

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/>

AUGUST 2015

Vol. 31 Number 8

THE SOUNDS OF SILVERTON 2015

The excerpts are from those who attended. The weather was incredible and a good time was had by all. Thanks to those who chose to contribute their observations and feelings.

It was very special to me to have my arrangement of "White Cliffs of Drover" performed by the festival chorus. Then to be recognized as the arranger, and given an ovation, it became even more special. What a compliment: to have the Festival Chorus perform my song, and then be recognized for it on the 29th anniversary of the Silverton Festival! That was a magical moment for me. I'll keep that one and treasure it for the rest of my days.

*Yours, Carroll (Pete) Peterson,
Founder and Original Coordinator of the
Silverton Barbershop Music Festival.*

What a memorable weekend! First the drive through some of God's most creative, colorful & down-right beautiful creation with Hank, Del & Barney!
(Nuff said)

I was so very impressed with our clinician, who was able to achieve amazing results with such economy of words and time. Over-all it was a fun & enjoyable week-end in a quaint environment.
Great concert, too!

First-timer - Grady Weiszbrod

Hi from Oregon
I left Silverton at 6:00 and some how
didn't stop until Ontario Oregon
Want to think everyone that came up
up up to Silverton it was fun and Russ
Young was very good and he said to
me that the men sound very good. He
was concerned on some of the songs
coming in to the morning but after
going though them once that went
away and was very happy the way
the whole day went. It was a very
good day and next year we need to
make the 30 year Anniversary
special and fun

Coop

I just wanted to say how much I
appreciated all the work that Larry
Cooper did for the Silverton Festival.
When we got there about 8:30
Saturday morning everything was
prepared and under control. The risers
were up, there was Hot Coffee and
donuts and snacks for all. The daily
activities were well organized and we
kept on schedule. I thought he song
selection was exciting and singable!
Silverton and all who attended got to
see a wonderful show.
Congratulations to Larry for a job well
done.

Del Wiesner and Sam Kevin

Silverton experience is always a
breath of fresh air. It's a good time to
see old friends from other places that
have the same RTC feeling.
My quartet worked up Silverton train
and was well received.
I believe all choruses did a good job
as it is a FESTIVAL but FARMINGTON
put 8 guys on as chorus and One
and a half quartets..ie some were
same guys. THEY BLEW
EVERYBODY'S SOCKS OFF.....
I must commend FARMINGTON for
putting on such a great performance

For me, Silverton was so much more "user friendly"
this year. Lots of motorcyclists in town having a
good time and the barbershoppers all seemed to
mingle with one another better than I've seen.
Many of them spoke to me and we were all feeling
supportive of one another. Great to see teenagers
in the Durango and Four Corners choruses having
the time of their lives performing. The show lasted
for just the right amount of time. People weren't
getting anxious and leaving early. The Afterglow
was fun and I loved hearing way different music
from all the choruses and quartets. My favorite
song of the show was "Under the Boardwalk". We
gotta get that one!

MaryAnn

P.S. Really enjoyed meeting Russ and watching
him work.

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.



Some of you faithful readers may expect some new news about the Board Meeting and what was accomplished. Tough. There is none of either to report. Except that Del and Joni made a quick entrance and exit before we could actually welcome them properly. Guess they made an erroneous assumption that we were so busy doing stuff we just couldn't break away to talk to them. Silly Del and Joni.

We do NOT have a Show Chairman for the 2016 Show in June. We need one. Consider it and volunteer if you have nothing better to do. Some say it is fun.

Just when the left-over 'action' items were un-dealt with and the meeting was about to be adjourned about 7:15, somebody, like Chuck, just had to bring up the fact we were not dealing with the 2016 Show planning as we had said we would, so the anticipated adjournment was postponed to allow more voicing of opinions ending with a motion that we should do something, like form committees to do something.

Coop and Larry W. may, just may, but probably will attend the Fall Convention in Cheyenne to search for and secure a guest quartet for our June 2016 Show.

The Chorus, thru Prez John, was invited to participate in a 'planned' program in Hotchkiss on August 29 called "Celebrate the Fork." The main event will feature Otis Taylor for the hefty admission of \$30. We were invited to be one of the acts to act as warm-ups before the main, sometime between 10 am and 1 pm on Saturday. The feeling from the Board is that we need to seriously consider doing this IF our participation is rewarded by FREE ADMISSION to all members who attend. John agreed to follow up with the invite and details. Of course the chorus members will be asked to commit to the decision. Think about it.

No decision was made about having a pot-luck at Ridgway on Labor Day. Guess you guys in the chorus will need to vote on it Or not.

Tomorrow: A mythical land where I get all my stuff done.

The Joy of giving back

This time at the Montrose United Methodist Church

Twenty-two! Really? Count 'em again. Still got 22. Wow! Twenty-two sharp guys dressed in black with red ties all on the stage of the Montrose United Methodist Church all at the same time. How could it get any better?

