

# CHAPTER LEADER NEWS

Building Relationships Between Chapter and District Leaders

December 15, 2024

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- Transition & Assistance - Larry Breitbarth, Treasurer
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- Bud Leabo Memorial Fund - Chris Powell, Secretary
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**Bill Hickman**  
EVG President

## **PRESIDENT TO PRESIDENT - December**

Are you thinking about next year? Have you scheduled a session with your board to plan the new year? If not, it is time to do so.

I know from experience that many of us will welcome the new year without doing anything specific to plan the chapter's course for 2025. We will continue to do what we have always done, which, with respect, will continue to give us mediocre results.

As an alternative, have you thought about what you would like your chapter to become in 2025? Have you thought about goals that make sense? Are the problems of membership, marketing, retention, and engagement on your mind?

From my fifty plus years of leading teams, the one thing I know to be true is that you don't have the answers to the problems you face. More importantly, there is no way you could have the answers. No matter what the specific problem you face in your chapter may be, please don't think that you should have the answers. To properly address them you need to engage your team.

You don't need to be the one with the answers. What you need to be is the one who seeks the answers – from your team.

Call me if you need me. I am at your service. Bill

## **PRESIDENTS' ZOOM MEETING**

Bill Hickman is inviting you to the next Presidents' Call Zoom meeting. The meetings are scheduled for the fourth Sunday of each month at 7:00 PM Pacific Time.

**Join Zoom Meeting:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88132547633?pwd=UGQ3eE5CYziDZFFxUFV5RXVCQkhudz09>

## HAPPY HOLIDAYS - BOB COX



It's been an honor to serve on your EVG Board after years of just being a bystander, but yet still involved. Your District Board is continually looking at ways for you to enjoy the barbershop experience.

We're looking at organizational options to give you more input. We're offering funding for membership and community outreach. We're looking at expanding HCNW classes. We're actively seeking leaders for the Board and special committees. We're communicating more effectively through new formats. We're back to hosting fun conventions and festivals and encouraging chapter gatherings.

BHS, from a bigger perspective, supports organizational services and outreach for members. Programs such as: **The Big Leap, Un-Convention** (Nashville), **Harmony University, Leadership Workshops, San Antonio Mid-Winter**, and **Denver International Conventions**. Our relationships with **Harmony Foundation**, affiliate organizations, **Sweet Adelines, Harmony Incorporated** and other groups are strong, continuing our efforts to grow through **Everyone in Harmony**.

There's lots of behind-the-scenes activity planning underway as we continue to focus on you and your members. We welcome your questions, input, and suggestions to serve you better.

## REVIEW, PLAN, PREPARE - SID BROWN



Chapter Secretaries: Who did you vote for?

No, not *that* election! The chapter election of officers for 2025, of course! Per our bylaws, that election should have happened in October, and you should know who will be serving the chapter next year. Now is an excellent time to update the list of officers in the BHS Member Center, showing their new dates of service as officers.

That will ensure that all chapter leaders receive important announcements in the form of the Chapter Leader News and any other leadership-related communications from the district throughout the year. Do it now and save the Communications team from having to troubleshoot missed announcements and distributions in the new year!

## TRANSITION & ASSISTANCE - LARRY BREITBARTH



As your Evergreen District Treasurer, I'm here to support your efforts to raise funds, manage cash and support your chapter members.

Specific help that I can offer in 2025:

**Treasurer transitions:** Does your chapter have a brand-new Treasurer? As a former chapter Treasurer, I can walk you through the steps for a smooth transition.

**Insurance and Risk Management:** Are we covered? The District provides certain insurance coverages, but chapters need to understand the

limitations/requirements of this coverage – I can help explain.

**Tax filings and extensions:** As chapter Treasurer, what tax forms are needed and when are they due? Each District Chapter is required to file an IRS form 990. I can help you understand the filing and extension requirements to maintain your nonprofit status.

**Scholarships and Grants:** How can our chapter get coaching? Evergreen provides grants and scholarships, including support through the Bud Leabo Memorial Fund. I can familiarize you with the opportunities to support your choruses, quartets, and members.

*Chapter Leaders* - please reach out to me via email for help or any questions:  
[finance@evgdistrict.com](mailto:finance@evgdistrict.com)

## HAPPY HOLIDAYS - BOB THOMAS



As we turn the corner on a new year, it's time to celebrate successes and reflect on goals and plans that didn't come to fruition. The new **president's survey lets you offer a brief summary of your past year.** Please take time to fill it out, this information will be helpful to the District board.

I trust that you have had a planning meeting with both old and new board members to follow up on 2024 and your plans and expectations for 2025. Each member of the board has the opportunity to express your vision for your position and help your chapter grow by being an instrumental part of your local community. Make the most of it.

In particular, attrition is an ongoing concern for every chapter, make sure your chapter and the meetings are someplace that a singer would be welcome and want to be a part of. Membership and its three parts should always be a priority: Recruiting, Orientation and Retention.

## BUD LEABO MEMORIAL FUND - NEW TRUSTEE



The Bud Leabo Memorial Fund welcomes Janie Best to the board of trustees as its newest member. Janie comes to the board as a founding member and current VP of Marketing for Star Harmony, Evergreen district's newest chapter. Her wealth of nonprofit experience includes being the CEO of the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Idaho and founder of the Boise Southwest Rotary Foundation. She joined Sweet Adelines in 2013 and was a competing member of Harborlites Chorus until she moved to Idaho in late 2019. In addition to Star Harmony, she sings in the Evergreen registered quartet Rewind.



