



**The Big Chicken Chorus  
Marietta, GA  
2004 International Convention  
Louisville, KY**

**Fall Convention  
Registration forms -  
pages 10-11**

**Dixie District SPEBSQSA**

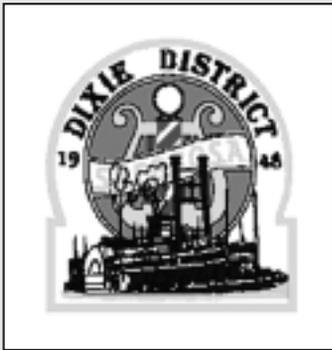
Tom West, *Editor*

175 Davis Road

Southern Pines, NC 28387

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## VISION

To be the best “cotton-pickin” district within the Society in every conceivable way by promoting excellence in barbershop quartet singing throughout the states within the geographic borders of the Dixie District.

## MISSION

To provide support and assistance to the members and chapters of the Dixie District in fully developing and realizing their individual chapter missions, to conduct conventions, festivals and other events at which members and chapters can share and enjoy their common love for barbershop harmony, to conduct schools and other educational events at which members and others can learn and improve their musical skills, to support a wide range of charitable activities, and to widely promote barbershop quartet harmony in communities throughout the District.

## DEADLINE

Deadlines for the Rebel Rouser are approximately four to five weeks before the publication reaches the membership.

Please keep this in mind when planning time sensitive advertisements.

Deadlines are the 15th of January, April, July and October.

# Just One Voice

*Editor's Note: Please see page thirteen for complete text of the Society's announcement regarding staff reductions.*

I have received emails (responded to them all), phone calls and spoken personally with many DIX and SUN barbershoppers, and beyond, reference the recent announcement of an inevitable reorganization of our Society headquarters. I would be the first to wish that everything could remain the same for change is often painful and extremely difficult to accept, especially when it concerns staff members (friends) and families. The bottom line is that our Society cannot continue to lose members and operate as we have for the last few years...and I must add, with all my heart, that I have the utmost respect and admiration for the tremendous efforts and successes of Darryl Flynn and every member of the Kenosha staff over those years.

There are well meaning members who have determined that the announced staff releases and reorganization were the result of the Society not meeting anticipated registration counts at the recent Louisville International Convention.

Not so! The reorganization plan was under study well prior to the convention.

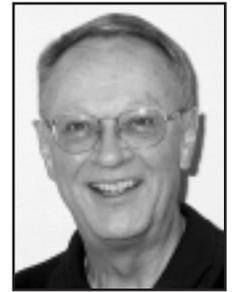
Reorganization is always painful but, in this instance, absolutely necessary. If we are to prosper as a viable Society and attain the desired level of recognition and accomplishment, we must always examine the way we operate and make the appropriate changes. As an interim step, Kenosha staff duties will be reassigned to cover all bases. It will be difficult but it shall be done. during this process, I beg that all members maintain faith and enthusiasm in our entire barbershop family for there will be a brighter future. I can further promise there will be announcements quite soon that will offer greater explanation, including a reorganization plan and structure designed to halt membership erosion and accomplish our greater objectives.

As a concluding request, I would ask those members, who would voice strong opposition to the path our Society “must” take, to hold their objections until such time that they have the entire plan in their hands. And thanks for this opportunity to express my thoughts and ongoing support of our Society leadership.

*Thom Hine*, Society Board Rep for DIX and SUN

## ADDRESS CHANGES...

Dixie District members – **DO NOT SEND CHANGE OF ADDRESS TO THE EDITOR.** Mailing data is provided by SPEBSQSA. PLEASE send change of address to Chapter Secretary and/or the International office in Kenosha, WI. Copies of the Rebel Rouser not deliverable at time of mailing will not be forwarded!



*Thom Hine*

# Are We Having Fun Yet??

How many times have we heard this statement “are we having fun yet”? I am sure this statement may have even been heard from some barbershoppers going home from an uninspiring rehearsal? Oh perish the thought! Aren’t our rehearsals always FUN, uplifting and full of energy or are they like some hospital room heart monitors, just straight lining? You know this brings back some great memories of the chapter program VP’s that often made FUN things happen.

I can recall when the program VP’s would insure that a quartet would sing at every meeting and all of the guests would be included in this activity. And how about push out quartets or “spot light” quartets performing several times a month. The old spot light quartet would be picked from the chapter membership, given a week or two to rehearse with costuming and choreography and then perform at rehearsal, maybe to be judged and then their picture taken and placed on a board in the rehearsal hall. Prizes would be given periodically for the best quartet of that time period. Of course the prize would be really something no one wanted.

There would also be nights when all members would have to wear all the chapter/society pins, patches and badges they had in their possession. Also there was flowerdy shirt night, Bermuda shorts night, ugly tie night, ugly hat night, sports apparel night and so forth. Do you also remember the time segment set aside for joke telling and the chapter family picnics which featured great song and great food? Remember the FUN and energy created by these activities could be measured or cut with a knife. Even our business session would be presented in a lighthearted manner. Were these FUN activities once a part of the barbershop chapter rehearsal program, or am I just dreaming?

Oh well it’s great to remember those old chapter program VP’s and what they brought to the plate. I wonder if they are gone forever or are they just waiting somewhere to make a big comeback? Maybe they just might reappear at your next rehearsal and pump some energy into the program? We can always remember or wait and see what the future brings.



## Just A Few Good Men

Have you seen this question asked before? Of course you have, it’s the Marine Corps recruiting slogan. Well it does work for the Marines who have a long history of recruiting the best men available. Therefore, I am going to use the same recruiting slogan. We are also looking for a few good men for service at the Dixie District level. If you wish to experience more fun, have exciting challenges, and be in a position to make many contributions to the Dixie District and the Society, then brother read further.



Frank Cristina

*continued on page 17*

The **Rebel Rouser** is published quarterly by the Dixie District Association of Chapters of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America, Inc. Second class postage paid - Southern Pines, NC 28387. Office of publication - 175 Davis Road, Southern Pines, NC 28387 • (910) 692-8366. Subscription rate: \$15.00 non-members, no charge to members.

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# Membership Retention ...



Bob Tilton

To all Chapter Presidents:

A few months ago I sent the following article entitled *Membership Retention to your VP of Membership or your VP of Chapter Development*. It discusses two very important issues:

1. How to keep your Chapter membership from declining.
2. The importance of Membership Teams to the overall success

of your Membership Development Program.

Have you and your Chapter Board made Membership Development a regular subject of discussion at your Board meetings? Is your Chapter one of the 36 Chapters in the Dixie District that suffered a Membership decline during the first several months of 2004?

