

July 27, 2010  
Volume 3, Issue 7



## Contents

Butte	1
Sweet Pea	1
Dictionary	2
Dewey's Dialog	3
BOTM	3
C.R. Officers	4
Who is This C.R.?	4
Words	5
Mission Statement	6

## Butte, America Strawberry Festival

The Chord Rustlers turned out in force when 22 members made the 90-mile trek to Butte to sing for a Strawberry Festival sponsored by one of the largest senior housing facilities in southwestern Montana. The blazing sun and the melodious tones warmed the hearts and bodies of the several hundred people who sought out the music, free ice cream sundaes, and strawberry tortes. Seeing this kind of support on a Thursday afternoon in the middle of summer reveals the commitment of the "New and Improved" Chord Rustler chorus. Your attendance and enthusiasm was greatly appreciated.

### *Music Team*

## 2010 Upcoming Events

- ◆ **August 6–8**  
Sweet Pea Festival
- ◆ **September 23–26**  
District Contest,  
Portland, OR
- ◆ **November 11**  
Veteran's Day Show
- ◆ **December 14**  
Christmas Sings

## Tater Pig™ Festival August 6–8

It's almost here! That weekend where the Chord Rustlers improve their skills coring, slicing, wrapping, buttering, and sprinkling their famous Tater Pigs™ for the thousands of visitors to the annual Sweet Pea Festival at Lindley Park. We know that it should be called the "Tater Pig Festival," but don't tell the Sweet Pea organizers. They think it's all about arts and music...we know different. The Tater Pig is the "*crème-de-le crème*" of potatoes, the food that even the skeptical and squeamish relish, and the best appetizer for what? Another Tater Pig.

Set up is Thursday August 5<sup>th</sup>. It's a big job made easier by lots of volunteers. We start cooking and serving on Friday afternoon and continue all day Saturday and Sunday. Tear down is Sunday afternoon when we tuck away the tent, tables, and supplies into the Harmony Hauler. See you there.

*DH*

## Dictionary of Barbershop Terms [A–C]

There is a special type of communication that only experienced Barbershoppers can understand. Here is the first installment of several familiar Barbershop terms:

**A&R**–Analysis and Recommendation, often called Aggravation and Ridicule.

**Afterglow**–A cast party after a show.

**After-Afterglow**–A smaller, more private party that takes place after an afterglow.

**AHSOW**–Ancient Harmonious Society Of Woodshedders.

**Ambigesturous**–The ability to perform the choreo moves from either side of the risers.

**Barbershop 7<sup>th</sup>**–A flat 7th chord used frequently in barbershop arrangements. Example: C - E - G - Bb

**Barbershop Brats**–Children of barbershoppers, which often become members, a precious commodity.

**Barbershop Squat**–A physical stance at the end of a song that looks amateurish and hokey.

**Barbershop Widow/Widower**–The spouse of a very active barbershopper, who doesn't participate in the hobby.

**Barberteens**–Teenaged children of barbershoppers, the smartest of all.

**Barbertots**–Young children of barbershoppers, also a precious commodity.

**Bell Chord**–Notes sung on successive beats as in "Bye Bye Blues" by the Suntones.

**Belt**–Sing loudly.

**Bipartite/Tripartite**–Able to sing multiple voice parts.

**Bisectional**–A person that can sing more than one voice part...hopefully, not simultaneously.

**Blead**–A fifth voice part consisting of part lead and part baritone, usually sung by a member who has been absent for a while.

**Borneo Barbershop**–An exercise where the bass is sung an octave high OR the tenor an octave low.

**Breathing Dips**–Singers who breathe where they are not supposed to.

**Bust a Chord**–Same as peeling paint.

**Car-Toy**–The cassette tape one carries in the car to learn one's part. Directors use this method to describe a phrase of a song they want a section to work on in the car with repetition.

**Cascade**–A musical device where a unison note spreads to form a chord, also called "waterfall."

**Chameleon**–A person who can sing all four parts.

**Chestnut**–An old familiar favorite song.

**Chinese 7<sup>th</sup>** –The second inversion of a 7th chord, where the tenor note is under the lead note. (It's not necessarily or even common that the tenor is below the lead, but rather that the root of the chord is just above the 7th. That usually puts the tenor a step above the lead. Then it's just a first inversion (or third inversion), depending on how you look at it.

