



Dixie Town Crier

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



March 2013

Volume 5, Issue 3

Spring 2013 Convention, March 8-10

Are you ready for Gadsden?

With 19 quartets competing for spots at the Toronto International contest in July, and 12 great choruses seeking the Dixie District chorus championship, is there any better place to be than Gadsden, Alabama in March? The spring convention is now just days away, and you can count on the chorus and the quartet contest to rival that of any district in the Barbershop Harmony Society! We'll see you there!



Quartet Prelims

Session 1

Friday 7:30 p.m.

MT	56-Year Spread
1	Phase IV
2	Hemisphere
3	Fiscal Clef
4	Retro-tones
5	Whoa Nellie!
6	Copeland Road
7	Just In Time
8	HS Quartet
9	Up Front
10	Lunch Break
11	Free and Easy
12	Knuckleheads
13	Decades
14	The Real McCoy

Quartet Prelims

Session 2

Saturday 12:15 p.m.

MT	56-Year Spread
15	7th and Broadway
16	DinoChords
17	Heartsong
18	Boardwalk
19	A Mighty Wind

Chorus Finals

Saturday 9:45 a.m.

MT	Joe Barbershop Chorus
1	Rocket City Chorus
2	Big Chicken Chorus
3	Southern Splendor Chorus
4	Choo Choo Chorus
5	Memphis Men of Harmony
6	Smokyland Sound
7	North GA Barbershop Singers
8	Crimson Pride Chorus
9	Stone Mountain Chorus
10	The Appalachian Express
11	RSVP
12	Voices of the South

Heart of Georgia Chapter, Bob Head reporting

Our "Learn To Sing" class in October was a success, as we gained 3 new active members from our class of 8.

We will be holding another class in the April & May time frame. Should you be close enough, please feel free to contact us, via our web site www.hogchorus.org or phone 478-345-7464

February was an active month for us. Our support church (Christ United Methodist) had a blood drive for which we always enjoy singing. One hundred and twelve pints of useful blood were collected during the drive.



Dedicated to Betsy Steed



Fellowship Hall



Quartet "Macon Harmony"



Quartet "Harmonic Balance"



Vampire Man (Center)



Me, in a picture (1st on left) at Afterglow

Of course we had our "Singing Valentine's". Our two quartets sang for 36 folks. Samples, below.



Thanks to Luis Morales and Carey Widner for traveling with the quartets and taking pictures.



David Belden reporting

Nashville Chapter to be well represented in Gadsden

The Nashville Chapter will be well represented at the Dixie District spring convention as seven quartets in the contest will feature one or more Nashville Chapter members. In addition, the Music City Chorus, 2012 Dixie District Chorus Champions, will be there to sing away the championship trophy.

The Nashville Chapter wishes the very best to all of the quartets and choruses from throughout the Dixie District!



LUNCH BREAK returns to the Dixie District contest hoping for another return to the international contest stage.



THE REAL McCOY, the current Dixie District quartet champions, will try to earn a ticket to Toronto!



PHASE IV will make their contest debut on Friday night.



THE DINOCHORDS (above) and **7th & BROADWAY** (below) spent part of their contest prep time delivering singing valentines.



Bill Schreiner reporting

Remembering Lou Costabile at Muriel Costabile's 90th Birthday Celebration



From the left, Bill Schreiner, tenor; Shelby Robert, lead; (Sal Costabile, brother; Muriel Costabile, wife) Ray Taylor, bass and Bob Snelling, bari.

For those of you who remember the Atlanta Peachtree Chorus and director, Lou Costabile, we wanted you to know that Lou's wife, Muriel Costabile is well and kicking, "BIG TIME!" Our quartet, "129 & Counting," was honored to be invited to join in on the celebration of Muriel's 90th birthday with family and friends in Atlanta, GA on February 16, 2013. The celebration included Lou's brother, Salvatore (Sal), in photo with Muriel, along with Lou and Muriel's children, Saradel Drobka of Seattle, WA; Carol Hammond of Atlanta, GA; Fred Costabile of Atlanta, GA; Louis Costabile of Memphis, TN and many, many grandchildren.

