**Membership Report for VHS Board Meeting on August 16, 2023**

**It** seems like yesterday that we said goodbye to our loved Kathie Edwards. I personally never know that Kathie was such a talented quartet comedian. Thank you, Toni, and Bob Karlin, for bringing that to our attention through the pictures and video. Two weeks ago, we received news of the untimely passing of Phil Lockwood, age 73. Even though Phil was only a member for 3 years; During the pandemic Phil joined the chorus on Zoom, and in the Bass breakout room. We all admired Phils unwavering love and devotion to his aging father, which was very honorable. Phil gave up the chance to join the chorus in -person last October, so he could be with, and help his father. I know the chorus is still in shock, but life goes on, and we will endure and make the best of our situation. Rest in peace.

**Perspective Members:** We have two young perspective members.

They are Casey Pennuto- Lead, and Jesse Corona-Baritone. Both men have voiced their desire to become members of our chorus. Both men have received the sheet music and learning tracks for their first Barber Polecat Audition. Casey is now a candidate, and Jesse will become one soon.

We also have two other potential men who have not been at our meetings on a regular basic. Jonathan Burns was sent the first audition material, but his yet to pass his audition. Also, Jonthan Asperial was attending our rehearsal meetings until he started getting busy with his own musical career. Hopefully both men will come around and become members soon.

Next week we will be joined by members of the Crescenta Valley Chorus. The few members that they do have plan to merge with our chorus. By next month we will possibly go from 18 to 25 plus members. It seems with our chorus we go from shock and pain to hope and change overnight.

This month we will not be performing at the ONEgeneration Encino Farmers Market because several of our members have planned vacations for the month of August. We still have the rest of the year to sing at the Market. We still have a standing invite to sing on the 2nd, 4th, and 5th Sunday of the upcoming months.

**VHS Former Members Reunion:** I have already turned in the application form for our reunion to the Parks and Recreation office. As of today, we have 40 people attending the Reunion. That is our members plus 14 former members and their guests, plus some maybe’s. I sent out approximately 75 Reunion fliers to former members, and past members widows. I received several back because people have moved out of the state or changed their email addresses, or have restricted numbers. Some have prior business events the weekend of the Reunion. Let us make this a memorable Reunion for all present. Remember we are the hosts.

**Good of the Chapter:** Thanks to the Board for the fine job, they are doing throughout the year under these difficult times for the Chapter. Keep up the good work.

**Ben Marder, Membership VP. Valley Harmony Singers 8-15-23**