

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

Visit us at our official web site:

<http://barbershopsingingmontrose.yolasite.com/>

June 2011

Vol. 27 Number 6

## The Spring Convention and winners

*Barney and Sutton had a wonderful time. So did Vern and Carl and Rajean*

Putting on a Spring Convention is a lot tougher than those who have never done will never know. We know, we did it twice. And, for probably the only time, made money for RMD in the process. That's not always the case. In fact, it is never the case. Never to the point that there may be some serious reinvention's of the conventions in the future.

First, I must say that this was an enjoyable experience. The motel, Ramada Plaza in Northglenn, was just fine. The room was hunky-dory and the food, especially breakfast, was great. Dinner at the Outback was so good it can't be described, but the Outback is always good. Sure, there were some glitches and downright boners, some of which were caused by the difficulties of communications. Like, if you got your reservations made to the motel early, and told them you were with the Barbershoppers, you would get the special price of \$99. However, if you procrastinated like Barney and I did, you have to pay the regular price of \$88. And that is not the only punishment we had to endure. If you did the right thing and registered, you got to attend all the events for, I think, \$75 unless you registered early, like you should have. If you come in late, like Barney and I, you can get a ticket for all events on Saturday for \$25. If you just have to attend the quartet semi-finals on Friday evening, you will have to pay another \$25. Sure it makes no sense, but that's the way it was in Northglenn.

We missed Friday evening for obvious reasons, but Saturday was excellent. Even the small chorus competition was enjoyable, and didn't take too long. , There was a few jokes about our pals in Durango, certainly uncalled for. You know, silly things like asking if they really did finish second. What a silly question! They were good, and good enough to win the trophy again. Yes, they won it once before, I think in Cheyenne, under the same conditions and competition. That makes it twice Durango has been crowned as the RMD small chorus Champions. Our congratulations to them, to their efforts, and to Amy and her hard work. Sure, they were the only chorus competing, and sure that was the case in Cheyenne too, but, by golly, they have some serious bragging rights. Showing off that big trophy can't hurt their local reputation and audience size either.

As you may have guessed, the small chorus competition of one was not the highlight of the weekend, even though all 11 guys looked spiffy and sounded good enough to win the trophy. The highlight came later that night at the high school. You should see the high school auditorium and then wonder about the school taxes you pay and where it goes. Piker they are not. All the really good quartets from earlier in the afternoon got an opportunity to shine again in front of a sold out (kind of optimistic, but good crowd) audience. Toward the en of the evening, Storm Front teamed with Classic Collection, each headliners in their own, to sing some songs together and present an emotional slide show of the early days. Ah, the early days. Some of us can remember them well.

The mostly uneventful drive (sure it snowed on Vail Pass and sure it was slickery near the tunnel) was more than worth making it just to attend the Saturday night festivities. They were so satiating that Barney and I opted against the afterglow, even though it was included in our \$25 bargain ticket. Too much of a good thing can be too much, so we decided. Bed and a necessary really early morning arising was more compelling than the late night drinks and more harmony.

So, for heaven's sake don't miss any more of these events. It will make you really appreciate our hobby.

# Splinters from the Board

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)

### PRESIDENT (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

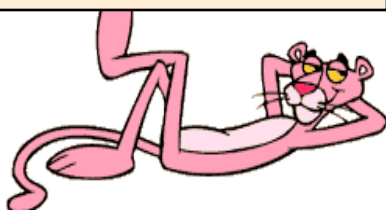
Tom Chamberlain, Emeritus

### ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Carol Morrell

### SUNSHINE GUY (appointed)

Rex Pierson 323-6670



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

Board meetings are all different. Some are destined to get stuff done with motions made and passed where those in attendance feel satisfied. Other meetings are destined to discuss things and what needs to be done and how it should be done with little consideration about who will do it and when. Some are just a total waste of board member time bordering on a social event where each member can puff themselves up with stories about all they did and how wonderful they are. And there are other iterations.

Fortunately we never have any puff meetings, well hardly any, but we do have the others. It is like that proverbial box of chocolates, one never know what one will get until the gavel falls and the opening song is sung.

This meeting seemed to be the talk and do nothing kind, apparently necessary once in a while. Some generously refer to these meetings as "brain storming." Some don't. I just call them the 'Should' meetings. Lots of good, heck excellent, ideas float about while member sagely offer nods of approval or frowns of dissent. Then more ideas, and more variations of the idea are bantered about until the idea is exhausted. Someone changes the topic and it is time to move on to another idea. Many of the ideas have been circling around for years never landing. Others are new and fresh and may or may not take hold in the future. They didn't have chance to take hold at this meeting.

Don't take this wrong: it was an important and necessary meeting. It was needed to get ideas on the table. It was beneficial to all members to be heard and have the opportunity to discuss opinions and try them on for a fit. Want to know what some of the ideas were banging around the fancy bank-board room? OK here are some of them: Here are the 'we should's'.

We should purchase some kind of banner to advertise our annual show. We should use velcro to allow easy date changes. We should know how much it will cost. We should know where to put it.

We should form teams to get donations. We should get them all year long. We should get them from big companies.. We should do like Churches. We should do like the Magic Circle Theater. We should get more donations. We should ask for more.

We should sell more show tickets. We should have some kind of contest. We should have more incentive.

We should have more summer singouts. We should go to more places. We should have a schedule.

