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February 2019

Vol. 35 Number 02

Singing every Thursday evening at 7:00 PM at the United Methodist Church of Olathe.

Singing for Love

Until a few years ago, from our first charter year some 44 years ago, members of our Chapter had the opportunity for the experience of bringing musical and harmonious joy to those who have someone who loved them enough to arrange for four of our members to sing a Valentines. The early efforts grew into the 80s and 90s becoming a fund raiser only and barely second to the annual show. Even in the first decade and a half in the 21st century the same pleasure for our singers to provide love to those who are loved was traditional. At the peak of our Singing Valentines, we had 4, maybe 5 quartets consisting of a couple pick-up types with back up singers, and three registered quartets, to sing all day Valentine's Day providing close to \$1000 to the Chapter balance. Every quartet who planned to sing on V-Day was requested to sing an audition in front of the Music VP and Board Members to protect the reputation of our Chapter.

The logistical problems of coordinating 4 quartets among a myriad of requests often at conflicting times, ranging from Ridgway to Paonia, and possibly on different days, was traditionally the challenge and opportunity given to any so inclined individual. In the past, the duties of taking request calls, arranging a detailed schedule (often on different days), collecting the money, plus providing a summary of success became the obligation of Larry Wilkinson, Vern Dockter, Dennis Olmstead, Bill Sutton, Alice Cooper, and others. Advertising was accomplished with the same intensity of any Show. Posters were printed and put up and radio coverage was normal. During the busiest years when V-Day did not fall on a weekend, it was not uncommon for several quartets each to provide from 15 to 20 paid Singing Valentines.

Memory recalls the following BCBC members have participated in a Singing Valentine's Day Quartet: Rex Pierson, Bob Brethouwer, Barny Barnett, Del Wiesner, Joe Reschke, Gene Bond, Joe

Larsen, Bill Sutton, Tom Chamberlain, Don Lotvedt, Glen Simpson, Gary Wilson, Bob Goodhue, Larry Cooper, Phil Plumb, Craig Calderwood, Dave Corso, Larry Wilkinson, Don Dufva, Carl Loy, Dave Putney, Sam Kevan, David Stannard, Vern Dockter, Rod Ragsdale, Tim Davis, Chuck Frush, Dan Overmeyer, Mark Milligan, and Lee Erven. I'm sure there were others and some of you will remind me who I missed. I apologize now.

As each V-Day passed, all who participated were given the opportunity to share with those who didn't, in our Monthly newsletter. All were sincere, some were humorous, some were just darn funny, but all recommended the experience for EVERY MEMBER. Because of Singing Valentines apathy this and last year, my decision was to skip a February newsletter since nothing worthy happened anyway.

But I got a surprise. Tim Lund was tapped to help out Rocky Road for that day. Rocky Road has, on their own volition, decided to continue to provide singing Valentines without any connection the Chorus. The proceeds were distributed at their discretion to high school music programs. Tim, in his first experience of the pure joys of singing in a Valentine's Day quartet to a variety of recipients, sent me a summary of his involvement. We have lost the fun of singing Valentines along with many of the other traditions, but Tim just had some. I guess the changes we are observing are termed 'progressive.' I guess.

Tim's story follows:

Singing Valentines by Tim Lund

We have all heard the phrase "What the world needs now is love.." On February 14, 2019, during the 12 hours from 6:30 am to 6:30 pm, the Rocky Road Quartet + 1 set out to help fulfill this directive. The first valentine of the day was for two ladies who, as children, managed to escape from a German Concentration Camp and made their way through the Alps to freedom. Eventually they made their home in Montrose. Once the singing valentine was completed, there were smiles and hugs all around. In addition, an anonymous good Samaritan purchased breakfast for our intrepid band of troubadours. Rocky Road's travels took them to Hotchkiss, Eckert, Delta and Montrose. For a small additional fee, Rocky Road even provided a video of the experience to one patron. Rocky Road sang for people in homes, schools, restaurants, hospitals, doctor offices, a bowling alley and even a meat processing facility. Thanks to technology, Rocky Road was also

able to deliver several singing valentines to recipients in locations outside of the Western Slope. The recipients of Rocky Road's singing valentines were individuals ranging from 3rd graders to retirees. The group delivered messages of affection, fidelity, and appreciation between friends, family, and spouses. For over 20 years, Rocky Road has had the privilege of being an integral part of one father's tradition of expressing his love for his daughter through a singing valentine. Rocky Road was even part of one couple's anniversary celebration! Through out the day, the recipients' reactions included smiles, laughter, and hugs. Rocky Road will again give all proceeds from their singing valentines to the vocal music programs at Delta High School, Olathe High School, and Montrose High School. At the end of the day, the members of Rocky Road were great ambassadors of the Black Canyon Barbershop Chorus, as well as, ambassadors of love.

