



Dixie Town Crier

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



March 2014 Volume 6, Issue 3

Nashville Chapter to Host

19 Quartets, 11 Choruses to Compete at Dixie District Spring Contest in March

Get ready for a really great time as the Dixie District welcomes you to Nashville for the 2014 Spring Convention. The Music City will be hopping to barbershop music from March 14-16.



The Friday and Saturday night quartet contests and the Saturday chorus contest will be held at the Donelson Fellowship Church. The headquarters hotel is the Nashville Airport Marriott.

The order of appearance for the Friday night quartet contest:

MT 7th and Broadway

- 1 Target Achoired (Collegiate)
- 2 Common Time (Collegiate)
- 3 Just'In Time (Collegiate)
- 4 The "B" Team
- 5 Perimeter Sound
- 6 Instant Message
- 7 Copeland Road
- 8 Free and Easy

- 9 Four Bass Hit
- 10 A Mighty Wind
- 11 Steel City Four
- 12 RedZone
- 13 TNS
- 14 Offbeat
- 15 Boardwalk
- 16 MC4
- 17 Premium Blend
- 18 The InsurGents (Collegiate)
- 19 Dark Horse

The order of appearance for the Saturday chorus contest:

MT Joe Barbershopper Chorus

- 1 Smokyland Sound
- 2 Choo Choo Chorus
- 3 Stone Mountain Chorus
- 4 Heart of Georgia Chorus
- 5 Big Chicken Chorus
- 6 Memphis Men of Harmony
- 7 Crimson Pride Chorus
- 8 North Georgia Barbershop Singers
- 9 Voices of the South
- 10 Appalachian Express

Registration for the convention is \$50. Registration and hotel information can be found on the Dixie District website at:

www.dixiedistrict.org

Information can also be found on the website for the "Best Seat in the House" auction to benefit the Harmony Foundation.

Micro-HEPs (Harmony Education Programs) are happening in 2014

... and here is the reason why!

By Jim DeBusman, Music & Performance Vice President

Dixie District Members,

We need to make a change in the Dixie District's music education and coaching school's structure, and we will do this by providing Micro-HEPs.

Micro-HEPs will be one-day coaching and educational events that will take the place of our Dixie Lakeside Harmony Weekend. Each Micro-HEP will take place from 8:00am – 6:30 pm on a Saturday

Micro-HEPs will include both quartet and chorus coaching, music education classes, PVI's, tag singing, plus any other classes that **YOU** would like to have at these events.

Two separate Saturday Micro-HEPs have been scheduled. One will be located in Atlanta at the Covenant Presbyterian Church on September 13, and the other will be located in Nashville at the Calvary United Methodist Church on October 25.

The major reason for this decision is that our Society's outstanding Harmony University is coming to the Dixie District. Having been a member of the Society's staff, I know firsthand what happens when a district attempts to continue with its district music school when HU moves to their district. The Micro-HEPs will be a positive alternative for our own Dixie District.

We really want every district quartet and chapter member who does not go to HU to consider coming to one of Micro-HEP events as an option.

Registration for these two Micro-HEPs will be on our Dixie District website (www.dixiedistrict.org) on or before May 1. The cost will only be \$50.00, and your lunch will be included. We will start at 8:00 am on Saturday and be done no later than 6:30 pm that evening.

We are very excited about this concept. The Micro-HEPs will not involve as much travel time, and you will receive an excellent day of music education and coaching.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Jim

Something in the Air

An Afternoon With The Stone Mountain Chorus

2000 and 2010 Dixie District Champions



with special guests

A Mighty Wind

3rd Place
International Medalist



Saturday, April 26 • 3:00 pm

Mountain Park United Methodist Church Sanctuary
1405 Rockbridge Road, Stone Mountain

Special advanced ticket price \$10

For Senior Adults (60+), Groups (12+), Full Time Students

All other tickets \$12 advanced • \$15 at the door

Order tickets online at www.stonemountainchorus.org
or call Stone Mountain Chorus Information Line - 770-978-8053

Accepted Payment Methods

Advance Purchase: Visa, Mastercard, Discover, Cash, Check

At the door: Cash or Check ONLY

The Dixie District of the Barbershop Harmony Society
and Harmony Foundation is sponsoring the
2014 Harmony Explosion Co-ed Camp



**A 3-day camp for young men and women in high school (and their teachers)
who like to sing a cappella in 4-part harmony**

**with clinicians Clay and Becki Hine, and the award-winning quartets,
A Mighty Wind and *Last Minute*, as teaching quartets**

**Thursday, July 17 through Saturday, July 19, 2014
at the University of Tennessee, Chattanooga**

**Note! The only cost for a camper is a \$100 fee. Music Educators who attend will be
granted a full scholarship. Please register early. Registrations will be limited.**

Registration includes three days and three nights in the dormitory, all meals on site, sheet music and learning tracks, t-shirt, workshops on vocal techniques and song presentation, and rehearsal of six songs for performance on Saturday night performance for friends and relatives. Show will include performances by some of the best quartets and choruses in the Barbershop Harmony Society.

