug Kendrick took over as editor of *MasterLink*.

- Jul 22 – Performance, Chorus Directors Seminar, University of Redlands. Sang and gave a mini Masters Class.


- Oct 6–8 – Retreat at Grace Valley Ranch, Big Bear. Brother Paul Laemmle conducted several sessions that went a long way toward bringing us “off the mountain” and uniting us as a family.

Masters of Harmony Chronology


- Nov 26 – Performance, Long Beach Community Concert Series, Terrace Theater. Featured Concordia Handbells and Banjomania.

- Dec 2 – Annual Christmas Tree Lighting, Town Center Plaza, Santa Fe Springs.

- Dec 17 – Performance, Vista Ford Employees Christmas Party, Warner Center Marriott Hotel, Woodland Hills.

1996 -- Bob Lally, President

- Jan 6 – 8th Annual Awards & Installation Banquet, Queen Mary, Long Beach. Earl Gauger was named 1995 Barbershopper of the Year.

- Jan 12-13 – Recording session, Little Bridges Auditorium in Claremont. Started our fourth album.

- Feb 10 – Performance, Orange Coast College Community Concert Series, Robert B. Moore Theater, Costa Mesa.

- Feb 11 – Performance, Cal State Long Beach Community Concert Series, Richard & Karen Carpenter Performing Arts Center.

- Mar 9 – Performance, Calimesa Community Concert Series, Mesa Grande Academy Auditorium. Sponsored by Calimesa Seventh Day Adventist Church.


- Apr 3 – Bill Roth took over as MasterLink editor.

- May 11 – Choreography rehearsal with our friend and mentor, Larry Ajer.


- Jun 7-9 – Retreat at Desert Sun Science Center, Idyllwild. Jim and Greg Clancy brought us to a new level of excellence in our performance.

- Jun 19 – The MOH Web site became official thanks to the efforts of J.D. Ahmanson.

Masters of Harmony Chronology

- Jul 7 – Performance, Ecumenical Services, Mormon Tabernacle, Salt Lake City. Thrilling performance with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir and Acoustix. Last performance directed by Greg Lyne as the Masters’ music director.

- Jul 24 – Doug Kendrick returned (temporarily) as MasterLink editor.

- Oct 2 – Jerry Braack became MasterLink editor.

- Nov 2 – Recording session, Gerald Daniel Recital Hall, Cal State University Long Beach. Finished our fourth album, California Gold Rush.


- Dec 7 – Annual Christmas Tree Lighting, Town Center Plaza, Santa Fe Springs.

1997–Lance Trossevin, President

- Jan 4 – 9th Annual Awards & Installation Banquet, Pasadena Hilton. Steve Goebel was named 1996 Barbershopper of the Year.


- Mar 1 – Jack Pinto (Easton, Pennsylvania), former director of the Hunterdon Harmonizers, became the Masters of Harmony’s music director. Jack was one of the original members of the BSQ Quartet.


Masters of Harmony Chronology

- Nov 29 – The 7th Annual Christmas Show, “Christmas With the Masters,” La Mirada Theatre for the Performing Arts, was directed by Alan Gordon, Mike McGee and Wayne Mendes. Featured The Airwaves, Upland High School Madrigals, and Children of the Masters.

- Dec 6 – Annual Christmas Tree Lighting, Town Center Plaza, Santa Fe Springs.

1998—Marlin Fors, President

- Jan 1 – Jeff Oxley (Dallas, Texas) became music director.

- Jan 10 – 10th Annual Awards & Installation Banquet, Anaheim Hilton. Chris Wilson was named 1997 Barbershopper of the Year.

- Feb 7 – Performance, Orange Coast College Community Concert Series, Robert B. Moore Theater, Costa Mesa. Jeff Oxley made directorial debut.

- Feb 21 – Performance, Calimesa Community Concert Series, Mesa Grande Academy Auditorium. Featured Metropolis and Mutual Fun.

- Mar 13 – Performance, Guinness Roaring 1920s Festival, Guinness Show of Barbershop Champions, Great Southern Hotel, Killarney, Ireland.

- Mar 15 – Performance, Guinness Roaring 1920s Festival, Sunday Service, St. Mary’s Cathedral, Killarney, Ireland.

- Mar 15 – Performance, Guinness Roaring 1920s Festival, North American Show of Barbershop Champions, Great Southern Hotel, Killarney, Ireland.

- Mar 17 – Guinness Roaring 1920s Festival, St. Patrick’s Day Parade, Killarney, Ireland

- May 9 – SoCal East Division Convention & Contest, Servite High School, Anaheim. Won the contest and began the 1999 contest cycle.

- May 17 – Performance, Palomar-Pacific Chapter Show, California Center for the Arts, Escondido. Featured Gotcha!


- Sep 18-19 – Retreat at Desert Sun Science Center, Idyllwild, with Greg Clancy.

- Sep 26 – Performance, Harborlites SAI Chapter Show, “Side by Side,” La Mirada Theatre for the Performing Arts. Featured Gotcha!

- Oct 10 – Far Western District Fall Convention & Contest, Symphony Hall, Phoenix. Won our fifth district championship and qualified for Anaheim ’99.
**Masters of Harmony Chronology**


- Dec 5 – Annual Christmas Tree Lighting, Town Center Plaza, Santa Fe Springs.

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1999–**Marlin Fors**, President

- Jan 9 – 10th Annual Awards & Installation Banquet, Westin Long Beach. Wayne Mendes was named 1998 Barbershopper of the Year.

- Jan 16 – Performance, Inland Empire SAI Chapter Show, “And the Band Played On,” Sherman Indian High School Auditorium, Riverside.

- Feb 20 – First Far Western District Top Gun Invitational, Pasadena High School. Coaches: Greg Lyne, Cindy Hansen and David Wright.

- Feb 27 – Performance, Orange Coast College Community Concert Series, Robert B. Moore Theater, Costa Mesa. Featured Gotcha! and Metropolis.


