

The Dixie District's

REBELROUSER

Alabama • Georgia • Mississippi • North Carolina • South Carolina • Tennessee
Summer 2007



2007 Chorus Champions!
The Memphis Cotton Boll Chorus

International Quartet Qualifiers!

State Line Grocery

The Great Nashville Singout



Spring Convention 2007

Chorus and Quartet Photos

Looking Ahead to Dixie
Lakeside Harmony Weekend

The RebeI Rouser

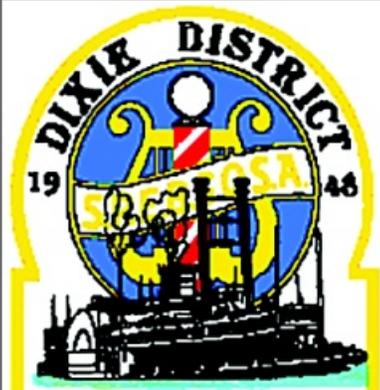
Volume 50, Number 2

Editor

Keith Therrell

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The RebeI Rouser is published quarterly by the Dixie District Association of Chapters of the Barbershop Harmony Society.



Vision

The Dixie District is committed to enriching lives in every generation and community through the life-long benefits of the barbershop style and other forms of a cappella singing.

Mission

The Dixie District SFBQ SA, Inc., a charitable and non-profit organization, enriches lives through singing.

- We enrich lives through singing.
- We perpetuate and celebrate the barbershop harmony style.
- We serve each new generation of singers through support of vocal music education.
- We serve audiences through an uplifting, wholesome variety of a cappella musical entertainment.
- We serve our members by sharing fellowship, performance skills and leadership development.
- We help build better communities and a better world, bonding diverse people through the pure fun of a cappella harmony as we keep the whole world singing!

Cover Photos

Top: Memphis Cotton Boll Chorus by Desiree Dolan
Bottom: State Line Grocery and The Great Nashville Singout by Rick Prosser

Dixie District Executive Team/Board of Directors



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Dixie Awards
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Financial Development
Thom Hine



Web Master
Bryan Chapman



Rebel Rouser Editor
Keith Therrell



Society Board Member
Dan Brinkmann

The Prez Sez... 2007 Knoxville!

If you did not make it to Knoxville, you missed a really great convention and contest! MaxQ (competing out of district), State Line Grocery, and The Great Nashville Singout qualified for the International quartet contest in Denver. Way Back When is competing out of district in the SUN contest in May so we could have as many as 3 DIX quartets in Denver. And then the chorus contest on



By Dwain
Chambers
District
President

Saturday afternoon was equally exciting with the top 5 choruses only 40 points apart and the Memphis Cotton Boll Chorus winning the 2007 Dixie District chorus championship. All 21 choruses that competed qualified for the fall contest! And the Ram Tonz from Mobile qualified to represent Dixie in the Bank of America Collegiate contest this summer in Denver. Another really up and coming chorus was the Brentwood, TN chapter in their first competition with 12

members on stage finishing in 6th place after only receiving their approved charter on Wednesday of contest week! Congratulations to all of our competitors!

Attendance was up in Knoxville to 980 persons and that is a significant improvement over the past several conventions! We sincerely thank all of you who came and enjoyed the festivities!

Our Dixie District Nominating Committee headed up by our Immediate Past President Don Lang is actively working towards filling our district board and management team vacancies for 2008. If you have an interest in working on the Dixie Leadership Team, please send a brief summary of your

experience and qualifications to Don at nominating@dixiedistrict.org.

Towards the same end at the chapter level, you should also be planning for your new officers now. Succession planning is a critical function that many chapters don't think about until they have an unexpected vacancy and there is no one there to fill the position. The district is planning 3 different officer training sessions for the 2008 officers – one day sessions on November 17th in both Hamlet, NC and Tuscaloosa, AL, and a 2 day session in January in Roswell, GA. I pass this on now so you can get your new officers to set aside a session on their calendar that will be close and convenient to them.

As our Society President Noah Funderburg says in his slogan for 2007, HARMONY For Life!