For more information contact your local barbershop chapter, or:

Jim Moore, Dixie District YIH VP, Barbershop Harmony Society

3385 Breton Court, Atlanta, GA 30319 404-255-0818

jamest_moore@bellsouth.net www.dixiedistrict.org www.barbershop.org

David Wright's History of Barbershop RECAP – Paul Schultz

If I had to sum up my barbershop experience after attending David's class with one word, the only thing that comes to mind is WOW!!! David's class was absolutely incredible!

Atlanta Vocal Project would like to thank ALL of the attendees that came to Atlanta for the day to listen to David's "History of Barbershop" presentation. We had 102 people in attendance for David's class on Saturday, February 22. There were attendees from as far away as Chattanooga to the North and Aiken, SC to our Southeast. The group from Aiken won the distance record as they traveled about 190 miles one way.

David did a fantastic job enlightening the group about our barbershop roots. He shared many interesting facts about individuals who have helped shape the barbershop movement, from Thomas Edison to Sigmund Spaeth. David also did an abbreviated chronological history of the groups and quartets that have influenced our current style of barbershop singing. This consisted of groups from the early 1900's and non-barbershop groups' such as the Mills Brothers' in later years. It was really very interesting to hear sound recordings of the different groups, especially those from the early 1920's. He also talked about some of more popular barbershop quartet champs (both BHS and SAI) like the Buffalo Bills, Cracker Jills, Suntones, BGSU, Boston Common, Ambiance and Acoustix. Sadly, David ran short on time and had to end his presentation with the 1993 Champs, The Gas House Gang. He fit as much of his Harmony University course into a 4.5 hour class for us as he could.



We are looking into the possibility of having David return later in the year to have him continue with his history class where he left off in 1993. Stay tuned to the Dixie website, the Dixie Town Crier and the Rebel Rouser for more information when that will occur.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the Spring Convention in Nashville.

Sing-cereely,

Paul Schultz

Event Coordinator – David Wright's History of Barbershop class
historyofbarbershop@gmail.com

Atlanta Harmony Celebration!

The **Stone Mountain Chorus** would like to congratulate **Atlanta Harmony Celebration!** on 10 years in the Harmony Incorporated Society!

It's great having you part of the **Atlanta Barbershop Community**

Here's to many harmonious years ahead!



All barbershoppers in the **Dixie District**, specifically in the Atlanta area, or within driving distance, plan to spend Saturday, March 22nd at Lucerne Baptist Church to celebrate 10 years with AHC!. A barbershop celebration featuring Atlanta Harmony Celebration! and several other local chapters and quartets.

The chords start ringing at 7pm
 \$5 per person cover charge covers refreshments
 Lucerne Baptist Church
 4805 Stone Mountain Hwy
 Lilburn, Ga 30047

Contact AHC! directly to find out more about upcoming events and chorus information:
<http://www.atlantaharmonycelebration.org/>



Happenings around the ROCK!

Just a few exciting things that are on the horizon for the Stone Mountain Chorus in and around Atlanta.

March 7th — SMC to sing the *National Anthem* for the **SEC Women's Basketball Tournament**. This will make the 2nd year we have added Barbershop to the SEC Tournament. Both the Gwinnett



Arena and the SEC leadership expressed high praise following our performance last year and reached out to us early to invite us back for the 2014 Tournament.

April 26 — SMC Spring Concert "**Something in the Air**" with special guests **A Mighty Wind**. About *five weeks earlier* than normal, this truly is a spring time concert. Tickets go on sale in early March. Available on our website or from any SMC member. Early bird prices start at \$10-12 each.



May 10 — **Barefoot in the Park** in Duluth, Georgia, performance on the main stage at 3:00. Bring the family! This is a great arts



festival that supports a thriving arts community. 2014 marks the 10th year for this festival, and SMC has been an invited performer every year!

www.StoneMountainChorus.org



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Stone Mountain dazzles many with Singing Valentines

-Scott Phillips



Neither rain, nor sleet, nor ice, nor snow can keep the quartets from the Stone Mountain Chorus away on a special day.

That day is Valentine's Day! After suffering the second winter storm in as many weeks five quartets from the Stone Mountain Chorus ventured out into the streets of Atlanta to deliver Singing Valentines to many. Reaching points all over Greater Atlanta, from Gainesville to McDonough and Marietta to Conyers, the quartets made deliveries from 8am until nearly 10pm, bringing harmonies of love to people of Atlanta.

