



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



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

JULY 2014

Vol. 30 Number 7

The BODACIOUS BRISKET BASH

at the Delgato huerta en la cima de una colina

Many of us have no idea how much work it takes to host a group like Del and Joni hosted, and many of us have no idea how much stuff it takes so those who arrive to feed their faces and quench their thirst needs. Things could not have been better and the host and hostess could not have been more cordial. Imagine setting up a zillion chairs around dozens of tables all under shade tents with a barbecuer loaded with shish-ka-bobs roasting for pre-dinner snacks and then the brisket for later. And, if you must, there was also a wash tub filled with ice and all kinds of temptations in a bottle just waiting for you. I know, I sat next to it. Very convenient.

The request for pot-luck salads or desserts must have been taken seriously since there was an obscene amount of food filling two large serving tables, all excellent and all enjoyed by a whole bunch of people. Some may need to know the total so here it is. Dr. Bob counted about 40. Carol, who was not there, said it had to be at least 100. Take your pick. Rex said he really doesn't care.

You may wonder where the name Delgato came from, and if you are wondering, you were not treated to the very friendly wandering gato (whose name is 'cat' which is English for gato) who apparently belongs to Del and who made as many rounds as needed to make sure all guests were treated with a kitty rub from and an opportunity to scratch gato's cabeza. And 'Del' is Spanish for 'of the' or in this case it just means 'Del' which happens to be Del's

name. So loosely, Delgato might mean Del's cat. Or maybe not.

There was no intention to slight the puppy (perrito? or maybe cachorro?) Charlie. Charlie is a joy. Charlie licked the summer tan right off my face and didn't quit there either. Charlie is the kind of puppy you can't pass by when offered by kids on the corner. Charlie is yours the minute he licks your face. Except Del wouldn't let me have him. He thinks he must have a cat and a dog. Kind of selfish if you ask me.

After the mandatory belching and moaning, combined with some embarrassing drooling, Rocky Road entertained us with a series of songs and humor to round out a perfect afternoon and evening. Then we left Joni and Del with the huge mess created when one hosts an event of this size. As Kay mentioned to me, it is much easier to let someone else have a party than to have it yourself. Words of wisdom from the Wiesner distaff. Is that a Spanish word too? I don't know.

Saying simply 'thank you Del and Joni' seem inadequate to express our appreciation for all the hard work and attending joviality expressed to us as we all (some missed and I'll bet they regret it) enjoyed a perfect Saturday afternoon of fun and food. Just can't say THANKS often enough. It was GREAT!!!

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.

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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.



It's not exactly news that on occasion any meeting, bored or not, may drag on and on with little or no accomplishment. Sometimes lots of stuff can be carved out very quickly. Why? Don't have a clue. This is one of those kinds of meeting. Which? You be the judge.

Hold your breath, we are going to sing at the Sweet Corn Festival again. According to Coop we will sing about 12:30 on August 2, wearing white shirts and jeans (or Levi's if you are rich).

Joni Joni D started off the evening with a surprise which means about

something we didn't know about. She and Del had filled out some forms and John T had signed them and we were going to host a beer garden in Olathe ...except we weren't. Then she proceeded to explain all the complicate stuff required to host a simple beer garden in a simple town and the difficulties of filling out forms that require stuff not easily available. It all hinged on tax forms and insurance and costs and all the normal stuff we no nothing about. She was so clear that not one of us had a clue what she was talking about. Then she passed out a nice spreadsheet which showed that if we did what we were supposed to do but weren't going to but if we had we were about to lose a good chunk of money. Kind of like the show with a different venue. So then she explained how we weren't gong to do it after all, which made sort of sense, kind of, but we should consider it next year in case we change our minds. Then she was done and we were in shock. We escaped something but not sure what.

Coop said he has some great singouts planned for the summer, one in Nucla, which is almost to Utah on the North side of Norwood and also North of Naturita, which means you have to really want to go there or you won't. Coop will fill us in when he feels it appropriate. Or not.

The highlight was the cake baked by JT and CM in celebration of DD's birthday, for which we sang off-key a HB to him. Boy, JT and CM should go into business together. It was a darned good cake, much better then the singing. It was the thought that counted, I guess.

