

FROM THE EDGE

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



Vol. VIII, No. 6

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

July, 2007

It's Show Time!



From the President

Bob Koons



I remember my first show with the chorus, I think it was '02. The curtain opened and I was faced with the largest audience I had ever sung for. But the first thing that struck

me was that these people had actually *paid money to hear me sing* - I'd better give them my best! I had done a lot of singing in choirs in the past, but never for an audience this large, and never before a paid audience. I have only missed one show since then and I still feel "the roar of the grease paint and the smell of the crowd" as one comedian used to say.

I'm sure we all feel more inspired when we see the crowd than we do looking at that blank wall in our practice hall. I wish we had a full length mirror to watch ourselves as we practice. I am not a born actor and I have to

force myself into the proper mood for each song. If we learn the music real well, we can concentrate more on the mood, faces and movements while we are performing. I'm sure it will be a great show.

Our July 4 parade performance has been cobbled together at the last minute, with some panic mode effort to find a trailer and round up the rest of the gear. The parade is a fun event and the greatest promotion for our big show. The parade was my first contact with the chorus six years ago.

The BOD has selected a new replacement member, **Mick Mitchke**, to fill in a vacancy. **John Welker** has volunteered to fill in as **Performance VP**, as **Alan Johnson** will be taking some time off after the show because of demands of his construction business. I think we still have one vacancy to fill **Dan Lewis's** marketing spot.

Get ready for a fun July!

Prez Bob

From the Director: Doc Dockendorf



Well, here we are just a little over a week to our seventh annual show, and it is shaping up to be the best ever. Having said that, please do not stop working on the

music, and especially the words to the few songs we are struggling with, namely “Frog Kissin’”, “Broken Hearted”, and to some extent “Do You Hear the People Sing”. You know where you are weakest, so please don’t let the team down by faking it. **KNOW YOUR WORDS and MUSIC!**

I hope everyone can help out by singing on the 4th of July float. We especially need all of the Baritones to sing, as it is not fair to put the load on Jim Morrow, who has put in yeoman duty in the past. The float allows us to get our banner display in front of close to 50,000, or so, people who attend the parade, so it is invaluable in helping to sell out the auditorium.

I am sure that Ron LaMar, our 2007 Show Chairman is asking you to sell, sell, sell tickets elsewhere in this issue, but I will add my input as well. When you are standing in line at Safeway, Wal-mart, or wherever you are shopping, ask the person behind or ahead of you if they are planning to attend our Barbershop Show. They will either answer, “I never miss it”, “when is it?”, or “what show is that?” In any case it will give you an opening to discuss the show with them. Think of our chorus as a 30-man marketing/sales team out in the community. Carry your

tickets with you, and don’t be shy about talking up the show. You have, besides our own chorus, one of the top echelon quartets to entertain them. I talk about how young this quartet is, and how well they sing. Enough said.

Starting on July 3rd, you will see John Graham taking attendance in the first half hour of our rehearsal. This is to award those of you that have perfect attendance. The chapter will be giving out awards to those of you that achieve perfect attendance for a quarter, with a major prize for perfect attendance for a year.

Let’s talk about the plan for show week. It is absolutely imperative that you attend the Tuesday night regular rehearsal, the Wednesday night Tech rehearsal, and the Friday night Dress rehearsal. As always, your patience is requested as we work on lighting, sound, curtain timing, microphone cues, MC cues, staging and props handling. We have a top notch Stage Manager in Debra Fisher, who will be running the show. Please do not be giving her advice, as she knows what she is doing.

Plan to be at the auditorium at 12:00 on Saturday, for warm up, makeup, and to put any finishing touches on the show. We will be off stage by 1:00 PM, and the show will start promptly at 2:00 PM.

I hope all of you are planning to attend the Pre-glow meal between shows. The Village Deli gives us a lot of food for a reasonable price. If a sandwich is too much, split one with a fellow chorus member, or order a half sandwich.

(From the Director, (continued on page 4)

The story that appears below is from the Milwaukee Chapter's email group. It was from their director and it tells the real secret to recruiting new members.

Just ask everybody you come in contact with this simple question: "Who do you know that likes to sing?"

If you ask a woman, she might give you a lead on a male singer or a chance to recruit a Sweet Adeline. If you ask a man, he might say, "Well, I like to sing."

Jackpot! Or, again, he might give you a lead. Either way, you asked a non-threatening question and came away with a positive result.

All of us know we're onto the best hobby around. Why wouldn't we want to share that joy and excitement with everybody we can?

I've been asking guys "Do you like to sing?" but I'm sure that this is a better question.

I'm going to try it, and you might want to too.

Ron LaMar

2007 Barbershop Ad Campaign

To quote Frank Sinatra, "It was a very good year". This is really the whole campaign in a nut shell. Several months ago Ron LaMar asked me if I would head up the committee for gathering the ads for this year's July show. I explained that I had never done anything like this before and hadn't a clue about what to do or where to start. Now Ron is not a guy you can easily say NO too.....he has those eyes that PLEAD for you to agree. Besides he assured me that it was an EASY job and there would be plenty of people to help and guide me along the way. Well, he was right about one thing, I did have plenty of expert help and advice from both Doc and Jerry. If it were not for the two of them, I would still be floundering around in a morass of missteps. The both of them were real bricks and deserve a great deal more credit for our success than they will admit to or accept. While the two of them were extremely important to the process, be assured that this was a TEAM effort from start to finish. Nineteen of our members sold ads for the program and because of ALL their efforts, I am happy to announce that the program is COMPLETELY SOLD OUT. That is so important that I will repeat it for your viewing pleasure.....THE PROGRAM IS COMPLETELY SOLD OUT and that gentlemen is 18.75 pages of ads of varying sizes. The total program contains 28 pages, of which 9.25 are reserved for program notes and biographies.