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.

2019 CHAPTER OFFICERS

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

PRESIDENT (2019)

Larry Cooper

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

John Taylor

SECRETARY (2020)

Chuck Frush

TREASURER (2020)

Rex Pierson

PROGRAM & EVENTS VP (2019)

Tim Lund

MEMBERSHIP VP (2020)

Open

PUBLIC RELATIONS VP (2019)

Larry Estes

MUSIC & PERFORMANCE VP (2019)

Grady Weiszbrod

COMMUNICATIONS VP (???)

Bill Sutton

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE (1 year terms)

Bob Brethouwer

Dan Baer

Phil Plumb

MUSICAL DIRECTOR:

Larry Cooper

Grady Weiszbrod

Tom Chamberlain, Emeritus

SERGEANT AT ARMS

Bob Brethouwer

SUNSHINE GUY

Rex Pierson

CHAPTER HISTORIAN

Tom Chamberlain

My wife and I had some serious words, but I never got to use mine.

Splinters from the Board



Not official minutes, not even close, but a rather cynical and sometimes sarcastic observation of what happened or should have happened or possibly shouldn't have happened. Minutes are probably available from somebody, somewhere, sometime.

Well shoot fire, I wasn't going to say anything about the February Board Meeting mainly because I didn't have anything to say and we, the chorus, have not done anything so far this month. But Tim Lund ruined my whole day by sending me a nice article about the joys of Singing Valentines, a joy I personally admit was a very important part of being a member of BCBC. By now you may have read his article. If not, stop what you are doing and read it.

A goodly amount of time was spent considering all the ways we could set up the pre-show practice at the Pavilion which must include all three high school choirs, the Grand Mesa A Cappella, and Average Joes. Plus time should be allowed for a group picture. Plus any stage decorations including a piano for the choirs. Wow, this is a big job and someone has to do it. We just aren't sure who 'someone' is at this moment.

PRVP Estes also presented draft Show Programs for approval primo to final printing. The problem is that some of the stuff Larry needs to complete the program is still unknown but is on the horizon. That type of loose coordination makes some tasks much more difficult than they need to be. Planning is one answer.

Larry Estes has taken his new position seriously by providing the Board with a summary of possible places to advertise our show, complete with costs. The Board, after the surprise of something being done, voted YES on most of the proposals and NO on another, based primarily on the cost/benefit. Good job Larry.

The Black Canyon Barbershop Chorus

www.blackcanyonchorus.org

In Harmony

Presents our 44th Annual Program

April 6 2019 at Montrose Pavilion at 7:00 pm

2018 Rocky Mountain District Champions



Guest Quartet Average Joes

Featuring

- The Black Canyon Barbershop Chorus
- Grand Mesa A Cappella
- Sound Production Quartet
- Rocky Road Quartet
- Delta High School Show Choir
- Montrose High School Choir
- Olathe High School Choir

Tickets: \$15 Kids under 12 free

Advance tickets are available from Delta, Olathe, and Montrose High School Choir members and any BCBC member.

Advance tickets can be purchased with a credit card by phone by calling the Pavilion Box Office. Tickets will be waiting for you at the door.



249-7015

M-F, Ext 0, 10 am-1 pm

Every advanced ticket purchased from any High School student will return \$3 to their High School Music program

—For more information (970) 240-9997—



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|-----------------|----------|
| John Reick | Feb. 27 |
| Chuck Frush | March 2 |
| Grady Weiszbrod | March 11 |
| Lee Erven | March 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.



BARBERSHOP



ROCKY ROAD

Contact: Vern Dockter

970-210-1793