

FROM THE EDGE

A periodic Newsletter of
the High Country Barbershop Chorus,
White Mountains Arizona Chapter



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<http://www.spebsqsafwd.org/wmac/>

August, 2007

From the President

Bob Koons



July 4 was a great promotion for our show, although we only had about a dozen singers on the float. Winning first prize in our category didn't hurt

either! It was a hot 45 minute parade but I'm sure it was worth the effort to promote the show.

Without a doubt, July 14 was the best day I have had in my six years in barbershop. I was in a near panic when **Doc** called me on the 11th to advise that the AC was broke in the auditorium. However, I didn't hear one word of complaint about the heat and I am still getting compliments from friends and strangers in church, the post office and the grocery store. I was especially pleased with **OC Times** and **JDJ** and the **Upright Bass**.

It really warms my heart to see and hear these very talented young men, men like these that we need to preserve the BHS into perpetuity.

The Afterglow party was the biggest we have had in my six years. **The Eastsiders** were a pleasant surprise, and of course, the other quartets really made for an enjoyable musical evening. The surprise birthday cake by my wife really put "the icing on the cake" for me.

It's been over a week and Hushabye Mountain and Frog Kissin' are still running through my head when I try to sleep. I'm sure we're all looking forward to the music for the '08 show.

Thanks to **Ron Lamar** and all who helped make the '07 show a great success!

Prez



OC Times

2007 Silver Medalists

Perform in the
**2007 High Country Chorus
Show -**

Thanks for the Memory

Photo by Conrad Monroe, 2007

Shawn York - Tenor, Sean Devine
- Lead, Cory Hunt - Bass,
Pat Claypool - Baritone

From the Director: Doc Dockendorf



Wow, what a show we had! In spite of the heat, which I know you suffered from more than the audience, you were outstanding, and gave the best singing

performance ever, for the High Country Chorus. I would like to give you some feedback from my perspective as your director.

First, you appeared confident on stage, and as such you were very relaxed, and the singing was, for the most part, without tension, which resulted in some of the best resonance, and in-tune singing that I have heard from the chorus. I felt relaxed while directing and was really enjoying your performance, in an almost “out of body” sort of way. Do you know that I have the best seat in the house?

Secondly, you were more consistent with the use of vowels, which contributed mightily to the unit sound. You could tell that you were listening to each other; there were no “heroes”, no individual voices sticking out.

Thirdly, as you know, I am finicky about wandering eyes off the director during the performance. Believe me, in my 25 years as a Stage Presence Judge, the really good choruses had excellent discipline in this regard, and when a chorus was undisciplined with members looking around during the performance, the audience could tell, and it was a distraction from the performance. With a couple of exceptions, you were very

attentive and I appreciated that.

Now that the show is over, there is a tendency for attendance at rehearsals to drop off; since we will very soon start to work on the music for next year’s show which will be a Disney themed show, I know that you will want to make sure that you are at rehearsals so that you have plenty of time to learn the new music, while we also work to retain a repertoire so that we can perform if the opportunity arises. I would like us to perform the first half of the show in the fall, perhaps at the PAC in Snowflake/Taylor in conjunction with NPC.

The music committee has not formally selected what we will be singing at next year’s convention, but I am leaning towards singing “Cabaret” and “I Only Have Eyes for You”. I really would like to sing “Broken Hearted”, but it may be too much of a challenge for the chorus, as you know, it is a very demanding song.

Speaking of our 2008 show, I know it is going to be a fun show. All of the music is familiar to most of the audience that have seen Disney movies over the years, and the staging possibilities are endless. **John Welker** is already thinking about some scenery ideas, and I have had conversations with **Bev Gries** (the dancer on our show), to possibly have some of her students participate in the show, e.g. dressed like the seven dwarfs. She was so impressed with your professionalism that she was enthusiastic about the possibilities.

Thanks for your support. I sincerely mean it when I say that I am very proud to be your director. You are the greatest!

Doc

2007 Glimmer a Success!



The chorus was pleased to see **Bob and Lois McDonald** at the 2007 Show and the Glimmer at the Doc's the following morning.