- Apr 14 – Bill Roth was inducted into the Masters of Harmony Hall of Fame.


- Apr 25 – Performance, Long Beach Community Concert Series, Terrace Theater.

- May 1 – Performance, Santa Barbara Chapter Show, “Best of Barbershop,” Santa Barbara Junior High School.


- Jun 4-6 – Retreat at Desert Sun Science Center, Idyllwild, with Jim Clancy.


- Jul 18 – Masters Class for Evergreen District, University of Puget Sound, Tacoma.

- Aug 11 – Gale Sherrodd became MasterLink editor.
Masters of Harmony Chronology

- Sep 5 – Performance, Jerry Lewis MDA Labor Day Telethon, CBS Television City, Hollywood
- Sep 8 – Jeff Oxley resigned as music director.
- Sep 13 – Brett Littlefield was appointed interim director.
- Oct 9 – Far Western District Fall Convention & Contest, Saturday Night Show, Reno-Sparks Convention Center. Directed by Brett Littlefield.
- Oct 20 – J.D. Ahmanson stepped in as MasterLink editor.
- Nov 26-27 – The 9th Annual Christmas Show, “Christmas With the Masters,” La Mirada Theatre, was directed by Brett Littlefield. Featured Inner Voices, Pam Pieson, Gotcha!, Mutual Fun, and Children of the Masters.
- Dec 4 – Annual Christmas Tree Lighting, Town Center Plaza, Santa Fe Springs.

2000—Marlin Fors, President

- Jan 8 – 11th Annual Awards & Installation Banquet, Sportsmen’s Lodge, Studio City. Chuck Leavitt was named 1999 Barbershopper of the Year.
- Feb 19 – At an all-day Saturday rehearsal, Director Search Committee Chairman Dave Briner passed out Director Ranking sheets for the purpose of evaluating the performance of the five candidates (Brian Beck, Mark Hale, Steve Iannacchione, Brett Littlefield and Gary Steinkamp) seeking to direct the Masters of Harmony.
- Feb 26 – Performance directed by Wayne Mendes, Orange Coast College Community Concert Series, Robert B. Moore Theater, Costa Mesa. Featured Gotcha! and Stardust.
- Mar 1 – Mark Hale (Clarksville, Indiana) was appointed music director.
- Apr 15 – Performance directed by Brett Littlefield, National Anthem, Bakersfield Condors Hockey Playoff Game, Bakersfield Centennial Garden.
Masters of Harmony Chronology


• Jul 6 – International Convention, World Harmony Jamboree, Music Hall, Kansas City

• Jul 8 – International Convention, Mike Testers, Kemper Arena.

• Jul 8 – International Convention, Swan Song, Kemper Arena.


• Oct 8 – Performance, 15th Anniversary Celebration, “15 Years of Musical Excellence,” Clarke Estate, Santa Fe Springs. The chorus performed a short set for about 200 family members, former members, Ambassadors of Harmony, and friends. Mayor Betty Putnam offered her congratulations and proclaimed October 8, 2000 as Masters of Harmony Day in Santa Fe Springs. Featured quartets were L.A. Sound, Metropolis, Gotcha! (with Joe D’Amore on bass), Panache (SAI), and Perfect Gentlemen. Debuted “When His Kingdom Comes” with Bryan Sandberg on the solo.

• Oct 14 – Mutual Fun won the 2000 Far Western District Seniors Quartet Championship at the Fall Convention & Contest in Fresno.

• Nov 1 – The MasterLink took on new management. Frank Ortega (Line Editor); Bryan Sandberg (Copy Editor).

• Nov 11 – Held an all-day rehearsal at Norwalk High School to prepare for the Christmas show. Debuted Masters University, an ongoing series of refresher courses for new and existing members on such topics as Vocal Techniques, Basic Presentation, Member Etiquette and History & Organization. The chapter plans to promote this concept across the Society. Jon Hoekema became the first Dean of Masters University.


2001--Bernard Priceman, President

• Jan 6 – 12th Annual Awards & Installation Banquet, Sportsmen’s Lodge, Studio City. Marlin Fors was named 2000 Barbershopper of the Year. Past Far Western District President Don Gubbins presided over installation ceremony.

• Jan 20-21 – Recording session at Long Beach Terrace Theater for recording of music for new Christmas album.

• Mar 3 – Performance, Youth Harmony Festival, Valley High School, Santa Ana. Featured L.A. Sound, Papa’s Boyz and 185 junior/senior high school boys throughout Southern California.

• Mar 10 – Performance, Orange Coast College Community Concert Series, Robert B. Moore Theater, Costa Mesa. Featured Countdown and L.A. Sound.
• May 12 – SoCal East Divisional Convention & Contest, Servite High School, Anaheim. The Masters took first place with a score of 1070 (89.2%) in a field of seven choruses. This was Mark Hale’s first chorus victory with the MOH. This was also the first time Steve & Graham Pence (father and son) competed together.

• May 31 – Choreography session with Erin Howden at Norwalk High School.


• Jul 7 – International Convention & Quartet Contest, Nashville, TN. Michigan Jake (Mark Hale, Greg Hollander, Drew Kirkman and Joel Wilson) won the quartet gold medal. Gotcha! (Alan Gordon, Jim Kline, Garry Texeira, and Chris Vaughn) took eighth place, and Finale (Joe D’Amore, Scott Kidder, Gary Steinkamp, and Dean Waters) ended up fifteenth.

• Jul 14-15 – Recording session at Gerald R. Daniel Recital Hall, California State University, Long Beach.

• Aug 11 – Recording session at Gerald R. Daniel Recital Hall, California State University, Long Beach.


• Sep 7-9 – Retreat at Desert Sun Science Center, Idyllwild with Society Music Specialist Kirk Young and Past MOH President Dan Fullerton.