RECORDS SHOW THAT WE LOSE A LARGE PERCENTAGE OF OUR MEMBERS BECAUSE THEY FAIL TO RENEW THEIR MEMBERSHIP AT THE END OF THE FIRST YEAR!

- Should we allow this to happen? Of course not!
- Why does it happen?

We believe it happens because we don't give enough attention to a cardinal rule of retention, i.e. MAKE THE MEMBERS FEEL THAT THEY ARE A PART OF SOMETHING REALLY WORTHWHILE!

How do we do this?

We do this by using what I call the MOP Approach!

**M** means to make sure that your MUSIC DIRECTOR knows and understands the Barbershop Style, knows how to teach that style to the chorus and knows how to get the chorus to respond so that they work together as a team.

**O** means to make sure that you have an ORIENTATION PROGRAM for all new and returning members.

There is nothing worse than attending your first few meetings at any organization and finding out that no one seems to care that you're there!

This can be easily prevented by using what is commonly called, the "Buddy System". As a guest or returning member arrives, a "Buddy" who "knows the ropes" should be assigned to each of them, to make sure that they:

- \* attend the meetings
- \* receive the music they need
- \* are seated where help is readily available to learn the music
- \* are introduced to other Chapter members
- \* understand the Chapter goals
- \* are helped through the audition process
- \* are assisted in learning the Barberpole Cat songs
- \* are included in the Afterglows
- \* get recognition when receiving their Membership Certificates and yearly

*continued on page 18*

# The Butterfly Effect & Leadership Creativity

*The following was forwarded to me, and I thought it very appropriate . . . Dwain*

By Don Fuson, CSD VP Chapter Support & Leadership Training

There are many experiences and leadership traits that we bring as individuals to the chapter, the district and to the Society. We often overlook the “outside” experience of our members because they just “came to sing.”

Ultimately, each member should be evaluated as an additional source for expertise to support chapter programs. Not one member should be overlooked when the question is asked, “What hidden (or unknown) talents does Joe Barbershopper have that I could learn from?”

We know that we need to focus on singing well and taking that message to the public in successful programs and educational forums. We also know that we need to grow our membership to allow the infusion of “new guys” into our Society. We need to have a mentoring approach as we bring these new members up to speed with the culture, repertoire and history of the local chapter. We need to continue to participate in events that enrich the community and also enrich the lives of the singers that create our harmonies.

The leaders will have to create compelling future goals for each chapter and then help make those goals a reality. Leaders must work with the members to get their skills directed toward chapter programs. Leaders must inspire others to do their best on behalf of the whole chapter, not just a subset of interests. The leaders must give birth to the creative energies of others that will follow and (of necessity) continue to change what is in place today. Change and growth are the necessary measures of a vibrant chapter.

Our chapter leaders inspire others to create their own compelling futures, to articulate their futures and to inspire others in turn. In other words, leaders create the future leaders for the chapter, district and the Society.

Now where is the butterfly effect in all this “leadership” stuff? The critical element is that not one of us can accurately predict where the next great idea or the next chapter leader will come from. We need to be looking for ways to help others succeed where we fail. We need to help the entire chapter get involved in planning goals and measuring their successes.

We need to recognize the butterfly harmonies in every person that we meet. The pressure from someone “flapping their wings” may be the catalyst to get others thinking about “doing something different.”

It is that different thought or proposal, when crafted into a series of attainable steps that will allow new leaders to emerge.

All current butterflies will migrate to another field someday. We want to make sure that our organizational flowers will attract new butterflies to our Society. We want to have leaders with different colors in their wings, and even new appetites for different harmonies as we continue to create attainable goals for our fellow members.



Dwain Chambers

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# Contest & Judging



Larry Deters

## 2004 Fall Contest Entry Instructions

On October 1-3, 2004 the Dixie District will hold its Fall Convention & Contests. In order to enter one of these contests you must complete an electronic entry form. There are three contests, the Dixie District International Chorus Preliminary Contest, the Dixie District Quartet Contest and the Dixie District Seniors Contest.

The entry forms will be found at [www.spebsqsa.org](http://www.spebsqsa.org). Click on members only, go down the page to contest registration and click on enter a chorus or quartet. Click on members only again and complete the entry form. Be sure to complete all the information and electronically sign the form. Click on submit. A copy of the entry will be forwarded to me and I will acknowledge receipt by return e-mail. If after a week you have not received an acknowledgment, please resubmit the entry. If that fails, call Larry Deters at 615-373-4507 or e-mail me at [detersl@aol.com](mailto:detersl@aol.com)

All quartets must be registered with the society. All members of a competing chorus or quartet must be paid up members of the society and a Dixie chapter. They must also hold a registration for the convention. Failure to meet these requirements will result in disqualification of the quartet or chorus. The deadline for entries for all three contests is September 17, 2004. Please use the comments section of the entry form for special requests, like "need to sing late or early" (state reason) or "have dual members with another chorus so don't schedule close to one another", etc. I'll do my best to honor your requests.

The quartet contests will begin at 7:00 PM Friday, October 1 and the chorus contest will begin at 11:00 AM Saturday, October 2. The quartet finals will begin at 8:00

PM Saturday, October 2. The seniors contest will be combined with the regular quartet contest. The winner of the seniors contest will be based on their Friday night scores only. Seniors quartets may choose to compete in both contests by marking their entry forms appropriately. The Dixie District senior representative to the Midwinter convention will be the highest scoring seniors quartet. The Dixie District Seniors Champion will be the highest scoring seniors quartet who have not previously won the award. A novice quartet award will be presented to the highest scoring quartet with no more than two members who have competed at the district level in any district. You must identify your quartet as a novice if you qualify by choosing that option on your entry form.

*Larry Deters, DVP for C&J, Dixie*

## **Get Involved!**

The Barbershop Harmony Society  
International Community Service Project

Veteran's Day/Remembrance Day  
November 11, 2004

*Is your chapter participating in this great international community service event? Now is the time... sign up today at <http://www.spebsqsa.org/remembrance>. There you will find materials and guidelines for planning your own local event. Don't miss out on this great occasion!*

## Notice to Dixie Barbershoppers Interested in Becoming Society Judges

The opportunity to join the ranks of the society's judging fraternity occurs only once every three years. Applications will be accepted from August 1, 2004 to December 31, 2004. If you are interested in the three year training process to become a judge, send an e-mail to Larry Deters, DVP for C&J, Dixie District [detersl@aol.com](mailto:detersl@aol.com). The process will require you to complete a questionnaire & identify 5 barbershoppers including your chapter president who would agree to complete a questionnaire recommending you for the program. A strong musical background including both formal musical education and loads of vocal musical experience are highly desirable. In addition, the ability to provide positive and negative feedback to performing groups is a requirement. I will provide you the application form when requested. I will also be happy to any answer questions about the program.

