**Membership Report for January 20, 2021 VHS Board Meeting**

Happy and Healthy New Year to all of the Board Members. Even though we all should be optimistic about the new vaccines so we can get back together and make beautiful music. I heard some troubling news this morning. Lou Correa, a Congressman of California tested positive for the corona virus upon returning from Washington on January 6th. He had already received the first dose.

Even though we all will receive the first dose of the vaccine hopefully next month, we still can get the virus and spread it to our family, friends, and neighbors before we receive the second dose.

As a chorus we need to act responsible to one another. Returning to our chorus rehearsals won’t happen overnight. It’s going to take time and patience. Tom and the Music Team have done a fabulous job in keeping the chorus together and satisfied.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE AWARD WINNERS 2020. Our top two winners were:

Mathew Schreiber, Barbershopper of the Year 2020 . and

Bob Karlin, Barbershopper of the Decade

On January 11, 2021 the San Fernando Chapter, CA. Valley Harmony Singers Mixed Chorus held our First Annual Virtual Installation and Award Meeting on Zoom. 20 members plus guests attended. Shelley Herman was the Installing Officer. Unfortunately, I missed the entire installation ceremony due to problems getting online. In the future for anyone who needs to contact me for a meeting (knowing that I’m at home) ONLY CALL ME ON MY HOME PHONE. (818) 994-0957.

The BHS has upgraded their Members Center. IT SUCKS !!!! If you look at the BHS newsletter, it tells you all about it. Everyone needs to change their password in order to go on the New Members Center. I changed mine and it still won’t accept my new password. It is so confusing. If you are having the same problem, contact customerservice@barbershop.org for help.

We have two new members on meetup. Both joined our meetup on January 4, 2021.

1. Stephanie Nadine, Santa Clara, CA. She listed Alto. Her interests are, acting, animal rights, tech, and fitness. I sent Stephanie two invite messages with no response. She did RSVP. to our meeting.
2. Andrew Akers, Upland CA. He has sung in a church choir, southern gospel, and barbershop style. Andrew has sung baritone, and 1st & 2nd tenor. His interests are Spanish, tech., fitness, dance, music and travel. I sent Andrew an invite message with no response.

The instructions on how to view both galleries is on our groupanizer Valley Harmony Singers website. It has been revised. Click on “How to Do” to view only instructions on how to view both galleries.

I’m very optimistic about this year. I just reached a milestone in my life on January 6, 2021. Yes, the same day the Capitol was attacked. It was my 80th Birthday. I don’t feel or think like 80, but I am.

The Barbershop Harmony Society had many new members join in 2020 even during the pandemic.

We should try to do the same. On February 15th Kathie McDonald the Society Manager for Retention and Recruitment will be joining our meeting on Zoom. Please make it a point to attend.

Stay well, Ben Marder, Membership V.P. VHS 1-17-21