

# "The Old Chorale"

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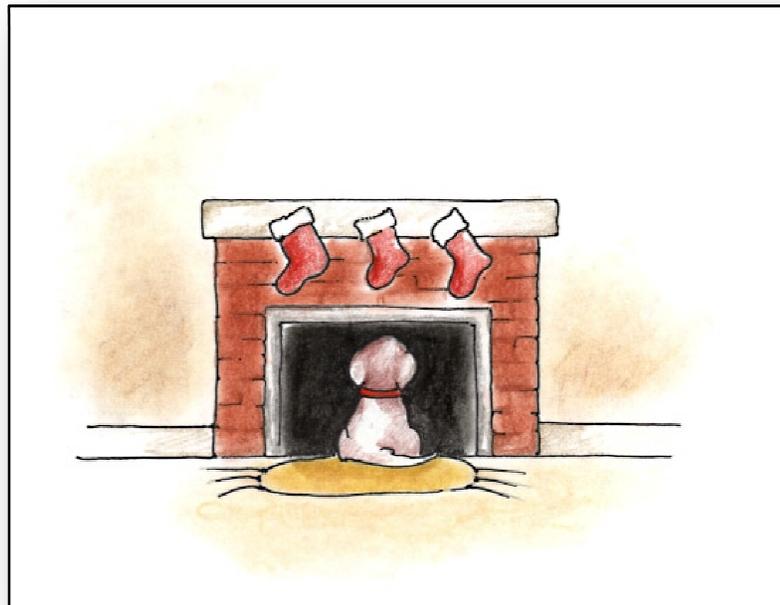


## Chord Rustlers Entertain

Each December the Chord Rustlers get into the Christmas spirit by performing for nursing care facilities in the Gallatin Valley. "We sing for smiles" and receive them from those who are struggling in their aging years to be productive members of our society. Watching those faces come alive to the tunes of "O Come all Ye Faithful," "Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer," and others, is a gift to all of us who sang for them. Thank you to all the Chord Rustlers who took time away from their families and shopping to share a bit of joy. *DH*

## Upcoming Events

- ◆ **April 17-18, 2009**  
Annual Show, Grace Bible Church



# Happy Holidays





*“Music is in the ear  
of the beholder.”*

*Dwight Adams*

## Dewey’s Dialogue for the Ageless

### BARBERSHOP IS FOR “ALL-BROWS”

Phrenology, now discredited, was a "science" that said you could tell about a person's mind from the shape of his head. People with high foreheads, for instance, were more intelligent. Thus, the word *highbrow*. Highbrows were more intellectual and read different kind of books, listened to different kinds of music, appreciated different kinds of art. A man named Lawrence Levine had a thesis that the twentieth century brought sharper divisions. For instance, he said, nineteenth century people of all classes attended Shakespearean plays, listened to classical music, and read such writers as Longfellow and Hawthorne. (Most frontier towns had *opera houses*.) Shakespeare's audiences were of all kinds—witness the groundlings. Mozart aimed some of his operas at ordinary folks.

Where does Barbershop fit in? I've known people who looked down their noses at our music as lowbrow. I have had an unprovable feeling that some folks at the Emerson were not thrilled by our presence. Remember some problems in scheduling the Willson? The symphony seemed to take priority. We would contend that Barbershop is not better, nor worse, than other music—just different. Whether it's lowbrow, middlebrow or highbrow—is in the ear of the beholder. Some of us support the symphony and the opera. Our audiences like our music. So forget about "brownness"—just enjoy the music—whatever it is. *Dwight Adams*

## Music Committee Selects Show Songs

The Music Committee has selected seven songs to work on for the April “Academy Award” show. Music will be distributed before the first week of January. Learning CDs are being produced and will be available in early January.

Song List:

- **Wonderful Day Medley** [David Wright]: This medley contains **Zip-a-Dee-Doo-Dah**, the academy award winning song in 1947 and **It’s a Good Day**.
- **Bare Necessities** [Tom Gentry]: From the “Jungle Book” and a runner-up in the Academy Awards in 1967.
- **For All We Know** [Lou Perry]: Academy Award winning song in 1970 from the movie “Lovers and Other Strangers.”
- **Over the Rainbow** [Lloyd Steinkamp]: Award winning song in 1939 from “The Wizard of Oz.”
- **Thanks for the Memories** [Mel Knight]: 1938 Academy Award winning song.
- **Ac-Cent-Tchu-Ate the Positive** [Jim West]: 1945 Academy Award winning nominee from the movie “Here Come the Waves.”
- **In the Cool, Cool, Cool of the Evening** [Jim Dodge]: 1951 Academy Award winning song.

It is important that every member learn the songs quickly so we have time to polish for the April show. We selected singable songs that will be fun to sing and should become a part of our long-term repertoire.

DH

## 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.*

Born "at an early age" on Staten Island, New York, this Chord Rustler moved to Bayonne, New Jersey when he was a small boy. After high school, he worked at General Cable Corporation as a draftsman. "I tried to enlist in the Army during World War II but the U.S. Government was reluctant to supply Seeing Eye dogs to the ground troops, so I worked as a draftsman," he told me. Having always enjoyed the outdoors, he moved to Moscow, Idaho getting his B.S. and Master's degrees in Wildlife Management from the University of Idaho. He worked with Idaho Fish and Game, with an emphasis on wildlife habitat rather than on animals. Eventually, he worked for the U.S. Forest Service in wildlife habitat research. He moved to Bozeman in 1963 and retired from the Forest Service in 1982. He then joined the MSU faculty as an adjunct instructor in technical writing, which he did for eight years. In 2000, he went to work for the Dahl Funeral Home as a driver of various vehicles and still does that on a part time basis.