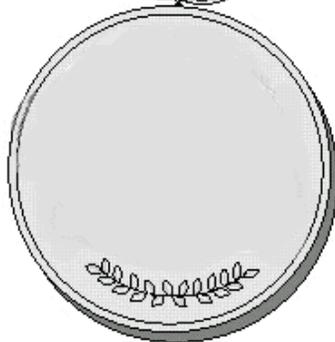
*Larry Deters, DVP for C&J, Dixie*

The Cleveland Scream Machine

presents

# Show of Champions

A Cappella Singing at its Finest



Lee University's Conn Center

August 28, 2004 7:00 PM

2004 International Silver Medalist

**Max Q**

2002 International Champs

**Four Voices**

2003 Dixie District Quartet Champions

**State Line Grocery**

Internationally Acclaimed Mixed Ensemble

**Voices of Lee**

2003 Dixie District Chorus Champs

**Cleveland Scream Machine**

**Tickets**

**General Admission**

**\$10 - \$15 - \$20**

Cleveland Chapter SPEBSQSA

Barry Owens, Ticket Contact

8918 Villa Rica Circle.

Chattanooga TN 37421

Bowens44@comcast.net

423-893-8347; 423-505-8583

**High Country Harmonizers...**

The High Country Harmonizers of Blue Ridge, Georgia recently performed a finale at a local "Singing in the Mountains" gospel fest. The event occurred in the new performing arts center in Blue Ridge and was attended by almost 800 people, featured a seventy member chorus consisting of choir members from 18 area churches and 18 gospel group performers. The Harmonizers closed the event with a patriotic salute by singing "America the Beautiful" and singing the overlay as the audience sang "America the Beautiful."

The Harmonizers also performed at a fund raising event in Murphy, North Carolina on Friday, May 21st. The event raised funds to build a community swimming pool for the youth of the county and provide hydro-therapy for those requiring it. Our presence was greatly appreciated by those attending this event.

*Carl Hubbell, High Country Harmonizers*

**Director Search... Triad Harmony Express**

Presented with some exciting professional opportunities, Matt Troy (tenor of Genesis) has tendered his resignation as Chorus Director for Triad Harmony Express in Winston-Salem. We all wish him the best and encourage you to pass along a "good luck" if you get the chance.

I'm chairing our Director Search Committee. If any of you guys are interested in applying, or if you know of anyone you can refer us to, please be in touch with me at [tparker@peoplepc.com](mailto:tparker@peoplepc.com). Also, I can be reached at (336) 784-1263.

Thanks, Tom Parker

**GRAND STRAND CHAPTER - DIXIE DISTRICT, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, SPONSOR OF THE HORRY COUNTY CHORAL FESTIVAL**

The Low Country Barbershop Chorus of the Grand Strand Chapter of SPEBSQSA sponsored this year's Horry County High School Choral Festival on April 20th at Myrtle Beach High School. As part of the Chapter's Young Men In Harmony program, the Festival included six of the county's nine high schools, with approximately 200 young men and women performing on stage. Students representing Aynor H.S.; Carolina Forest H.S.; Green Sea Floyds H.S.; Myrtle Beach H.S.; North Myrtle Beach H.S.; and Saint James H.S. performed selections from their chorus repertoire. The Chapter prepared and printed programs and included a S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. Fact Sheet and the Origins of Barbershop Harmony. Josh Radecke, Choral Director for Myrtle Beach High School served as coordinator of the event along with Dave Alexander, YMIH VP. Assisting were Chapter members Jack Cox, Jerry Terwilliger, Roger Smith, Dick Rutherford, and Fred Wilson.

**The General Assembly Chorus**

*And although their identity morphed after Rudy's departure, their convincing demonstration that quality did not have to stem from quantity paved the way for the current international chorus landscape, where more is not necessarily better.*

*-Roger Payne, The Harmonizer, January/February 2004*

**S**o what have you done for me lately? Is it the comeback trail? The General Assembly Chorus returned to district competition this March to renew its claim to the Dixie Championship. Only three points away from the gold (and in a historic tie with Stone Mountain for the silver), the chorus restored its position as a potential international contender. Their last win was in 2001 following their decade-earlier string of wins in 1979, '80, '81, '82, '84, '85, '88, when they were nick-named "the little VM".

Bucking the norm and playing to its strength, the chorus competed with two ballads: the wrenching "Lover Come Back" and "If I Give My Heart to You", a lush ballad seldom heard in competition. Under the direction of **Karl Stosch**, "the little chorus that could" won the hearts of the audience with only 42 men on stage.

Karl, an Associate Director, brought all of his energy and emotional intensity to the performance, as indeed he did with every rehearsal. All the more amazing as Karl struggles through the final rounds of chemotherapy treatments. And the chorus rewarded Karl with the most moving performance of the competition.

No success is instant; it requires a lot of hard work and talent. The chorus brought in **Todd Wilson** of VM and Acoustix fame, to provide inspiration and motivation to create the proper work ethic and winning mindset. Director **Robert Cox** provided vocal coaching while **Jade Walker** provided the 'judges' eyes and ears to score and critique each set. Finally, living-legacy **Rudy Partin** returned to work his magic on phrasing and balance to produce his trademark resonant vocal production.

Preparations began in July of 2003. With two major productions and several performances on the schedule, it was decided to split the load with Robert directing all performances and Karl directing the contest. Attention focused on song selection, with "If I Give My Heart to You" replacing "Sentimental Gentleman". In January, "Lover Come Back" was selected to replace "My Ideal". Rehearsals

were held each Thursday beginning in November for the competition while Mondays were reserved for show preparation. Starting in January, half of Monday's rehearsal time went to contest preparation. Individual section rehearsals perfected unit sound while joint section rehearsals focused on balance. The chorus videotaped each rehearsal and Karl personally reviewed the tapes and provided written feedback sheets to each chorus member. Not everyone made the cut. In a true testament of the cohesiveness of the group, those men "off the risers" assisted the music team and everyone attended the convention.

**While it's the music that draws us together,** it's the fellowship that keeps us together. A diverse membership requires and supports a variety of programs. Even in a small chorus, it's possible to provide something for everyone. And drawing on individual talents in show production, marketing, personal relations, management and graphic arts has resulted in significant achievements in RTP chapter operations.

