



Dixie District SPEBSQSA **REBEL ROUSER**

Alabama - Georgia - Mississippi
North Carolina - South Carolina - Tennessee

Spring, 2001 - Volume 44, Number 1

CONVENTION 2001 - A BARBERSHOP ODYSSEY NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE Charlie McCann, Chairman

The Gas House Gang
The House Jacks
Malaika
GLAD
m-pact
Showtime!



Big Chicken Chorus
Swingle Singers
The Edlos
FRED
Riptide
Chanticleer
For Heaven's Sake

Look for the next issue of the **Harmonizer**
which will contain an in-depth look at
Nashville and a schedule of tours and
main events.

Don't forget **SING~!**, An A Capella Celebration
scheduled for immediately before the convention.
June 30 - July 2
Latest Registration: 1,011

THIS ONE WILL PUT YOU
IN ORBIT



Volunteers needed:

See page 14

July 3 - 7
Latest Registration:
7,200

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VISIT THE DIXIE DISTRICT WEBSITE AT
www.ddspebs.org

DEADLINE CLARIFIED

Deadlines for the Rebel Rouser are approximately five weeks before the publication reaches the membership. Please keep this in mind when planning advertisements for upcoming shows.

Deadlines are the 15th of January, April, July and October.

Advertising Rates

1/8 Page \$30 1/2 Page \$80

1/4 Page \$60 Full Page \$120

Quartet Cards \$10 per issue

15% discount for camera ready copy.

Enclose check payable to Dixie District, SPEBSQSA, Inc.

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POSTMASTER, please send address changes to **Rebel Rouser** c/o

Ron Hesketh, Editor

3010 Caldwell Rd., #207 Ashland City, TN 37015

(615) 792-1623

DIXIE DISTRICT - VISION

To be the best "cotton-picking" district within the Society in every conceivable way by promoting excellence in barbershop quartet singing throughout the states within the geographic borders of the Dixie District.

DIXIE DISTRICT - MISSION

To provide support and assistance to the members and chapters of the Dixie District in fully developing and realizing their individual chapter missions, to conduct conventions, festivals and other events at which members and chapters can share and enjoy their common love for barbershop harmony, to conduct schools and other educational events at which members and others can learn and improve their musical skills, to support a wide-range of charitable activities, and to widely promote barbershop quartet harmony in communities throughout the District.

THE EDITOR'S PAGE

By Ron Hesketh

As my tenure in the position of Editor of the *Rebel Rouser* begins, I reflect on my comparatively short barbershop life and say to myself "why didn't I know of this fantastic hobby years ago?"

I don't know of anything that gets the positive juices flowing more than music. I have been involved with singing since boyhood and have thoroughly enjoyed every choir, quartet and men's chorus I have sung with. Nothing, however, compares with the rush of singing on stage at a barbershop contest and hearing the chords ringing off the walls.

As I alluded to in the last issue of the *Rebel Rouser*, I am looking forward to giving you, the membership, a window to the district and its members. Since the last issue I have decided to add another section to this publication that would provide a platform for individuals to express their opinions and make suggestions for improvement in the way we conduct the district business. Just as in your daily newspaper, it will be known as "Letters to the Editor".

As in other publications, there must be some rules. First of all, each article submitted for publication must contain the name

of the individual who wrote it and his/her chapter affiliation. Secondly, the article must be constructive in nature. The object here is to better ourselves and improve the way we conduct business and relate to you, the membership.



By the way, I also solicit your input regarding the content and style of this publication. I plan to have a thick skin and welcome your input to make this publication better. I will, when appropriate, respond to submitted articles and will give all due credit where and when it is due. After all, I'm just one of the guys here. The only difference is that I am lucky enough to be in the right place at the right time to lend my hand to the effort and do my part for the district and the society.

Thanks again for this opportunity, and I look forward to your support.

WANTED: A FEW GOOD MEN!

The judging program could use a few good men.

The job is not easy, but it is rewarding.

Although the requirements are not set in stone, successful candidates should have:

1. Several years of barbershop experience.
2. Significant contest experience.
3. Desire to help others.
4. Willingness and time to participate in lots of training and practice.

If you, or someone you know, may be interested, please contact Don Lang.

**(don.lang@juno.com)
(DonL@hotmail.com)**

DIXIE MARKETPLACE

VISIT OUR SHOP AT EVERY DIXIE DISTRICT
EVENT!

WE HAVE JUST ABOUT EVERYTHING SPECIAL FOR
YOU:

T-SHIRTS, SWEATERS, TIES
INTERNATIONAL CONTEST VIDEOS & CD'S,
QUARTET & CHORUS CD'S
AND MORE!

Proceeds benefit the Dixie District

SHARE THE WEALTH

By Jim Sams, Dixie District President

As my maiden voyage begins at the helm of the Dixie Leadership Team, I am already inundated by issues that affect every barbershopper in the Society. Issues, such as International Convention registration increases and the ongoing discussion of Cost Sharing between all districts and the Society for training and use of trainers to undergird Society/District programs, continue to play out behind the scenes. I will continue to work with all the District Presidents in determining what is best for our Districts and especially for all of our chapters.

However, my immediate attention is drawn to serving all the chapters across Dixie District and working with your VP's to be sure that they have the tools they need and are working together to provide the best programs, schools, and conventions for all of our barbershoppers. After all, our only reason for being in this business is to make your barbershopping experience worth coming back for more. And once YOU are sold on what is happening in our district, our hopes are that you will bring others in to see what they are missing.

We are already attempting to involve every chapter in our decision-making process. By "sharing the wealth" we are looking to each of you for ideas, suggestions, questions, and input of any kind to help guide us as we attempt to fine-tune our existing district programs. Who better to turn to than those of you who are affected most. It is YOUR wealth of experience and expertise that will potentially determine the direction of your district.

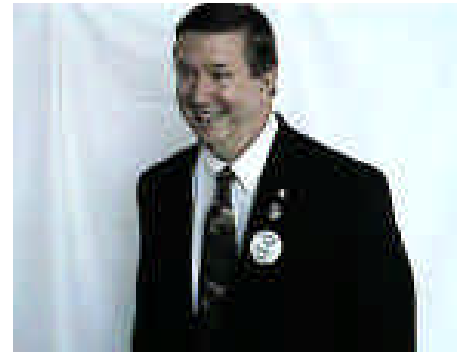
We realize more than ever now that until Joe Barbershopper is sold on and supports the programs of Dixie District

we will never achieve our greatest potential. So NOW is your chance to respond.

