

The Dixie District's REBEL ROUSER

Alabama · Georgia · Mississippi · North Carolina · South
Carolina · Tennessee
Winter 2008

Chattanooga 2008

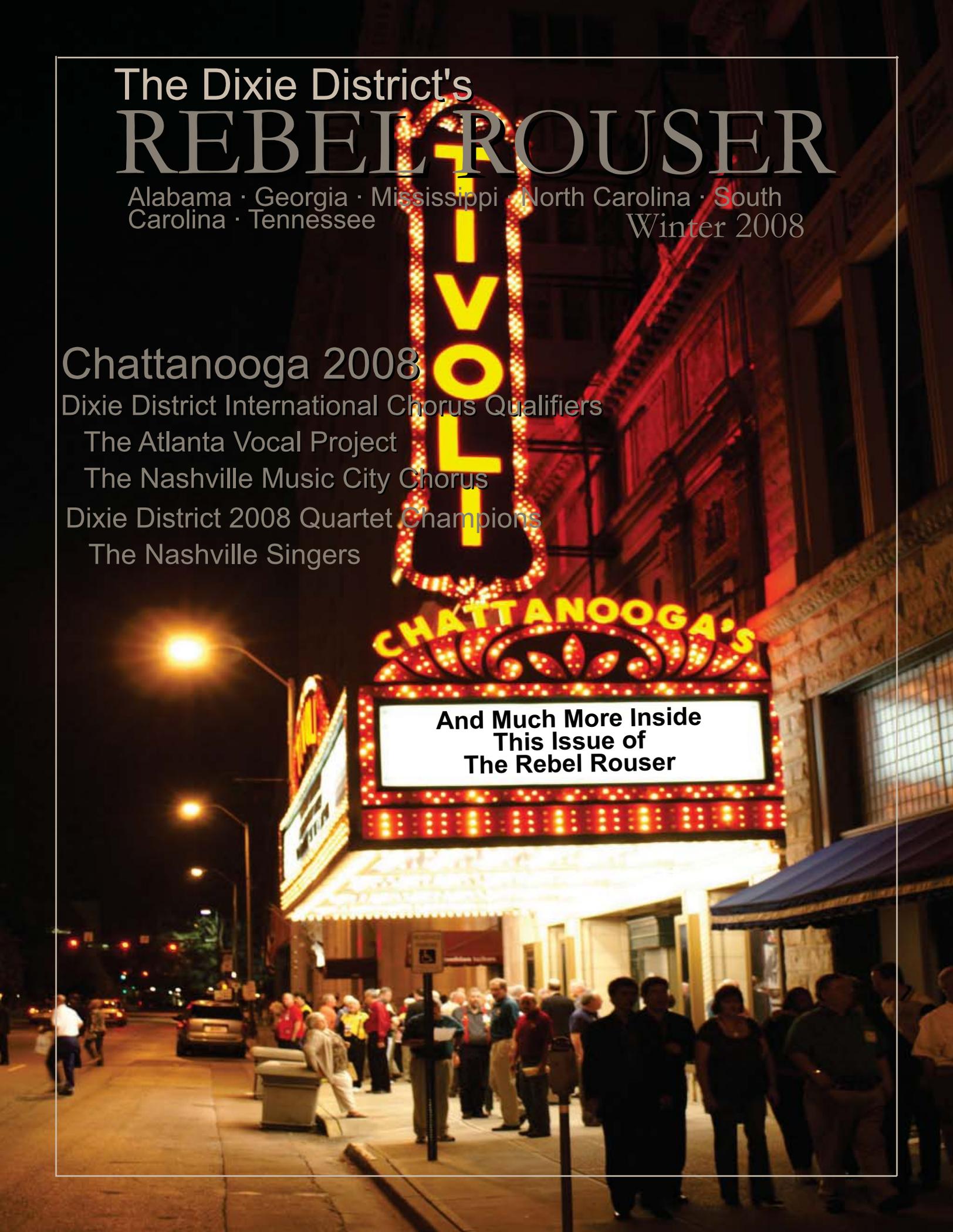
Dixie District International Chorus Qualifiers

The Atlanta Vocal Project

The Nashville Music City Chorus

Dixie District 2008 Quartet Champions

The Nashville Singers



**And Much More Inside
This Issue of
The Rebel Rouser**

The Rebel Rouser

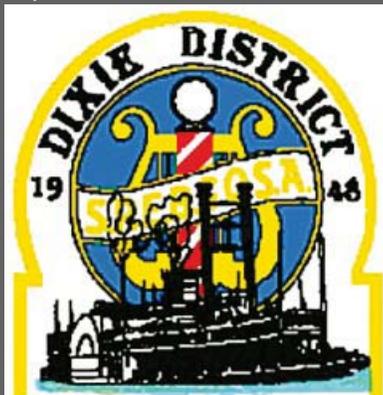
Volume 51, Number 4

Editor

Keith Therrell

rebelrouser@dixiedistrict.org

The **Rebel Rouser** is published quarterly by the Dixie District Association of Chapters of the Barbershop Harmony Society.



