



Dixie District SPEBSQSA **REBEL ROUSER**

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

Fall, 2001 - Volume 44, Number 3



2001 International Champion Chorus - New Tradition, Northbrook, IL

DID YOU SEE THIS?

Additional Convention
Coverage on Page 4



2001 International Champion Quartet - Michigan Jake

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DEADLINE CLARIFIED

Deadlines for the Rebel Rouser are approximately four to 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.

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.

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courtesy of the SPEBSQSA web
site & Dan Proctor,
Sunshine District*

THE EDITOR'S PAGE

By Ron Hesketh

I can't allow this issue to go by without describing this past International Convention from a "behind the scenes" perspective. I have attended six of these in my 10 years of barbershopping and this one will remain in my memory for as long as I live.

I was privileged to be your daily bulletin editor and, believe me, in spite of the hours this position required, I was still able to sample some of the greatness that walked the halls of the venues.

Thanks to the fantastic job of the headquarters staff in providing their web cast of all contest sessions as well as each of the Sing! Performances. I can attest first hand to the value of these sessions. If it weren't for this coverage, I would have missed some of the greatest singing ever to grace the stage. In fact, as a side note, I, along with countless others, demand a repeat of the acapella festival. The next time I will attend in person. (By the way, **Lee Singers**, you were awesome, even over my computer speakers. "ALL RISE!" for a standing ovation!)

I had predicted an attendance of 12,000 to this event and am disappointed that we didn't reach that lofty figure. I may be prejudiced, but I believe that those who did not attend missed probably the greatest competition this society has ever witnessed. I could not have asked for a more competitive group of choruses and quartets. My hat is off to Northbrook and the **New Tradition Chorus**. From the time I witnessed their last military based theme performance, I knew they were destined to win. I guess being second so many times eventually has its reward.



A sincere congratulations goes out to all the Dixie competitors for their performances. The **Big Chicken Chorus**, **Four Voices**, **Riptide**, **Overture**, **Low Down Sound** and my own personal favorite, **Starstruck**, you all should be extremely proud of your performances. I was blessed to witness the semi-final performances of Four Voices and Riptide and I could not have been more proud. As far as I am concerned, this "Tin Eared Prognosticator" believes that **Four Voices** out-performed **Michigan Jake** that night. (*I'm exercising my editorial privilege right now*)

Also, a hearty congratulations is in order for Tim Reynolds and his fellow members of **Riptide**, who, in spite of everything that could have distracted them from their appointed duty, WOWed the crowd Wednesday night at the quarterfinals. (*It's a good thing that they are so young and possess the necessary vim, vigor and vitality, not to mention the focus, to pull it off the way they did.* Is it true that triplets are now permissible in barbershop? Also, *is it true that they are already forming a group of their own called **Triptide**?*) I would need to be given a thousand lashes if I didn't offer my best wishes to Tim's wife **Amy** and their precious additions **Owen Clay (O. C.)**, **Stephen Allen** and **Braden Joseph**. We're looking forward to their attendance in Chattanooga this fall.

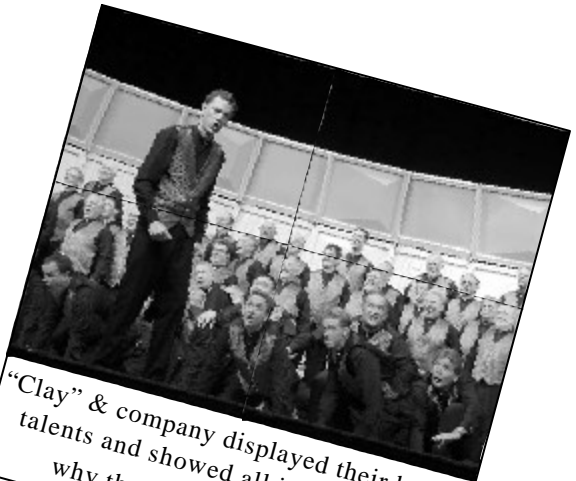
Wanted - Roving Reporter - FULL CREDITS - call or email me for details.

**ALL RISE FOR A
STANDING
OVATION !**

2001 A BARBERSHOP ODYSSEY PHOTO GALLERY



Are we sure there are only **FOUR** Voices singing. WOW, what a finish!



"Clay" & company displayed their broad talents and showed all in attendance why they should be finalists!



