

"The Old Chorale"

May 18, 2010
Volume 3, Issue 4



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2010 Upcoming Events

- ◆ **May 21-22, 2010**
Div. V Convention
Moscow, ID
- ◆ **May 30**
Soldier's Chapel
- ◆ **May 31** Memorial
Day Parade
- ◆ **July 4** (tent.)
LDS Church
- ◆ **August 6-8**
Sweet Pea Festival
- ◆ **September 23-26**
District Contest,
Portland, OR
- ◆ **November 11**
Veteran's Day Show
- ◆ **December 14**
Christmas Sings

Chuck Greene Workshop

Ten Chord Rustlers joined barbershoppers and a few Sweet Adelines from Missoula, Helena, and Spokane to learn how to have "**Compellingly Attractive Chapter Meetings.**" Frank Johnson took notes at the meeting and has contributed them for the Old Chorale.

This is installment #2. The first installment was in the Old Chorale, Volume 3, Issue 3.

The chapters that thrive and grow are those who correctly adapt to the changing contexts of the time. **There are 14 attractive value characteristics that people consider when deciding to join or rejoin an organization:**

Attractive organizations are those whose members are:

1. *Appreciated and sought for their talents
2. Approached about their needs
3. *Given a high efficiency return on their investment of time, energy and resources
4. Welcome to diversity in membership

This organization gives all members opportunities for

5. *Creativity
6. *Participative leadership— power to influence the organization
7. *Skill, talent, and knowledge growth
8. Being part of a social circle

This organization has:

9. *Astute and trustworthy leaders with succession plans that work
10. *Peer appeal
11. *Upbeat ambience (fun, humor, positive attitude)
12. Value driven mission
13. Variety
14. Visual appeal

*Eight of these are so important that if they are not included, then they are "deal breakers – Numbers 1, 3, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11.

(continued on Page 2)

Chuck Greene Workshop (continued)

Chuck urged us to “**make the deal makers come alive in your chapter.**” Goals can excite and rally the troops, but they do not get you anywhere. Goals are not tools, methods, or steps—they are only a target. The **pathway** to get to the goal is important. You need **priorities** that help you get to the goal.

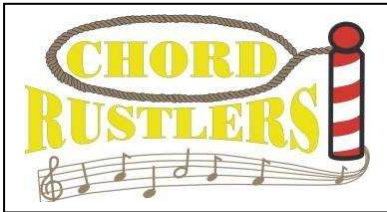
Top strategic priority: Seek, develop, use, and enhance the skills and talents of each member to such an extent that progress seems limitless.

How to make decisions about priorities that vitalize:

1. *Is increased membership a goal or an operational priority?* It is a goal—a byproduct of how you operate.
2. *Performance excellence is a goal.* It becomes an operational priority when the membership becomes bored.
3. *Why might it be a problem to get members to attend an annual banquet to recognize new officers and awards?* Is it a low priority for their valuable time, especially at the Christmas holiday season? They don't want or need another party at that time. Suggested alternative: Hold it on usual rehearsal night and have 20 minutes of special recognition.
4. *Suppose a contest is coming up, and the chorus is trying to decide what songs to perform.* Chuck recommends selecting the two songs that have the best entertainment value for the general public audience. Also be sure to choose quality music that will meet the requirements for contest.
5. *Is it better to interview prospective members as to their needs that the chapter might fill, or to ask them what they can bring to the chapter?* It is really important is that the new member enjoys the singing he does while with the chorus. Both the individual and chorus benefit.
6. *What are the short term and long term benefits of rehearsing a song?* The main thrust here was “Don't spend so much time rehearsing one song that it gets boring!”
7. *When it comes to script writing, emceeing, etc, what are the disadvantages of assigning the same person with the most experience to do it?* No one else gets the experience, you do not have succession if the emcee is absent, and you do not let others develop their talents. It would be a crippling factor! New members want and need to be included.
8. *What rehearsal techniques would be good the last six weeks before contest that would be aligned with the goal of building a great chorus (rather than just a great contest package)?* Work on other songs, continue to grow the barbershop craft, and have fun.