Now, because of who I am, I feel it necessary (Ad Campaign cont. on page 4)

July Birthdays

- | | |
|---------|---------------|
| July 12 | Bob Koons |
| July 21 | Bill Hartzell |
| July 22 | David Wheeler |
| July 25 | Jack Miller |

(From the Director, (continued from page 2)

Be back in the Auditorium at 6:00 PM to re-apply makeup, and to clean up any songs that might have been a problem on the Matinee show. The afterglow will start about 30 minutes after the show, and is being held at the Native New Yorker this year. I suggest you get your tickets ASAP. With OC Times there, the out of towners Barbershoppers will be clamoring for tickets, and I suspect the committee will have to limit the number of tickets we can sell. As usual, each chorus member will receive a free ticket, but your guests, spouse, or significant other will have to pay \$8.

Then, on Sunday morning we will have our traditional Glimmer Breakfast at my house. No advance tickets are needed, but the committee will need to know approximately how many are planning to attend. It only costs \$5 and all we try to do is break even on the event. In addition to the breakfast you will have a drink of your choice, from coffee, orange or tomato juice, or a Bloody Mary or Screwdriver. Following the Glimmer, the chorus is urged to stop by the Pine Glen Clubhouse at 1:00 PM, where a farewell is being held for Jim and Candy Porter. We will sing The Lords Prayer and Irish Blessing.

I want to take one more moment to thank each and every one of you for the hard work you have put in on this show. I sincerely appreciate you for supporting the chorus, and myself in this endeavor. You guys are the greatest!!!

Doc

(Ad Campaign cont. from page 2)

to provide you with a few statistics. Our 19 salesmen brought in the whole hog consisting of 66 business card ads, 11 half-page ads, 4 quarter-page ads and 4 full-page ads for a total of 85 ads. This represents a gross revenue of \$4400.00 and as of the mail delivery today (6/20/2007), we have collected \$3540.00 in revenues. While 17 of our previous sponsors did not renew their ads, 37 brand new accounts were signed up. To aid the collection process this year, an invoice was prepared to give to any prospective sponsor so that their payment could be mailed to me. This way no salesman had to make repeated and wasteful return trips to collect ad payments.

Next year, when I bat my 'baby browns' at you, please don't say no. I have a thoroughly complete set of records for this year and your task will be relatively simple. I will be there to help and advise you along the way. Besides, if you say no to me then I will send Ron to visit you. **Jim Dye**

Show uniform requirements:

For the first half of the show, black pants, black shoes (not tux shoes) black socks, black shirt or white shirt (your choice) with bow tie if you wish or open at the neck. No jacket. If you have a beret you might want to wear it.

For the second half of the show, Class A uniform: full tuxedo, including tuxedo shirt, silver vest, silver tie, white suspenders, black patent leather shoes, black socks, black shirt studs, black stud cuff links. There will be plenty of time to change between halves of the show.

Ron LaMar



Doc and Warren put up signs for the show.

Thanks from the Belles:

The Fiesta Chorus, and the White Mountain Belles, are very grateful for the assistance we received from so many of you, husbands of a Belle, and James Burden. We couldn't have had the show without you. Thank you for manning the ticket booth, passing out programs, and selling the 50/50 tickets.

We look forward to reciprocating on your July 14th extravaganza.

The White Mountain Belles

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

Officers

President	Bob Koons
Immediate Past President	Bob Cutlipp
VP Membership	Ron LaMar
VP Performance	Alan Johnson
VP Music	Alan Beste
VP Marketing, Public Relations	Open
Secretary	John Graham
Treasurer	John Welker
Board Members at Large	Open
	Jerry Schrunk
	David Wheeler
Director	Doc Dockendorf
Asst. Directors	Alan Beste
	Jim Murphy
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

FROM THE EDGE July., 2007

Calendar of Events			
Date	Event	Time	Comments / Location
July 4, 2007	Show Low Parade	TBD	TBD
July 10, 2007	Music Committee Meeting	6 PM	Practice Hall
July 11, 2007	Show Tech Rehearsal	7 PM	BRHS
July 13, 2007	Show Dress Rehearsal	7 PM	BRHS
July 14, 2007	Annual Show - "Thanks for the Memory"	2PM & 7 PM	BRHS
July 24, 2007	Chapter Board Meeting	5:30 PM	Practice Hall
Aug. 14, 2007	Music Committee Meeting	6 PM	Practice Hall
Aug. 24, 2007	Chapter Board Meeting	5:30 PM	Practice Hall
Sept. 27-30, 2007	FWD Quartet & Chorus Contest and Convention	See Westunes	Phoenix Symphony Hall
April 5, 2008	Chorus Workshop Day, with Bill Biffle	8:30 AM to 5 PM	Practice Hall

*High Country Barbershop Chorus
c/o Jerry Schrunk, Newsletter Editor
PO Box 3897
Show Low, AZ 85902*