The college quartet chorus could have competed at any level. How many Dixie District quartet members can you find?



These guys don't appear to be **Starstruck** to me; they performed too well! Think of it, an 11th place finish! Do we have another **ELVIS** in the district, or is someone just giving us **LIP** service?



Congratulations **Y'ALL** for a fabulous 16th place finish. **Overture** showed them that the Dixie district is full of talent.

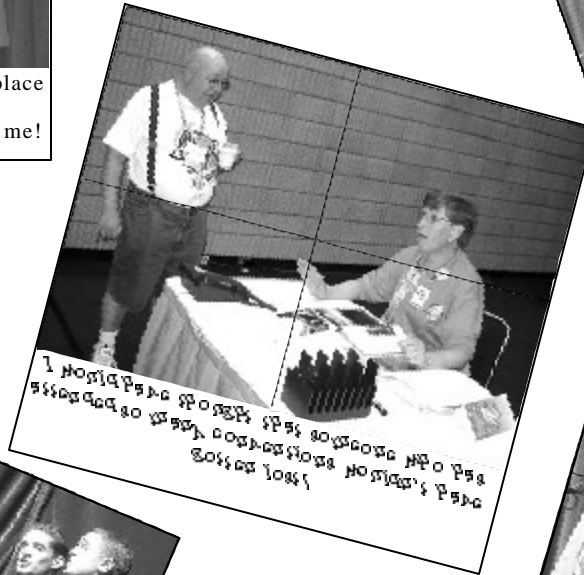
2001 A BARBERSHOP ODYSSEY PHOTO GALLERY



Low Down Sound captures a third place medal!
They didn't sound that low down to me!



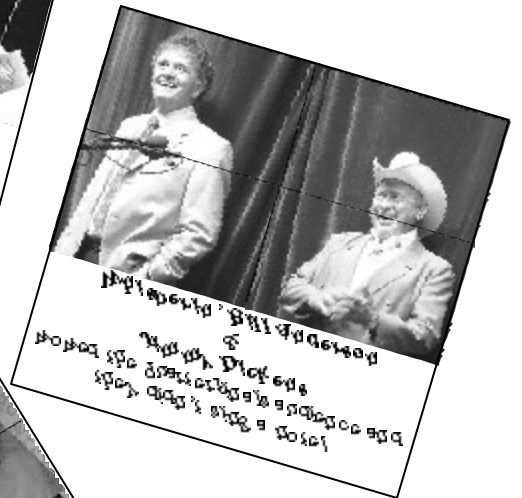
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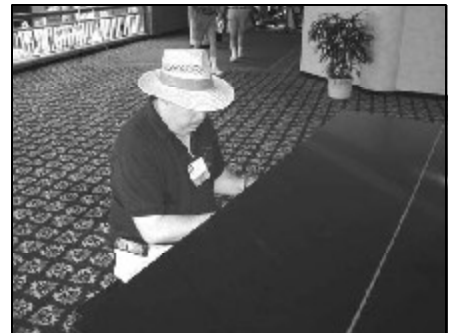


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Behind the Scenes action also included our very own **WEBCAST!**

MORE PHOTOS ON PAGE 12



HEY! I thought this was supposed to be an "ACAPPELLA" convention.

SHARE THE WEALTH

By Jim Sams, Dixie District President

What a way to celebrate our very first International convention of the new millennium! Dixie had the opportunity to share our wealth of support and southern hospitality, and we "did ourselves proud"!

Major kudos go out to **Charlie McCann**, the convention chairman, **Larry Deters**, the vice-chairman, the **Nashville Chapter**, whose members and wives made up the convention committee, and all the great volunteers from across Dixie who gave time and effort to make this convention one of the best ever. I continue to get emails from all over the country about what a great time everyone had.

Enough cannot be said about all of our competitors who represented Dixie during convention week. **Riptide** and the **Big Chicken Chorus** did double duty by performing at SING festival and in the contest. **Low Down Sound** and **Starstruck** stood out in the college contest and gave us all a chance to applaud all of their outstanding performances. This should encourage each one of us to comb our college campuses for more talent to compete for the 2002 MBNA College Quartet Contest.

For the first time in Dixie history, we had three quartets in the top twenty and two in the top five. Once again we applaud **Overture**, **Four Voices**, and **Riptide** for their outstanding performances.

