**Membership Report for VHS April 21, 2021 Board Meeting**

1. **Special Guest in April:** It was a pleasure welcoming our special guest on April 12,2021 at our zoom rehearsal meeting, Bruce Poelhman. Bruce is a former 15-year member of the Valley Harmony Singers. Bruce formerly sang tenor in Oddly Enuf, one of our most entertaining quartets. Bruce also served as Chapter President, and was Barbershopper of The Year 2013. Bruce currently lives in New York but may be seeking work in California in the near future.

Bruce’s son also sang tenor in the chorus for a short time.

1. **Meetup:** From March 15,2021 – April 18, 2021 Eight new people have joined the Valley Harmony Singers on Meetup. I will be posting all of the 2021 people’s profile who have joined us on Meetup in the (Membership Documents) section of our website. Seven of the 8 people live in California**. Note: It is my job as Membership V.P. of the chorus to send a message welcoming and inviting each new member from Meetup to our next rehearsal meeting on zoom.**
2. **Status of St. Mark’s Episcopal Church:** Last week I contacted Steve Skinner (Treasurer) on the Board of the church. Steve informed me that the church was still closed, but they have had some outdoor activities. Steve told me to contact the Director, (or Rector of the church) Robin Kassabian. Robin will be meeting with the Bishop to get directions how to move forward, when the ok is given, Robin will inform us of what will be happening in the near future.
3. **Perspective Member Bonnie Janofsky**: Bonnie has been extremely busy with her professional music. Bonnie has stated she will inform her section leader (Mark Wolf) when she is ready for her Polecat audition. **This will be the policy for all new candidates for membership.**
4. **Guest Speaker**: On Monday April 26, 2021 we will finally have Katie McDonald (Retention and Recruiting Manager) of the BHS as our guest speaker at our zoom meeting. Katie will be speaking about recruiting and retention of people while on virtual zoom meetings during the covid pandemic.
5. **Our first Jamulus Rehearsal:** Our chorus is finally at the point where we have enough members on Jamulus to hold our first jamulus rehearsal. This will be on Monday May 24, 2021. After rehearsing our 10 new songs and several of our repertoire music in break-out sessions on zoom for a year; We are now ready to harmonize once again but not in person. We’ll all be on jamulus, which is only audio. It’s one of the next best things under the current circumstances.
6. **Kathleen Padden:** Kathleen Padden is letting her dues expire. Kathleen stated, “She will not renew her dues until we can all sing together in person”.
7. **Bill and Phillis Cohen** are well and wish our members their best regards. They are waiting for the day we can sing together. Bill is not able to join a us on zoom because of prior commitments to their temple. They have been assisting Bob Karlin.
8. Under the circumstances I feel our members, the Board, and especially the music team have done an outstanding job in keeping the chorus, together, engaged and satisfied. Bob Karlin has done an excellent job as Chorus Librarian in keeping up with our sheet music revisions and making sure our repertoire songs are in the Music section of our website. **JOB WELL DONE!!**

**Ben Marder, Membership V.P.** VHS 4-18-21