

The Dixie District's

REBELROUSER

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

Dixie Lakeside Harmony
Weekend Recap

Karolina Krazy Kwartet Kontest

Fall Convention Registration



The RebeI Rouser

Volume 50, Number 3

Editor

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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 Photo

Dixie Lakeside Harmony Weekend
Harmony Explosion Camp Rehearsal
By Barry Bryant

Dixie District Executive Team/Board of Directors



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RebeI Rouser Editor
Keith Therrrell



Society Board Member
Dan Brinkmann

The Prez Sez... We Welcome Society Headquarters!

It is indeed a distinct honor and pleasure to welcome the Barbershop Harmony Society staff into the Dixie District as they complete their transition to their newly remodeled home in downtown Nashville. By the time you read this, the Society Headquarters will have completed their physical move to Nashville! It will not take long for them to realize just what true southern hospitality is (in fact, they probably are realizing the benefits from our Nashville members) and we welcome all of them to join with us in our events.



Dwain Chambers
District President

The Society staff is bringing some tremendous musical talent to Nashville with the Director of Music Education Rick Spencer and his staff of Jim DeBusman, Mike O'Neill, and James Estes, and 3 of these musical staff guys are certified judges in MUS and SNG.

And Membership Director, Charlie Davenport, joins his assistant Membership Director, Drew Ellis, who was living in Nashville when he was hired last year. Of course there's also Accoustic Gold Medalist Todd Wilson, Director of Marketing & PR, John Schneider, Director of Conventions and Legal Counsel, and the CFO Frank Santarelli.

In case you are wondering, I purposely saved the CEO Ed Watson for last as he is truly a Barbershopper's Barbershopper! The Dixie District will be truly blessed with having Ed, Cathy, and his family living with us in the Heart of Dixie! And let's not forget Ed's newly hired Executive Assistant Patty Laville! To all of you, a hearty DIXIE WELCOME!!

DIXIE RESULTS IN DENVER

Our Dixie representatives in Denver represented us well with State Line Grocery moving up to a

4th place Bronze medal. State Line Grocery continues to show excellent progress and we look for an even higher finish in Nashville next year.

Our newest member of the Dixie District, Rick Spencer finished 5th in Flipside from EVG and Tim Reynolds finished 6th in Glory Days from SWD. The Great Nashville Singout finished a very respectable 30th only 35 points from being the Semi Finals mic tester and 37 points from a tie for 20th. Our two collegiate quartets, Relative Pitch and the Ram Tonz finished 12th and 18th respectively. Congratulations to all of our competitors.

Atlanta Vocal Project finished in 9th place in the chorus contest, improving in both score and their
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Autumn 2007 Is Here Time For CO TS In Dixie

Well it is that time of the year again when Major League Baseball teams are vying for a playoff spot and football teams are beginning a new season. It is also the time of year for your chapter's nominating committee to provide a slate of Chapter Officers and Board of Directors to serve in 2008. The 2008 election process should be completed and your 2008 officers posted on the



Dave Millson
Chapter
Support &
Leadership
Training

List Chapter Officers page of the Society Members Only website no later than 15 October, 2007. This is important because we have no way of communicating with your newly elected officers unless they are listed on the webpage. One condition of agreeing to be nominated for a chapter officer position should be that you will attend a Chapter Officer Training Seminar to learn the specifics of your elected position. Funding CO TS attendance for officers is a legitimate chapter expense and should not have to be borne by the individual officer. The individual officer should commit to attending CO TS prior to accepting nomination for office.

Recently, I visited a chapter board of directors meeting. This chapter had never had any officer attend a Chapter Officer Training Seminar.

Chapter meetings just sort of happened. Many decisions were just being made by whoever would step up and take charge. This caused problems and dissension among the members. There was little goal setting or planning for the one-year or five-year programs. The Music Leadership Team consisted of the Music and Performance Vice-President. Neither he nor anyone else in the chapter was aware of "The Music Leadership Team" Manual, Stock No.4042, available from Harmony Market at a cost of \$14.95 per copy.

"The Music Leadership Team" Manual defines how a chapter should operate its music program. One positive point is this chapter is sending all of their 2008 officers to an upcoming CO TS. CO TS is important because it educates and updates chapter officers each year and gives them the tools to run a successful chapter.

