



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



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

FEBRUARY 2014
Vol. 30 Number 2

Ramblin' Roses

A singing Valentine story

"I'm pretty sure it's right down here ..." mumbled Corso as he swung his newly painted and pristine old Chrysler down a muddy road. "I think I've been here before so it's got to be around here somewhere." We bounced along on a muddy circle bisecting a series of commercial buildings, none bearing a sign saying anything about 'composites.' Back to US 50 with the Chrysler moaning like a Mopar in the throes of ecstasy every time Corso hit the brakes. Then, another road farther north, and another search for something that must exist. And once more around and around and back to 50 to wander along another road. Finally Sam spied some lettering on a tall silo of some kind lettered with the word 'composite'. Bingo.

As it turned out, this paid singout was actually a 'get even' from Vicki to Pepper. Now Pepper was a darn good sport about the whole thing. It's not easy for a tough factory worker to have four guys in red bow ties sing a love song to him in front of a whole bunch of other tough guys on break, hooting and cheering. As luck turned out, it was break-time, and Vicki got even in spades. I think the capper was when Corso presented Pepper with a long stem rose. Maybe the wink was the final straw.

Lots of laughs and good vibes from the guys.

The day started at HorseFly Brewery where we were asked to sing to the waitresses on duty as a 'thanks' for the tap nights. Phil and Nigel are valued supporters of our hobby and it was a perfect opportunity for us to show our appreciation. Since it was lunch time some of us ordered a bowl of soup, others



Singing at the HORSEFLY Brewery

ordered other stuff. Then Cooper, Snyder, Frush, and Dyke showed up, followed by Olmstead with a camera. Well, shoot, Dennis, shoot some pictures and make us famous. So all eight of us sang to the gals, keeping them from their jobs. I think they were smiling, but there is a fine line between 'smile' and 'grimace.' What the heck, we enjoyed it anyway. And the food was so good that Wilson talked us into returning later in the afternoon for another snack and beverage. As luck, or Karma, would have it, the couple and kids at the next table happened to be a friend of Wilson, and they happen to be celebrating their anniversary this very day. Well of course we had to sing to her, and of course she cried. It just doesn't get any better than this.



The large and very appreciative audience at the Montrose United Methodist Church

After a final 4:30 sing and rose to the wife of a new guest/member Darrin, the now getting-hoarse quartet met at the Pavilion to sing for the hoity-toity VIP champagne and *hors d'oeuvres* shindig before the big Magic Circle talent show. Now that was not as fun as you might think. Folks in tuxedos and gowns who shelled out \$50 each for the honor to eat, drink, and visit with other VIPs were more interested in champagne and tables full of wonderful things we never got to sample than to listen to 4 guys strain their voices in a futile attempt to be a little more than background music. We did our darned best by singing song after song for about 35 minutes. Good, I think, for building character. Also modesty.

By now the fine folks of great energy and appreciation at the Methodist Church were waiting for MaryAnn and the entire chorus to wish all of them a wonderful Valentine's Day. And we did, most properly attired in all black with really fancy new RED four-in-hand ties and RED pocket squares, all furnished by our most loyal and dedicated Administrative Officer, Carol Morrell. Well, most were properly attired, but two were still in what they had been in all day,. Any attempt to be invisible seemed to evaporate by being placed in the front row.

Then the evening was over, except for 14 who chose to end up with a dinner/salad/or just beverage at the famous Red Barn. Get it? Red ties, Red Barn? Never mind.

It was a good day for three quartets, and a fun night for the rest of the chorus. We all did a good job of bringing love and song to Valentine's Day. The singout at the MUMC was as good as it can get. The audience was fabulous, our singing was excellent. Both quartets who had been singing all day seemed warmed up enough to please the crowd as well, and Barny without even trying was a funny, personable emcee to a crowd who knows him. That's not an easy task.

A boiled egg is hard to beat.



Larry Cooper, Bill Snyder, Del Dyck, and Chuck Frush sing to Bonnie with welcome assistance from Larry Wilkinson.

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.

2014 CHAPTER OFFICERS
(Term expires 12/31 in year shown after office)

PRESIDENT (2015)

John Taylor

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Larry Wilkinson

SECRETARY (2014)

Chuck Frush

TREASURER (2014)

Rex Pierson

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT VP (2015)

Don Barnett

PROGRAM VP (2015)

Larry Cooper

MEMBERSHIP VP (2014)

Del Dyck

PUBLIC RELATIONS VP (2015)

Dennis Olmstead

MUSIC VP (2015)

David Stannard

COMMUNICATIONS VP (???)

Bill Sutton

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE (1 year terms)

Bob Brethouwer Sergeant at Arms

Tim Davis

John Reick

MUSICAL DIRECTOR:

MaryAnn Rathburn

Tom Chamberlain, Emeritus

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Carol Morrell

SERGEANT AT ARMS

Bob Brethouwer

SUNSHINE GUY (appointed)

Rex Pierson

CHAPTER HISTORIAN (appointed)

Tom Chamberlain

2014 SHOW CHAIRMAN

MaryAnn Rathburn

Splinters from the Board

Notice: These are NOT the official minutes and merely present a tongue in cheek observation of our Board Meetings. Official minutes can be found on our website.



The attendance at Davetos was meager because Rex chose the sun in Arizona over rain in Delta, and Larry W and Dennis chose snow in Telluride. Thus only 4 partook, uh, partaken, uh, particked in cuisinarial treats. OK, so they aren't really words, but you know what they mean.

