



TYUDDMNPCA

(The Yet Unnamed Dixie District Monthly Newsletter Promoting Chapter Activities)

Volume 1, Issue 3

June 30, 2009

"It will be a terrific weekend."

2009 Dixie Lakeside Harmony Weekend by Thom Hine

Under the heading of "Keeping Our DIX Members Up To Date," the DIX website is packed with information as to the 2009 Clemson DIX District, mini-HEP School and Saturday evening Show (July 17/19, 2009 at Clemson University).

2009 Dixie District Lakeside Harmony Weekend - go to the DIX website www.dixie-district.org. On the main page, under Education News, click DLHW 2009. All class schedules, registration forms and info will pop up right in front of you. It will be a terrific weekend. Check out the workshops and quartet/small chorus coaching programs. All registered attendees will also be treated to an outstanding Saturday night show (Barbershop - The Next Generation) featuring On Demand, **The Nashville Singers**, **Stone Mountain Chorus**, **Harmonious Hunks**, **Atlanta Vocal Project**, **Vocal Project**, and **State Line Grocery**.

The true star of the show will be the 2009 Youth Harmony Explosion Camp Chorus what a line up!

If you live in close proximity to Clemson, SC, your friends, spouse and family can enjoy the Saturday evening show by purchasing tickets online on the same website (see banner line on the website for information or you can purchase tickets online).

We anticipate another 100+ young men's Harmony Explosion Camp chorus to WOW us again this year.

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The Dixie District of the Barbershop Harmony Society Presents
A Quartet and Chorus Harmony Explosion Camp Show

BARBERSHOP THE NEXT GENERATION!

Featuring

Saturday Night, July 18, 2009 at 7:30 PM
BROOKS CENTER for the Performing Arts (Clemson Campus)
TICKETS: \$15.00 (adults) and \$10.00 (students under 18)

ORDER YOUR TICKETS NOW! **RITE-AID Drug Store**
 525 College Avenue, Clemson, SC 29631

or at our website: www.dixiedistrict.org

Southland Chorus from Fayetteville, GA by Thom Hine

It is my sad responsibility to advise all that **Dick Nawrocki**, long-time music director of the **Fayetteville, GA Chapter, Southland Chorus**, passed away on April 8, 2009 following a long illness. He was a truly wonderful barbershopper in all respects and a credit to our district and Society.

**“Dick Nawrocki
passed away”**

Big Chicken Chorus from Marietta, GA by Thom Hine

I doubt that few members within the walls of the DIX District DID NOT know Jack Sweitzer of the Marietta, GA Chapter and the many chapter and district responsibilities he assume over the past many years. As the anniversary of his passing approaches, the Marietta Chapter extends an invitation for YOU to "gift" to a fitting memorial for Jack. Please read on.....

Friends and fellow barbershoppers,

Soon, we will be reaching the anniversary of the untimely loss of our dear friend, Jack Sweitzer. The Marietta, GA Chapter has asked me to follow-up with you to assure the contributions (donations and pledges) to the "Jack Sweitzer Memorial Fund" are collected and distributed properly, per the wishes of the Sweitzer family. Additionally, we know there are others who have been waiting for the opportunity to join-in with fellow barbershoppers and friends to make a contribution to the Fund.

There are three (3) donation options.....

1. Harmony Foundation, "Keep A Melody Ringing," a memorial wall inscribed with name plates memorializing barbershoppers who have passed and have been recognized by a contribution of \$1,000 or more to the Harmony Foundation in the name of the deceased. This wall is maintained at the Barbershop Harmony Society (BHS) headquarters in Nashville, TN and is moved each year to the site of the International Chorus & Quartet Contest and Convention.
2. Funds will be used to Memorialize Jack Sweitzer in some way (TBD) based on funds collected.
3. To benefit the Marietta, GA Chapter (Big Chicken Chorus) per the request of the Sweitzer family.

Contribute via email.....

We direct you to our web site, www.bigchickenchorus.org where you will find the drop-down window under the [About Us] tab. Scroll down to [In Memory Of] and follow the directions for making a contribution. For those non-members of the Marietta, GA Chapter, you will be asked to enter your email address under the New Patron Login. This is a secured site and your email address will not be distributed to any other organization. From there, just follow the direction, completing the form and click on [Submit] when completed.

Contribute via USMail.....

