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Upcoming Events

- ◆ April 10, RSVP Livingston (5:30 p.m.)
- ◆ April 20, RSVP, Bozeman (5:30 p.m., GranTree)
- ◆ May 9-10 Annual Show
- ◆ May 30-31, Divisional Contest, Spokane
- ◆ October 24-25, District Contest, Boise

Doodle Dandies Weren't Doodling

The Doodle Dandies sang at the Grand opening of Albertson's new deli bar. The request came to us because of the association the Chord Rustlers have with Albertsons as suppliers of bread for the Tater Pig Booth at Sweet Pea. In attendance were Mayor Kaaren Jacobson, Chamber of Commerce President, members of the Green Coats (Albertson's area management team), and the usual assortment of shoppers. The Dandies sang before and after the ribbon-cutting ceremony with public address announcements announcing their presence in the store and inviting listeners hear them. Many friends and

associates supported us as we performed. Earl Vining was our contact person for the appearance. As a token of Albertson's appreciation, we were given a gift card. The event was quite enjoyable for us. *Charlie McGuire*



Dewey's Dialogue for the Ageless

NOTES FROM AN ANCIENT ENGLISH TEACHER

I've been looking through the *Basic Barbershop Craft Manual*. (1974 version edited by Bob Johnson) He was the Society music director at the time, a great teacher and enthusiastic Barbershopper. I can't find the publication on the web site, so it must have been superseded by one called *Music Fundamentals for Barbershoppers*. At any rate, one section involved sound production represented by several letters. The parallel with phonology, a basic study in linguistics, and with poetry was pretty obvious. So like it or not, here's a little lesson in the three.

A language at any given time is the oral language. Writing is, at least in English, just a representation of the sounds. We Barbershoppers get lots of practice in forming vowels, but some of the consonants are singable as well. One category of consonants is stops. That is, you dam up air and let it go in a kind of explosion: "t & p," for instance. You can't hold these sounds. Then there are the liquids, "l," and nasals "m, n, and ng." These you can stretch out if you want to. You can stretch out *moon* but you can't stretch out *boot*. So Bob Johnson called the liquids and nasals "singable consonants."

(continued Dewey's, page 2, column 1)



*“A good marriage
of language sound
and musical sound
results in pretty
good stuff.”*

Dwight Adams

Dewey's (continued)

(cont.)

Much poetry is meant to be read aloud; some works well set to music. An extreme example is the choral part of Beethoven's *Ninth Symphony*, which is a musical version of a poem by Schiller. But sometimes a song reduced to just words on the printed page looks terrible.

A good marriage of language sound and musical sound results in pretty good stuff. This brings us to a guy whose work you may have studied in school: Edgar Allan Poe

Poe was personally about ten degrees off magnetic north. But he knew exactly what he was doing when he wrote his poetry and short stories. Consider, for instance, a poem called *Annabel Lee*. One line goes "For the moon never beams without bringing me dreams of the beautiful Annabel Lee." You're just invited to draw that out—lots of liquids and nasals. Another thing he did was to use lots of low vowels (vowels have

pitch too) when he had a melancholy subject as in *The Raven*. Well, that's enough lessons for today. The English teacher in me made me do it. But when you're trying to milk a chord (a shameless thing Barbershoppers do) you sometimes can make it last, not just with vowels but with liquids and nasals.

Dwight Adams, Contributing Writer

*Unlike Poe (...quoth the raven
"nevermore"), we look forward to
Dewey's next missive. DH*

Chapter Meetings

Announcements of the Chord Rustler chapter meetings appear in Monday's *Bozeman Chronicle*. If you know places that we might benefit by advertising our meeting times, please let Jerry Mollock or Dan Hopper know.



Our Show Is Only 6½ Weeks Away!

Everyone needs to start thinking about a western getup (Hats, Levis, boots, chaps, etc.); we'll use our class A's in the second half. Things I am particularly looking for: rails for a split rail fence (whoever would have these would get them back after the show), an old high-backed saddle, a pair of old chaps (the hairy angora style if possible), spurs, a couple of tumbleweeds (nice and bushy) and a couple of lariat ropes. Dave and I will be meeting with Faye Christiansen tomorrow evening at six. She has agreed to be our artistic director and we are going to rely a lot on her expertise to tell us what will work and what won't for that stage setup. We will probably have some other items we will be looking for after meeting with her. We will need the coffin that was used in 1994 and again in 2004 for the Best of 20 Show.