The Bud Leabo Memorial Fund has the unique mission of providing financial support for a variety of projects and individuals solely within the Evergreen District for the betterment and promotion of barbershop singing. The trustees, including Janie, look forward to supporting you with your barbershop projects. Visit us at [www.budleabo.com](http://www.budleabo.com).

-Chris Powell, EVG Secretary

## MANAGE MY SINGING COMMUNITY - SID BROWN



Chapter Leaders,

Please review "Manage my Singing Community" on the BHS website and verify that your Chapter Leaders have been updated to reflect your 2025 Chapter Board. Just about half of EVG Chapters have done so.

This is important as EVG and BHS will use this list to send information according to a specific role on the Chapter Board. All Barbershop is local, and EVG cannot communicate effectively to support your Chapter if we don't know who the Leaders are.

For any assistance in accomplishing this task, contact Sid Brown at [evp@evergeendistrict.com](mailto:evp@evergeendistrict.com).

## BARBERPOLE CAT CHALLENGE RESULTS

### Barberpole Cat Songbook 1 Challenge Results

It is important to note the it's all made up and the points don't matter!!!! That must be clearly understood or nothing wondrous will be revealed to the reader. It must also be understood that every number provided is skewed by the length of time the video appeared on Facebook! Therefore, therefore, videos posted at the end of November had to compete with all the Winter Show traffic. Here's your top four!

1. The Squares – 2,777 people reached.
2. Charisma By-Pass – 2,255 people reached.
3. Bridgetown Singers Quartet - 1,800 people reached.
4. Vocal Vintage Quartet - 1,443 people reached.

Honorable Mention goes to:

Four Score Quartet – Seneca District

Harmony Kings

Midday Melody Men (VLQ)

Boise Chapter Show – who created the idea and had the least amount of time posted on Facebook.

In total the Challenge reached 12,592 people. A triumph, and absolute triumph! (apologies to C. Dickens and A Christmas Carol)

Please pass this along to your chapters and quartets and thank them for participating in this challenge.

## PRESIDENT'S SURVEY NOW AVAILABLE



## Attention:

The Evergreen Chapter Development Team needs your input!!!!

The Evergreen District wants to celebrate your successes and support your goals and plans for 2025. To help the district help you, we invite you to participate in THE President's survey now available on the [EVG Website](#).



This survey is designed for both the OUTGOING and INCOMING Presidents to share your ideas and assist the District in developing Best Practices. The survey is now available....at the [EVG District website](#).

We NEED YOUR INPUT!

[Click here to take the survey!](#)

## FOOD FOR THOUGHT: REHEARSALS - GREG KRONLUND



### Food for Thought: How Long is TOO Long?

Weekly Chapter meeting last about 3 hours? Some folks are wondering if that's too long. Ask yourself: is the rehearsal fun, provide fellowship, and do we talk more than we sing? Do members leave promptly at 8:30 p.m.? What are your members telling you?

2025 is dawning, is it time to consider modifying your rehearsals?

1. Do you need to meet every week? Consider twice a month?
2. What about two rehearsals a week that allows people to attend the one most convenient to them.
3. We talk about gaining younger member, meaning working people, maybe an hour and a half without a break works. (Tighter planning on the part of the music team.)
4. Early and late rehearsal? A rehearsal from 7pm – 8:15pm and a later rehearsal 8:30pm – 9:45pm. The same rehearsal for both groups to accommodate various lifestyle and time demands.

The key to your internal marketing (marketing to your members) includes how you structure your rehearsals. The question is: cling to tradition, or create traditions that work for as many as possible?

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**WANT TO KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENING -- AND  
ANY LAST MINUTE CHANGES??**

**STAY UP TO DATE!**

**Go to your APP Store  
and add "EVG DISTRICT"**



### **FREE MUSIC - you just pay the postage**

Our Evergreen Historian has a large collection of FREE music that is legal to "pass on" to choruses, quartets, and individuals. Check out the FREE MUSIC list (titles, arrangers, and # of copies available) on our EVG website, then email Ken Galloway a list of the songs you'd like, and he will pull them out of the files and mail them to you... all you need to do is then mail him a check for the postage. It's a great way to fill in missing copies or to check out new titles.

<https://evgdistrict.com/free-music/>

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## **STAY CONNECTED**

**PLEASE CHECK TO MAKE SURE YOUR OFFICERS RECEIVED THIS ISSUE!**

Note: All Chapter and District Leaders are included in this contact list which is pulled from the current information in the BHS Member Center database.

### **EVERGREEN EDITORIAL PRACTICES**

- Show Policy: Chapter Show Posters and information must have district clearance to appear in Evergreen Publications and Social Media.
- Publications editors reserve the right to edit content for length.
- Submissions must meet or beat the deadline of the 10th of the month.
- Maximum word count for Chapter Leader News 175 – 225 words.
- The Evergreen Communications team may hold over generic content to the next publishing date when appropriate

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

[history.evgdistrict.com](http://history.evgdistrict.com)

[harmonycollege.net](http://harmonycollege.net)

[facebook.com/EVGDistrict](https://facebook.com/EVGDistrict)

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