Vision

The Dixie District is committed to enriching lives in every generation and community through the lifelong benefits of the barbershop style and other forms of a cappella singing.

Mission

The Dixie District SPEBSQSA, Inc., a charitable and non-profit organization, enriches lives through singing.

- We enrich lives through singing.
- We perpetuate and celebrate the barbershop harmony style.
- We serve each new generation of singers through support of vocal music education.
- We serve audiences through an uplifting, wholesome variety of a cappella musical entertainment.
- We serve our members by sharing fellowship, performance skills and leadership development.
- We help build better communities and a better world, bonding diverse people through the pure fun of a cappella harmony as we keep the whole world singing!

Cover Photos by
Keith Therrell

2008 Dixie District Executive Team/Board of Directors



President
Thom Hine



Executive VP
Mike Schiermann



Secretary
Russell Bell



Treasurer
Curt Douglass



Member At Large
Bernie Bookman



Member At Large
Drayton Justus



Immediate Past President
Dwain Chambers

Dixie District Management Team



Music & Performance
Ralph Cordaro



Marketing & Public Relations
Bob Davenport



Membership Development
Harland Ragle



Chorus Director Development
John Phillips



Contest & Judging
Jim Sams



Chapter Support & Leadership Training
Dave Millson



Youth In Harmony
Jim Moore



Membership Events
Jack Donaldson



Dixie Awards
Allen Finley



Historian
Gerald Adams



Financial Development
Al Carter



Web Master
Mark Hyde



Rebel Rouser Editor
Keith Therrell



Society Board Member
Dan Brinkmann

2009: Start Planning Now For A Successful Year!

As we each walk through the closing door of 2008, let us all celebrate the very positive successes of our chapters and members as we also look back upon missed opportunities to better promote and grow our Chapters.

My congratulations to the new Dixie District Chapter Leadership Teams as they assumed office on January 1. I ask that each Chapter President fully appreciate that a Chapter without goals and carefully constructed plans to accomplish those goals is a Chapter going nowhere.



**By Thom Hine
District
President**

Be aggressive and specific:

- It's not too late. Plan a Chapter Officer Installation Ceremony (perhaps a house party, at a near-by restaurant or on a regular Chapter Meeting night in your rehearsal hall).
- Now is the time for your Chapter Leadership Team to set manageable and measurable new goals for 2009.
- Simply following the same path as in prior years is a guaranteed road to failure.

Mowing the same blade of grass over and over takes time and accomplishes nothing.

- Involve all members of your leadership team in each goal.
- All goals should be expressed in a manner that results are measurable.
- Publish your 2009 Chapter Calendar so your members can get a better overall perspective of the coming 12 months.
- You might want to take a look at Charlie Davenport's, "The Future is Two Steps Away" document (posted under documents on the District website).
- Search for ways to grow your Chapter (performances, community work/activities, annual shows, more quartetting, radio spots, guest nights, local newspapers, website activity and more).
- Speaking of "quartetting," become active in the "Singing Valentines Program." There are BIG TIME Chapter benefits to be found here.
- If your Chapter has not had a show in the last couple of years, start planning now. Ask a neighboring Chapter or the District to

assist you.

- Plan now for your 2010 Chapter Officers to attend a Dixie District Regional COTS School (Chapter Leadership Academy) in late 2009 or early 2010.
- If your Chapter hasn't competed in District Competition recently, I can guarantee that every member of your Chapter will have a fun-packed weekend in Winston-Salem, NC on 3-20/22-09.
- If your Chapter is small and you're looking for a truly "knock out" weekend, take them to the 2009 Dixie Lakeside Harmony Weekend at Clemson, SC on 7-17/19-09 for small chorus coaching.

Four final reminders. In order to maintain your 501,c, 3 status, each Chapter is required to: *(see President on page 4)*

Dixie District Addresses

| | |
|------------------|-------------------------------------|
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| Mike Schiermann | exec-vp@dixiedistrict.org |
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President *(continued from page 3)*

1. Make certain your Chapter Incorporation Certificate is renewed (annually in most states). The document is usually mailed to the registered agent of the chapter. The registered agent would be the person that was on the original articles of incorporation that official state documentation is mailed to. If you have changed that person over the years then it would be the person on record with your Secretary of State.

2. Have an outside Financial Audit conducted each year on your Chapter's books. A notice of the financial review should then be forwarded to Frank Santarelli at Society Headquarters with a copy to Russell Bell, Dixie District Secretary. The financial review can be as basic as a letter from the auditor of the books stating all records were found to be in order or a report from the auditor as to how handling of records should be changed and the steps necessary. But you must file the review with Society Headquarters even if you had no activity for the year. In that case the review would simply say no financial transactions took place in year XXXX. Send a copy of the review to the DIX District Secretary (Russell Bell secretary@dixiedistrict.org) and Frank Santarelli at the Society headquarters.

