

A group of men in dark suits and white ties are shown from the chest up, singing enthusiastically. They have their mouths wide open and some have their hands raised in a gesture of excitement or emphasis. The background is dark, and the lighting is focused on the men, creating a warm, golden glow. The overall mood is one of high energy and collective participation.

The Dixie District's  
**REBEL ROUSER**

Alabama · Georgia · Mississippi · North Carolina · South  
Carolina · Tennessee  
Winter 2009

# The Rebel Rouser

Volume 52, Number 3

Editor

Keith Therrell

rebelrouser@dixiedistrict.org

The Rebel 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 lifelong benefits of the barbershop style and other forms of a cappella singing.

## Mission

The Dixie District SPEBSQSA, 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!

## 2009 Dixie District Executive Team/Board of Directors



President  
Thom Hine



Executive VP  
Drayton Justus



Secretary  
Russell Bell



Treasurer  
Curt Douglass



Member At Large  
Bernie Bookman



Member At Large  
Paul Blazek



Immediate Past President  
Dwain Chambers

## Dixie District Management Team



Music & Performance  
Patrick Thomas



Marketing & Public Relations  
Bob Davenport



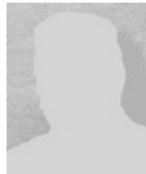
Membership Development  
Dave Whitehead



Chorus Director Development  
John Phillips



Contest & Judging  
Steve Tremper



Chapter Support & Leadership Training  
Randy Miller



Youth In Harmony  
Jim Moore



Membership Events  
Jack Donaldson



Dixie Awards  
Allen Finley



Historian  
Gerald Adams



Financial Development  
open



Web Master  
Mark Hyde



Rebel Rouser Editor  
Keith Therrell



Society Board Member  
Shannon Elswick

# 2009: Start Planning Now For A Successful Year!

**I**t has been my extreme pleasure to serve as your Dixie District President in 2008 and 2009 but that memorable portion of my barbershop life and responsibility now comes to an end. Allow me to extend my personal “thanks” to every member of the District, every Chapter in the District, and to an outstanding District Administrative Team with which I’ve had the good fortune to work over the past two years.



**By Thom Hine  
District  
President**

On October 31 at our Nashville Society headquarters, the Society Board heard presentations “for” and “against” the Carolinas forming their own District. The end result, as determined in executive session Board vote, was to grant the Carolinas a District Charter no later than January 1, 2011. The actual timing of the Carolinas Charter issuance

will be determined by a Transition Task Force chaired by Society Board Member Skipp Kropp and consisting of two members from the (to be) four-state DIX District and two members from the (to be) two-state Carolinas District. It has since been determined that Larry Deters, 2010 DIX EVP Elect, and Ralph Cordaro, former DIX VP for Music & Performance, will serve as the DIX District delegation while Bob Clark and Dennis Evans, both members of the Carolinas Task Force, will represent the Carolinas on that Transition Task Force. Society President Bill Biffle has charged these men with the responsibility to create a seamless and orderly transition.

Society records, as of 9-2-09, show there are 54 DIX Chapters (4-state, 26, and 2-state, 28) with a 4-state membership of 1,013 and a 2-state membership of 893 for a total of 1,906.. The latter count

includes dual members. Discounting 50 dual membership in the (to be) 4-state District and 30 dual members in the Carolinas, we have a current net total of 1,826 individual members, 963 members in the 4-state District and 863 members in the Carolinas. Note, there are 6 dual members of current DIX Chapters who are members of other Districts.

It is not my intent to question the action of this Society Board decision but rather to point out both Districts must grow Chapters and membership if they are to be financially feasible in years to come because there are fixed cost (unrelated to

*(see **President** on page 4)*

## Dixie District Addresses

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## President *(continued from page 3)*

attendance) attached to most activities, initiatives and programs that heretofore have been shared by a larger membership base. To state it a bit differently, "two districts" will now be duplicating the fixed cost of activities, initiatives and programs that, in the past, have been the responsibility of a single District with a larger membership base.

I'm absolutely positive the new DIX Leadership Team will update all our members as this transition phase is rolled out and they will attempt to keep you totally informed.

Again, my thanks to all who have worked so diligently to make the DIX District one of the finest in the Society. I know each of you will pledge your continued efforts to create an even brighter future for our Chapters and our members.