**Chordgasm/Chordasm**–The climax of musical stimulation often resulting in goosebumps and raised hairs. See Eargasm.

**Chorditorium**–A convention afterglow where non-qualifying quartets can strut their stuff.

**Chordus Interruptus**–When the director stops the chorus just before a paint-peeling tag.

**Chordworship**–Holding a chord longer than necessary just to enjoy it.

**Chorus Dips**–Singers who do exactly the opposite of what the director asks.

**Coning**–Adjusting volume inversely with pitch to balance a chord.

**Cookie**–A pitch-pipe.

**Crank**–Sing loudly.

**Crow**–A self-confessed non-singer who performs mundane chores nobody else wants to do. See Invaluable.

**DH**



*“Here lies Jack Perkins. He done his damnedest.”*  
**Dwight Adams**



## Dewey's Dialogue for the Ageless

### FALLIBILITY

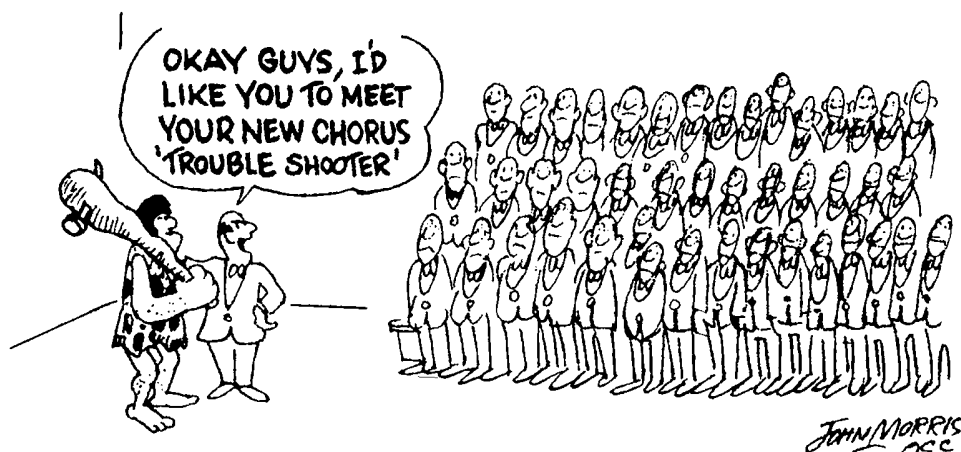
Nobody can say that the Chord Rustlers are not an active group. What with Sweet Pea and competition coming up in a little over a month, there is action aplenty. Competition reminds me of evaluation. That means showing, in six minutes or so, what you can do at that particular blip in time. The result will be a number of points. That number was determined by some judges who have tried to be objective. But let's be honest about it: these “objective” judgments came from the heads of people...trained, fair-minded, capable, but still people and not infallible. They are saying, “At that moment, on that day, this is what the Chord Rustlers did.” But of course we have to understand that this judgment didn't come from a revelation on high. To avoid possible disappointment and bitterness one might remember the epitaph from one of Bret Harte's stories: “Here lies Jack Perkins. He done his damnedest. And had fun doing it.”

*Dewey Adams*

## Barbershopper of the Month — June, 2010

Bill Ranard is our Barbershopper of the Month (BOTM) for June, 2010. Bill has worked untiringly in getting our trailer (“Harmony Hauler”) ready for Sweet Pea and decommissioning “Old Ugly.” He transferred inventory, built shelves, installed a new roof, and coordinated others to help. Thanks Bill for going the extra mile.

*Bernie Bissell*



## ♪ Music Team ♪

<b>Directors:</b> Natalie Berdahl	406-579-2211
<b>Assistant Directors:</b> Charlie McGuire	406-582-0471
Gerry Hovland	406-585-8500
<b>Music VP:</b> Dan Hopper	406-582-5194
<b>Section Leaders:</b> Lead: Wyman Schmidt	406-587-8013
Baritone:	
Tenor: Dennis Bloxham	406-223-7824
Bass: Bernie Bissell	406-586-2966



## Chord Rustler Officers

<b>President:</b> Bernie Bissell	406-586-2966
<b>VP Music:</b> Dan Hopper	406-582-5194
<b>VP Chapter Development:</b> Dave Schrupp	406-585-9493
<b>VP Marketing/PR:</b> Jerry Mollock	406-522-8894
<b>Treasurer:</b> Sig Dehn	406-586-5747
<b>Secretary:</b> Frank Smith	406-586-4676
<b>Immediate Past President:</b> Dave Schrupp	406-585-9493
<b>Board Members at Large:</b> Charles McGuire	406-582-0471
Wyman Schmidt	406-587-8013
<b>Executive Vice President:</b> Earl Vining	406-586-6502
<b>Chorus Manager:</b> Steve Adams	406-580-1227
<b>Show Chairmen 2010:</b> Bill Ranard	406-585-9375
Jerry Mollock	406-522-8894
<b>Sunshine Chairman:</b> Jesse Edgar	406-579-5354

### Who is This Chord Rustler?

Periodically, "The Old Chorale" will have an article describing a member's life and experiences. See if you can figure out who it is before the end of the article.

If I told you where this barbershopper was born and raised or what his occupation was, you would immediately know his identity. So, I'll start by using *his* description of *his* personality – "effervescent." Can you guess? If I told you that while in a quartet, he couldn't look at the tenor while performing or both of them would start laughing, uncontrollably, unable to continue. Have you figured it out? Effervescent?? Hmmmmm. Spontaneous??? Definitely!!!