• Sep 12 – Rehearsal with Erin Howden at Town Center Hall, Santa Fe Springs.

• Sep 27 – Extra rehearsal at Norwalk High School.

• Oct 2 – Extra rehearsal at Norwalk High School.

• Oct 13 – Far Western District Fall Convention & Contest, Bakersfield Convention Center, Bakersfield. Won sixth district championship.

• Nov 10 – Performance directed by Mark Feiner, Ken Potter, Mark Travis and Kelly Shepard, Calimesa Community Concert Series, Mesa Grande Academy Auditorium. Featured Hi-Fidelity and Countdown.

• Nov 17 – Far Western District’s Top Gun Invitational, Radisson Hotel, San Bernardino. Coaches included Jay Giallombardo, Darryl Flinn and Kim Hulbert.

• Dec 1 – Annual Christmas Tree Lighting, Town Center Plaza, Santa Fe Springs.

• Dec 8 – 11th Annual Christmas Show, Terrace Theater, Long Beach. Featured Sixth Wave, Pam Pieson and Children of the Masters.
2002—Bernard Priceman, President

- Jan 2 – David Wright, arranger par excellence, director of the St. Charles, MO Ambassadors of Harmony and longtime friend of the MOH, visited to help us fine tune “Here Comes The Showboat.” We kicked off the first rehearsal of the New Year with a “bang.”

- Jan 5 – 13th Annual Awards & Installation Banquet, Phoenix Club, Anaheim. Mark Freedkin was named 2001 Barbershopper of the Year. Entertainment: Sam’s Club, Finale and Fanatix.

- Jan 13 – Special Sunday rehearsal with Erin Howden, Artesia High School.

- Jan 26 – Performance, International Midwinter Convention, Riverside Municipal Auditorium. Featured Pam Pieson and swing dancers.

- Feb 9 – Performance, 2nd Annual Youth Harmony Festival, Servite High School, Anaheim. Featured Late Night Barbershop and 202 young men from high schools throughout Southern California.

- Feb 16 – Performance, Orange Coast College Community Concert Series, Robert B. Moore Theater, Costa Mesa. Guest artists were Pam Pieson, Finale and Fanatix.

- Feb 20 – Whittier Chapter visited the Masters of Harmony.


- Apr 24 – Performance, East Ventura County Community Concert Series, Thousand Oaks Civic Arts Plaza. Featured Hi-Fidelity and Late Night Barbershop.

- May 18 – 10th Annual Spring Show, Stuart E. Marsee Auditorium, El Camino Community College, Torrance. Featured Riptide and Finale.

- Jun 2 – Coaching session with Erin Howden, Artesia High School.


- Jul 5 – International Convention, Rose Garden, Portland. Won fifth gold medal. Contest songs (Dixie set) were: “Song Of The South” and “Here Comes The Showboat.”

- Jul 6 – Bill Roth was inducted into the Masters of Harmony Hall of Fame.

- Aug 17-18 – At the annual Buckeye Invitational, Hi-Fidelity won the Overall Quartet spot (including Best Male Quartet and Most Entertaining Quartet). Verdugo Hills Sweet Adelines Showtime Chorus, directed by Alan Gordon, was the chorus Grand Champion (including awards for Best Female Chorus and Most Entertaining).

- Sep 18 – The Masters of Harmony was inducted into the Vocal Group Hall of Fame in Sharon, PA. Since the chorus could not attend to accept the award, Mark Hale videotaped an acceptance message thanking the VGHOF for the Harmony Award.

- Sep 22 – Sunday Recording Session, Gerald R. Daniel Recital Hall, California State University, Long Beach.
Masters of Harmony Chronology

- Oct 5 – Far Western District Fall Convention & Contest, Bakersfield Convention Center, Bakersfield. The Masters performed on the afterglow at the Holiday Inn Select Hotel. In the district quartet contest, Sam’s Club was crowned 2002 Quartet Champion, Hi-Fidelity took second, and Late Night Barbershop captured fourth. Time Honored won the seniors quartet title. The Masters were also represented by A Touch of Class, L.A. Sound, In the Zone and Top-Notch.


- Dec 7 – Annual Christmas Tree Lighting, Town Center Plaza, Santa Fe Springs.

2003—Bernard Priceman, President

- Jan 4 – 14th Annual Awards & Installation Banquet held aboard Queen Mary. Jim Sickles was named 2002 Barbershopper of the Year. Installing officer: John Krizek, FWD President. Entertainment: Gotcha!


- Feb 15 – Performance, 3rd Annual Youth Harmony Festival, Robert B. Moore Theater, Orange Coast College, Costa Mesa. Featured quartets were Hi-Fidelity, Sam’s Club and Forefront (young women’s foursome from Harborlites). Over 130 young men from high schools throughout Southern California attended.


- Jun 1 – Sunday rehearsal with Erin Howden, Artesia High School.


Masters of Harmony Chronology

- Jul 5 – International Convention, Swan Song, Bell Center, Montreal. Performed outgoing champion's package: “Into The Fire,” Finian’s Rainbow Medley, “Don’t You Hate It?” and The Stars and Stripes Forever March. At the “Midnight Madness” afterglow (Hilton Bonaventure), the MOH performed a set and then sang the America Medley and Tribute to World Peace jointly with The Vocal Majority. Michigan Jake and Max Q sang quartet spots on “Tribute” with Jeff Oxley's solo on “One Voice.”


- Oct 1 – Performance, “First Wednesdays” Series, California State University, San Bernardino. Featured OC Times and Forefront. OC Times held a Master Class (“What Is Barbershop?”) for music faculty and students earlier in the day.

- Nov 12 – Dan Fullerton was inducted into Masters of Harmony Hall of Fame.

- Dec 3 – Wayne Mendes was inducted into Masters of Harmony Hall of Fame.

- Dec 6 – Annual Christmas Tree Lighting, Town Center Plaza, Santa Fe Springs.

