

The



Newsletter for the Visalia Mighty Oak Chorus
 Member of the Barbershop Harmony Society
 July 7, 2010



Bud Case, Editor - luthercase@yahoo.com
 Chapter Meetings - Tuesdays - 6:30 - 9:30 p.m.
 First Christian Church, 1023 N. Chinowth, Visalia, CA 93291

Board Members

President - Dee Baughman
 Music VP - Bob Peden
 Membership VP - Jerry Mitchell
 PR VP - Lee Smith
 Secretary - Bud Case, BE & PROBE
 Treasurer - Pat Harrison
 BMAL - Bob Browne
 BMAL - Evert Christoffels
 BMAL - Ted Petersdorf
 BMAL - Paul Simon
 Music Librarian - Gary Smith

Seven Bound to Harmony College West

Harmony College West will be held in Redlands at the University campus. We have seven members that are signed up to take advantage of FWD teachers in a wide variety of areas that can improve our chapter. Jeff Hansen and Landes Dung will attend the directors workshops and Bob Peden, Bob Browne, Bud Case, Luis Muro and Fred Speckman will attend a variety of workshops designed to enhance personal barbershop experience and chapter development. We'll hear more from them when they get back.

Web Site

Mighty Oak Chorus, Visalia
<http://mocv.org>
 Webmaster, Greg Peterson
 Check it out!

Spaghetti Feed Coming Up-August 21, 2010

Calling all members, lets get out and support our next fund-raiser this Aug. 21, 2010 at the Moose Lodge (Visalia). We'll need you there at 1:00 p.m. to help get organized and set up for the "hungry hordes" (we hope) that will start pouring through the doors at 2:00 p.m. until about 7:00 p.m. We will not only serve but we will sing to our hearts' content (as well as that of the diners).

Coming Events

July

16-18 Harmony College West

August

21 Spaghetti Feed

September

11 Picnic-Blaine Park, Visalia

October

* Golf Tournament

* Activities and dates are being planned

Tickets will be \$10.00 (adults) and \$5.00 (children 12 and under) for all you can eat

Chapter Family Picnic

SAVE THE DATE - AUGUST 11, 2010

We are planning to have a picnic Saturday, August 11th at Blaine Park in Visalia. Time and more details will be forthcoming. This will be a relaxing time for the whole family and who knows, Ted might just bring his washer toss game.

July Birthdays

6 Clayton Richey
 7 Bud Case

Congratulations to President, Dee Baughman and his new bride, Lynn

Get Well Soon, Lance

Happy to report that Lance Jepson is recovering at home after and emergency surgery to remove his spleen. We hope to see his smiling face back at practice as soon as he is able.

**Show up!
 Wear your badge!**

DUCKS QUACK, EAGLES SOAR

The following article was submitted by Bob Peden

No one can make you serve customers well..... that's because great service is a choice.,. Harvey Mackay. Tells a wonderful story about a cab driver that proved this point.

He was waiting in line for a ride at the airport. When a cab pulled up, the first thing Harvey noticed was that the taxi was polished to a bright shine. Smartly dressed in a white shirt, black tie, and freshly pressed black slacks, the cab driver jumped out and rounded the car to open the back passenger door for Harvey.

He handed my friend a laminated card and said: "I'm Wally, your driver. While I'm loading your bags in the trunk I'd like you to read my mission statement."

Taken aback, Harvey read the card. It said: Wally's Mission Statement: To get my customers to their destination in the quickest, safest and cheapest way possible in a friendly environment...

This blew Harvey away. Especially when he noticed that the inside of the cab matched the outside. Spotlessly clean!

As he slid behind the wheel, Wally said, "Would you like a cup of coffee? I have: a thermos of regular and one of decaf." My friend said jokingly, "No. I'd prefer a soft drink." Wally smiled and said, "No problem, I have a cooler up front with regular and Diet Coke, water and orange Juice..." Almost stuttering Harvey said, "I'll take a Diet Coke."

Handing him his drink, Wally said, "If you'd like something to read. I have The Wall Street Journal, Time, Sports Illustrated and USA Today."

As they were pulling away, Wally handed my friend another laminated card. "These are the stations I get and the music they play, if you'd like to listen to the radio."

And as if that weren't enough, Wally told Harvey that he had the air conditioning on and asked if the temperature was comfortable for him. Then he advised Harvey of the best route to his destination for that time of day. He also let him know that he'd be happy to chat and tell him about some of the sights or, if Harvey preferred, to leave him with his own thoughts.

"Tell me, Wally," my amazed friend asked the driver, "Have you always served customers like this?"

Wally smiled into the rearview mirror, "No, not always .. In fact, it's only been in the last two years. My first five years driving, I spent most of my time complaining like all the rest

of the cabbies do. Then I heard the personal growth guru, Wayne Dyer, on the radio one day.

He had just written a book called You'll See It When You Believe It. Dyer said that if you get up in the morning expecting to have a bad day, you'll rarely disappoint yourself. He said, "Stop complaining! Differentiate yourself from your competition. Don't be a duck. Be an eagle. Ducks quack and complain. Eagles soar above the crowd.."

"That hit me right between the eyes: said Wall." Dyer was really talking about me, I was always quacking and complaining, so I decided to change my altitude and become an eagle. I looked around at the other cabs and their drivers. The cabs were dirty, the drivers were unfriendly, and the customers were unhappy. So I decided to make some changes. I put in a few at a time. When my customers responded well, I did more."

"I take it that has paid off for you," Harvey said.

"It sure has." Wally replied. "My first year as an eagle, I doubled my income from the previous year. This year I'll probably quadruple it. You were lucky to get me today. I don't sit at cabstands anymore. My customers call me for appointments on my cell phone or leave a message on my answering machine. If I can't pick them up myself, I get a reliable cabbie friend to do it and I take a piece of the action."

Wally was phenomenal. He was running a limo service out of a Yellow Cab. I've probably told that story to more than fifty cab drivers over the years, and only two took the idea and ran with it. Whenever I go to their cities, I give them a call. The rest of the drivers quacked like ducks and told me all the reasons they couldn't do any of what I was suggesting ..

Wally, the Cab Driver made a different choice. He decided to stop quacking like ducks and soaring like eagles.



Music Needed in Our Schools

Newsmax Magazine

June 2010

Callista Gingrich

The following article was submitted by Bob Peden

Music is a vital part of a complete education. Today, unfortunately, many school districts are threatening to cut or eliminate entire music programs.

Music education has many benefits. It teaches discipline, character, teamwork, and self expression. Many studies suggest a strong connection between music and academic achievement. IN fact, early music education helps develop areas of the brain involved in language and mathematics.

Much of our American heritage is preserved through music. As we listen to ragtime, blues, jazz, country, rock, and rap we are reminded of the diverse experience of America.

Music unites us as it cuts across cultural barriers and opens us to new worlds of artistic espression. At a time when our country is divided, why would we eliminate a vehicle that fosters understanding?

Music is integral to our religious experience. From traditional hymns, to Renaissance motets, to African-American spirituals, music joyfully supports prayer and worship.

Music has the power to change and enhance our lives permanently. Many of my formative experiences have been related directly to the study and performance of music. As a young person, I played the piano and the French horn, and sang in a variety of choirs.

For me, music has always been a source of great joy and inspiration.

Today, I still enjoy playing the piano, playing my French horn with the City of Fairfax, Virginia, and singing with the Choir of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Music is a lifetime gift.

To eliminate music from our schools is to diminish a large part of our cultural experience. If we need to save money, let's cut administrative overhead and other unnecessary spending.

Together we can work to support music education in our nation's schools and preserve our cultural identity.