**CATCH THE FEVER.....YOU'LL BE GLAD YOU DID!**

## HALL OF FAME NOMINATIONS

**Dick Belote**

We are on the brink of a new year - many things to consider, many things to do. Let me put one of the important things to consider right up front.

Every year we attempt to name a person, or persons, for the Hall of Fame. Now is the time to begin your thought process. Think of anyone right off the top of your head? Someone who should be recommended? Someone you feel is eligible for such an honor?

Okay - start assembling information about this person. His activities, offices he has held, his efforts to further barbershopping in Dixie, in the Society as a whole.

I'm sure there are many valid nominees that have been overlooked. The committee regularly receives many nominees with insufficient information relative to their accomplishments. So, be very sure that we have enough information relative to your nominees.

Information should be sent to Jerry Adams, District Historian, [bariadams@comcast.net](mailto:bariadams@comcast.net), prior to June first. The sooner the better. Hopefully we will receive a sufficient number so we can really have a difficult time determining the best nominees.

We look forward to the opportunity.

### All Things Dixie Available At

The screenshot shows the Dixie District Marketplace website. The header is red with the text "Dixie District Marketplace". Below the header, there are several sections: "BROWSE PRODUCTS" with a dropdown menu, "BROWSE DESIGNS" with links to "Misc Items", "Home & Office", "Women's Clothing", and "Men's Clothing", "SHOPKEEPER \$10", and "SHOP NEWSLETTER" with an email input field and a "join" button. The main content area displays six items with their prices: Tote Bag (\$14.89), Messenger Bag (\$21.79), Logo Mug (\$12.59), Large Mug (\$13.79), Stein (\$16.09), and Logo Mousepad (\$12.59). The website URL [www.cafepress.com/dixiemarket](http://www.cafepress.com/dixiemarket) is visible at the bottom.

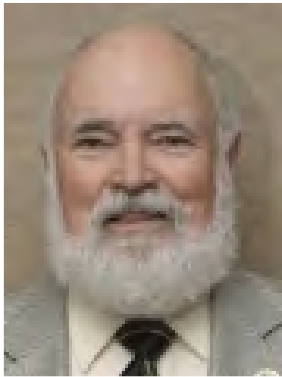
[www.cafepress.com/dixiemarket](http://www.cafepress.com/dixiemarket)

### Chattanooga Post Card



# 2010: Another "Year of the Chapter?" -- YESSSS!

**T**he year we are finishing has been a great one in many ways, and we can be thankful for the positive things that have happened. There has been a renewed focus on the chapter and how our Society and its district organizations can better serve the individual chapters. With a fearful eye on our continuing overall decline in membership, Society leaders have in recent history defined a major problem as being too inwardly focused and not "reaching out" to share our unique participation sport with the



**By Drayton Justus  
2010 Dixie District  
President Elect**

public at large. We are more recently coming to realize, I think, that inward focus on chapter needs is most important for Society and district leaders, and that it is the CHAPTERS (with district assistance) who must reach out to their individual communities.

New members are primarily recruited and retained by what happens at the chapter. I am not against national

marketing efforts, but believe they are secondary in importance to providing chapter-level support.

The Dixie District will face a challenging year as we transition from one to two separate districts. There will be a number of organizational concerns to address, not the least of which will be restructured budgets for the new, smaller districts. A Transition Task Force, appointed by the Society President, will help us achieve what is in the best interest of all. As it develops, we in the new Dixie (Mississippi, Alabama, Tennessee and Georgia) must work to assist our brothers in North and South Carolina in any way possible, while rededicating ourselves primarily to chapter growth, assistance, and success in Dixie.

Now is the time to develop your chapter's plan for 2010. A recent Harmonizer article stated that there are two things all thriving chapters have in common. There are many types of chapters, but to quote from the article, the ones that are thriving and growing all seem to share the following:

1. Their members agree on who they are and where they are going.
  2. The chapter has a plan for how to get there, and they follow that plan.
- In other words, define your chapter, know where it is going, and then invite people of interest to check it out!

Your 2010 district leaders -- Board of Directors and Committeemen -- are listed in this issue of the Rebel Rouser. They are here to serve and look forward to hearing from you when you seek assistance. Much helpful information can be found on the Society and district websites. Plan to utilize and participate in Leadership Academies (COTS), conventions/contests, and our Mini-HEP weekend at Furman University next July. Search for ways to grow your chapter---performances, community work/activities, annual shows, more quartetting, radio spots, guest nights, local newspapers, website activity and more. Involve all members of your chapter leadership team in goal setting and planning. Don't forget that there are legal requirements to protect your chapter's incorporation, and if there are any questions regarding related website information, don't hesitate to contact the District Secretary for assistance.