And what more can be said about our inimitable **Big Chickens**? As usual they created quite a stir and dictated the direction our chorus competition went again this year. It seemed that everyone was trying to get back at the Chickens for their

humorous satire. Congratulations to all of our competitors for being outstanding ambassadors for Dixie!

I hope you will all join me in welcoming two men as new committee chairs to our District Leadership Team. **Dick Lord** has agreed to serve as our District Harmony Foundation Chairman effective immediately. Dick is a very capable leader and long time barbershopper from the Marietta chapter. I am sure you will be hearing from Dick very shortly. And the newest father of triplet boys in the Dixie District, **Tim Reynolds** of the Marietta chapter and outstanding lead of Riptide, has joined our Music and Performance team as the Chairman of the Association of District Quartet Champions. We are looking for great things from both of these men, and I applaud them for stepping forward during this time to help make a difference in Dixie. Thank you, gentlemen!

Membership growth and retention continues to plague the Society in 2001. I had the opportunity to sit in on a new member retention class in Nashville led by **Bill Lyle**, the orientation coordinator of the **Vocal Majority**. It was a real eye opener and led me to believe that our chapters are not doing all they can to bring back and retain visitors and new members. We are missing the boat in the small details that make these potential long-term members feel a part of the chapter family. If your chapter is interested in reading more about how this program is so successfully being used by the VM and how your chapter can retain more members, please contact me or **Fred Hinesley**, VP of Member Services, for further information.

I am making a heightened effort to



communicate with every chapter on a regular basis to develop a system of information exchange between the District Leadership Team and the chapter boards. In many cases I am not getting any response at all from the chapter presidents.

I would ask that whenever you receive an email from me that you at least acknowledge receipt of the email whether you have any input or not. This will assure me that you are at least receiving my communications. If any of your chapter presidents would prefer to have these emails sent to a different recipient in your chapters for dispersal among chapter members for comment and discussion, please let me know.

We are interested in your successes and need to know about areas where you need help. We have a world of resources to lay at your door if you will allow us to "share our wealth". But we are most interested in your input and comments about the direction our District is going.

Along this same line, **Thom Hine**, our Chairman for the Strategic Long Range Planning Committee, is preparing an online survey to be sent out to all of our chapters for their input. I would ask that these surveys be completed in a timely manner so that we can begin incorporating your input and requests in our budgeting and goal-setting meetings for 2002.

WEALTH (continued)

I will also be requesting that your chapter representatives to the House of Delegates in Chattanooga this October be prepared to share their "two cents worth" with the other delegates, the District board, and our International Board Member, **Wayne Brozovich**, who will be in attendance. I would love for any of you to email me your questions or input ahead of time so that we can have a constructive time of delegate involvement in our meeting. We NEED your feedback.

I cannot emphasize enough how important it is for our chapters, or any interested Joe barbershoppers, to email or call our District Leadership Team members for input or questions. All the information you need to contact any of us is located on the inside cover of this *Rebel Rouser*. We think we are carrying on the business of the District that is most important to each of you. If you don't know what is going on in any specific area or have input to help us do a better job, simply pick up the phone or turn on your computers and communicate with us. We would love to hear from any of you at your earliest convenience.

I continue to receive compliments from Society board members and chairs about what an exemplary job your District VP's are doing and how well Dixie is growing and implementing Society and District goals. However, we are realistic enough to know that much remains to be done and that we are far from where we would like to be. Join hands with us and let us work together to continue to set the standard across the Society. Every Dixie member is vital to the successes of our District. It is because of each of you that we remain the "best cotton pickin' District in the Society"!

DO YOU WEAR YOUR BARBERSHOP COLORS?

By Frank Cristina, VP M&PR



Many people belong to organizations such as service clubs, fraternal organizations, amateur athletic teams and so forth. Part of identifying with their groups is wearing, with great pride, their team jerseys, hats and lapel pins.

When a new member receives the society's certificate and a society lapel pin, he may wear his lapel pin to several meetings, but notices that very few members actually wear their pins. Then the new member's pin becomes a drawer pin, just like the pins of other members.

The society also gives other pins to its members such as BOTY pins, International Quartet finalist pins, district and chapter officer pins. Do you wear these pins as part of your barbershop uniform? If you don't, why don't you? It is a small way to visually promote your hobby to the public at large.

