

# 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/>

September 2014  
Vol. 30 Number 9

**PROBE**  
BARBERSHOP

## Tap Night at the Horsefly Brewery

What a fine turnout. The guys and wives and girlfriends pretty much filled up the dining portion of the tavern mainly because it was raining outside which meant that sitting outside would be soggy. And when a bunch of Barbershoppers gather for any reason, but preferably to sup a beer and munch some snacks, singing will follow.



Emeritus Tom and Director MaryAnn took turns trying to figure out what they were supposed to direct after David Stannard blew his pitch pipe for no apparent logical reason. No matter, someone would sing some words and others would join in and the arm waving would catch up like

it is supposed to. More often than not a song with generally agreed words and mostly careful harmony would follow. And we all had fun and so did the audience based on the responses received.

The good part is that every pint sold that night added a buck to our coffers, thanks to the generosity of Phil and Nigel. This is not the first time they have demonstrated their support to our hobby and hopefully will not be the last.

**The next Horsefly Tap Night is January 13, 2015. Mark your calendar NOW and plan to attend**

This was not an official evening of planned entertainment for profit but it sure as heck was an evening of fun, food, frolic, foam, and singing. We should do more of this. It is what Barbershopping attracted us in the beginning and should remain the same attraction in the future.



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

PROGRAM VP (2015)

Larry Cooper

MEMBERSHIP VP (2014)

Del Dyck

PUBLIC RELATIONS VP (2015)

Dennis Olmstead

MUSIC VP (2015)

Carol Morrell

COMMUNICATIONS VP (???)

Bill Sutton

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE (1 year terms)

Bob Brethouwer

MUSICAL DIRECTOR:

MaryAnn Rathburn

Tom Chamberlain, Emeritus

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Carol Morrell

SERGEANT AT ARMS

Bob Brethouwer

SUNSHINE GUY

Rex Pierson

CHAPTER HISTORIAN

Tom Chamberlain



# Splinters from the

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

You want to know how to have an excellent board meeting? It's easy, drop a pint first. It must work because we had a very good board meeting, and that isn't typical.

The good news is we had a quorum, or even more. The bad news is we had two board members submit their resignations for various reasons.

Both will be missed and both, we hope, will remain active members of the chorus.

Any and all changes in your board can be found at the banner on the left side of this page. It is always there for you to see but seldom noticed. See if you can figure out what has changed. Or not.

What about our next annual show? Well, some things are starting to happen. Slowly maybe, but starting. First we don't, that means DO NOT, have a Show Chairman. So Prez. JT appointed, with their approval, the beginning of a Show Committee. Those who will help guide the continued efforts are Larry Cooper and Rex Pierson. They will select a third member. They three of them with MaryAnn will do the planning and coordination needed to present another excellent show. If you would like to be on the committee, let Rex or Larry know. Who knows, it could be YOU.

The future of gathering and submitting CARA points may be in jeopardy. In the past we have been extremely diligent to amass as many CARA points as possible because of the carrot of receiving FREE registration to the November Leadership Academy. That may not be the case in the future. There is some worry that the paid registrations may become a thing of the past. We are about to find out.

Some of you who have been around long enough to realize we have an election every year in October. That is done to railroad some to do chapter work for the next couple of years, usually without you even knowing what they do. To make sure we have enough candidates available to have a slate to vote on, an election committee consisting of John Taylor, Del Dyck, and Bob Brethouwer prepared such a list. It will, along with a ballot if needed, be made available to all of you in the very new future. You will be asked to vote for those you think should lead the chorus the rest of the year or so. Of course there will be nominations from the floor if you are not on the list and want to be.

Experience is something you don't get until just after you need it.

# Singing at the overlook

## *Ridgway State Park is always a treat*

There is nothing as gratifying as eating fabulous food before you sing to a fabulous crowd in a fabulous setting overlooking a fabulous view of a fabulous lake and fabulous mountains. Really, it was fabulous.

What was not quite so fabulous was the way the timing of some songs seemed out of sync, which means some songs stunk. Yep, we screwed them up royally. One could be sure if one looked at MaryAnn's face when we were messing up. Of course we had a quartet to take some of the pressure off by screwing up a perfectly good doo-wop song before ... just to keep the audience on its toes.

