



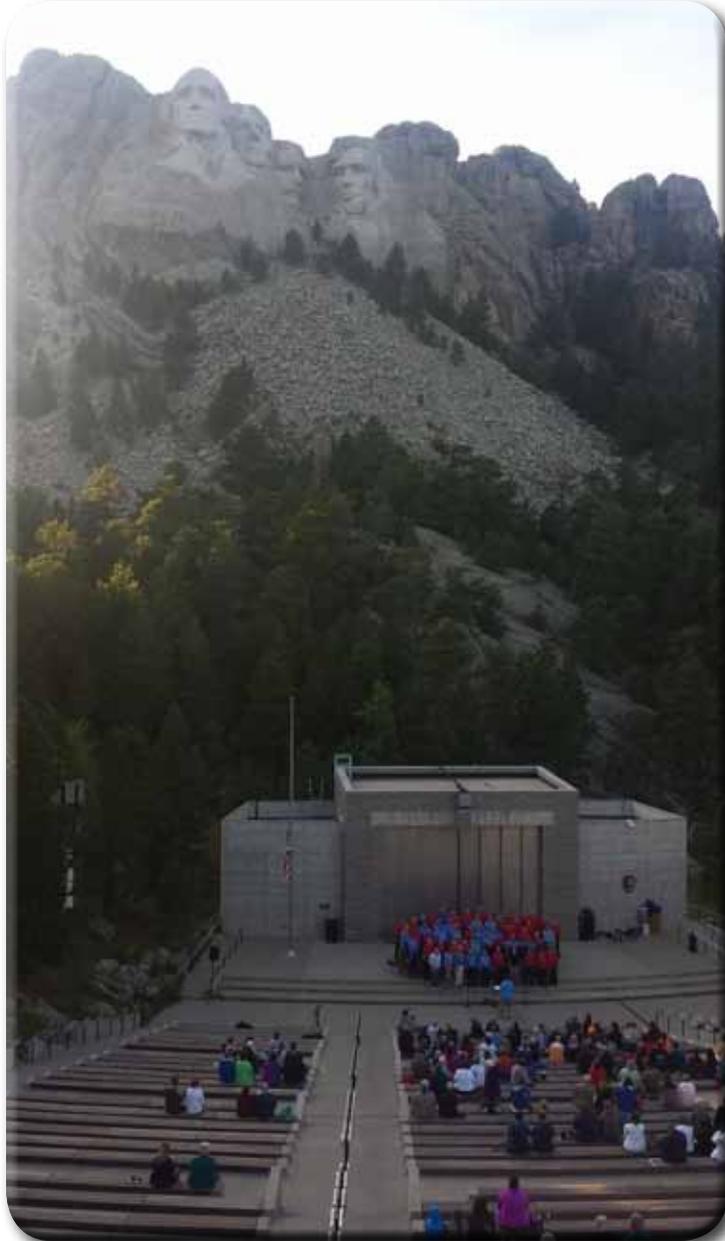
The Voice of Rushmore

Mt. Rushmore Chapter

Volume 18

September 2016

Number 9



Thanks to Jeremy Gover for this photo

Calendar of Events

Germans From Russia Performance

Friday, September 9
Rapid City – Ramkota Hotel

Chapter Board Meeting

Tuesday, September 13, 7 p.m.
Rapid City Library, Room A

Yellowstone Valley Chapter

Treasure State Sound

Charter Show
September 23 & 24
Billings, Mont.

Beta Sigma Phi State Convention

Saturday, Sept. 24
Rushmore Plaza Holiday Inn

RMD Fall Convention

October 7-9
Little America Hotel
Cheyenne, Wyo.

Homestake Opera House

December 3
Lead, S.D.
Perform with The Potter Family

Christmas at the Capitol

December 17
Pierre, S.D.

BHS Midwinter Convention

January 17-22, 2017
San Antonio, Texas

Annual Spring Show

May 13, 2017
Performing Arts Center
Guest Quartet, **Vocal Spectrum**

BHS International Convention

July 2-9, 2017
Las Vegas, Nev.



Print off two copies
of this newsletter
to share—one with
your family and
one with someone
you are bringing to
a chapter meeting.
Let them know they
belong here!

- President:**
Al Kelts
- VP Member Development:**
Dan Horsley
- VP Music & Performance:**
Jim Price
- Secretary:**
David L'Esperance
- Treasurer:**
Ron Evenson
- Immediate Past President:**
Steve Ferley
- Members at Large:**
Jessica Kading – Marketing & PR
Gary Welsh
Rod Pfeifle
Wayne Anderson
Lynn DesLauriers

Appointments

- Music Director:**
Clayton Southwick
- Assistant Directors:**
John Elving
Jim Price
- Chorus Manager:**
Pete Anderson
- Chorus Contact:**
Pete Anderson
- Music Librarian:**
Open
- 2017 Show Chair:**
Pete Stach
- Harmony Happening Co-Chairs:**
Pete Stach
Rod Pfeifle
- Bulletin Editor-in-Cheap:**
John Elving
- Webmaster:**
Ken Weybright

The Voice of Rushmore is published monthly and is the official publication of the Mt. Rushmore Chapter of the Rocky Mountain District (RMD) of the Barbershop Harmony Society (BHS).

The Mt. Rushmore Chapter is the home of the *Shrine of Democracy Chorus*. The chapter and chorus meet each Thursday evening from 7 p.m. in the choir room at the Rapid City Performing Arts Center.