Thom Hine of the Big Chicken Chorus is an example of a barbershopper who promotes his hobby on an ongoing basis by wearing shirts and pins that promote his chapter and the society. I am sure there are others who

also wear their colors on a regular basis to promote this great hobby.

I have heard many times from our members that barbershopping is one of the best-kept secrets of today. We can change this by each member wearing his chorus shirts and pins to meetings, chapter functions and other barbershop events. One can also display society license plate holders and bumper stickers on your vehicles. These are just some of the ways each of us can display our barbershop colors. Who knows what this form of advertising will do to increase membership?

If district quartets/chapters are interested in purchasing shirts for your members, please contact **Rusty Kirkpatrick**, manager of the Dixie District Market Place for special prices. He can be contacted at (864) 567-9643 or email jrustyk@worldnet.att.net. He also has Dixie District logo pins and lots of Nashville 2001 Convention pins. Let's all wear our colors!

GRAND STRAND PLANS SHOW

Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. The Grand Strand Chapter, Low Country Chorus has been busy over the last several months with a few singing engagements and preparing for their annual show to be held on Saturday, January 19, 2002 - 8:00 PM, at the Myrtle Beach High School, Myrtle Beach, SC. This year's show will be "*Barbershop on Parade*" and will include the quartets of "**Matrix**" and "**Split Decision**". For ticket information contact:

Chuck Swenson at (843) 235-9233.

Email: seeitnowppl@sc.rr.com

Web: http://www.geocities.com/doc_ditty/lowcountry.html

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YMIH CORNER

BY BOB DICKSON, COORDINATOR, YOUNG MEN IN HARMONY



The vision statement of our great Barbershop Society is “to be an ever-growing fraternity of Barbershop style singers leading the cause of encouraging vocal music in our schools and communities”.

As many of you know, some of our Dixie Chapters are in the vanguard of that effort working in middle schools, high schools and colleges producing festivals and contests for young singers and planting the “seeds of harmony” that will benefit those young people sooner or later in their lives.

One of the Dixie District efforts in support of this **Vision** has been the establishment of a Harmony Camp (male only at this time) that will run concurrently with the DLHW in Clemson. At this writing 24 young men had registered for the 2001 Camp. That’s a good start and from a District with over 50 Chapters, we can probably surpass that number in 2002.

The Spring issue of the Rebel Rouser contained an article with a thorough explanation of the event plus the 2001 Camp schedule, but by the time you read this the 2001 Camp will be history, and it won’t do you much good for this year. However, here’s a long range planning idea for you: why not

clip that article and use it as your personal reminder about next year’s Camp.....? If every member in the District started recruiting and signing up students for the 2002 Camp when schools open this fall, we’d have a banner chorus at Clemson next year.

We had two music educator registrations for this year’s DLHW (both female). As you’ll recall the District will give full s c h o l a r s h i p s to fulltime music educators, male or female, to attend our Clemson mini-hep school; so keep that thought in mind for next year also when you’ve got your recruiting hat on.

The College Barbershop Quartet Contest (held at the International Convention every year) is one of the most popular programs sponsored by the Society. The Dixie District ‘prelims’ to select our representative for this event is put on during our Spring Convention in March. It’s a great opportunity for college age quartet singers to “get their feet wet” on our competition stage.

IT’S A GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR COLLEGE AGE QUARTET SINGERS TO “GET THEIR FEET WET” ON OUR COMPETITION STAGE.

If you have contacts “on campus” somewhere around your community, you might want to get started early in the fall to promote this opportunity; college kids manage to get a lot on their plates and you should “hook ‘em” fast to be sure they’ll still be excited about the ‘prelims’ when Spring rolls around.

The quartets only need to learn and perform two songs arranged in the Barbershop style; starting in the fall will afford a lot of time for coaching so things don’t get too tight in the spring. If you’d like details about this event, call Jim DeBusman in Kenosha (1-800-876-SING) and ask him for a

CBQC packet. At this time, he’ll only have the 2001 version available but the details of the event don’t change much, just the dates will be different.

In March our college quartet representative will be awarded \$1000 to help defray their travel expenses to the next International, and the District will pick up their registration fees for the Convention.

HARBORMASTERS FIRST SHOW - WHAT A SUCCESS!