JOANNE MILLS RECEIVES 2007 HIGH COUNTRY CHORUS HARMONY AWARD

Director Doc Dockendorf and President Bob Koons are shown presenting the 2007 Harmony Award to Ms. Joanne Mills, this year's recipient, at their annual show, "Thanks for the Memory" at Blue Ridge High School Auditorium. Each year the NPC High Country Chorus awards a deserving individual the coveted Harmony Award for outstanding contributions in music to the White Mountains. Joanne was recognized for her tenure in, and as President of the Musical Arts Club, which awards scholarships to deserving music students, her efforts in conjunction with the White Mountain Symphony Orchestra in bringing symphonic music to all fourth and fifth graders in Northeastern Arizona through the Music Is... program, her solo performances with the White Mountain Chorale, and singing in the "Right Occasions" a double Barbershop Quartet. She truly represents what this award is all about, and has gone unrecognized for years. Previous winners have been Jeanne Sonne, Cynthia Jellison, and Scott Gentry.



**High Country
Chorus
Performs in the
Show Low, Arizona
July 4th Parade**



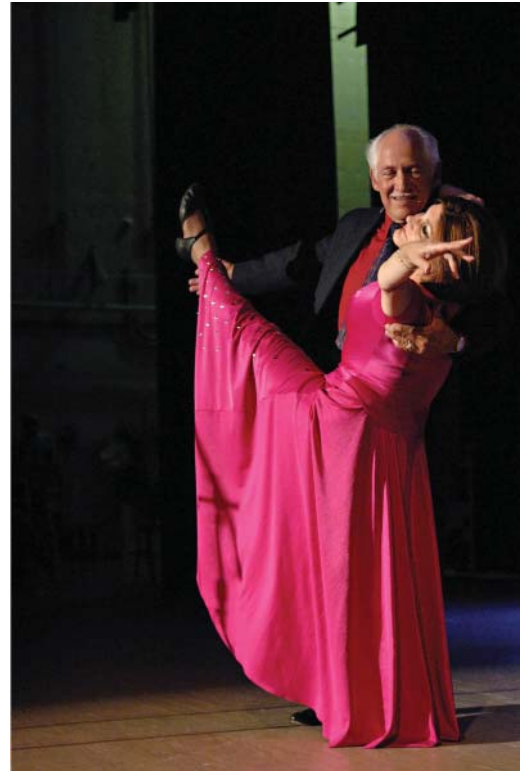
Photo: Rick Fernau, 2007

2008 Show - Thanks for the Memory



JDJ and the Upright Bass

Joel John - Tenor, William Sullivan - Bass, Jonathon Thomson - Lead, David Sullivan - Baritone



Dancers: Bev Gries, Steve Taylor



Master of Ceremonies Barbara Bruce

All photos on this page by:
Conrad Monroe
2007



Crooks Trail

Tenor - Bob Lawson, Lead - Bob Cutlipp,
Bass - Larry Kennedy, Bari - Tom Kean



The Pine "Beatles"



Photo by:
Conrad Monroe
2007



“Customer Service”
Denny Shankland, Ron Monette
Photo by: Conrad Monroe 2007

**FWD, White Mountains Arizona Chapter:
High Country Chorus**

Officers

President	Bob Koons
Immediate Past President	Bob Cutlipp
VP Membership	Ron LaMar
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Music Librarian	Dennis Shankland
Sunshine Chairman	Jim Murphy
Bulletin Editor	Jerry Schrunk
Web Master	Jerry Schrunk
Chorus Photographer	Conrad Monroe
Chapter Historian	Larry Kennedy
Safety Officer	Lloyd Lange

August Birthdays

Aug 5

Jim Murphy

FROM THE EDGE Aug., 2007

Calendar of Events			
Date	Event	Time	Comments / Location
July 31, 2007	No Chorus Practice Tonight		Cancelled
Aug. 7, 2007	Chorus Practice Moved	6:30 PM	Methodist Church
Aug. 14, 2007	Music Committee Meeting	6 PM	Practice Hall
Aug. 28, 2007	Chapter Board Meeting	5:30 PM	Practice Hall
Sept. 11, 2007	Music Committee Meeting	6 PM	Practice Hall
Sept. 15, 2007	Woolford Road Clean Up		
Sept. 15, 2007	Chorus Party at the Doc's		Doc & Jackie's
Sept. 25, 2007	Chapter Board Meeting	5:30 PM	Practice Hall
Sept. 27-30, 2007	FWD Quartet & Chorus Contest and Convention	See Westunes	Phoenix Symphony Hall
Jan. 12, 2008	Officer Installation Dinner		TBD
Mar. 15, 2008	Big Band and Barbershop		
April 5, 2008	Chorus Workshop Day, with Bill Biffle	8:30 AM to 5 PM	Practice Hall
July 12, 2008	2008 Show		

*High Country Barbershop Chorus
c/o Jerry Schrunk, Newsletter Editor
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