The last page of Chuck's manual (which we all the seminar participants received) [E10] is titled “**Ensuring Success, The Six Essentials.**” Chuck states that these are the most important to do in order to achieve a “Compellingly Attractive Chapter Meeting”:

1. Chapter leadership is guided foremost by the “top strategic priority,” so that the “deal maker” characteristics become part of the chapter's identity.
2. Music director's challenge—“Focus more on building a great choral organization than on strictly choral conducting.”
3. Great meeting scripts are developed, published to members in advance via email, and actually used in each chapter meeting.
4. Repertoire choices are based first on general public entertainment value.
5. High quality learning recordings are obtained for each repertoire song,
6. Excellent administrative handling of prospective member/guests.



***“Commencement
lets us see the
results.”***

Dwight Adams



Dewey's Dialogue for the Ageless

INTO THE WORLD

My reason for missing the show this year was that my youngest granddaughter was being graduated from a college near St. Louis. It's the season for commencements, of course. Some idle thinking during the plane ride resulted in a somewhat exaggerated estimate. As a student, faculty member, parent, and grandparent, I have:

- attended 150 commencements
- heard *Pomp and Circumstance* played on everything but the ocarina
- heard *The Speech* ("You are the hope of the future") 98 times
- delivered *The Speech* fifteen times
- hoped the young people would have a good life

The greatest reward of teaching is to see people develop. Commencement lets us see the result.

Dewey Adams

Barbershopper of the Month — March, 2010

Dennis Bloxham is Barbershopper of the Month (BOTM) for March, 2010. Dennis does a lot of “behind the scenes” things that the chorus may not recognize. Not only is he the Tenor section leader, but we can thank Dennis for a lot of the music that has been “computerized” from copies that were generally unreadable. He also spent considerable time with “Montana Medley” taking an arrangement that had only a couple of verses and laying out the song so we could sing it. His efforts made it easier for the man who does our CDs to finish the arrangement and supply us with a great part-predominant CD. Thanks, Dennis for your hard work.

Bernie Bissell

Barbershopper of the Month — April, 2010

Bill Ranard and Gerry Mollock are co-Barbershopper of the Month (BOTM) for April, 2010. Bill and Jerry's year-long efforts to help bring Bozeman a 1st Class Chord Rustler Annual Show is greatly appreciated. Not only did they have to learn all the words and notes like the rest of us, they lined up the venue, advertising, emcee, and all the little details that went into a successful show. Thank you, Bill and Jerry, for your hard work.

Bernie Bissell

It's Contest Time — May 21–22, 2010

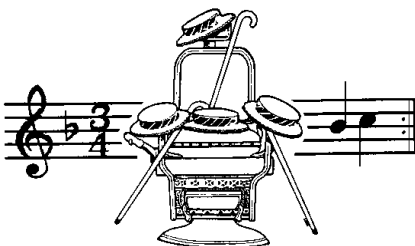
We are doing something that the **Chord Rustlers** don't do very often...that is "compete in a contest." We have an opportunity to not only show the Division what we can do, but we can learn from other barbershoppers as well. Contests are not always about winning and losing. They are an activity that helps build rapport among fellow barbershoppers from different chapter and exposes choruses located in the hinterlands (like ours) to other great choruses and quartets. I remember my first contest in the Johnny Appleseed District in Ohio. My chorus, The Dayton Flying Machine Chorus, sang "Air Medley" which was a combination of two songs about taking your girl "up in the air" and not coming down until she said "yes" to your proposal. The second part of the song was about how you "have been up in the air ever since." Great choreography and fun for the audience. We coupled that with "Come Josephine in My Flying Machine." We didn't win, but I was able to see what barbershopping was all about on a much larger scale than our 50-member chorus.

Our goal is to give the most entertaining performance we can with the two songs we have chosen. Do our best, and also entertain the audience. After all, that's what it's all about...the audience. We have the capability to do extremely well, if we remember why we are there. Sing well...enjoy the contest...have fun...and meet new barbershoppers.

Dan Hopper, Music VP

Music Team

Directors: Natalie Berdahl	406-451-2516
Assistant Directors: Charlie McGuire	406-582-0471
Gerry Hovland	406-585-8500
Music VP: Dan Hopper	406-582-5194
Section Leaders: Lead: Wyman Schmidt	406-587-8013
Baritone: Lyman Janssen	406-388-0896
Tenor: Dennis Bloxham	406-223-7824
Bass: Bernie Bissell	406-586-2966