The good side of the whole thing is that the audience was too kind to make a big deal out of it and whopped their hands together just like we had done a super job. And they, probably out of sympathy, dug in their purses and pockets to donate some of their mess-around money to us as a 'thank you for getting done' or maybe 'thank you for doing a good job anyway.' I prefer to consider they meant the last.

As can happen with any planned singout, it didn't go exactly as planned. Hoping and taking names on lists of those who plan to attend and hoping all parts are covered may go astray. Like we only had a meager number of basses to counter the large number of leads. It could have been better.

But in spite of the bumbles, the crowd seemed pleased and the chorus had a good time. All in all it was a successful evening of simply fabulous weather. Did I use that word before? No matter, it still applies.



Bill Snyder

Sept. 19

Bob Goodhue

Oct. 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.









## IS KEEPING CARA POINTS A THING OF THE PAST?

*We received a letter about the upcoming Leadership Academy. That letter included the 'new' registration fees. The one change that will affect us is that the 'free' registrations giving to two chapter participants from the CARA plateau winners has been modified to charge \$100 per registration rather than the standard \$150. Thus the incentive of amassing CARA points has been reduced, especially for a small, poor, chapter like us. At this present time we do not have a volunteer to track and submit CARA points to RMD. The question is: Is it still worth the effort? That conundrum will be discussed in the future.*

## Special Quartet sessions

*Thanks to Del Wiesner, we have an opportunity to sing real barbershop songs with three other guys*

If you haven't had the opportunity to join in with like-minded singers on Thursday afternoons, Olathe Methodist Church, 5:45 pm, you are missing the fun that caused our wonderful organization to be formed in the first place. Singing a harmony part with three other guys singing other parts on a song with true barbershop harmony is a thrill that will hook you. Depending on the total number of guys who attend (it is ranging from 10 to 15), Del will have guys break into several quartets to sing the songs they want to sing without any audience or coaching. There is an opportunity to actually sing with three other guys who blend with your voice, and possible form a formal quartet for the future. One is already emerging: that being Barny, Del Dyck, Chuck, and Coop. They are working on "Bill Grogan's Goat" just in case they get an opportunity to perform it somewhere sometime..

Of course many of the songs available are PoleCat songs and any additional qualifications will be offered. Other old-time barbershop songs can be found in the several song folios you received when you joined. Heck, you may even choose to concentrate on 'tags.' There are no rules. this is YOUR time to sing what you want to sing.

Come and join us to experience the sound and feeling barbershop singing offers. If you have never sung one part in a barbershop quartet and thrilled to the blend and how your voice sounds with three others, you have not been properly exposed to barbershopping. You need that experience.

**REMEMBER: 5:45 PM ON THURSDAYS**

Productive Procrastination

When you get busy doing something other than what you should be doing.

Think I'm Sarcastic? Watch Me Pretend To Care!



# 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  
COPY

Consciousness:  
That time between  
naps.

**Keep the Whole World Singing**

## The President's Corner with John Taylor

Hey, Gang,

I appreciated a call from Hank Snyder commenting on my comments last month about this group coming together to have FUN. We may differ religiously, politically, philosophically and even musically, but we are bonded together by camaraderie, friendship, community service, and Barbershop harmony.

I was reminded of that as we dined, downed our libations (1dollar each went for the good of the order) and sang our hearts out at the Horsefly Brewery on Tuesday. The Whiffenpoofers must have had similar places when they sang about Mory's, The Temple Bar, and "the place where Louie dwells". I was, also, reminded of our fraternal relationships at the afterglow in The Fairlamb House B&B backyard with McPhly after the 2014 show in Delta and at Del and Joni Dyck's summer pot luck with all the good food and drink.

We've got to keep the good times rolling and it takes every one of you to step up and do your part.

The nominating committee has selected the following nominees to be voted upon at the October 9th practice/election. Several are incumbents, but are willing to serve another two year term: Chuck Frush-Secretary, Rex Pierson-Treasurer, Del Dyck-Membership Chairman. John Thrasher has agreed to run for Member-at-Large on the Board. We will be taking nominations from the floor for these offices on October 2nd (if the nominee agrees). Carol Morrell has agreed to complete the term of Music & Performance V.P., David Stannard, for the remainder of his term which expires at the end of 2015. If you'd like to be a bigger part of the organization, please let someone know. We are especially looking for another person to be on the 2015 Show Planning Committee with Larry Cooper and Rex Pierson. Time to get in there!

Singingly,  
John Taylor