

April 3, 2012 Volume 5, Issue 2

# "The Old Chorale"



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#### **Upcoming Events**

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April 14<sup>th</sup> [Helena]
Rehearsal w/Duals

Words

- April 28<sup>th</sup>
  Rehearsal w/Duals
- May 4–5, 2012
  Divisional Contest,
  Pasco, WA
- May 27, 2012 (tentative)
   Sing-out, Soldier's Chapel
- July , 2012
  [Portland]
  International
  Convention
- August 3–5, 2012
  Sweet Pea Festival
- September 27–29, 2012
   District Contest, Spokane, WA

#### Awesome!!!

The only word that could possibly describe our "Old Blue Eyes...Tribute to Frank Sinatra" annual show was "Awesome." The chorus, chapter quartets, Bridger Mountain Sweet Adelines, and our guest quartet (**Vocal Spectrum**) rose to the occasion and knocked everyone's socks off.

We can be proud that the show came off with very few hitches...at least none that reduced the entertainment value to the audience. Sure we can complain about the lighting, cues, curtain, etc., but those issues paled in comparison to the music.

**Vocal Spectrum** will be talked about for a long time among those who attended the concert. They were professional, fun, entertaining, young, and just a great bunch of guys. What an inspiration to our younger (and older) members in the Society.

A big thanks is due to the show chairmen (Dave and Jack), our director (Natalie), and the other Chord Rustlers who shepherded the ticketing (Sig, Al), After Glow & Sponsors (Kevin), and promotional activities (Paul, Dan), stage manager (Dennis), and our actors (Dewey, Bill).

Now that the show is in the record books for 2012, take a minute to relax (but only a minute) and get ready to rock the halls in Tri-Cities, WA when we compete May 5<sup>th</sup>. *DH* 





### **Singing Valentines**

The Bozeman community was treated to another great activity sponsored by the Chord Rustlers...our annual Singing Valentines. This is an event that not only brings tremendous joy to about 40 women and men in the area, but is a real treat for the singers as well and brings some income into our treasury. Counting the performances at the MOR and in the halls of the hospital and other businesses, we probably sang to over 200. This is probably my 14<sup>th</sup> year singing "Let Me Call You Sweetheart" and "Heart of My Heart" for some unsuspecting "special valentine." Thank you to the thirteen or so Chord Rustlers who participated in this event. I hope you got as much out of performing as I did. *DH* 

### **Chord Rustler Planning Meeting**

A group of Chord Rustlers met at the C'Mon Inn March 24<sup>th</sup> to review our chorus activities and to discuss the future direction of the chorus. Discussions of what was working and what needed to be improved were facilitated by our president, Don Greer. A historical sketch of the Chord Rustlers shows that we have had lots of Directors, apparel changes, several venues for rehearsals and shows, and are blessed with a dedicated group of members that have been the stalwarts of the chapter for many years. The new "young blood" that has been infused into the chorus in recent years is something that is vital to the future of our organization. Their enthusiasm and their willingness to serve and sing give us the opportunity to forge ahead with increased vitality, better singing, and more appreciation by the community. Thanks, Don, for conducting a great meeting. *DH* 

## Fly Me to the Moon

I have never been able to properly sing a song until I understood what the composer meant by the words and phrases, in total. To me, this tune is an about strong, passionate love, almost overwhelming love. The most important phrase in this song is "I'll translate as I go along," and that is what he does. He uses ethereal expressions—"Let me see what spring is like on Jupiter and Mars." A simple yet profound statement—spring is a beginning, a rebirth, new, wonderful, and bright in a place he has never been. Take him there and how can she do this? By holding his hand and kissing him. Charlie Rose had Tony Bennett on his show several years ago and they discussed this song for well into the hour. When you listen to Tony Bennett sing the first part of the refrain... "Fly Me to the Moon"...it soars, he is flying to the moon, and then the composer explains the poetry he has written for the person he loves. Though this song was difficult to learn, it was well worth the effort. Arguably, the best love song ever written. *Jerry M*.

# CHORD

"His high points were very high and his low points very low."

