

Canyon Chords



Singing every Thursday at 7:00 PM, Community
United Methodist Church of Olathe



Visit us at our official web site:
<http://barbershopsingingmontrose.yolasite.com/>

January 2012
Vol. 28 Number 1

PROBE
BARBERSHOP



If you don't know what the Vol.28 Number 1 means, you are not alone. It means this is the beginning of 28 years of publishing this bulletin every month. Yep, 28 years of putting this rag in your mail box and now, your e-mail box. What a trip.

IF YOU SEE A MAN ...
Who is jolly and cute
And is sporting a beard
with a red flannel suit,

And if he is chuckling
and laughing away,
While flying around
in a miniature sleigh,

With eight tiny reindeer
to pull him along,
Then we'd better face it...
Your egnog's too
strong!



CANYON CHORDS is the official monthly publication of the Black Canyon Barbershop Chorus known as the Montrose, Colorado, chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society. Opinions stated in this bulletin are not necessarily those of the Chapter, the Editor, or possibly even the stated author.

2012 CHAPTER OFFICERS

(Term expires 12/31 in year shown after office)

PRESIDENT (2013)

Larry Wilkinson

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Larry Wilkinson

SECRETARY (2012)

Chuck Frush

TREASURER (2012)

Rex Pierson

PROGRAM VP (2013)

Larry Cooper

MEMBERSHIP VP (2012)

Kevin Cohenour

PUBLIC RELATIONS VP (2013)

Dennis Olmstead

MUSIC VP (2013)

David Stannard

PUBLICATIONS VP (???)

Bill Sutton

MUSIC COMMITTEE

Open

CHAPTER HISTORIAN (appointed)

Tom Chamberlain

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE (1 yr terms)

Bob Brethouwer

Tim Davis

Del Dyck

John Taylor

MUSICAL DIRECTOR:

MaryAnn Rathburn

Tom Chamberlain, Emeritus

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Carol Morrell

SUNSHINE GUY (appointed)

Rex Pierson

2012 Show is April 28

Splinters from the Board

Most attendance ever. Nothing good on TV tonight until 9 PM when Barny left early. Must be a good show.

MaryAnn passed out the latest change in Show Songs. One day it will be firm. To see the latest list, go to our website, and the 2102 Show page. Surprise.

After cussing and discussion, Rex made a motion that Show tickets will be \$10 in advance and \$15 at the door. I'm not sure anyone seconded it, but it passed anyway.

A motion of sorts was made to have the Installation Banquet at the Hampton Inn this year. Yes, there will be a fee, but they will have a wet bar set up for our enjoyment. Drinks will have a fee, too, I'm sure. Watch your e-mail for any late changes or advice. Or check the calendar on our website. Latest info there as well.

The traditional planning/retreat meeting will be held on January 28, 2012, at the Timberline Bank. All officers are expected to attend. It will begin at 10 AM and last until it is done. Lunch will be provided.

Superyummy cheesecake from Sally Wilkinson made the evening less painful. Oh, man, it was good. No meeting next month except for the Planning session at the end of the month. Kind of close to V-Day, but, what the heck.

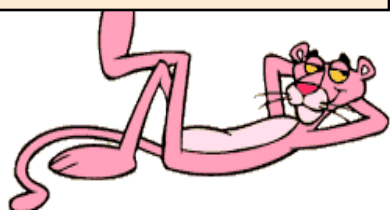
Lots of discussion about Treasurer's Report, mainly because it was so long and detailed. Not sure any answers were provided, but it was an impressive report.

Dennis O passed out a list of stuff he needs to do his job or PR for our show. Lots of details must be considered ... Soon. Or we won't.

Carol has some great ideas to increase our show attendance. I'm sure we'll try them.

Lots of concerns about Valentine's Day singing simply because we don't have many tenors, like maybe two, or three on the best day. Larry Cooper volunteered to do something but I don't know what it was. Ask him. I'm sure he'll do it, whatever.

We are in dire need for a Donor Chairman. Tim can't do it because of other obligations. Will you?



