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NEWS FROM THE ROAD



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MARCH/APRIL 2010

Liberty Quartet

INTERVIEW WITH DEAN HOPPER: FAN FEST 2010

Each year, Liberty Quartet is privileged to be part of the largest Southern Gospel music event in the west, the Great Western Fan Festival. I had the opportunity to ask Dean Hopper of the amazing group, The Hoppers, to share with our Liberty friends about this awesome event.

Keith Waggoner: How did the Great Western Fan Festival get its start?

Dean Hopper: In 1997 the National Quartet Convention decided to expand to the west coast. Fresno to be exact. After a few years they moved to Sacramento for 2 or 3 years. The numbers did not grow like they had hoped and the majority decided to abandon the West Coast Convention. Claude Hopper & Les Beasley stepped up to the plate and said this event needs to carry on from here. So, with the help and guidance from many friends on the west coast they did just that. In 2004 we moved back to Fresno and changed the Name to "The Great Western Gospel Music Fan Festival". In 2010, we are moving to Visalia CA, where the city has rolled out the red carpet to us all!

KW: What is your role in the production of GWFF?

DH: Production, promotion, booking talent, logistical matters. Talking with the fine folks in the west about Fan Fest all year round.

KW: What have been some highlights from past years?

DH: One big highlight for me was The Ben Speer sing-a-long and Pianos on Parade last year. That program had all elements to it. The people were entertained, blessed and encouraged.

KW: The big news this year is the move to Visalia, CA. Will this change the feel of GWFF?

DH: I truly believe this setting will create a greater community and intimacy for all those who attend. All seats are close to the stage and there's not a feel of

disconnect for anyone. I see this as bringing a big family closer together.

KW: Every convention features a variety of afternoon showcases. Anything new and exciting scheduled this year?

DH: On Friday will be a Music EXPLOSION with many parts to this showcase such as a: Hymns for the ages segment. One part will feature many of the best Piano players and we'll throw in a little vintage quartet singing around 2 mics. Saturday will feature Dennis Swanberg in one of his best stand up segments as only he can make us laugh. Secondly, a showcase called "Remembering the Music", featuring most all the former members of The Cathedrals Quartet. If you were a Cathedral fan this will be a must see. Plus, some of our best talented music groups will be featured in the Best Of The West showcase.

KW: How do you choose the featured groups each year?

DH: Obviously, we choose groups that are popular or have songs in the top of the charts across the country. Another way is to lean on those people who attend to give us some of their choices and favorites as well.

KW: Last year fans were able to vote for an All-Star GWFF Quartet. Anything like that in the works for this year?

DH: Yes! This is one of the fan favorites. We also have the Ice Cream Social & The Pizza Panic. We have many wonderful things in store this year for the people who will be coming from Canada to Arizona to Colorado and as far away as Pennsylvania & Florida.

KW: Thanks for all you do for Southern Gospel music in the west. What do you want to leave our newsletter subscribers with?

DH: Thanks to all of your subscribers for their support of Gospel Music as a whole. I know that the Hoppers as well as many other Gospel Music Artist really appreciate their support through the years. Blessings to all of you and we look forward to seeing you at the Fan Fest.

CAN YOU SEE LIBERTY IN YOUR CHURCH?

We are always on the look-out for great new churches to host a Liberty Quartet concert. If you are interested in having your church welcome the guys for a weekend concert (evenings or Sunday morning), please contact or ask your pastor to contact our booking office at (208) 938-9364 to speak to Dee or Jeanne. Our best avenue into great churches is to have an excited supporter of Liberty Quartet as our spokesperson. Give us a call!

DON'T FORGET!
You can find Liberty Quartet and some great videos on Facebook at www.facebook.com/libertyquartet.
If you haven't joined our e-newsletter group, please go to our website and enter your email for weekly updates, photos and all the latest news.

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DEPARTING FROM SAN DIEGO, CA WITH STOPS IN MAZATLAN, PUERTO VALLARTA AND CABO SAN LUCAS

NEWS FLASH

LIBERTY TO SING AT NATIONAL QUARTET CONVENTION

The National Quartet Convention Board of Directors has invited Liberty Quartet to be one of the featured artists on the main stage for 2010. This is a first for us, and we are thrilled and honored to be part of this incredible event. Liberty has been attending the National Quartet Convention for the last few years, singing in afternoon showcases. We were also privileged to be part of Phil Cross's Song of a Lifetime showcase last year. We're looking forward to being a part of the 2010 lineup. Liberty Quartet will be performing on Tuesday and Wednesday evening (September 14 & 15). We hope you can join us. For more information about the National Quartet Convention, visit their website: www.natqc.com.