In past weeks I have sent out a survey concerning each chapter's involvement in several areas during 2000. So far, only about half of the chapters have responded. Check with your chapter presidents and be sure that they are aware of the survey and be sure they have responded. This is the first step in determining where our efforts need to be focused.

I have also sent out copies of the Dixie 5-Year Plan and the 2001 Workplan of our District Leadership Team. I would hope that these will be shared at your chapter board meetings so that your chapters will be aware of the direction Dixie District is going. I would hope that these documents will stimulate discussion among the membership and will promote dialog between chapters and the district leadership. In order to continue growing musically and numerically, we need your input and support now more than ever.

I wish I had the space to share with you all that is happening already in every portfolio area within our District. I will let each VP speak to that in their articles and reports. We have already had a very successful Top Gun School in the Atlanta area under the able direction of **Drayton Justus** and **Eric King**. The Young Men In Harmony program has numerous opportunities to involve our communities and our high school/college musicians in camps and schools. You have only to ask VP **Bob Dickson** or to read all the info he is



flooding cyberspace with to see what is happening. We have new chapters forming and new chapter coaches coming out of our 2000 COTS schools just itching to serve. We have opportunities for chorus director development, improving your chapter PR and Marketing, Standing Ovation reviewing to help upgrade your chapter performances, and the list goes on and on. We just need your input and questions to know best how to serve you better.

I would like to welcome the newest men to our Leadership Team. **Ron Hesketh**, who you will meet through this issue of the *Rebel Rouser*, is our new editor-in-chief. He is most eager to provide the best publication across our Society. But he needs YOUR help to be successful. I know he will do an outstanding job.

Frank Cristina is our new VP of Marketing and PR. Frank is a real motivator and is full of ideas to help make the *Rebel Rouser* even more appealing and to help our chapters improve communication and public relations throughout the District. He would love to talk with any of your chapter Mkt/PR officers.

Drayton Justus comes aboard as VP of Music and Performance. He is most qualified to lead us in improving our chapters musically. He will be dealing with Top Gun School, the Standing Ovation Program, our mini-HEP school at Clemson, and working

I WISH I HAD
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SHARE WITH
YOU ALL THAT
IS HAPPENING
ALREADY

WEALTH (continued)

with each of the other VP's to insure quality music programs throughout Dixie. You will enjoy working with Drayton.

Curt Douglass will be taking over as our District Treasurer. There is not a harder working man anywhere in Dixie. I am looking forward to working closely with Curt and finally learning how the job of treasurer should be done correctly. And I am very pleased to have **Noah Funderburg** remain on board as our District Secretary. He may not realize it, but I look forward to having Noah and **Thom Hine** keep me in line during 2001! It goes without saying that Noah and Thom are two of the finest men to ever lead Dixie District. We are truly privileged to have them on board.

I could not be more pleased to have ALL of the men and committees you have so graciously permitted me to work with during this coming year. We are all sold on serving each of you even better as we move together hand-in-hand into the new millennium. Let me reemphasize that we desire YOUR ideas, input, and support during the year. You will be flooded with information and requests for your participation. Give us a chance while, at the same time, taking this opportunity to "share your wealth" with us.

This is YOUR Dixie District. Work with us and together we will experience a wealth of barbershopping we have only dreamed of.

**IT'S THE LITTLE THINGS
THAT BOTHER YOU.
YOU CAN SIT ON A
MOUNTAIN,
BUT NOT ON A TACK!**

Gerald Adams

HEAR YE, HEAR YE; ARE YOU READY FOR CHANGE? IF NOT, DON'T READ ANY FURTHER!

By Frank Cristina,
V. P., Marketing & Public Relations

Well fellow barbershoppers, we have lived to see a new month, year and millennium. With this comes new ideas while keeping our past intact. What follows is my vision of ideas that we will be pursuing for the future.

1. The *Rebel Rouser* will be published under the capable hands of **Ron Hesketh**, editor and member of the Music City Chorus. A new format is being developed, with changes that will become evident over the next several issues. All members are encouraged to send Ron articles about their chapter, quartet and all singing experiences that need to be shared.

2. The *Rebel Rouser* will eventually have its own web page. (What a novel idea, considering technology in this day and age.) This will be developed and put on line as soon as possible. **Patrick Thomas**, who serves as the Dixie District Webmaster, will be spearheading this effort. I envision an exciting addition to our communication arm that can be shared throughout the barbershop kingdom.

3. Included on this web site will be a monthly bulletin board that will be used to post all Dixie District shows, quartet appearances and any other activities that would be



of interest to our membership. All news items and postings for the bulletin board should be sent to me or to **Ron Hesketh** for publication. I will have more to say about the web site as development progresses.

4. The hard copy of the *Rebel Rouser* will still be mailed to the membership. However, we are investigating the possibility of sending this quarterly publication by UPS to a contact person in each chapter where it can be distributed to the individual members at their regularly scheduled meetings. For those with special needs, an individual mailing would be sent. This method of distribution will provide the district with a substantial cost savings. This system is effective as, I have learned, the Sweet Adelines use it for their quarterly publication.

5. *Rebel Rouser* publication dates will be on the 15th of February, May, August and November. All submissions need to be in the hands of the editor one month in advance. Your thoughts and input regarding this policy are always welcome.

Well, that is enough for any sane member to digest at one sitting, barbershoppers included. With these changes being implemented over the course of this year, we hope to make this our best year ever in the Dixie District.

**WHAT A
NOVEL IDEA,
CONSIDERING
TECHNOLOGY
IN THIS DAY
AND AGE.**

The Stone Mountain Chorus

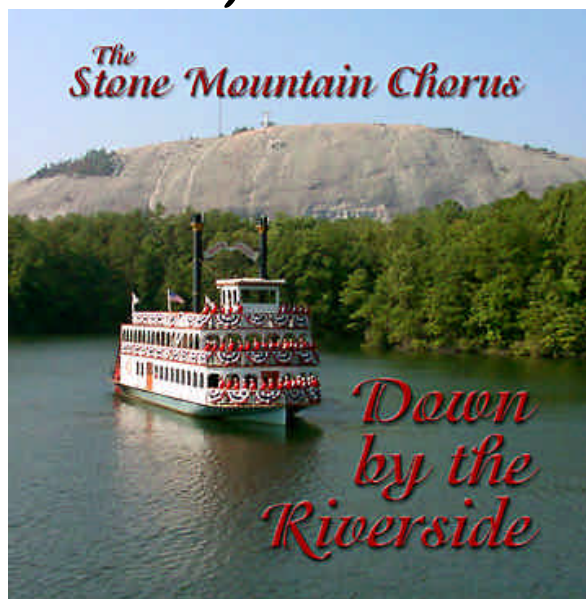
Is proud to introduce...