- Dec 13 – 13th Annual Christmas Show, “Together at Christmas,” Harriet & Charles Luckman Theater, California State University, Los Angeles. Featured Harborlites Chorus under the direction of Pam Pieson plus quartets (OC Times and Forefront) from both choruses.

2004—Ken Custer, President

- Jan 7 – Temporary rehearsal site change: Multipurpose Room, Artesia High School, Lakewood. Change of venue was due to renovation of Santa Fe Springs Town Center Hall.


- Feb 21 – Performance, 4th Annual Young Men’s Harmony Festival, Robert B. Moore Theater, Orange Coast College, Costa Mesa. Featured guests were OC Times, Forefront and the Westminster Harmony Showcase Chorus. Over 200 young men from high schools throughout Southern California attended.

- Feb 22 – Sunday rehearsal with Erin Howden at Artesia High School.

- Mar 18-21 – Far Western District Spring Convention & Contest, John Ascuaga’s Nugget Rose Ballroom, Reno, Nevada. Quartets representing MOH included Gotcha!, Metropolis, Hi-Fidelity and OC Times.

- Apr 3 – Performance, Calimesa Community Concert Series, Mesa Grande Academy Auditorium. Guest quartet was OC Times.

- Apr 7 – Returned to regular rehearsal facilities at Town Center Hall, Santa Fe Springs.

- Apr 18 – Coaching session with Erin Howden at Artesia High School.
Masters of Harmony Chronology

- May 1 – 12th Annual Spring Show, “Once In a Lifetime,” Terrace Theatre, Long Beach. Featured The Boston Common and Brava! plus cameo appearances by Pam Pieson and OC Times. Justin Miller was the dancer during our debut of the “Singin’ In The Rain” Medley. Luis Padilla debuted as pianist for Pam’s solo of “What Are You Doing The Rest Of Your Life?”

- May 8 – SoCal East Divisional Convention & Contest, Servite High School, Anaheim. O.C. Times took first place and Mach Four finished second. Both qualified to compete at the FWD Fall Convention in Bakersfield this October. Top-Notch achieved fourth place (first among seniors) and 4th Row finished eighth. Bernard Priceman was Master of Ceremonies for the evening chorus contest.

- May 15 – SoCal West Divisional Convention & Contest, Ventura High School. Contest songs: “Love Me And The World Is Mine (ballad) and “Here Comes The Showboat” (uptune). The Masters took first place with a score of 1070 (89.2%) in a field of eight choruses. The MOH sang the Singin’ In The Rain Medley and “Stars And Stripes Forever” on the Saturday night “Show of Champions.” MOH quartets qualifying for district competition included Curtain Call (Senior), Fastrac, Fuzzy Logic (Senior), Hi-Fidelity (SCW Division Champion), L.A. Sound, and The Stage Hogs (SCW Senior Quartet Champion).


  CASA also announced the winners of the 4th Annual A Cappella Community Awards (ACAs). Winners are chosen by fans’ votes. In the Favorite Barbershop Group category, the winners are the Masters of Harmony. “The Masters of Harmony, an all-male chorus based in Santa Fe Springs, California, has been dedicated to barbershop music since 1985. Under the direction of Mark Hale, they won the Barbershop Harmony Society (SPEBSQSA) gold medal in 2002. The Masters have won five international championships and numerous other recognitions, and were inducted into the Barbershop Hall of Fame in Sharon, Pennsylvania, in September 2002.”

- Jun 2 – Recorded a demonstration tape for film composer Erik Lundmark, who is attempting to get the scoring rights to the 2005 movie, Genghis Khan. Lundmark is trying to set himself apart from the other composers competing for the job by recording a live group that will give his music a living, breathing presence that will pull the listener into the story.

- Jun 9 – Erin Howden stopped by Town Center Hall to teach and sharpen choreography to Singin’ In The Rain Medley and “Make ‘Em Laugh.”

- Jun 28-July 3 – International Convention, Louisville, KY. Competing quartets representing the MOH were Finale, Gotcha!, Metropolis, Hi-Fidelity and OC Times. Gotcha! won the quartet gold medal; Metropolis was the fourth-place bronze medalist. Finale took 17th place and OC Times finished in the 18th spot. In the first round of competition, Hi-Fidelity ended up in 31st place. The Westminster Chorus, with several MOHers as dual members, finished ninth in the international chorus contest.

- Aug 21-22 – Recording Session, Citrus College Studios, Glendora.

- Oct 2 – Far Western District Fall Convention & Contest, Bakersfield Convention Center. Competing quartets representing the Masters included Curtain Call (Senior), Fastrac, Fuzzy Logic (Senior), Hi-Fidelity, L.A. Sound, Mach 4, OC Times, Stage Hogs (Senior) and Top-Notch (Senior).
Masters of Harmony Chronology

- Nov 3 – Doug Maddox was inducted into the Masters of Hall of Fame.

- Nov 27 – 14th Annual Christmas Show, “Christmas Stays the Same,” Carpenter Performing Arts Center, California State University, Long Beach. Featured Harborlites Chorus under the direction of Pam Pieson plus a mixed ensemble of the most decorated a cappella singers in Southern California.

- Dec 4 – Annual Christmas Tree Lighting, Town Center Plaza, Santa Fe Springs.

- Dec 5 – Performance, “Holiday Harmony” Show, Shrine Auditorium, Los Angeles. Other artists included Metropolis, Pam Pieson and the “Holiday Harmony” Chorus (members from nine Southern California chapters). Nearly 2000 attended the first-ever FREE show sponsored by the Far Western District, Al Malikah Shriners and The Shrine Auditorium Co.

- Dec 18 – Performance, Christmas Road Show, “Christmas Stays the Same,” Harvey Memorial Auditorium, Bakersfield High School. Featured Pam Pieson and VoCA.