We should have a show music committee.

We should have a regular music committee

We should have a letter that is not too long and not too short to explain what their donation money will do.

We should do better and do more and have more fun and make more money and learn more songs.

We should have a fancy tri-fold with pictures to give to donors.

We should do more for the kids. We should have a YIH fund. We should know if we have one.

# Songs for Silverton

*Hey, we could learn those in red for summer*

I'm Sitting On Top Of The World #8627

Wait Til The Sun Shines Nellie #8050

Goodnight, Sweetheart, Goodnight #8613

**How Deep Is The Ocean? #7383 (new for 2011)**

**By The Light Of The Silvery Moon (Free online in Heritage of Harmony song book) (new for 2011)**

**Sweet Mae #202591 (new for 2011)**

Hello, Mary Lou #8615

Let There Be Peace On Earth #8614

Battle Hymn #7687



Gary Wilson	June 12
Duane Thaxton	June 14
Kevin Cohenour	June 16
Dennis Olmstead`	June 19

*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*



## **We have been invited to sing on the Sweet Adeline Show in November.**

It is imperative that we commit to sing on their show or at least give them an answer SOON. Prez Larry will be telling you all about it at our rehearsals and requesting firm responses from you.

Give it serious thought. It is an excellent opportunity for our chorus to get additional recognizability and improve our chances to fill the Pavilion in April.

For more information, see the list of questions and answers about their show on our website. Go to the 'Members Only' page. Do it often or you will be uninformed.

## **Chapter Registered Quartets**

### **Blue Denim**

Contact: Chuck Frush 249-0543

### **FOURMATA**

Contact: Bill Sutton 874-9280

# The Bargain

	Blocked	Blocked	Blocked	Rate	Notes
	Thu 4/28	Fri 4/29	Sat 4/30		
<b>Ramada Plaza Hotel &amp; Conference Center</b>	35	105	105	\$99	Breakfast is included

All blocked rooms will be released on **April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2011**. After April 7<sup>th</sup> the hotel will honor the convention rate for reservations, but this is subject to availability. Please book your reservations early!



Hopefully we will have The Elements in 2012

Possible Guest Quartets for the future



# Dr. Bob is our very own Chorus Sergeant at Arms

*Could he learn anything from Phoenix? Could we? Read on and decide for yourself...*

**By Jerry McElfresh**

Gordon "Gordie" "Bergie" "Mongo" Bergthold, SOP bass singer and FWD's Chapter Support and Leadership chairman, has a new title: "Sarge," or Chorus Sergeant at Arms, as announced last week. That means he will be in charge of making sure that those on risers are not doing anything to disrupt the flow of our rehearsals.

He said his role will be to ask that when we are on the risers and a director, section leader, associate director, officer or anyone with some obvious authority steps in front of the chorus that we immediately show respect and stop talking and visiting. We've all seen the riser etiquette articles that have been distributed and that should be reviewed. (Ed. Note: They can be found in the Chapter Policies section of the Members Only area of the Chapter Web site.)

"There will be no more 'Mongo talk' (as in the '70s when he held the same role for the Phoenicians). It is up to each of us to demonstrate that we are adults and our mission is superior singing and performance at all times. When you step onto the risers you become a part of a quality singing team and you are to do your part both as a singer and performer to enhance the overall chorus experience for all concerned. I've been asked to do a job for the chorus and I'll do my very best to lead by example. If for some reason I don't live up to whatever I've asked you to do, call me on it."

He said he has asked several men in each section to assist him. They will be watching and listening during riser time and in extreme cases, will ask individuals to step off the risers for a subtle reminder of our riser policy.

**Remember these points:**

- If you step off the risers or arrive late, go to either side of the risers and wait until invited to your spot and don't talk on the way there
  - No talking when being addressed by the director or person of importance
  - Don't correct your neighbor; let them ask for help during the appropriate time or when someone up front asks if there are any questions
  - Keep your eyes on the director unless the choreography dictates something else
  - If you excuse yourself during the rehearsal, simply exit the risers and walk behind the risers or behind of the director
  - When the director or coach says watch or listen, this means that you should not move or sing when they are teaching.
  - Common sense prevails; common courtesy is a must and there are no exceptions to these riser issues
- "We each come here to learn and improve and the goal is to demonstrate to visitors and others that we mean business when occupying our spot on the risers," Mongo said. "If you have questions regarding what I've discussed please see me after rehearsal and I'll be glad to explain why this position is necessary. Please don't be the first one asked off the risers. It would be embarrassing and it is unnecessary."
- Speaking of etiquette, PLEASE turn your phones to silent during rehearsals, this is becoming a routine distraction again. Do your part to help.*

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# 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  
BULLETIN EDITOR/PUBLISHER

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## The President's Corner with Larry Wilkinson

After reading the minutes of the recent House of Delegates meeting in Northglenn, Co., it is obvious that there are many chapters in the RMD who do not take the time and or energy to fill out the CARA point forms and send them in each month. CARA points are a measure of a chapters health in activities and growth.

For a chapter our size, we are doing well in most categories. Yes, there is always room for improvement.

Thanks to Dennis for reporting and to Barney for sing outs and quartets for their many gigs which often are not frequently publicized. We have the plaque for yet an other year.

*(And thanks to our old friend, Dave DeVinny for doing the inscribing for us.)*