Dixie District Addresses

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2007-2008 Chapter Operations Training Seminars

The planning process for 2007-2008 Chapter Operations Training Seminars (COTS) began well before 2007. In an effort to make COTS more accessible to your chapter officers we will have three different COTS for the 2007-2008 cycle. This should allow a COTS location to be closer to you and cut your travel time and expenses. Another change



By Dave Millson
Chapter Support
& Leadership
Training

this year is all COTS will be one-day seminars. Two of the three will be on 17 November, 2007 at opposite ends of the district. One at the University of Alabama Law School in Tuscaloosa, Alabama and the other at Richmond Community College in Hamlet, North Carolina. Both of these COTS will have six core tracks taught; President, Secretary, Treasurer, Music and Performance, Membership/Chapter Development, and Marketing

and Public Relations. The third COTS will be in the Atlanta area with a tentative date of 12 January, 2008. We want to offer all tracks at the Atlanta COTS.

This year COTS is totally planned and funded by each district. The Barbershop Harmony Society will not fund any COTS faculty travel as they have done in previous years. This gives the district more control over COTS and also offers us a unique opportunity to acquire the necessary quality faculty to teach at three different COTS locations. To save money and keep expenses at a minimum we will use the few certified COTS instructors we have in Dixie District and selected well-qualified volunteers. It is not cost effective to

fly an instructor from Memphis to North Carolina to teach a six-hour class nor to fly one in from out of district and pay travel, per diem, and lodging expenses.

The future of COTS in Dixie is in the hands of our members.

To offer quality training at COTS we need members who can teach the following tracks: President, Secretary, Treasurer, Music and Performance, Membership/Chapter Development, Marketing and Public Relations, Leadership/CSR, Chorus Director, Youth Harmony, and District Classes. Not only do we need volunteers to teach, we need them to become COTS Certified Instructors.

We currently have only five certified COTS instructors in the Dixie District. One in each of the following tracks: Secretary, Treasurer, Music & Performance, and two in Marketing & PR. If we are to expand Dixie COTS and offer all tracks at three or more locations, we need a minimum of twenty-seven COTS certified instructors. This is a long way from the current five we have. Please contact me to volunteer at vp-cslt@dixiedistrict.org.

One district class I would like to offer at each COTS location is a Chapter Planning Session using Chapter Support Representatives (CSR's) as facilitators for Chapter Board of Directors electing to participate. This track should greatly assist Chapter Board of Directors in setting goals and developing one, three, and five year planning programs to achieve your objectives and goals. If your chapter would like to participate in such a planning process please let me know so I can program you into COTS this year.

Ram Tonz: 2007 Dixie Collegiate Quartet Winners; DLH W Around the Corner

Congratulations to Ram Tonz, the 2007 Dixie District College Quartet Champions who will be our representative to the Bank of America Collegiate Barbershop Quartet Contest finals in Denver. They are from the University of Mobile. There were three other entrants in the college contest, and each did a wonderful

job. Last year's representative, Relative Pitch, will be competing in an out of district contest, and they too will probably represent Dixie as a wild card in Denver.



By Jim Moore,
Youth In
Harmony

The Dixie District scholarship for a music educator was awarded to Lars Grevstad, the choral director at Cooper Middle School in Cobb County, Georgia. Lars is also an assistant director of the Atlanta Vocal Project, a

private voice and piano instructor, and a certified Level 1 Speech Level Singing Instructor. He is a member of ACDA and MENC and has participated in several Youth In Harmony Festivals and Harmony Explosion Camps.

The teaching quartet for the Harmony Explosion Camp for high school boys that will be held July 19 - 22 at Clemson University has been selected. They are Men In Black, the 2005 Champion college quartet. You can learn more about this quartet at their wonderful website

www.meninblackquartet.com. The clinicians for the event will be Jim DeBusman, from the Society, and Dr. Bill Adams from Durham, NC. As was the case last year, three standard and three barbershop songs will be learned and performed

during the three day camp. The list includes several songs that will make for a very entertaining show: "Zombie Jam Boree," "Prayer of the Children," "Happy Together," "Weep, O Mine Eyes," "Ain't Misbehavin'," and "Swing Down Chariot". Forms for the camp are now posted on the Dixie District website www.DixieDistrict.org.

Again, it is the time for all caring barbershoppers to step up to the plate. We expect that around 120 to 130 campers and teachers will attend this year's Clemson Camp, and we will want to sponsor each of them, so that students pay only \$25 to attend and teachers are free. If you or your chapter can be a sponsor, \$0 a person will be graciously accepted. The remaining costs will be covered by the District funds and by a Harmony Foundation grant. Please send your donations in now, and please also start now to find boys who will want to attend this camp.

