

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/>

JULY 2016

Vol. 32 Number 7

Whew, relax for a little while

But only until we start planning for the 2017 Show. The date has already been selected and the Pavilion reserved.

Was it a success? Depends on what your definition of 'success' is. If it is the stage? Absolutely. It was probably the most esthetic stage we have ever had, thanks to Coop and San Juan Gardens. Flowers and trees everywhere. Excellent! And, if you didn't make the connection, there is a Goodhue and Tristan connection. Check it out. How about the music? Yep, most of the guys knew most of the words and most of the music to most songs. The emcee and script? Of course. One can never go wrong with Paul Nostrum reading a funny script written by talented John Taylor. Guest quartet? Yessiree Bob, or Rex, or Coop. Darn good choice of Momentous. Four very good YOUNG singers including a funny guy telling stories. These guys have a great future and we expect to see them winning medals at International soon. Afterglow? Uh huh, good, but cool pizza at first then warmer later. Great salad too. Plenty of food. Audience: Ummm, not a large as hoped at the performance or at the Afterglow. Which brings us to the bottom line question: Financial? Ohhhhhh, do not know for sure, but speculation is that it was not as profitable as hoped, but we will wait until Rex provides the final accounting, we can remain cautionary optimistic. The list of supporters, or donors, or whatever they like to be called, was not nearly as long as anticipated. The size of the audience was not as large as projected. But, what the heck, it was a darn good show with good music, good sounds, and good (we hope) entertainment for the buck.

Coop, Lund, Thrasher, Taylor, Rex, Dennis, and others all deserve big, big kudos for doing a whole lot of work to make this a very good show. MaryAnn's patience was pushed to the limit by the chorus' reluctance to learn songs, but, as usual, the last minute is always like that last two-minutes in a football game. That's when the guys finally get serious. Maybe we should not even plan for next year until a month before the show? Well, we kind of do that anyway even though we think we don't.

Flowers for two deserving ladies.



Momentous at the Afterglow



Rocky Road with Coop at Bari



Ready to sing



Thank you Jan Wilkinson for taking these pictures.

Larry celebrating his 94th birthday.



Don't interfere with somethin' that ain't bothering you none.

Keep the Whole World Singing



The Group Picture. See Larry W. for a print.



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.

2016 CHAPTER OFFICERS

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

PRESIDENT (2017)

Larry Cooper

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

John Taylor

SECRETARY (2016)

Chuck Frush

TREASURER (2016)

Rex Pierson

Practice & Performances VP (2017)

Dennis Olmstead

MEMBERSHIP VP (2016)

John Taylor

PUBLIC RELATIONS VP (2017)

John Thrasher

MUSIC VP (2017)

Carol Morrell

COMMUNICATIONS VP (???)

Bill Sutton

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE (1 year terms)

Bob Brethouwer

Larry Wilkinson

Tim Lund

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 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.



Darn good board member turnout. Everyone was there to bandy about current issues except Larry W., Some ate, some didn't and one instructed the waitress/person to 'keep 'em coming' referring to his libation of choice.

Any hope of getting some kind of resolution about the financial success of our show was dashed to the rocks in the beginning. Rex didn't have all the expenses and Tim didn't have all the ticket sales money. So there apparently was not enough intelligent data available to make a reasonable guess of how we did. But there was some serious pessimism.

A special thanks to John Thrasher for his honesty and integrity in dealing with Chapter donors who did not get their names listed in the Show Program. As a result of his efforts, there were no bitter donors and no loss in Chapter revenues.

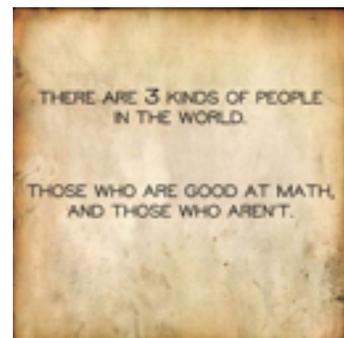
the Board voted that for this year, the Chapter will NOT pay for the Silverton registration. It is only \$10 this year and some who are probably not going felt that it was more than reasonable for those that are going.

By the time you read this, you should have been informed we are losing our glittering diamond of a director. Carol presented us with MaryAnn's letter of resignation, effective immediately. With heavy hearts, the board voted to accept her resignation. Like, what options did we have? Geez. Coop has accepted our offer to act as our interim director until a permanent replacement is found. Several possibilities were discussed but no decisions at this time.

Since it is necessary and appropriate, there was some, well lots of discussion about the 2017 Show. The date has been set by making a reservation at the Pavilion. It is May 20, 2017. An option of dropping our tradition of annual shows to a bi-annual show was suggested. Support seemed timid but one can be certain this option is not dead yet.

A fine is a tax for doing wrong. A tax is a fine for doing well.

I find it ironic that the colors red, white and blue stand for freedom, until they're flashing behind you.



Thank you MaryAnn for your patience, your dedication, your talent, your persistence, your loyalty, your faith in us, and for being such a great friend to Barbershopping. We love you and will miss you terribly. Please come visit us and help us. We need you!