3. Clear all Chapter shows well in advance with the DIX District Secretary (Russell Bell). Clearance forms are available on the DIX website -- www.dixiedistrict.org under the "documents section." As you are planning your calendar for the year you can send Russell an email of your tentative show dates. Since the DIX House of Delegates repealed the date protection clause of the Dixie Code of Regulations, there will not be a problem with date conflicts except in the case of dates in conflict with Society and District level events. When your show is set you can then send your clearance request to Russell Bell. There is a minor restriction. As the show date gets within 90 days and clearance has not been requested the District Secretary will send reminders at 90, 60, and 45 days out. If clearance has not been requested by 30 days from the show the Chapter Show will be

removed from the calendar.

4. Prior to year-end 2007, all Chapters that produced less than \$100,000 in gross receipts were not required to file a federal return but could simply send a statement to Frank Santarelli indicating gross receipts were less than \$100,000. Commencing with reporting on the 2007 year, that minimum floor was lowered to \$25,000, meaning that all chapters that generated gross receipts of \$25,000 or more must file a form 990, send a copy to Frank Santarelli and a copy to Russell Bell, District Secretary.

Hope y'all had a wonderful family Christmas, a Happy New Year and are gearing up for an outstanding 2009 in the greatest District within our Society. 🎵

REMINDER

**Don't forget to update
your 2009 chapter officers
on the BHS (ebiz) site.**

**If you want help, just sing
out to**

DonL555@yahoo.com

**DIX Communications
Team**

2008 Dixie District Bulletin Editor Of The Year Contest

It is time to submit entries for the 2008 Dixie District Bulletin Editor Of The Year Contest. Please make sure your Chapter Bulletin Editor receives this message.

Requirements:

You can enter the contest if:

- (a) you are a member of PROBE for 2008 and 2009 AND
- (b) you published at least 6 issues of a monthly bulletin in 2008 OR at least 6 months worth of weekly or bi-weekly bulletins in 2008.

How to enter:

Editors of monthly bulletins shall submit for judging six copies of each of two consecutive **HARDCOPY** issues published during the year (3 for District BETY and 3 for the IBC), OR the URLs of two consecutive **ELECTRONIC** issues published during the year.



If the **ELECTRONIC** issues are on a Members Only page, Logins and Passwords must be supplied. No hard-copy print-outs will be accepted for **ELECTRONIC** judging.

Two copies of each **HARDCOPY** issue must be an “off-the-press” copy (for the Layout & Reproduction judges); the other four may be photocopies.

For weeklies, submit eight consecutive issues, the first four together and the second four together.

For bi-weeklies, submit four consecutive issues, the first two together and the second two together.

**By Mike Schiermann,
Executive Vice President**

Should an editor wish to have score and critique, but his score not be published, he should clearly state that to the district contest chairman (me).

ENTRY FORM for **HARDCOPY** Bulletins

<http://www.harmonize.com/probe/contests/New%20Scoresheets/BETY%20Hardcopy%20Bulletin%20Entry.pdf>

ENTRY FORM for **ELECTRONIC** Bulletins

<http://www.harmonize.com/probe/contests/New%20Scoresheets/BETY%20Electronic%20Bulletin%20Entry.pdf>

Please fill out the entry form completely including your Chapter Number, and submit it to me along with your Bulletin issue copies through the US Mail no later than 1/16/2009. My address is:

Mike Schiermann
303 5th Street North
Clanton, AL 35045-2851

If you have questions, feel free to call me at (205) 280-7264.

My thanks to you all for the work you do for your Chapters, and GOOD LUCK! 🎵

2008 Dixie Northeast Regional Leadership Academy Recap And "Hail and Farewell"

2008 DIXIE NORTHEAST REGIONAL LEADERSHIP ACADEMY:

I wish to report a very successful Leadership Academy at Hamlet, NC on 22 November 2008. We had members preregister for all of the classes.

We taught the following tracks: President, Secretary, Treasurer, Program VP, Music and Performance, Marketing & Public Relations, Chapter Development/Membership, and Chorus Director. Additional classes taught were a Joint President, Treasurer, and Secretary

Class and a How to Conduct a Successful Chapter Ad Campaign.

Some of the classes followed the BHS party line while others were very innovative allowing the attendees to discuss what they most wanted to develop/learn in their classes. Both were extremely successful learning techniques and received high ratings on the student evaluations.



By **Dave Millson**
Chapter Support
& Leadership
Training

Total attendees were thirty-nine, representing twelve chapters, with nine faculty and two staff members.

HAIL AND FAREWELL:

The U. S Army has a tradition of welcoming new officers and bidding farewell to those who are departing that is called a Hail and Farewell Ceremony. This is usually done at a formal banquet; we don't have formal banquets, so I will use this media.

I welcome **Randy Miller** as my replacement as Dixie Vice-President for Chapter Support and Leadership Training. Randy has all the skills and ideas to turn the Chapter Support Representative Program around and make it effective. He will need your support to accomplish this. We have a sound regional Leadership Academy Program in place using Dixie District instructors that has worked superbly for the preceding three years and is financially doable for the Chapters and District.

I have elected not to serve as Dixie Vice-President for Chapter Support and Leadership

Training for 2009. In saying farewell I wish to thank all who have supported me as a Chapter Support Representative and volunteered for special essential positions:

COTS Task Force Members: Tom Brown and Wilber Strickland

COTS Coordinators: Frank Hrach, David Brennan, Jeff Harte, Charlie Robinson, and Tom Brown.

