

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

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

MAY 2011
Vol. 27 Number 5

AS TIME GOES BY

And it does

After a year of sweating and thinking and losing sleep and cajoling and writing and trying to remember all kinds of things, Barny had a good night's sleep. Barny and his friends did it: they brought a very entertaining, fast moving, and most enjoyable annual show to the stage of the Pavilion.

As is with a football game, it usually gets down to the final two minutes. No matter how much you have prepared, practiced, and plotted, the last two minutes brings all kinds of surprises. Like the planned trumpeter simple doesn't show up. Like the high school choir just decides not to be on the show. Like the wrong program gets printed. Little things like that make it interesting.

Of course, the very song the Director was most worried about turns out to be the BEST song of the show, while the one that was a slam-dunk was embarrassing to say the least. Amazing Grace was just the way MaryAnn wanted it to be, and the audience loved it. Christopher Columbus was a disaster. Yes, it was supposed to be funny ... not pathetic. Too many were concerned trying to be funny and not enough were concerned about singing well. Not good. It might have been funny if it had not been in 5 or 6 parts, none resembling the key it was written in. Oh yeah, the beginning two songs were weak: nerves, I suspect. But the show turned into being one of the best, based on seeing it from the audience rather than being on stage this year.

Special kudos (kind of a personal thing) go to our traditional M.C. Phil Plumb for his excellent job of keeping the show moving, and for filling in the bass part in the Fourmata quartet pulling off the emotional triad of "White Cliffs of Dover," "Bring Him Home," and "America the Beautiful." Phil did this with only two practices ... truly an amazing accomplishment.

For the first time in several years, the show length and dynamics was the way they should be. Rather than an abbreviated first half of about 20 minutes, a very entertaining hour precluded the intermission. With help and suggestions from stage director Bob B., the curtain pulling, the lights, and the movements were seamless. Much better than an entire show just standing on the risers in pain, frowning. The gentle coordinated movements really added to the visuals. Especially, the swaying to "Simple Melody" was perfect. It doesn't take much to make a song come alive, and this was an example. We should do this in the future, every-time we sing.

Of course IGNITION was as well prepared and polished as we expected. What we didn't expect was only 5 or 6 songs interrupted by lengthy stories and jokes. I think the audience deserved a little more. I know the chorus did.

On to the Afterglow. It was an experiment resulting from all kinds of problems and reasons. Was it successful? Not according to some. The bar in the next room with the karaoke singing certainly infringed on the a cappella entertainment in the main dining room. Plus it was tough for everyone to see. The food was fine. But, having an afterglow certainly was better than nothing and a lesson for next year can be learned. A problem for Bobby to solve. Yes, Bob B. volunteered to chair the 2012 show. Time to start planning. Some can hardly wait. Others may sleep for a week. Good job, everyone.

Splinters from the Board

BLACK 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.

2011 CHAPTER OFFICERS

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

RESIDENT (2011)

Larry Wilkinson 240-1801

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Vern Dockter 210-1793

SECRETARY (2012)

Chuck Frush 249-0543

TREASURER (2012)

Rex Pierson 323-6670

PROGRAM VP (2011)

Don Barnett 249-3241

MEMBERSHIP VP (2012)

Kevin Cohenour 964-4775

PUBLIC RELATIONS VP (2011)

Dennis Olmstead 249-4099

MUSIC VP (2011)

David Stannard 249-8029

PUBLICATIONS VP (???)

Bill Sutton 874-9280

MUSIC COMMITTEE

Open

Carl Schultz 240-0462

Vern Dockter 874-3971

CHAPTER HISTORIAN (appointed)

Tom Chamberlain 249-9105

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE (1 yr terms)

Bob Brethouwer 209-1804

Dan Baer 240-9677

Don Wieszbrod 874-7817

MUSICAL DIRECTOR:

MaryAnn Rathburn

Tom Chamberlain, Emeritus

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Carol Morrell

SHINE GUY (appointed)

Rex Pierson 323-6670

Yep, there was a board meeting on April 19, 2011, and here is part of what happened.

A motion was made and passed to increase the PR budget by \$200 to cover expenses for the rest of the year.

Dr. Bob, the 2012 Show Chairman, assured the board that a date has been set and reserved with the Pavilion for our show. But he couldn't remember the date. It is April 28, 2012. Mark your calendar

Rex gave a detailed financial report including the Show income. See the balance chart on our website to know how we are doing.

