

Chorus Chatter

News and Musings for Young at Heart Chorus Members

<https://www.youngatheartlascruces.website/>

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Direct-ly from Dennis

While still traveling the world, Dennis sent this message:
"Hi from Spain, Morocco, Cape Verde, Brazil, Uruguay and Argentina. Just the countries we have been in and on our way. Going to RIO tomorrow, and then off to Uruguay and Argentina. A week to go. This is fantastic. Having a great time. See you in a couple of weeks.

A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square...



...which the women will sing on our November program, is a popular British

romantic song written in 1939 and published in 1940, with lyrics by Eric Maschwitz and music by Manning Sherwin. Berkeley Square (which is pronounced *Barkley*) is a large leafy square in Mayfair, a part of London. The Ritz Hotel referred to is just outside Mayfair. The nightingale, a migrant songbird, is

celebrated in literature and music for the beauty of its song. It favors rural habitats and is unlikely to be heard in Central London Wikipedia

A Big Thanks

Thanks to Sue Lashley's family for a very generous donation to our chorus. Several of us sang at her very nice service, in memory of a very sweet and wonderful woman. We're glad we had the opportunity to remember Sue, and we're thankful for the unexpected but very appreciated gift.

Wes Boots



Music has been an important part of Wes Boots's life as long as he can remember. His parents sang in the church choir (and often sang duets of "special music"). Sunday afternoons were often spent in the parlor of his grandparents' farmhouse, with his Dad's youngest

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brother playing the piano as his Dad sang baritone/lead in a men's quartet with another brother and two cousins.

They sang *everywhere*—in church, school, boy scouts, 4-H! When Wes got to high school in Ellwood City, PA, he enrolled in the boys choir, then the mixed "Concert Choir," and finally, as a senior, in the 16-member *Choral Capers*. His decision to attend *Baldwin-Wallace College* in Berea, Ohio, was influenced by a chance visit with an older high school choir member while on a "campus visit." In college, he continued to sing in the United Methodist Church choir and for one year in the college's annual *Bach Festival* choir. After graduation he continued to sing in the church choir as he taught social studies in Southmoreland Schools, southeast of Pittsburgh.

Wes's late-wife, Rosalie, was a member of the *Wartburg College Choir* throughout her undergraduate enrollment and afterward, she sang in community choirs. Following retirement, she renewed her connections with the *Wartburg*

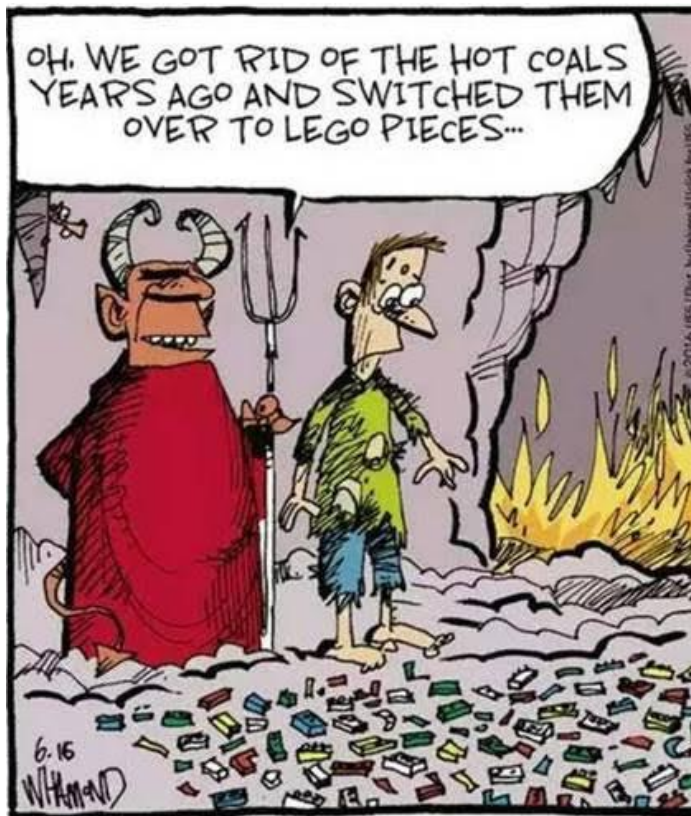
Alumni Choir, which held biennial reunions. Partners were welcome to join the singing, so Wes tagged along. Over several reunions they sang in CO and IA and at the Wartburg Castle in Eisenach, Germany. They even made a recording.

Wes and Rosalie first came to Las Cruces when their son-in-law was hired to direct NMSU's "Onion Breeding Program." Until their retirement, they visited as often as they could. Afterward, they first rented a "furnished apartment" or stayed at motels for shorter visits. They were among the first residents of Phase II of *Casitas at Morning Star* condominiums.

After Rosalie's death, Wes sang with the *GoodTime Singers* for the last several years of that group's existence. Then, friends encouraged him to join *Young at Heart Chorus*, and he's glad they did! He continues to split his time between Las Cruces (where he has two grandsons) and New Stanton, PA (where he has four grandchildren—and now a great-grandson).

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Lost in Canada

An American couple, lost while driving through Canada, stops at a gas station. The man gets out of the car, goes inside the station and asks the attendant, "Can you tell me where we are?": The attendant answers, "Saskatoon, Saskatchewan." The man nods and goes back to his car. "Did he tell you where we are?" asks his wife. "No," says the husband. "He didn't speak English." *Reader's Digest*

Humor Helps the Heart

Twenty-six participants with coronary artery disease, in which plaque and inflammation impede the ability of the arteries to bring enough blood and oxygen to the heart, were split into two groups. One group watched two comedy TV shows each week, while the other watched documentaries. After 12 weeks, those who watched comedy saw a 10% increase in how much oxygen their heart could pump. By releasing endorphins, laughter may reduce inflammation and help muscles in the arteries to relax. It's also proven to lower stress. *Reader's Digest*