We are planning three regional one day CO TS for 2008 officers. The Northeast CO TS will be at Richmond Community College in Hamlet, NC and the Southwest CO TS will be at the University of Alabama, in Birmingham, AL, both scheduled for 17 November 2007. The third will be in the Atlanta area with a tentative date of 12 January 2008. The Northeast and Southwest CO TS have classes for President, Secretary, Treasurer, Music & Performance, Chapter Development/Membership, and Marketing & Public Relations. The Atlanta Regional CO TS will have all tracks offered if we can find qualified instructors. I hope you are aware that CO TS faculty travel is not being funded by the Society this year. Your district through CO TS registration fees is funding the total CO TS expense. In order to reduce expenses we will be using highly qualified local instructors. If you have had a successful officer term in your chapter please volunteer to teach one of our CO TS classes. I can send you the necessary PowerPoint Slides as a guide for your presentation. Please contact me if you can teach and are willing. If we cannot find enough qualified instructors we will have to cancel some of the tracks due to budgetary constraints.

Regional CO TS are being planned to reduce the chapter and member expenses (both time and

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Think Like A Marketer

Summer is behind us, the kids are back in school, and life settles back into its familiar routine. Football talk fills the air. This is Dixie, after all!

Now that everybody is finally back where they belong (including our old friends at the papers, TV and Radio stations) they're more accessible. We can get to them with press releases and Chapter news. What a perfect time to hold a Guest Night!

Hopefully, yours was one of the Dixie Chapters that held a successful summer show. One of the reasons it was successful is that you promoted it well. Let's take that momentum we built over the summer and use it to attract some new members!



Mike Schiermann
Marketing & Public
Relations

One of the pleasant side effects of mass media advertising is that it builds awareness with the general public. Several thousand people will hear a radio ad on a popular local station. Some of them will buy a ticket. Most of them will not. But ALL of them now know that we are out there. How many times have you heard our hobby

described as "the best kept secret in town"? Every time you get into the local media, either with a Radio or TV PSA or quartet appearance, or with a newspaper article or Calendar of Events entry, you help let the secret out.

Guest Nights are always appropriate following any well-publicized Chapter event. You've just spent a couple of weeks this summer in the media promoting your summer show. Now, let's spend a little of the show revenue promoting a Guest Night. Use the same media you used to promote the summer show. Your name will be more familiar now, and will garner greater response.

This is where your relationships come in handy. You've become known to the editors at the paper and the promotions people at the Radio or TV station by sending out regular press releases and keeping them "in the loop" on Chapter doings. You may even have sent them complimentary

tickets to the summer show, you rascal, you. Enlist their help in publicizing the Guest Night. After all, you donate a portion of the proceeds from your performances to local charities, right? I think you deserve a little ink.

Promote your Guest Night for about 2 weeks in advance. Mention in your press release or Radio PSA that it's free, and open to all men who like to sing. Give a contact phone number and urge guys to "reserve your place" at the Guest Night.

But, of course, the best way to promote a Guest Night is man-to-man. It takes members getting involved and taking personal responsibility for making this Guest Night a success by picking up the phone and inviting a friend to come. It takes members actually speaking to friends and coworkers about barbershop and inviting people they know. Because that's where the rubber meets the road. Guest Nights are different from selling show tickets. People are much more likely to respond to a personal invitation from a friend than a mass cattle call for singers.

Don't count on the Radio ads or the Newspaper article to pack your Guest Night. And don't count on the members alone. Media exposure makes it easier for members to approach guys about a Guest Night, and makes it more likely that they will receive a positive response. It all works together. So remember, none of your efforts are wasted! Whether you are sending out press releases or scheduling quartets for Radio or TV appearances, the work you do as a marketer for your Chapter is vital!

Remember, you can always contact me for info or encouragement at vp-marketing@dixiedistrict.org. Keep up the good work!

If Your Chapter Is Not in the Grant Business, You're Not in Business

Allow me to extend a sincere "thank you" to Dan Shelles of the Marietta, GA Chapter for conducting another excellent Chapter Grant Writing Workshop at our annual Dixie Lakeside Harmony Weekend, July, 20/22, 2007. Nine chapters had advised in advance they would be sending a member for training. Seven actually attended; two were unable to take part because of last minute personal conflicts.

My personal congratulations to the following men for attending the workshop, taking part in some great discussions, and making plans for driving their chapters forward on the grant seeking trail:

Dean Rollo, Rock Hill, GA
Marc Gottlieb, Augusta, GA
Bud Ciumley, Nashville, TN
Bob Reichl, Augusta, GA

Jack Smith, Lexington, SC
Ron Dutton, St. Mountain, GA
Garth Payne, Greensboro, NC



Thom Hine
Financial
Development

Since the Chapter Grant Writing Workshops began, 46 Dixie members have taken part. It's almost impossible to maintain an ongoing and accurate database because of relocations and email addresses changes (let's face it, email has changed our lives forever).