In a weak moment, Barney agreed to check on Main in Motion and obligate the chorus for 2 sessions.

Dennis O agreed to send the CARA award plaque back the RMD as requested. The 2010 winner will be announced at the HOD meeting. We hope to win it again. We have won it every year but one since the beginning.

A good and well-spent amount of time was used reading and commenting on the member Show comments sent to Sutton. It was very constructive and informative. Excellent suggestions and ideas will be incorporated in the 2012 Show planning. It is not too early to step up and volunteer to be a committee chairman or work on a Show committee. The more we plan, the better we can execute. Let's knock everyone's sox off again next April 28th.

In a really weak moment, Barney agreed to visit with Montrose High School about getting their choir on our show.

A motion was made and passed to invite the Sweet Adeline Chorus to be on our 2012 Show next year. We all missed them and want them back. Sutton agreed to give them the invite and report the result.

Larry W agreed to contact Bridges (Remington's) about hosting the 2012 Afterglow.

The Board agreed that Carl Schultz should be asked to represent our chapter at the HOD meeting to be held before the Spring Convention. If Carl is not available, the Chapter will not attend the HOD meeting.

Guess what we didn't talk about: Who will be our Guest Quartet, and who will make the contact? Wow, how did that slip by?

Excellent brownies, compliments of Sally Wilkinson, topped off a very productive evening. Heck, the bank doors were even locked this time. Take that! You stinkin' bank robber.

The March Minutes are now available on our website. Don't hold your breath for the April meeting notes.



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

All About our Show ... Snippets

Comments overheard, said, or sent to the editor

I also liked having breaks between songs, with the quartets singing for us so we can drink water, and rest.

The afterglow was too noisy and bad acoustics. Not fair to the guest quartet.

Afterglow sucked - we tried, and we'll keep on trying

Where was the drummer? I couldn't see the drummer. Was there one?

I loved the quest quartet.... I would have loved them more if they had done one or two more songs

Special time was, "Bring Him Home." and the Harmony award... Good job Rex.... Also, when Phil lost it talking about Bill having an operation.

Great afterglow. The guest quartet sounded wonderful and sang a bunch of songs.

The quartet wearing jeans was unprofessional. They should have at least worn nice slacks.

How come Barney wasn't listed in the program as the Show Chairman?

I was sad that we did not have the HS chorus, and the trumpet player.

Overall, a big success! Amazing Grace was the most amazing that I've heard us do it! We made at least one lady cry.

the non positive comments were piano, drums, Red Barn.

From someone, long time show go person, but you know me can't remember who. At half time

A special thanks to our PR-VP Dennis Olmstead. He did an excellent job of getting the word out this year, a job that no doubt was reflected by our good and large audience. His efforts are officially recognized by the Editor and appreciated by the Treasurer, I hope

"Best show yet!"

Bill Snyder sez:

It seemed to me that we did quite well and I especially thank my "partners in crime" that made it possible to perform in the No Name quartet. That was special to me as it has been difficult for us to get another quartet together.



David Stannard
Any more?

May 4

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

*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

More thoughts about our show

If Amazing Grace didn't touch you there is something SERIOUSLY WRONG with you!!!

The selection of songs was good and followed the theme well.

I felt that Christopher Columbus was a disaster. Too much action that was not really well thought out.

Even though it provided an introduction to the title of the show, I don't feel that a piano, drums and trumpet belong in a truly Barber shop setting if we are truly acapella.

I especially enjoyed singing the numbers "When I'm 64 and Play a Simple Melody". It still seemed to me there was confusion and some times poor harmony in Please Mr. Columbus.

Regardless of some problems that we can resolve, it was fun. At intermission I personally received a number of compliments from people, often from audience personnel I did not even know. They all seemed to enjoy the concert and congratulated us.

I especially enjoyed singing the numbers "When I'm 64 and Play a Simple Melody". It still seemed to me there was confusion and some times poor harmony in Please Mr. Columbus.

I still think it would help immensely to be able to practice the Thursday prior to the show at the Pavilion, or else get a larger place to practice so we can have a better feel for our movements and sound in a larger space.

A member of the Del-Rose Chorus of Sweet Adelines, wondered how we got such a full house as theirs was not as full for their show. A suggestion was that we could combine a show or two with them to help them out and maybe help us, too.