"Down by the Riverside"

CD's \$15.00

Tapes \$10.00

Add \$2.50 per order
for shipping and
handling



Call the chorus hotline
to order
770-978-8053
Or
Visit our Web site
www.
Stonemountainchorus.org
To obtain an order form

www.stonemountainchorus.org

Tracks include favorites such as: Heart and Soul, Georgia on my Mind, Danny Boy, Beautiful Savior, Goodbye World Goodbye, and many more. Also includes tracks from *The Svelte Bros.* and *Class of 94'*

Stone Mountain Chorus Merchandise
2870 Maple Vista Ln
Lawrenceville, GA 30044

A COMPENDIUM OF FRACTURED SONG TITLES

These were contributed to the Harmonet and/or the BURPS humor group.

Agony in the TeePee (or, The Pain Was In Tents).

I can row a boat, Canoe?

Better to have loved a short girl, than never to have loved a tall.

I don't want to set the world on fire, I just want a little heat in the car.

Come into the Pawn Shop, Mable...I want to get you a loan.

I found a Cadillac of a woman, driving a Ford pickup.

Don't Cut through the Wheatfield, Ganny, You're Going Against the Grain.

I Had an Apartment Up Front and She Had A Flat Behind.

Don't Go Through the Screen Door, Mother, You'll Only Strain Yourself.

I had her in the fog and myst.

I Kissed Her on the Lips and Left Her Behind for You!

Every time we throw a party, she beats me to the punch.

I learned to sing on my mother's knee, and in other assorted joints.

Get down to the railroad tracks, Mother, and find your father some ties.

I loved my wife for her nickels until I found the maid's quarters.

Head to the roundhouse, Nellie, he can't corner you there.

I met her at the Laundry, but she left with the Tide.

Continued on page 15

DIXIE DISTRICT HALL OF FAME

By Bill Lester

The purpose of the Dixie District Hall of Fame is to give recognition to those men who have made exceptional, long standing, unselfish, dedicated and devoted contributions to the Dixie District, their Chapter(s) and the Society. This award shall serve to honor such person's participation and focus on these activities.

QUALIFICATION

Induction into the Hall of Fame shall be limited to persons, living or dead, whose contributions to the District has spanned no less than 10 years. These contributions may have been on various levels of organization whether musical or administrative. These contributions shall be service or activities which have added to the overall well-being of the District and furtherance of the hobby. Recognition need not be limited to current Society members, but the recognized service must have been performed while the individual was a member of the Society and the District.

The basic criteria for qualification includes, but is not limited to, quarteting activities, chorus directing, coaching, contest judging, composing, arranging, publishing, administering, writing, promoting, teaching, philanthropy, or preferably some combination of these, which shall be marked by unselfish, dedicated and devoted service.

NOMINATIONS

Nomination of persons for induction into the Hall of Fame shall be made by any member of the District and shall be made in writing to the District Historian between April 1 and June 30 of any year. The initiating nominator shall provide a legible, detailed description of the nominee's qualifications. Such description need not be precise on dates, places, results, etc. but must provide sufficient credible information to substantiate the qualification offered. Corroborating sources, such as publications or individuals, may be used, but such must be either generally available or made available by the nominator. A specific person may be nominated more than once. If someone is nominated by more than one person, it shall be treated as a single nomination, but the combined facts and information may be considered. A quartet may be nominated, but it shall be considered as one nomination.

SELECTION PROCEDURE

The Committee shall review the information by mail. As soon as practical after June 30 of each year, the District Historian shall send to the Chairman of the Hall of Fame Selection Committee all of the nominations and supporting documentation. The Selection Committee Chairman shall review all of the nominations to determine the eligibility of each nominee. Questions regarding eligibility shall be referred to the Chairman of the Dixie District Laws and Regulations Committee. The nominations of all eligible nominees shall constitute the slate of potential inductees for that year. The members of the Selection Committee may wish to discuss the nominees' qualifications before voting. Voting shall be by written ballot and shall be by rank.

For example each voting member shall list his first, second, third, and successive choices. After the order of ranking is determined by the vote of the Selection Committee, the Committee shall determine how many nominees shall be inducted for that year. The final selection vote may be by telephone poll, by mail or e-mail, or, at the request of any member of the Selection Committee, shall be by written ballot. The Committee's action each year shall be completed by August 15th.

The Dixie District extends this invitation for you to submit your nomination, to the Dixie District Hall of Fame, for evaluation and consideration by the Selection Committee .

Please mail your nomination and supporting information to:

Bill Lester,
Dixie District Historian,
1045 Seven Springs Circle
Marietta, GA. 30068-2660.

DLHW HARMONY CAMP SCHEDULE

JULY 20-22, 2001

Friday, July 20

3:00 - 6:00pm **Arrive:** pickup registration packet, receive room assignment
6:00 - 7:00pm **Dinner** (on your own)
7:15 - 7:50pm **General session** (Harmony Camp students will be provided with songbooks)
8:00 -10:00pm **Harmony Camp Chorus** (HCC) opening session : vocal warm-ups, music run-throughs, quartet and ensemble demonstrations.
10:15 -12:00pm **Harmony Camp Dormitory Social** (sing with the tagmaster, informal quartetting, SPEBSQSA quartet and chorus videos, matrix quartet visits, etc)
12:30am **Lights out.**

Saturday, July 21

7:30 - 8:50am **Breakfast**
9:00 - 9:30am HCC warm-ups
9:30 - 10:30am HCC show song rehearsal
10:45 -11:45am Classroom session : "Judging Categories" and "Visual Presentation"
12:00 -12:30pm HCC rehearsal
12:30 -1:45pm **Lunch**
2:00 - 3:00pm Quartet and ensemble coaching or classroom session: "Vocal Techniques".
3:15 - 4:30pm HCC (final) show song rehearsal
4:30pm Free time
5:00 - 6:00pm **Dinner**
6:15 - 7:00pm HCC (including any performing quartets and ensembles) assemble in the auditorium warm-up room (final run-through of show package)
7:00 - 9:45pm **Showtime**
10:30-12:30am **HCC Dormitory Pizza Party and Afterglow** (headliner quartet visits, more matrix quartet visits, more tagmaster sessions, informal quartetting, comedy quartet videos, MBNA video ,etc)
12:30am **Lights out.**

Sunday July 22

7:30 - 8:30am **Breakfast**
8:45 - 9:45am "Meet with the Champs"
9:45 - Checkout (remember to return your room key)

YMIH NOTICE

DIXIE DISTRICT DLHW HARMONY CAMP

SCHEDULED FOR JULY 20,21,22-2001

Registration forms and information sheets will be sent to all chapter representatives this spring for the 2001 DLHW mini-hep school scheduled for Clemson in July. The schedule of events is included on the previous page for your information. Start recruiting High School boys from your Chapter area now. Kids get busy when school's out and it pays to *hook 'em* early. If every Chapter gets one boy to attend, we'll have a 50 voice Camp chorus. You can get your Chapter to sponsor the kids or let them pay their own way, but the key thing is to:

SEND A KID TO THE DLHW HARMONY CAMP IN 2001.