If I can help with your YIH plans, please contact me at vp-youth@dixiedistrict.org.



Ram Tonz photo by Jack Deere

Invest In Our Future

Many of us long-time barbershoppers work so tirelessly and productively for our Chapter, District, and Society, we're convinced "WE ARE THE FUTURE OF BARBERSHOPPING." Wrong! We are the past and the present. The FUTURE of our barbershopping belongs to the young men we bring into the Society. It is up to "us" to make certain we leave no stone unturned to insure that future is ever-growing and shines as the brightest of beacons for the next 100 years.

As this Rebel Rouser publication hits your in-box, it will not be too late for your chapter, quartet or you, as an individual to offer financial support to the 2007 Clemson, SC Harmonic Explosion Camp. Simply contact Jim Moore, DIX VP for YIH and lend financial support to grow the 2007 Harmonic Explosion Camp to 120 young men. Many chapters continually contribute \$500 or more to this annual event of events. Talk with your chapter and/or quartet members, contact Jim and pledge your bucks today. Jim will find the "members of tomorrow" through his extensive list of high school music educators.

Then register and attend the annual Dixie Lakeside Harmonic Weekend, 7-20/22-07, enjoy a terrific weekend with your fellow barbershoppers and see the result of your gift come alive on the Saturday night show.



Thom Hine
Financial
Development

Dixie Awards Program

Page 5 of the Oct./Nov. 2006 issue of the Rebel Rouser contained a "boxed" text encouraging member-business-owners and quartets to help support the Dixie District Awards Program by sending a tax-deductible contribution to the district. As a result, a well-known DIX quartet, who wishes to remain anonymous, has since pledged a yearly maximum of ongoing support for trophies presented to our DIX quartets who compete at the Society International level. This quartet joins the lead of Triangle Insurance Group, Inc., Smithville, NC as our first two subscribers to the Dixie Awards Program. I encourage other member-business-owners and quartets to join as well. Simply send a check and a letter to my attention at:

Thom Hine, DIX VP for Financial Development
4212 Bretdale Run NW
Kennesaw, GA 30152

I'll immediately send confirmation of the gift in the form of a letter of appreciation. Place it in your 2007 tax folder for later entry of the gift amount on your year-end tax return. All such gifts will be placed in escrow and may only be used by the district in support of the "Dixie District Awards Program."

Congratulations to Triangle Insurance Group and to "The Four Anonymous guys."

So, You Think You Would Like To Be A Judge ?

The time is drawing near for all barbershoppers to begin thinking seriously about getting into the Contest and Judging program. You still have plenty of time, but I would suggest that you begin getting your ducks in a row in preparation for your application.

Currently we have only seven certified judges (three Contest Administrators and four Singing Judges) in Dixie. We are always looking for more men who have a desire to study and prepare for the C&J program. It takes time, money, and commitment to make

the "cut," but the rewards of camaraderie and service far outweigh the costs of preparation.

I would suggest that you begin to line up recommendations from two certified judges in the category that you wish to enter (Contest Administrator, Music, Presentation, Singing). The recommendations can be via letter or email, to your District Director of C&J - that's me!

You will also need to find five other character references to vouch for you as an applicant for the C&J program. Please consider Society members who know your abilities and who can comment on your suitability for the judging program. Forms for both the CA and scoring categories can be found in the Contest and Judging Manual in the Document section of the Society website. If you have trouble obtaining copies, I will be happy to send them to you. You can also read and study all about these categories in the C&J Manual. I would strongly suggest that you do some study and ask some questions of certified judges before deciding to enter

the program.

Now here is the timeline we will be utilizing. The two letters or emails of recommendation can be sent immediately following the 2007 Judging Category School which will be held on July 24-28. You can also send the application forms at the same time or shortly thereafter. I would like to receive a copy, and a copy will go to the Category Specialist of the category to which you are applying. The application process will end December 31, 2007. You will be notified in early 2008 that your application has been received and whether you have been accepted as an Applicant in the program. Your training will begin as you are prepared for Judging Candidate School which will be held in July, 2008, probably during the week prior to Harmony University at the same location in St. Joseph, MO.

