**MEMBERSHIP REPORT FOR DECEMBER 18, 2024 VHS BOARD MEETING**

***MEMBERSHIP 2024 SUMARY:***

***2024*** *has been quite year the for the Valley Harmony Singers. We started out the year in January with our 64th Annual Installation & Awards Dinner at Lulu’s, with* ***Mark Singer receiving the 2023******Barbershopper of the Year Award.*** *In February we had our Singing Valentines. In April I had hand surgery at SoCal Orthopedic Center.*

*In May,* ***Andrea Martinez Gonzales*** *(David Kilpatrick’s wife) became a member of our chorus. We also held our Spring Fling/ Ice Cream Social at ONEgeneration in Reseda in May. On May 27, 2024 our chorus sang at Valley Oaks Memorial Park for* ***their 33rd. Annual Memorial Day Service, with Tom Raffety leading us for the last time.***

 *Then in July tragedy hit the Valley Harmony Singers with our director* ***Tom Raffety****, being hospitalized for weeks before he passed away on July 31, 2024 of colon cancer.* ***Tom*** *was laid to rest on August 20th.* ***May He rest in Peace.*** *That date was also my granddaughter’s 20th Birthday.*

*It was very difficult for* ***Jeffery Bunch (Tom’s Associate Director****) to lead the chorus during this period: But knowing that we were preparing for our Fall show, Jeffery stepped up to the plate and did a fine job. After Tom’s passing the following members stepped away from the chorus. They were, Chuck Brooks, Alma Hawkins, and Ron Malkin. One of our younger members, Casey Pennuto moved out of State. Luckily Chuck Brooks has returned and is now singing in the chorus, and in “Tempo Tantrum” quartet.*

*During this time Bass,* ***David Kilpatrick*** *became our new Music & Performance V.P. Also, Baritone,* ***Sean Chasworth*** *accepted the role as our Interim Director, with Jeffery Bunch as his Assistant.*

*Our Halloween party was held on November 4th our rehearsal night.*

*On November 23, 2024 we had our Fall Show entitled,* ***“When We Were******64”*** *at ONEgeneration Senior Center in Reseda, CA. The show featured our chorus, “The Valley Harmony Singers” with 18 singers on the risers directed by Sean Chasworth and Jeffery Bunch. Also featured was the “River Oaks (Women’s) Chorus, and 5 quartets performed. The show was dedicated to* ***Tom Raffety*** *who was involved in Barbershop singing for over 40 years.*

*So many people were involved in making our show the succuss that it was; But special thanks go to Bob Karlin, (Productor & Director), and the Sound Crew under the leadership of Mark Wolf.*

*The last event of 2024 was our Holiday Party on Monday December 16th. We had approximately 18 members and guests present. Everybody bought food. Special thanks go to Toni Wilson and her sister for bringing and setting up the beautiful Christmas table decorations, and Mark Singer for setting up the Chanukkah decorations.*

*Ben Zeik led the Holiday quiz. Sean led us in the singing, and our quartets delighted us in song. Everyone helped with the setup and cleanup.* ***WHAT A WAY TO END THE YEAR!******Ben Marder,*** *MVP, VHS 12-13-24*

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***Happy New Year 2025***