



Dixie Town Crier

Dixie's monthly chapter newsletter dedicated to the original town crier, Chuck Witherspoon

Volume 2, Issue 2

July 31, 2010

Philly and the New NSC District by Don Lang

Well, the Philly convention is over. Lots of fun, good singing, good fellowship, reuniting with old friends, eating Philly cheese steaks,... etc. It was great to see so many of you there! Congrats to ALL performers!

We also saw the charter presented to Representatives of the new Carolinas District. Best wishes to ALL in the NEW Carolinas AND the NEW Dixie District!

Let's ALL get together whenever we can.

Report on Harmony Explosion Camp by Lebron Brock, President Chattanooga Chapter

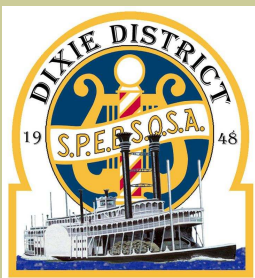
The **Chattanooga Chapter** for the first time sponsored teens to go to the Harmony Explosion Camp held in Huntsville, AL and I went along to serve as a chaperone for the event. It turned out to be a fantastic experience for me as well as the two teens we sponsored. Time and print space will not allow me to share everything I would like to tell about the camp but here are some highlights.

The two young men we sponsored and their families were blown away by the experience. One mother said, "I will never be able to thank you enough for getting my son involved in this." Both of these boys plan to sing with us in our Christmas show and get more involved in Barbershop as their busy schedules permit. One expressed an interest in directing some day.

One indication of how the whole group was sold on Barbershop was the fact that 15-20 of the young men bought pitch pipes on our last day of camp. I think more would have, too, if they had had the money. The boys worked on the risers from 8:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m. except for meals and short breaks during the 3 days of camp.

They put on a fantastic performance on the last night. There were tears in the audience when the boys sang "When I was Loved." Emotion and energy flowed off the stage and into the audience like a wave when they sang "I'm a Believer." You could hear a pin drop as the last beautiful notes of "This Little Light of Mine" faded away.

After the show I could tell the boys had caught the "Barbershop Bug" when I saw about 15 boys circled around 4 delighted teenage girls singing "Driving Me Crazy." If this is the future of Barbershop it looks (and sounds) good.



Music City Chorus from Nashville, TN by David Belden



"Music City Chorus"

Photos by Lorin May. Photos are the property of the Barbershop Harmony Society.

The number 2010 will long be etched into the memories of the men of the **Music City Chorus**. The '10 portion will be a constant reminder that 2010 was the year the Nashville Chapter returned to the "top 10" at International after an absence of more than 30 years. The Dixie District's chorus representative in 2010 improved upon last year's 18th place finish when they competed as a wild card selection. The tenth place chorus also continued to improve its overall performance as MCC attained its highest score ever on the international stage in Philadelphia (84.9).

Chapter president **Shane Scott** said the group had worked hard to earn last year's spot on the international stage after a 30-year absence. "It represented tremendous perseverance for the core of guys who have been in the chorus during that span of time. It would have been easy for them to simply give up during some of the lean years of the chorus, so going to International represented vindication for their steadiness."

"Returning this year, with our highest score ever, just validated the immense steps forward we have made in music, membership and administration," said Scott. "Music City is not a fly-by-night organization that just fluked out a trip to International. We are built on solid values and principles, and we have only just begun to see our potential."

"the Nashville Chapter returned to the 'top 10'"

The close knit group put in long hours of rehearsal, coaching, and retreat time in preparation for the contest, bonding both as a choral group and as friends who care about each other. "There is something deeply spiritual about men sharing the harmony of our music," added Scott. "It not only blends voices; it connects hearts. The men of the chorus see each other as family and the music we make and the times we share make us better people."



"The Real McCoy"

Photos by Lorin May. Photos are the property of the Barbershop Harmony Society.

The Nashville chapter had little downtime in Philadelphia because when they were not on stage they were in the audience cheering for their three chapter quartets, as well as the other Dixie District quartets in the

quartet and college quartet competitions. Nashville's "**The Real McCoy**" made its International debut with a 23rd place finish. "**Lunch Break**" registering its highest International finish in the 11th position which earned the quartet mike-tester honors for the Saturday night contest. They made the most of their stage time by getting all of the remaining semi-final quartets to appear with them in a comedy routine that was the buzz of the convention. "**TNS**" earned the best finish of the Nashville quartets as they place 10th overall and won the Dealer's Choice Award as the highest placing new quartet.



"Lunch Break"

Photos by Lorin May. Photos are the property of the Barbershop Harmony Society.

The Nashville chapter congratulates the other Dixie District quartets, "**A Might Wind**" (8th) and "**Zamboni Brothers**" (20th), and the college contest representatives, "**Rush Hour**" (17th).

Two weeks after returning from Pennsylvania the Music City Chorus headed to Alabama for an appearance at Harmony College South East. The chorus was pleased to share the stage with the **Southern Splendor Chorus** (Athens, AL), the Harmony Explosion Camp Chorus, the Zamboni Brothers, and Crossroads, the 2009 International Quartet Champions. The crowd was enthusiastic and the MCC men enjoyed the chance to participate in an outstanding evening of barbershop harmony.

The Music City Chorus is already back at work preparing for a district send-off show in September and the Dixie District fall contest in October.



"TNS"

Photos by Lorin May. Photos are the property of the Barbershop Harmony Society.