Some Chapter Grant Writers become discouraged and leave the position while others move up the ladder of chapter administration. But I'm persistent and will be contacting all

chapter presidents in the District to determine if they have an active Grant Writer and will use that input to edit my list.

What chapter programs are likely to be fundable by outside financial grants?

- Any program that focuses on Youth Outreach
- Singing Valentines for the families of our men and women in service
- Bringing in out-of-state talent to headline your next chapter show
- Marketing and Public Relations chapter programs
- Chapter programs dealing with community

service

- A chapter schedule of performances for senior citizens or care facilities
- I invite YOUR input to add to this list.

Where are funds most likely to come from?

- Local businesses right in your own community
- Public county and state arts councils and foundations
- Members within your own chapter

Does your city have an Arts Council? Pay them a visit and ask questions, and when you make formal application for the grant, be sure to tell your grantor your chapter is a 501(c)(3) and his "gift" is tax deductible to the full extent of the Federal Tax Code.

I hope to publish a report of successful Chapter Grant Funding at year-end and urge your chapter to start the process now.

Now is the Time To Become a Judge!

The time has arrived for all barbershoppers who are interested in becoming a judge to begin applying for the Contest and Judging program. You still have until December 31, 2007, but I would suggest that you begin preparing your applications at your earliest convenience.

Currently we have NINE certified judges (3-Contest Administrators and 6-Singing Judges) in Dixie, but with the Society office moving to Nashville, we will have several more C&J members joining our ranks. 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.



Jim Sam's,
Contest and
Judging

You should begin now to line up TWO certified judges in the category that you wish to enter (Contest Administrator, Music, Presentation, Singing) to recommend you 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 Handbook in the Document section of the Society website. On the opening page of the Society webpage click on "Compete" and highlight C&J Forms. If needed, I will also send the forms attached to an email to your Yahoo egroups. Check with your quartet contacts, chorus contacts, and chapter contacts that are signed up with Yahoo egroups for your copies or email me

and I will get those to you if you can't find or download them from the Society webpage. You can also read and study all about these categories in the C&J Manual as well. I would strongly suggest that you do some studying and ask some questions of certified judges before deciding to enter the program. You will need to download a copy of the C&J Handbook for your personal use during your training and for future reference.

Here is the timeline we will be utilizing. The TWO letters or emails of recommendation can be sent immediately to me. You can also send the application forms containing the five other references that are required. Once I have reviewed your application and followed up with your references, I will notify you if your application has been approved by me and I will send my recommendation on to the Category Specialist in your chosen category for his consideration. You will be notified in early 2008 if you have been accepted as an Applicant in the program. From that point on you will be totally in the hands of your Category Specialist for training. Your training will begin as you are prepared for Judge Candidate School which will be held in July, 2008 during the week just prior to Harmony University at Southwest Missouri State University in St. Joseph, MO.

Once you have "passed" the requirements at Candidate School you will be promoted to a Candidate Judge in your category. You will then have another two years to prepare for invitation to the 2010 Category School where you will hopefully be certified for three years. During this two-year candidacy 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 with whom you will be working. You will also have some homework to

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Harmony Explosion Camp A Huge Success

Jim Moore, Youth In Harmony

If you were fortunate enough to be at the Clemson Dixie Lakeside Harmony Weekend this year, you will know that the Harmony Explosion Camp was the most successful camp of its kind ever in Dixie with nearly 100 high school boys and 12 Music Educators participating.