The Treasurer's report was extremely brief mainly because Rex was not there.

Coop would really like to know what the chorus would like to do for singouts after the show. Should he insist on only Thursday evenings? Should he consider weekends? How many is enough and how many are too many? Remember he has to juggle singouts between Show preparation and Silverton songs. Some sonorial masochists are already talking about learning new songs for 2015. Sheesh.

After some light-hearted haggling, a motion was made and quickly passed to keep the price of Show tickets the same as last year, the year before, and for other years before that. So if any of you are wondering, both shows will sell tickets at \$10 in advance. Those who wish to wait until the last minute must pay \$15. That means a \$5 penalty for procrastination. Barney says he is going to give a bunch to donors, which means we probably won't be able to account accurately for tickets sold unless we figure out a way to mark free tickets which we probably won't anyway. Accountability is for suckers.

A couple of committees were appointed to perhaps get some of the things done that seldomly get done, like a budget for those officers that spend chapter money. Also a couple of new committees were appointed to help with the Show. If you want to know if you are on a committee, see the Show committee table on our website. If your name is there, you are 'it.'

Count how many words are used in this bulletin that don't exist and let the editor know of your editorialphobiaism.

In a fit of suggestionalitis, Barney thinks we should award a monthly Award of Harmony to someone who probably deserves it. He thinks such an effort would bring more attention to our hobby and perhaps result in more members and more of what ever goes with that. Since the meeting had dragged on and on, a motion to approve what Barney wants was quickly made and passed so we could get to the cupcakes. In a cruel twist, Pres Taylor appointed Barney as chairman of a committee tasked to find those deserving folks, one a month. Sounds like work.

The guy who fell onto an upholstery machine is now fully recovered.

A dentist and a manicurist married. They fought tooth and nail.

Some thoughts from **A Business Approach to Membership** Presented by Todd Wilson, Director of Marketing

When busy people from all walks of life choose to accept the invitation to join a chapter other important aspects of their lives are often reprioritized to make room for this new commitment. Being a Barbershopper is supposed to be about singing, fun, fellowship, enrichment and creativity and not just work. And, it certainly can be, and should be. It simply requires the commitment of the chapter leadership together with the chapter membership.

Just like a business, a chapter should have a vision, a mission, and a product. It has income and expenses, plans, events and administrative tasks that need to be handled. Every year, chapter members elect a board of directors who are accountable to the chapter's stakeholders: fellow chapter members and the many beneficiaries of the chapter's activities.

And just as businesses make strategic decisions and deal with planning, budgeting, growth and attrition, barbershop chapters should develop plans for change that will not only prevent further disrepair but also increase the strength of the chapter. One way to do this is to organize a chapter committee solely dedicated to chapter assessment.

All kinds of people make contributions to your chapter, each in their own way. As Ken Hatton of the Bluegrass Student Union has been known to say, there are three kinds of people in this world:

1. Those that make things happen
2. Those that watch things happen
3. Those that look around and ask...What happened?

Some members will tell you they "just want to sing" and get their fill of "work" during the day. Of course, this kind of business approach to chapter management will require your fair share of doers. One way to raise the bar and establish some minimum standards would be for your chapter to establish and communicating some reasonable "expectations of membership" to all existing and incoming members.

To read more on this idea, go to the BHS website and search for this article. It details his ideas for making each chapter a successful chapter.

The batteries were given out free of charge.



John Reick	Feb. 27
Chuck Frush	March 2
Lee Erven	March 12

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

Birthdays are good for you. The more you have, the longer you live.



Chapter Quartets

FOURMATA

Contact: Bill Sutton 874-9280

ROCKY ROAD

Contact: Vern Dockter

970-210-1793



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."

THE CANYON CHORDS
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Keep the Whole World Singing

The President's Corner with John Taylor

Kudos for the house! Men (and ladies) you were brilliant! A special thank you to Dennis Olmstead who took the calls for Valentine's Day and organized our quartets for when and where they were supposed to go. He stayed by his phone to cover any glitches and kept our guys from getting too lost.

Thanks to the three quartets: Fourmata, Rocky Road, and The Pickup Quartet (I'm not sure which pickup, Chevy, Ford or Ram). You all obviously sang your tails off with more than 50 presentations all together. I've heard that those sung to were most appreciative and our quartets were thrilled to provide such joy.

More thanks to Mary Ann and the Chorus for a standing ovation presentation at the Montrose Methodist Church on Valentine's Day evening. Audience members said it was one of our best and that we keep getting better and better. Thanks Chuck Frush for reserving room at the Red Barn for a crew of 15 for sort of an afterglow. Thank you to Carol Morrell for the new ties and hankies. We looked as sharp as we possibly could in our black and new red. Don't the new ties make us look younger and slimmer? :-). Thanks, Carol, too, for getting the Valentine roses that the quartets passed out.

Thanks goes to Don Barnett who came up with the idea of singing free for our Montrose sponsors. (They'll be asked to renew or up their sponsorships in a few weeks.) Don, also, was a masterful Master of Ceremonies in front of the musical congregation at the Methodist Church. Although he may have alienated our bass section when he invited members of audience with short memories to join the chorus, especially the basses, because all they have to do is sing, "dum..... dum, dum, dum.....dum, dum."



Keep the Whole World Singing. JT