Daughter Saradel Drobka wanted to surprise Muriel with something special to help celebrate this grand occasion so she contacted BHS to get contact names in the Atlanta area. Fortunately for "129 & Counting," we were one of the quartets contacted, and when we discovered that the event was for Muriel Costabile, we jumped on the opportunity because tenor Bill Schreiner was an active member of the Atlanta Peachtree Chorus and president of the Peachtree Chapter during the late 60's and early 70's. In fact, the chorus was Dixie District Champs and Dixie Representatives at International Competitions for several years, under the direction of Lou Costabile.

Well, we had a wonderful evening with Muriel and family and she wanted to make sure she's included in invitations to local shows and competition. Muriel resides in Stone Mountain, GA and can be reached at 678/476-9643. She'd love to hear from all her friends in the Dixie District.

Here are some great reasons why YOU should attend the Dixie Lakeside Harmony Weekend this Summer!

By Jim DeBusman, Music and Performance VP

The Dixie Lakeside Harmony Weekend is scheduled for July 19 - 20, 2013 at the University of Huntsville-Alabama.



We want every Dixie District Chapter member and quartet that wants to become a better singer, performer and musician to be there. You also will have the opportunity to sing tags with fellow Dixie District friends you may have not met before.

Let's talk about some of the great classes that are available this year at DLHW.

- **Vocal Production II:** This is a new class. If you want to sing at a higher level, sing better in tune and be an even more competent singer, then this is the class for you.

- **Coaching Apprenticeship Program:** This is another new class this summer. Here's an opportunity to learn from some of the best coaches in our Society. Watch as they help quartets and choruses sing and perform better than they ever have before. Find out how it's done and enjoy the thrill the singers receive.

- **Marketing Your Chapter:** Would you like your chapter to do a better job of being a part of your community? Would you like to know how? Would you like to sell more tickets to your annual show? Would you like to get more paid performances? Then this is the course for you!

Tag Singing: Learn more tags than you ever thought were possible. Find out that you can sing more than one part. Have fun ringing those chords and enjoying the sound. Don't miss out!!!

Care of the Senior Voice: This is the class for those of you who believe you are "over the hill" and through with quality singing. Learn from Jim DeBusman the many ways you can improve your voice and continue to sing for many years to come.

Tune it or Die! Do you believe you sing in tune? Well . . . take this new class from Lars Grevstad and find out that you can improve your ability to "lock & ring." Many of us who have taken this class find out we can improve our ability to sing in tune.

There are many more courses, plus a great faculty and a wonderful "new" facility. When you add terrific Youth Choruses and the fantastically entertaining "Lunch Break" to the mix, how can you not want to come to the Dixie Lakeside Harmony Weekend?

All you need to do is visit www.dixiedistrict.org and register on line. However, if you do have any questions, please contact Russell Bell, our wonderful Dixie District Secretary at secretary@dixiedistrict.org or 770-439-8249 and leave a message. See you there!

An Opportunity to Join Your District Team

Hey Fellow Singers,

I need your help!

I am not sure it's well known, but our Dixie District Chapter Support Program (CSR), under the leadership of the vp-cslt has just about dried up. The Dixie District currently has only 2 Chapter Support Representatives to cover the 25 Chapters in the Dixie District. One of the CSR's is myself and the other is not.

As your incoming 2013 vp-cslt, I am making a concerted effort to revive this all important program. I have previously sent a note to all the Dixie District chapter presidents to canvas their membership to see if there is interest in becoming a CSR. I have also placed an article in the Rebel Rouser seeking some volunteers to fill these most important positions.

Don't be concerned that a CSR is a full time job. You will be on call to help your fellow barbershoppers when they have a problem needing a solution. With the vast resources available within the district, a CSR can guide the chapter to sources where solutions can be found.