Valentine Chairman, Bill Banks, was well prepared to route the chapter quartets around the piles of snow and ice slicked roads. On the phone with concerned clients and singers assuring them that all will be okay. The signs of a great leader are those that can calm even the most worried.

Emails were flying before the snow even began to fall, but Bill stood strong with confidence that all would clear up before Friday arrived. Even though the chorus had to cancel rehearsal for the week Bill was able to get the supplies and routes to the quartets on time. Ultimately all deliveries were made!

One of our quartets, Up Front, made an unexpected special delivery to a wife of long time member while she was volunteering at a local hospital. That delivery made her day and brought a smile to the member. It is often the little things that make this event so special.



Another quartet delivered four special moments in one school. Delivering to three teachers and one student. Those kids in the 3rd and 5th grade classes were the best

audiences you can ask for. They cheered so much when the performance was done. It was simply amazing sharing that moment with the class. Later in the day they delivered a meal time serenade that had everybody looking on and cheering for a kiss from the loving couple.



Finally, another quartet made one of the most memorable deliveries we like to make. Those of the quartet singing to another guy because his wife knows he will both enjoy the delivery, and because it will be what his co-workers will talk about for days, maybe even months. The delivery took place in a new restaurant, during the lunch rush. Our quartet delivered

loving thoughts to the general manager while his wife sat nearby with friends recording the delivery. While blushing, the recipient really enjoyed the attention and the thought behind the gesture his wife made.

We are lucky to bring such loving moments to people in our community. It is during times like this that really brings a smile and puts a bright spot back into the lives of many. So many were down because of the weather situation of the week, but those feelings melted away during the deliveries all around the city, and beyond by so many other chapters of the Society. The night concluded with a rare, strong, earthquake in South Carolina that was felt as far away as Atlanta. Proof that Singing Valentines really can make the world move for many!

Happy Valentine's Day
from the Stone Mountain Chorus





The **Sweet Tea Quartet** from the North Georgia Barbershop Singers entertained more than 10 ladies of Performance Foodservice Milton's in Oakwood on Valentine's Day . While some companies may have treated the holiday like any other workday, the men at the food distribution company went all out to ensure female employees were treated like queens. From left are Fred Kanel, Terry Gillim, Tom Riggle and Rich Pilch. (Photo courtesy of Scott Roger/ The Gainesville Times.

Nashville Chapter, David Belden reporting

Singing Valentines 2014

As every barbershopper knows, there is a lot of joy spread around on Valentine's Day when a singing valentine is delivered. And that joy is often followed by the shedding of a few tears ... by the recipient, the giver, and in many cases by the singers.

The Nashville Chapter delivered nearly 50 singing valentines this February, and every one of them had a story. One was sent by a Marine stationed overseas. One was delivered to Chapter President Charlie Davenport's mother who was celebrating her 99th birthday! One was delivered to the hospitalized wife of Music City Chorus member Tim Kilpatrick. And in every case there was a life changed and a memory made.

Sometimes it is just great to be a barbershopper!



*The Nashville Chapter wishes
all of the Dixie District
Choruses and Quartets the
Best of Luck at the
Dixie District Spring
Convention!*



Olive Davenport, mother of Nashville Chapter President Charlie Davenport, received a singing valentine on her 99th birthday! Doing the honors as the quartet Sagacity (Jim DeBusman, Kirk Jordan, Paul Wietlisbach and Larry Deters).



The Original Music Row reunited to sing some love songs on Valentine's Day. Bob Davenport, Howard McAdory, Patrick Thomas, and Tom Holshouser went to school to sing to teacher Melissa McAdory in front of her class.



THE DIXIE TOWN CRIER

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

Dwain Chambers, President

Stan Peppenhorst, 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. Submissions should be sent to:

david.belden@comcast.net

Hunka Hunka Burnin' Love Songs – *QuickSilver* Sings at Graceland

by Stan Peppenhorst, M&PR VP, *Memphis Men of Harmony*



One of *QuickSilver's* numerous stops during this year's Valentine's Day was at Elvis' Graceland mansion. Even though it was Valentine's Day, neither the bride nor the groom expected Singing Valentines and roses to be presented at their wedding. The bride, being a true Elvis fan, even wore blue suede shoes during the ceremony. The men of *QuickSilver* Jim McLane (tenor), Erich Shultz (lead), Jim Warner (bass), and Jim Sams (baritone) definitely gained some new fans and even got a few hugs from the bride. WMC-TV 5 in Memphis aired the story during their evening news broadcast.

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