Dwight Adams



## **Dewey's Dialogue for the Ageless**

#### SINATRA (POST SCRIPT)

Not many performers have ever matched the career of Frank Sinatra, "Old Blue Eyes." He lived from 1915 to 1998. He was performing until almost the day he died, even though age had dimmed his memory and his voice. He made something like 1400 recordings and a dozen major films. His high points were very high and his low points very low. We've seen hysterical audiences for Elvis, the Beatles, Lady Gaga, and the rest. Frankie, as he was called then, had wild audiences of "bobby soxers" during one of his high periods. They would nearly swoon and yell "Oh Frankie" over and over. Sound familiar? In later years he was identified with the Rat Pack—Dean Martin, Sammy Davis Junior, Peter Lawford. They performed—on and off stage—mostly in Las Vegas. That and repeated suggestions of Sinatra's association with the Mob were the least savory parts of his biography. But nothing will negate the incredible output and smooth voice of Frank Sinatra. He honed his craft singing with the Hoboken Four, the Harry James orchestra, and Tommy Dorsey among others. He admired the seamless way Dorsey played the trombone and worked at doing the same vocally. *Dewey* 

The crowd loved the songs. A lot can be said about our repertoire; the biggest is that we must remember why we sing. Certainly for our own enjoyment...but more specifically for those in the audience to come to hear the "old songs" sung in the barber shop style. DH

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Directors: Natalie Berdahl	406-579-2211	
Assistant Director:		
Jesse Lee	406-390-1794	
Music VP: Bernie Bissell	406-586-2966	
Section Leaders:		
Lead: Steve Adams	406-580-1227	
Baritone: Tim Lund	406-570-1234	
Tenor: Kevin Mattson	406- 388-6232	
Bass: Bernie Bissell	406-586-2966	
Chorus Mgr: Jerry Mollock	406-570-2468	
Librarian: Jack Lehman	406-388-3121	
□ Committees □		
Show Chairmen 2012:		
Jack Lehman	406-388-3121	
Dave Schrupp	406-585-9493	
Tater Pig Chairmen 2011:		
Jerry Mollock	406-570-2468	
Don Greer	406-586-7871	
Kevin Mattson	406-388-6232	
Singing Valentines 2012		
Chairman: Mike Tank,	406-585-9437	
Dan Hopper	406-585-9437	

<b>Chord Rustler Officers</b>		
President: Don Greer	406-586-7871	
VP Music: Bernie Bissell	406-586-2966	
VP Chapter Development:		
Frank Johnson	406-586-1857	
VP Marketing/PR: Paul Newby	406-586-2804	
Treasurer: Sig Dehn	406-586-5747	
Secretary: Frank Smith	406-586-4676	
Immediate Past President: Bernie Bissell	406-586-2966	
<b>Board Members at Large:</b>		
Mike Tank	406-585-9437	
Kevin Mattson	406- 388-6170	
Shane Strasser	605-940-4971	
Executive Vice President: Dan Hopper	406-582-5194	
Sunshine Chairman: 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.

Thanks, Jerry, for your contributions to this column. We look forward to your future interviews with new members of the Chord Rustlers.

#### A Tale of Two Tuxedos

When I initially picked up my tuxedo at Persnickety, I didn't have time to try it on again and rushed home. We had a performance that night and when I got dressed, Annie told me I looked like "clown man." The trousers and coat were more than abundant. However, I wore the tux knowing Annie would be rolling in the aisle at the theater when she saw "clown man." The following Monday, I brought the tuxedo to Persnickety and showed the manager the problem. She said "You are Jerry, aren't you?" I told her I was Jerry and then she said, "That's Gerry Hovland, right?" On the way home, I had this mental picture of Gerry Hovland wearing my tuxedo, singing soprano for the first time in his life. *Jerry M*.



Ashidical Charles de la				
March, April, & May				
Birthdays				
March 5	John Rettenmayer			
March 11	Dave Schrupp			
March 14	Tony Wastcoat			
April 1	Fred Schwanemann			
April 24	Mike Tank			
May 8	Jim Osen			
May 10	Steve Adams			
May 13	Satch Freswick			
May 13	<b>Charles McGuire</b>			
May 13	Satch Freswick			
May 13	Jack Lehman			

# The Top 10 Reasons a Barbershop Convention is More Fun than an Accordion Festival

- 10. You can't get your necktie or body part caught in a barbershop chord.
- 9. There aren't as many buttons to push at a barbershop convention.
- 8. No import duties on pitch pipes.
- 7. At last! An opportunity to actually sing the "words" to "Lady of Spain."
- 6. No one ever got stoop shouldered from singing "Sweet Adeline."
- 5. With Frankie Yankovich gone, what's the point?
- 4. Accordionists' groupies use walkers to rush the stage.
- 3. Ever been in an elevator with four accordions? (OK, an elevator with four barbershoppers is no picnic, either....)
- 2. Much more interesting sounds when you squeeze a barbershopper.
- 1. Two words: POLKA RASH.

From the Holland LandSlide, newsletter of the Batavia, NY chapter

#### **Words of Wisdom**

"If you don't have time to do it right, when will you have time to do it over?"

John Wooden, Basketball coach, 1910-2010

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."







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