For more information visit our website, www.shrineofdemocracychorus.org.

Correspondence about content and contributions for publication should be sent to the editor. All material in *The Voice of Rushmore* may be reproduced without permission; please credit the author and *The Voice of Rushmore* in all reprints, thanks.

John Elving
leaderman@midco.net
605.381.9680



We Welcome This Guest
Eric Evenson
Son of Ron Evenson

CHAPTER QUARTETS!



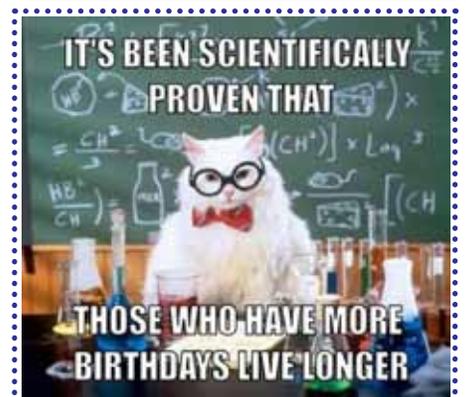
Black Hills Blend

Al Kelts, tenor
Pieter Wouden, lead
Wayne Anderson, baritone
Pete Anderson, bass

High Mileage

David L'Esperance, tenor
Jim Olson, lead
Al Pitts, baritone
Chuck Knowlton, baritone
Del Beck, bass

The Mt. Rushmore Chapter and the *Shrine of Democracy Chorus* meet every Thursday evening at 7:00 p.m. Meetings and rehearsals are held in the Performing Arts Center Choir Room (through the South St. entrance) in Rapid City. All guests are welcome. All men are welcome to come sing with us. For more information, call (605) 209-3701.



BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Mike Sanborn September 19

Visit us online at:
www.shrineofdemocracychorus.org



Barbershop Warriors at Harmony Happening in the Hills!

Barbershop Warriors was the name given by guest clinician **Donny Rose** to the assembled men of **Harmony Happening in the Hills 2016**.

When I first read the e-mail from Donny regarding this event he wrote, *“Jeremy and I are looking forward to spending time with you and your wonderful group of rag tag barbershop warriors this weekend. I had so much fun last year, and I’m very honored to be invited back. Thanks!”*

Somehow the title of **Barbershop Warrior** struck a note with me and it lifted my spirit about the music and this event to the point of believing, yes we are warriors of sorts, we fight and struggle with the music and our own shortcomings, but with the guidance of our fearless director **Samurai Clayton Southwick** we attack and break down the music till we have conquered it. Sometimes it takes a bit longer to conquer some music than others. The seven years war comes to mind for some. The opportunity to have Donny attend **Harmony Happening in the Hills** a second year in a row is truly an accomplishment or a weakness on Donny’s part in agreeing to do this weekend of friendship, camaraderie, and music, for this we are honored to have had him return a second year. The response from the attendees last year showed Pete and I that we needed a return engagement by Donny to continue the work he set for us last year and in the future. Thank you **Donny Rose**, the energizer bunny of Barbershop.

There is a lot of work that goes into putting an event like this together, my co-chair Pete Stach is a true warrior of immense proportion, being satisfied and saying the event is good enough is not in his nature. We planned and revised the plan and then tweaked it again until we felt it could move forward even though we knew we had some glitches in it. The advance e-mails and follow up to bringing together this many men was significant. We had great effort from Ken Weybright in responding to e-mails for me and getting music to me so it could be shipped or dropped off at a Billings location, and then the struggle with guys who are unable to do computers at all. Ken, thank you. I couldn’t have done it without

you. Then all the guys who stepped up like Bill Grant in distribution of flyers, Pete Anderson, Del Beck for quartet contest, Mark Burgad who worked so many projects I can’t recall them all. The sound guys, the riser men, the food guys, and cleanup dudes, all spouses, I guess what it comes down to is everyone of our SOD men helped as they could, so to you thank you because it takes all of us to pull off a great event like this.

This years Harmony Happening in the Hills event was a great satisfaction to me as we had guests arrive from across the Midwest and our great Florida contingent. The pitching for HHitH done by Shawn Rasch (Big Sky chapter) from Billings to bring so many of the guys from there is wonderful. The Sioux Falls guys are becoming great friends and are a pure joy to work with. Special thanks to Brian Corwin, Sioux Falls lead extraordinaire and his quartet for taking the somewhat serious quartet contest to a very special level for all of us that attended. Brian you rock! Then our friend from the Ogallala group; I trust he made several new friends and will return next year. Then the men from the Yellowstone Valley chapter rolled in Saturday morning I believe they had a pretty good event—enthusiasm they definitely have. What about the Boys from Bismarck, Wow! They are a wild bunch and know how to get involved. I treasure each and every one of them plus the spouse support team they bring with are involved to the point of raiding Pete Stach’s garden and doing the table centerpieces. Thank you Bismarck Barbershop Warriors and spouses you brighten my day.

Plus, this year the Society sent Jeremy Gover, a class act videographer to video HHitH and discover why this event is what it is and maybe learn enough to share with other small chorus’s how to generate an event of their own, as Donny and Jeremy advised us the small chorus’s in the society is still the backbone of the society. I trust what he learned from the interviews will show others that if you care about fellow singers great things can be accomplished regardless of chorus size.

