

FROM THE EDGE

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



Vol. X, No. 9

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

November, 2009

From the President

Ron LaMar

I want to begin this issue with a huge “thank you” to all of you who have kept me in your prayers and thoughts these past weeks. I know that I am doing as well as I am because of all that support.



As we look at the end of the year, I find myself reflecting on how our chapter has developed over the past two years. It is significant that we put 33 men on the risers at our annual show, and especially that some of them are lowering our average age. It is great that we have young guys joining us, and I hope we can develop ways to attract more. I have been very impressed with the energy and drive that some of our newer members have brought to us. We have initiatives going that look to the future and promise a stronger chorus.

I want to especially recognize the work of **Jerry Schrunk** and his Revenue Development Team, **Steve Pansulla**, **Steve Voller**, **Doc Dockendorf** and **James Burden**. They have developed thoughtful proposals aimed at strengthening our financial base as we face uncertainties about our support from NPC.

And while I’m recognizing people, I’d like to thank **James Burden** for his efforts in hospitality and with his photo work, and Steve Voller for his work with public relations.

But as I think about our chorus and the people who make it go, I can’t help but think of **Doc**. I’m sure that most of us don’t realize the amount of leadership, energy and dedication **Doc** gives us. When’s the last time you (or I, for that matter) sincerely thanked **Doc** for all that he does for us? I thought about listing some of the things that **Doc** does, but decided that there wasn’t room on the page for that.

I am optimistic about our chorus in so many ways, and hope that each of us feels the same.

Keep the Whole World Singing!
Ron

FWD, White Mountains Arizona Chapter:
High Country Chorus

Officers Elect for - 2010

President	Denny Shankland
Immediate Past President	Ron LaMar
VP Music & Performance	Bob Cutlipp
VP Marketing & PR	Steve Voller
VP Membership	James H. Burden
Secretary	Jim Dye
Treasurer	John Welker
Board Members at Large	Joe Stone
	Steve Pansulla
	Ron Monette
NPC Representative	Everett Robinson

From the Director: Doc Dockendorf



Well, last month I described a list of songs we would be doing on our 10th Anniversary show in July. I did mention that the list of songs was not finalized and, after a meeting with the Music Committee, we

made some significant changes to the songs we would be performing on the show. Here is the new list of songs, tentatively in the order we will be singing them:

The Old Songs*

Sittin' On Top of the World*

Rockabye Your Baby (With a Dixie Melody)

Turn Your Radio On* (Denny will direct)

Bury Me Out On the Lone Prairie*

Ragtime Cowboy Joe

Shenandoah*

Saint Olaf Fight Song*

Whiffenpoof Song

Swing Down Chariot*

The Lion Sleeps Tonight

A Dream Is a Wish Your Heart Makes*

Zip-A-Dee Doo-Dah*

Steaming Down The River* (Denny will direct)

Sentimental Journey*

God Bless America*

*** Songs we already know, or just need refreshing**

So there you have it. There are only three songs that are brand new for most of the guys, and the balance have all been sung by several of the current chorus that have been with us for

a number of years. I have a learning CD ready to duplicate, and it will be in your hands in November.

One other change is the name of the show. I had picked "***Moments to Remember***", but after discussion, a name suggested by **John Welker**, "***A Decade of Harmony***", was picked to be the name of the show.

Once you receive the learning CD, we will give you a learning matrix to use as we introduce songs for those of you that are not familiar with the music selected. FYI, as John Welker will attest, during my 23 years singing with Phoenix, we never had a learning CD at all, and had to learn notes and words on our own, so our chorus has quite an advantage in this modern barbershop era of technology.

In addition to the chorus songs, each of our quartets will do a song from a previous show, with **The Knotty Pines** singing, *Wagon Wheels*, from the 2004 "***Happy Trails***" Show, **The Pine Tones** singing, "***When I'm Sixty-Four***", from the 2007 show, "***Thanks for the Memory***", and **Crooks Trail**, singing "***King of the Road***" from last years show, "***Sentimental Journey***". All in all, this will be a very entertaining show, especially when you add our guest quartet, ***Saturday Evening Post***, and our new, as of yet un-named youth quartet, who are working on several songs that may appear on the show.

Our goal needs to be improving our weekly attendance during the five months leading up to the show, so that Bob Cutlipp has time to work on our performance.

Doc

**Watch For ---
wmhcbc.com
Coming Soon!**

From: Larry Kennedy

I complained because I had no shoes.....



“I complained because I had no shoes, until I met a man who had no feet.” I first saw this quote on a small plaque that my uncle had in his house up

home in Wisconsin. I was a numb youngster at the time, and he actually had to explain the meaning to me.

Last Saturday evening, 17 Oct., 2009, **Crook’s Trail**, in conjunction with the **White Mountain Belles**, had the



opportunity to relearn the meaning of this quote as we sang at the annual fund raiser dinner for the **Bread of Life Mission** in Holbrook. What a reminder that we really had nothing in life to complain about!

The Bread of Life Mission is the only facility in Navajo County providing emergency shelter for folks who are homeless, addicted, victims of abuse, or down on their luck. They also provide a “Life Change Program” of spiritual guidance, physical assistance,

and vocational training. It is quite a place, and it operates almost entirely on private donations. Hence, the annual fund raising dinner, and our small part in the festivities.