Reciprocity is a big word that means what ever we do to someone gives them a reason to do it to us and then we can do it together. Or maybe we won't do it. Not sure. So we may want to do it to GJ so they can do it to us, of course with RMD's blessing. It that clear?

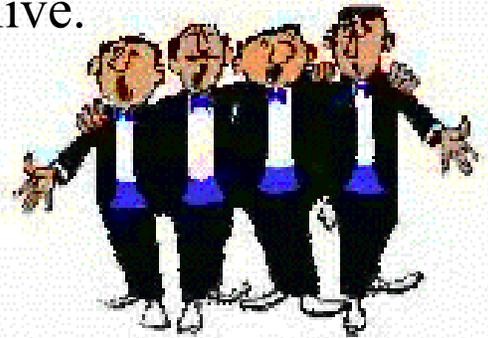


Del Wiesner
Lloyd Wenzel

July 16
August 19

*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





The tub of temptations



Some Impressions of Silverton

Quartet coaching got underway in the Silverton Grade School Theater with Rocky Road quartet from Montrose Chapter. As they were the only quartet with all of their regular voice parts the bulk of the coaching session was devoted to them. Grand Junction Chapter had three members of one quartet and asked Olyn Carlson to sing lead so the other three could receive some much needed help. At about 8:40 it was suggested that we go to Handlebars for something to eat and drink before they closed. Most of those who were attending did indeed go for something to eat and drink.

There were 50 men attending from the four chapters. We didn't

have any outside members attending this year.

Russ Young who was the guest director worked the rehearsal time a little different than in the past.

Russ had the festival chorus sing through all the songs to be used in the performance. He then worked on spots he felt that could be improved.

Everyone I talked to expressed a desire for Russ to come again next year. When I approached him about returning he said he was already booked as Director of a Harmony Explosion Camp in

Silverton was not as good this year as in the past, only because there were not as many guys there; but, it was good. I loved the director and hope we can get him back next year. Don B.

Washington State on the 3rd weekend of July 2015.

The mini shows from the chapters were received by an appreciative audience. All chapters were requested to limit their performances to 15 minutes which included any chapter quartets. Most kept their programs within that time frame. When the massed chorus finished the show with Battle Hymn it received a standing ovation.

Carl Schultz

Well, I thought that the Black Canyon Chorus did quite well for themselves. For a small chorus, we looked and sounded great. I'm proud of everyone that went the extra mile to participate and attend. The entire experience was better than usual. The guest director, Russ Young, was one of the best we have ever had. He did all the directing for the Saturday show without music. He really demanded your attention since he did dramatic interpretation of all the songs. His teaching was far better than any conductor we have had. Those of you that missed this year, missed a lot! Carl had everything organized well and things seemed to move very smoothly. The afterglow went well although I finally wore out and had to go to bed before Rocky Road sang. They were too busy eating.

My perception of the four chapters:

Durango. They stole the show with 16 members, the best sound and minimal, but effective, choreography. Their director, Amy, drove the audience crazy with her "phony" bikini while directing "By The Beautiful Sea". OK quartets.