Sincerely,

Rod Pfeifle, HHitH co-chair
and a private in the Barbershop Warriors



Al Kelts
2016 President



Last Saturday, as we were practicing in the Hill City High School Auditorium, I saw a tenor, turned baritone, singing with us, as well as, walking down front when we sang **"Anchors Away."** At that time, I realized that I had never learned Jim Gogolin's "story," even though I had sung with him for at least 20 years in the SOD Chorus!

Jim's grandfather first settled in Armour, S.D. After his death, the family moved to a farm in Sully County. Jim's Dad married a girl from Woolsey and eventually settled in Harold where he had several jobs, including Town Sheriff and Town Watchman. After "baby Jim" joined his three older brothers in Harold, the family moved to Blunt where his younger sister was born and Jim attended elementary school and his first year of high school. However, Jim's father then moved the family to an "egg ranch" north of Rapid City and Jim completed high school at Rapid City High School (now once again Rapid City High School and the PAC) and knew David L'Esperance. Jim's musical experience in high school was playing french horn for a while and then sousaphone in the marching band and singing tenor in the church choir. Immediately after high school he spent a year working at Dakota Block and Steel, constructing cement blocks, which convinced him that he needed a college education. The next year he began at School of Mines in electrical engineering, but was placed on probation after his first semester because he was *"too involved in extracurricular activities"* and, at the end of his first year, was not invited back.

Therefore, in 1963, with the Vietnam War looming large over college dropouts, Jim joined the Navy in hopes of continuing his education in engineering by enrolling in the Naval Enlisted Scientific Education Program (NESEP). However, before he could join his program, the Navy gave him the job of electronics technician in nuclear power for surface ships. He was sent to Bainbridge, Md., for nuclear power school. When he attended church on Christmas eve, he met a young lady, Ms. Linda Winterstein, a student at University of Maryland, who was folding programs and



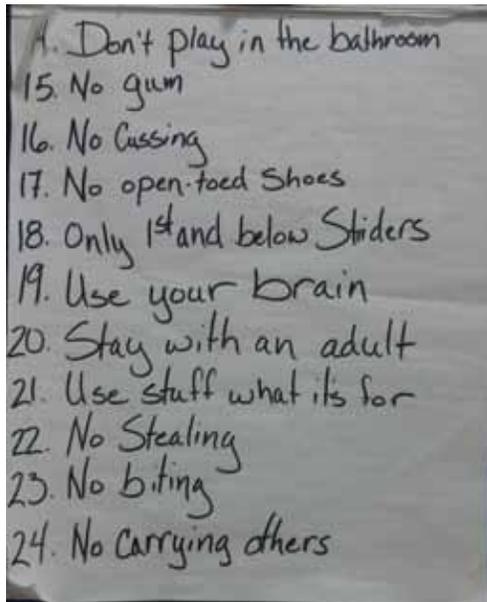
was destined to be the best Christmas present of his life! When Jim was transferred to upstate New York at Ballston Spa, in order to learn more about the nuclear reactors, he drove back and forth to Maryland in his Sunbeam car, destroying tires on each trip! Jim and Lin (short for Linda) were married in February 1966 and in April he flew to the Philippine Islands to join his ship, the nuclear-powered USS Bainbridge. Subsequently, at the recommendation of his Commander, Jim did enter NESEP, attending North Carolina State for three and half years to obtain his Bachelor's Degree in Engineering.

During his 28 years in the Navy, Jim had a variety of postings and jobs:

- He and his family traveled back and forth from one coast to the other multiple times.
- He was trained as a Naval Flight Officer in order to fly behind the pilot on the carrier-based, anti-sub aircraft, the S3A, on two cruises aboard aircraft carriers, including the Kennedy.
- In 1984 he finished his Masters of Science in Nuclear Engineering at Wright – Patterson, writing his master's thesis on Electro-Magnetic Pulses (EMP)—(one may want to study the possible effects of EMP by reading the book **"One Second After"**). Part of that education involved working at the underground nuclear test site in Nevada while living in Albuquerque, NM.
- He spent two years in Japan, harbored at Yokosuka, as the Assistant Weapons Officer on the ship Midway.
- In spite of crisscrossing the country, Lin finished her undergraduate education and also finished two Masters Degrees, the last one in Library Science.
- He and Lin had two boys: The older one is now a software engineer for Adobe in Minnesota and the younger is a retired Marine helicopter pilot who works for a private government contractor (hhmm).

In 1991, Jim retired from the Navy and Lin picked the Black Hills as the locale for their future life. For years, they had talked of running a Bed and Breakfast Lodge and the Black Hills seemed to be an ideal location, especially in the vicinity of Hill City. On the last day of their fruitless search for a place, they stopped at the Hill City Café and a waitress suggested *"a nice place to live."* They fell in love with the spot, bought the house, built a guesthouse around it, and lived at **The Anchorage**, in the shadow of Harney Peak, for 25 years. (Interestingly, when they hurried back to the Hill City Café on that fateful day, the waitress was nowhere to be seen and no one at the café knew a

Continued on page 5



From the Mouths of Babes

In Friday evening of **Harmony Happening in the Hills**, Co-Chair Rod Pfeifle pointed out to me the above list on the wall of the Boys and Girls Club in Hill City. He said something to the effect that it had many things which apply to our chorus. I agree. Let's look at some of them and see what Rod was seeing on the list.