The DLHW Youth Camp at **Clemson University** this year will feature quartet and ensemble coaching in addition to the Harmony Camp Chorus segment which is always popular.

All activities will be conducted on the Clemson University campus. The registration desk is in LEVER HALL, a 10-story dormitory near the Tilman clock tower off South Palmetto Blvd. Check-in time is between 3pm and 6pm on July 20th.

The University emergency phone # is 864-656-2075; in the event you need to be located, a runner will be sent to find you.

The **Harmony Camp Chorus** (HCC), student foursomes and ensembles will be invited to perform on the Saturday evening show which is open to the public and very popular; uniform for the show will be jeans and white shirt.

The student tuition fee for the weekend is \$70.00. For groups of 10 or more students sponsored by the same chorus or attending from the same High School, the rate is \$60 per student. The fee provides double room accommodations, 3 meals on Saturday, breakfast on Sunday, a Pole Cat

songbook, HCC sheet music, admission to the Saturday evening show and a Saturday Night Pizza Social. The sheet music will be delivered well in advance of the Camp so that students can commit the selections to memory before arrival.

Students are asked to register before June 24th after which there is a \$10.00 late fee assessment.

Both male and female teachers as well as students are invited to the DLHW. Teachers in attendance will receive full scholarships (room, board and classroom supplies will be provided). Teachers can register on the Harmony Camp Registration form; just fill in the pertinent sections and check off the Music Educators (M/E) box on the first line. Upon registration the M/E's will receive a curriculum package from which they can (1) select DLHW coursework, (2) elect to monitor Harmony Camp Chorus rehearsals and classes, (3) elect to monitor quartet and ensemble coaching sessions or (4) opt for some combination of (1), (2) & (3).

**NOW IS THE
TIME TO RE-
CRUIT YOUR
HIGH SCHOOL
PROSPECTS
FOR THIS
VALUABLE
AND
ENJOYABLE
EXPERIENCE**

Send registration form and tuition check to:

Mr. Robert Dickson

2805 Coxindale Dr.

Raleigh, NC 27615-3872

Phone: 919-676-8354

Email : <chezabain@lynxus.com>.

SPRING, 2001 CHAPTER SPOTLIGHT

The Golf Capitol Chorus Pinehurst, North Carolina

By Jean Williams

The SPEBSQSA chapter in Pinehurst, North Carolina is known to its members, friends and patrons as "The Golf Capital Chorus".

The group's organizational meeting and first rehearsal was held on January 12, 1981. We were licensed by SPEBSQSA on March 16, 1981 and received our Articles of Incorporation from the State of North Carolina on August 17, 1981. The goal of all this paper chasing was realized when we received our chapter charter from Kenosha on August 17, 1981. In the meantime the members of the chorus were working to produce and present their first annual show, which they did on October 31.

It does not take a great deal of complicated computations to determine that the show, which we presented on November 4, 2000, was our twentieth annual endeavor. In our program for this show, our members sold over \$13,000 worth of advertisements (that's right thirteen thousand dollars!). We also sold more than 1,300 tickets for the show, which featured our chorus and the 2000 gold medal quartet "Platinum." This truly championship caliber quartet not only thrilled our concert audience but delivered an equally medal worthy performance at the afterglow.

While we have enjoyed several recent successes both musically and

financially, our two-decade existence has not been a perpetual bed of roses. In our earliest years just finding enough bodies to keep the organization together and musically viable was often a struggle.

For several years we could regularly count on the support of only a single tenor. In spite of our early modest membership, the greater Pinehurst area continued to enthusiastically support our annual November shows and numerous charitable performances in area nursing homes and hospitals.

Thanks to this local community support, the chapter developed and has been able to maintain a gold medal level of contributing to local charities and Heartspring.

Between our 1985 and 1986 annual concerts, chapter president **Vince Kaptur** convinced long time barbershopper and Raleigh, North Carolina resident **Paul Conway** that he had a mission to fulfill by becoming our musical director. For Paul it has meant a 90-minute drive one way, at least once each week and sometimes more often when major concerts or sing outs were on our agenda. Paul's dynamic leadership abilities as well as the commitment to growth shared by our members have enabled us to become the sixth largest chapter in the Dixie District.

In recent years our reputation as an organization willing and able to provide top quality entertainment has expanded beyond our local Sandhills region of North Carolina. In 1999 we traveled to the state capitol in Raleigh and in the Civic Center entertained more than

1000 employees of the area's major public utility at a company recognition gala.

In 1999 and 2000, we journeyed to Fayetteville, North Carolina to sing for several civic and professional organizations. At the moment, we are investigating the possibility of providing the entertainment for a charitable fund raising event in Rockingham, North Carolina.

Since our humble beginnings, the fact that we have raised over sixty thousand dollars for charity is clearly our most satisfying achievement. Our motto as we begin the third decade of our existence is:

"Small is beautiful but larger is more harmonious."

**OUR
MEMBERS
SOLD OVER
\$13,000
WORTH OF
ADS...
WE ALSO
SOLD OVER
1300
TICKETS**

*YOUR
CHAPTER
COULD BE
NEXT IN THE
SPOTLIGHT.
PICTURES ARE
ALWAYS
WELCOME,
OLD AND
NEW ALIKE*

SPRING, 2001 QUARTET SPOTLIGHT OVERTURE

2000 Dixie District Quartet Champion
2000 International Semi-finalists

The 2000 Dixie District Quartet champion is Overture from Knoxville, TN and Hendersonville, NC.