Michael Baitz, PR - Beaufort Harbormasters

On Saturday, April 7, The Beaufort Harbormasters presented their first choral show, “Dockside Melodies,” at the Battery Creek High School Performing Arts Center. Directed by **Peter Stevenson**, of the *Spirit of Beaufort*, the 22-member chorus created a riverboat setting with familiar melodies like “Shenandoah” and “Moonlight Bay,” all performed in the four-part unac-

companied close harmony known as barbershop style. In addition, **Split Decision**, an award-winning quartet from Memphis, Tennessee, and the **Shore Notes**, a group of female barbershoppers from Hilton Head, added to the evening’s enjoyment. The enthusiastic response of the audience of more than 600 would indicate that the Harbormasters have found a place for themselves on the Beaufort musical scene.

What brought you to barbershopping?

By Fred Hinesley, V. P. Member Services



At the recent Dixie Lakeside Harmony mini-HEP school, I taught a course entitled “*The Magic Beans of Growing Your Chapter.*” I began each session by asking each of the participants to tell the class about the kinds of things that had attracted him to barbershopping—what had caused him, as one class member put it, to catch the infection that causes us to spend so much time on our wonderful hobby.

Not surprisingly, the guys related a number of things that had attracted them. Almost everybody explained that he had participated in some sort of musical activities before he found out about the Society and joined. Many of them had grown up in singing families. Most of them had sung in high school or college groups or played in school bands. And most of them sang in church choirs.

Do you ever wonder how many guys there are in your community who enjoyed participating in musical groups when they were in school who would enjoy singing in your chapter? Email me at hinesley@juno.com or write me at 29 Chatuachee Crossing, Savannah, GA 31411, and I’ll send you a copy of the Society’s plan for locating some of them.

A large number of the guys in my classes hadn’t known about our Society until they heard a barbershop group perform or one of their friends told them about us. The things they said most often were, “I heard a group perform and liked what I heard,” or “A friend of mine asked me to come to a meeting.”

There had been a chapter in Macon, Georgia, for 12 years before I learned of its existence when I heard a quartet perform at a civic club meeting. Imagine: I could have been singing and ringing chords for 12 years before I began! A surprising number of the guys in my classes had, similarly, not known of the existence of chapters in their communities until they happened to hear a group perform or until one of their friends had invited them to a meeting.

Apparently our Society’s existence is still the world’s best-kept secret. You can easily remedy that situation in your community. If you’d like some help,

**DO YOU EVER
WONDER HOW
MANY GUYS
THERE ARE IN
YOUR
COMMUNITY
WHO ENJOYED
PARTICIPATING
IN MUSICAL
GROUPS...?**

get in touch with me or call (800) 876 SING to get some suggestions for publicizing your chapter.

I might mention that a couple of guys in my classes joined the Society because they were invited to sing with a chapter in its Christmas show. That’s how the newest member of the Dixie District membership committee, Allen Neeley, got involved. Allen is now adding to our membership numbers by sparking the development of a brand new chapter in Athens, Alabama.

Or maybe your chapter has someone like Ev Nau, our Society membership person, who has the ability to walk down the street and talk to every man he meets about singing barbershop.

However each one of us does it, it is up to each of us as individuals and to each chapter to get out the information enthusiastically about our hobby. The greatest regret I have heard people express is that they didn’t know about us sooner—that’s certainly the way I feel. Only when we share our love of singing barbershop can we be sure that we will ensure that our hobby will continue loudly and beautifully into the future.

CLEVELAND TENNESSEE CHAPTER HOSTS SHOW

When? November 11, 2001

Where? Dixon Center on the campus of Lee University, Cleveland TN. at 7:30 PM.

The name of the show is “**Barbershop Survivor**”.

Headlining the show will be:

Four Voices - 3rd place bronze medallists

Georgia Jive - past region champions

Chattanooga Shoe Shine Boys - 1981 Dixie District Champs.



BARBERSHOP HARMONY GOES TO RETIRED EDUCATORS CONVENTION IN GEORGIA

From Bob Ziegler, Director, Southern Crescent Chorus
McDonough Chapter

Is barbershop harmony dying? When you hear this question, what is your answer? Membership in SPEBSQSA is certainly not growing by leaps and bounds.