- **Don't play in the bathroom.** That may seem trivial, but some of us older people may need to take heed of this.
- **No gum.** This should be a given for any singer. Remember back to your school days and how we all had to spit out the gum.
- **No cussing.** We, as a barbershop chapter, are "G" rated in everything we do. We need to set the example for any of our young people singing with us. Let's keep it "G" rated.
- **Use your brain.** We shouldn't have to say this, but sometimes we all turn our brain off when we sing and forget all the things we need to, or we rely on someone else to tell us what we are to do. This is closely tied in with the last one on the list.
- **Use stuff what it's for.** It may not be grammatically correct, but it makes a lot of sense. Take for instance the chairs we sit in. They are just that—chairs—not recliners, lounge chairs, or overstuffed easy chairs.
- **No stealing.** Make sure the music you use is your own. (That means you need to bring it to rehearsal.) Don't grab someone else's or take it from the library without going through the right people.
- **No carrying others.** It may seem frivolous, but

really isn't. Make sure each chorus member carries his own weight and doesn't rely on someone else to make sure he knows what is happening. This may be the hardest part for many of us. We are completely responsible for our four square feet, and no one can help us manage that space. It is something only each of us can do.

So you see, Rod had some really great insight to what those young kids knew to be right. "And a little child shall lead them." Thank you Rod, for pointing out what we really need to do all the time.

Presidential Prattling *continued from page 4*

waitress that fit their description, i.e., she truly was "their Angel!")

Jim's first acquaintance with a barbershop show came while dating Lin in Maryland. His second experience with barbershop occurred when he visited the Sun Harbor Chapter in San Diego, sang baritone, and was unimpressed. After moving to Hill City, he began making the weekly trip to Rapid City in order to sing in the SOD Chorus. After singing tenor for several years, that part became "overpopulated" and he switched to the "underpopulated" baritone part.

In 2014, three events occurred:

- Arthritis set in with a vengeance.
- The snowstorm Atlas destroyed much of the natural beauty around The Anchorage.
- Lin and Jim attended the barbershop Midwinter Convention in Orlando, FL, and realized the advantages of living in Frostproof, 40 miles south of Orlando, where Lin's sister lived.

These factors resulted in the purchase of a large double wide mobile home and their subsequent move to Florida. In spite of Jim's cancer and, now, Lin's cancer, they celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary by a trip to Scotland, including a visit to the golf course at St. Andrew!

As Jim reviewed his life, he said: "I wouldn't have changed a thing....Except made Lin's life easier." Lin's description of Jim is: "A great sailor... A great father... A great barbershopper..."

AI



Let's Build Our Audiences

It may seem like it's too early to be talking about how to fill the theater for our show doming up in May, 2017. However, thanks to ideas coming from another chorus, here are some thoughts on making sure we are all part of the marketing and public relations team making sure everyone knows about what is coming their way.

We have a new person in charge of marketing and public relations in the person of Jessica Kading, but it is not her job alone. She can guide us, and come up with new and refreshing ideas, but it is still up to us to let people know what is happening.

Here are some ideas we need to think about differently. We can't just do things the way we have always done them in the past.

- 1. Think out of the box.** We don't need to keep doing the same old things, just because we've always done them. Some of them aren't working any more.
- 2. Encourage new audiences.** We have a great influx of potential new people in the Black Hills (notice, I didn't say Rapid City). Let's get them interested in our performances. We need to make it FUN for them and keep them coming to our performances. They also will end up, many of them, possible new members. As a side note, there are several people who come from Spearfish, Custer, Hot Springs, New Underwood, Wall and other communities for concerts by other performing groups in Rapid City.
- 3. Learn new songs.** Barbershop music is changing. Audiences are changing. "The Old Songs" are great, but today's audiences want to hear songs with which they identify. There are few of us left who identify with all of the Pole Cat songs, except for the harmonies. (Think of your grandchildren.)
- 4. Move toward a different way of advertising.** Posters and newspapers are "old school." Keep those as backup, but to gain a new audience rely more on Internet messaging: E-mail, Facebook, web sites, Instagram, Twitter, etc. Many of our older audience will get their information from the newspaper, but very few will notice a poster. Paper newspapers are on their way out. Many more people are reading the online versions of local newspapers, not the printed editions. Younger audiences get their information from Social Media.
- 5. Make sure that people younger than us realize that our form of a cappella singing has been around for a long time and that it is the basis for the modern a cappella movement.** There is something for every age in our performances, and in our chorus.

THE JOY OF QUARTETTING



Al Kelts
2016 President

Once again, I am sure that you have been waiting impatiently for my yearly update, i.e., "You know you're _____ when....." Sooooo, here it is:
YOU KNOW YOU'RE 74 WHEN....

1. You give up on selfies because the darn cell phone finds worse wrinkles than the mirror does.
2. You wonder if it is a targeted ad or just random: "Boost your confidence in the bedroom."
3. As you struggle with one backpack while hiking with your grandson, you remember that you used to carry two packs and a daughter when you backpacked many years ago.
4. The young man standing next to you in the Spring show observes: "Your 'old guys' humor is just like the humor of us high school guys!"
5. The warped minds of four guys (BHB) think that "Fat-bottom Girls" would be funny at the HHIH afterglow, completely ignoring the sensitivity of many of the women in the audience.
6. A word will illusively avoid your speech until 1-2 hours later, when it suddenly appears.
7. Your pants, previously held up well by a belt, now slip down, prompting your wife to kindly (?) recommend suspenders.
8. The 50s channel on SiriusXM plays the best songs, like: "One eyed, one horned, flying purple people-eater," "Breaking up is hard to do," and "Little Nash Rambler."
9. You rediscover that glorious event from childhood called, "The Afternoon Nap."

