



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



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

May 2012

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# Date Night Worries put to bed

Sometimes the dating routines have become sort of stale. Sometimes all the things that used to work pretty well just don't seem to work lately. Sometimes you worry about how the next date will go. You worry about it. You wonder if she will enjoy the evening. Hey, the dinner and a movie always seemed to work fine, but, what the heck. Is it time to take a risk and try something different? How about a tractor pull this time? How about a trip to the biker bar to play pool? How about going to the zoo? Gosh, will she like it? Will I fail? What can I lose? Oh, lots. But it just might be the best thing you have done.

Analogically, we had many worries about the show this year. We kind of tried a different approach, but not without lots of concerns. Some concerns may have been valid and some were just worries. Let's go over them.

**WORRY:** The date picked is too late. There are too many other activities. Too much competition. Don't expect a large crowd this year. Who made this decision anyway? It should be earlier. It should be later.

**RESULT:** Probably the biggest audience in memory. Of course, the bottom line is 'profit' but that will soon be discovered by Rex and reported to us.

**WORRY:** Too many new songs. We will never learn them. Too many new songs at the last minute. It's going to be a disaster. This is too hard.

**RESULT:** We did learn them and it was tough, but we sounded good and the time of the first half was about perfect.

**WORRY:** No risers? We always use risers? We will look dumb not using risers? Two lines? It won't look good. We

need risers. We should be in three lines.

**RESULT:** Good reports from the audience. Better feelings from the guys who are able to sit down or move around some without feeling of blocked in.

**WORRY:** We aren't charging enough for admission tickets. Look how much Denver and Dallas charge. We should charge more. We won't make any money this year. People like to pay more. It makes them feel it is important.

**RESULT:** The biggest audience in memory. We charged the same admission as we have in the past and it seemed to work.

**WORRY:** \$15 for the Afterglow? That is way too much. No one will pay that much to hear more barbershop music. The food better be good for that much. We are going to lose our shirts this year. Most people won't want to drive to somewhere else after the Show.

**RESULT:** Full house at Remington at the Bridges. Excellent food. The bar was packed with folks wanting to spend more money. Good entertainment. And yes, we DID break even on the Afterglow, our goal.

Of course none of these things is individually responsible for our success this year. Much, or even most of the credit must be given to the great PR efforts of PR-VP Olmstead along with choice of a very popular local announcer, Jim Kerschner, as the Show emcee.

The first and most important task was to SELL TICKETS. The guys did that. The next most important thing was to make sure those who popped for a ticket would be glad that they did. And by all reports, they were,

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## "Loud passages must have soft passages close by"

and they may tell others about it. Because of the publicity, there were many folks present who had never been to a barbershop concert, and generally didn't even know what barbershop harmony meant. One powerful indication was in a Delta Church the Sunday morning after the show when several members of the Congregation announced to the rest about how wonderful the Show was and how happy they are that they attended. These are folks who are NOT barbershop fanatics.

Publicity got the folks there, and our performance will assure future attendance.

Many thanks to many folks who worked so hard to put on this year's success. Dr. Bob, as Show Chairman, used his creative visions to set the stage for success.

MaryAnn and Carol provided strong input selecting music and to help mold the show in a positive direction.

David Stannard and Rex put the tickets together and made sure they were well distributed and now accounted for.

Dennis O, of course took the PR tasks to heart and made sure coverage was extensive.

Larry W took good care of our guest quartet The Crew, and made sure all their wishes were provided.

Bob Goodhue took on the task, and risk, of producing a very successful Afterglow venue this year.

Sutton again provided the design and art work for the Show posters and the programs.

All of our members were personally involved with our success. Time and energy was spent at home, time easily allocated to other ventures. Time was taken from other activities to learn so many songs, time that could be spent with more pleasurable diversions. The guys worked hard and the show was the result. All of them deserve a pat on the back.

Now it's time to reflect on our success and enjoy the fun of the summer. We can choose which songs we want to sing the rest of the year, and we can anticipate learning a few more new ones along the way for the 2013 Show.

Saturday night was just plain fun and we need to enjoy that glow. Let's bask in our success for the whole summer, and let's sound like we deserve it.

Having fun makes the audience have fun as well.

GOOD JOB, EVERYONE.