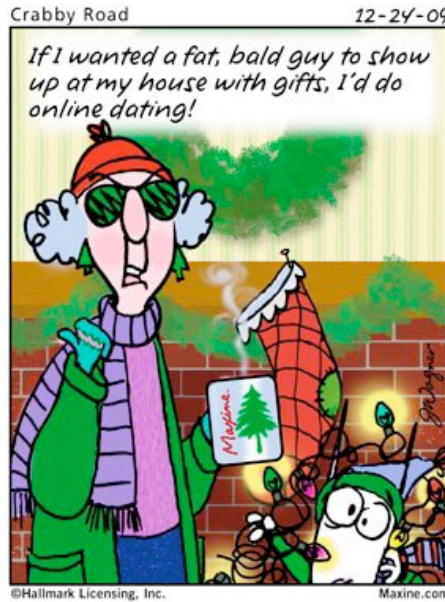
Don't take yourself so seriously. No one else does





A true Irishman considers a bore to be someone who keeps constantly interrupting

Are you starting to get curious about the summer Silverton Barbershop Harmony Festival? If so, check out the new "Silverton 2012" page on our official website www.blackcanyonchorus.org. Your questions may, or may not be answered. If you have one, ask Dave Christian. He is the designated contact for this event so you won't bother the other guys who prefer to remain anonymous.



Jesus Christ Dec. 25

Nick Greear Dec. 23
Carl Schultz Dec. 30
Tom Chamberlain Jan. 8

We don't stop singing because we get old, we get old because we stop singing.



**International Convention
Denver, Colorado
October 29 - November 3, 2012**

Urban sophistication meets outdoor adventure in the Mile High City. Experience the world's best barbershop performances, thrilling competitions, camaraderie and unrivaled music education wrapped in some of the most spectacular scenery on earth.

No one is in charge of your happiness but you



Chapter Registered Quartets

Blue Denim

Contact: Chuck Frush 249-0543

FOURMATA

Contact: Bill Sutton 874-9280

Know our Members Better!

Courtesy of Rex Pierson

Rod Ragsdale

Rod's wife's name is Susie. Rod and Susie live in Olathe, CO. They have 3 adult children. We recently had the pleasure of singing (regular rehearsal) to Rod's Mother who was visiting from the Front Range. Rod and Susie moved here from the Denver area in 2008. Rod was employed with the Montrose Police Department but was injured in the line of duty. He is currently awaiting finalization of a medical retirement from Montrose Police Department.

His hobbies are hunting and fishing, --almost anything outdoors!

Rod enjoys singing with us and gaining an understanding of the functions of our Chorus.

We enjoy having Rod as a member of The Black Canyon Barbershop Chorus!

Dennis Olmstead (as he wrote it)

A long time ago; in what seems like another life, I graduated from Michigan State University with a degree in Journalism. Next came a few years in the U.S. Navy where I was Communications Officer on a medium size ship as well as helping drive the thing around the world.

Upon release from Navy duty and finding a Journalism degree would pay about \$125/week, I went back to Graduate School at Michigan State and ended up with an M.B.A. in International Marketing.

Santa Fe Railway believed my skills would help them develop ocean container business which at that point in time was just getting started. My home-base was in downtown Chicago. During my thirty years at Santa Fe Railway I set rail prices for a number of commodities including ocean containers, trailers, coal, fertilizers, and industrial chemicals.

The last ten years I was the Marketing/Executive Department representative in the Santa Fe Railway sale program. Think of it as a house sale between 50 and 800 miles long; with the price

being between free and a few million dollars.

My children, actually grown-ups now, still live in the Chicago area.

With the merger of Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway ten years ago, headquarters moved to Texas and I said "no thanks" to serious corporate life. Recently there were a few years of rail consulting; --fun but not a lot of money.

Western Colorado called. Julie and I eventually ended up in Montrose. We have been here about seven years. I am active in Amateur Radio, Barbershop Chorus, and Friends of the Montrose Library. I am on the Boards of The Black Canyon Barbershop Chorus and Friends of the Library.

Thanks, Dennis for all you do for our chapter!

Crabby Road

12-7-09



©Hallmark Licensing, Inc.

Maxine.com

WHO IS DAVE CORSO?

Many of you wonder why Dave has been missing so many practices. Dave, with his business of Saybrook Painting and remodel company, has been working in Buena Vista, Ouray, Telluride, and Ridgway for most of the summer and fall. He and Madison have recently purchased a home and will be moving to Montrose soon, and he is very busy getting it all ready for their habitation before Christmas.

You do know that Dave sings both baritone and lead in one of the chorus quartets, FOURMATA, and is in addition, an accomplished pianist. He plays blues, classical, and just about everything else when he has the opportunity.

