



Come Join Us!! For the Great Pacific Harmony – 2008 Pan Pacific Convention. We are indeed pleased that you have chosen to spend your valuable time at the 5th Pan Pacific Convention. When the Aloha Chapter Board of Directors asked me to chair this convention I was pleased to accept the responsibility. Over the past two years our Pan Pacific Convention Team has spent countless hours preparing a convention program we hope will meet or exceed the quality we've come to enjoy with each succeeding convention since its beginning in 1994.

Throughout the years I have learned that we all preserve the memory of the significant events in our lives from our own unique perspective. I joined Barbershop in January of 1983 and an early memory relevant to the Pan Pacific are the stories of the Merry Macs quartet from the Aloha Chapter and their visit to introduce the joys of Barbershop singing to New Zealand. Soon after becoming a member, the Aloha Chapter announced that we would be going to California for district contest. My question was "Why in the world would we do that" and the answer was "That's where the district contest is held". I said "I've already been to California, lets go to New Zealand". Hank Hammer of the Aloha Chapter and John Denton of NZABS took that comment seriously and in 1994 the first Pan Pacific was held in Auckland.

I hope you are enjoying the beautiful Hawaii Theatre. If you missed your bus, couldn't find the theatre, or are frustrated with arrangements, lay that one on me. After going to a number of district contests held on flat gymnasium floors with very restrictive sight lines and less than quality acoustics, I proposed that we use the best performance venue available in the state, which is the Hawaii Theatre. Additionally, due to the vast geographical nature of the event and the multiple currencies involved, we elected to manage the project on the World Wide Web. The web site has received over 10,000 hits and I have processed over 5,000 e-mails. Hopefully this choice was the most efficient and effective method of maintaining communication with, choruses, quartets and other convention visitors. I know many of you have found it very useful and I predict that in the near future this will become the accepted method.

On behalf of the Pan Pacific Convention Staff, The Aloha Chapter Membership and the Sounds of Aloha Chorus, thanks for traveling so far to join us for another great barbershop convention. I hope you will find this the best convention ever and that you enjoy your visit to our wonderful Aloha State and its warm and friendly people.

Don L. Raymond

Chairman – Great Pacific Harmony – 2008 Pan Pacific Convention

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