2005–Ken Custer, President

- Jan 8 – 16th Annual Awards & Installation Banquet held at the LAX Radisson Hotel, Inglewood. Guest speaker: David Wright. Installing officer: Far Western District President Peter Feeney. Les Weiser was named 2004 Barbershopper of the Year. Featured quartet: Nightlife. Disc Jockey Frank DeSimone of SP Entertainment provided music for dancing.

- Feb 19 – Performance, 5th Annual Young Men’s Harmony Festival, Orange Coast College, Costa Mesa. OC Times served as section leaders during the day and performed on the evening show. Hi-Fidelity and Men-So Forte (2004 MBNA Collegiate Quartet Contest finalist) had guest spots on the show as well. Program Chairman Mark Freedkin, Society Music Educator Rick Spencer, Garry Texeira, Ken Potter and Greg Lapp served on the music faculty.

- Feb 27 – Choreography coaching with Erin Howden. Artesia High School, Lakewood.

- Apr 3 – Choreography coaching with Erin Howden. Artesia High School, Lakewood.


- Jun 3-5 – Spring Retreat, Forest Home Family Camp, Forest Falls (near Yucaipa).

- Jul 6-9 – International Convention, LDS Conference Center, Salt Lake City, Utah. The Masters won their sixth international chorus championship.

- Sep 17 – Recording session, Citrus Studios, Citrus College, Glendora. Recorded “Time After Time,” “Stand By Me” and “Roll On, Mississippi, Roll On.”

- Sep 25 – Performance, Bakersfield Community Concert Series, Rabobank Convention Center. Hi-Fidelity and OC Times were guest artists.
Masters of Harmony Chronology

- Oct 14-15 – Far Western District Convention, Pasadena Civic Auditorium, Pasadena. Hosted by the Masters of Harmony. Performed “Time After Time,” “Roll On, Mississippi, Roll On” and “Here Comes The Showboat” on Saturday night “Show of Champions.” Hi-Fidelity took the FWD quartet championship. The Westminster Chorus was the chorus champion under the direction of Royce Ferguson.


- Dec 3 – Annual Christmas Tree Lighting, Town Center Plaza, Santa Fe Springs.

2006–Ken Custer, President


- Feb 4 – Performance, Calimesa Community Concert Series, Mesa Grande Auditorium, Calimesa. Featured quartets: Hi-Fidelity and OC Times.


- Mar 29 – On this date and as a cost-savings measure, the MasterLink was sent to all members by e-mail for the first time.


- Jun 9-10 – Spring Retreat, Norwalk Marriott.

- Jun 19 – Steve Peacock was appointed to fill the position of VP-Public Relations.

- International Convention, Indianapolis, Indiana
  - Jul 6 – Masters Class, Westin Hotel.
  - Jul 7 – Swan Song, Conseco Fieldhouse. Set: “Sometimes I Feel Like A Motherless Child” (Brett Littlefield solo), “For Good” (Mark Hale solo) and “Go Down, Moses.”
Masters of Harmony Chronology

- Jul 10 – President Ken Custer announced his acceptance of a new position with Northrup Grumman in the Middle East (Iraq) and tendered his resignation effective August 1, 2006. The board of directors, previously notified of Ken’s imminent resignation, had already approved Kirt Thiesmeyer as president through the remainder of 2006. Arbe Kraft was approved to serve out Thiesmeyer’s unexpired term as VP-Chapter Development.


- Sep 20 – The Masters Voice was temporarily discontinued due to the imminent departure and relocation of Managing Editor Frank Ortega.


- Nov 8 – Frank Ortega was inducted into the Masters of Harmony Hall of Fame.


- Dec 2 – Annual Christmas Tree Lighting, Town Center Plaza, Santa Fe Springs.

2007–Kirt Thiesmeyer, President


- Jan 19-20 – Coaching with Erin Howden, First Presbyterian Church of Anaheim


- Apr 12 – Coaching with Erin Howden, Norwalk Marriott Hotel.


- Aug 26 – Coaching with Erin Howden.
Masters of Harmony Chronology


- Sep 29 – Far Western District Fall Convention, Phoenix Symphony Hall. The Masters won their seventh consecutive district chorus championship. VocalEase is the 2007 District Quartet Champion.


- Nov 24 – Annual Christmas Show, Title: Christmas Masterpiece, Carpenter Center, Long Beach. Guest artists: Masterpiece, Holiday Blend.

- Dec 1 – Annual Christmas Tree Lighting, Town Center Plaza, Santa Fe Springs.

2008--Kirt Thiesmeyer, President


- Feb 2 – Performance, Calimesa Community Concert Series, Mesa Grande Academy Auditorium, Calimesa. Guest artists: Masterpiece and The Crush.

- Feb 23 – Performance, 8th Annual Young Men’s Harmony Festival, Robert B. Moore Theater, Orange Coast College, Costa Mesa. Featuring OC Times and Gotcha!

- Feb 29-Mar 1 – Coaching with Erin Howden, John Glenn High School, Norwalk.

- Mar 19 – Coaching with Greg Clancy at Town Center Hall, Santa Fe Springs.


- May 17 – Annual Spring Show, Carpenter Center, Long Beach. Show title: Portrait. Featuring Max Q with cameo appearances by Masterpiece and The Crush.

- May 21 – Coaching with Dr. Greg Lyne at Town Center Hall, Santa Fe Springs.


- Jul 19 – Recording session held at Citrus Studios, Glendora.
Masters of Harmony Chronology

- Sep 27 – Performance, Sacramento Community Concert Series, Sacramento Community Center. Guest artists: Masterpiece and The Crush.

- Oct 10-11 – Far Western District Fall Convention, Bakersfield Convention Center. The Masters hosted and sang away the district trophy on the Saturday night show. Masterpiece (Alan Gordon, Mark Hale, Brett Littlefield and Rob Menaker) won the district quartet title.