Please remit your check, money order, or credit card donation to the Marietta, GA Chapter (BHS) and make sure you identify it as a contribution to the "Jack Sweitzer Memorial Fund." Additionally, we need to know how you want your contribution to be allocated, (see options above). Send to.....

Bill Forrester
3122 Swallow Drive, NE
Marietta, GA 30066
Attn: Jack Sweitzer Memorial Fund

Pledges made to this Fund.....

We ask that you make your contribution, per one of the options above, by no later than July 17, 2009. In fact, do it today so you're not one of those who might have to admit that you forgot.

Questions and/or problems.....

Please direct any and all questions to me at the following address.

Bill Schreiner, Program VP
Big Chicken Chorus
Marietta, GA Chapter, Barbershop Harmony Society
770/953-3970, Fax 770/956-7931
MrBill@seaddon.com
Visit our web site: www.bigchickenchorus.org

**“Jack Sweitzer
Memorial
Fund”**

North Georgia Barbershop Singers from Lake Lanier, GA by Tom Riggle

“We are not a chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society but are in the process of applying.”

We are not a chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society but are in the process of applying. For that reason, our director, **Jack Martin**, thought you might be interested in what we are doing. This group was started and is directed by Jack Martin and **Rich Pilch**, both long time members of the BHS. The group started with four guys in 2007 and stayed around six to eight members until July of 2008. Then there was a local newspaper article on the group and things started to blossom. The group has been growing nicely since August 2008. Some members started to bring a friend from time to time and now we are at 28 members. We meet at Christ the King Lutheran Church in Cumming, GA every Tuesday evening. We have been working through the Polecat book with the goal of getting everyone qualified to sing all 12 songs. We are probably about 75% complete right now. Of course, as new people get involved, they need to get up to speed as well. At the same time, our directors always seem to have another new song for us to learn and our repertoire is growing.

As we are becoming known in the area, we have numerous requests to entertain people at churches, festivals, a Christmas program in a playhouse, assisted living facilities, neighborhood groups, a boat club as well as some private functions. We did a Singing Valentine program this year by fielding three quartets and did 44 little Valentine gigs. We also had a quartet do a St. Patrick's Day neighborhood party. Our members all have nice "barbershop" style outfits which we wear when performing in public. Jack Martin also puts out a very nice monthly electronic newsletter to all members.

We have had some experienced friends of our directors at few of our practice sessions and offer advice. **The Roswell Chapter** has invited us to a couple of nice dinners with their group which we happily accepted. We are planning to visit one of their practice sessions on June 23.

Our directors are encouraging our members to organize quartets. We have one quartet that is working and singing together now and a couple others that are trying to organize.

We have a full compliment of officers and hold regular monthly Board meetings. Right now, we are in the process of applying for a license to operate as a chapter. We have applications and checks from 19 of our members to be "charter" members and will be asking to be called "**Lake Lanier, GA Chapter SPEBSQSA, Inc.**" Our chorus name will be maintained as **North Georgia Barbershop Singers**. I expect to get the sign off from the president of our sponsor chapter, **Stone Mountain**, by June 1. Then all the documents will be submitted to the Dixie District president, **Thom Hine**, for review. Whereupon, our License Application will go on to Nashville. If we gain approval from all, we intend to take the next step and apply to become a recognized chapter of the society.

Garden City Chorus from Augusta, GA by Randy Miller

Clyde Jackson and his lovely wife Betty, celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on June 26th. Well, that's a great milestone of course, but there's more.

“This was a 1956 Thunderbird.”

About two years ago, their daughter retrieved the car they used on their honeymoon fifty years ago. This was a 1956 Thunderbird. They drove it on that wedding day to Daytona Beach, FL. After returning home and several years went by, they parked that car in a barn in Edgefield County, SC. It rusted through the years and stuff got piled on top of it and it was a mess.

Jan, their daughter, got that car from that barn and with the guidance of one of her employees, they fully restored that T'Bird to its original condition, using authentic Fomoco parts. Then making a story up about a car show, she had that car driven to her Daddy. **The Augusta Chorus** was there and sang, as did Clyde's quartet, "**The Classics**", which I'm happy to sing in.

Now, on their fifty year celebration, they will once again drive that T'Bird to Daytona Beach. Happy Anniversary to my dear friends Clyde and Betty Jackson. By the way, Clyde sings with Augusta and Lexington.