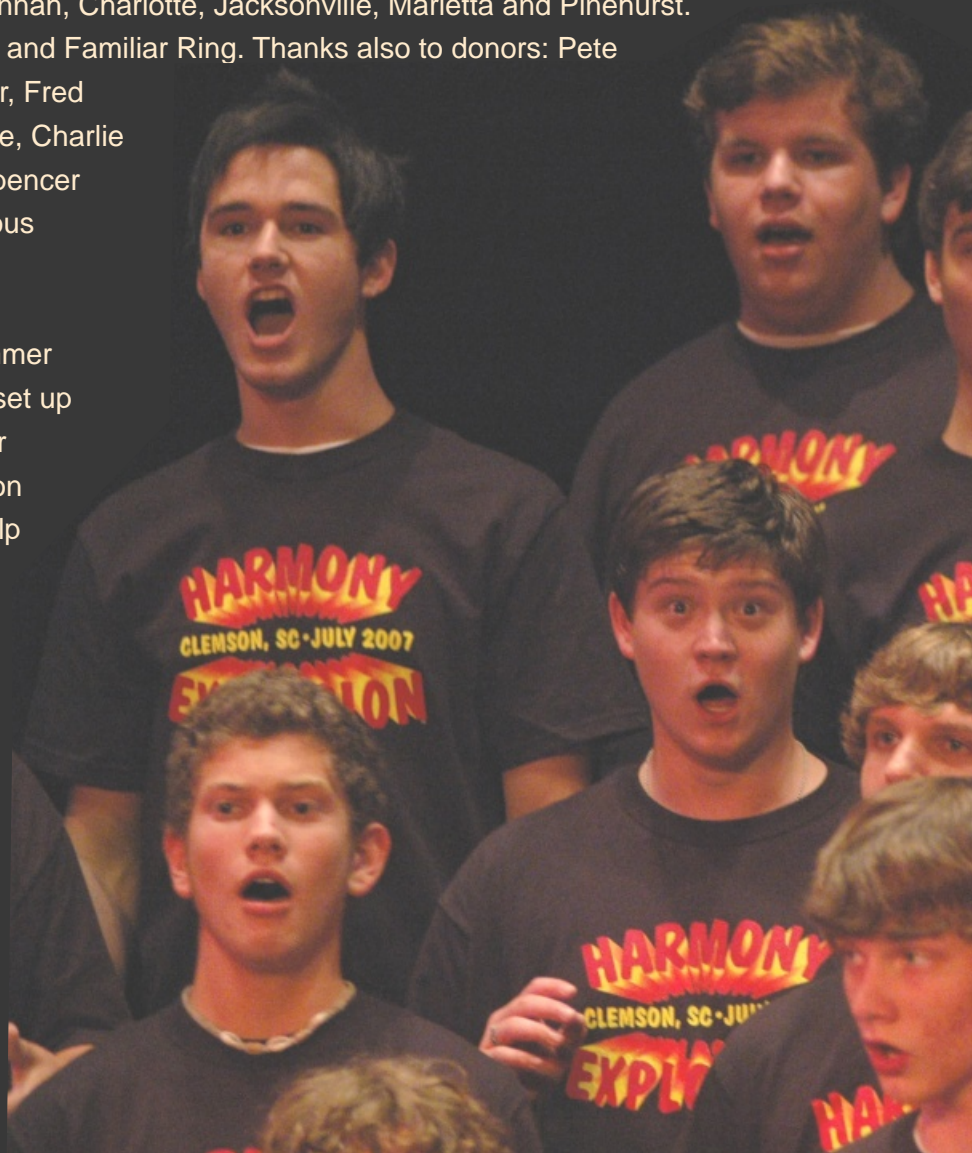
The clinicians, Jim DeBusman and Dr. Bill Adams, had high praises for the quality of the voices and their preparedness. And the teaching quartet Ignition! was a hit to say the least. This year, the teachers formed a VLQ and performed "Irish Blessing" under the direction of Lars Grevstad. The boys' chorus rendition of "Prayer of the Children" was one that audience members will long remember.

Chapters that supported the camp this year with scholarship donations included Roswell, Atlanta Metro, Greater Knoxville, Columbia, Savannah, Charlotte, Jacksonville, Marietta and Pinehurst. Quartet sponsors included Loose Change and Familiar Ring. Thanks also to donors: Pete and Sylvia Pifer, Jade Walker, Jim Nappier, Fred Bender, Charles Garrett, Dr. Brian Nadolne, Charlie Roberts, Arthur Brause, Charlie Futrell, Spencer Howell, Robert Kearns, and a very generous anonymous donor.

As schools return to classes after the summer break, now is the time to contact them to set up classroom visits, distribute music educator packets, offer performance opportunities on Christmas shows, and in general, offer help to them in their music programs.

This is also the time when chapter budgets are being set for 2008, and therefore the time to ask your chapter to consider sponsoring students to the Harmony Explosion Camp. If funds are available, there is a possibility that there will be two camps in 2008, in different parts of the District.


Again this year, as in the past, Roland Moy and the Triad Harmony Express



(Winston Salem Chapter), with the help of district funds, prepared an exhibit for the North Carolina Music Educators Association Convention in Winston Salem. If your state MEA is having a convention in your area, this is an excellent way to get barbershop resources to music educators. Roland can tell you how to go about making this type of event a success. Contact him at moyrf@appstate.edu.