How about close to 100 nice and appreciative folks sitting in the pews? Now that is better. What a fine Thursday evening it was. I don't remember when and if we ever sounded better. Could have been the acoustics or it could have been the director. Or it could have been we were all concentrating and singing the correct notes and words at the same time and watching the director rather than allowing our eyes to wander about the room hoping someone is watching me so I need to act like I'm special. No matter. we sounded like a chorus that knows how to sing.

We had a high bar to follow. The Del Rose Sweet Adelines started off the evening with 4 or 5 excellent songs to warm up the audience. Then it was up to us to keep the fire going, and danged if we didn't. Rocky Road was missing a couple of members so Barny announced a 3-minute practice rag-tag quartet to do what they could do with Barny's signature barbershop song, 'Bill Hogan's Goat.' The good news is that not much could go wrong with Barny singing lead so not much did, and the audience loved it. Of course Barny is a member of the Church so most already knew him and his reputation. Frush, Wiesner, and Sutton did nothing to improve it.

After a presentation of excellent songs, many of the songsters wandered down to Horsefly for some repasts and renewal liquids just to make sure the entire evening was a raging success. Of course none of the partakers were smart enough to check in advance so it was a surprise that Main Street in front of the brewery was closed for the upcoming County Fair. A loud and probably good band was on a float directly in front of the tavern so the tavern was packed and far from quiet. No matter, those who were not going to be denied glommed on tables as they were vacated, mostly inside but some outside. The reason was obvious: just to enjoy the festive atmosphere of the evening.

Big thanks to Barny and Little John R. for taking the reins for this concert and making it all happen. This was our third and final "Give Back To The Community" concert series, initiated by Sutton in Delta, then followed by Snyder in Cedaredge, and Barnett in Montrose, and it worked out great. Hope some future resurrection will validate the concept.



Lloyd Wenzel	August 19
Sam Kevan	August 21
MaryAnn Rathburn	August 26

*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

Montrose Main in Motion

one more try but it was for the money

Always cognizant of the consternations of pessimistic members, Program VP Coop forged ahead and scheduled another possible disastrous Main in Motion sing in Montrose. History has shown that often it is very hot, there is no shade, there are numerous distractions, few people stop to listen, fewer even care, and we do not sound as good as we would like to in spite of the ambient noise.

So on Thursday we tried it again, and from one's partisan viewpoint, it was not nearly as painful as some predicted. Of course the idling library diesel bus across the street was not really appreciated so PR Dennis stood in front of it giving the driver dirty looks until the driver moved it around the corner and killed the engine. Just before Dennis considered the same fate for the driver. Luck of the season also worked to our advantage as it was cloudy and cool, which negated the heat concern. Then the gathered bunch of singers, which was not everyone but enough to sing, bunched and actually had some fun singing PoleCat songs along with others, which we are supposed to know. A more casual standing made it much more enjoyable than the previous formal line up, stand up straight, lean forward, and look sharp rules of the past. Yes, we may not have looked as professional as we used to, but then again, we aren't.

Another distraction, some kind of music band also across the street, bothered some of us so we all trundled down the street several blocks in search of a place where we might be heard and appreciated. Guess that is too much to hope for at Main in Motion, but we did manage to attract several clusters of curious shoppers who were willing to interrupt their dog walking long enough to listen to us for a few minutes. Hey, we really had a good time in spite of the negative predictions. Plus, the view from the back of the pack (me) is that we sounded pretty good. Of course those in front may have different opinion.

After a couple of hours of singing and just being normal in jeans and dress white shirts of various designs and similar color, a few of us made the trek to Horsefly for a brew and sliders to relax after such a grueling evening. Really, it was fun.

Thank you Coop for ignoring all the nay sayers.



New Colorado phone answering machine message: 'If you want to buy marijuana, press the hash key.'



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."

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Keep the Whole World Singing

The President's Corner with John Taylor

They say that the sign of a good leader is one that can rally the troops. Based on results, my leadership reign is in the toilet. I have used this forum to call for volunteers from the ranks to step up and be "show chairman" or "riser hauler" or "whatever". I have yet to receive a single response. I'm thinking Bill is right when he says, "Nobody reads this." So today, I'm proposing a little experiment.

Back when I was in college, circa 1966, I suspected that my English teacher was not reading my required essays. So, I inserted a recipe for baked beans in the middle of my dissertation. Lo and behold, it came back with the usual "B" grade and no comment on the recipe. That was an "Ah ha" moment!

So, my proposal is..... that if you read this and want a dollar. Just whisper "baked beans" to me, I'll give you a dollar, and I'll know how many people actually read this, Or call me at 874-5148 or e-mail @ jonnybob@aol.com, and post the secret words :-). Please don't "spill the beans" to the rest of our group. I'd really like to know who may read this.



"Our life begins with our cry and ends with another's cry. Try to fill this gap with as much laughter as possible."

