



The

SERENADER

*Celebrating 72 Years of Barbershop Harmony in Albuquerque
Chartered September 14, 1952 - Incorporated October 2, 1953*

E-Newsletter

Editor: Fred Green poolvacman@gmail.com ■ March 2025 ■ An Occasional Publication As the Need Arises



Dick Van Dyke Barbershopper

Dick Van Dyke is an actor, singer, dancer, and comedian who has been involved with barbershop singing through his quartet, The Vantastix, and by singing with other barbershop groups.

The Vantastix

- Van Dyke is the lead singer of The Vantastix.
- Other members of the group include Eric Bradley, Bryan Chadima, and Mike Mendyke
- Van Dyke has performed with The Vantastix at fundraisers and singing with other barbershop groups.
- Van Dyke has sung with the barbershop quartet Metropolis.
- Van Dyke has been involved with the Barbershop Harmony Society.

Barbershop performances

- Van Dyke has performed barbershop music in live settings, including at fundraisers.
- Van Dyke has performed barbershop music while using choreography similar to his movie and Broadway performances.

A bit of Barbershop trivia for you today. You will know that Dick Van Dyke used to sing in most of his films and tv shows but he also dabbled in Barbershop from time to time. In this clip he is taking the bass part in the quartet.

Legendary actor **Dick Van Dyke** was presented with an Honorary Lifetime Membership to the Barbershop Harmony Society prior to this performance and a portion of his speech is included here. Presented and performed live at Arrowhead Pond in Anaheim, California during the Barbershop Harmony Society's 1999 International Convention.

<https://youtu.be/L6cgGIIAsi8?si=cAO9-4lotko3gQpJ>

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What is Dick Van Dyke doing now?

Despite being 99, Van Dyke shows no signs of slowing down. He recently appeared in the music video for the new **Coldplay** single "All My Love." Directed by **Spike Jonze** and **Mary Wigmore**, the video was filmed in October 2024 and features Van Dyke reflecting on life, love and the passage of time. See the video at the link below.

"What is love?" Van Dyke asks. "Boy, they've been attacking that question for centuries. I don't know. It certainly is a feeling of caring about the welfare and the life of the other person as much as you care for yourself."

<https://youtu.be/pSeaHfkd3M8?si=psAXMGzqzMm-4QmL>

For those who don't know



These are **sharps**,
not *#hashtags*.



You don't stop singing barbershop because you
get old.

You get old because you stop singing barbershop.

Sing barbershop.

STAY YOUNG FOREVER.

ANNUAL SINGING VALENTINES

February 13 and 14 saw the combined efforts of the quartets from the New MexiChords and three other barbershop choruses and groups within Albuquerque and kept them busy with delivering our annual Singing Valentines to surprised and delighted recipients.

This annual fundraiser not only helps to raise awareness of our uniquely American art form of a cappella music, but more importantly, to bring much happiness, many smiles, and even a few tears to the special people who received this year's visits.

On the next page are a few photos of our quartets "doing their thing!"



Mixed MetaFour delivering a Singing Valentine



Sandia Sound



Mixed MetaFour



Fourte



ABQ

**HEY, BUDDY, HOW LATE DOES THE
CHORUS SING?
OH, ABOUT A HALF BEAT BEHIND
THE DIRECTOR.**

Just kidding... Really, just kidding!



The New MexiChords “Lineup” as of 1 March 2025

DIRECTOR

Bill Biffle

BARITONE

Hudgens, Tom
Hudson, Hal
Koury, Ruth
Randall, Ron
Romero, Max
Strohl, Bill

BASS

Butler, Larry
Grady, Richard
Green, Fred
Keltner, Ned
Maxwell, Nick
Porter, Doug
Quintana, Jerry
Ring, Dave
Taylor, John
Twiggs, Leo

TENORS

Baker, Charlene
Berardinelli, Bev
Browning, Jo
Hines, Cass
Meyer, Cam
Ratcliff, Hal
Yates, Janet

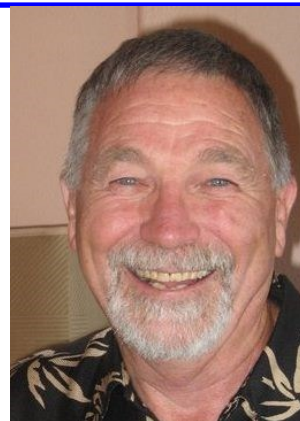
LEAD

Andrews, Tina
Cole, Tom
Courtney, Bob
Green, Eric
Kneen, Pat
Lash, Mike
Leverett, Juliette
Miracle, John
Nelson, Arlo
Parsons, Walt
Preston, Judy
Stavert, Xannie
Taylor, Lynn
Terranova, Cathy
Turner, Mary
Vertrees, Joe



FROM OUR DIRECTOR:

“BIFFLEISMS”



Hello, folks. As always, I hope that this finds you well and happy.

Many of us have had quite a bout of illness the past few weeks and months. It's been a bad flu season, to be sure. Thanks to all of you who came to rehearsal when you could – and stayed away when you should have. We'll weather this storm together.

Making good progress on the new songs for the May shows. I'm really impressed – again – with the work you all are putting in on the learning tracks*. And with the work of our stellar corps of section leaders, too. Thank yours when you see him/her next. They're constantly going the extra mile to ensure that we all have the best experience together possible.