If you were one of the many fortunate Dixie barbershoppers who attended the International convention in Denver, you probably realize that today's youth clearly have a grip on the future of the Society. The Westminster Chorus – average age in the low 20's – put on an astounding performance to capture the gold medal. This performance can be viewed on www.youtube.com by doing a search for "Westminster Chorus." Our Dixie District competitors likewise contained some young persons and likewise did very well in the

competitions. State Line Grocery, with former collegiate champion Mark Lamback singing baritone, and former collegiate



Dixie YIH VP Jim Moore (top right) on the risers with his AVP brothers during the Saturday show at DLHW.

competitor, Dylan Oxford singing tenor, finished 4th. A very young quartet The Great Nashville Singout finished 30th. Relative Pitch gave an excellent performance in the Collegiate Quartet Contest, finishing 12th. The Atlanta Vocal Project, 9th place chorus winners, includes several former college quartet competitors as well as several high school singers.

So maybe it's time for you to consider bringing some youth into your chapter programs. The Society has announced a program to help form youth choruses patterned much like the

Westminster Chapter, with a separate competition that will take place at the 2008 mid-winter convention in San Antonio. For more information on that project, contact me at bbm@mindspring.com. Also, there are opportunities to have winning college quartets visit universities to present workshops, and at least one of those trips will occur in Dixie in 2008.

At this writing, just over one half of the chapters in the District have a designated YIH contact. If your chapter is not one of those, and you have an interest in working with youth, please contact me, so that I can help you establish a program for your chapter. There is not a more rewarding program in our hobby today, and seeing a young persons eyes light up when introduced to a ringing barbershop chord for the first time is that reward. Thanks for your interest.



Dixie Lakeside Harmony Weekend Harmony Explosion Camp Pictures by Barry Bryant



Class of 2007





To All Members of the Dixie District

Fellow Barbershoppers,

In late April, I received a letter dated April 15, 2007 entitled "Proposal to form a new Society District". This letter was from a group called the Carolina District Task Force (CDTF) composed of nine Carolina members. It was written to inform me that they were initiating an effort to form a new District of the Barbershop Harmony Society made up of the chapters within the geographical boundaries of North Carolina and South Carolina.

I received more correspondence dated June 21, 2007 containing a sample letter sent to the Carolina Chapter Presidents and another letter sent to the non-Carolina Chapter Presidents explaining the background and reasons behind the CDTF initiative. This package also contained a copy of their resolution that all twenty eight Carolina chapters had signed and will be presented to the Dixie Board and House of Delegates with a request that the resolution be forwarded to the Society Board of Directors. I have since been notified that a small group of CDTF members would like to address the District Board of Directors at our summer board meeting August 18-19. I have approved their request for time on our agenda.

In all honesty, I can tell you that the decision to approve or disapprove the Carolina District is not one that the Dixie District Board or House of Delegates will make. It will be made by the Society Board of Directors after they receive the resolution. The earliest it can appear on their agenda is at the November 2007 board meeting. It is also likely that it will be referred to a committee for study and examination in detail. It may be several months before we will know the resolution of the request.

Our Dixie Leadership Team is wrestling with how we can operate effectively during this interim period until resolution is reached. We have already taken action to terminate some of our long term contractual convention agreements so that we don't incur cancellation penalties. We will discuss several organizational change options at our August board meeting and will hopefully agree on an approach that continues to support the Carolina chapters and members no differently than our other Dixie Chapters and members as long as they are still a part of the Dixie District. It is my personal belief that they should remain an integral part of our Leadership Team until such time that we know whether the Carolina District is approved and when it will be implemented!

I will continue to provide periodic updates as we move down this bumpy road. In the meantime, if you have thoughts on this Carolina District subject you would like to share, please feel free to pass them on to me in confidence either via email or snail mail.

Harmoniously,

Dwain Chambers

The Prez Sez... (continued from page 3)

last year rank of 10th. I commend you for the excellent effort. The Rocky Mount Chorus performed admirably as the 2007 International mic testing chorus in Denver approximately 80 guys on stage.

DIXIE LAKESIDE HARMONY WEEKEND

The highlight of the DLHW weekend was the Harmony Explosion Camp of 100+ kids and 15 music educators. This entire Harmony Explosion YIH program was headed up by Dixie YIH VP Jim Moore and his wife Barbara. They were very ably assisted by Jim DeBusman from the Society staff and Dr. Bill Adams from Durham, NC as head clinician. They learned and sang 6 songs on the annual Saturday show along with Atlanta Vocal Project, quartet headliners 4th place medalist in Denver, State Line Grocery, and 12th place semifinalist Ignition from Denver in the RMD. I can't tell you what a wonderful performance and show this was – you just had to be there!