Once you have "passed" the requirements at Candidate School you will then be a Candidate Judge in your category. You will then have another two years to prepare for the 2010 Category School where you will hopefully be certified for another three years. During this two year program you will attend a minimum of three conventions a year as a guest panelist to ply your trade and learn from the certified panel you will be working with. You will also have some homework to complete during those two years which will also help determine whether or not you receive an invitation to attend the Category School. It is not an automatic invitation anymore. You have to earn your wings before you can fly!

I didn't say it was easy. But I did say it is a very
(continued on page 8)



By Jim Sam's,
Contest and
Judging

Think Like A Marketer

How can I promote my Chapter's annual show? Singing Valentines? Guest nights? If you are asking yourself these questions, that's because you want to do your best to help your Chapter. And the answers to those questions may surprise you.

Most Chapters do not have a large budget for Marketing and Public Relations. That puts the onus on the Chapter M & PR men to get creative and produce results with little or no money to spend.



Mike Schiermann
Marketing & Public Relations

This is where all the hard work you do all year long really pays off. All those press releases, all those phone calls to features editors and columnists, news assignment desk editors and Public Service directors are about to pay off. You've kept in touch with them all year long, keeping them up to date on your Chapter's big events and charitable work. Now is the time to hit them with a press release or story about your Chapter's annual show and the charitable benefits it will bring to the community.

Call them after you fax or email the story and make sure they've received it. While you have them on the phone, take the opportunity to let them know that this is our one big fundraiser every year, and we've got to make a success of it. Remind them of the local charity that will benefit. Just a little subtle arm-twisting at this point will come in very handy.

Free publicity comes in many forms. Articles and feature stories in the paper are great, especially if they come with pictures. Getting

a quartet on the radio or TV station morning or afternoon show is even better, but it can be tricky, especially if you are not spending money with the station. A great way to give yourself an advantage in these negotiations is to invite a representative of the local charity to accompany you to meet with the radio or TV station or newspaper. They will be more likely to cooperate and help out if you put a name and a face on the local charity.

Of course, once the event is over and you have money to contribute to the charity, make certain there is a photographer present, and get a press release to the local papers, radio & TV stations. Especially do not forget to send a press release to the charity's internal publication.

There! Now, wasn't that easy?

Want to Be a Judge?

(continued from page 7)

rewarding experience. You will meet and work with some of the most talented and congenial men in the Society. You will be rewarded by the opportunity of working with and helping other competitors achieve their goals. And you will have the best seat in the house at all the contests you judge!

I hope this helps answer any questions you might have about the C&J application process. I will be more than happy to help any of you along the way. Please feel free to contact me at any time. I will be sending out another reminder or two in early 2007. Best wishes and a pleasant journey in your search for the "holy grail" of certification in the C&J program.

2007 Spring College Quartet Competitors

Congratulations to each of the high school and collegiate quartets competing in Knoxville, especially to our 2007 Bank of America Collegiate Quartet Contest representatives, Ram Tonz.

Great job guys! You are an inspiration to us more "mature" members.



Ram Tonz, University of Mobile, Luke Veasey, Andrew Lowe, Jordan Van Matre, Jason O'Neal



WestEnd, Vanderbilt University, Matthew Sen, Tim Pennell, Ben May, Jordan Holland



Boycott, Sequoyah High School, Eric Evans, Mike Jones, Evan Meisser, Nathan Meisser



Los Garson Caliente, Oak Ridge & Roane Co. High Schools, Tommy Wallace, Michael Arwood, Noel Thompson, Corey Bonsell

2007 Spring Convention Quartet Competitors



State Line Grocery Photo by Rick Prosser



The Great Nashville Singout



Bar None



Major League



The ACC



N2Deep



Riffonix



Let's Sing!

2007 Spring Convention Quartet Competitors



Quartzilla



Allegro



Acapella Fellas



No Limits



Generations



Locked & Loaded



TBA



A Few Good Men

(continued on page 21)