Leadership Academy/COTS Faculty: too many to list individually, but you know if you served. **YOU LEAD THE BARBERSHOP HARMONY SOCIETY IN ESTABLISHING REGIONAL LEADERSHIP ACADEMIES USING QUALITY LOCAL DISTRICT FACULTY.**

I relinquish the Dixie District VP for Chapter Support Leadership Training with mixed feelings. It has been my privilege to serve the District and you (Joe Barbershopper). I thank you for the opportunity to serve and hope you found my service of value to each of you.

The opportunity to serve as CSLT has resulted in me being able to form many Barbershop friendships, contacts, and sing with many which I would not otherwise have had the opportunity. I value these friendships and privilege to sing with you as the most rewarding aspect of my CSLT tenure.

In Harmony,

Dave Millson
Dixie DVP CSLT thru December 31, 2008
308 McLean Street
Hamlet, NC 28345-3043
mmlson@carolina.rr.com



Pictures From Hamlet, NC Leadership Academy



Everyone's Favorite Class --
Chow Time!



Chorus Director's Class



Music & Performance Class

Secretary, Treasurer, and President may now pay another members dues using EBIZ

Charlie Davenport
Director of Membership and Member Services
Barbershop Harmony Society

This ability to pay another members dues is offered as a service to help make easier the credit card payment of dues for chapter members who do not have online access; for chapters that collect member dues; for chapters that pay the dues of Directors via chapter credit card

- * Payment may be made by chapter credit card, member credit card, or Aunt Sara's credit card. We do not verify the name on the card, just the validity of the card.
- * Multiple payments may be made using one card or multiple cards may be used via one login by one of the officers listed.

-- If confidentiality is a concern, the Officers above may log into the system and then allow members to enter their own information.

- * Only full payment amounts are accepted.
- * The amounts shown are the full amounts currently owed by the member, for all chapters of which he is currently a member.

* Please submit questions or issues via email to membership@barbershop.org
<<http://membership@barbershop.org/>> with the subject PAY OTHERS DUES

Gentlemen, this is a new service provided by the Society. We hope that it eases a variety of problems for chapters that collect member dues and pay by credit card, pay for the Directors dues by credit card or want to have a dues paying party for those who do not have internet access. Use and enjoy!

It's Your Chapter! Help it have a great 2009!🎵

Introducing – The New Dixie Marketplace!

The Dixie District Marketplace has historically served an important purpose for our members but, like anything else, it needed to be refined and improved. We believe that we have implemented a plan by which the Marketplace can operate more efficiently, create more revenue for the District, and offer more products for our members. What is this plan, you say? Allow me to introduce to all of you the fact that we have created a new Dixie District Marketplace - online!



By Bob Davenport Marketing and Public Relations

Let me clarify that we will still have an onsite Marketplace at our conventions, but it will not be as extensive as in the past. We will still sell CDs, pitch pipes, and maybe a few other trinkets onsite, but everything else will be sold online. We created the store via CafePress.com. The address for the store is www.cafepress.com/dixiemarket.

The products and features of the site will be updated regularly, but the store is now operational and currently features items in the following categories: men's clothing, women's clothing, home/office items, and miscellaneous items, all with the District logo on them. We will also offer other items such as caps, etc. as we continue working on the site.

Here's how it works: any member and/or chapter can access the site and order items that they would like to purchase. Purchasers will pay for items with credit cards via a secure pay site and receive a purchase confirmation and email receipt with each order. Café Press will ship the order to the customer, and a percentage of the money spent will go into the District coffers. The District Treasurer and Marketplace Manager will also receive a summary of transactions through the online store and be able to easily track the money deposited, etc.

There are many advantages to this new operation, but here are a few for your consideration:

1. No inventory – The Marketplace Manager will no longer have to store so much inventory and transport it to each District convention, DLHW, etc., which will save the District the unnecessary expense of renting a trailer to transport the merchandise to and from each event. The merchandise is produced, printed, etc. each time a customer places an order, thus eliminating the need to have inventory in stock.
2. Products can be changed and updated at anytime. I will be working with design people in the District on “branding” and design on products on a regular basis. The Marketplace Manager and I can keep tabs on products that are selling well and those that are not and make adjustments in products, designs, etc.
3. Products can be sold for different events (Singing Valentines, the Singing For Life blood drive, etc.) as well as for generic promotion of barbershop harmony.
4. Marketplace merchandise can be marketed on an ongoing basis, not just at District events. It can be promoted through each Rebel Rouser issue, through the District yahoogroups, and through the District website (the store will be linked to the website)
5. This new system should result in more and regular revenue for the District, which will help the District build greater financial solvency and provide greater resources for the District's activities and for helping provide important services for our chapters.

We may have a few demo items on display at each convention (along with other items on sale) or have a printed “catalog” of items available in the online store that convention attendees can peruse and then order online at the convention or after it. We hope to have a separate computer on hand in the onsite marketplace area so that attendees can place their orders then if they wish. If a customer does not have an email address, he/she can have someone else place the order for them online, using the customer's payment information, shipping information, etc.