A special thanks to our wives and partners who happily always jump in to help us do all the female things that need to be done, things like sell tickets at the door, take tickets, pass out programs, answer questions, and just be pleasant advocates to their husband/significant other's hobby. Remember who our audience see first. Not us; it is those beautiful women who greet them. First impressions are important.



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

The older we get, the fewer things seem worth waiting in line for.

Our guest quartet The Crew did a great job. Some in the audience wished for a few more songs from them, but they should have come to the Afterglow. More songs, but no stage. My humble opinion is that the Afterglow show by The Crew was superior to the official Show. That is too bad. And perhaps other guest quartets can learn from that simple observation. Show performances should be the highlight. People paid to see them. Too many comments were heard about the lame toilet paper thing attempt of humor. Hey guys, it just didn't work. Other comments were that there was too much silly talk, too many old, dumb jokes, and not enough singing. Their words, not mine. But, thanks anyway CREW. You were good.,

## Singers Wanted

### John Coffin tells us how it it

*And he meant it, too!*

I know John hoped he would be working with a chorus that knew all the Show songs and I know that John expected to put the icing on the cake, but things don't always turn out the way we hope they will, and they didn't. What John hoped for would be a tweak session and it turned out to be a "come on, guys, learn the songs" plea.

As most realized at DMEA when John asked us to sing Show songs, we could't, or didn't. Oh my, realization is not a pretty thing to realize. Eating humble pie is humble and not that great to eat. We shudda known.

But, the onus is on us, the members. It is up to all of us to learn little things like the words, the notes, and to smile while we sing. It's not that hard when you know the songs, but darned difficult when you don't.

So, after about 6 hours of humiliation, we slunk home knowing we had a lot of work to do in the next few weeks, and John was NOT going to help us. We owed it to those who popped for a Show is ticket to give them their money's worth. It, as happens every year at this time, is time to get serious and do whatever is needed to do what we need to do. Hey, we had 8 basses at the Coffin session, and we sounded like we had none. Same for the leads. 'Cept for Barney who sang too loud. At least he knew the songs.

Now our work is obvious. Now is the time to do what we need to do.

Thank you John for making it clear to us without beating us all to a pulp. You should have, but you are a gentleman.

Now we'll move on to the show. Panic time!



David Stannard

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 Quartets

**FOURMATA**

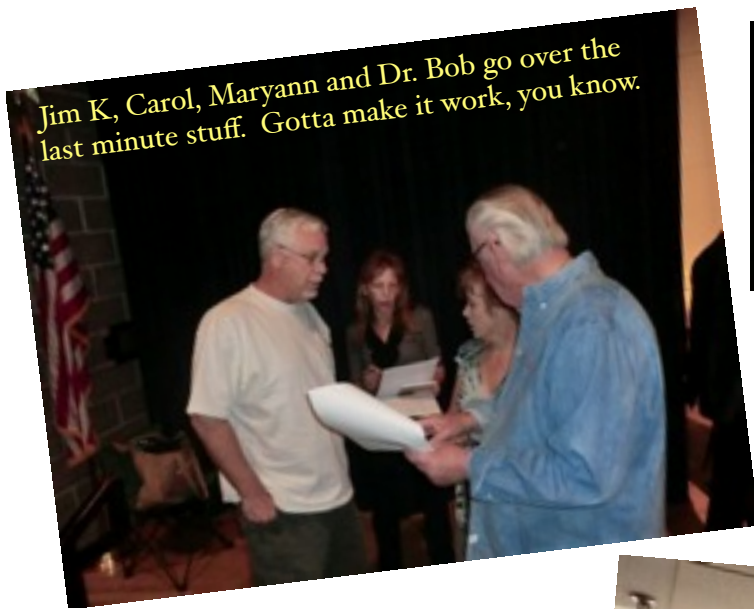
Contact: Bill Sutton 874-9280

**A lady inserted an ad in the classifieds:  
'Husband Wanted'.  
Next day she received a hundred letters.  
They all said the same thing:  
'You can have mine.'**

# Black Canyon Barbershop Chorus presents Award of Harmony to Jim Kerschner during the Chorus Annual Show

Jim Kerschner, left, receives Award of Harmony presented by chorus member Rex Pierson. This award recognizes outstanding achievement in service to the community. Jim was selected for many reasons including his work with Operation Sweet-Tooth, public service via KUBC and support of local school sports. Jim was also presented with two US Flags, flown over respective Capital buildings, by State Representative Don Coram and Scott Streit, District Director for US Congressman Scott Tipton.