The role of a CSR can be found by searching dixiedistrict.org. The concept of CSR's is altered a bit as we are in a rebuild mode at present. This would be a great opportunity to get in on the ground floor of a dynamic program. CSR training is planned to be offered at the fall Leadership Academy.

Please contact me at vp-cslt@dixiedistrict.org if you can help out.

In Harmony
Jack Martin
vp-cslt
Dixie District

DIXIE DISTRICT 2013 SPRING CONVENTION

Gadsden, Alabama Housing Information

March 8-10, 2013

GENERAL INFO

Hotels are at I-59, Exit 181. All three hotels are next door to one another.

The contest venue, Wallace Hall at Gadsden State Community College, is at I-759, Exit 4. It is 7.5 miles, or 9-10 minutes, from the hotels to Wallace Hall.

Wallace Hall address is 1001 George Wallace Drive, Gadsden, AL, 35903. **Use this for GPS.** Do not enter Gadsden State Community College.

All three hotels feature free, hot breakfast and mini-fridge/microwave in every room.

Rooms available Thursday, March 7 – Sunday, March 10.

Reservations made before Friday, February 15 will be at the listed convention rates.

Convention meetings and activities will take place at all three hotels.

Hampton Inn Gadsden/Attalla I-59 (Co-Headquarters)

NOT Hampton Inn Gadsden – that is a different hotel

206 Walker Street

Gadsden, AL 35904

Call 256-538-5222 for Reservations

King	\$92
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Queen/Queen	\$92
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Comfort Suites (Co-Headquarters)

96 Walker Street

Gadsden, AL 35904

Call 256-538-5770 for Reservations

King	\$80
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Queen/Queen	\$80
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Room upgrades available for additional cost, ask the reservationist if interested.

Holiday Inn Express

106 Walker Street

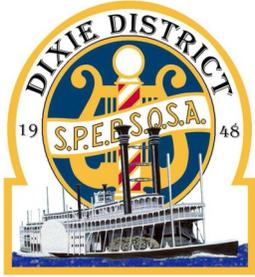
Gadsden, AL 35901

Call 256-691-0225 for Reservations

King	\$89.99
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Queen/Queen	\$89.99
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Room upgrades available for additional cost, ask the reservationist if interested.



THE DIXIE TOWN CRIER

An electronic publication of the Dixie District of the Barbershop Harmony Society

Larry Deters, President

Bob Davenport, VP of Marketing and Public Relations

David Belden, Editor

Deadline for chapters and quartets to submit articles and photographs for the next issue is **March 25, 2013**. Submissions should be sent to:

david.belden@comcast.net

Gospel Chorus in Gadsden!

Last year, several of you participated in a Gospel Chorus on Sunday after the spring convention concluded. The church that hosted the guest singers (Gladeview Baptist Church) appreciated it so much that they have invited us again to share in their Sunday morning worship service on March 10. The church is located at 300 West Medders Drive, Anniston, AL 36206.

Frank Holmes of the Central Alabama chapter will be directing the chorus, which will rehearse at 4:00 pm on Saturday, March 9 at a place to be determined and at 9:15 am on Sunday at the church before the worship service at 10:30 am. There will also be a quartet or two and soloists during the service. The chorus will sing "Gospel Medley" and "I'll Walk With God" and possibly "It Is Well With My Soul." As was true last year, we will attempt to post the music on the District website – www.dixiedistrict.org. The church will also provide lunch for all participants and their families after the service; they will just need a head count as to how many plan to participate.

Those interested in participating need to contact Convention Chairman Tony Ivey at (256) 689-9704 or tonyivey1@cableone.net. We'll see you in Gadsden!

**THE DEADLINE FOR CHAPTER, CHORUS,
AND QUARTET NEWS FOR THE APRIL 1 ISSUE
IS MARCH 25!
SEND YOUR NEWS TO
DAVID.BELDEN@COMCAST.NET**