**Young Men in Harmony.** With **Bob Dickson**, District Vice President, leading the way, RTP is the undisputed leader in youth outreach programs. The flagship activity, the High School Quartet Competition, now in its ninth year, has attracted over 120 male and female high school quartets from 34 area high schools. Winning teachers and students have attended Harmony College and SAI Symposium, Dixie District Harmony Camp at Clemson University and the SAI camp at Lenoir College in Asheville, NC. In its second year and doubling in growth is the Get America Singing Again (GAS-A) program, an initiative designed to encourage vocal music in elementary schools. Songbooks are provided free to the schools on condition that they put on a performance (and the General Assembly will be there to help!). Each Fall, the chapter sponsors a Coed Youth Festival where students receive special coaching and have the chance to perform in a chorus under the direction of SPEBSQSA and SAI clinicians.

**Show Production.** "Your shows just get better and better" is what our audiences are telling us. So good, in fact, that two "Live" CDs were cut and a DVD of Songs of the Season is in the works. And it's showing in attendance, ad and ticket sales. The chorus now offers two major productions a year: A Spring

Show with three performances and a Holiday Show with two performances at the prestigious BTi Center for the Performing Arts.

**Membership Development.** In an era where everything seems to be downsizing, chapter membership is doing good to hold its own, and perhaps even grow slightly.

**Community Outreach.** The General Assembly has appeared at the Durham Arts Festival, the Capitol Tree Lighting Ceremony, the Veterans Administration Hospital, and five area retirement homes. Largely the



General Assembly - Research Triangle Park, NC

effort of Andy Lesperance, these community relations activities have brought barbershop to those who might not have had the opportunity to enjoy our performances. And to increase community awareness, the chapter president Paul Martin is leading the way in establishing an outside Advisory Board made up of the movers and shakers in the arts community. This board meets twice a year and is in a position to open new doors of opportunity for the chorus.

**Where do they go from here?** The General Assembly has the organizational experience and musical talent to continue to be a positive influence in the district. With their goal of "Continual Improvement", it won't be long before we see them exerting their influence in the international arena.

*by Paul Martin*

#### **Gaston Chordweavers**

The Gaston Chordweavers (Greater Gaston Chapter NC) sang the National Anthem for the summer league Gaston Grizzlies on July 13th in Gastonia, NC. One of the founding members of our chapter, Herman Hester, was honored with "Herman Hester Day". Herman sang bass.

*Steven Burke, The Gaston Chordweavers*

# HOUSING RESERVATION FORM

DIXIE DISTRICT  
CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE  
OCTOBER 1, 2004 TIL OCTOBER 3, 2004  
*Convention Rates Available September 30 through October 3, 2004*

OFFICIAL HOUSING FORM  
**DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT – SEPTEMBER 10, 2004**

Hotel Reservations for the Society for the Preservation/Encouragement-Barbershop Quartet Singing can be quickly done at [www.housingweb.net](http://www.housingweb.net). **Use the Convention ID Code: 2050** *If you do not have Internet access* you must use this form to make your hotel reservations for this convention. Please complete all information requested. Photocopies are acceptable. Mail **OR** fax this form to the below address. **PLEASE DO NOT DO BOTH.** (When faxing this form, please include a cover sheet stating # of pages, and contact name/phone number). A confirmation from your assigned hotel will follow. Allow at least two weeks for processing.

**CHATTANOOGA AREA CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU**  
**ATTENTION: CAROLYN MILLER, CONVENTION SERVICES MANAGER**  
**2 BROAD STREET – CHATTANOOGA, TN 37402**  
**FAX NUMBER: 423/265-1630**

Rates are per night. Send only one application per room. The Chattanooga Area Convention and Visitors Bureau process all forms on a first-come, first-serve basis. Only official housing forms are accepted (copies permitted). **RESERVATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED BY PHONE.** DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF RESERVATIONS IS SEPTEMBER 10, 2004. Please do not send a check or money order, only credit card guaranteed reservations will be processed by the CCVB. All rates are subject to 9.25% sales tax, and 8% occupancy tax. NO SHOW POLICY: You must cancel your reservation **72 HOURS (3 DAYS) PRIOR TO THE DAY OF ARRIVAL** to avoid being charged room and tax for that night. You will receive a written confirmation from your hotel in about two weeks.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_  
STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE # (home) \_\_\_\_\_ (Work) \_\_\_\_\_ FAX # \_\_\_\_\_  
CHECK-IN DATE (required) \_\_\_\_\_ DEPARTURE DATE (required) \_\_\_\_\_ #OF NIGHTS \_\_\_\_\_  
ROOM TYPE REQUEST: ONE KING BED \_\_\_\_\_ DOUBLE/DOUBLE \_\_\_\_\_ (TWO BEDS)

YES \_\_\_ NO \_\_\_ Send me information about suites.

ROOMMATE INFORMATION: (If Applicable)

NAME OF PERSON #2 \_\_\_\_\_  
NAME OF PERSON #3 \_\_\_\_\_  
NAME OF PERSON #4 \_\_\_\_\_

HOTEL CHOICES AND ROOM RATES:

CHATTANOOGA MARRIOTT	\$95(Headquarters Hotel)	- CHOICE # _____
CLARION HOTEL	\$78	- CHOICE # _____
DAYS INN RIVERGATE	\$77	- CHOICE # _____

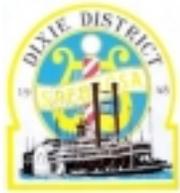
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**DIXIE DISTRICT FALL CONVENTION  
OCTOBER 1-3, 2004  
CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Nickname \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter \_\_\_\_\_ Voice Part \_\_\_\_\_

Your Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Guest Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

CATEGORY	REGISTRATION FEE	NUMBER	LATE FEE*	TOTAL
MEMBER	\$30.00 Early Bird	X _____	+ \$ _____	= \$ _____
GUESTS	\$30.00 Early Bird	X _____	+ \$ _____	= \$ _____
TOTAL AMOUNT INCLOSED				\$ _____

(\*LATE FEE OF \$5.00 FOR MEMBERS AND GUESTS APPLIES AFTER SEPT. 17, 2004).  
No pre-registrations will be accepted after September 24, 2004.

**MAKE CHECK/MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO DIXIE DISTRICT, SPEBSQSA, INC**

**Special Needs Handicapped**

Members who joined the Society after March 21, 2004 are entitled to one free registration for this Fall Convention in Chattanooga. Pay only for any guests.

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# Four Voice Theory

by Steve Shannon, AHSOW VP Education, Vocal Performance Coach, Houston, TX

## The Tenor

The proper volume relationship is critical to the creation (or destruction) of the “expanded sound” which is characteristic of excellent Barbershop quartet singing.

We once had a category that specifically rewarded optimum volume relationships between the voices, (Balance) and the optimum matching of vowels, consonants and diphthongs (Blend). Now we call the effect of these vocal skills “expanded sound,” but the rules of physics which create it have not changed.