We're searching, as I type this, for a show guest for May and a clinician for the retreat this summer. The retreat will be June 28th all day at the Isleta Convention Center, just like last year. Those of you who were at last year's retreat know what a valuable – and enjoyable – day it was. Tell the newcomers. We need everyone there who can possibly attend. It's a great way to increase our musical skills and grow together as a group, too!

All for now. Thanks for reading. See you Tuesday, Champs!

Bill

*If you're unclear on how to access and use the learning tracks, check with Editor Fred. He's the man with the plan about Groupanizer.

*“Music has Charms to sooth a savage Breast,
To soften Rocks, or bend a knotted Oak.”
~ William Congreve, 1697*

Do you love to sing? Tired of entertaining only yourself
in your car or the shower? C'mon out and see how
much fun it can be to sing with a group of others!

See us at:

www.NMChords.com

Our chorus and quartets love to sing for our audiences and to share our love of barbershop.
You are invited to join with us to enjoy an evening of camaraderie and great barbershop
harmony. Don't miss out on the fun. Come and see what it's all about!

What? Weekly Chapter Meeting & Rehearsal

When? Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m.

Where? St John's United Methodist Church, 2626 Arizona St NE, ABQ 87110



Here's a barbershop shout-out to our members with birthdays in March!

Mark Burton - 2 Mar

Jo Browning - 13 Mar

The voices in my head
have formed a
barbershop quartet

The New MexiChords Calendar

Upcoming Chorus Events

2025

- 14 Mar - Naturalization Ceremony, 10am, ABQ Convention Center, 401 2nd St NW
- Apr TBD - Alegria Road Show, 901 Cottonwood Cir, Bernalillo
- 22 Apr - The Neighborhood Road Show, 900 Loma Colorado Blvd NE, Rio Rancho
- 2 May - Spring Concert, 7pm, St John's Methodist Church, 2626 Arizona St NE
- 3 May - Spring Concert, 2pm, St John's Methodist Church, 2626 Arizona St NE
- 10 Jun - National Anthem (game opener), Isotopes Park, 1601 Avenida Cesar Chavez SE
- 4 Jul - Naturalization Ceremony, 10am, ABQ Convention Center, 401 2nd St NW
- Sep TBD - Rocky Mountain District Convention & Contest (not yet scheduled)
- 5 Dec - Naturalization Ceremony, 10am, ABQ Convention Center, 401 2nd St NW

Stay up-to-date with us by visiting our "Shows & Events" page on the website at:

www.NMChords.com

We are a local chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society (BHS) and a member of the Rocky Mountain District (RMD), which includes parts of the following States/Areas:

Wyoming

Colorado

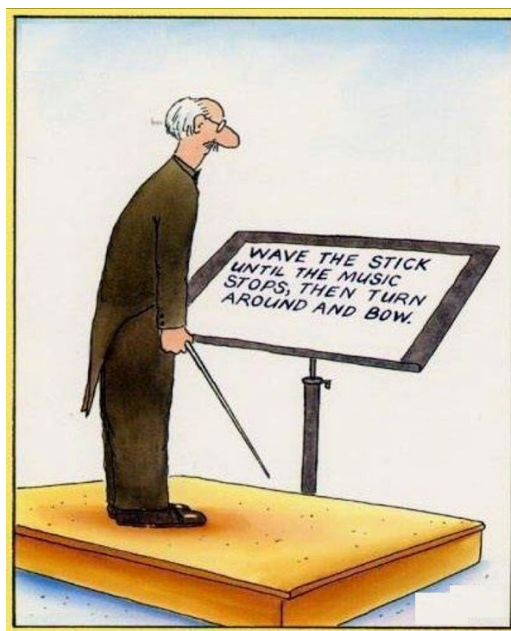
Most of *Utah*

eastern *Idaho*

southern *Montana*

northern *New Mexico*

western portions of *South Dakota, Nebraska, and Kansas*



[Your Chuckles for March](#)

A criminal named Artie was arrested for strangling people at the grocery store for a token payment. The headline reads “Artie Chokes Three for a Dollar in Produce Section”.

A man was sentenced for killing people using Granola. Since he’s a cereal killer, they gave him LIFE in prison.

Which is faster, hot or cold? Hot, because you can catch cold.

Can one bird make a pun? No, but Toucan!

My pet parrot, Nickel, just died. Now I have a Nickel-less cage.

What do lawyers wear to court? Lawsuits.

What’s small and red and has a rough voice? A hoarse radish.

Why can’t you trust the king of the jungle? Because he’s always lion.

What happened when Bluebeard fell overboard in the Red Sea? He got marooned...

Why aren’t Koalas actual bears? They don’t meet the koalafications.

I’m not hard of hearing. I’ve just heard enough.

Two parrots were sitting on a perch. One turns to the other and asks, “Do you smell fish?”

What did Spartacus say when a lion ate his wife? “I’m gladiator!”

“Dad, can you tell me what a solar eclipse is?” No sun.....



Our Mission:

The members of the Albuquerque Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society dedicate themselves to:

- Continually seek the joy to be found in singing well in the barbershop style
- Promote the benefits of our hobby at every available opportunity
- Provide our community with high quality musical entertainment, and
- Foster continual musical growth and fellowship among the members

To be added to our fan list, send your name and email address to subscribe@newmexichords.groupanizer.com
To be removed, send your email address to unsubscribe@newmexichords.groupanizer.com