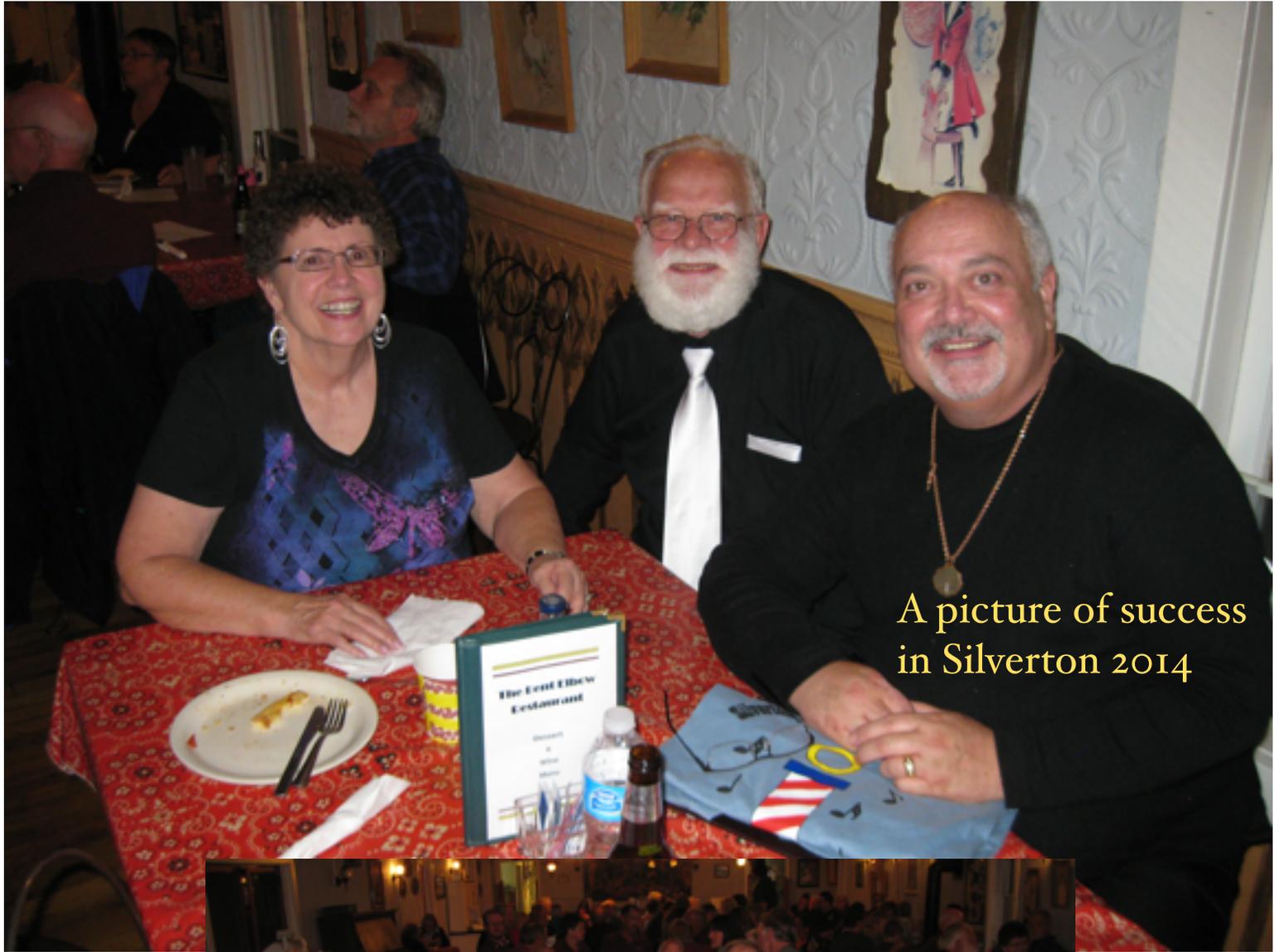
Grand Junction. They had their usual high energy and usual so-so harmony. Their new director, Olin, had over the top choreography that I thought was a little childish. A good turn out with 16 members on stage. Their quartets were weak.

Montrose. We had an embarrassingly small turn out for our 30 man chorus, with only 13 on stage. Still, we looked the best, had good stage presence and sounded almost as good as Durango. We also had a great time! Rocky Road did a great job on "I'm Gonna Sit Right Down And Write Myself A Letter". Nice solo by Tim.

Farmington. They get the prize for effort with only 9 members on stage. Plus they tackled some difficult songs and sounded as good as Grand Junction. OK quartet.

Thanks to those who showed up, worked hard, and made our brief appearance a success.

Dr. Tom Chamberlain
Director Emeritus



A picture of success
in Silverton 2014



Eating is just about as much fun as singing



Ladies, Consider sending him to the Black Canyon Barbershop Chorus practice every Thursday night, 7:00 PM at the Olathe United Methodist church. You can have the TV remote all to yourself for one evening a week.

