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Upcoming Events

- ◆ April 29, Elsie’s Assisted Living, Belgrade 6:10 pm
- ◆ May 9–10 Annual Show
- ◆ May 24, Memorial Wall Dedication
- ◆ May 25, Soldier’s Chapel, Big Sky
- ◆ May 30–31, Divisional Contest, Spokane
- ◆ June 17, Fairgrounds, Wally Byam dinner
- ◆ September 13, Mtn. Sky Guest Ranch
- ◆ October 24–25, District Contest, Boise



Afterglow Attendance Information Needed

Sig needs a count of how many of you and your spouses, guests, family members, etc. plan to attend the afterglow the evening of Saturday, May 10th at the GranTree Inn. One half of the Grand Ball room will be available for us starting at 5:00 pm and food will be served starting at about 6:00 pm. A mini-bar will also be available.

Please inform Sig no later than Tuesday, April 29th how many you plan to have in your party that will want food. Call him at 586-5747 or 581-3282, or e-mail him at sigdehn01@msn.com.



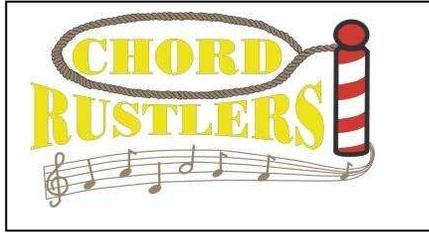
Admission to the afterglow will be \$5, and if you also want food, the total will be \$15. Food available: Hot roast beef and oven roasted turkey carving stations, rolls, veggies, potato salad, tossed salad, chips, brownies, and coffee.

Dewey’s Dialogue for the Ageless

REMINISCENCE—MY FIRST BARBERSHOPPING EXPERIENCE

Visiting the chapter where I started Barbershopping always brings forth a few reminders from my old comrades. The *Kearney (Nebraska) Chapter* chartered with the minimum number and grew to about 55 members. Sometimes we didn’t know what the rules were and sometimes bent them anyhow. After a year or two we thought we were pretty good—after all we stayed on pitch part of the time. The director, a professional, knew better but went along with us. Our first competition was initially traumatic and then was a source of humor. The district competition was in Omaha,

featuring choruses from Kansas City, Des Moines, St. Louis, and others. When the judges met with us, we found out that we were running with the big boys and finishing last. At that time, judges were mostly unkind and swatted us pretty hard. The humor came later when we realized how bad we had been; the judges were right but they could have toned down their language a little. By the way, one of the biggest criticisms was that the baritones (yes, the baritones) were flat. We competed a number of times later, but were a bit more realistic and considerably better. I sang with a quartet called *Flat Baroque*.
(cont. Dewey’s, page 2, column 1)



“...you always should seem to be looking at the audience, but looking no lower than foreheads.”

Dwight Adams

Dewey's (continued)

During one show we did one serious number and one not so serious. One of the regulars in our audience was an obese woman who always sat in the front row. I made a basic mistake—you always should seem to be looking at the audience, but looking no lower than foreheads. Well, I happened to look down and see that the woman's top had ridden up revealing a considerable amount of belly. I started to giggle. My buddies were able to cover for me, so we finished the song. Ever after, my friends (?) referred to her as my groupie. At every show someone would peek through the curtain and announce, "Dewey, your groupie is here."

One other reminder I get is that I was the only person to take the chapter into debt. I was president the year a tux rental outfit was going out of business and had a lot of tuxes to sell.

We didn't have the money (in fact, we had a treasurer who rarely knew how much money we had). It seemed too good a deal to pass up, so I went to a local banker and signed a note. We were able to pay off the note using sometimes creative financing. I wonder where those tuxes are now. They served us well but went out of style.

[Thanks, Dewey. I bet we all have stories about our first experiences in choruses or quartets. My first chorus was the Miami Valley Music Men (Dayton, OH)—a chorus of about 55 men. Never having sung barbershop style before, I immediately became confused when 4/4 measures were extended to 4½ measures and when quarter notes became eighths with notes added that were not in the music. I stuck with it though and 23 years later am still exercising the pipes. D.H.]