Overture was formed in the fall of 1999 and represented Dixie at International in Kansas City where they placed 33rd. Since the quartet has members in different states, they meet to rehearse at a halfway point in Newport, TN, about an hour drive each way. While the quartet itself is relatively young, the members of the quartet have much experience in the barbershop genre.

Tenor **Jack Donaldson** is in the operations department for the utility company in Knoxville. He and his wife, **Sharlene**, and two children, **James** and **Katie** live in Corryton, TN. Jack is currently on the Dixie District Board of Directors, Vice President of Events, managing the conventions and meetings for the district. He was selected BOTY in 1998. He has been in several district finalist quartets, and prior to Kansas City made one International appearance with **Road Show** in 1998. When not barbershopping, Jack likes to get involved in sports, and is a UT alum and sports fan.

Tom Crook (lead) and his wife, **Malia**, live in Hendersonville, NC. Tom is a Board Certified Medical Technologist, currently serving as Operations Manager for a private laboratory in Asheville. He has been in a couple of different district finalist quartets, and made his first International appearance this year. During his off hours, Tom enjoys scuba diving and tennis.

Baritone **Mike Tipton** is a manufacturing facilitator for an orthopedics products company based in Powell, TN. He and

his wife, **Ann**, live in Corryton, TN. Mike has been a district finalist several times, and in 1990 his quartet, **Sound Standard**, won the district championship. They went on to appear at International five times, culminating with a top 20 finish in 1995 in Miami. Mike also sang at International in 1998 with **Road Show**. Aside from barbershopping Mike is involved in many different types of music, and is the music director at his church. In his spare time Mike enjoys fishing and piano tuning.



Bob Eubanks (bass) and his wife, **Pam**, live in Knoxville. Bob is a web developer for a consulting firm in Knoxville. He served on the District Board of Directors for three years as Vice President for Chapter Support and Leadership Training. Bob has also been in several district finalist quartets, and he holds the distinction of being one of a handful of

men to have won the district championship three times; with the **Gents** in 1979, with **Sound Standard** in 1990 and this year with **Overture**. Prior to Kansas City, Bob appeared at International with **Sound Standard** twice, once with **Match Point**, and once with **Road Show**. Away from barbershopping, he is a church music director, and enjoys running, racquetball, and ballroom dancing. The orange hair that you see him sport at times is because Bob is also a UT alum and an avid fan.

“We are honored to be selected the 2000 Dixie District Quartet champion and commit our quartet to represent the district in a manner which maintains the high musical standards for which the Dixie District is now known nation wide”.

Please contact Jack Donaldson (jack.donaldson@juno.com) for quartet bookings.

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS AND BARBERSHOPPING

By Fred Hinesley

By the time this article reaches you, we will have all made (and forgotten?) our New Year's resolutions. Right now, however—while I'm writing the article—most of us are resolving to be better people, to be more considerate spouses and more effective parents, to be more diligent in attending to religious and civic obligations, and to be more effective and productive in our careers.

Conscientious barbershoppers are resolving to improve vocal techniques and to perfect memorization of our chorus and quartet repertoires. They are resolving (I hope) to preserve and improve their chapters and the Society by recruiting new members. (You can find all sorts of ideas for doing this by going to the Society's web page [SPEBSQSA.org] and clicking on "Easy AS 1-2-3.")

One of my priority resolutions is to continue working to develop new chapter extension sites in Dixie. Unfortunately, some barbershoppers resist sponsoring new chapters close to their own because they are afraid that a nearby chapter will compete with their group and detract from it. I have resolved to do what I can to counter this resistance (commonly called the

"Not In My Back Yard" attitude). Barbershoppers throughout the Society have found that nearby chapters strengthen—not weaken—their own chapters.

A good example of this phenomenon can be found in our own district. I wish that those guys who have the "Not In My Back Yard" attitude could see how the **Beaufort** and **Hilton Head Island** chapters in South Carolina draw strength from one another.

**NEARBY CHAPTERS
STRENGTHEN, NOT
WEAKEN, THEIR OWN
CHAPTERS**

Because these chapters are located only a few miles apart, they share activities like family outings and joint chapter meetings. Each chapter supports the other chapter's shows and other presentations.

A few months ago, because I was chapter coach to both groups, I enjoyed a joint Beaufort-Hilton Head Island chapter meeting. We sang together. We fellowshiped and swapped a few lies. We walked to a restaurant near the meeting place

where we gave an impromptu performance (which the patrons thoroughly enjoyed), and then returned to the meeting site for more singing and fellowship. What a great time we had! Each of these chapters profits from the proximity of the other.

By the time you read this article, most of us will have forgotten most of our resolutions, or we will have decided to put most of them aside for a while. Right now, as I write, it is only January 2, and I have already begun rethinking my plans for self-improvement. Instead of working out with weights and spending time on my exercise bike today, I think that I'll start next Monday. And I'm not sure that the diet I had planned to follow will be as worthwhile as I had initially thought. (A few cookies and ice cream before bedtime never really hurt anybody, did they?)

You can bet, however, that I'm going to keep my barbershop resolutions—particularly my resolution to help guys to replace their "Not In My Back Yard" attitude. I've seen for myself the benefit chapters experience by being close to other chapters.

YOUR NEW DIXIE DISTRICT TREASURER

By Curt Douglas, Dixie District Treasurer

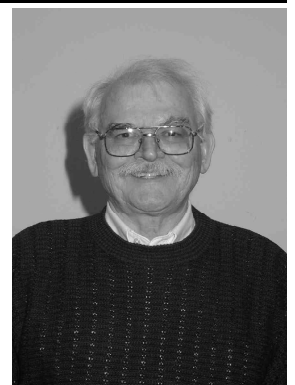
Hi. Just a short article to let you know who your new treasurer is. I am **Curt Douglass** and am proud to serve you as Dixie District Treasurer. I am a member of the Marietta Chapter and sing with the Big Chicken Chorus. Having been a Society member since 1972, I have held various Chapter offices, taught classes at Clemson, sung with various quartets, and for the past six years have been a member of the BCC show

team.

I look forward to serving you and the District. You may contact me at 770-992-7287. You may Fax me at the same number.

My address is:

C. C. Douglass Jr.
PO Box 862125
Marietta, GA 30062-0001.



THE STANDING OVATION PROGRAM

By Drayton Justus, V. P. Music & Performance

In recent years, our Society has developed a program through which quartets and choruses can obtain a voluntary review with recommendations for improving future performances so as to enhance their quality. The program is called "The Standing Ovation." It is available through the District Vice President of Music and Performance. The ideal venue for a review would be a chapter show or performance.