We know that there may be questions about this new operation and there may be some who don't like the idea at first, but we believe that this will create a much more efficient Marketplace and will help keep down costs associated with the current system.

In the meantime, we still have some items in inventory that we would like to dispose of. We will provide a list of items of those items just after the first of the year and encourage individuals and chapters to purchase any of these items they desire, at a discounted price. These products can be purchased to be used as awards to members (such as a Barbershopper of the Month award, etc), for birthdays, Christmas, door prizes for shows, etc.

If any of you have suggestions or any feedback about this operation, please feel free to direct those comments to me at vp-marketing@dixiedistrict.org or tenorbob@comcast.net or to the District Marketplace Manager, Steve D'Ambrosio (spdtn@bellsouth.net). The District Board and I are excited about the prospects of the services we can provide to our members through this new Dixie District Marketplace! 🎵



Customers look over the merchandise in the Dixie Marketplace. Scaled-down Marketplaces will continue to be open at District events.

Take a Look at the Society Web Site's Revised Members Only Area

The new BHS APTIFY computer system is beginning to take roots. Take some time to get acquainted with the new EBIZ portion of the system. Here are some things that a member or a chapter officer can do.

- Online Member Renewal
- Find a Member
- View, print, or download Roster
- View and update your personal info (address, phone, emails, etc.)
- Update your skill-set/interests, for use by our District and Chapter leaders
- View another chapter within your district
- View, update, renew, register your Quartet
- View order history
- Pay on an open order
- The use of American Express and Discover are now available on Ebiz
- View/Add officers
- View/Add/Change Meeting times and dates of Chapter meetings

All available at: ebiz.barbershop.org/business

Chattanooga 2008 Quartet Competitors



Archives
2008 Seniors Quartet Champions



cityScape



Classic Harmony



Collector's Edition



Five 'n Dime



Good Time Singers



Let's Sing!



Locked & Loaded

Chattanooga 2008 Quartet Competitors



Midnight Mix



Next Wave



Once In A While
2008 Novice Quartet Champions



Pinstripe



Power of 4



Quantum Leap



Raucous Caucus



Still Standing

Chattanooga 2008 Quartet Competitors



The Nashville Singers
2008 Dixie Quartet Champions



The Tomcats



Tradewinds



Tucker Street



Up Front



Village Green
*2009 DIX International
Seniors Quartet Representatives*

Not Pictured: **CROSSFIRE**

Chattanooga 2008 Chorus Competitors



Athens, AL



Atlanta Metro



Central Alabama



Charleston, SC



Charlotte, NC



Chattanooga, TN



Cleveland, TN



Greensboro, NC

Chattanooga 2008 Chorus Competitors



Marietta, GA



Memphis, TN



Nashville, TN



Research Triangle Park, NC



Savannah, GA



Tuscaloosa, AL



Winston-Salem, NC

As always, thanks to Jack Deere for providing chorus and quartet photographs.

M&P Taking Off In 2009

As the new VP of Music & Performance for the district, I welcome the new challenges this coming year brings. I have already been doing a lot of planning for the 2009 year, and I can guarantee we are going to provide you with the best programs coming up that we can possibly muster.

I want to take a moment to thank my predecessor, Ralph Cordaro, for the years of service and dedication he gave to this district and this job. I so appreciate the guidance he has given me in the transition, and I hope I can hold up his high standards.



**By Patrick Thomas
Music and Performance**

By the time you read this, Top Gun 2009 should have already taken place. We had four great quartets attend and get coaching unlike any you can find anywhere.

The district brought in Joe Cerutti and Gary Steinkamp from out of district, as well as Dusty Schleier and Jeremy Conover from right here in Dixie to do some high intensity coaching for those quartets going or hoping to go to international competition. If you see any of the guys from State Line Grocery, Lunch Break, Lets

Sing! or Village Green, ask them how hard they worked and just how much they got out of a weekend of coaching like that. I guarantee they left Norcross, GA with a very tired look and a worn out set of vocal cords.

I know many of you look forward to the weekend each year so you can attend Dixie Lakeside Harmony Weekend! Although we are still in the planning stages, we hope to provide you with a great weekend of classes and a top flight show to cap it all off. I can't tell you who will be headlining the Saturday Night Show yet, but I'm sure it will be one of the best shows in Dixie all year. This year we will have Rick Spencer, the BHS International Office's Music guru, onsite in Clemson to teach and share his immense talents with us. Also, keep an eye out for a new survey we will be releasing very soon to get your take on how DLHW has been going and to ask things you would like to see and ways we might improve

what we do. This is your school -- the District just plans it for you. I look forward to hearing your thoughts on it so we can move forward in the right direction. By the way, 2010 may be Dixie Lakeside like you have NEVER SEEN BEFORE! Stay tuned to that.