Musings of a warped mind

The Silverton weekend was coming to a close as Dr. Bob and I sat in a plush lounge in a very nice Ridgway restaurant watching giant TV screens while sipping a beer to wash down a yummy sandwich. Sadly, as Dr. Bob watched the excitement of some boring golf tournament while I watched the excitement of the Mile High International Drag Races, neither of us felt the guilt and remorse so intended and imposed by Dr. Tom on all those who missed Silverton. Yes, we missed it again and were forced to spend the weekend at Ute Mountain Casino just having a miserable time. And it dawned on me that friend and co-quartet singer Del Wiesner was also having a miserable time missing Silverton. He, coincidentally, was watching in person the same races I was watching on TV. I watched J. R. Todd defeat a Force by another name (Brittany) by blazing thru a quarter at 317.87 miles per hour in 3.878 seconds. What? Accelerating to over 300 MPH in less than 4 seconds? Impossible. Fast sport cars are advertised as doing 0 to 60 in under 5 seconds. Some have top speeds of 150 MPH. How can this be?

So, being the victim of a strange mind, the rumination of numbers dominated most of my night that should have been spent sleeping.

Here are those strange thoughts. I am only sharing them because they took so much of my gray matter that I hate to waste that effort.

Porsche, a marque that lives in a special spot in my heart, has recently offered their latest super car, a 918, with a starting price of only \$845,000. What you get for that paltry payout is a spiffy looking car with a top speed of 214 MPH. And yes, it does the vaunted 0 to 60 acceleration under 3 seconds. Hmmm, I wonder. How does that compare with Todd's dragster. So, here is one way to look at it.

Assuming there is a track somewhere who would let this happen, have the Porsche 918 screaming at 200 miles per hour pass a stopped JR Todd dragster. As the Porsche goes by the dragster, Todd drops the hammer for his quarter mile run. Remember, a quartet mile is 1320 feet. At the end of 1320 feet, the dragster has not only caught the 200 MPH Porsche but has passed it and beats it to the finish line. Can you get your brain around this? Can you imagine the forces created by these dragsters? How do I know this? Well, a Porsche traveling 200 MPH will take 4.5 seconds to travel 1/4 mile. Todd's dragster does it from a dead stop in 3.878 seconds. Assuming numbers don't lie, that's how I know. Want to know what it feels like. Ask Del. He is still racing his Willy's, not quite that fast, but darned fast.

Music by another name, like dragsters under full power or slot machines dinging and clanging winners everywhere are sometimes a logical substitution for barbershop harmony. Not always, but sometimes. We missed you guys but not as much as Dr. Tom wishes.



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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COMPLIMENTARY
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Keep the Whole World Singing

The President's Corner with John Taylor

Ahh.....Silverton! What a perfect setting for barbershop: Bordellos, saloons, and hoards of tourists looking for entertainment.....Not to mention thin air and gorgeous scenery. It was difficult to keep our guys out of the thin air.

Thirteen brave souls from the Black Canyon Chorus traveled the scary Million

Dollar Highway to partake in the annual Silverton Barbershop Festival. Chapters from Grand Junction, Durango and Farmington, NM, were also represented, with Durango having the largest group of about 20, and Grand Junction next with around 16.

Russ Young from Mesa, AZ, was our guru for the two day event. He was sort of a cross between Danny DeVito and Luciano Pavarotti. Russ has a keen ear and a sharp wit. (Also, a voice!) He honed in on the most critical needs for quartets and the big chorus and whipped everyone into shape for another well received free Silverton Barbershop Concert. Mr. Young has a long list of credentials and accomplishments as well as a terrific sense of humor. There is not a whole lot one can do with 50 plus vocalists in less than 8 hours, but Russ gave it a shot, working on basic breathing, projecting, enunciating and some advanced interpreting of the songs we should have learned better before we got there. Breaking news: We are supposed to watch the director instead of our song books!! Who knew??!!

Jim Clark from the National Barbershop Harmony Society, Western Region, showed up to pitch a new program that gets you preferred seating at barbershop events for a mere \$1,000. I have to say, the sign up line wasn't that long after his talk. Maybe Rocky Mountain District on this side of The Divide is economically deprived?

No one knows what Carl might have said to Russ Young (or paid him) to induce him to travel to Silverton, but we're glad he came, and kudos to Carl for pulling off another fine Silverton Festival. Thanks, Carl!

Also, thanks to Dr. Tom for directing us through our own repertoire. I think, "We done good!" JFT



Note from Carl Schultz:

Larry Cooper has agreed to be the Coordinator of the Silverton Barbershop Music Festival starting immediately after the close of this years festival. Since I have bought a place in Alaska and the best Salmon runs are in June, July and August, I intend to be there fishing. I know any help you can give him will be appreciated.