The music was provided in a “Tag Team” format with the **Belles**, and was well received in addition to being a helluva lot of fun! But the big eye-opener for me occurred after our performance, and after everyone had finished with their meals. Two young ladies who were “graduates” of the Bread of Life Mission program gave testimony about their recoveries from drug/alcohol addictions, bad relationships, and general lack of self esteem. These gals had truly bottomed out. With the help of the Mission, they had their lives under control, and could look forward to positive, independent futures. After the last testimony had been completed, Jan leaned over to me and whispered, referring to our family, “You know, we’re doing all right.”

I dislike using the words “spiritually fulfilling,” seeming a bit trite, but that about describes our evening. Would we do it again if asked? You bet!!!! Especially if the **Belles** are part of the show!

Larry



Crook’s Trail

Bill Stephens, tenor; Bob Cutlipp, lead; Larry Kennedy, bass; Rich Hall, Bari

Jim Murphy Recognized

Article and photos: James H. Burden

On the evening of September 12th, **Mr. James ‘Jim’ Murphy** was recognized for his years of service to the High Country Chorus as one of the assistant directors. After the Woolford Road clean up, most everyone met at **Steve and Buff Voller’s** house for a “**Doc**” like party.

The party was just great, especially the featured Coca Cola Room. **Jim, Murph** for short, had to leave the chorus for a while due to a change in venue for his job.

Murph always has a smiling face with those eye brows raised high. But this night

his brows were even higher when he was called to the front of the group where **Mr. Denny** was waiting to present **Murph** with a



Certificate from the chorus. He also received a “Together in Harmony” Coffee Cup. As **Denny Shankland** pointed out; “ Why do people seemed to wait until someone dies before giving them any type of recognition, let’s do it when we can enjoy it too!”

Murph put on his best smile and said, “ Thank you.”

James

FWD, White Mountains Arizona Chapter: High Country Chorus

Officers - 2009

President	Ron LaMar
Immediate Past President	Bob Koons
VP Music & Performance	Denny Shankland
VP Marketing & PR	Steve Voller
VP Membership	Dan Lewis
Secretary	Jim Dye
Treasurer	John Welker
Board Members at Large	Joe Stone
	Jerry Schrunk
	Ron Monette
NPC Representative	Everett Robinson

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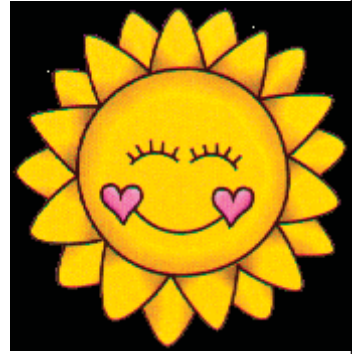
Director	Doc Dockendorf
Asst. Directors	Alan Beste
	Jim Murphy
	Denny Shankland
Music Librarian	Joe Stone
Sunshine Chairman	James H. Burden
Bulletin Editor	Jerry Schrunk
Web Master	Jerry Schrunk
Chorus Photographer	Conrad Monroe
Chapter Historian	Larry Kennedy



**From the Sunshine Chairman
James H. Burden**

***THIS IS THE VERY FIRST DAY
OF THE REST OF YOUR LIFE! DO GOOD WITH IT!***

NOVEMBER & DECEMBER



Carl "Doc" Dockendorf,.. November 10th
Ron Montez,November 15th
Ronald "Ron" LaMar.....November 24th

John Welker.....December 3rd
Charlie Lovett.....December 24th
And Merry Christmas EVE.

Happy Anniversary!

Mr. & Mrs. James H Burden,..... November 4th
Mr. Mrs. Larry Kennedy,December 17th
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Murphy..... December 18th



***Remember, smile and realize who loves you!
And tell them you love them too!***

**Practice doesn't make perfect,
it makes permanent!
So what are you making permanent today?**

P.S. If I have inadvertently missed someone, please forgive me! If you want your birthday and/or anniversary mentioned, please let me know in person, by a note or e-mail. Then I can place you on my forget-me-not list

--- James H. Burden---

First Tuesday of the month, refreshments and bring a guest!



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

FROM THE EDGE Nov., 2009

Calendar of Events				
Date	Event	Time	Uniform	Comments / Location
Notice	Rehearsal Hall changed to NPC, Ponderosa Center, Rm. 110	6:30 PM		NPC - Ponderosa Center, Room 110
November 7, 2009	COTS			Mesa, AZ
November 10, 2009	Music Committee Meeting	6 PM		NPC - Ponderosa
November 30, 2009	St. Johns Christmas Spectacular	6:30 PM	Class B Santa Hats	SJHS Auditorium
December 1, 2009	Chapter Board Meeting Both 2009 and 2010 Officers Elect to attend this meeting	5 PM		NPC - Ponderosa Center, Room 106
December 8, 2009	Music Committee Meeting	6 PM		NPC - Ponderosa
December 22, 2009	No Chorus Practice or Board Meeting Tonight			Practice Hall and Meeting Room "Dark"
December 29, 2009	No Chorus Practice Tonight			Practice Hall "Dark"
January 9, 2010	Officer Installation Dinner			TBD
January 12, 2010	Music Committee Meeting	6 PM		NPC - Ponderosa Center, Room 106
January 26, 2010	Chapter Board Meeting	5:30 PM		NPC - Ponderosa Center, Room 106
March 13, 2010	Big Band & Barbershop	7:00 PM	Class B	NPC - PAC
April 24, 2010	FWD Convention/Contest			TBD
July 17, 2010	Annual Barbershop Show	2 & 7 PM		Show Low Auditorium