



Licensed Beverage & Hospitality

920 E Lyndale  
Helena, MT 59601  
406.442.5040  
Montanatavernassociation.com

**For Immediate Release**  
**December 11, 2017**

**Contact:** Margaret Herriges, Executive Director  
406.442.5040  
Margaret@montanatavernassociation.com

## BREWS AND HYMNS

It's been said that singing is like praying twice, but no one expects hymns to be sung in a bar. Yet that's exactly what happened at the Stockman in Harlowtown on October 29<sup>th</sup>.

It started when a woman from the community approached bar owners Harry and Sharyn Klock with the idea. "She had heard about something similar happening in Billings years ago and always thought it would be a fun idea, so she asked us and we thought what the heck, let's do it."

So the local churches were all invited and a notice was put in the *Times-Clarion*, the local newspaper. "The lady who planned it was so nervous," Harry chuckled. "Her sister warned her not to be too disappointed if no one showed up." But people did show up.

"We set up a couple of keyboards in the back of the bar and we had to pull the pool table out of the way to make more room for folks. We even had people come from the surrounding communities. There were more than 50 people who came to a bar to sing hymns."

Some out-of-state hunters who make annual hunts in Montana this time of year walked in during the middle of a hymn, Harry chuckled, "And their eyes got big as saucers. They said later they thought I'd gone over to the dark side!"

The owners put out free hot dogs for everyone to enjoy and folks ordered drinks and sodas throughout the event. "It was a lot of fun, Sharyn and I really enjoyed it. We had some regulars but we also had a lot of people who never come in to the bar. We hope it becomes an annual event here in Harlowtown."

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