Recently, one chorus director of a newly formed chorus in McDonough, Georgia, decided to use his membership in the *Georgia Retired Educators Association (GREA)* as a vehicle. **Bob Ziegler**, director of the Southern Crescent Chorus asked the president of the state organization if a retired educators barbershop chorus could be formed to sing for the annual convention. President **Geraldine Tilson**, along with the state's GREA Executive Director, **Dr. John Hulsey**, agreed that this would be a good idea and gave their approval for the project.

Every mode of communication was used to notify the membership of GREA

that a chorus would be formed on site at the spring convention which was held May 8, 9, and 10, 2001, at the Raddison Hotel in Augusta, Georgia. To assure a nucleus for the chorus, Bob convinced his newly formed quartet to participate in the chorus and to sing on the pro-



gram. Also, **Fred Hinesley**, Dixie District VP Member Services, himself a retired educator, came all the way from his new home in Savannah, to sing with the chorus.

Only one rehearsal was held in the afternoon of May 8th, and a chorus of 12 men performed for the convention-

eers at the evening dinner. The quartet also sang a few songs on the program. Both ensembles were well appreciated by the 500 diners.

Then, as an added treat, the **Garden City Chorus** of Augusta, which had been invited to perform on the same program, made a surprise entrance and sang a group of songs that brought the retired educators to their feet, thanks to **Lance Abbot**, who directed Garden City.

Although this first convention chorus was small, the enthusiasm of the audience for barbershop harmony will insure that it will be heard at future GREA conventions. Educating the public about barbershop harmony should start in the schools, but also let it continue with our senior citizens, especially with those who have already served in the schools and who wield tremendous clout with the state legislators.

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Drayton Justus, V.P. for Music & Performance



Lots of folks complain about the weather, but nobody does anything about it. Many barbershop chapters complain about the lack of forward-moving, dynamic musical programs; about the lack of vocal technique within the program; about the inactivity of the chorus music team; about the lack of qualified coaching personnel; and about placing ALL the responsibility for the music level of the chorus on the music director, but seldom does anyone do anything about it.

Well, we can't do a whole bunch about the weather, but the Dixie District can go a long way in assisting your chapter solve some of these other problems. First of all, in order for that assistance to be really effective, here are a couple suggestions:

Have one or two assistant directors that regularly work with the chorus. Your chapter board may have to convince the director that no one person can, or should be expected to "do it all." An occasional change of up-front personnel is good for the chorus, and it spreads the directing load. The director must coach the assistant directors, and the assistant directors must accept this coaching. The director is also in a better position to act as "coach"

FORGET THE WEATHER. HERE'S SOMETHING YOU CAN DO SOMETHING ABOUT!

when an assistant is directing.

Have an active music team consisting at minimum of the music VP, director, assistant director(s), and section leaders. This music team should meet briefly after each rehearsal and decide what went well/what didn't go so well. This helps tremendously in planning for future rehearsals.

Now comes the "offer you can't refuse!" We suggest that you seriously consider bringing in qualified outside coaches a couple times a year who can spot areas for improvement in your singing and visual performance "game plan." Our district has a Coaches Guild—a group of highly qualified coaches who have volunteered to provide assistance to Dixie District choruses and quartets. There has not been much activity for the Guild in recent years, but we are in process of revitalizing the program. At present, it is our intention for the District to reimburse the coach's mileage, and for the chapter to feed and lodge your guest if logistics require it. I invite you to contact me at (770) 562-9629 and I'll try my level best to see that you get the most qualified, available person to assist you.

Forget the weather.

Here's something you can do something about!



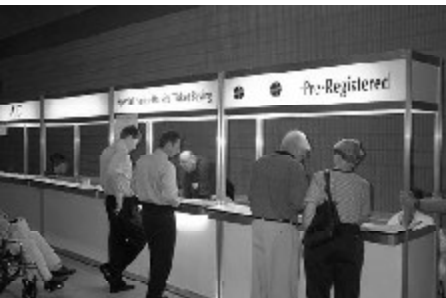
The Nightingales, Russia's sensational group, won the hearts of everyone!



If we're supposed to be quiet, why are we talking?



Is this really the name I entered?



Gee, where do we go from here?



Now, let's see...what key do I press next?



See, we told you this convention was out of this world.

John Glenn donates a part of history.

DIXIE BURSTS WITH PRIDE

By Bill Lester, Dixie District Historian



It is not often a historian dares to write about something that happened just over the last few years. We have just concluded the International at Nashville and those guys really had control, for even the weather was right!