Last but not least, a great big THANK YOU to our 2009 Dixie District and chapter leaders who have served us so well. Let's all renew our efforts for successful chapters (and as a result, a successful growing district and Society) in 2010. Here's hoping your holiday season is the best ever!

# Thanks for a Great 2009!

Another great year of barbershop in Dixie has come and gone, and I would like to thank all of you who helped me fulfill my responsibilities the last two years. Bob Burns from Asheville, NC will be the new District VP of Marketing/PR and will do a fantastic job in helping all of our chapters better market themselves, especially in helping all of us use the latest resources in social networking media to promote our activities, etc. I know you will all respond to Bob as positively and as enthusiastically as you have responded to me.



**By Bob Davenport  
Marketing and  
Public Relations**

I want to thank Mike Schiermann for continuing his great work in producing radio spots that advertise each of our conventions to the general public in our host cities. We have consistently been able to sell at least 50 single-session tickets to our contest sessions at each convention as a result of these spots, press

releases, etc. We have also been able to secure newspaper and TV coverage of our conventions. Additionally, we could not have engendered these results without the aid of the local Marketing/PR VP of those host chapters. I am truly grateful for their help and support.

I also owe a great debt of thanks to the District Board and to Patrick Thomas for helping me establish the new online Dixie District marketplace - [www.cafepress.com/dixiemarket](http://www.cafepress.com/dixiemarket). I believe Bob Burns will do a good job of keeping all of you abreast of changes and improvements with the new marketplace to urge us to purchase products which will benefit every one of us. This new marketing tool will help the District and our chapters in many different ways.

Furthermore, I appreciate the work Marketplace Manager Steve D'Ambrosio does in managing the merchandise, inventory, etc. He definitely does not have an easy job!

Next, I cannot say enough about the fantastic work that Keith Therrell, Rebel Rouser editor, Mark Hyde, District Webmaster, and Steve Dorn, Dixie Town Crier editor, did to help me communicate the ideas and programs that we implemented during my tenure. We are indeed fortunate to have their expertise and professionalism in their respective roles within our District.

Let me urge all of you chapter marketing leaders to get started now in preparing your marketing plans for 2010, preparing to market Singing Valentines, etc. I also strongly encourage all Dixie chapters to get involved with the Singing For Life program, which is a joint venture between the Society, the American Red Cross, and two Canadian blood donor organizations. This is a great community outreach venture to help the public know more about barbershop harmony and to support the vital cause of blood donation.

There is much more I could say, but I will close with my humble gratitude for having been chosen the 2008 Dixie District Barbershopper of the Year and for the support all of my Dixie brethren have given me in helping market the greatest District in the Society. I look forward to lending any aid I can give to Bob. It was a pleasure serving on the District Board but, more importantly, serving all of my Dixie brethren. Thank you again for your help, and I pray for God's richest blessings on all of you!

# Youth In Harmony

Society Youth 1 and Youth 2 membership plans are still in effect. A new member under the age of 26 pays only an enrollment fee of \$10 for their first year (unless your chapter charges them dues). Thereafter, and for returning members under the age of 26, they pay ½ Society and \$10 Dixie District dues. Take advantage of these rates and bring young members into your Chapter.



**By Jim Moore**  
**Youth In**  
**Harmony**

The Tampa Mid-Winter Convention may see three Dixie District Youth Choruses in the 3rd Annual International Youth Chorus Festival. Cleveland Tennessee, Savannah, and Atlanta are all planning to sponsor choruses. Many of these young singers are familiar with barbershop through our summer Harmony Explosion

Camps. Harmony Foundation and the Dixie District both help supplement the expenses for these groups. If you get the chance, be sure to support and encourage these young men.

Again in 2010, the Dixie District will provide two Harmony Explosion Camps in different locations. On July 8 – 10, a three-day camp will be held in Alabama. Then the following week, on July 15 – 17, a three-day camp will be held at Furman University in South Carolina. Michael O'Neill will be one of the clinicians for this camp, and Crossroads will be the featured quartet on the Saturday show. More information about both of these camps will be forthcoming in early 2010. As you know, all campers and educators to these camps are given scholarships, so now would be a good time to prepare your chapter budget to help support these camps. Harmony Foundation and the Dixie District also contribute to the costs of

presenting these camps.