2007 Spring Convention Chorus Competitors



Mem ph is, Tennessee



Nash ville, Tennessee



Research Triangle Park, North Carolina



Stone Mountain, Georgia



Cle ve land, Tennessee



Bre n tw ood, Tennessee

2007 Spring Convention Chorus Competitors



Central Carolina, North Carolina



Winston-Salem, North Carolina



Rock Hill, South Carolina



Athens, Alabama



Spartanburg, South Carolina



Charlotte, North Carolina

2007 Spring Convention Chorus Competitors



North East Tennessee



Asheville, North Carolina



Marietta, Georgia



Lexington County, South Carolina



Greensboro, North Carolina



Wilmington, North Carolina

2007 Spring Convention Chorus Competitors



Chattanooga, Tennessee



Greater Knoxville, Tennessee



Charleston, South Carolina

Dixie Chapters Give Communities More Than the Gift of Music

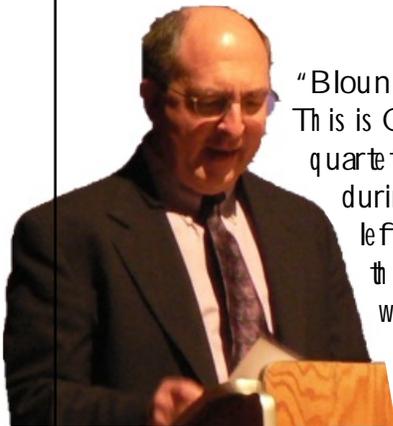
Many of our Dixie chapters were recognized at the spring House of Delegates meeting in Knoxville for their generous giving. Forty-three per cent of our chapters gifted Harmony Foundation and other community charities last year. Chapters were recognized in three different divisions based on their per member contribution averages.

- Bronze (\$25 – 50 per member) – Central Alabama, Roswell, Greater Gadsden, Savannah, Tuscaloosa, Charleston
- Silver (\$50+ per member) – Macon, Stone Mountain, Memphis, Greater Knoxville, Rocky Mount, Marietta, Wilmington
- Gold (\$75+ per member) – Seneca, Hickory, Nashville, Raleigh, Chattanooga, Edenton, Fehurst

Congratulations to all who gave so generously to help bring harmony to our communities.

Chorus and quartet photos were provided by Jack Deere.
Thank s Jack .

Convention Highlights



"Blount" Tram a
 This is Chuck Pettis and he is... a great quartet presenter. Chuck really shone during the Friday night session and left us with so many deep things to think about. But he also left us with the unanswered question – is it "Blount" or "Blunt"?



Opry Bound?
 "Tennessee Waltz," "Blue Moon of Kentucky," "Your Cheatin' Heart."
 With the Society's arrival in Nashville, wouldn't it be a natural to have State Line Grocery appear on the Grand Ole Opry with those spiffy outfits? Someone should take an action item and get to work on that.



Rick Prosser

They Definitely Know the Territory
 Especially when the territory is some of the old songs. Thanks Great Honk, for giving us a sample of what earned you first place in the Mid-Winter Buffalo Bills-Era Quartet Contest.

MaxQ
 Thanks for stopping in Dixie for a spell. Y'all come back now, you hear? (Say for instance to Nashville in July, 2008 to sing away the trophy?)



Rick Prosser



Just when you thought you'd seen everything... "TBA" with a unique costume choice nearly worthy of a citizen's arrest.

Don Lang Named Dixie 2006 Barbershopper of the Year



Dixie 2006 BO TY Don Lang

The following presentation was made by Drayton Justus during the quartet semi-finals on March 23, 2007 in Knoxville.

and that a tiny bit south of Vermont--he had the right idea, and by the way, belonged to the local chapter in Benton Harbor as well. Finally, he got fed up with cold weather and moved to Virginia, then to Winston-Salem, North Carolina, where he worked for R. J Reynolds/Nabisco until 1987. He has since developed his own computer consulting business.

This gentleman has been a member of no less than eight organized Society quartets, and has attended virtually all International conventions since becoming a Society member. He has directed three of our chapter choruses in North Carolina that I'm aware of, and one Sweet Adelines chorus, coached many quartets and choruses, served on our District Coaches Guild, and as a Standing Ovation Reviewer. He has served the Dixie District on many convention committees, as Contest & Judging VP, and more recently as President, and served the Society as a Sound Judge and Contest Administrator. He belongs to the Confederate Army Brigade. In recent times, he has been especially appreciated for his work in improving district communications through Yahoo Groups.

Ladies and gentlemen, I am honored to have been asked to introduce to you this evening your 2006 Dixie District Barbershopper of the Year. Before I introduce him, will all previous Barbershoppers of the Year who are present tonight please stand and be recognized. ---- Thank you; we are proud of you and your dedicated service! As we reach the point of naming our newest honoree and calling him to the stage, I'm asking Jim Moore, your 2005 Barbershopper of the Year, to join us for the presentation.