This is not designed to be a contest-like evaluation, since the intent is to assist groups in enhancing their overall performances and increasing the level of positive response from their audiences. The reviewer, selected for his barbershop experience and expertise, attends the performance and gives attention to all facets of the presentation, from music selection and quality of singing to entrance and exit, costuming, technical matters and

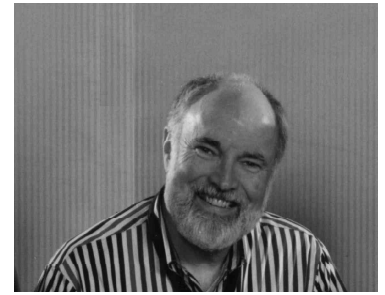
**THERE IS
NORMALLY
NO COST TO
THE
CHAPTER
EXCEPT A
RESERVE
SEAT FOR
THE
REVIEWER
AND A
FRIEND**

overall entertainment value. The SOP reviewer then completes a review form, which is given to the performing group, and offers recommendations for improvement and training opportunities. No copies of the review are distributed.

There is normally no cost to the chapter except a reserved seat for the reviewer and a friend. Reviewers are expected to be within reasonable driving distance from the venue, and travel expense will be covered by the District.

This program can be of immense value to the chapters, which have not regularly gone the competition route, but is also a very helpful tool for those who have. Consider this a "call" to all chapter Music & Performance VPs, or whoever is in charge of your annual shows, other public performances, etc. If you would like a "Standing Ovation" review, just give me a call at 770-562-9629 or e-mail, giving me the date and location of your performance, and I'll handle the rest.

You've got everything to gain and nothing to lose!



CHORUS DIRECTOR WORKSHOP PLANNED

By Larry Deters
Dixie District V. P. Chorus Director Development

On Saturday, April 21, 2001 the Dixie District with the assistance of the Birmingham Metro Chapter will host a Chorus Director Workshop Intensive (CDWI).

The session will feature two certified instructors **Roger Ross** (Sunshine) and our own **Dan Beard** (Dixie). The session will begin at 9:00 am and conclude at about 4:00 pm.

The morning session will just involve the faculty and the five directors/assistant directors setting goals for improvement together. The afternoon session will feature the five directors individually directing a live chorus (polecat songs)

while being videotaped.

Each student will then retire to another room with a faculty member to review and discuss their videotape. The faculty member will make suggestions for improvement. The process will then be repeated until all five students have finished.

The CDWI program is one of the most highly praised training programs offered by the society. The tuition is \$100 per student payable to the Dixie District.

If you are interested in attending, contact:



Larry Deters
VP for Chorus Director Development
(615) 373-4507
e-mail DETERSL@aol.com

We will be hosting another CDWI later in the year probably in the Southeastern portion of the District. Let me know ASAP because these slots fill up rapidly.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED! (and you can even get a shirt)

By Frank Cristina, Convention Staffing Chairman

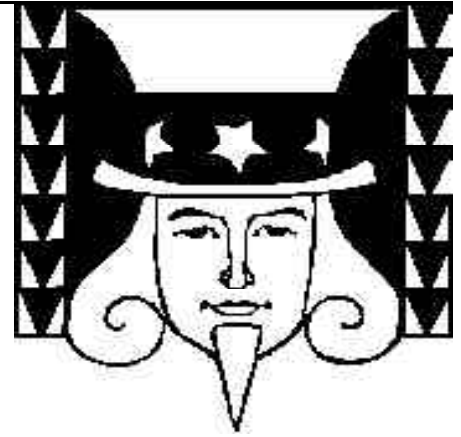
The really big show is coming and it will be here before you know it!

Of course, I am speaking of the 2001 International Barbershop Odyssey, which will be held in Music City USA, Nashville, Tennessee, from July 1 through 8. Record registrations for this convention are being reported and anticipation is running high.

That's the good news! However, to put this extravaganza on the map requires help, and a lot of it. We can use YOU, your family and friends. I have included a volunteer form for your convenience. (also on our website, www.ddspebs.org) Please take time and fill it out in it's entirety, setting forth the days and hours you will be available to help.

The most prevalent need for volunteers will be at the auditorium, both at the house entrances and backstage. Volunteers for this activity can observe the contest and will be able to sit down when necessary. There are other positions which will require less staffing such as daily bulletin, chorditorium, hospitality, newsletter, tours, uniforms, registration, transportation, competitor service, barber tots and others.

You don't need to limit yourself to only one position. Just list your preferences and we will do our best to accomodate everyone's needs and wishes. Also, do not forget to note if you have any problems standing for periods of time. Right now we estimate that we will need about 350 volunteers to fill all staffing



I WANT YOU!

positions.

If you can spare even a short amount of time, it will help the cause and be greatly appreciated. The more volunteers we have, the better the overall production and the easier it will be on everyone. Thanks for your consideration to this volunteer request.

You can fax the form to
(615) 834-6708

STARTLING AND ENCOURAGING FACTS FOR THE INDIVIDUALS WHO THINK THEY DON'T HAVE THE VOICE GOOD ENOUGH TO SING AS A QUARTET

By Gerald Adams, Music City Chorus

EDITORS NOTE: *This article was originally printed in the Harmonizer in 1958.*

It is a proven fact that humidity causes a loosening of the vocal chords which in turn stimulates the urge to sing. This perhaps then explains the wide spread practice of shower stall singing.

Now it is my contention that this fact can be of great use in aiding a budding quartet to gain confidence by utilizing this phenomena to improve blend, resonance and tonal quality.

**I FOUND
THAT A
PORTABLE
SHOWER
SOLVED
THE
PROBLEM
NICELY**

Shower stalls are found to be the best practical source

of the humidity needed.

Steam cabinets are too remote for "close harmony" and even with the jumbo type (accommodates four) it fails miserably in rehearsing stage presence. Certainly, minor problems arise, such as fogged-up glasses and soggy arrangements but this can be endured and mastered with a little ingenuity. "So far so good," you say, "This is great for practice but how about making public appearances?" (A natural question).