Last year, with the help of the Society and the Good News Quartet, four Dixie music educators were granted scholarships to attend Harmony University in St. Joseph's Missouri. In 2010, the District will again award two or more scholarships to this week-long school. This is a great way to make teachers aware of the benefits of introducing barbershop into their music programs. If you would like to nominate a music teacher for a 2010 District scholarship to HU, send to me by March 31, a nomination letter, a copy of the teacher's resume, and a statement assuring that the teacher can attend. The dates of Harmony University in 2010 are July 25 through August 1.

Your Dixie District Board of Directors recently approved a Youth In Harmony 2010 budget that will also allow financial assistance for up to two College Quartet competitors in Philadelphia, and two one-day Festivals. Funds to help with funding exhibits at two Music Educator Conventions were also approved.

If your chapter puts on a one-day Youth Festival in your area, you may be eligible for funds from Harmony Foundation as well. "Festivals" can include just about any barbershop teaching experience, which can receive up to \$1000 in a grant from Harmony Foundation. Let me know the details of your event so that I can check this out for you. And if your Chapter is sponsoring a booth at a MENC Convention, you need to let me know.

If your chapter is one of those that does not now have a YIH Chairman, and you have an interest in working with youth, please let your Chapter administration know, and contact me, so that I can help you establish a program for your chapter.

*(see Youth on page 8)*

## Youth *(continued from page 7)*

I recently attended a Mini-Forum for District YIH VP's held in Dallas, Texas. Here are just a few notes from that conference that you will be hearing more about in the near future:

- There will only be one college tour funded this coming year by the Society. (If you would like to set up classroom visits to colleges and universities in your area over a three or four day period by a college quartet champion and a presenter, you need to let me know quickly).
- 70.0% will be the new minimum college quartet qualification score. Each representative to the International College Quartet Contest in Philadelphia will still receive a \$1500.00 scholarship.
- All of the pre-printed free music for schools has been given out. However, the Society website lists around 40 Public Domain songs available for free download, and music educators can order music from Harmony Marketplace at the member discounted price.
- Barbershoppers connected with any youth activities such as quartet contests, festivals, work-shops, etc. will now be required to conform to special insurance requirements, which will be sent out soon to all chapters. It is very important that I know of all youth activities that your Chapter plans, and who your YIH person is, so that this information can be sent to the proper person when it becomes available.

## Compellingly Attractive Chapter Meetings

I just returned from attending a workshop entitled "Compellingly Attractive Chapter Meetings" (CACM), designed and run by Mr. Chuck Greene. Based on my personal observations and recommendations from many respected BHS mentors, I believe CACM workshops to be a valuable tool in accomplishing the Society's #1 AIM. Therefore, I have decided to underwrite these workshops with BHS funds in order to defray some of the expense to our members. For 2010 (until my meager budget runs out) BHS will reimburse the sponsoring district or chapter(s) \$20 per CACM workshop attendee.

For all potential workshop organizers: You schedule the workshops through coordination with Chuck Greene. However, to get this rebate you must submit a verified list of attendees, with contact information, and a critique sheet from each man that I will provide upon request. Contact my office at [education@barbershop.org](mailto:education@barbershop.org) if you are interested.

Paul Wietlisbach  
Director Of Education  
Barbershop Harmony Society





# SINGING FOR LIFE 2010

I would like to announce that the registration period for Singing For Life 2010 (SFL2010) is now open. Singing For Life is a community service project conceived three years ago and supported by the BHS Marketing & PR Committee. The project puts chapters and blood donor agencies together to save lives across the Society.

The chapter provides entertainment and promotion of a blood drive put on by the agency, which hopefully happens in May, a month of traditional blood shortages. It is a wonderful, rewarding community service project, and a great PR opportunity for your Chapter.

If your chapter hasn't been involved in SFL the last 2 years (BHS chapters have helped collect at least 4500 units of blood), go to [www.barbershop.org/blood](http://www.barbershop.org/blood). Read the FAQ's and the Chapter Project Chairman Job Description. Pick a Chairman for your Chapter. Have him go back to the website and Register. I personally will call him within a day, or so, and help him from there.

If your chapter has participated in SFL in the past, then just pick your Chairman, have him Register, and go from there. [Please make sure your Chapter registers each year for SFL, even if you have been involved previously.]