Our Show is Only 2½ Weeks Away

Are you excited? Have you told your friends to order tickets? Be sure you have your outfit picked out. Remember the sign of a good cowpoke is a good outfit!! Your outfit should be a western getup (hats, Levis, boots, chaps, etc.). We'll use our class A's in the second half. *Dennis Bloxham, Dave Schrupp*

Barbershopper of the Month March, 2008 – Dan Hopper

The Barbershopper of the Month (BOTM) for March is **Dan Hopper**. Dan volunteered to take on the role of our Bulletin Editor and has produced two outstanding bulletins so far this year. In addition to taking on this job, he has distinguished himself in his role as the Assistant to the VP Marketing & PR by vigorously pursuing marketing and advertising for our annual show. Of particular note is the relationship established with the **Bozeman Daily Chronicle** which has resulted in securing an upcoming feature spread and article about the Chord Rustlers and our show.

Dan has given his valuable time and talent to this chapter to promote and encourage interest in barbershop singing growth and chapter-related activities. In appreciation thereof, he has been selected as the Barbershopper of the Month for March. **Sig**

[Thanks Chord Rustlers, I appreciate the honor very much.] D.H.

Chord Rustler's Performance Fee Policy [Amended April, 2008]

All performance fees charged to organizations subject to this policy may be waived or adjusted by the Chorus Manager. When necessary, the Chorus Manager will negotiate all fees listed below:

I. Performance Fees – Non Profit Organizations

- A. No fees will be charged for performances at non-profit organizations that traditionally have not budgeted for a Chord Rustler performance. Examples include, but are not limited to, non-profit assisted living/nursing homes, senior citizen homes, churches, public schools, veteran's organizations.
- B. If a non-profit plans a function to raise funds, the following fee guidelines will be used: A minimum charge of \$50.00 or more, as negotiated with the non-profit, plus the current "Charitable" rate/mile allowed by the U.S. government times the number of chorus members performing if travel exceeds 25 miles (one-way).

II. Performance Fees – For Profit Organizations

- A. If the "for profit" organization is sponsoring a benefit for an individual and/or organization that will not raise funds for the for profit organization (e.g., "a needy family/individual sponsored by a bank"), no fees will be charged.
- B. The fee schedule charged to "for profit" organizations, other than IIIA, will be:
 - 1) Up to a 40 minute performance – \$200.00 minimum or \$1.00 per audience member
 - 2) Forty minutes and over performance – \$300.00 minimum or \$1.50 per audience member
 - 3) In addition, if travel exceeds 25 miles one-way, the "for profit" organization will be charged the current "Charitable" rate/mile allowed by the U.S. government times the number of chorus members performing.

III. Performance Fees – Chord Rustler Sponsors

- A. Fees charged to sponsors, if any, will be negotiated by the Chorus Manager.
- B. Note: Current U.S. Government rate/mile can be found at irs.gov.

2007 Division V Convention Information— Spokane, Washington

Yes, the Division V Convention/contest is coming up soon—May 30-31 in Spokane, WA. Now is the time to get registered! Prior to May 7th, the "Early Bird" price for an "all-events" ticket is \$40. After May 7th, the price goes to \$45. There are two ways to register, online or by mail. Here's how to register online (or to print out a form to mail): Go to <http://www.evg.org>, place your cursor over "Conventions," then on the drop-down menu that appears, and click on "Convention Registrations." On the page that opens up, click on the registration for Division V and do your thing. For those whose computers might be on the fritz or don't have access to the Internet, Sig will have forms available at all rehearsals prior to the convention. In addition to registering for the convention, please reserve your accommodations soon. The headquarters hotel still has rooms available at the "barbershop convention" rate and is one of the lesser-expensive hotels. In January, the board, after seeing the results of the chapter survey and acting upon the recommendations of the planning committee, decided that the chorus would participate and go to the convention/contest. The board has yet to vote on what the chapter might pay to attend this event, but will likely be similar to what it approved last year—to pay a chorus member's "all-events" ticket and transportation expenses.

Don't wait—do it today!! *Sig*





**Installation Banquet – January 19,
2008 – Mint Café, Belgrade**

*Lots of happy faces and great food.
Congratulations to the award recipients!!*

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 1–4 pm Monday thru Saturday.

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."



Bozeman Chord Rustlers



"Old Chorale"
Dan Hopper, Editor
3120 Augusta Dr.
Bozeman, MT 59715