Our gentleman of honor this evening actually spent his earliest years in Vermont--Yep---a Yankee! My wife's a Yankee, and it occurs to me that many of the really smart Yankees sooner or later find their way south. This gentleman didn't wait, however, for the "sunny climates" to begin his adventures in the world of music. He sang in high school choral groups and participated in musicals, and before graduation he was singing in a quartet and directing the chorus! Enrolling at MIT, he also joined the local Society chapter there and sang with the MIT glee club. He completed a degree in Industrial Engineering at the University of Massachusetts and then went to Benton Harbor, Michigan, to work for Whirlpool. Now, I looked on the map,

Our honoree busies himself these days as the baritone of Acappella Fellas, and with continued service on our Dixie Board in the position of Immediate Past President. Ladies and gentlemen, with his 47 years of Society service and several Men of Note, I present to you, and please help me welcome to the stage a totally converted Southerner, the kid from Millers Creek, your 2006 DIXIE DISTRICT BARBERSHOPPER OF THE YEAR, ----Don Lang!!

Dixie Doin's

Southern Gentlemen Lift Hearts on Valentine's Day North Carolina Chorus Gives Back to Their Community

Anyone who has ever participated in Singing Valentines knows how meaningful and moving an experience it can be for the recipients and often for the singers also. The Southern Gentlemen Chorus of New Bern, NC decided to make this year's Singing Valentines campaign even more special than usual.

"Our first day was dedicated to singing for the local families of US Servicemen stationed out of the country," said chorus member Ken Palmer. "We contacted the overseas servicemen and offered Singing Valentines for their local loved ones free of charge."



Above from left Ray Livingston, Dick Kennedy, Stan Richmond, and Andy Acasio deliver a Valentine



Al Brylowe, Bill Rust, Jerry Eubanks, and Brian Giersch sing to Al's surprised wife.

Dennis Evans described this scene from the Naval Base at Cherry Point.

"We sang for a young military wife and her small daughter. They stood in the doorway of their base home, and from the first words of the first song, she began to sob and tremble, tightly clutching her rose and card."

Whats doin' in your part of Dixie? Let us know at rebelrouser@dixiedistrict.org.

Southern Gentleman Nate Salisbury participated in 48 deliveries and remembers this one to an attorney's office as the most poignant of them all.

"As we approached the office one of the ladies there told us that our 'victim' was in the parking lot on her cell phone. We went toward her and she asked us to wait a couple of minutes because she was on the phone with her husband - In Iraq!

"We had her put down the phone, keeping the line open, and we sang to her with her husband listening in Iraq."

The Dixie District of the Barbershop Harmony Society
and Harmony Foundation is sponsoring

Harmony Explosion Camp



A workshop and festival for young men in high school who
like to sing in harmony, and their Music Educators

featuring:

Dr. Bill Adams, Jim DeBusman, and Men In Black
as Clinicians and Teaching Quartet

Thursday, July 19 until Sunday July 22, 2007
at Clemson University, Clemson, SC

Note! A limited number of scholarships may be available to cover all costs for students except for a \$25 deposit.
Music Educators who attend will be granted a full scholarship. Please register early – registration includes:

Four days and three nights in Holmes Hall Dormitory. All meals in Harcombe Hall.

Sheet music and learning tracks. Workshops on vocal techniques, song presentation,
and rehearsal of six songs for performance. Saturday night performance and show at Tillman Hall,
featuring some of the best quartets in the Barbershop Harmony Society, for friends and relatives.

For more information contact:

Jim Moore, Dixie District YH VP, Barbershop Harmony Society
www.dixiedistrict.org vp-youth@dixiedistrict.org
404-255-0818 3385 Breton Court, Atlanta, GA 30319

The Rebel Rouser

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Plan Ahead...

7/1 - 7/8 BH S International Convention, Denver, Colorado

7/19 - 7/22 Thursday - Sunday - Harmony Explosion
Camp, Clemson University, Clemson, South Carolina

7/20 - 7/22 Friday - Sunday - Dixie Lakeside Harmony
Weekend Mini-HEP, Clemson University, Clemson, South
Carolina

7/29 - 8/5 Harmony University - Quarter College, Director's
College, MWSU, St. Joseph, Missouri

9/28 - 9/30 Dixie Fall Convention, Chattanooga,
Tennessee