The District's **Standing Ovation Program** is about to get a big overhaul. For some time now, the Society has been working on ways to improve the SOP to better provide for the districts. Last July at the Nashville 2008 International Convention, I had the privilege to take a fantastic SOP class to become a reviewer and trainer. While I was in that class, I had the opportunity to meet a new friend and now someone I will be depending on in the future. For those who have not met **Sherwood Platt**, he has



Sherwood Platt

moved to Memphis from outside the district, and has been a great supporter of the SOP for some time. After our conversation and emails flying, Sherwood has agreed to serve as the district's SOP Chairman. The SOP does fall under the Music & Performance umbrella, but I can't be

everywhere! Sherwood is going to do a great job with this, I'm sure. All you SOP reviewers, make sure you get in contact with him so he knows you are out there. In the mean time, the society SOP team, headed by Ontario's Chuck Alexander, is looking to compile a society-wide database of SOP reviewers. This way, we can pull from other districts in an attempt to better serve all our chapters, even those on the outer edges of our districts. We will let you all know when that's available. For those of you who are about to have shows, get in touch with Sherwood as well to get an SOP reviewer at your show. It's totally painless, and it may be a great way of learning more about the shows you do, how you can make a good show great, and a great show awesome!

So as you can see, there is plenty going on and plenty to do, and we are just getting started. I look forward to serving you all, and please feel free to contact me if you want to help or have questions.

Let's go out and have some fun!🎵

Chattanooga 2008 Honors



**2008 Dixie Quartet
Champions
The Nashville
Singers**

*From left - Dusty Schleier,
David Carden, Ryan
Killeen, Rick Spencer*



**2008 Dixie Chorus
International
Qualifiers**

**The Atlanta Vocal
Project (Left)**
Directed by Clay Hine

**The Nashville Music
City Chorus (Below)**
Directed by Mike O'Neill



2008 Hall of Fame Inductee

Jim Sams

Jim, among other things, is a 28-year Society member, a 20-year District board member, and a five-time Barbershopper of the Year.



2008 Hall of Fame Inductee

The Stacked Deck

From left - Fred Braswell, Ron Montgomery, Tom Cain, Jim Cain

The Stacked Deck is only the 4th quartet to be inducted into the Dixie Hall of Fame.



Judge Emeritus Award

Tom Schlinkert

The Judge Emeritus award is given by the Society Contest and Judging Committee to men who have gone above and beyond the call of duty as past members of the C&J community. It is the most prestigious award that can be bestowed on a Society judge.

Tom's widow Marianne and his family accepted the award.

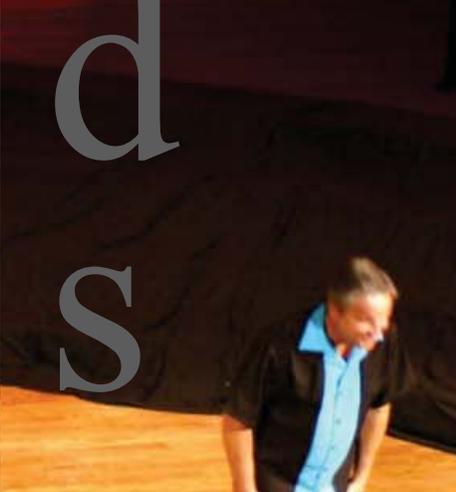




O d d S &



Ends



New Bern Festival Brings Chapters Together, Wows Local Audience

By Dennis Evans

What's a Festival? A one-day event for several chapters, featuring learning sessions, chorus and quartet performances, and a mass chorus performance. Its purpose is to strengthen our hobby through fun, fellowship, and learning to be better singers.

New Bern, North Carolina, was the place to be on Saturday, September 27, as several Dixie chapters from eastern North Carolina met for the first ever "Neuse River Festival." Modeled after the very successful "Cape Fear Invitational" weekend event perfected by the Wilmington, NC chapter, it was the first of four Festivals being sponsored by the Carolinas Association of Barbershop Singers (CABS). Well over 100 men from 6 different chapters participated. Over a dozen spouses, who were hosted for the day, enjoyed the festivities as well.

The one-day event featured teaching and coaching by a number of experienced coaches and clinicians, and there were great performances by choruses and quartets from the Edenton, Greenville, Jacksonville, New Bern, and Wilmington chapters. Each chorus performed 2 songs, and 8 quartets also stepped out to do a number. In addition, members from Raleigh's Sir Walter Chapter also joined in the day's fun and also participated in a mass chorus with all singers together, featuring a set of common songs they received prior to the weekend. Part of the fun included an informal "Tag Competition" with each chorus asked to perform two tags. Wilmington was crowned the winner, and was presented with a hand-crafted traveling trophy which will be presented to next year's winner.

After a general orientation session, everyone took part in two groups of classes, each 55 minutes in length. Each group offered 4 concurrent classes.

The first group of classes included the following sessions:

Successful quarteting:

What makes a quartet successful? Should you focus on comedy? Is it just a social outlet, or do you want to perform in public? Should you get involved in competition? What's for you? Other aspects including song selection, presentation, etiquette, the joys, etc. were discussed. (Jan Muddle)

Vocal Production / Singing Your Best:

Being the best singer you can be. How to use your vocal instrument. Singing within the chorus. Producing the ensemble sound. (Bill Rashleigh & BJ Oglesby)

Connecting With Your Audience:

Using both visual and vocal elements to draw the audience into your performance. Making your performance "come alive" for the audience. (Robert Cox)

Interpreting A Song & The Visual Plan:

Starting with new music: How do you proceed? What is interpretation? How do you develop a plan? How do you create the visual plan? (Larry Reinhart)



Packed house enjoys the New Bern Mass Chorus

Want to share what your chapter's doing? Let the rest of the District know what's cookin' in your corner of Dixie. Email your story and/or pictures to rebelrouser@dixiedistrict.org.

