# THE BLACK ROSE

As official a publication as you're going to get from the Black Rose Acoustic Society, dedicated to traditional music in the Black Forest and Colorado Springs.

## Friday the 13th Proves Lucky

Last Friday's Black Rose gathering was our best ever! Over 70 people turned out for a great evening of live music and jamming. Thanks to all the performers: Murry Stewart and the County Engineers (that's the name we're going to use until they give us a real one), Larry Fish and Becky Miklich, who came down from Denver, Dennis Bailey and Rick Cox, Bob Smethers, and Black Rose with guests Mike Carr, Alan Malone, Darren Kunkel, Katie Hall, and Nancy Alexander. We also had lots of fine picking afterwards during the open jam.

# **Big Bucks**

We took in enough money to cover renting the hall and most of the cost of the new signs. If we do this well next time, we'll be able to extend the jamming an extra hour to 11:30 (nobody wants to stop picking at such an early hour!), or... Charlie can get that cool tank-top he's been eyeing down at the Wal-Mart.

#### Next Event

Friday, May 27 7:30 PM. For more info or to sign up to perform, call Hope at 719-495-0858 or

Charlie at 719-495-9654

## **Unsung Heroes**

We'd like to extend a special thanks to all the folks who've helped out during the last three Black Rose events. They've done it just for the love of the music (or their spouse who loves the music) and the community: Alex Carr, who did the wonderful art work for the signs, Marcia Hall, who coordinated and ran the kitchen, and painted the signs along with Hope Kressner, Rob Tobiassen and Sue Coulter for bringing their sound systems and setting

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them up, Brandon Hall for a great job running the door and serving as bouncer, Mike "a little mustard with that treble?" Carr for invaluable experience and help in running the sound system, Walt and Toni Pleimann for plugging some economic holes, and Bonnie and Eric Olson for lots of support, good cheer, ideas, great chili, and filling the gaps.

# Feedback

We got lots of questionnaires back from folks; thanks to all who took the time to fill it out! Responses were very positive; folks liked the music and the fun, relaxed family atmosphere; performers, likewise, had good things to say about the audience. The main suggestions for improvement were (1) better heating that's an easy one to fix (2)monitors on the stage - also an easy one, and (3)controlling crowd noise. We've got some ideas here that should help a lot, but you can help out as well; if

someone's conversation is distracting to you, politely ask them to Stuff A Sock In It. If you're talking and someone asks you to Stuff A Sock In It, don't take it personally, but please do take it seriously. There will be a small box of relatively clean socks at the door.

### PERFORMERS...

If you'd like to perform, please call us ASAP. Time slots are filling up quickly.

## **New Format**

We've heard from several folks that they "came to pick", and would like more time to jam. We also realize that folks want to be able to socialize and talk. In response, we're going to try shortening the concert segment to one and a half hours, from 7:30 to 9:00, then bring up the lights for jamming and socializing. For folks who came to listen, stick around and check out the jamming; it's some of the best and most spontaneous music you'll hear!

It's a little-known fact that when Mary Poppins left the nanny business in London, she emigrated to California where she set up a fortune tellers shop foretelling episodes of bad breath. The sign that was hung outside the shop door:

Super California Mystic, Expert Halitosis

Hey, they can't all be gems.

# **Help Wanted**

We need volunteers for cleanup, kitchen help, working the sound and mikes, and bringing food. It's a good way to have fun, help out, and meet a better class of people without that nasty tax burden of reasonable financial compensation. If you'd like to help, please call Hope or Charlie.

#### Do you...

- ...have an instrument for sale?
- ...give lessons?
- ...have a band for hire?
- ...have a musical event to promote?
- ...want to find others to jam with?

Bring a notice with you and put it on the Music Exchange Bulletin Board.