Chord Rustler Officers

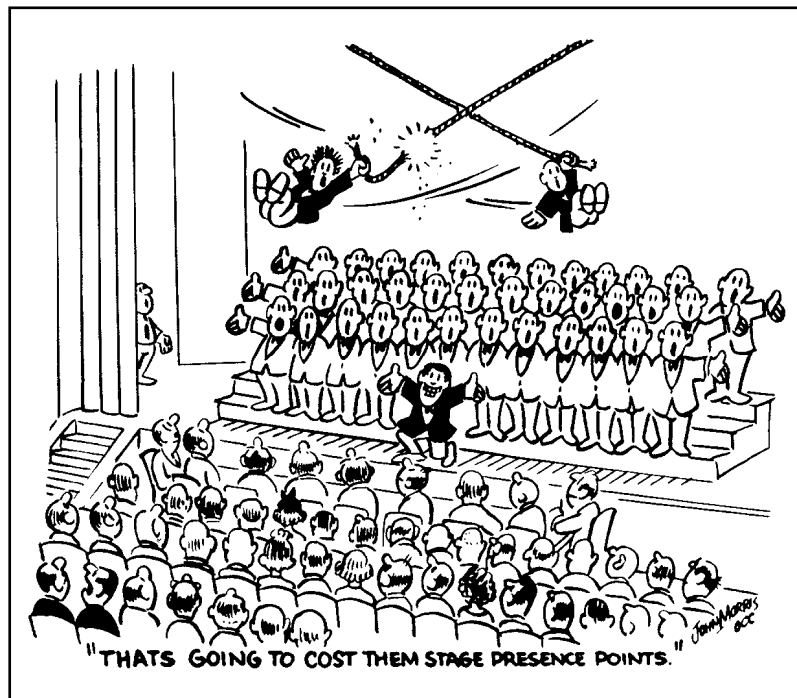
President: Bernie Bissell	406-586-2966
VP Music: Dan Hopper	406-582-5194
VP Chapter Development: Dave Schrupp	406-585-9493
VP Marketing/PR: Gerry Mollock	406-522-8894
Treasurer: Sig Dehn	406-586-5747
Secretary: Frank Smith	406-586-4676
Immediate Past President: Dave Schrupp	406-585-9493
Board Members at Large: Charles McGuire	406-582-0471
Lyman Janssen	406-388-0896
Wyman Schmidt	406-587-8013
Executive Vice President: Earl Vining	406-586-6502
Chorus Manager: Steve Adams	406-580-1227
Show Chairmen: Bill Ranard	406-585-9375
Gerry Mollock	406-522-8894
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. See if you can figure out who it is before the end of the article.

This **Chord Rustler** was born in Helena, where his dad operated all types of road building equipment and his mom was a chef and later worked at a bank. He sang in the high school choir and was part of a double sextet (6 men, 6 women). During and after high school he drove stock cars on dirt tracks in Helena and Great Falls. At age 17, he joined the National Guard where he operated heavy equipment. He attended Carroll College while working nights at the First National Bank of Helena, which became U.S. Bank. He had 32 years of service at U.S. Bank, with an interesting break which we'll discuss later. After two years at the bank in Helena, he was transferred to Rochester, Minnesota where he managed the data processing operation. In 1972, he was transferred to St. Paul and eventually managed all regional data processing through five states. In 1982, he quit his job at U.S. Bank and worked for a company selling computers to banks. Eight years later, he did the same job for Oliver Allen, a California company. In 1990, he moved back to Montana and ran the banking division for Oliver Allen, which was bought by his old employer, U.S. Bank, in 1995. Never one to "burn bridges," once again he was employed by U.S. Bank. Semi-retired in 2000, he was the project manager for the construction of some townhomes and is currently the property manager for a local business.

Bill and Billie Ranard have been married for 16 years and have 4 children and 6 grandchildren. They enjoy golfing, skiing, running, playing bridge and singing. They have travelled to Africa, South America, Europe, Canada, and Mexico, and as Bill said "I enjoy any activity that includes Billie." He has been a **Chord Rustler** for nine years, a barbershopper for 11 years, and is a member of **Bridger Blend Quartet**. Bill co-chaired the **Chord Rustlers'** annual shows in 2006 and 2010, and he will co-chair the Tater Pig™ booth this year with Dave Schrupp. He told me that moving back to Montana in 1990 was very important. It was "coming home." Though Annie and I have only lived in Montana for 10 ½ years, I share Bill's enthusiasm for this great state.
Gerry Mollock



Chord Rustlers meet Tuesdays at Grace Bible Church, 3625 South 19th, Bozeman. Rehearsals are from 7:00–9:00 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”
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