What you probably don't know is that Dave was a very special Marine during his younger days. He was one of the very few Marines selected for presidential guard at Camp David. He served under and protected President Carter. Dave was considered to be one of the best the military has. To be accepted and receive a Top Secret clearance is a great honor. Very few Marines have the

opportunity to serve with the presidential guard and only the top 0.1% of all Marines will have the chance. After successful completion of their duties, Marines receive a Presidential Support Badge. This decoration is a great honor, great enough that the badge representing this honor is serialized and issued only to that Marine.

Dave does not talk about his past, and for good reasons. He can't. But you will know who he is and what he represents when you watch him and how he stands when the National Anthem is played, our flag is posted, or the Pledge of Allegiance is spoken. Dave is a patriot, one we all can admire.

Dave's painting and remodel business has been used by many of our members, folks who need excellent interior or exterior painting, dry wall work, tile work, or other general remodel. If any of you have some stuff you need done around your house, give Dave a call. I think he can work you in. If you want a testimony, ask Carol, Del W., Sam, or Gary. They can give you the straight scoop.

Are you looking for a schedule of events? Not going to find one on this bulletin as they tend to be inaccurate as soon as they are published. So, for the latest calendar go to our website and click on the 'Calendar' for that page. It is hopefully current. Besides, it's the best information available. And, for your information, all RMD events are shown in **GREEN**. Our chapter events are **RED**. Don't be confused.



Let there be light, so says Cooper.



It's going to be a great show, Bob. All we need to do is add some more songs, change the title, and get some new ideas.