At first, this did pose a problem but I found that a portable shower solved the problem nicely. Of course,



Continued on page 16

DON HAWKINS MEMORIAL FUND RECEIVES SUPPORT

Editor's Note: *The following letter was sent by Dixie District Past President **Thom Hine** to the **Ann and Bob Strong** family on behalf of **FRED**. Donations to this fund are used to benefit the Dixie District Youth Outreach Program. Any and all contributions are welcome and encouraged.*

January 18, 2001

Dear Bob and Ann:

The recent death of your son, Charlie Strong, has been devastating to our barbershop family across the length and breadth of the Dixie District, and indeed, our Society. Yet we cannot begin to feel the loss your immediate family has experienced. Charlie was a friend to all who knew him and the ideal model of a barbershopper's son. I, as a barbershop Dad, cannot begin to fathom the personal sorrow you have endured. God Bless. Carla and I (and FRED) are here if and when you need us.

As Business Manager of FRED, I am extremely pleased to act, on FRED's behalf, and honor Charlie's memory by sending a check in the amount of \$500, payable to Harmony Foundation, Inc...to inure to the benefit of the "Don Hawkins Memorial Endowment Fund (Dixie District)". The latter entity was established on August 14, 2000 at the direction of the Memphis, TN Chapter and the DIX District B.O.D. and approved by the DIX District House of Delegates on that date.

It is the purpose of the "Don Hawkins Memorial Endowment Fund" to utilize generated earnings of that Fund to further the DIX District Youth Outreach (YMIH) Program as determined by the appropriate "Fund Committee" in accordance with the Fund provisions.

A copy of this letter will accompany the gift. We further encourage other quartets, chapters and barbershoppers to consider similar action.

In sympathy,

Thomas J. Hine
FRED Business Manager, DIX IPP

FRACTURED TITLES (continued)

I put a bar in my car and now I'm driving myself to drink.

Broke it Off (a.k.a: Peg O' My Heart).

I took my girl out in the cornfield and kissed her between the ears.

If you can't get an upper berth in Hawaii, you can always get aloha.

I used to play the trombone, but then I let it slide.

My mother had water on the knee, and that's why she always wore pumps.

I Want A Girl Just Like the Baghdad Had.

Never Hit Your Grandma With A Shovel (It Makes a Bad Impression on Her Mind).

I was born just outside of Wedlock, Texas.

I Was in Love With a Girl With a Wooden Leg, But We

MEMBERS ONLY

By Noah Funderburg, Secretary

When was the last time you visited and toured the society's web page (www.spebsqsa.org)? If you have internet access and have not recently checked out the society's website, I strongly encourage you to do so soon.

One of the best additions to the page is the **Members Only** link. Click on the members only link at the top of the page and you will find how hard at work our technology guru in Kenosha, **Scott Hogue**, has been. He is trying to automate as many tasks as possible and is making the lives of district and chapter secretaries much easier.

One of the great advantages is that you now can update your personal membership information, such as change of addresses, change of phone numbers or email addresses, etc., online, and the change takes effect immediately.

Chapter secretaries can update information relating to chapter members too and are able to file their annual "New Officer Report" online. As your District Secretary, I find it most helpful in accessing information about chapters and district members.

SOCIETY DUES INCREASE

**YOU CAN NOW
UPDATE YOUR
PERSONAL
MEMBERSHIP
INFORMATION....
AND THE CHANGE
TAKES EFFECT
IMMEDIATELY**

Some of you will notice the increase in Society dues that became effective with the December 31 renewals. Some time ago the Society Board took the necessary, though unpleasant, action of adopting a plan for incremental dues increases over several

years. So, when your renewal notice arrives this year, be aware of the increase and don't write the check for the same amount as last year.

SHOW CLEARANCE AND SHOW TAX

Just a friendly reminder that chap-

ters must secure a show clearance (ASCAP/BMI license) prior to any show for which admission is charged. Chapter Secretaries should have the appropriate form for requesting a show clearance and should have a chart for calculating the proper amount of the license fee.

Once a show has been held, Dixie District's Code of Regulations requires that chapters pay a 4% show tax on the gross revenues of the show. Gross revenue includes all income received from the show, including the sale of ads, patron or friend listings, as well as ticket sales. The form for paying the show tax will be forwarded by me to chapter secretaries at the time the show clearance form is acknowledged.

The District has been fortunate to have many thorough and hard working secretaries. I am grateful to **Al Carter** for his excellent record-keeping and advice.

I am available to answer questions for any member. I prefer email (pronoah@home.com) to telephone calls.

STARTLING FACTS (continued)

Continued from page 14

the normal dimensions are rather cramped so a little extra width gives the quartet better maneuverability. Instead of the traditional entrance, the quartet will be allowed to rub up a good lather behind drawn plastic curtains. (Wash clothes: optional). When each member is in voice and the proper pitch is blown then, with a quick rinse (four separate sprays are rec-

ommended for speed), the curtains are parted and a clean entrance is made. Costuming can vary from the traditional seaside attire to the most formal, what with the drip-dry miracle fabrics of today. This unique idea could even be adapted to full chorus scale with a few changes and enlargement of the shower stall shell. For better audience participation during your

show "intermission sings" try utilizing the auditorium sprinkler system. The effect is terrific and the crowd will be amazed.

Detailed plans for you "do-it-yourself" chapters fortunate enough to have a plumber as a member will be sent on request.

ORIENTATION THE FIRST STEP TO MEMBERSHIP RETENTION

By Paul Martin
President, RTP Chapter

EDITOR'S NOTE: *Although, not a cure-all for membership retention, this plan shows how a well executed plan can be used to turn a visitor into an integral part of the chorus and make him feel like a "member".*

How many times have we taken a guest, given him a "guest book" and set him on the risers? How many times has he come back? Orientation - individual attention and training - is a good alternative to the "sink or swim" approach.

Every chapter plays a major role in the SPEBSQSA mission, to be an "ever-growing" society. Growth not only means an increase in the number of members, but also the development of personal skills and improved vocal technique. To this end, the chapter membership team should develop a New Member Orientation Plan to attract applicants and develop their skills to become valued chapter and performing chorus members.

The Plan begins with following up on contacts made for the open house and guest night. Preparatory activities are the public musical performances that have attracted potential applicants, an information booth staffed with greeters who fill out contact cards and extend invitations to attend an open house and guest night. Additionally, chapter members invite personal contacts to the guest night.

In the RTP Chapter, guest night is week one of four weeks of orientation and training of a class of three to eight new member applicants. The culmination of the plan is the successful audition and acceptance for membership of the applicant(s).

To achieve this goal, men are given vocal training, orientation to the Society and the Chapter, and rehearsals to practice technique while learning three classic "polecat" barbershop arrangements, and a performance to demonstrate their readiness to the chapter on the next scheduled guest night.