FALL CONVENTION IN CHATTANOOGA

As I write this, we are only 8 weeks away from our 2007 District Quartet Contest and our International Chorus Prelims Contest which will select our representative(s) to the Nashville convention next July and our International Seniors Prelims contest which will select our

official representative to the Mid-Winter seniors contest next January! All 21 of the choruses that competed in the spring qualified to compete at our fall contest so it should be a really great weekend of singing, fun and fellowship! See you there!

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

CO TS (continued from page 4)

mentary), and to make training more assessable to members. Most districts, including Dixie, have elected to have regional one day CO TS for 2007-2008. The track modules have been revised.

There is a two-hour core class that teaches the bare essentials of how to do your job, followed by a two-hour advanced class that will update you if you are repeating the same office and provide information updates on your job duties and is a follow-on class for first timers. The fifth and sixth hours are open for you to choose your training. We can offer a chapter planning class, have an officer idea/experience sharing time, or mentor a chapter BOD planning session. The Chapter Program Vice President track may be developed in time for CO TS and hopefully we can add it to the curriculum.

I hope this provides some insight and incentive for your chapter to fully commit to and support the Chapter Officer Training Seminar Program.

Announcing the Dixie District Bulletin Editor of the Year Contest!

- Entry Deadline is November 15, 2007.
- Winning Chapter publications will automatically be entered in the Society-wide PROBE Bulletin Editor's Contest for 2008.
- Bulletins are judged in the areas of content, grammar and spelling, style, and appearance.
- Details and submissions: - contact vp-marketing@dixiedistrict.org.

25 Young Men From Savannah Enjoy DLH W

By Bob Kearns, Thirteenth Colony Sound

Thirteenth Colony Sound in Savannah, GA signed up 25 boys to attend this year's Harmony Explosion Camp, thanks to the endorsement of the Camp's benefits by several area music educators. Active solicitation for the boys' participation began in March 2007 with visits by quartets to three area high schools. As a result of creating early enthusiasm for the Camp, Savannah Art Academy had 11 boys enroll, Benedictine Academy had 8 boys enroll, and Effingham High School provided 6 applications.



The Savannah HEC contingent prepares to sing for the television cameras upon returning home.

In past years, the boys had been transported the 5 hours to Clemson by chapter members who would go up early and then attend the Dixie Lakeside Harmony Week activities. With the number swelling from 10 in 2006 to 25 in 2007, Thirteenth Colony Sound sent the boys to Clemson in a motor coach, along with one educator and two chapter member chaperones.

Upon return from a very successful weekend in Clemson, the group stepped off the bus and was greeted by a reporter and television camera from Fox 28 Savannah News. Singing "Ain't Misbehavin," the boys appeared on the Sunday Night News at Ten show later that evening, and the Savannah Community was informed of the positive Harmony Explosion Camp experience.

Most of the boys will participate in Thirteenth Colony Sound's November 2-3 theatrical production, "Return To River City," singing a number of songs from "The Music Man!" From a Savannah vantage point, there is great hope for the future of our Barbershop Harmony Society!

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

Dixie Sends Two Educators To Harmony University

Beth Bowen, choral director at Chestnut Hill School in Gainesville, Georgia, attended the 2006 and 2007 Clemson Harmony Explosion Camps with 5 and 12 boys respectively, and became completely sold on the value of barbershop music in her classes. When the Society announced that each district would be allowed to send a music educator to Harmony University – tuition free – her enthusiasm immediately came to mind, and she was awarded that scholarship for Dixie.



Photo by Brian Lynch

However, because of an impending change of residence, and other reasons

Beth Bowen, center, at Harmony University as she sings her part with feeling in one of the performing choruses.

not unknown to most other teachers in their summer days off, transportation was an issue. Jim Moore, DD YIH VP, put out a call to the District Board members, to see if personal funds could be raised to cover her travel costs. The response from many members of the Board was immediate, and Beth was on track to attend the fun-filled week.

Lars Grevstad, choral director at Cooper Middle School in Cobb County, Georgia, was another recipient of a Dixie District music educator scholarship to Harmony University. Each year, at least one and sometimes two or three teachers are selected for this scholarship. If you would like to nominate a teacher from your area of the district for H U 2008, contact Jim Moore at bbm@mindspring.com.

Time to Be a Judge (continued from page 7)

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 rewarding experience. You will meet and work with some of the most talented and congenial men in the Society. Many of the barbershoppers who are members in the C&J community are your heroes! You will be rewarded by the opportunity to work with and help 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. You will find my contact information in both the Rebel Rouser or at the bottom of the emails that I will be sending out. Best wishes and a pleasant journey in your search for the "holy grail" of certification in the C&J program.