AND FINALLY:

10. You realize that Barbershop is your club and that, although you might not like every SOD Chorus guy the same, you love them all.,

Al



BOARD SCRIBBLINGS



DAVID L'ESPERANCE
Chapter Secretary



CALL TO ORDER:

The regular monthly meeting for August 2016 of the **Board of Directors** of the **Mt. Rushmore Chapter** of the **Barbershop Harmony Society** was called to order by **President Al Kelts** at 7:02 p.m. on August 2, 2016 in the Hoyt Meeting Room of the Rapid City Public Library. **Secretary David L'Esperance** certified the presence of a quorum of the elected members, with **Principal Director Clayton Southwick** and **Jessica Kading** also in attendance. President Kelts also had a written proxy from **Member at Large Lynn DesLauriers** if Lynn's vote was needed. The proposed agenda was approved as modified.

MINUTES:

After some grammatical and semantics discussions, the minutes of the July 2016 were approved as presented.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Because it was too early in the month, **Treasurer Ron Evenson** had not received the bank statements for July. He had also just returned from Harmony University in Nashville within the last 24 hours and had not had time to prepare anything.

VP and COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Director Southwick reported on behalf of **Music and Performance VP Jim Price** that the Music Team is working to put together a really good program for the Germans from Russia performance on September 9. The team is also very pleased at the attendance this summer, the very positive attitudes, the hard work all the members are exerting and the excellent performances at each event. The Movies Under the Stars performance was superb and really full of energy.

VP Chapter Development and Membership Chair Dan Horsley would like to have a guest night in early Fall (October) and invite potential singers to join us for the Christmas music season. The chapter has had good success with this approach in the past, gaining some new members, and the board encouraged Dan to go forth and conquer.

Harmony Happening in the Hills co-chair Rod Pfeifle is pretty excited about the events of August 19-20. We may very well have a Festival Chorus of 60 men or more in front of the world's largest quartet.

OLD BUSINESS:

Following the resignation of **Marketing/Public Relations VP Mike Sanborn** in early May, the search quickly focused on asking **Jessica (Ferley) Kading** if she would be interested in promoting and marketing the chapter. Jessica has literally grown up with the group. Her college and job backgrounds are in the publicity and marketing arena, and she'd love to try her hand at improving the visibilities of the **Shrine of Democracy Chorus**. She already has some excellent and novel ideas to start out with, including college activity fairs and working with the Chamber of Commerce and other entities to improve and expand our image. The plan will be to have Jessica on the board as an Open Board Member at Large at least through the end of the calendar year.

President Kelts has presented the membership counterproposal to the Performing Arts Center board that the chapter provide the first and last installment payments up front, in the specific amount of \$3000 each (total \$6K), with the remaining \$14,000 spread out over 6 years. The offer is being considered by the PAC.

NEW BUSINESS:

Member-at-Large Wayne Anderson reported to the board that long-time **Chorus Manager Pete Anderson** wished to retire from that position as soon as a replacement can be found. Wayne and Ron Evenson volunteered to serve as the search committee. David L'Esperance noted the chorus had been invited to perform in Pierre at the official opening of the lighting ceremony of the Festival of Trees in the Capitol. The event is November 22 (Tuesday) at 7 p.m. The organizers did not offer to cover any expenses, not even gas money. A motion from Wayne Anderson, seconded by L'Esperance, to respectfully decline the invitation passed unanimously.

Secretary L'Esperance expressed his frustration with his perception of the lack of support and usage of the **Shrine of Democracy Chorus** by the Chamber of Commerce and the Convention and Visitors Bureau for functions which they control. In the last three months there have been at least four functions for which our style and packages of music would have been ideal. **Jessica Kading** suggested some of the members start attending the monthly mixers and handing out business cards and make members aware of our offerings. Ron Evenson's motion to initiate a three month trial period in which two chapter members attend the events, with no "repeaters", to meet, greet and promote the chapter, with the chapter paying the fee, passed unanimously.

Ron Evenson gave an enthusiastic report of his week at Harmony University and spoke of some of the classes offered. He even admitted the issues Clayton continually stresses were right on the mark.

NEXT MEETING//ADJOURNMENT:

The next regularly scheduled Board of Directors meeting for the month of September 2016 will be held September 13 at the Rapid City Public Library, convening at 7 p.m. With no further business for the good of the chapter, President Kelts declared adjournment at 8:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
In Perfect Harmony,

DAVID L'ESPERANCE, Secretary



What every singer should know!

Why Singlish?

Vowel matching is one of the keys to becoming a great chorus. Getting everyone to sing the same thing can be a challenge - it requires getting the group to sing in vowels, not words. In the words of one instructor at Harmony University, we need “Singlish” because we weren’t all born in the same town and therefore don’t speak the same. “Singlish” gives us a common ground.

Learning ‘Singlish’ can be quite fun, especially if you take all the guesswork out. You will be amazed what vowel sounds are in the words we sing every day!

Traditionally when learning how to read English—we were told there are five vowels (a, e, i, o, u)—and given a bunch of rules to know when to use “short A” as in “man” or “long A” as in “mane”.

When you take all the combinations, it turns out that we pronounce 12 vowel sounds when speaking English.

Take a moment to sing or say them to yourself on the same note.