The show was "fantastic", one of the best they've attended.

The interval between chorus and quartets was good in that it provided a break for those of us with bad backs to sit or stretch without being seen.

Mostly good but I would have preferred a dress rehearsal before the day of the show to polish our movements off.

Standing on the floor instead of risers was a mistake for Columbus.

Two people have mentioned how much the Chorus and quartet have improved and how much they enjoyed the show because of the professionalism we showed, even if MaryAnn's mic was not turned on in time.

Having cold water and bathrooms available was very nice....also a place to sit. Thanks to all who worked on this production and our theater volunteers.

It was sad to not have the high school group and the trumpet there. I think that got lost in the shuffle and we need better planning and commitment in future concerts. For example I had another possibility for a backup trumpet which I had mentioned, but somehow communication was not pursued.

Our first two songs were a bit shaky, but by the time we got to the Beatles, I knew everything was going to be okay.

The Afterglow sucked!!

Rex Pierson presenting Award of Harmony to Elaine DeJulio

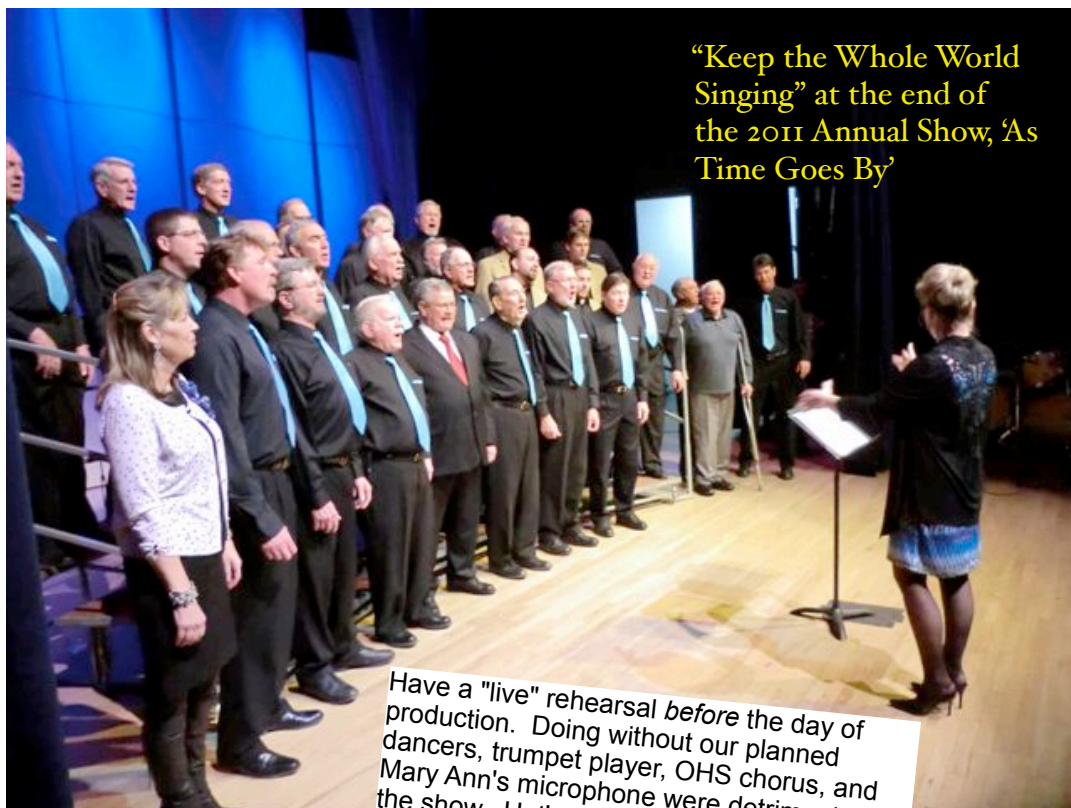


Want to know when the next Show is scheduled? Let me tell you, it will be on
April 28, 2012.

I thought Afterglow was terrific. It was relaxed and a chance for everyone to let down a bit. Maybe we could also have it in a little larger place, but overall it seemed to me like everyone was having a great time.

The Chorus NEVER NEVER sounded better!!!!