I was very proud of the Dixie District's involvement in Singing For Life 2009. We

had an increase of 40% in the DIX Chapters registered for the project over 2008. Let's shoot for a similar increase in involvement for SFL2010.

The Username to use at the registration site is BARBERSHOP. The Password is "HARMONY" – all CAPS.

Registration closes Jan. 31, 2010. We recommend you register early to get it on the agency's calendar, and to get the full assistance from your District's Marketing & PR VP, or Director, who is now a BHS M&PR Committee member.

Thank you for taking part in this important effort to save lives, and to share our wonderful art form and hobby.



I want to send a special thanks to the Macon, GA Chapter, The Heart of Georgia Chorus. They really showed that their chorus is aptly named as their SFL 2009 brought in a whopping 66 units of blood, putting them in the top 5 in the entire Society!!! If you want to find out how to really put on a Singing For Life event, contact Macon's Bob Smith. Amazing!

Yours in Harmony,

Bob Burns  
2010 DIX VP of Marketing & PR  
Barbershop Harmony Society Singing For  
Life 2010 Chairman  
[landofskymanager@hotmail.com](mailto:landofskymanager@hotmail.com)

# 2009 Convention Highlights

## *2009 Dixie District Quartet Champions -- Let's Sing!*



*From left to right:  
Steve "Friday Night  
Favorite" Tremper,  
Mark Chandler, Greg  
Zinke, and Joe Doub*

## *2010 International Chorus Contest Representatives Music City Chorus Nashville, TN*



# 2009 Convention Highlights

## 2009 Dixie Hall of Fame Inductees



*Freeman Groat (right)*



*Noah Funderburg and his wife Mary*



*Rudy Partin's daughters, Heather and Mandy, accept for the Partin family*



*Bill Rashleigh (RTP, NC) is recognized as a 25 year judge and as a Certified Director*



*The Nashville Singers, 2008 District Quartet Champs, sing their swan song*



*The "Butchers of Harmony" (a.k.a. FRED!)*



*Rick Spencer (bunny), James Estes (sombbrero), and the Music City Chorus offer their tribute to the Ed Sullivan Show*



*Viva Las Vegas!*

# 2009 Fall Quartet Competitors



*129 & Counting*



*17 Below*



*Antics*



*Bar None*



*BlackJack*



*Blinkered*

# 2009 Fall Quartet Competitors



*Carolina Sundown*



*CROSSFIRE*



*Grandstand*



*HONCHOS*



*Let's Sing!*



*Middle-Age Spread*

# 2009 Fall Quartet Competitors



*Overtones*



*Second Fiddle*



*Some Assembly Required*



*Standard Deviation*



*That's Life*



*The Real McCoy*

# 2009 Fall Quartet Competitors



*Time and Again*



*Transfusion*



*Tucker Street*



*Up Front*

Photos unavailable for:  
Four Grand (Novice Quartet Champions), and  
Sound Center



**Congratulations to BlackJack!  
2009 Senior Quartet Champions  
International Senior Quartet Contest Qualifiers**

**From left: Kirk Binning, Larry Reinhart, Bryson  
Ley, and Jim Nappier**

**Quartet Photos Courtesy of Jack Deere**

# 2009 Fall Chorus Competitors



*Athens, AL  
Southern Splendor  
John Butler, Director*



*Augusta, GA  
Garden City Chorus  
John Phillips, Director*



*Central Alabama  
Voices of the South  
Ed Wharton, Director*



# 2009 Fall Chorus Competitors



*Chattanooga, TN  
Choo Choo Chorus  
Paul Blazek, Director*



*Cleveland, TN  
Sound of Tennessee  
Chad Guyton, Director*



*Greater Knoxville, TN  
Smokyland Sound  
John Oxendine, Director*

# 2009 Fall Chorus Competitors



*Lexington County, SC  
Main Street Harmonizers  
Chris Breeland, Director*



*Marietta, GA  
Big Chicken Chorus  
Richard Ramsey, Director*



*Memphis, TN  
Memphis Men of Harmony  
D. C. Nash, Director*

# 2009 Fall Chorus Competitors



*Nashville, TN  
Music City Chorus  
Mike O'Neill, Director*



*Research Triangle Park, NC  
General Assembly  
Bill Rashleigh, Director*



*Stone Mountain, GA  
Stone Mountain Chorus  
Drew McMillan, Director*

# 2009 Fall Chorus Competitors



*Tuscaloosa, AL  
Crimson Pride  
Ron Montgomery, Director*



*Winston-Salem, NC  
Triad Harmony Express  
Robert Cox, Director*

**Chorus Photos Courtesy of Jack Deere**

- District Large Chorus Champion - Nashville, TN**
- District Intermediate Chorus Champion - Tuscaloosa, AL**
- District Small Chorus Champion - Winston-Salem, NC**
- Most Improved Chorus - Nashville, TN**

# Society Board Meeting Report

Shannon Elswick, Society Board Member

Hello and Happy Holidays!