Bill Purcell was born and raised in Sacramento, California, where his Dad was a banker and his Mom, a housewife. He sang in the *a cappella* choir in high school and junior college. After his high school graduation, he joined the Marines and, upon discharge, worked for the Sacramento sheriff's office for 15 years. After that, he was an investigator for the district attorney for 12 years, got his master's degree at Chapman College, and retired in 1985. After retirement, Bill did part-time work for the Sacramento and Placer County sheriff's office. He and Grace have been married for 33 years and have a combined family of three sons and one daughter. Grace received a Music Education degree at MSU and has taught at several local schools. She currently teaches piano.

Bill joined the Chord Rustlers in 1991 and has been on the board. He enjoys reading out of his 2700 volume library, watching football, and writing rhymes.

An interview with Bill is humorous and incisive. He said his job resume was one page, succinct, and somewhat uneventful. When he applied for a job, all the other job applicants had multiple page resumes. "Bill, did you get the job?" I asked. "Yes," he said, "one of only two in my lifetime." Interview over.

**Jerry Mollock**

## Words Get in Our Way

Barbershoppers cringe when new uptunes are introduced that have lots of words. Remember when we sang “*The Longest Time*” and one of our members pasted the words on the back of the person in front of them at the annual show? Even “*Ghost Riders*” is a challenge for the basses...there’s a lot of words in that song.

If you are a reader of the “*Bozeman Daily Chronicle*,” you know how words are misused, misspelled, or just plain wrong. An article in the July 26, 2010 edition touting the “*XTERRA Wild Horse Creek Triathlon*” stated, “*Some tear down the final stretch of the bike ride atop the reservoir’s damn, some gut it out on two flat tires.*” Very clever writing, but I think Will Holden meant to say “dam.” There were probably other sections of the triathlon that deserved the expletive.

Satch recently sent me an article (“What’s UP with that?”) about word usage. He wonders how non-English speaking people ever learn English. Take for instance the word “up.” It is a word that perhaps has more meanings than any other two-letter word in the English language. And it even has spawned a very popular movie. It’s easy to understand “up,” meaning toward the sky or at the top of the list, but when we awaken in the morning, why do we wake “up”? At a meeting, why does a topic come “up”? Why do we speak “up,” why are the officers “up” for election, and why is it “up” to the secretary to write-“up” the minutes?

We call “up” our friends and we open “up” the shades to brighten “up” a room. We polish “up” the silver, warm “up” the leftovers, and clean “up” the kitchen. We lock “up” the house and then help some friends fix “up” an old car.

At other times, the little word has real special meanings. People stir “up” trouble, line “up” for tickets, work “up” an appetite, and think “up” excuses. To be dressed is one thing, but to be dressed “up” is special. This one is weird: A drain must be opened “up” because it is stopped “up.” We open “up” a store in the morning and we close it “up” at night. We seem to be pretty mixed “up” about “up”! When it threatens to rain, we say it is clouding “up.” When the sun comes out we say it is clearing “up.” When it rains, it wets “up” the earth. When it doesn’t rain for a while, things dry “up.”

To be knowledgeable about the proper uses of “up,” look “up” the word “up” in the dictionary. In a desk-sized dictionary, it takes “up” almost ¼ of the page and can add “up” to about thirty definitions. If you are “up” to it, you might try building “up” a list of the many ways “up” is used. It will take “up” a lot of your time, but if you don’t give “up,” you may wind “up” with a hundred or more.

One could go on and on, but I’ll wrap it “up,” for now my time is “up,” so it is time to shut “up.”

*Thanks, Satch for sending this and clearing things “up.”*

Jerry Mollock sent an email out in March, which was addressed to “Guts and Natalie.” He said that his typing skills are less than meager and somehow the “y” became a “t” when he typed the note. He is reminded of an obscure anecdote involving Winston Churchill who sent a congratulatory note to a pompous, high ranking US Army officer and had planned to tell this general that his recent speech to the British troops was a “hit.” Somehow, a misplaced “s” was typed in before the “h” and ...well...you get the picture. After several apologies were ignored, Churchill simply told the general, “It was a tactile slip, but a fact uncovered.” Ain’t English grand!



Chord Rustlers meet Tuesdays at Grace Bible Church, 3625 South 19<sup>th</sup>, Bozeman. Rehearsals are from 7:00–9:30 p.m. Guests are always welcome.

## Mission Statement — Bozeman Chord Rustlers

“The mission of the Chord Rustlers is to sing *a cappella*, four-part harmony, in the barbershop style, to support vocal music education of youth, and to provide audiences with wholesome entertainment for all occasions by men who enjoy musical and social camaraderie, desiring to share their love of music within the community, and who aspire to grow in musical excellence and preserve the tradition of four-part harmony singing.”



"The Old Chorale"  
Dan Hopper, Editor  
3120 Augusta Dr.  
Bozeman, MT 59715  
dan\_hopper@bresnan.net