The second group of classes offered quartet coaching and allowed other participants to catch up on some of the sessions from the first group:

Coaching for Organized Quartets: (all four quartet members in attendance)

Coaches worked with non-competing quartets to improve their overall skills. (Larry Reinhart & BJ Oglesby)

Vocal Production / Singing Your Best: (repeated)

Connecting With Your Audience: (repeated)

Interpreting A Song & The Visual Plan: (repeated)

After a group lunch break, everyone joined together in a mass chorus and rehearsed on risers for about an hour and a half, with each Clinician working one song into performance readiness. After a short break, the individual choruses met once more for their final 30-minute warm-up. Then, it was SHOW TIME!

The best surprise was the public interest! A notice had been placed in the local newspaper, fliers had been distributed to targeted locations, and one of the large local residential communities put the message on its website. Members got the word out to friends and their show customers. Over 350 people showed up – most of them early - for a "FREE CONCERT." A newspaper reporter came and attended Bill Rashleigh's class on Vocal Production, then interviewed Bill, as well as Russ Erwin and Bill Vincent, founding members of the New Bern

chapter. (A feature story with a picture followed in the Sunday paper.)

The five choruses and their quartets performed, coming onto the risers informally, followed by Bill Rashleigh's spirited audience participation sing-along, much to the delight of the crowd. As the finale, the mass chorus assembled and performed the five numbers it had prepared from working with learning CDs and the earlier joint rehearsals. The chorus sang several favorites, including Sweet & Lovely, You Tell Me Your Dream, Hello Mary Lou, Under the Boardwalk, and God Bless America. After the final number, the audience rose in a thunderous and enthusiastic standing ovation!

At the closing, the Wilmington chapter was presented its trophy for the "Tag Competition," we thanked our appreciative audience and brought the event to a conclusion with Keep the Whole World Singing.

This was a truly great day for barbershopping! We thank Bill Rashleigh, Robert Cox, Jan Muddle, BJ Oglesby, and Larry Reinhart for generously offering their time and talent to make this event a tremendous success! Of course we thank the New Bern Chapter for all their efforts and Paul Parker from the Cape Fear Chordsmen as well for providing a guiding hand.

Additional Festivals are currently being planned for the Triad (Winston-Salem, Greensboro), Spartanburg, SC, and Charleston, SC areas, with a goal of participation by all chapters across North and South Carolina.🎵

HOW CAN YOUR CHAPTER BENEFIT FROM A FESTIVAL?

By Dennis Evans

1. It energizes the whole chapter. Everyone gets some kind of a job, large or small. You work together, and you all share in its success. Even the wives get excited and work together to plan and support the event. It gives you goals, tasks and deadlines, and the opportunity to develop good teamwork. All major positives that will benefit the chapter in many ways!
2. A Festival is an ideal venue to promote quarteting! It is a non-threatening environment, with a very friendly audience. And each quartet has its whole chorus standing behind it (literally) in support. A Festival really delivers on the Society goal of "preserving and encouraging barbershop quartet singing."
3. It gives all chapter chorus members a chance to perform - even those from small chapters that don't put on an annual show. What can be more fun for these chapter members? It gives them an annual goal – to learn new music and prepare themselves to perform at the local Festival to an appreciative audience, as well as receive some valuable coaching help in an encouraging, uplifting setting.
4. The sponsoring Chapter benefits from the goodwill in the community by offering a FREE CONCERT to local citizens. It gives something to your "annual show regulars" and exposes many others to our hobby in a very positive light. You will likely generate new ticket sales.

(see **Festival** on page 22)

Festival *(continued from page 21)*

5. The craft sessions provide an outstanding learning opportunity – one that “Joe Barbershopper” could never get unless he was fortunate enough to attend Harmony College or go to Clemson, SC for the Dixie Lakeside Harmony Weekend (for some chapters this is a full day’s drive). Craft knowledge helps the individual singer to improve, helps improve the chorus, and helps the director as well.

6. The clinicians and coaches are in many ways “great servants” to our hobby! Without their skills and dedication, this event could not happen. At the same time, these Festivals also give them a wonderful opportunity to use those skills, to teach, to influence the performance of hundreds of singers. And, even they get a chance to perform! Do you have some coaching ability to offer? Get involved! You will be richly rewarded.

7. Bringing members and chapters together at a Festival has many additional benefits: It furthers social interaction that can strengthen all chapters. You meet new people and learn from each other. You gain empathy for others, and you get a sense of the need to continue to help and support other chapters in the future. The common repertoire you’ve learned for the mass sing means you can all sing together another time – perhaps on a startup chapter show?

