

PAMV Chapter BHS Music & Performance Report for July 12, 2014 Board Meeting

The Music Team met on June 18.

Search for new Director. Sean Abel was at the meeting to describe his approach and experiences, meet the Music Team members, and let us get to know each other better. He seems excited about the possibility of joining us as Director. He would like to assist with development of our musical program, in conjunction with the Music Team. He's amenable to others' suggestions, but also has his own suggestions based on experience. He wants to help potential new members to succeed, and will suggest areas and methods for improvement in order to help the candidate. We discussed some of our chapter problems (members arriving late or leaving early, inadequate song learning) which didn't scare him away, but got him thinking of possible solutions.

Voice Clinic. Students seemed to find the series valuable, and we have one and possibly more potential new members.

Quartet activities. We'll consider having an octet perform, where one person from each part is replaced at a time. Since there would be two on each part, anyone who is nervous about singing his part alone would feel more confident. We discussed several other variations, aimed at getting more participation. The purpose of quartet activities is to encourage quartet development outside of chapter meetings.

Actions (not yet implemented): (1) Develop a written policy for chapter quartets to be permitted to perform on a show. (2) Use different forms of the chorus rehearsal which include quartet activities. A "chapter quartet" is a quartet which includes at least one chapter member, and which holds regular quartet rehearsals. We strongly encourage registration with the BHS as a commitment to maintain the quartet.

We want to have a common quartet repertoire which would allow substitution of singers. (Each quartet would also have their own non-common songs.) The music education program could coach individual quartet singers to achieve part balance and blend when substituting. The goal would be to permit substitution so that we could almost always have a quartet available when a performance opportunity appears.

Spring Show. Dave K proposed a new format for the show: a speakeasy/nightclub theme in a non-theater space. We'd have round tables with snack food and drinks, but not our traditional Lasagna dinner. The Music Team generally supports the proposed new format.

- Terry Moore, VP of Music and Performance

Upcoming musical dates:

7/27-8/3 Harmony University (Nashville, TN)
8/3 or 8/22 SJ Giants singout (San Jose)
8/16 Farmers' Market singout (Palo Alto)
8/16 Devil Mountain Chorus barbecue (Walnut Creek)
9/19-21 Youth Harmony Camp (Pollock Pines)
10/9-12 FWD Convention (Fresno)
11/15 Cabaret Show
12/6 Holiday Train singout (Mountain View)