North Georgia Barbershop Singers from Lake Lanier, GA by Tom Riggle

On June 2, we had the pleasure of having Dixie District President, **Thom Hine**, visit our **North Georgia Barbershop Singers** practice session. We needed his signature on our Application for License for BHS as the last step before it went off to Nashville. When I talked with Thom, he said he likes to know the group he's signing off on. That's a very good idea and he agreed to come over and see us. No small thing since he lives in Kennesaw which is over by Marietta. That's almost the other side of the world to me!

What a delightful gentleman he is as he addressed the NGBS and explained some things about the Society and the Dixie District activities. There are certainly a lot of things going on that barbershoppers can take advantage of, at will. He signed our application package for Lake Lanier, GA Chapter, gave us some words of encouragement, and stayed and sang with us until break time before starting his trek "back across." A big THANK YOU to Thom Hine for taking several hours of his time to get to know us and give his approval of NGBS.

"[Thom Hine] signed our application package for Lake Lanier, GA Chapter..."

Atlanta Vocal Project from Atlanta, GA by Russell Bell

On Saturday, June 13, the **Atlanta Vocal Project** performed for Lanier Village Estates in Gainesville, GA. It is always a pleasure to visit these folks and sing for them. This time we got a big treat. This is the third year we have performed for Lanier Village. Three years ago we must have stirred something up in some of the folks up there. They started a Lanier Village Barbershop Chorus. They have worked hard over the past year and last Saturday they performed as part of the entertainment with us. As part of the end of the set we performed two Barberpole Cat songs with the Lanier Village Singers. We ended the entertainment with Keep The Whole World Singing.

The Lanier Singers were about 12 strong. The group included two very lovely ladies as their tenor section. It was great fun. We are looking forward to our next visit to Lanier and see what they have learned since our last visit.

"They started a Lanier Village Barbershop Chorus."

Heart of Georgia Chorus from Warner Robins, GA by Bob Smith

I wanted to let you know of the passing of a close friend and past president of the Heart of Georgia Barbershop Chorus (B-058, Macon Chapter), Jay B. Locke. Our chorus sang at the funeral Tuesday morning, June 16. He loved singing and will be missed very much. Please keep Barbara and family in your thoughts and prayers. Death Notice may be viewed at <http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/macon/obituary.aspx?n=jay-b-locke&pid=128462111>

"Jay B. Locke passed away"

Golden Corner Chorus from Seneca, SC by Joe Simmons



The **Golden Corner Chorus of Seneca, SC** hosted a Singing for Life Blood Drive during a town festival called "Meet & Three." The chorus, shown assembling, sang to the crowd of people attending the festival. The four-part harmony was both for the enjoyment of the people and for the promotion of the blood drive. Articles appeared in the local Seneca Journal to promote the event, and a quartet from the chorus sang and was interviewed on one of the local stations during a half-hour show to promote both the festival blood drive and the enjoyment of barbershop singing.

A strolling barbershop quartet circulated through the crowds at the festival to encourage people to donate blood. The second photo shows a quartet serenading some people at the festival. The chorus felt that having a convenient bloodmobile present would be the deciding factor whether people gave blood or not.

The last picture shows members of a quartet donating blood after the promotion of serenading prospective donors.

If you have any questions, please email me at (simmsail6@bellsouth.net).



"Singing for Life Blood Drive"

Never Home 4 by John Zweighaft

“The quartet got almost 20 seconds of air time.”

The **Never Home 4** quartet, “senior citizens” noted for their extensive work with local schools over the last 14 years, entertained during the cocktail hour at a dinner dance at the Halle Cultural Arts Center in Apex, NC on May 17. Every dollar raised through The Apex Ball went directly to fund Cancer Research via the Jimmy Fund at the Dana Farber Institute of Cancer Research in Boston, MA. The black tie event was reported by Raleigh’s NBC affiliate station WNCN Channel 17 and may be seen at <http://wake.mync.com/site/Wake/news/story/34650/first-annual-apex-ball-raises-money-for-cancer-research/>. The quartet got almost 20 seconds of air time.



(left to right) Andy Lesperance, Dick Smith, Bob Dickson and John Zweighaft



The quartet has a new baritone, **John Zweighaft**, replacing Archie Steen, who is now taking it easy but still occasionally coaching the quartet. Even though John is 64, he is the youngest member and has significantly reduced the quartet’s “age” from 301 years to 282!

Brotherhood of Harmony from Greenville, NC by Bob Hanrahan

“After a low point of three members two years ago, we have grown to 15...”