Can you believe 2009 is almost over? I remember years ago adding up to see how old I would be in the year 2000 and thinking how impossibly far away that seemed. Now we are almost to 2010, a date which has always sounded like something out of a science fiction novel to me. If nothing else, it makes me want to hold my grandson, hug my kids, kiss my wife, and spend time with my parents as often as possible.

The society board held its fall meeting in Nashville on October 31st. There was a very aggressive agenda and there were several significant things which came out of that meeting. In the order in which they appeared on the agenda, here are the highlights of that meeting.

Based on recent changes to the Society's bylaws relative to the size and composition of the Society Board, the designation of "Paired District Board Member" (PDBM) does not formally exist any longer. As you may remember, I was originally elected to the board as the PDBM for Sunshine and Dixie. Now that we are all either officers or members at large, board members have been assigned as official liaisons to the various districts. The good news, at least from my perspective, is that I have been assigned to serve the Dixie and Sunshine districts in this new organizational structure. So, other than what the board will call me, there really isn't much of a change in our case.

Most of you probably remember that Frank Santarelli retired recently. Society Treasurer, Jim Lee, and our new CFO, Heather Verble, reported to the board that they estimate the society will finish 2009 with a loss of approximately \$160,000. This is primarily due to registrations for Anaheim being significantly below budget. The proposed operating budget for 2010 was presented and approved. That budget projects a positive bottom line for next year of \$35,000. The board also received the

completed financial audit for 2008. In a separate action, in an effort to ensure that the society board does its part to help control costs, the expense policy was revised to reduce the level of reimbursements authorized for society board members attending society conventions.

The Board approved a 5-year rolling plan of aims (goals), metrics, and minimum performance levels. The three aims are overall number of chapters, total annual membership, and numbers of chapters reporting community service. Since my crystal ball is very fuzzy these days, I tend to focus on the immediate horizon, and, in keeping with that philosophy, here are the approved aims and metrics for 2010 and 2011.

<u>Aim</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>
Increase in total number of chapters	5	10
Total annual membership change	(2%)	(1%)
Increase in the # of chapters reporting community service	5%	5%

Notice that the aim for membership is a 2% loss for next year and a 1% loss for the following year. While this doesn't sound like a very aggressive goal, our projection for 2009 is that we will experience about a 3.3% loss so the target for next year is to slow the rate of attrition and begin to reverse the negative trend.

The board received a report from Noah Funderburg, Chair of the Membership Growth Task Force. In addition to chairman Funderburg, the task force consists of Gary Parker, Drew Ellis, Steve Morris, Tom Metzger, John Donehower, and Brooks Harkey. Although there are multiple elements to the report, the central theme is to adopt an overall strategic plan for increasing membership in the Barbershop Harmony Society which is based on helping chapters become successful, in whatever way they choose to enjoy barbershop

(see *Society* on page 22)

## Society *(continued from page 21)*

harmony, by providing a consistent, high-quality experience each and every week.

The board received a report on the American Harmony project. We were reminded that the society is merely an investor in the project and, as such, we do not have any control over the methods of distribution. It is anticipated that the documentary will come out on DVD sometime next year.

Members of the Carolinas Association of Barbershop Singers made a presentation in support of their second formal petition to the society board to form a Carolinas District comprised of chapters in North Carolina and South Carolina. Following their presentation, representatives of the Dixie District made a presentation as to why the society board should not approve the request for a new district charter. Both parties answered questions and there was a robust and lively discussion by the board. After full discussion and consideration of all the issues, the board approved the creation of the new district. This action was not taken lightly by the members of the board but, in the end, the operational plan for the new district will focus heavily on chapter support and development and, as such, is wholly consistent with the preliminary recommendations of the Membership Growth Task Force. To facilitate the transition, Society President Bill Biffle has appointed a task force of leaders from the present Dixie District and the to-be-formed Carolinas District to ensure that the best interests of both districts will be met as the new district becomes operational.