The 12 target vowel sounds we use to sing English.					
A	man, hand, sand	EE	me, she, see	OH	go, foal, boat
AH	father, cot	EH	men, head, red	OO	soon, food, you
AW	gone, off, fall	ER	girl, word, learn	oo	full, stood, book, could
AY	mane, hay, date	IH	sit, bill, win	UH	sun, hush, love

Diphthongs

Obviously, with just the 12 vowels, we can’t say very interesting words in English. To create more interesting words, we combine vowel sounds – if this combination occurs in the same syllable, this is called a diphthong. These are so common we hardly know we’re using them.

If the diphthong lands on a really long note, the director will usually direct when the first vowel ends and the second one begins. In slow songs, the first vowel is held longer than in fast songs.

Take a minute to sing or say these diphthongs to yourself on the same note.

The most common diphthongs in English			
AY-EE	Say, eight	OH-OO	Show, coat, go
AH-EE	My, eye, find, night, time	OH-EE	Boy, toy
AH-OO	How, now, cow		

Three vowels together is called a triphthong—for example **flower** is (**FL-AH-OO-ER**)

Singable Consonants

Consonants break down into two major categories: those which can hold a note and those which cannot. For example, you can’t hold out the letter “P” for very long, but you can hum on the letter “M”.

There are 22 consonant sounds, nine of which are considered “Singable Consonants” as they can hold a pitch.



continued from page 8

Try singing “Sue” then sing “Zoo”. Notice how the “Z” can hold a pitch, but the “S” cannot? That’s a singable consonant.

Sing each word on the same note, pausing on the **bolded** singable consonant

Voiced Fricatives	Nasals	Liquids
V as in Valve	M as in Moo	L as in Love
TH as in Other	N as in Soon	R as in Rare
Z as in Zoom	NG as in Sing	
ZH as in Pleasure		
Fricatives create sound using friction between the lips, tongue or teeth. E.g. the “v” sound is created by putting your lower lip on your upper teeth.	Nasals create sound by lowering the soft palette (the squishy bit of the roof of the mouth) so the air mostly pushes out of the nasal passage.	Liquids are similar to vowels in that they are produced “without friction”

How long you decide to hold out a singable consonant can often add interpretation the music—there’s a difference between singing **love** and **//////////love**. For ends of phrases, it is critical to support and sing through these consonants so as to not create gaps in the sound.

...and sometimes Y and W.

The consonant **Y** is always pronounced with an ‘**EE**’ vowel. For example **you** is **EE-OO**.

Anything starting with a ‘WH’ stays spelled with a ‘WH’. For example **where** is **WHEHR**. The ‘wh’ sound is called an ‘aspirant’—coming from ‘aspiration’ meaning ‘breathing’—which means it’s a whispered consonant.

However, if the word only starts with a ‘W’, then the vowel ‘OO’ is used. For example **world** is **OO-ERLD**.

For more information on Singlish, how and why, look this article up by Jim Henry.

The article is called “Singlish: Word Sounds, Not Words.” It was originally presented to the Sweet Adelines, Inc. and is available at <http://tinyurl.com/j78ldfx>.

The above information comes from the website of the Apple App, Singlish, which was developed for a Sweet Adelines International chorus in Australia. If you don’t have an iPhone, you can use your computer to see how words are translated into Singlish on your computer. Go to <http://www.toothbrushisland.com/singlish/Singlish.htm>. All you need to do is type in a word or phrase and then click “Translate.” It will then give you the sounds that make up the word to be sung.

Try to sing as many of the correct notes as you can. Don't sing any of the wrong ones.
Fred Gramann

Over-Singing
Oversinging isn’t a technical term. It’s often used to refer to pushing the voice to do things it can’t safely do without straining the singer’s voice. This can include singing in a higher or lower range than is comfortable for the singer, or belting without proper training. Over-singing can damage vocal cords over time.

The Think System does work

By Jim Debussman

Former Society Music Specialist

From the **Johnnycake Ridgerunner** bulletin

One interesting aspect is that when one “*thinks*” a pitch, the vocal folds automatically shape themselves to that pitch. While it might not be possible for **The Music Man’s Professor Harold Hill’s** unschooled trumpet player to “*think*” the correct valve to push for a given note, the human voice box responds directly and correctly to whatever signal the brain sends out.

In other words, whether singing out loud or just thinking about it, one’s vocal folds shape themselves precisely to whatever is going on in the mind. Thus applying the “*think system*” to a barbershop song during quiet moments can improve and reinforce pitch accuracy.

One word of caution: when barbershoppers “*think*” through their given part in a song there is an underlying awareness of the complete chords. Without periodic reference to the sheet music or a learning tape as a double check, it’s possible occasionally to “*think*” one’s part into some incorrect notes within the chords.

Additional “*thinking*” at this point will simply reinforce these errors. This is surprisingly true of songs in the repertoire to which parts were memorized long before. It’s a good idea to pull out the sheet music occasionally and check yourself.

Good posture and diaphragmatic breathing are vitally important to quality vocal production. Visualizing these aspects while using the “*think system*” will help them become almost automatic when actually singing. This can enhance a rehearsal **if everyone does it.**



November 5, 2016

Eden, Utah

November 12, 2016

Denver, Colo.

HHitH Takeaways

By Lynn DesLauriers

Harmony Happening in the Hills is a unique and wonderful event. This year we had a large chorus and a very good audience which made it extra fun. Every year I learn from participating in this event. The last two years have been exceptional for me because Donny Rose was the clinician. He is full of knowledge and the epitome of energy. The following are some points he made and also my observations of the weekend.