Basses still sing mostly roots and fifths, and create all of the potential notes that will be sung by the voices above them. So the more consistently the bass creates perfect vowels (i.e. “Target Sounds”) on every part of every word he sings (i.e. “Tone Syllables”), the better the opportunity for the three other singers to ring each chord.

Leads are the only quartet members designated to sing the song (i.e. Melody). Thus, Leads set the pace, the phrasing, color, dynamic levels, etc. That means the other parts must balance to the Lead first, or lose the optimum overtones.

Baris sing lots of 5ths, octave roots with the Bass, some 6ths and 3rds and as many wonderful 7ths as they can. But their primary responsibility is to provide exactly the right tone (i.e. matched Target Sounds) and exactly the right volume (Balance) to make the Bass sound magnificent, the Lead sound beautiful, and the Tenor note obvious.

When the Lead, Bari and Bass are in perfect consonance, the Tenor has only one viable choice: sing exactly the right target sounds at just enough volume to reinforce the overtones which are already being produced by the trio. Think of the tenor note like a fishing bobber, floating on the waves of sound.

When a Tenor sings too loud, he creates harmonics which conflict with the ideal (and desired) overtones made by the trio. Great tenors balance their volume both in relationship to the Lead, and to the requirements of the note they are singing in each chord (3rd, 5th, root, 6th etc.). OK, if the Tenor has a “post” note on a tag, the other voices balance to that note. At all other times, it’s

the Tenor’s job to sing softly enough not to screw up the chord.

Yes, we do hear some quartets who mistake volume for “expanded sound.” The louds and softs we hear from most Glee Clubs, Choirs, Community Choruses, etc. are produced by vocal muscle. Conversely, the huge sounds created by our championship quartets and choruses are made by matched and balanced singing. These concepts are very different. We don’t want any muscle singing in barbershop.

For an example of a spectacularly well-balanced quartet, listen to International champs, Revival. These are not young men, but their balanced chords are as vibrant as young “muscle singers.” More impressive, their soft sounds fill every nook and cranny of an auditorium. Muscle singers just can’t do that.

If you’ve heard someone claim that tenors should sing as loudly as the other voices, they’re either pulling your leg, or they need a serious refresher course in the physics of sound and the art of barbershop quartet singing.

## **THN is On The Air!**

By Grady Kerr

The Harmony Network (THN) was officially launched on April 1, 2004. It will soon be up to speed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year as a unique broadcast service featuring barbershop, contemporary a cappella, gospel and vocal jazz. With the slogan, “All vocal harmony all the time,” this new project will entertain, educate and inform lovers of a cappella and Barbershop as well as the general public.

Recordings of your favorite artists will play 24/7, but that’s not all. What makes this broadcast unique and innovative are the live shows every weeknight and on the weekends. On-air hosts will spin CDs, introduce the artists and songs, take phone calls and requests. This is the first time that this has ever been done featuring vocal harmonies.

The driving force behind this is Rich Taylor. You may recognize him as a host of the International Barbershop Convention webcast for the last four years. Maybe you have heard of Rich as the host of award-winning Applause show, on the air since 1997.

You can find more information on the ‘net at <http://www.harmonize.com/applauseshow/THN.html> including the schedule, the library of artists and how you can help.

# International Board Notes

---

In June I wrote to say that we must change if we are to grow and flourish in a bright and prosperous future. Several changes have occurred recently to help us on that path, though one of those necessary changes—reduction in staff—was exceedingly difficult and painful. Nevertheless, with the help of our members, we will move ahead and create a brighter future.

At its June 29th meeting, the Society Board reaffirmed the action taken in July 2002 whereby the Board adopted the practice of regularly representing the Society as the “Barbershop Harmony Society” while maintaining the Society’s legal name as SPEBSQSA, Inc. A professional marketing survey of members and prospective members ages 18-54 revealed that both prospective members and our own members preferred “Barbershop Harmony Society” to “Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America.” The Board encourages chapters, effective immediately, to use “Barbershop Harmony Society” in all communication and promotions activities.

The Society Board did not adopt a new logo, but one will be prepared for consideration in the near future. The slogan “Keep the Whole World Singing” will be maintained, given that it has the overwhelming support of both members and prospects in the professional marketing research that was conducted.

A recent and very difficult change was necessary to address our chronic budget problems. We have done what we could to reduce costs and maximize assets over the past few years without reducing staff size significantly. It became clear that we could not continue to ignore the facts: we have been running deficits, and the largest portion of our costs is a result of personnel. The Society Board asked our new CEO, Don Harris, to streamline our current operations in order for the Society to regain a solid financial footing. Sadly, we cannot afford as large a staff today as we have had in the past, and a significant reduction in force on July 15 meant that we had to say goodbye to some very dedicated employees. This was an absolute economic necessity. No further layoffs are anticipated at this time.

Our Society staff is dedicated to serving you and meeting your needs. You may view a revised contact list at <http://www.spebsqsa.org/contacts>. Our CEO Don Harris will soon be hiring staff to fill the few open positions, and

those appointments will be announced in LiveWire and in The Harmonizer.

As part of our plan to help the Society prosper in the future, the Society Board endorsed the marketing plan submitted by Clarke Communication Group as a guide for Society marketing efforts. I invite you to read the plan by going online to [http://www.spebsqsa.org/id\\_062759](http://www.spebsqsa.org/id_062759) and clicking the link to “Strategic Marketing Plan-June 28, 2004.pdf.”

As a part of our ongoing marketing effort, the Board has asked the Society Laws and Regulations Committee to prepare, for action at the next Board meeting, amendments to existing Standard Chapter Bylaws to make the Marketing and Public Relations Officer a mandatory position in chapters in excess of 25 members and a recommended position in all other chapters.

In addition, I am pleased that Todd Wilson will serve as our new staff Director of Marketing. Todd is a 33-year Society member who has won multiple chorus gold medals with the Vocal Majority as well as a quartet gold medal with Acoustix. He was a Certified Instructor for Marketing and PR for COTS for two years prior to joining the Society Board, on which he served as Planning and Program Development Chair and a member of the Board Management Council.

Your Society staff and your Society leadership are committed to helping all our members make their barbershop harmony experience become even more rewarding and enjoyable in the years to come. You can help accomplish that goal by sharing your love of barbershop singing with those you meet, and encouraging other male singers to join a Society that will positively change their lives! Thank you for everything you do to make our Society great and for the encouragement and support you give me and the rest of the Board of Directors and staff. Let’s keep the whole world singing!

Sincerely, *Rob Hopkins, 2004 Society President*

## **Advertising Rates for Black & White Ads**

Business Card (2 x 3.5)	\$10
1/4 page	\$60
1/2 page	\$80
Full Page	\$120
Outside back cover	\$250
Color Ads: Outside back cover or Inside front or back cover - consult Editor.	