- Dec 6 – Tree Lighting Ceremony, Town Center Plaza, Santa Fe Springs


2009—Kirt Thiesmeyer, President


- Jan 28 – 2008 International Collegiate Quartet Champion Ringmasters visited the rehearsal on their way to the Midwinter Convention this weekend. Jakob Stenberg (tenor), Rasmus Krigström (lead), Emanuel Roll (bari) and Martin Wahlgren (bass) sing with zero8 (Nordic champion chorus of SNOBS).

- Jan 31 – Performance, International Midwinter Convention, Show of Champions, Pasadena Civic Auditorium. The chorus sang four numbers including a reprise of the 2008 contest set.


- Mar 28 – Recording Session, Citrus Studios, Glendora. The chorus recorded the last three songs needed to finalize the MOH’s seventh CD: “Blues In The Night,” “Go Down, Moses” and Portrait of My Love Medley.

- May 6 – Marlin Fors was inducted into the Masters of Harmony Hall of Fame.

- May 18 – The board of directors approved the appointment of Tom Christman and Alan Greenberg to serve as board members-at-large for the remainder of 2009 to fill the vacancies left by Graham Pence and David Phinney.

- May 30 – Annual Spring Show, Carpenter Center, Long Beach. Show title: Together Wherever We Go. Featured OC Times and Masterpiece.

International Convention, Anaheim, California—Hosted by Masters of Harmony
- Jul 2 – Masters Class, Anaheim Hilton.
- Jul 3 – Swan Song, Honda Center.
- Jul 4 – Performance, Harmony Foundation Show, Honda Center. History-making event with over 400 voices of the Masters of Harmony, The Ambassadors of Harmony and The Vocal Majority on stage together at one time. Plus Harborlites, OC Times and cameo appearances by several other champion quartets.
Masters of Harmony Chronology

- Oct 10 – Far Western District Fall Convention, Sacramento. The Edge won the 2009 District Quartet Championship, The Crush took second place, and The Vagrants finished third. Top-Notch was named 2009-2010 Super Senior Quartet Champion. In chorus competition, The Westminster Chorus, with more than 20 MOH members, took first place and qualified to represent the Far Western District at the 2010 Philadelphia International.


- Dec 5 – Tree Lighting Ceremony, Town Center Plaza, Santa Fe Springs

2010—Bill Rosica, President


- Jan 23 – Performance, Calimesa Community Concert Series, Mesa Grande Academy Auditorium, Calimesa. Guest artists: The Crush and The Vagrants.


- Feb 21 – Coaching with Erin Howden, John Glenn High School, Norwalk.

- Feb 27 – Performance, 2010 Inaugural Concert Series, Fox Performing Arts Center, Riverside. Guest artists: The Edge and The Crush.

- Mar 18-21 – Far Western District Spring Convention, Reno. Masterpiece (Rob Menaker, Patrick Haedtler, Alan Gordon, Brett Littlefield) was first; The Edge (Tom Moore, Jason Remley, Sam Papageorge, J Friedman) took second place; current college champs The Vagrants (Joey Buss, Jonny Tillery, Colin Plain, David Meye) placed fourth. On Tap (Brian Harmon, Graham Pence, Steve Pence, Bryan Sandberg) finished seventh. The Masters of Harmony received the Far Western District’s 2009 Chapter of the Year award. Doug Maddox was inducted into the FWD’s Hall of Fame.

- Apr 18-20 – Mandatory rehearsals with Erin Howden, John Glenn High School, Norwalk.

- May 1 – Annual Spring Show, Ambassador Auditorium, Pasadena. Show title: “Music In the Air.” Guest artist: Crossroads, 2009 International Quartet Champion. Catcher Block (Kelly Shepard and former MOHer James Sabina, both from Metropolis) made a surprise appearance.

Masters of Harmony Chronology

- May 15 – Southeast Divisional Contest, Alta Loma High School, Rancho Cucamonga. Catcher Block (Kelly Shepard and former MOHer James Sabina) took first place in quartet competition. The Vagrants) was second.

- Jun 21 – Established the position of Director of Sales (Sales Manager, preferred).


- Aug 4 – Justin Miller said “goodbye” to the Masters upon his relocation to accept a teaching position in Connecticut. Pat Claypool accepted the Presentation Coordinator position.

- Aug 16 – The board authorized VP Marketing Gary DePew and VP Public Relations Jack Peters to switch positions. AJ Manker took over as Secretary for the remainder of 2010.

- Aug 28 – All-day retreat at the Arcadia Community Center

- Sep 18 – Recording session, Citrus Studios, Glendora

- Oct 9 – Far Western District Fall Convention, Bakersfield Convention Center. The Masters, with 102 on stage, won the 2010 Far Western District Chorus Championship and qualified for the 2011 International Convention in Kansas City. Contest songs: “When She Loved Me” and “Alabama Jubilee.” The Crush was crowned 2010 FWD Quartet Champion.

- Oct 30 – Recording Session, Citrus Studios, Glendora

- Nov 13-14 – Movie Project, Benjamin Franklin Middle School, Long Beach. The Masters spent two full days filming a demonstration video for a proposed movie titled Men Making Music. Director, Clay Tarver; Actor, Chris Pratt.

- Dec 4 – Performance, “Masters of Harmony Christmas Special,” Fox Performing Arts Center, Riverside

- Dec 5 – Performance, Bakersfield Community Concert Series, Rabobank Theater, Bakersfield

- Dec 11 – Annual Christmas Show, “Masters in This Hall,” Plummer Auditorium, Fullerton

2011—Bill Rosica, President

- Jan 8 – 22nd Annual Awards & Installation Banquet, Knott’s Berry Farm Resort Hotel, Buena Park. Installing Officer: FWD President Bernard Priceman; Keynote Speaker: Society Board Member John Miller; Master of Ceremonies: J Friedman; Awards Chairman: Ron Perry. Theme: The Dream Is Carried On. Patrick Claypool was named 2010 Barbershopper of the Year. The Edge received Quartet of the Year honors.