Thanks to Elda Ridenour, editor *Pikespeaker*, Colo. Springs, Nov. 28

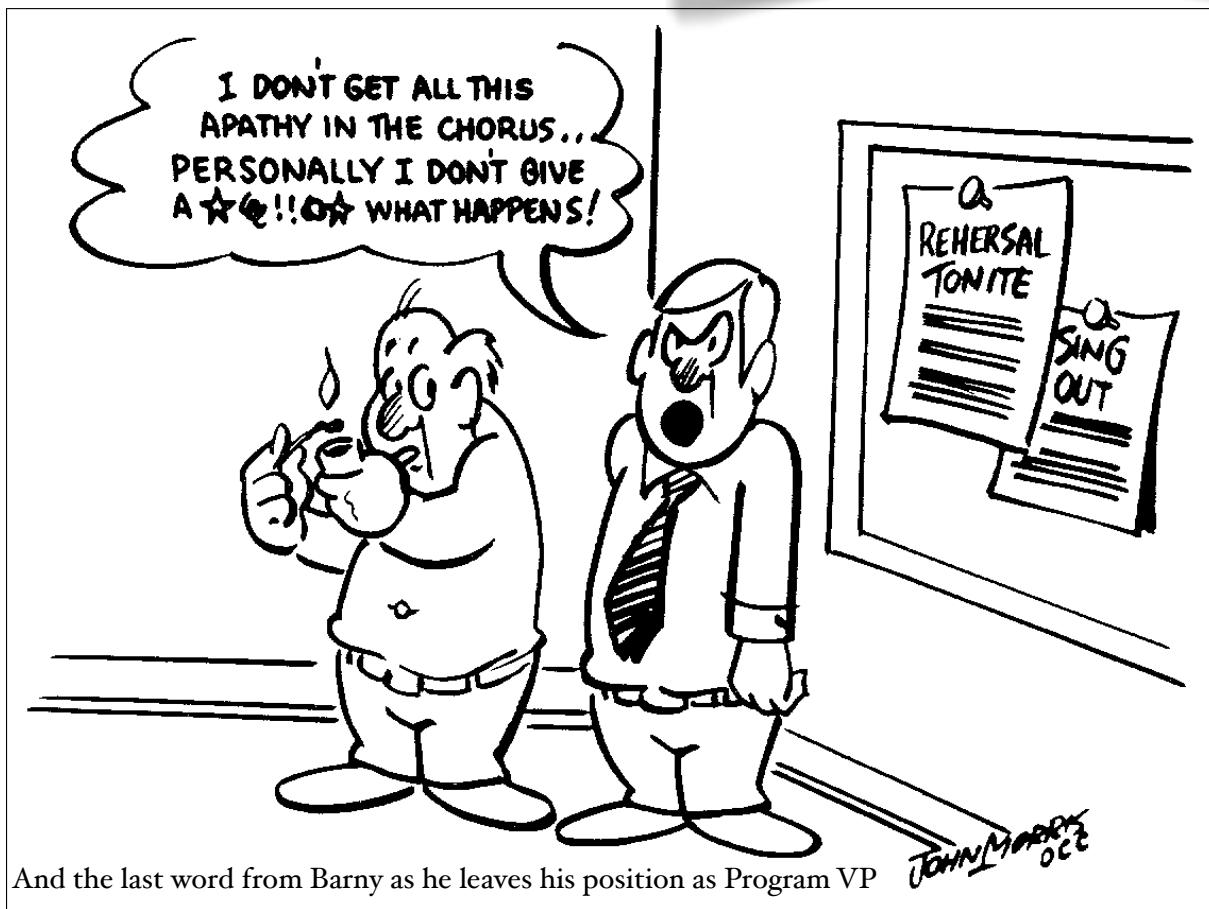
HUMOR FOR TODAY

I don't care who you are, Fatso. Get them reindeer off my roof.
Anonymous

Always go to other people's funerals, otherwise they won't come to yours.
Yogi Berra

Lady Astor: "Mr. Churchill, you're drunk!" Winston Churchill: "Yes, and you, madam, are ugly. But tomorrow, I shall be sober."

Expect a notice about the January Installation Banquet. You will be informed, and expected to attend with lots of good food for the rest of us.



And the last word from Barny as he leaves his position as Program VP

A true Irishman has so much respect for the truth that he uses it only in emergencies.

The Constitution only gives people the right to pursue happiness. You have to catch it yourself.

---Benjamin Franklin

**A true Irishman considers
anyone who won't come around
to his point of view to be
hopelessly stubborn.**

**The good Lord created only two
kinds of people in the world:
those who are Irish and those
who wish they were.**



Rocky Mountain

Harmony College

Dr. Dan Clark, Dean
danjama@scottsbluff.net

The 2012 Rocky Mountain Harmony College is February 3-4-5. Rich Knight, the great lead singer of the beloved Gas House Gang gold medal quartet from 1993, has agreed to return for a record FOURTH year to coach quartets. Many of you have experienced the great coaching from this man, and have made it clear you'd like to have him back.

We have been fortunate to have gold medal quartets as faculty and performers at RMHC for several years, and this year 2010 International champions Storm Front will be on deck to

ATTN: DIRECTORS

New Directing Technique Videos

The Barbershop Harmony Society has placed four different Directing Technique videos online for your comments, criticism and evaluation. Please take a moment to watch each video, take some things from the videos that you can personally apply to your own directing, and please comment on the good, the bad, and the ugly! Also, don't forget to suggest a Directing Technique Level (specific instructions found on the website) for each director.

coach your quartet and to headline our Saturday night show.

Our Sight-Singing class should be the key class in helping you learn those new song intervals more quickly and accurately. Ann Scherzinger-Click, an experienced music educator is an old hand at teaching the techniques of sight reading, and you won't want to miss this one.

Bob Calderon, acclaimed Society presentation coach, will be here to teach you how to present a winning program, whether it's a contest set or an entertainment feature for your next show.

Raisha Quinn (Grand Junction director) will be teaching choral directing for beginners and more advanced directors. Raisha spends her professional life directing school music, and generously lends her considerable talents to RMHC to help our good directors become even better.

We will again have our panel of International Judges

demonstrate what judges look for on the contest stage. We call it "Through the Eyes of the Judges," and it's always informative and fun for all. Voice classes, tag singing, good food, good friends, and good fun is all there. The early bird registration package is available; the RMHC flyer is available online at www.RMDsing.org. REGISTER NOW.

The EVERYMAN CHORUS will be singing again.....it's been a 100 men (plus) strong the last couple of years, and great fun. This year Brian Beck is our EVERYMAN director. Yes, it's the same Brian Beck who has won International medals in every voice part except soprano; the Brian Beck whose quartet, the Dealers Choice, turned quartet singing up many notches and ushered in the amazing quality of singing you hear on our international contest stage every year; the Brian Beck who is one of the most respected musicians in our entire Society. DON'T MISS IT!



Make Reservations Now for Midwinter!