Since **FRED** earned mike tester honors in 1994, they have continued to point the way toward the **GOLD**. When **FRED** captured the **GOLD** in Anaheim, **Riptide** earned the mike tester honors. In Kansas City, we saw **Riptide** in sixth place with **Four Voices** only three places out of top ten while **Split Decision** held onto the previous years placement (34) and **Overture** took over 33rd place.

Now we move to Nashville in 2001, where Dixie Barbershoppers are delighted with its two quartets placements-in the top five! **Four Voices** was declared third place Bronze Medalist and **Riptide** was declared fourth place Bronze Medalist. Add **Overture's** leap to a 16th place finish and joy abounds in the hearts of Dixie Convention goers. Then add another result from the MBNA American Collegiate Barbershop Quartet Contest where, on Thursday, **Low Down Sound** earned honors for their third place finish. The **Big Chicken Chorus** continued to be the crowd pleasers as voted by the audience and their standing O's in response to the chorus and it's entertaining antics. Dixie barbershoppers have never experienced the excitement that results from so many honors at the same time!

We should express appreciation to some forward thinking people who saw the value of the **TOP GUN** program put in place during the 90's. There can be no doubt that it has provided a valuable vehicle to help the top, serious minded Dixie quartets to tune up and

prepare for higher levels of accomplishments. I suspect this **TOP GUN** program proves that if we support the "build it; they will come" concept in Dixie, it will continue to raise the level of accomplishments in our hobby and will contribute to keeping the whole world singing.

Convention goers will recall the many registration lines headed A-C, D-G, H-J, etc. that greeted us as we checked in. Standing in a line for long periods of time, filling out forms to have name tags produced, turning that form in at the desk then waiting for the volunteer keyboard operators to produce the tag, the tag then being placed, with a hundred others on a long table. After every delivery everyone tried to look over those on the table until, at last, the desired tag was there to be picked up for use.

Contrast that picture to the one experienced by those checking in on Tuesday. During the entire day I observed short or no lines at the Registration desk. At the name tag area, you came in, moved to a computer keyboard, typed your nickname, your name, your chapter/chorus, city and state. By the time you walked over to the printer station, it was there.

You tore the tag part out, inserted it in the holder, which was also given to you, then pinned the assembled name tag to your shirt, placed the coupons on the rest of that form in your pocket for future use, put the Convention Program in your pocket and the process was completed. Throughout the entire day there was a 12-minute period (3:44 thru 3:56) when there was a slight delay.

Take pride in the fact that this newer, better, and faster procedure was possible because the computer equip-

ment was made available through the 1998 Convention hosted in Atlanta. A large prominent accounting firm provided computers, they had replaced, for use by the 1998 convention.

Barbershoppers worked with the computers to get them ready for the convention. Another barbershopper provided two complete systems for another use. Arrangements were made to donate all those computers to the barbershopping world so, at the close of the convention, title passed on to the Society. I am sure they will continue to improve many facets of our conventions over the years. Take pride knowing about this unusually long reaching Dixie contribution to the world of barbershop singing.

In 1972 Atlanta and Dixie hosted the International. In 1986 The General Assembly Chorus captured a 5th place Bronze Medal at Salt Lake City. Other than that, there was little activity to excite Mr. & Mrs. Dixie Barbershopper for 26 years. When work began that resulted in Marietta, Atlanta, & Dixie hosting the 1998 International Convention and Contest, lots of good things, as mentioned above, began to happen, including the 2001 International in Nashville.

So, I trust you also feel the sense of pride I feel and recognize that hosting two international competitions in three years (1998 & 2001) has also contributed a lot to the improvement of the barbershop movement in Dixie.

**It's GREAT TO BE A
DIXIE BARBERSHOPPER!!**



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C & J RE-CERTIFICATION COMPLETED

By Thom Hine, Immediate Past President



The Re-Cert School was held Wednesday, July 25 through Sunday noon, July 29, 2001, on the Western Missouri University Campus just prior to Harmony College.

All current Dixie District Judges we re-certified with ~~the exception of~~ **Mark Schlinkert** who opted, because of "time crunch", (as we must all do from time to time) to spend more time with the job and with his family. We'll certainly miss Mark in the C&J Program and hope his life becomes less complicated to the point that he can rejoin the Presentation Category three years down the road.