# RR Stuff...

## CLEMSON

Another great DLHW!

Thanks to ALL - Staff, Faculty and Students - who participated in the DLHW (DIX Lakeside Harmony Week-end) at Clemson!!! If you missed it, plan to get there next year!



Don Lang

## DIX District Leadership Team

I continue to be EXTREMELY proud to be part of the fine DIX District Leadership Team. You will see some changes in the way your leadership team is structured; Some changes in the way they are selected; and some new titles. BUT, we assure you that we are dedicated to continue the level of leadership you have seen in the past. AND we need your help! Please let us

hear your "Atta-boys" and your suggestions for improvements. ALSO, let us know if you have some talents and experience you'd be willing to contribute to the team.

## Chapter Leadership Team

It's not too soon to be thinking about your chapter's leadership for next year! And be sure that your nominees understand the importance of attending COTS (Jonesboro, GA, Nov 12-13). Although not on the list of "Required Positions", we strongly urge you to select a Program VP, chairman, ... The title isn't important - the activity IS! We need a strong Membership team to attract and retain new members; We need a strong Program to keep everyone interested, and having FUN!

Thanks for "listening"!

Let me hear from you!

Don

# CDD

*Greetings from CDD. Many of you may wonder if all we do to promote the CDWI program is worthwhile . . . Here is an article from the "horse's mouth". Contact me if you want your chapter to experience this great feeling. Thanks to the Gold Standard Chorus and chapter president, Chuck Villier, from Charlotte NC for stepping up to the plate.*

*With A Song, Jim*



Jim Nappier

and effort of all involved to put on such an event? Would the instructors selected be bringing the needed expertise and personalities to mesh with the Directors? At the end of the day would everyone, Chorus and Directors alike, feel a sense of accomplishment?

Without reservation, Charlotte benefited significantly from Hosting the CDWI. Would we do it again? Yes.

First, the unselfish dedication and expertise displayed by the Instructors exceeded all expectations. Our thanks again to Tom Hawkins and Byron Myers for the professionalism brought to the CDWI. All of the Directors left the CDWI with new tools that will boost their confidence to better direct their respective Choruses. In their words, "intense, demanding, and very beneficial". Secondly, these two talented men offered many helpful hints to the Chorus on how to do our job better. Finally, the fellowship, and information exchange among all participants rivaled the superb training.

It is easy to see why CDWI is one of the most successful programs in the Society. If your Chapter's Director could 'use a little tweaking', what better way to help him than to play host to a CDWI.

*RINGIN' REGARDS, Chuck Villier*

## CDWI CHARLOTTE, NC

### May 22, 2004 OBSERVATIONS

Charlotte is blessed with 5 Directors. Each brings talents that if enhanced would make them even more valuable to the chorus. The GOLD STANDARD CHORUS, therefore, agreed to being the 'guinea pig' Chorus for the afternoon to help some of our Directors and Directors from the surrounding area realize more of their potential.

There is always apprehension in bringing in "experts" for any venue. Would it be worth the time

# A note from RIPTIDE...

Thank you all so much for your calls, emails, words of encouragement and amazing support. We have heard a few rumors about "what's happening with RIPTIDE?" So, we'd like to bring you up to date. We are pleased to report that RIPTIDE IS going to continue.

Richard had announced to us in February that he would be leaving the quartet after the International Contest in Louisville to focus on family and directing International Medalist and past International Champion Chorus Alexandria Harmonizers.

After many requests to reconsider, we reluctantly accepted his resignation. Rick, Tim and Jeff would like to publicly state our great appreciation to Richard for the many years of rehearsals, shows, glows, contests, laughs, tears and music that we have been very fortunate to share. And to his lovely wife, Chris for all her support. Life in any quartet can be complex and challenging, as many of you know, and, while we are saddened by his departure, we wish Richard and Chris the very, very best in all of their barbershopping endeavors.

The RIPTIDE family clan will deeply miss Richard, Chris and their beautiful daughter, Morgan being part of our immediate quartet family, but do look forward to seeing them at conventions, to catch up on family events, compare baby pictures and to sing a tag or a song.

RIPTIDE is excited to be looking ahead to the future, to share a stage, a laugh and a song for many years to come. We look forward to all of the shows that we have on the schedule and appreciate the patience shown from those of you waiting to hear from us. Please stay tuned.

Most Sincerely,  
*Rick, Tim & Jeff*  
RIPTIDE

*Duct tape is like the Force. It has a light side and a dark side, and it holds the universe together.*

## **ADEDA** PROMOTIONAL PRODUCTS *"Serving America from Newton, North Carolina"*

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### **Chorus Director Wanted: Asheville, NC**

The *Land of the Sky Chorus* is interviewing potential directors! We are a 30-man chorus with a strong board and membership drive in progress.

We are looking for an energetic, organized, skilled and patient director to lead us.

#### **Contact:**

Lee Clark  
25 Delano Road  
Asheville, NC 28805-1718  
[www.ashevillebarbershop.com](http://www.ashevillebarbershop.com)

## Charlotte, NC Annual Show **The Gold Standard Chorus**

Presents

### **"Home Is Where the Heart Is"**

McGlohon Theatre at Spirit Square  
130 North Tryon Street, Charlotte, NC

November 6, 2004

2 pm \$10 8 pm \$15

Guest Quartet: **Dallas Knights**  
from Dallas, TX Metro  
Tickets: (704) 554-1301



# From the YMIH Desk

By the time you read this the 2004 Harmony Camp at Clemson will be history. If all the High Schoolers, Middle Schoolers, one or two College kids and Teachers that signed up, showed up, we will have had a record attendance for the Camp. This is a super trend because these attendees are part of “the future”.



*Bob Dickson*

If you've carefully read the Society Presidents' articles in the Harmonizer you can't help but be aware of their concerns about declining membership. Harmony Camps are just one of the ways that Chapters can introduce young men to the joys of Barbershopping and help keep an eye on “the future”. Obviously we're not looking at Camps as a recruiting tool for today, but by exposing these youngsters to the hobby as this stage in their lives, the enjoyment may carry over into their College days and young adulthood and be in the back of their minds as a gratifying, mature pastime when they reach the age where they're in the mood to join such a fraternity.

Another significant awareness project that Chapters can participate in are the annual Music Educator Association meetings and American Choral Director Association meetings that are held in each state. Most of these meetings move between major cities within their states so it's necessary to keep informed about their year-to-year locations. In spite of that it's a great opportunity to pair up with the local Sweet Ads in order to share a booth (and the expenses) in the exhibition halls that are a big part of these state gatherings. There are very few Music Educators that would miss one of these MEA or ACDA meetings and the Barbershop booths get a lot of “hits”. Several NC Chapters pitched in a few \$\$\$\$ to assist the Winston-Salem Chapter with funding for the MEA Convention in their town coming up in November; Roland Moy is spearheading that project, he'll be glad to chat with you about it at Clemson, the Fall HOD meeting, COT School or on-line: <moyrf@appstate.edu>.