- Jan 30 – Performance, Long Beach Community Concert Series, Carpenter Center, Long Beach. Tenacious Q and The Crush were featured quartets.

- Feb 12 – Performance, 11th Annual Young Men’s Harmony Festival, Orange Coast College, Costa Mesa. Featured: Masters of Harmony, OC Times and Masterpiece.
Masters of Harmony Chronology

- Feb 21 – Jake Bailey accepted the position of VP Marketing; Gary Stone replaced Gary DePew as VP Public Relations.

- Mar 17-20 – Far Western District Spring Convention, Santa Clara. Four Masters of Harmony foursomes took the top four spots in the quartet finals. Masterpiece, The Crush and The Edge placed first, second, third, respectively, qualifying for international competition in Kansas City. On Tap finished fourth.

- May 7 – Southwest Divisional Contests, Duarte Performing Arts Center, Duarte. Tenacious Q (Joey Buss, Christian Espinoza, Patrick Haedtler, Pat Claypool) won the division quartet championship.


- Jul 8 – International Convention, Sprint Center, Kansas City. Contest songs: “Stranger In Paradise” (ballad) and “Alabama Jubilee” (uptune). The Masters won their eighth consecutive gold medal by a five-point margin over the Great Northern Union. The Northern Lights and Sound of the Rockies tied for third. The Ambassadors of Harmony wound up in fifth place. Masterpiece took home the third-place bronze medal in quartet competition.

- Jul 24 – Performance, Summer Pops Concert, First United Methodist Church, San Diego.

- Oct 13-15 – Far Western District Fall Convention, William Saroyan Theater, Fresno.

- Dec 3 – Tree Lighting Ceremony, Town Center Plaza, Santa Fe Springs.

- Dec 4 – Performance, “Holiday Season Celebration,” Fox Performing Arts Center, Riverside.


2012—Bill Rosica, President

- Jan 8 – Annual Awards & Installation of Officers Banquet, Khoury’s Restaurant, Long Beach. Keynote Speaker and Installing Officer: Bob Lally, Past President of Far Western District; Master of Ceremonies: J. Friedman; Awards Chairman: Ron Perry; Theme: “A New Beginning.” Bruce Oldham was named Barbershopper of the Year for 2011.

- Feb 8 – Mark Hale announced his resignation as director of the Masters of Harmony effective July following the 2012 International Convention and swan song performance in July.
Masters of Harmony Chronology


- Feb 20 – VP Music & Performance Joe D’Amore announced that an Open House (Guest Night) will be held on the Wednesday immediately following our annual shows (Spring and Christmas) as a possible way of recruiting more singers into our ranks.


- Mar 8-11 – Masters of Harmony hosted the Far Western District Spring Convention (Spring Prelims) plus the Southwest-Southeast Divisional Contests at Colony High School, Ontario.

- Apr 4 – Annual Spring Show, Downey Civic Theatre, Downey. Title: “Steppin’ Out In Style.” Guest quartets: Masterpiece and Tenacious Q.

- Apr 23-24 – Erin Howden coaching at Anaheim First Presbyterian Church.

- May 23 – Cut back on MasterLink publication schedule from weekly to twice a month.


- Jul 6 – Recognition Luncheon, Ambridge Events Center, Marquam Room, Portland, OR. Mark Hale was inducted into the Masters of Harmony Hall of Fame.

- Jul 6 – Swan Song, Rose Garden Arena, Portland, OR. In Mark Hale’s last performance as MOH director, the chorus sang “As Long As I’m Singing,” Hoagy Carmichael Medley, and “Don’t Break The Rules.”

- Jul 7 – Masterpiece finished fourth in the International Quartet Contest in Portland.

- Jul 25 – Director Audition #1 – Justin Miller

- Aug 1 – Director Audition #2 – Royce Ferguson

- Aug 20 – Justin Miller was approved as music director of the Masters of Harmony.

- Aug 22 – Justin Miller’s first rehearsal as MOH director.

- Oct 10 – The chapter elected the 2013 slate of officers: President: Ron Andreas; VP-Music & Performance: Joe D’Amore; VP-Marketing: Bill Power; VP-Public Relations: Gary Stone; VP-Chapter Development: Ray Johnson; VP-Operations: Tom Christman; Secretary: Maurice Freleaux; Treasurer: Jussi Ratsula; and Board Members-at-Large: Amnon Avidor, Jim Ernsberger, Brad Kelso, Rich Owen and Phil Wolf. Bill Rosica will serve as Immediate Past President and Nominating Committee Chairman.

- Oct 13 – Far Western District Fall Convention, Mesa Arts Center, Mesa, Arizona. In quartet competition, Tenacious Q and American Pastime finished second and third, respectively. The Westminster Chorus, under the direction of Justin Miller, won the Far Western District chorus title with an unprecedented 94.3% rating, the highest ever for a district contest.
Masters of Harmony Chronology


• Nov 29 – Kirt Thiesmeyer eulogized Bass Gale Sherrodd (1947-2012) at the memorial service held at the First Methodist Church of La Mirada. The chorus, directed by Brett Littlefield, sang “I Believe,” “Hallelujah” and “Precious Lord.”

• Dec 1 – Tree Lighting Ceremony, Town Center Plaza, Santa Fe Springs


2013—Ron Andreas, President

• Jan 5 – Annual Awards & Installation of Officers Banquet, Khoury’s Restaurant, Long Beach. Keynote Speaker and Installing Officer: Sharon Miller, Secretary, Harmony Foundation; Master of Ceremonies: Les Weiser; Awards Chairman: Ron Perry; Theme: “MAP Our Future!” Entertainment: Tenacious Q and Songworks. Joe D’Amore was named Barbershopper of the Year for 2012.