“DIX Yahoo! Groups”

Dixie District Yahoo! Groups by Don Lang

As you know, we are in the process of splitting the yahoo groups. YOU have an opportunity to be a great help! You know where you are, and what groups apply to you.

If you are not a member of the DIX-District-Members group, please send a blank message to - DIX-Dist-Members-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com. If you'd like help, just sing out!

North Georgia Barbershop Singers from Cumming, GA by Terry Gillim

It became a real enjoyable experience for all the attendee's at our NGBS “Family & Friends Night” this month at the Gwinnett Braves stadium. Even though it seemed the umpires weren't very “fan friendly”, and our G-Braves didn't win, it wasn't due to lack of fan support!

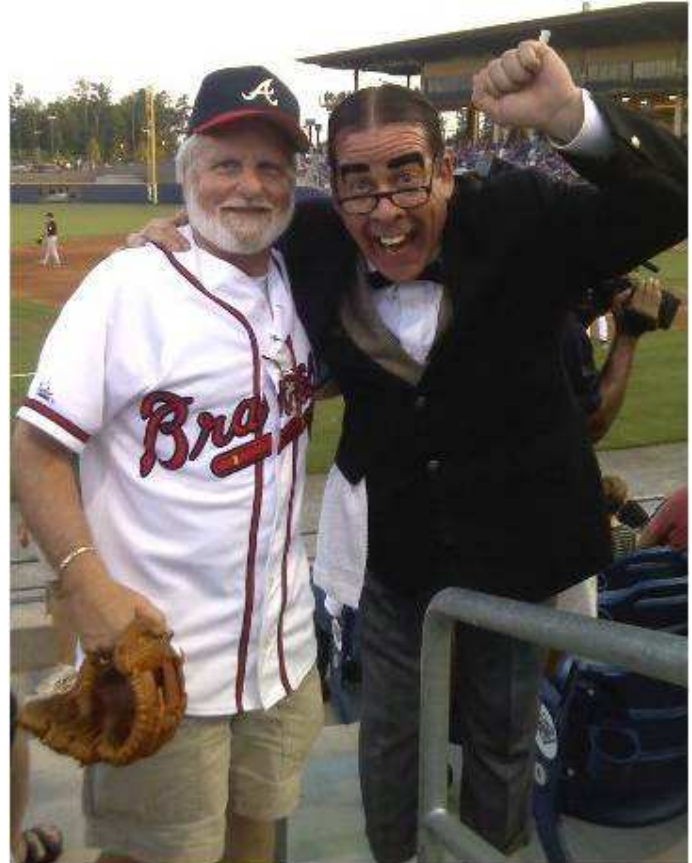
We were, what would probably be considered, a “rowdy, vocal group” (as stated by an un-named stadium employee), but as we did warn them that we are a very “loyal to a fault”, very supportive bunch, who are, admittedly, very vocal. (Our directors would have put our vocal output at a 10+ for sure, but I'm also certain they wouldn't have asked us to go for a “2 or 3” instead!).

Some of the typical comments that were over-heard...”boy, it's hot”, “where did you find those really good hot dogs?”, “can I borrow your sun-block?”, “shoulda' brought my hat”, “what...no air conditioning in this joint!”, “anybody seen my flip-flop?”, “well, no souvenir game ball for me this time”.

Everyone did enjoy, however, getting together again as a group, being around each other and revitalizing existing friendships. There was certainly a lot to enjoy, even if the G-Braves didn't win this one. Between inning entertainment was, well, entertaining. The fan participation during these segments was fun to watch, and at least one barbershopper got close with the “paid” entertainment, Myron Noodleman (see photo). Mr. Noodleman used Rich Pilch's hat for one of his “skits”, but it was obviously just too small. We all laughed when he told Rich that he (Noodleman) had a really big head. I'm sure some must have thought “bigger than Rich's? Impossible.”

Speaking of entertainment, as you know, when this outing was booked, officials at G-Braves indicated they already had somebody booked to do the National Anthem. On Wednesday (the week of the game!) a call was received, telling us the original singer has backed out, and asking if we could now fill in for them! Obviously, at such late date (and without a proper balance of parts participating) we could not commit. However, at the game, this same official said he “finally checked us out on the Internet and wants to make sure we're on their list of performers for next year.”

“Family & Friends Night”



High Country Harmonizers from Blairsville, GA by Gary Harper

**"The High
Country
Harmonizers
sing the Star
Spangled
Banner"**

July 10, 2010 the **High Country Harmonizers** under the direction of **Wayne Roshaven** sang the Star Spangled Banner to open the game between the Rome Braves and the Charleston, S.C. Riverdogs. There were more than 3000 paid tickets that watched the Riverdogs win a close game.

The High Country Harmonizers are based in Blairsville, GA. They draw singers from the Tri-state area of Georgia, North Carolina and Tennessee. They are looking for singers to join this group of entertainers.

Their Ninth Annual show this year **!!!REMEMBER!!!** will be at the Clegg Auditorium in Young Harris, GA on September 11, 2010. A tribute to our men and women in the military and to those who Protect and Serve: Police and Fire.

This group of singers meet each Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church of Union County, Blairsville, GA. More information is available on their website www.harmonize.com/hch or email gharper@tds.net.



REMEMBER



OUR NINTH ANNUAL SHOW DEDICATED TO OUR MEN AND WOMEN IN UNIFORM

!!!REMEMBER!!!

SEPTEMBER 11 CLEGG AUDITORIUM YOUNG HARRIS GA.