- The Director is the most important member of the chorus. We need to respect the Director and the time and effort it takes to make us sound good. We need to pay attention to the Director. What the Director wants is what the Director gets.
- I was impressed that in a few hours we were able to gel all of the **HHitH** participants into a cohesive chorus. I think this was because we knew the music and listened attentively to Donny.
- No matter how unusual or difficult our music, we need to learn it and be “off the spots” by the deadline set. This means plenty of practice time at home. It should not be the Director’s responsibility to teach us the words and notes. I missed two rehearsals before **HHitH**, which meant I had to do extra rehearsal time at home to be ready.
- Hazing is not acceptable, especially when we have potential new members in our midst. They might not understand it.
- It is not enough to just know the music and perform. We need to add energy, emotion, and body movement to our music. This varies depending on the style of music: “**God Bless America**” versus “**No More Sorrow.**”
- It is a good idea to spend time on a tag at rehearsal to help us listen. If we prepare well at home we will have time for tags at rehearsal.

Much of what Donny emphasized had been emphasized by Clayton since I have been a member of the chorus. I have seen a list of the new music for next year’s spring show. I don’t know how challenging it will be, but I am sure it will be fun. If we learn our music by the deadlines and apply what we have learned at **HHitH**, we should have a great spring show in 2017.

Lynn

Harmony Happening in the Hills 2016



Out of Sight
First Place Quartet



Second Place
tastes good!



Donny Rose
trying to figure it out!



Billings
Big Sky Chorus



Donny Rose
showing us how it's done!



Another medal to be proud of!



Black Hills Blend in front of unmarked Black vehicle!



SOD Chorus



HHitH Mass Chorus
Donny Rose, Director



That's a big stage!



No Applause,
Just warm-up!

Contest Videos Now Online!

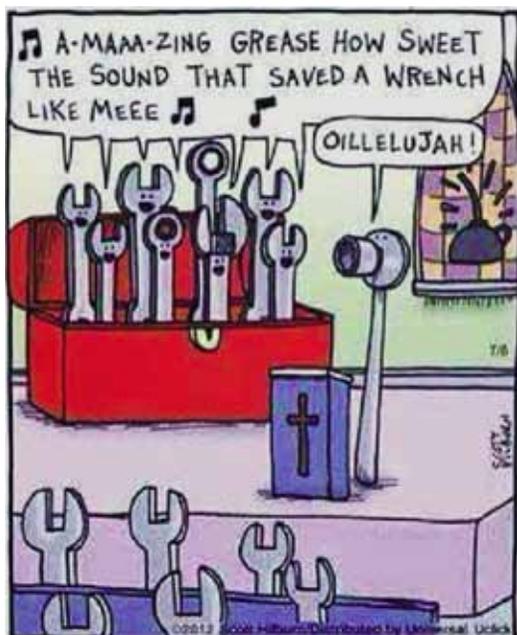
The Barbershop Harmony Society, in a cost-saving move, has decided this year to not make available convention CDs and DVDs. Instead, they are making available all performances on YouTube through their barbershop channel. Not only is this a big cost savings, but it also affords all viewers the opportunity to view all competitors, whether choruses, quartets, youth quartets, and even many of the quartet performances presented on the AIC (Association of International Champions) Show. It also means that you will be able to watch every song performed in contest—298 total. The big plus is that you can watch them FREE and not have to shell out the \$45 for a DVD that has a limited number of performance on it.

All of the Nashville videos are now online at:
<http://bit.ly/2bZZsXI>

Once you access that site, you can choose choruses, quartets, youth quartets, or AIC show. Once you have chosen one of those you can see and hear all of the videos in that category sequentially.

There are:

- 58 chorus videos
- 180 quartet videos
- 60 Youth BBS quartet videos
- 5 AIC show videos
- Or, if you want to hear a specific chorus or quartet, scroll down on the list just to the right of the group video.



When the chorus doesn't
make that key change



More Golf Tourney Pics

photos by Scott Wagner

Don't Widen The Plate!

In Nashville, Tennessee, during the first week of January, 1996, more than 4,000 baseball coaches descended upon the Opryland Hotel for the 52nd annual ABCA convention.

While I waited in line to register with the hotel staff, I heard other more veteran coaches rumbling about the lineup of speakers scheduled to present during the weekend. One name, in particular, kept resurfacing, always with the same sentiment — “John Scolinos is here? Oh man, worth every penny of my airfare.

Who, is John Scolinos, I wondered. No matter, I was just happy to be there.

In 1996, Coach Scolinos was 78 years old and five years retired from a college coaching career that began in 1948. He shuffled to the stage to an impressive standing ovation, wearing dark polyester pants, a light blue shirt, and a string around his neck from which home plate hung—a full-sized, stark-white home plate.

Seriously, I wondered, who in the world is this guy?

After speaking for twenty five minutes, not once mentioning the prop hanging around his neck, Coach Scolinos appeared to notice the snickering among some of the coaches. Even those who knew Coach Scolinos had to wonder exactly where he was going with this, or if he had simply forgotten about home plate since he'd gotten on stage. Then, finally ...

“You're probably all wondering why I'm wearing home plate around my neck. Or maybe you think I escaped from Camarillo State Hospital,” he said, his voice growing irascible. I laughed along with the others, acknowledging the possibility. “No,” he continued, “I may be old, but I'm not crazy. The reason I stand before you today is to share with you baseball people what I've learned in my life, what I've learned about home plate in my 78 years.”