The new district will become fully operational no later than January 1, 2011.

The board received a report with motions from staff and also from the Society Contest and Judging Committee (SCJC). A motion to eliminate the language formerly known as the 33% rule for 7ths from the Music Category Description was approved. This change does not alter the intention that there be a significant amount of 7th chords in each song,

both in number and duration but it will help eliminate scoring discrepancies caused by the inherent difficulty of estimating the exact percentages during the actual performance. This proposed change was publicized in the Harmonizer and has been vetted on the Harmonet for several months now. Respondents have been repeatedly assured the intent is not to overtly or significantly change the style.

There were two significant changes proposed by staff and the SCJC which had to do with minimum qualifying scores for quartets going to the international contests. A motion to raise the qualifying score for quartets from an average of 76 to 78 points per judge per song with a minimum of 40 total qualifiers was withdrawn without discussion. A motion to raise the qualifying score for college quartets from an average of 69 to 70 points per judge per song with a minimum of 20 total qualifiers was passed. The minimum number of qualifiers for the college quartet was not changed by this action.

Again, these are the highlights of the meeting as opposed to a complete blow-by-blow description. I function under the assumption that there is a better chance you will read these articles if they are relatively concise. I appreciate hearing from you when ever there is something on your mind which relates to the policies and/or governance of the barbershop harmony society. I am honored and privileged to be able to continue serving as your designated society board liaison.

I hope to see you (and maybe sing a tag or two) at the Midwinter Convention in Tampa. Until then, keep singing and keep smiling.

## Your 2010 Dixie District Officers and Committee Chairs

### 2010 DIXIE DISTRICT OFFICERS: DIX-Dist-BOD@yahoogroups.com

<b>President</b>	Drayton Justus	just4us2@bellsouth.net
<b>Immediate Past President</b>	Thom Hine	thine@comcast.net
<b>Executive VP</b>	Larry Deters	detersl@aol.com
<b>Secretary</b>	Russell Bell	russell.bell@powderspringsweather.com
<b>Treasurer</b>	Curt Douglass	treasurer@dixiedistrict.org
<b>Member at Large</b>	Bernie Bookman	bbbookman@yahoo.com
<b>Member at Large</b>	Paul Blazek	paul.blazek@towxchange.net
<b>Contest &amp; Judging</b>	Steve Tremper	tremper@us.ibm.com
<b>Chorus Director Dev</b>	Jim DeBusman	jdebusman@barbershop.org
<b>Chapter Support</b>	Randy Miller	rm4parttoo@bellsouth.net
<b>Conventions</b>	Jack Donaldson	jdevents@hotmail.com
<b>Membership</b>	David Whitehead	oldshad55@gmail.com
<b>Music &amp; Performance</b>	Patrick Thomas	isingbass@charter.net
<b>Marketing/PR</b>	Bob Burns	landofskymanager@hotmail.com
<b>Youth In Harmony</b>	Jim Moore	jamest_moore@bellsouth.net
<b>Financial Development</b>	[OPEN]	

### 2010 DIXIE DISTRICT COMMITTEES:

<b>Hall OF Fame Chairman</b>	Dick Belote	jrbelote@juno.com
<i>Members:</i>	Randy Miller, Drayton Justus, Jim Sams, Freeman Groat	
<b>BOTY Chairman</b>	Bob Davenport	tenorbob@comcast.net
<i>Members:</i>	Dwain Chambers, Don Lang, Jim Moore	
<b>Ethics Chairman</b>	Eric Shultz	emshultz@bellsouth.net
<i>Members:</i>	Bobby Wooldridge, Dick Belote,	
<b>Nominating Chairman</b>	Thom Hine	thine@comcast.net
<i>Members:</i>	Jim Sams, Dwain Chambers	
<b>Budget Chairman</b>	Bernie Bookman	bbbookman@yahoo.com
<i>Members:</i>	Curt Douglass, Thom Hine	
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# The Rebel Rouser

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## Plan Ahead...

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01/09/2010	Leadership Academy Woodstock, GA
01/16/2010	Dixie Board of Directors Meeting
01/23/2010	Leadership Academy Lexington, SC
02/05/2010	Top Gun Invitational
02/12/2010	Spring Contest Entry Deadline
03/12 - 03/14	Dixie Spring Convention and Contests Greenville, SC

Upcoming Chapter Shows  
03/05 - 03/06 Hilton Head, SC