Come to sunny Tucson for the 2012 Midwinter Convention January 17-22, 2012, and tack on a few days before or after to enjoy the unique beauty of southern Arizona! Visit Saguaro National Park, play some golf, check out an old cowboy movie set, and just feast your eyes on the scenery along Arizona's highways! Housing reservations are now available. The best rooms will go fast, and Tucson in particular may be a sell-out, so make your reservations now!

We can't wait to see how many young men will take part in the Fifth Annual Youth Chorus Festival - the entries are starting to pour in now! And it's always a treat to enjoy the Seniors Quartet Championship. Register at TUCSON MIDWINTER. Check out the Tucson Visitor's Website and SPECIAL EVENTS arranged by the Tucson Sunshine Chapter.



*Most of the information in this, and all other bulletins have been gleefully lifted from Steve Jackson's excellent bulletins. He has been a wealth of information and makes it much easier for us lazy editors.
Thanks Steve.*

It's time to get serious about forming a Valentine's Day quartet. There are ladies out there who are counting on us.



Stolen from The Voice of Rushmore, Bulletin Editor-in-Cheap John Elving

We are not the only chapter with these problems.

APATHY! A noun meaning:

1. absence or suppression of passion, emotion, or excitement.
2. lack of interest in or concern for things that others find moving or exciting.
3. absence of interest in or enthusiasm for things generally considered interesting or moving.
4. uncaring attitude, lack of interest.

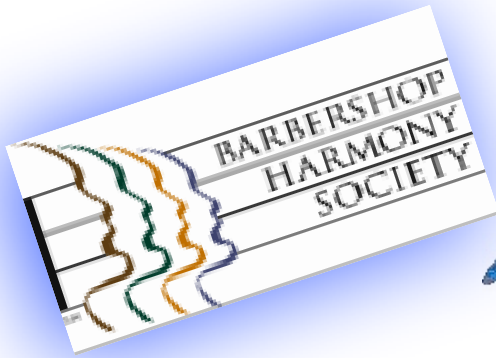
It seems to me that we as a chapter are suffering from this dreaded word. Why do I think that? Let's take a look at the things that give rise to that.

- When asked for someone to take on the chairmanship of things like Singing Valentines, the annual show, other committee positions, there has been a deafening silence from the membership.
- When presented the opportunity to sing for the public in any kind of performance, we can't get more than 3/4 of our chorus membership to commit to it, and sometimes less than 1/4 will commit.
- When given new music to learn, we still have people who haven't taken the time individually to learn what they need to. This even includes music which we performed on our show, and subsequent performances. There are still people who need the music in front of them to be able to sing it.
- When asked to "perform" during our rehearsal times, it is as though many of us are sleep-walking our way through the music. *"I'll perform only when I'm in front of an actual audience."*

More than one person has talked with me about this. They see a general lack of interest in what we do as a chorus. Some of them have even talked about this to the entire chapter during our meetings. However, apathy set in even more—an absence of interest in what is being said or done.

Do we as a chapter and chorus want new men to be excited about what we do and joining in with us? Then we need to completely get rid of that word—APATHY—and let them see how excited we are to be singing together and entertaining our audiences. There needs to be such an air of excitement when we get together that they just can't stand to not be a part of it.

I challenge each one of us to get excited, show that excitement, and then we can and will grow.



Teach the Children to Sing

Stamp here



CHAPTER MISSION STATEMENT
"Flourishing and growing as individuals, as a chorus, and as a chapter by singing in an atmosphere of musical excellence and by promoting harmony in our lives, our relationships, and our community."

1943 Spring Drive
Delta, CO 81416

RETURN REQUESTED

COMPLIMENTARY COPY

THE CANYON CHORDS
BULLETIN EDITOR/PUBLISHER
Bill Sutton
1943 Spring Drive
Delta CO 81416
Phone/FAX 874-9280
e-mail: *williesut@aol.com*

The President's Corner with Larry Wilkinson

The Chapter is to be commended for its response to all the activities we have had this past month. We can continue to raise the bar in our attitude and performance where we will be in greater demand and our reputation will be such that it will be easier to sell tickets to upcoming events. Take pride, and a pat on the back to all.

With events being firmed up for the coming year, I'd like to encourage you all to just not let them happen.

MAKE THEM HAPPEN

and be proud. We are good !



Picture thanks to Carol M.

The chorus singing carols for the fine folks at Colorow Senior Center on December 8, 2011. For more pictures, visit our website and click on "Pictures" If you find one you like you can have it for your very own