Several hands went up when Scolinos asked how many Little League coaches were in the room. *“Do you know how wide home plate is in Little League?”*

After a pause, someone offered, *“Seventeen inches?”* more of a question than answer.

“That's right,” he said. The same question was asked of coaches in Babe Ruth, High school, College, Minor League, and even Major League coaches. Each time the answer was the same—seventeen inches.

“SEV-EN-TEEN INCHES!” he confirmed, his voice bel-
lowing off the walls. *“And what do they do with a Big League pitcher who can't throw the ball over seventeen inches?”* Pause. *“They send him to Pocatello!”* he hollered, drawing raucous laughter.

“What they don't do is this: they don't say, ‘Ah, that's okay, Jimmy. You can't hit a seventeen-inch target? We'll make it eighteen inches, or nineteen inches. We'll make it twenty inches so you have a better chance of hitting it. If you can't hit that, let us know so we can make it wider still, say twenty-five inches.”



Pause ... *“Coaches ... what do we do when our best player shows up late to practice? When our team rules forbid facial hair and a guy shows up unshaven? What if he gets caught drinking? Do we hold him accountable? Or do we change the rules to fit him. Do we widen home plate?”*

The chuckles gradually faded as four thousand coaches grew quiet, the fog lifting as the old coach's message began to unfold. He turned the plate toward himself and, using a Sharpie, began to draw something. When he turned it toward the crowd, point up, a house was revealed, complete with a freshly drawn door and two windows. *“This is the problem in our homes today. With our marriages, with the way we parent our kids. With our discipline, we don't teach accountability to our kids, and there is no consequence for failing to meet standards. We simply, widen the plate!”*

Pause ... Then, to the point at the top of the house he added a small American flag!

“This is the problem in our schools today. The quality of our education is going downhill fast and teachers have been stripped of the tools they need to be successful, and to educate and discipline our young people. We are allowing others to widen home plate! Where is that getting us?”

Silence.

I was amazed. At a baseball convention where I expected to learn something about curve balls and bunting and how to run better practices, I had learned something far more valuable. From an old man with home plate strung around his neck, I had learned something about life, about myself, about my own weaknesses and about my responsibilities as a leader. I had to hold myself and others accountable to that, which I knew to be right.

“If I am lucky,” Coach Scolinos concluded, *“you will remember one thing from this old coach today. It is this: if we fail to hold ourselves to a higher standard, a standard of what we know to be right; if we fail to hold our spouses and our children to the same standards, if we are unwilling or unable to provide a consequence when they do not meet the standard, there is but one thing to look forward to ...”*

With that, he held home plate in front of his chest, turned it around, and revealed its dark black backside. *“... dark days ahead.”*

His message was clear: *“Coaches, keep your players—no matter how good they are—and most of all, keep yourself at seventeen inches.”*

The old adage comes into play here—no matter where you set your standards, you are bound to meet them. If we want our chorus to be top-notch, then we need to not only set those standards, but hold ourselves to them. We have had challenges put before us in the past, and have even given ourselves challenges, but have failed to meet them because we haven't held ourselves to the standards we have ourselves set. As someone else has said, *“You actually have to make personal effort and sacrifice to meet those standards.”*

Tag of the Month

Like Leaves Will Fall

Notation: Karl Kromer

Tag

Arrangement: Jake Tickner

Tenor Lead

Will fall _____ Like leaves in fall we'll fall in love. _____
 Like leaves in fall we'll fall in love, _____ in love. _____

Bari Bass

Update on John Sundby

A report from Kathy indicates that, as I mentioned in a recent SOD Rehearsal, John went to the Mayo Clinic where they discovered a cancerous tumor on the back of his tongue. They had to cut through his jawbone to reach the tumor, but were able to totally remove the tumor and could not find any evidence of spread to surrounding lymph nodes. They reconnected his jawbone with a titanium plate, took skin from his arm to patch up his tongue, and patched up his arm with skin from his thigh. Kathy indicates that his wounds are all healing well. Furthermore, over the last few weeks, his diet has been advanced from liquids to semi-solids. Although he has had some difficulty in learning to speak clearly, this is now improving and he even sang some bass notes with his boys' band last week!

Al Kelts

MEMBER'S RESOURCE CENTER

Keep for reference – click on active links below

BHS Website – www.barbershop.org
 Rocky Mountain District website – www.rmdsing.org
 BHS Phone Number – 1-800-876-SING (6474) – toll free
 Renew you membership – www.barbershop.org/ebiz
 Quartet registration – www.barbershop.org/ebiz
 Find a member, chapter, quartet – www.barbershop.org/ebiz
 SOD Chorus Manager – pete@pete-ins.com, 605-209-3701 (Cell)
 SOD Chorus VP Music – sdprice@rap.midco.net
 SOD Chorus President – dockelts@aol.com
 SOD Chorus VP Membership – dan@horsleyrefinishing.com
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 605-721-7650

MISSION STATEMENT

The Mount Rushmore Chapter and the Shrine of Democracy Chorus shall promote, encourage, and perpetuate the barbershop style of singing in both the chorus and quartets by bringing men together in harmony and fellowship, thereby enriching their lives through singing. We will continually use resources and opportunities available to us locally and through the Rocky Mountain District to improve our singing and performances.