



Newsletter for the Visalia Mighty Oak Chorus  
Member of the Barbershop Harmony Society  
August 27, 2010



Bud Case, Editor - [luthercase@yahoo.com](mailto: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

## Web Site

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

## Coming Events

### September

\* 2011 MOC Board nominations and elections  
11 Picnic-Blaine Park, Visalia  
13 7:00 pm. Board Meeting (Carrows)  
24-26 Youth Harmony Camp w/OC Times

### October

11 7:00 pm. Board Meeting (Carrows)  
\* Golf Tournament

### November

20 Leadership Academy - Sacramento

### March 2011

12 Annual Show  
\* Activities and dates are being planned

## September Birthdays

Anyone want to admit they were born in September?

## Chapter Family Picnic - September 11, 2010

**Hear Ye! Hear Ye! BRING THE FAMILY!!!**

**Be there this Saturday from 1:00 - ? PM.**

**The Chapter will provide the meat.**

**Bring either a salad or main dish or dessert. Bring lawn chairs for your family.**

**Soda, etc. will be provided. No alcoholic beverages.**

## Spaghetti Feed Results

*Submitted by Pat Harrison*

Hey guys, thought you might be interested in how our spaghetti feed went. Fred Speckman was our head chef with Evrett Christoffels his primary helper. I bought a 20 quart stainless steel pasta pan, basket & lid combo that really worked-out great. Four 20 quart aluminum stock-pots with lids were also part of my contribution. We put my 6 burner gas grill outside under the overhang by the dishwashing room and kept 3 pots of water being heated at all times. Bob Browne was the primary water boy. Dee was the organizer.

The serving line held the salad and rolls at the entrance in the kitchen with spaghetti being served at the end of the line (steam table) and butter pats. Guests then proceeded to two tables at the southwest side of the dining area to get their drinks, desert, and salad dressing. There was no bottle-neck in the kitchen.

One of the Moose ladies provided and maintained ice water pitchers at the 10 round dining tables. She also kept fresh coffee brewing. Tea and lemonade were in the orange drink dispensers that I provided last year. They were in the kitchen last year.

We had a great deal of help from the wives: Nikki Crain, Lyn Baughman & her friend, Loreta Simon, Rita Browne, Freida McNutt, Sherrie Smith. I'm sure that I missed some of the wives that helped. Sorry. Being the official gopher (ha!), I didn't see what all the members were doing. I know that Nikki & Rich were on the spaghetti serving line.

Tank and Bob Browne were the last to leave. They were doing the hard

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# Like a Mighty Oak Tree - Part 2

*Psalm 1:3 He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither. Whatever he does prospers. (NIV)*

I chose the Psalm above because it's the season we bear fruit. How will we know if we are bearing fruit? We will attract good singers. How are we going to do that if we keep doing the same thing over and over, expecting the different results? So I challenge each of us to do what it takes to become better singers so other good singers will want to join in.

First I'm going to list the topics and progression Craig presented and then I will share from him material ideas on how to achieve each one.

- |                         |                      |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Vocal capability     | 2. Right notes       |
| 3. Right words          | 4. Melodic integrity |
| 5. Harmonic integrity   | 6. Matching vowels   |
| 7. Matching word sounds | 8. Balancing chords  |
| 9. Timbre match         | 10. Color match      |

## PROGRESSION OF "LOCK AND RING" SKILLS:

*Presented by Craig Ewing*

### 3. RIGHT WORDS

Know your words. This is as obvious as knowing the right notes. Barbershoppers seem to have a knack for learning notes and hearing chords, but words may take a lot more practice. Words get more tricky on longer arrangements when the lyrics

are modified for a second (or third) verse.

Until you are rock solid on the lyrics, you cannot trope to be in sync with the rest of the quartet, or will create "noise" in your section of the chorus.

*l'* Use "flash cards to help learn words. Take advantage of visual, auditory, and tactile learning. *l'* Speak lyrics in tempo, using poetic speech *l'* "Evelyn Wood" speed speaking. If you can remember the words at triple speed, singing them at

normal tempo will seem easy!

### 4. MELODIC INTEGRITY

Barbershoppers do not sing "four part har-mo-nee". Three parts harmonize to a traditional melody. To have a chance at tuning, and to please the ear of the audience, the melody must fit into the tuning expected of "western music" (other cultures expect different tuning).

Matching the notes on a keyboard is a good start, but acappella music requires adjustments that an "equal temperament" instrument cannot make.

*l'* Sing major scale using Solfege syllables.

The lead (or lead section) must always be aware of melodic tuning. At times they may adjust tuning on critical chords to avoid the song going flat (i.e; singing a melody note sharp to tune a held chord when the lead note is the third. The harmony parts must also be aware of melodic tuning so they can anticipate where the melody part will be.

The best way for a group to improve their melodic tuning is by singing the melody in unison.

*l'* Sing melody in unison to "Sweet Roses Of Morn" (Bb). Take care on tuning of "morn" and "dream".

### Spaghetti Feed Continued

labor of pan washing.

Best of all beside the fun time listening to Silver and Gold Quartet from Fresno was that we made comparable to last year, close to \$1,900! Great job everyone!



*More pictures to follow*