Chapter resources are required to train the applicants. Each week, the Chapter Membership V.P. (or his designee) administers the orientation

session. Assisting him weekly is a member of the Music and Performance team. This person plays a key role and performs the initial voice placement, provides the vocal training, and conducts the polecat rehearsals. His job is to make sure the men are musically ready to audition and become members of the chapter.

The orientation to chapter activities is the responsibility of key chapter officers. They participate as required. In week one, the Chapter President or his designee conducts an introduction to barbershopping, a ten minute overview of the Society, the chapter and How to Become a Member.

In week two, the Music and Per-

THE HANDBOOK, LEARNING TAPE AND SONGSHEET ARE PROVIDED AT NO CHARGE AT THE FIRST MEETING

formance V.P. provides a ten minute overview of rehearsals, contests and shows. In week three, the Executive V.P. (or Chapter Secretary), provides a ten minute orientation in chapter responsibilities, including dues and fees, chapter jobs and membership recruiting. The training materials required in the plan include the Member Handbook, a polecat learning tape (part specific), a warm-up tape, and the "I'm a Barberpole Cat" song sheet and membership badges, cards and certificates.

Warm-up tapes are provided at the nominal prevailing charge and become the property of the applicant. The handbook, learning tape and songsheet are provided at no charge at the first meeting (week 1) and collected at the final meeting (week 4). For successful applicants, the Handbook is personalized with the new members name on a spine insert and represented to him at the next Open House (week 5). Also presented at this time are membership badges, cards and certificates.

Once the applicant has become a member, his musical development and preparation to become a performing chorus member are administered by the Music and Performance V.P. with assistance by the Membership V.P. in updating membership records. With the firm foundation in Society lore and vocal training that an effective orientation plan provides, you can look forward to a life-long and productive barbershop member.

WHAT DO WE NEED TO DO TO GO TO CONTEST/CONVENTION?

By Don Lang
V. P. Contest & Judging

We are still finding a lot of confusion regarding the forms and procedures needed for going to a convention and singing in a contest.

Some of the confusion is caused because we have been using the term “**Registration**” to cover all forms involved in contest/conventions. Also, not everyone who attends the convention competes in the contest. If we can all start trying to use the terminology below, that should help to reduce the confusion.

Generally speaking

CONTEST ENTRY FORM

The “Official Contest Entry Form”, Form CJ-20, is the form that allows a competitor (Chorus or Quartet) to participate in a contest.

1. Forms are sent out by the Dixie District V.P., Contest & Judging.
2. Forms must be returned to the Dixie District V.P., Contest & Judging.
3. There is NO FEE required for this process.

QUARTET REGISTRATION

To be eligible to compete, quartets must be registered with the Society office in Kenosha. For more details, contact Lani Dieter at 800-876-7464. A FEE is required.

CONVENTION REGISTRATION

This is the process, usually submitted on a Convention Registration form, that allows a member or guest to attend the convention, whether or not they compete.

1. Forms may be mailed out, placed on the *Dixie District Web site*, or printed in the *Rebel Rouser*.
2. Forms must be returned to the address specified on the form.
3. There is a registration fee.

(Often a member of the chapter leadership will collect info from individual members, and submit the convention registrations as a group.)

HOUSING

This is the process to arrange for lodging at the convention city.

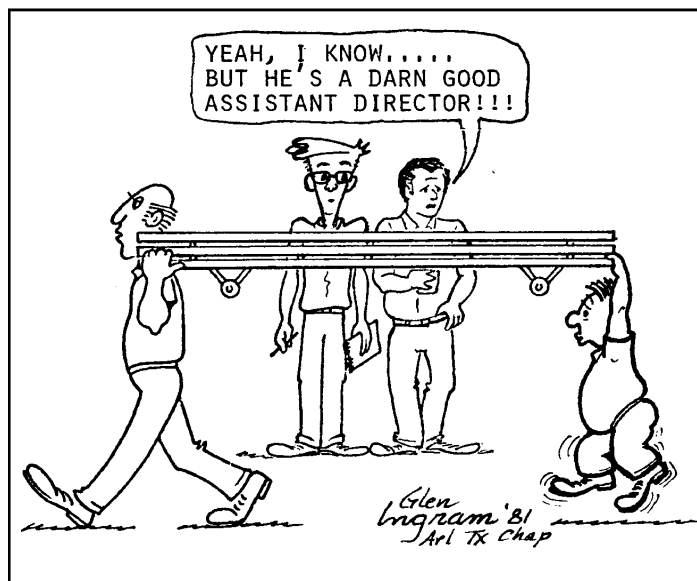
1. Forms may be mailed out, placed on the *Dixie District Web site*, or printed in the *Rebel Rouser*.
2. Deposit or credit card guarantee is generally needed.

(Often a member of the chapter leadership will collect information from individual members, and submit the housing requests as a group.)

Specifically, for our spring, 2001 convention

1. Contest entry forms were sent out by e-mail. Any questions, contact Don.Lang@juno.com.
2. Convention registration forms are available on the *Dixie District web site* (ddspebs.org). (The form in the Winter 2000 *Rebel Rouser* has errors) Any questions, contact Billy Griffin singtenr@bellsouth.net
3. Housing forms should be available on the *Dixie District web site* (ddspebs.org), by the time you read this, and in the Spring 2001 *Rebel Rouser*.

If you have any questions, contact me via email, Jack.Donaldson@juno.com





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DISTRICT CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2001

- March 16-18 Dixie Spring Convention — International Prelims — Greenville, SC
- July 1 - 8 **SPEBSQSA International Convention — Nashville, TN**
- July 20-22 Dixie Lakeside Harmony Weekend, Clemson, SC
- October 5 - 7 Dixie Fall Convention — Chattanooga, TN

SHOWS

- March 2 - 3 Hilton Head Island, SC
- March 31 Columbia, SC
- April 7 Beaufort, SC
- April 28 Greensboro, NC
- April 28 New Bern, NC
- May 4 - 5 Atlanta, GA
- May 5 Augusta, GA
- May 19 Hickory, NC
- May 19 Fayetteville, GA
- June 2 Spartanburg, SC
- June 2 Stone Mountain, GA
- June 16 Wilmington, NC
- June 22-23 Research Triangle Park, NC

**Visit the Dixie Website at
www.ddspebs.org**

If your show is not listed here, please inform District Secretary Noah Funderburg, if you have not already done so. **Chapter shows must have received a Show Clearance from the District Secretary in order to be listed here.** Also, check the Dixie District Web Page at www.ddspebs.org for more listings.