As the committees stand at the moment:

Co Chairmen	Dave Schrupp & Dennis Bloxham
Script	Dave Schrupp & Faye Christiansen (rewrite of the 1994 show)
Music	Music Teams from 1994 and 2008
Advertising / Publicity	Jerry Mollock & Dan Hopper
Tickets	Gary Tschache
Programs	Dan Hopper & Dennis Bloxham
House	Kirk Dehn
Staging	Andy Jackson, Dennis Bloxham & Faye Christiansen
Artistic Director	Faye Christiansen
Afterglow	Sig Dehn

Dennis Bloxham, Dave Schrupp

Barbershopper of the Month January, 2008 – Al Sprenger

Barbershopper of the Month (BOTM) for January is **Al Sprenger**. Al distinguished himself by spending several hours over several days getting all the various awards together to be presented at our annual Installation Banquet. Various plaques that were supposed to arrive from the Harmony Society in time and didn't, so Al had to scramble to find suitable temporary substitutes that could be used during the presentations at the banquet.

Wanting to make sure that everything was "just right," he made several trips to various businesses around town, two trips to the president's home to get signatures for the awards, and several phone calls to Society headquarters checking on the status of items he had ordered.

Al's unselfish devotion of his valuable time and talent to this chapter to promote chapter-related activities is greatly appreciated and he has justifiably earned the title of Barbershopper of the Month for January, 2008.

Sig

Sig Says... ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺

Jerry Hiatt, the president of the Great Falls chapter is convinced that we have at least 4 "Cave Man" costumes that we borrowed from them when we put on our "Cave Man" show a few years ago. They are re-doing the "Cave Man" theme during their show this year, May 17th and sure would like to get those costumes back. So, please look in all your stuff and if you find "Cave Man" articles that we borrowed from the Great Falls chapter, please let Sig know and get the items to him. Thanks.

Sig

"Tumbling Tumbleweeds" is a song composed by Bob Nolan, one of the founding (albeit reluctant) members of the Sons of the Pioneers. Although one of the most famous songs associated with cowboys, the song was composed by Nolan back in the 1930's while he was working as a caddy and living in Los Angeles. Originally titled "Tumbling Tumble Leaves," the song was reworked into the title "Tumbling Tumbleweeds" and into fame with the **Gene Autry** film of the same name. The song is featured in an episode of *The Odd Couple* TV show and it is also used at the start of the film *The Big Lebowski* while the camera follows a tumbleweed rolling into Los Angeles. The Supremes covered this song on their 1965 album *"The Supremes Sing Country, Western & Pop,"* although it was recorded two years earlier with Diana Ross as the lead. (DH from Wikipedia.org)

Barbershopper of the Month February, 2008 – Kirk Dehn

The Barbershopper of the Month (BOTM) for February is **Kirk Dehn**. As VP Music & Performance, Kirk has reinvigorated the concept of the Music Team within our chapter. In February, he conducted a Music Team retreat at the GranTree Inn where all the members of the Music Team gathered and formulated proposed policies and procedures concerning all aspects of music, performance goals, and expectations of chorus members, performance packages, and various duties and responsibilities.

He spent considerable time preparing for the meeting by procuring Music Team manuals for all team members to read prior to the meeting, preparing an agenda, and manufacturing related handouts for the team. Subsequent to the meeting he has also spent several hours typing up the policies and procedures that were proposed and agreed to at that meeting. These have been submitted to the chapter president for inclusion in a draft *Operations Manual* for the chapter.

Kirk has given his valuable time and talent to this chapter by promoting and encouraging interest in the growth of barbershop singing and in chapter-related activities. In appreciation thereof, he has been selected as the Barbershopper of the Month for February.

Sig



"Three things he's got going in his favor: his image, his stand on the issues and his singing in the Barbershop Chorus!"

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

"Sagebrush, Saddles, & Spurs" is the theme of this year's show, and performers include Bozeman's Chord Rustlers Chorus, the Bridger Mountain Harmony Chorus of Sweet Adelines, local quartets, and of course, Max Q. To reserve tickets, call Gary Tschache (406-587-2926) or e-mail him at cgtschache@msn.com.

Best time to call is from 1 to 4 pm MST Monday thru Saturday.

Mission Statement *NEW* **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."



Bozeman Chord Rustlers



"Old Chorale"
Dan Hopper, Editor
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