Delta Give Back Concert

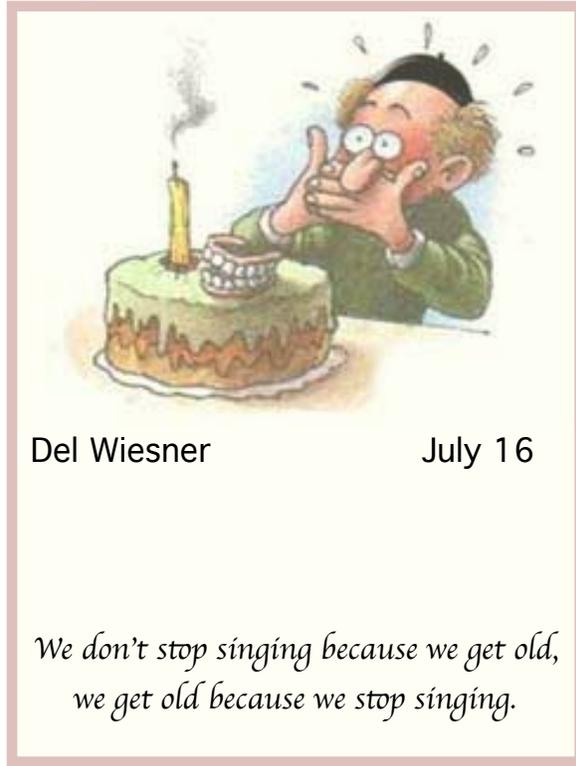
It was great!

Before we get into the pesky details, a big, super, thank you to Brenda Souter and David Haas is necessary. Those two worked and worked to make us, the BCBC look and sound better than we deserve. Between those two, and the wonderful venue of the Center for Spiritual Living, this concert was a big success ... not necessarily financially, but certainly emotionally. And a huge thanks to Paul Nostrum who kept the audience laughing while leading us thru the program. Good script from John Taylor didn't hurt either.

Most guys paid attention to MaryAnn and most tried hard to blend with darn good success. Embellishments to the program included the Del•Rose Sweet Adelines, the Store House Gospel quartet, and 3/4 of Rocky Road with the missing 1/4 being filled in by Coop. We are so glad to have all of them with us in Montrose.

In retrospect, the venue of CSL was far superior to previous venues used in Delta. Some might be concerned about the limited audience space but a full, small auditorium certainly is preferable to an empty large auditorium. A rough count estimated about 80 folks enjoying our concert. The same 80 in the Performance Center would have felt empty. Besides, they were a wonderful and encouraging group, which helped us to sing better. Hopefully we can enjoy the venue in the future with such helpful folks like Brenda and David.

ATS, which means 'after the show' most of the guys and gals made their way to the Thrasher palace on the pond hidden in the backwoods of the community of Delta where no one could find or even stumble upon unless one had specific directions, which MaryAnn can testify. Big kudos to John and Sandy for the needed refreshments and finger snacks in the shade.



Del Wiesner

July 16

*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.**

**Most of the stuff people
worry about, ain't never
gonna happen anyway.**



ROCKY ROAD
Contact: Vern Dockter
970-210-1793



Teach the Children

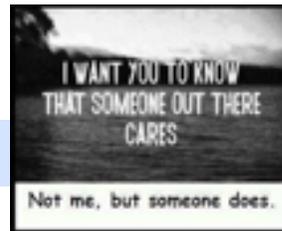
Flashlight: A case for holding dead batteries.



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."

Keep the Whole World Singing



The things that come to those who wait, may be the things left by those who got there first.

Membership VP Taylor Sez ...

I don't have any "Getting to Know You" spotlights this month. The "kids" haven't turned in their "homework" questionnaires yet.

In keeping with the "Twitterpated" theme from Bambi and as Thumper would say, "If you can't say somethin' nice.....don't say nothin' at all." I thought we sang well at the show. The guest quartet, **Momentous**, was one of the best ever, that I've heard in my eight years with BCBC. Kudos to our **DelRose Sweet Adelines** friends, **Rocky Road**, and Bob Goodhue's **Storehouse** quartet for helping us put on a good show. I was disappointed with some other aspects of our show, but it gives me (us) something to work on for next year.



As usual our advertising and ticket sales lagged. But not for the efforts by John Thrasher, Tim Lund, Dennis Olmstead, Don Barnett, and Larry Cooper, who all did excellent work. There are probably others I don't know about who put forth extra effort. (If only the rest of us would work as hard as these gentlemen, we'd have a smashingly successful fund raiser show every year.) Some of us are not especially good at contacting sponsors or donors, hanging posters, and selling tickets.

In my opinion, we need to do a few things differently than we have always done in the past.

(1) Think out of the box. We don't need to keep doing the same old things, just because we've always done them. Some of them aren't working anymore.

(2) Encourage new memberships. We have a great influx of potential new young members. Let's keep these guys interested. We need to make it FUN for them and keep them going in the organization.

(3) Learn new songs. Barbershop music is changing. Audiences are changing. "The Old Songs" are great, but today's audiences want to hear songs with which they identify. There are few of us left who identify with all of the Pole Cat songs, except for the harmonies. (Think of your grandchildren.)

(4) Move toward a different way of advertising. Posters and newspapers are "old school." Keep those as backup, but to gain a new audience rely more on Internet messaging: e-mails, Facebook, websites, Instagram, etc. Although John Thrasher's survey shows a lot of our audience got their information from the newspapers, only one noticed a poster. Paper newspapers are on their way out. The Daily Sentinel is now publishing an online edition, which I assume is to get us used to the idea.

(5) At the last Board meeting we talked about not having a show in 2017. If our show loses money instead of making money, we should reconsider it as a fund raiser. The biggest expense always is having a professional guest quartet. I suspect that the average ticket buyer is unaware of the time and money we spend in procuring a quality guest quartet. We barbershoppers are the only ones who know what talent and effort these groups represent. The cost of **Momentous** and other show quartets is justified in our minds, because we know what goes into the production and appreciate the fine tuning of such groups.....and I don't know that our audiences especially come to hear our guest quartets or that they even know them.

(6) It is with deep regret that we have received notice of our director, Mary Ann Rathburn's, resignation. She is still held in the very highest esteem by BCBC, and we hope that she will return to us sometime in the future. In the mean time, Board President Larry Cooper, will direct us in the right direction until we recruit a new director.