Joe Basile married Hilda, a Boise, Idaho school teacher in 1960. They have three children—Mary Ann, who lives in Beaverton, Oregon and is a stay-at-home Mom; Ron who lives in Portland, Oregon and is a CPA and Director of Internal Audit for Columbia Sportswear; and Mike who lives in Dillon, Montana, and is a CPA and Chief Financial Officer for Great Harvest Baking Company. Joe and Hilda have 10 grandchildren.

Joe is a volunteer at the Bozeman Food Bank and at the Resurrection Catholic Church and has been a Chord Rustler since 1975. He is a former treasurer, president, and bulletin editor for the Chord Rustlers. He has been in the Knights of Columbus for 45 years and was the State Deputy for them for several years. He organizes blood drives for the United Blood Services.

Joe and Hilda enjoy reading, hiking, woodworking, and helping other people. When the Centennial Chorus sang in Europe, Joe made a side trip to visit his brother's grave in France. His brother was killed in World War II, and Joe has been the only member of his family to have had this honor.

*Jerry Mollack*

## New Officers for 2009

**President**—Dave Schrupp

**Executive Vice-President**—Bernie Bissell

**Secretary**—Frank Smith

**Treasurer**—Al Sprenger [Sig Dehn, Assistant]

**VP Music & Performance**—Dan Hopper

**VP Chapter Development**—Kirk Dehn

**VP Marketing & PR**—Jerry Mollock [Dan Hopper, Bulletin Editor]

**Board Members-at-Large (3)**—Wyman Schmidt, Lyman Janssen, Dewey Adams

## Pardon Me While I Reminisce...

### AND THE SONG GOES ON

Four young Midwestern guys found their paths intercepting in an Air Force setting at the height of the Cold War in the early fifties (that's the 1950's). Although we had different disciplines and aptitudes, we had a common objective in our Wing—find out as much as we could about Russian targets for our long-range B-36 bombers before we ourselves became the targets. In our off duty time we met at the Base Service Club where a lot of the guys met to sing and play instruments—kind of what we now call karaoke. Chance encounters led to finding others who also liked to harmonize—guys who liked to sing and could sing and had musical performance experience. These encounters rapidly developed into a barbershop style quartet that became in big demand for representing the Air Force at many functions and service-wide competitions which we had to squeeze in between our regular duties. We won our way to the top medalist competition which was held in conjunction with the national barbershop convention, convening in Washington D.C. at the same time. What a great experience singing with the greats of the time. But the songs came to a halt with overseas duties and discharges from the Air Force. All four completed their tour of duty shortly afterwards and went back to colleges here and there, had families and eventually joined barbershop chapters in Michigan, Louisiana, South Dakota, and Montana. Forty years slipped by before we reunited at our Air Force B-36 Wing reunion, where we performed (yes, we still remembered the songs) for the reunion activities. This re-sparked that "singers bond" and prompted us to reunite at about 2-year intervals (including the Midwinter convention) since then. November 2008 and a Texas location provided the stage we needed to renew and reinforce that "singers bond" and THE SONG GOES ON. (and on and on and on)

*Wyman Schmidt*

## What Makes a Lead Tick?

Many a Barbershopper has wondered what it takes to be a lead. Please answer true or false to the quiz to test your knowledge of this part.

1. Anybody can sing lead.
2. Without a lead there would be no quartet.
3. The lead is the most important part.
4. Leads are always cooperative.
5. Leads learn their part faster.
6. Leads like to sing tags.
7. Leads are a dime a dozen.
8. All leads know how to read music.
9. Leads have a good ear.
10. All leads have good voices.

**Score: 8-10**, you must be a bari—you notice things. A good bass will score from **3-5**, a good tenor will probably score **6-8**. If you score **0-2**, you must be a lead.

### Answers

1. **False**. Not everyone can sing lead; just those who are unable to harmonize.
2. **True**. He likes to think so, but if he is missing, just ask any bass, bari or tenor to fill in.
3. **True**. He literally leads the other parts, after he has been taught by the other three members.
4. **False**. You can lead a horse to water, but you can't make him drink.
5. **True**, except when they occasionally have a harmony part; then they are in trouble.
6. **True**, but only when they have one sustained note. Vary this, and they must ask for help.
7. **False**. Due to inflation, they are now 12¢.
8. **False**, but some can read words with help.
9. **True**. Most leads have nice looking ears, but many do not hear well.
10. **False**. The other more talented parts must constantly adjust to the leads' off-key notes, making the leads sound good.

From *Vista Vocals*, Mt Palomar, CA Chapter seen in *The Beat*, Circle City Sound, Indianapolis, IN

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.

### 2009 Show Features FRED!

The Chord Rustler's annual show will be April 17–18, 2009 at Grace Bible Church in Bozeman. The show will feature FRED!, a comedy quartet from the Atlanta, Georgia area that captured the Quartet Gold Medal at the 1999 International Convention in Anaheim, California. Check them out at <http://www.fredquartet.com>.

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## 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**



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