**HISTORY OF OUR CHORUS**

Originally formed in 1959 as the Reseda Chapter of the SPEBSQSA **(Society for the** **Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America).**

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The name was changed in 1977 to **the San Fernando Valley, Valleyaires Chorus**, when membership expanded to every community in the Valley.

Through the years the chorus won several Southern California Western Division Championships. In 1986 the Valleyaires became the first L.A. area chorus to win the Far Western District title, and earned the right to represent the District at the International Convention in Hartford, CT., where they placed 9th in the World. In 2009 we celebrated our 50th Anniversary. In 2012 we changed our name to the **Valley Harmony Singers.**

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In 2019 we officially became a mixed chorus with men and women. Our members come from all different backgrounds and professions. We all share the same passion**, the love of singing 4-part harmony.**

Our chorus also gives you the opportunity to form or join a quartet.

 There are also many opportunities for leadership roles. We generally have two shows a year. A Spring Fling (Ice Cream Social), which features quartets from our chorus as well as other L.A. chapters. We also have a Fall Holiday show.

We perform throughout the year at active and assisted living homes, for charities and social clubs. We have Singing Valentines, a Memorial Day Sing out, and we perform at ONEgeneration Encino Farmers Market throughout the year as well as other events.

There are also many opportunities for writing and directing a show, as well as acting, sound, and many other behind the scene creative jobs

**WHAT MAKES UP A BARBERSHOP QUARTET**

The **Lead** generally carries the melody.

The **Tenor** harmonizes above the lead.

The **Bass** provides the foundation.

The **Baritone** fills in the chord.

We sing without accompaniment which is called **A Cappella**.

The Barbershop Harmony Society puts out new music throughout the year.

**THE BARBERSHOP HARMONY SOCIETY**



On April 11,1938, 26 men were gathered together by Rupert Hall and O.C. Cash on the rooftop of a Tulsa, Oklahoma hotel for a **songfest.** Subsequent gatherings snowballed leading to the creation of the S.P.E.B.S.Q.S A.

**Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America**.

Other barbershop organizations, Harmony, Inc. And Sweet Adeline’s sprung up soon after. We are just one of hundreds of chapters across the U.S.A. and Canada. Our chapter is in the **Far Western** District which consists of California, Nevada. Utah,

 And Hawaii.

There are also affiliated organizations located in Britain, the Netherlands, Sweden, South Africa, Australia and New Zealand.

 **YOUR FIRST VISIT TO THE CHORUS**

When you walk in the door, we will welcome you. We want you to enjoy the music and camaraderie. After signing our guest book, and making out a name tag, feel free to take our chorus brochure, flier, and business card.

I will then assign you a mentor, who will try to answer any of your questions.

If you wish, we will loan you a guest music book for the evening, with all our current music. You will then be introduced to the director and his associate director. You will be seated in the section you feel is most comfortable for you to sing in and introduced to that section leader.

**HOW TO BECOME A MEMBER**

After three consecutive rehearsal meetings you will be asked by the Membership V.P. if you wish to start the audition process. We have a form which lists all steps necessary in becoming a member. It is not a requirement that you read music. We will supply the sheet music and learning CD’s. Your section leader will guide you through each step, or he will assign you a mentor in your section who will

assist you.