Carolinas Catawba Harmony Social Fun, Bonding for Smaller Chapters

By Bob Johns

Some time ago, at a meeting of several chapter presidents, the concept of more chapter interaction was discussed. That meeting spawned the idea of a multi-chapter social gathering to mix, mingle, learn from one another, explore mutual event opportunities, and just plain have a good time. Charlotte decided to give it a try and get together with other chapters within a reasonable driving distance. The Charlotte chapter sent invitations to Gastonia, Rock Hill, Hickory, Mooresville, West Jefferson, Asheville, and Winston Salem to participate in a social gathering in Granite Falls on Lake Hickory. We actually had representation from Rocky Mount, Greensboro and points beyond.

Antics from Charlotte, NC



The gathering had several goals. First and foremost, it had to be a fun event. The special events included the High, Low note contest, the "Lung" contest for the longest note held, the Krazy Quartet Kontest, chorus mass singing on several songs common to most chapters, registered quartet performances, singing (and non-singing) cruises on Lake Hickory, woodshedding, and tags. The performing quartets included Prism, Antics and TBD.

By far the most popular event was the Krazy Quartet Kontest. With total irreverence for any known judging standards, six quartets had to face the most subjective, undisciplined, unexplained, and unconventional scoring perhaps ever seen at a



Prism from Everywhere

"Kontest." The quartet consisting of Mark Rodda (bari), John Earnhardt (Bass), Dave Brown (Lead), and Liz Wooley (tenor of renown from the Queen Charlotte Chorus) eked out a narrow win in the Kontest. The other quartets suffered a variety of point deductions from the judges for clear violations of any Quartet performances ranging from "follicly confused" (too much facial hair versus that on the head) to bad sandals to misfiring pitch pipes and anything in between. Actually, there were few deductions of substance for singing miscues. The judges narrowly escaped the lynx mob.

Another objective of the events was to minimize the habit barbershoppers have wherein they sing mainly with people from their own chapter or quartet.

We wanted to get the various choruses mixing and mingling. That was also a major highlight.

TBD from Asheville, NC





Krazy Kuartet Kontest winners and "judges"

A total of 75 people attended the event in spite of the hot weather and highly questionable Krazy Kuartet Kontest judging.

On the serious side, chapters in the Carolinas, especially the Western areas, tend to be small. As a result, shows are hard to pull off, special events and opportunities are often missed due to lack of available guys and recruiting is difficult in small chapters/small market areas. If the chapters know one another better, have repertoires that have some commonality, and are comfortable with one another then joint performance opportunities can resolve a host of issues faced by small chapters that are dispersed. For example, it is not uncommon for a small chapter to have only one baritone. If either is not available performances are not done. Opportunities lost in smaller markets are large losses. Cooperation in dealing with such issues is a must for the smaller chapters. One objective of this event was to create that atmosphere. From the feedback after the event it appears that objective was embraced by quite a few attendees.

The really good news? A whole lot of people want to do it again.

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Singers Tux Packages
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**DIXIE DISTRICT FALL 2007 CONVENTION
SEPTEMBER 28-30
CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE**

Name _____ Nickname _____

Chapter/Chorus _____

Voice Part: (Circle One) Tenor Lead Bari Bass _____

Home Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-Mail _____ Phone _____

Guest Name(s) _____

Special Handicapped Services Needed: (Requests must be received before Sept. 21st)

Transportation _____

Other _____

ONLINE REGISTRATION WILL BE OPEN FROM AUG 10-SEPT 21, 2007

CATEGORY	REGISTRATION FEE	NUMBER	LATE FEE*	TOTAL
MEMBER	\$33.00 Early Bird	X _____	+ \$ _____	= \$ _____
GUESTS	\$33.00 Early Bird	X _____	+ \$ _____	= \$ _____
TOTAL AMOUNT INCLOSED				\$ _____

MAKE CHECK/MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO "DIXIE DISTRICT BHS"

***LATE FEE OF \$5.00 FOR MEMBERS AND GUESTS APPLIES AFTER
SEPT. 7, 2007
NO REGISTRATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED IN ANY FORMAT AFTER SEPT. 21, 2007**

THIS SECTION FOR CREDIT CARD PAYMENT ONLY

****MasterCard, Visa or Discover Only****

CREDIT CARD # _____ - _____ - _____ - _____ Exp ____/____

Print name as it appears on the card _____

Signature _____

**MAIL COMPLETED FORM TO:
*Must be postmarked by SEPT. 7,
2007 to receive early bird discount.**

Ted & Pamela Jett
7201 Donna Lane
Knoxville, TN 37920
EMAIL: registration@dixiedistrict.org
PHONE: (865) 567-8026
FAX: Available upon request

For Official Use Only:	
(Circle One) Mail Fax On-Line E-mail	
Form Received/Postmarked _____	Payment Processed _____
Database _____	Name Badge _____

HOUSING RESERVATION FORM

DIXIE DISTRICT

CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE

SEPTEMBER 27, 2007 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2007

(Reservations can begin JULY 15, 2007 through SEPTEMBER 6, 2007)

OFFICIAL HOUSING FORM

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT – Midnight THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2007

On Friday, September 7, 2007 any unreserved rooms will be released by the hotel to sell to the general public at prevailing rate.