INTERESTING INTERVIEW WITH LIBERTY AVAILABLE ONLINE

Prolific Southern Gospel blogger Daniel Mount of Southern Gospel Blog interviewed Liberty Quartet at the 2009 National Quartet Convention. He recently posted the full interview. You never know what's going to happen when you get all of us together like this. Read the full interview at <http://www.southerngospelblog.com/archives/4283>. Who knew that Dan was in a big-hair Christian rock band? Or that Royce once did 73 concerts in 73 days? Trust me, you want to read this interview!



There's nothing like taking your bus alternator for a walk. Royce and Dan often do this. They say it's great exercise for the alternator.



"O when the Saints go marching in..." Jordan exulted in the Saints' Super Bowl win, while Keith wept bitterly at the Colts defeat.



Our good friend Herb Henry stopped by one of our recent concerts in California. Herb and his family will be joining us on our cruise to the Mexican Riviera.

CONCERT SCHEDULE

march

- 5 Hereford, AZ Country Estates Southern Baptist (7:00 PM)
- 6 Oro Valley, AZ Oro Valley Nazarene Seniors (12:00 PM)
- 6 Tucson, AZ Tucson Baptist Temple (7:00 PM)
- 7 Tucson, AZ Catalina First Baptist (10:00 AM)
- 7 Apache Junction, CA Community Christian Church (6:00 PM)
- 12 Mayer, AZ Desert Hills Fellowship (7:00 PM)
- 14 Casa Grande, AZ New Beginnings Nazarene (10:30 AM)
- 14 Oro Valley, AZ Oro Valley Church of the Nazarene (6:00 PM)
- 19 Surprise, AZ Palm Vista Baptist (5:00 PM)
- 20 Sun City, AZ American Lutheran Church (4:00 PM)
- 21 Sun City, AZ American Lutheran Church (8:30 and 10:30 AM)
- 21 Tucson, AZ Eastside Assembly (7:00 PM)

april

- 8 Rio Rancho, NM First Baptist Church (6:30 PM)
- 9 Albuquerque, NM Heights First Church of the Nazarene (7:00 PM)
- 11 Bartlesville, OK First Church of the Nazarene (10:45 AM)
- 16 Longview, TX Longview Missionary Baptist (7:00 PM)
- 17 Allen, TX First Baptist Church (7:00 PM)
- 18 Crowley, TX First Church of the Nazarene (10:30 AM)
- 23 Ridgecrest, CA Immanuel Baptist Church (7:00 PM)
- 24 Escalon, CA First Baptist Church (6:30 PM)
- 25 Auburn, CA Parkside Church of the Nazarene (9:00 AM)
- 25 Chico, CA Butte Bible Fellowship (6:00 PM)
- 29- May 1 Visalia, CA Great Western Southern Gospel Fan Fest at the Visalia Convention Center



NEW DATES ARE REGULARLY BEING ADDED TO OUR CALENDAR. CHECK OUR UP-TO-THE-MINUTE SCHEDULE AT

WWW.LIBERTYQUARTET.COM

IF YOU WOULD PREFER TO RECEIVE A DIGITAL VERSION OF THE LIBERTY QUARTET NEWSLETTER INSTEAD OF PRINT, PLEASE LET US KNOW BY EMAILING LIBERTY@LIBERTYQUARTET.COM.

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PRAISES

- Our concerts; that God would anoint us to reach others for Him.
- The bus; we've been having electrical problems
- For our families
- Health and safety
- Continued intercession for Candy Jones, wife of original Liberty baritone Keith Jones. She is fighting cancer.
- The Great Western Fan Festival
- Our song selection for upcoming recordings

PRAYERS

- We've had a great start to 2010.
- We have been privileged to see several give their hearts to Christ at our concerts in January and February
- Dan was able to get the bus alternator repaired
- We're hearing how God is using our songs to restore lives
- God is opening new doors for Liberty's ministry across the country

NOTES FROM ROYCE



Galatians 6:9: "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."

We are often asked at our concerts if we ever get tired of doing what we do. That's a little difficult to answer. From a physical standpoint... yes, this occasionally is tiring. Those early mornings and late nights start to take their toll. Missing the birthday parties, anniversaries, recitals, and sporting events of those we love most isn't always the easiest thing to do. However, we know that God has uniquely called us to music ministry. While our bodies may be tired, the Holy Spirit always refreshes us to do what we're called to do. It's all worth it when people come back to the table and tell us that they gave their hearts to Christ during the concert or share how God used one of our songs to minister to them in their moment of need. That's the fuel that keeps us going.

I Corinthians 15:58: "Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain." With God's grace, we'll just stand, knowing that He is going to send the harvest.

I am praying for Liberty Quartet (Col. 4:2)

I am interested in supporting Liberty through the "Friends of Liberty" program. Please send information.