Earl and Bubba are quietly sitting in a boat fishing, chewing tobacco and drinking beer when suddenly Bubba says, "Think I'm gonna divorce the wife - she ain't spoke to me in over 2 months." Earl spits overboard, takes a long, slow sip of beer and says, "Better think it over.....women like that are hard to find."



"Keep the Whole World Singing" at the end of the 2011 Annual Show, 'As Time Goes By'

Have a "live" rehearsal before the day of production. Doing without our planned dancers, trumpet player, OHS chorus, and Mary Ann's microphone were detriments to the show. Hat's off to Phil for Philling in for Bass Bill, and to Bill P., the curtain guy.

Notes from the Underground Guy

I was thinking about how a status symbol of today is those cell phones that everyone has clipped onto their belt or purse. I can't afford one. So, I'm wearing my garage door opener.

I also made a cover for my hearing aid and now I have what they call blue teeth, I think.

You know, I spent a fortune on deodorant before I realized that people didn't like me anyway.

I was thinking that women should put pictures of missing husbands on beer cans!

I was thinking about old age and decided that old age is 'when you still have something on the ball, but you are just too tired to bounce it.'

I thought about making a fitness movie for folks my age, and call it 'Pumping Rust'.

I've gotten that dreaded furniture disease. That's when your chest is falling into your drawers!

When people see a cat's litter box, they always say, 'Oh, have you got a cat?' Just once I want to say, 'No, it's for company!'

Employment application blanks always ask who is to be notified in case of an emergency. I think you should write, 'A Good Doctor!'

I was thinking about how people seem to read the Bible a whole lot more as they get older. Then, it dawned on me. They were cramming for their finals.

As for me, I'm just hoping God grades on the curve.

Enjoy Your Days & Love Your Life, Because Life is a journey to be savored.

Ignition was a big hit. One member of our audience is still talking about the song they did at the afterglow about men's habitssports and tools and etc. and how those habits are not likely to change. Money is well spent to have quality outside quartets coming in. I don't think we want to give that up just to save a few dollars.

Do you wonder how we did with our Supporter efforts this year? Well, it was a record, thanks to the personal efforts of our next year's Show Chairman, Dr. Bob Brethouwer. Be thinking about keeping this program viable all year. No reason to get a supporter at the last minute. Do your part, get one now. All supporters will be listed on our website.

How about **STORM FRONT** for 2012?
Larry is working on it.

Several comments and suggestions on the printed program:

Nice, classy, color printing with photos! Way Cool!

List the members of BCBC and perhaps their vocal assignment and how many years they've been with the organization.

List the songs we are singing in the program.

List who's in the local quartets.....Blue Denim, Fourmata, and No-Name Quartet.

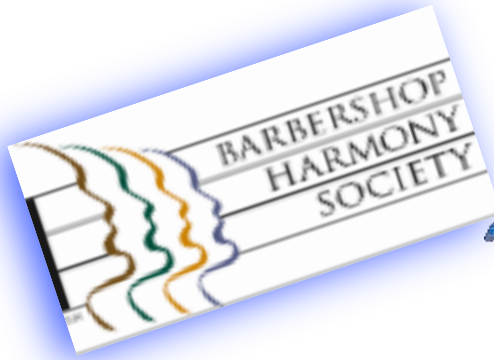
Have a short write up or (focus) on a couple of members, i.e. Larry Wilkinson was mentioned as a long time member and WWII vet in the oral presentation, but people wanted to know more about him. Maybe do a spread on one of our newest members, as well.

Teach the Children to Sing

Stamp
here

The 2012 show date has been set and reserved at the Pavilion for:

April 28, 2012



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
BULLETIN EDITOR/PUBLISHER

Bill Sutton
1943 Spring Drive
Delta CO 81416
Phone/FAX 874-9280
e-mail: williesut@aol.com

1943 Spring Drive
Delta, CO 81416

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The President's Corner with Larry Wilkinson

After our last Board meeting, I feel very encouraged about getting some dates established as to when things will happen. With these dates in mind, we can do early planning and preparation so hopefully it won't be a "Chinese Fire Drill" at the last minute. The main thing being, every one is aware of the dates. See our website calendar of events.



Thanks to MaryAnn for all of her dedication and leadership to our BCBC. Our chorus is fortunate to have such a capable director with considerable patience and skill to direct the likes of us.