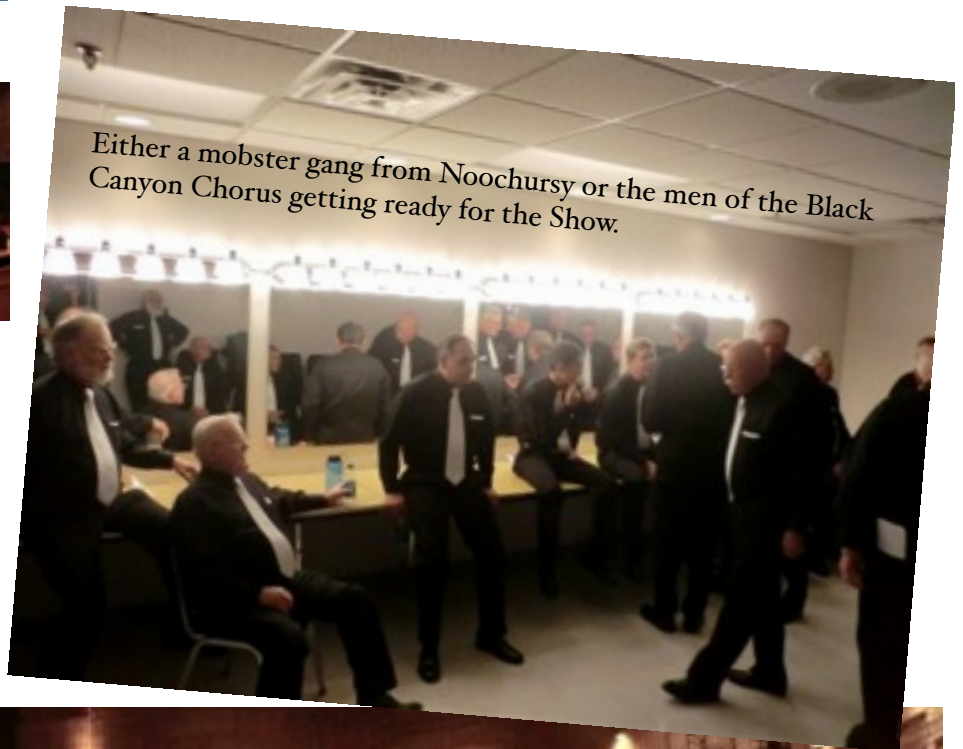
Jim K, Carol, Maryann and Dr. Bob go over the last minute stuff. Gotta make it work, you know.



Sam, Bob G, Phunny Phil, and Coop go thru a song from 20 years ago. Still seem to remember most of it.



Semi-formal dress rehearsal on Saturday afternoon.



Either a mobster gang from Noochursy or the men of the Black Canyon Chorus getting ready for the Show.

All pictures courtesy of Dennis Olmstead. He took 'em and he deserves credit for 'em. If you don't like 'em, tell him. I doubt he will care much.



Those who paid their money wait patiently to see if they get their money's worth. They did and we are so glad.



# Teach the Children to Sing

Stamp  
here

Ah, being young is beautiful,  
but being old is comfortable.

### 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](mailto:williesut@aol.com)

1943 Spring Drive  
Delta, CO 81416

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**Keep the Whole World Singing**

## The President's Corner with Larry Wilkinson

President Larry has been under the weather, but did make the Show. As such, I don't have the nerve to ask him for an article for this issue, but if I did, I know what he would say.

*"Thank you guys for a wonderful Show, and thanks to all those who made it possible. Now let's keep the spirit alive and enjoy a summer of FUN singouts and opportunities."*

Well, he may not have said it, but he would say something inspiring. Larry always does.

**"You have achieved success  
when you don't know if what  
you are doing is work or  
play."**

*From Concho Capers San Angelo TX, Paul White, Editor*



At a cocktail party,  
one woman said to  
another,  
'Aren't you wearing  
your wedding ring on  
the wrong finger?'  
'Yes, I am. I married  
the wrong man.'