I should also note that, because of the time demands on the **FRED** quartet members, **Clay Hine** (MUS) and **Rick LaRosa** (PRS) were not able to attend the school. With **FRED's** calendar such as it is, we sincerely miss their participation in the C&J Program and hope life becomes a bit simpler down the road and they can return to the Program at a future date.

Those re-certified were...

- Bill Hafley Contest Administrator
- Don Lang Contest Administrator
- Dick Belote Contest Administrator
- Tim Brooks Singing
- Larry Deters Singing
- Thom Hine Singing
- Jeff Selano Singing
- Tom Schlinkert Presentation

Our Dixie C&J ranks will grow a bit as **David Leeder** (PRS) recently relocated from the Southwest District to Greensboro, NC (welcome aboard David) and **Dwain Chambers** plans to retire and return to the Memphis, TN area shortly (great to have **Dwain** and **Connie** back in Dixie).

HARK.....HARK....AN IMPORTANT REMINDER

By Noah Funderberg, Dixie District Secretary



Show Tax Reminder

Chapter Secretaries and Treasurers, don't forget the Dixie District Show Tax must be paid to the Dixie District Secretary, yours truly, no later than sixty days from the date of the last performance of your show. Payments received more than sixty days from the show are subject to a \$25.00 late penalty plus \$1 for each day the payment is late. This can result in a fairly significant penalty if you don't calendar the show tax payment deadline.

When your chapter receives its ASCAP license, you should receive back from me, a Show Tax Reporting Form which sets out the deadline, the method for computing the Show Tax, and the penalty for late payment. The District depends upon timely payment of the Show Tax by each chapter to help meet the District's operating expenses.

Judging by the reports received thus far, several chapters have enjoyed some successful shows. I hope your chapter show is a success as well. Contact me if you have questions about the Show Tax or the reporting process.

Updating Your Membership Information

I cannot update your membership information on the Society website. This must be done by your chapter secretary or by you. If you want to update your information, go to the Members Only portion of the Society website and follow the links for updating your individual membership information.

Dixie District Directory

The Dixie District Board of Directors has been working for a solution for the past couple of years to have a directory of chapter officers. The time and expense involved in printing a directory seems less justified with the advent of electronic communication.

The greatest problem is that the directory is out-of-date by the time it is distributed because of the change in address, telephone number, or, the newer and biggest problem, changed email address.

I am working now on a solution to produce a directory at the end of each year that will be converted to an Adobe Acrobat PDF file. This will allow us to send a copy of the

directory in an electronic format that anyone with a computer can read. Chapters can print as many copies as they like for members. This will help save money for printing and postage, which is a concern.

The best advantage, however, is that I will update this file frequently and can send any interested person or chapter the most up-to-date file at any time. We probably will not just post this file to the Dixie District webpage since it contains private member information.

Editor's Note: *I must agree with Mr. Funderberg with regards to the updating of membership information. It must be the responsibility of each member to update his address information on the headquarters web site.*

The last mailing of the Rebel Rouser found 16 members who moved and did not update their information. I had to pay \$.60 for each newsletter that had to be forwarded. This cannot be continued. I have contacted the Post Office and will be taking steps to eliminate this unnecessary expense. It will probably result in non-delivery of any issue that must be forwarded. My apologies if this happens to you, but I cannot continue to bear this needless expense.



Do you recognize this Dixie District Champion quartet from the past?

The first person to supply me with the name of the quartet, the year they won, the individual member's names and singing parts as well as the chapter they represented, will be honored in the next issue for outstanding trivia knowledge.



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Rebel Rouser
Ron Hesketh, Editor
3010 Caldwell Rd. #207
Ashland City, TN 37015

DISTRICT CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2001

October 5 - 7 Dixie Fall Convention — Chattanooga, TN

2002

March 15-17 Dixie Spring Convention - Knoxville, TN
June 30 - July 7 SPEBSQSA International Convention - Portland, OR
October 4-6 Dixie Fall Convention - TBA

SHOWS

August 17-18 Birmingham, AL
September 8 Augusta, GA
 29 Mobile, AL
November 3 Pinehurst, NC
 11 Cleveland, TN

Visit the Dixie Website at
www.ddspebs.org

2002

January 19 Myrtle Beach, SC

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.