• Jan 27 – The Music Committee penciled out a 3-year plan that included a homecoming/guest night, update of the Masters University curriculum and staff, development of a vocal-visual program for weekly meetings, and a 30th Anniversary show in 2015.

• Feb 14 – The Singing Valentines program, coordinated by Phil Wolf and promoted by Uber, a company best known for its on-demand car service, was a successful first-time venture. Seven quartets (six in Los Angeles, one in San Diego) delivered over 100 Singing Valentines, netting over $4,000 for the chapter.


• Feb 17 – The Masters of Harmony, directed by Justin Miller, participated in a memorial service for charter member Bob Hagelbarger at the Claremont School of Theology. The chorus sang “Precious Lord” and “You’ll Never Walk Alone.”

• Mar 6 – Homecoming/Guest Night. About 120 singers were in attendance. Justin Miller led the total ensemble through several old, familiar songs during the first half of the evening. The performing chorus went through a regular rehearsal to show what today’s Masters of Harmony looks and sounds like. Our Harmony Sweethearts treated us to cake and ice cream.

• Mar 27 – At the first-ever quarterly meeting, President Ron Andreas announced the changes that will be taking place in how the chorus operates. Recording sessions will take place about every four months discussed chapter business on a Wednesday night in lieu of a rehearsal and we will begin to implement a new vocal-visual program.

• Apr 20 – Annual Spring Show, “Pulling Out All the Stops,” Downey Civic Theater. Guest talent: Masterpiece and Dolce (SAI).

• Apr 28 – Performance, “Pulling Out All the Stops,”, Fox Performing Arts Center, Riverside. Guest talent: Masterpiece
Masters of Harmony Chronology

- May 11 – Combined SE-SW Divisional Contest at Canyon High School in Ontario. The Masters took first place in the Southwest Division with 76 men on stage, scoring 91.7% for the first time at the divisional level.

- May 12 – Mother’s Day. Phil Wolf put together another quartet opportunity. This time he partnered with Operation Homefront to Skype Singing Mothergrams to three military families.


- Nov 17 – Performance, Oceanview Pavilion Performing Arts Theatre, Port Hueneme. Guest artists: Masterpiece and American Pastime.


- Dec 7 – Tree Lighting Ceremony, Town Center Plaza, Santa Fe Springs.

- Dec 8 – Christmas Special, Fox Performing Arts Center, Riverside. “My Favorite Things.” Guest artists: Masterpiece and American Pastime.


2014—Ron Andreas, President


- Feb 15 – Performance, 14th Annual Young Men’s Harmony Festival, Orange Coast College, Costa Mesa. Featured Masters of Harmony, OC Times, Masterpiece, and The Newfangled Four. Clinicians: Dave Tautkus, Dr. Chris Peterson, and Mark Freedkin.

- Mar 25 – Coaching session with Erin Howden, Anaheim First Presbyterian Church. Introduced choreography to the contest uptune.


- Jun 6-8 – Chorus Retreat, Idyllwild Pines Camp.

Masters of Harmony Chronology


- Sep 14 – A “Celebration of Life” was held for departed brother Doug Maddox at the Yorba Linda Community Center.

- Oct 9 – Retiring Chorus Champion’s Performance, Far Western District Fall Convention. William Saroyan Theater, Fresno. The Masters sang away the district championship trophy. American Pastime (Graham Pence, Tom Moore, Matt Swann, Joe D’Amore) was crowned 2014 Far Western District Quartet Champion. Young foursome, Flightline, took second place honors. The Velvet Frogs was the recipient of the Lloyd Steinkamp “Standing O” Award. Nick Papageorge presented a golden broom, in memory of Doug Maddox, that will be present at all future district contests, and used to sweep the stage in fond remembrance of Doug doing that for many years.

- Oct 28 – Transferred our MasterLine email list to the Constant Contact database on a trial basis and started sending targeted marketing blasts to subscribers.


- Dec 6 – Tree Lighting Ceremony, Town Center Plaza, Santa Fe Springs.

- Dec 7 – Christmas Special, Fox Performing Arts Center, Riverside. Quartet: American Pastime. Soloist: Megan Lyne.

2015—Ron Andreas, President

- Jan 24 – Annual Awards & Installation of Officers Banquet, Khoury’s Restaurant, Long Beach. Keynote speaker and first director (Joe D’Amore), Installing officer and first chapter president (Terry Blumenthal), master of ceremonies (Gary Stone), and awards chairman (Ron Perry). Theme for 2015: *You Have What It Takes*. Gary Stone was named 2014 Barbershopper of the Year.


- May 31 – Annual Spring Show, Flashback, Carpenter Performing Arts Center, Long Beach. Guest Quartet: Lunch Break.


- Sep 12 – Homecoming Dinner-Show, The Centre at Sycamore Plaza, Lakewood. Quartets: Masterpiece, OC Times, Nightlife and The Crush.
Masters of Harmony Chronology

- Oct 17 – Far Western District Fall Convention, Mesa Arts Center, Ikeda Theater, Mesa, AZ. Contest set: *The Very Thought Of You* (ballad), *Georgia Camp Meeting* (upptune).

- Nov 1 – Performance, Shepherd’s Grove Church, Garden Grove.

- Nov 15 – Joint Performance with Southern California Children’s Chorus, St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, Newport Beach.


- Dec 5 – Tree Lighting Ceremony, Town Center Plaza, Santa Fe Springs.

- Dec 6 – Christmas Special, Fox Performing Arts Center, Riverside. Quartets: American Pastime, Masterpiece and The Newfangled Four. Guest soloist: Megan Lyne.

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2016—Rob Menaker, President


- Feb 20 – Performance, 16th Annual Young Men’s Harmony Festival, Orange Coast College, Costa Mesa. Featured Masters of Harmony and The Newfangled Four. Guest clinicians: Chris Peterson, Dave Tautkus and Mark Freedkin.


- Jun 12 – Performance, Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church, Lake Arrowhead. Guest talent: ____________.