Hotel Reservations for the Society for the Preservation/Encouragement-Barbershop Quartet Singing can be quickly done at www.housingweb.net. **Use the Convention ID Code: 2140** *If you do not have Internet access* you must use this form to make your hotel reservations for this convention. Please complete all information requested. Photocopies are acceptable. Mail **OR** fax this form to the below address. **PLEASE DO NOT DO BOTH.** (When faxing this form, please include a cover sheet stating # of pages, and contact name/phone number). A confirmation from your assigned hotel will follow. Allow at least two weeks for processing.

CHATTANOOGA AREA CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU
ATTENTION: CAROLYN MILLER, CONVENTION SERVICES MANAGER
carolynm@chattanoogaconvb.com
2 BROAD STREET – CHATTANOOGA, TN 37402
FAX NUMBER: 423/265-1630

Rates are per night. Send only one application per room. The Chattanooga Area Convention and Visitors Bureau process all forms on a first-come, first-serve basis. Only official housing forms are accepted (copies permitted). **RESERVATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED BY PHONE. DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF RESERVATIONS IS 12 MIDNIGHT ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2007.** Please do not send a check or money order, only credit card guaranteed reservations will be processed by the CCVB. All rates are subject to 9.25% sales tax, and 8% occupancy tax. **NO SHOW POLICY:** You must cancel your reservation **72 HOURS (3 DAYS) PRIOR TO THE DAY OF ARRIVAL** to avoid being charged room and tax for that night. You will receive a written confirmation from your hotel in about two weeks.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY WITH DARK INK OR TYPE

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

PHONE # (home) _____ (Work) _____ FAX # _____

CHECK-IN DATE (required) _____ DEPARTURE DATE (required) _____ #OF NIGHTS _____

ROOM TYPE REQUEST: ONE KING BED _____ DOUBLE/DOUBLE _____ (TWO BEDS)

QUEEN/QUEEN (TWO BEDS) _____

ROOMMATE INFORMATION: *(If Applicable)*

NAME OF PERSON #2 _____

NAME OF PERSON #3 _____

NAME OF PERSON #4 _____

HOTEL CHOICES AND ROOM RATES:

CHATTANOOGA MARRIOTT \$ 103.00 (HQ Hotel) - parking \$10.00 per day - CHOICE # _____ dbl and king rooms

SHERATON READ \$ 102.00 self parking \$12.00 - CHOICE # _____ Q/Q and king rooms

CLARION HOTEL \$ 100.00 self parking \$7.00 - CHOICE # _____ dbl/dbl rooms

DAYS INN RIVERGATE \$ 82.00 Free - CHOICE # _____ QQ/and king rooms

SPECIAL REQUESTS/NEEDS - smoking _____ non-smoking _____ handicap _____

PAYMENT INFORMATION: A CREDIT CARD GUARANTEE IS REQUIRED TO HOLD YOUR RESERVATION

HOWEVER, YOU MAY PAY BY ANY METHOD ACCEPTED BY THE HOTEL ONCE YOU ARRIVE.

PLEASE CHECK ONE _____ MC _____ VISA _____ DISC _____ AMEX

CARD # _____ EXP DATE _____

PRINT CARDHOLDERS NAME _____

SIGNATURE _____

YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS _____

YOUR HOTEL WILL SEND YOU A CONFIRMATION. EVERY EFFORT WILL BE MADE TO GIVE YOU YOUR FIRST CHOICE OF HOTELS IF AVAILABLE.

The Rebel Rouser

Keith Therrell, Editor
1713 Hunters Bluff Drive, #101
Memphis, TN 38120



Plan Ahead ...

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

11/17/07 - COTS (One day) - Hamlet, NC

11/17/07 - COTS (One day) - Birmingham, AL

===== 2008 =====

January, 2008 - TBA - COTS (One day) - Atlanta area

1/20-27/08 - Mid-Winter Convention - San Antonio, TX

3/14-16/08 - Dixie Spring Convention - Greenville, SC

6/29 - 7/6/08 - International Convention - Nashville, TN