The **Brotherhood of Harmony Chorus** from the **Greenville, NC** Chapter of the Society recently reorganized and is growing again. After a low point of three members two years ago, we have grown to 15 and are beginning to sing out in the community. A photo is attached showing the chorus singing the National Anthem at the East Carolina University basketball game with Rice University.



Individual members have participated in the North Carolina Harmony Brigade (NCHB) and at the recent Dixie District Competition in Winston Salem with the **Rocky Mount Big Chorus** and the NCHB. We are currently in the process of quartet building, and we hope to put on a show for the local barbershop fans with help from our neighboring chapters within a year. The chapter meets on Monday nights at 7:30 at the Greenville Recreation and Parks building on Laura Lane.

Island Treasures by Dick Tyrrell

“...it's just that we didn't know how to spell the college's name.”



Here's the **Island Treasures** quartet from the **Hilton Head** chapter singing at the Hilton Head Symphony's Orchestra's "College Day" event.

The story introducing the 100 year anniversary of the Whiffenpoofs from Yale University was that we decided to order shirts commemorating the event...it's just that we didn't know how to spell the college's name.

Appalachian Express Chorus from Kingsport, TN by Mark Kettner

If the **Appalachian Express Chorus (NE Tennessee Chapter)** were to make a list of items that it must have, near the top would be a suitable place to rehearse. Unfortunately, this need had not been satisfied over the last several years. The chapter had often used the best place available at the time, be it a school choral room, church, or other venues that could accommodate the group. With the long term goal of establishing a better “home” in the Tri-Cities (Kingsport, Bristol, Johnson City), the chapter began to search for a permanent location in late 2007.

A committee began to find alternative locations in the area, but each option fell short when considering the important factors like cost, location, storage space and size. The chapter was beginning to feel like they were running out of options. What happened next was a result of good singing and building great relationships in the area.

One of the chapter quartets, **AppleJack**, had been entertaining at Mountain States Health Alliance (MSHA) hospitals for several years, singing for patients, nurses, and other health care professionals. During this time, the quartet had developed a relationship with Barbara Sanders, Supervisor of Volunteer Music Programs at MSHA. During a conversation with Barbara, one of the quartet members (chorus manager **Jim Snodgrass**) indicated that the chapter was searching for a new home that could accommodate 40+ singers, plus room to store risers and sound equipment, and be suitable for rehearsing and performing. Immediately, Barbara offered up an opportunity; a suite housed in a training facility located on their Indian Path Hospital campus.

Jim gathered **Tony Bowman** (musical director), **Nathan Goodwin** (chapter president), and **Mark Kettner** (music/performance VP) to tour the suite. It consisted of a large room, equipped with tables and chairs, and large enough to set up and utilize risers. A large storage room was attached, along with a large kitchen and serving area. Perhaps the best part of the offer was the fee: free of charge. The committee was in favor, and soon brought the chorus (who also voted to move to this very professional looking location).

Since moving to the new location, the chorus has used it not only for rehearsing, but for public performances and a chapter dinner. New members have been very impressed with the location. The NE Tennessee chapter is proud to have Mountain States Health Alliance as a sponsor, and continues to support their organization with chorus and quartet performances. By building a strong relationship with members of the community, the chapter was able to uncover an opportunity for future successes.

“If [we] were to make a list of items that [we] must have, near the top would be a suitable place to rehearse.”

Plan Ahead... by Don Lang

6/29 - 7/5; BHS International Convention; Anaheim, CA;

Info > <http://www.barbershop.org/>

7/9 - 7/11 Harmony Explosion Camp Birmingham, AL;

Info > <http://www.dixiedistrict.org/> (jamest_moore@bellsouth.net)

7/17 - 7/19 Dixie Lakeside Harmony Weekend; Clemson, SC;

Info > <http://www.dixiedistrict.org/> (jdevents@hotmail.com)

7/17 - 7/19 Harmony Explosion Camp; Clemson, SC;

Info > <http://www.dixiedistrict.org/> (jamest_moore@bellsouth.net)

7/26 - 8/2 Harmony University St. Joseph, MO;

Info > <http://www.barbershop.org/>

10/2-4; DIX Fall Convention; Chattanooga, TN;

Info > <http://www.dixiedistrict.org/> (jdevents@hotmail.com)

*** 2010 ***

3/12-14; DIX Spring Convention; Greenville, SC;

Info > <http://www.dixiedistrict.org/> (jdevents@hotmail.com)

“Important Dates”