This will be my final newsletter or article as the Dixie District YMIH VP; it's necessary for me to step down for family health related reasons. However I'm exiting the post with a big smile on my face because the fellow taking over is none other than Jim Moore, the successful YMIH Chair of the Big Chicken Chorus from Marietta, GA. Jim has received many accolades in past newsletters and Rebel Rouser articles

for the programs and projects he has instituted for the BCC. His outreach has encompassed the entire Atlanta area (now that's a big area) and other Chapters in that orbit have been partners in some of his initiatives, so he's no stranger to large organizational initiatives. His term officially begins on July 19th, the Monday after the DLHW/Camp weekend. His email address is: [bbm@mindspring.com](mailto:bbm@mindspring.com) and his H/W phone # is 404-255-0818.

I've had a good run; believe it or not I've been at it at the District level for 5 years. I plan to stay active on the RTP Chapter YMIH team.

Keep The Whole World Singing.

*Bob Dickson*

## Milestone ...

While I was in Louisville for the Convention, I was recognized at the 50 year membership pin award during the Chorus contest for my “65 year” membership in the Society!!! I am the second longest active member as of this year 2004!!!

I joined the Society in 1939 & I had the pleasure of “woodshedding” with O.C. & “Rup” Hall at the 1941 St. Louis Convention!!! It was an experience I will never forget.

I am still active at 84 years “young” in the Roswell Firehouse Harmony Brigade & still love to “ring” some chords every Tuesday night at our Chapter meeting.

Bill Arnold

PS: Did you know that the Roswell Chapter to my knowledge is the ONLY Dixie Chapter that “specializes” in Quartet Singing at every meeting. Every member present sings in a “make up” quartet that night unless they choose not to. As you can imagine we “Have Fun”.

The Stone Mt. Chapter has invited our chapter to visit them to run their meeting as we do our meeting night. They have heard about the “fun” we have & they want to experience it!!!! (they usually stand on the risers for the whole meeting.)

# Just A Few Good Men

*continued from page 3*

Many of you may already know the Society has required all districts to implement a new form of governance and our change over will begin January 1, 2005. There may be new positions opening up at that time or shortly thereafter, and it is in the best interest of the district to have a list of persons readily available for consideration for any of these positions. In addition, our Society has recommended that all districts initiate Succession Planning on our Board and Management Team so that when a person resigns, a new person has already been groomed to continue that particular program, without reinventing the wheel.

All of the management team portfolios are listed in the first part of this issue, along with a picture of the portfolio VP. There are also different types of positions on our four Dixie events teams that you might be considered for. In any event, if you are interested in a district management position, please forward your work history and barbershop resume to [FMCBICS@aol.com](mailto:FMCBICS@aol.com). You may also give your resume to any of the district officers along with the particular area you may wish to be involved with. Marines usually part by saying Semper Fi. I will close by saying "Just Sing Me One More Good Old Dixie Song".



## Just A Few Good Men Too...

The district made a mistake and asked me to step in as V.P. of CSLT (Chapter Support and Leadership Training) since Dwain Chambers is moving up to a higher office. Basically this job is the coordination of the chapter counselor program. It is a program about which I am very excited. Having the experience of working with chapters as an area counselor and division V.P. back in the 70's, (I'm how old?) I know the potential of this program. We presently have 13 chapter counselors. You know who you are.

According to reports I've seen, some have been very active some have not. Some have too many chapters to be able to serve them properly. We are going to reorganize the program and need a few good men in addition to those already on the hook. We have 55 chapters if my count is correct. Ideally, we need about 18 counselors so that no one counselor has more than 3 or 4 chapters at the most. Also, ideally he would be located in close proximity to his chapters to keep travel to a minimum.

If you feel qualified, volunteers will be welcomed. Please send me a resume or your barbershop experience. There will also be a training session at COTS November 13-15. It would be imperative that all of us attend, not just the new guys. Lacking enough volunteers, I will be calling on some of you to serve.

Let me emphasize that this is not an honorary position but one in which you will be expected to work diligently. I can also tell you the rewards will be great.

Just think what can happen in the district with 18 or 20 dedicated and educated counselors running amuck encouraging our chapters and helping them grow.

Nuff said.

*Charlie McCann, CSLT for 2005*

## Prepare Your Entire Body Before You Sing

*By Jim DeBusman, From SPEBSQSA's On the QT*

One of the things you can do to make your rehearsal or performance as a singer more effective is to prepare your body as well as your voice. Some vowel matching and tuning exercises are needed as you prepare for a rehearsal or performance; however, you still need to involve your entire body if you want to sing your very best.

This exercise is one way to relax and prepare your entire body. Flex your knees, bend over at the waist, keeping your upper torso higher than your buttocks. Then allow your arms, shoulders and head to go completely limp. Your upper torso should feel and look like a rag doll. The bent knees assure that there will be no tension below your waist. Then slowly start breathing deeply for approximately 30 seconds. Having done that, slowly raise your upper torso upward half-way, with your knees still bent, and repeat the deep breathing. After another 30 seconds, slowly raise your body to an upright position. Keep your knees flexed, slightly roll your shoulders back and elongate the back of your neck. At this full and upright position, do the same deep breathing for another 30 seconds.

This is a great way to take all of the tension out of your body and to remind yourself how to breathe correctly. You can then start your rehearsal or performance and sing with ease.

# Membership

*continued from page 4*

renewal cards as well as for any position of responsibility they accept

**P** means to make sure that you have PROGRAMS that are both interesting to the members and varied, if at all possible. By that I mean:

- \* there should be time for the chorus to learn new music as well as maintain their current music
- \* there should be time for Quartet development work
- \* there should be time for a short business meeting and a break
- \* there should be time for entertainment, local or visiting
- \* the meeting length should not be overly long so there is time for an afterglow
- \* there should be get togethers involving wives and girlfriends

Does your Chapter have a Membership Development Team including a VP of Membership, a man in charge of Recruitment and a man in charge of Retention?

If not, I heartily recommend it since my experience tells me that Membership Development is more than a one man job, if it's to be done right!

And remember, the M E in Membership is me!

*Bob Tilton, VP of MD, Dixie District*

# In 7th Heaven

*By Joe Liles, LO'L Seniors Quartet Chairman*

Quartet singing is the greatest of all barbershop experiences. There's no time like the present to get three other guys to harmonize with you. Even if you plan not to sing in shows or contest but do it for your own amazement, ask someone you trust to give your foursome some coaching... tips, advice, etc. Having an outside ear will help you to learn quartetting faster and you will increase your fun instantly.