8. The Festival experience helps to ignite a renewed sense of enthusiasm at chapters that might seem temporarily stagnated.🎵



Introducing Your 2009 District Leadership Team

2009 Dixie Officers:

| | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| President | Thom Hine |
| IPP | Dwain Chambers |
| EVP | Drayton Justus |
| Secretary | Russell Bell |
| Treasurer | Curt Douglass |
| BMAL | Mike Schiermann |
| BMAL | Bernie Bookman |
| BMAL - C&J | Steve Tremper |
| BMAL - CDD | John Phillips |
| BMAL - CSLT | Randy Miller |
| BMAL - Conventions | Jack Donaldson |
| BMAL - FD | open |
| BMAL - MD | Jeff Harte |
| BMAL - M&P | Patrick Thomas |
| BMAL - Mktg/PR | Bob Davenport |
| BMAL - YIH | Jim Moore |

2009 Committee Assignments:

2009 DIX HOF Com

| | |
|---------|---|
| Chair | Thom Hine |
| Members | Dick Belote, Randy Miller, Dryton Justus & Jim Sams |

2009 DIX BOTY Com

| | |
|---------|----------------------|
| Chair | Dwain Chambers |
| Members | Don Lang & Jim Moore |

2009 DIX Ethics Committee

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|---------|---------------------------------|
| Chair | Erich Shultz |
| Members | Bobby Wooldreidge & Dick Belote |

2010 DIX Nominating Committee

| | |
|---------|-------------------------|
| Chair | Dwain Chambers |
| Members | Jim Sams & Randy Miller |

2009 DIX Budget Committee

| | |
|---------|---------------------------|
| Chair | Bernie Bookman |
| Members | Curt Douglass & Thom Hine |

2009 DIX Governance & By-laws Committee

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|-------|--------------|
| Chair | Nate Pendley |
|-------|--------------|

2009 DIX Awards Committee

| | |
|-------|--------------|
| Chair | Allen Finley |
|-------|--------------|

2009 DIX Historian

| |
|-------------|
| Jerry Adams |
|-------------|

Auditing Committee

| | |
|--------------------|------------|
| Chair (2008 books) | John Nixon |
|--------------------|------------|

2009 DIX Rebel Rouser Editor

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| Keith Therrell |
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2009 DIX Webmaster

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| Mark Hyde |
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2009 Director of

| | |
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| Communications | Dwain Chambers |
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Yahogroups Coordinator

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| Don Lang |
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Dixie District E-mail Communications

Don Lang

Many of you have been using our DIX yahoo groups for some time. They are a very powerful tool, but not without some difficulties. We appreciate your patience as we try to make them as effective as possible.

Some of you have asked if there is some way to reduce the number of duplicated and extraneous messages! YES, there is -- I think I heard a collective sigh of relief!

BUT, we NEED your help! We are currently in a major effort to get “everyone” on their appropriate DIX yahoo groups. (PLEASE CHECK THE LIST BELOW.) Then we can moderate the groups more carefully. We won't have to send messages to many groups in order to try to reach our intended audience. Instead, we can focus our messages more accurately!

We will use a variety of means to help identify who should be on which groups. Unfortunately, you may see some “extra” messages as we take steps to get everyone identified, invited, and signed up for the appropriate groups.

PLEASE be patient - I'm sure you'll like the final result!

You don't need to wait for us to identify you as a candidate. Just let me know which group(s) you should be on, and I'll send you an invite.

If you have questions, comments, or would like help, just sing out –
DonL555 at yahoogroups . com
DIX Communications Team

DIX YAHOOGROUPS!

We currently have yahoo groups (e-mail lists) for -

- DIX-Dist-Members - for ALL DIX members
- DIX-Dist-Chorus-Compet - for chorus contacts, managers, etc
- DIX-Dist-Quartet-Compet - for quartet contacts
- DIX-Chorus-Directors - for directors and assistants
- DIX-Chapter-Presidents -
- DIX-Chapter-Secretaries –
- DIX-Chapter-Membership
- DIX-Chapter-Mktg-PR
- DIX-Chapter-Program
- DIX-Chapter-Treasurers
- DIX-Chapter-Support-Reps -
- DIX-Chapter-Contacts - for chapter designated e-mail contact(s); responsible to forward info from e-mail msgs to those people who don't use e-mail.

If you will hold any of the above positions for 2009, it isn't too early to sign up.

We also have a new group,
DIX-Dist-Net – which is an UN-MODERATED group, for those who may wish to use it.🎵

The Rebel Rouser

Keith Therrell, Editor
1713 Hunters Bluff Drive, #101
Memphis, TN 38120



Plan Ahead...

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| 1/25 - 2/1 | Mid-Winter Convention Pasadena, CA |
| 2/20 | Spring Contest Entry Deadline |
| 3/20 - 3/22 | Spring Convention and Contests Greensboro, NC |
| 6/29 - 7/5 | International Convention Anaheim, CA |

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Upcoming Chapter Shows | |
| 1/23,24 | Savannah, GA |
| 4/18 | Greensboro, NC |
| 5/2 | Wilmington, NC |
| 5/10 | Northeast Tennessee |
| 5/30 | Stone Mountain, GA |