You'll most likely want to start singing for friends, doing show packages, showing off a little because you've learned so much. You retired senior guys will find scores of places to sing during the day.

Four voices learning how to ring chords... each person taking responsibility for his note, vowel, vocal placement, facial expressions, and singing right dead-on together can bring about a heightened sense of accomplishment. Memories of the journey will put a smile on your face every time you think about it.

If you are able to sit up and take nourishment, you're able to fill out a foursome. Quartetting can be a life-long experience. I envy those who were able to begin a quartet career in high school. I was 37 before I discovered barbershop quartet singing. I haven't quit since though, and plan to finish my life with a big tag!!

*Editor's note: Reprinted from LO'L PitchPiper-April-June 2004*



**BACKPORCH** is one of the quartets – From left to right Charles McCann-Tenor, Tom Kilpatrick-Lead, Marc Edwards-Bari and John Brown-Bass.

## Live Barbershop

### FIRST ANNUAL "INTERACTIVE – NORMAN ROCKWELL EXHIBIT"

The Gaylord Entertainment and Curtis Publishing Companies have collaborated to present a first-of-its-kind exhibit displaying the works of Norman Rockwell and especially those that graced the SATURDAY EVENING POST for many decades. The exhibit focuses on a path winding through the different phases of Rockwell's work, passing through Elmville (main street USA). Exhibit executives indicated that live quartets at the local barbershop was integral to the concept. The Nashville Chapter is honored to participate and five chapter quartets have contributed since mid May of this year. The exhibit runs through mid September 2004 in the Ryman Exhibit Hall of the Opryland Hotel/Convention Center in Nashville, TN. Attendance has been brisk and visitors stop to talk with quartets while enjoying a song. Many visitors have expressed that the quartet involvement alone is worth the price of admission. That's music to the ears of we barbershoppers.

# Don Harris Did Not Quit...

*Don Harris did NOT quit. Nevertheless, this is a great piece poking fun at how our hobby must look to an outsider...*

## TRANSCRIPT OF THE ACTUAL BRIEFING OF DON HARRIS'S FIRST DAY ON THE JOB.

OK Mr. Harris, thanks for coming up to my office and congratulations for becoming head of this society. There's a few things you should know before you take the helm of leading an average run-of-the-mill hobby-based organization into the 21st century. It's just routine stuff that I'm sure you've run into. First of all, basses are dumb, baritones are outcasts, leads are stagehogs.

Remember that it's very impolite to 5th wheel. Avoiding "Kipping" a note unless you're VERY good. There is one professional barbershopper and his name is Joe Connelly. Keep that name in mind, he's the answer to many trivia questions. The second place quartet always got screwed, and most of us are forced to do choreography.

The lobby is the temple of our hobby, nobody wants to be the Chapter President, and Barbershopping is the fourth leading cause of divorce in America and everyone is dying to hear Max Q. There are people who are known just by one name. Lloyd, Freddie, the aforementioned Kipp, O.C, Rupert, Calvin and Willard, and of course, Oxley.

Giallombardo did not lead orchestras on New Years Eve, we really like listening to Bob Disney but aren't sure why, the Suntones are practically religious figures, Jeff Baker wrote that, Mike Senter can't be explained, most of us have stayed up many nights trying to pick the perfect quartet name, we worship the Boston Common, and every quartet has one guy that needs to be kicked out to move from 16th place to 13th. There are a few of us who spend the better part of a decade rehearsing, spending thousands of dollars on matching outfits, hiring several coaches, fighting and making up, just to reach the ultimate plateau of International Champion and finally at long last being heralded as the greatest quartet of your time just to have someone in your office on Monday ask you if you won that trophy cutting hair.

The quartet who barely sings in tune and speaks

nearly no English always gets standing ovations. Phil DeBar is not a command. Don't ask what F.R.E.D really stands for. Where else would you have a mixed quartet of Don Butzen and his wife singing with Otto Nass and his wife. Their name? The Butzen Nasses.

Our best moments ever were when some of us were dressed as toy soldiers, Wizard of Oz characters, the Marx Brothers, Star Trek personnel, and inept doctors. Van Tassell wouldn't hassle with the lyrics, and Felgen would be beltin' with the bass, and Clark wouldn't bark in a letter, and the lead in the Oriole Four sang high. Yes, I know that doesn't make any sense. But those are actual lyrics in a song explaining our relig..., I mean hobby.

So Mr. Harris, let me now try to explain Lloyd Steinkamp, Dick Johnson, why Jim Meehan quit, how the West Towns chorus won International by placing second in both rounds of the contest, why every judge is deemed incompetent, and the new Science of Sound. I'm sure with your vast background leading organizations, this is making perfect sense to you. Right?.....

Mr. Harris?.... Don? Hmmm where'd he go....Don??? Oooooo, that must have hurt—I wonder if he knew that we were on the third floor?

Respectfully submitted,

*Richard Stanford*

Barbershopper for 20 years and 1 day 1/30/84

## He Sang Barbershop. Really!

During a recent research visit to the Library of Congress, SPEBSQSA Historian Dr. Val Hicks discovered about 20 more barbershop related quartet names, radio stations, dates and sponsors. While listening to a taped transcription of the September 8, 1935 Major Bowes Amateur Hour, he discovered something most interesting. The next to last contestant was the Hoboken Four, and one of the singers was none other than a very young Frank Sinatra. The quartet performed "Shine". Yes, that's correct, "Old Blue Eyes" sang barbershop harmony in his early years.

# 2004 Calendar of Events

*If your show is not listed here, please inform District Secretary Russell Bell. Chapter shows must have received a Show Clearance from the District Secretary in order to be listed. Also, check the Dixie District web page at [www.dixiedistrict.org](http://www.dixiedistrict.org).*



Saturday, August 28

*Cleveland, Tennessee*

Friday, October 1 - Sunday, October 3

*Fall Convention, Chattanooga, Tennessee*

Saturday, November 6

*Charlotte, North Carolina*

Saturday, November 6

*Pinehurst, North Carolina*

Friday, November 12 - Sunday, November 15

*COTS - Jonesboro, Georgia*

Saturday, November 13 & Sunday, November 14

*Stone Mountain, Georgia*

Saturday, December 4

*Research Triangle Park, North Carolina*

Friday, December 10 - Saturday, December 11

*Marietta, Georgia*

*Dixie Quartets "On Stage" in Louisville . . .  
The sixth Dixie Quartet, State Line Grocery, did not compete.*



*Riptide*



*Ringside*



*Genesis*



*Overture*



*Smackdown*