

# The Dixie District's REBEL ROUSER

Alabama · Georgia · Mississippi · Tennessee · Eastern Arkansas  
Winter 2012



Dixie District Quartet Champs:  
The Real McCoy!



Seniors Quartet Champs:  
The Stacked Deck

# The Rebel Rouser

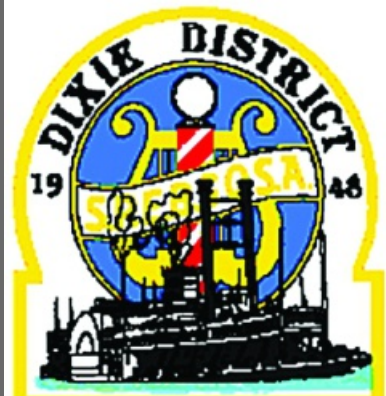
Volume 55, Number 4

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!

# 2012 Dixie District Executive Team/Board of Directors



President  
Larry Deters



Interim Executive VP  
Dwain Chambers



Secretary  
Russell Bell



Treasurer  
Curt Douglass



Immediate Past President  
Drayton Justus

## Dixie District Management Team



Music & Performance  
Jim DeBusman



Marketing & Public Relations  
Bob Davenport



Membership Development  
Dave Whitehead



Chorus Director Development  
John Buttler



Contest & Judging  
Jim Sams



Chapter Support & Leadership Training  
Ralph Cordaro



Youth In Harmony  
Jim Moore



Membership Events  
Jack Donaldson



Communications  
Dwain Chambers



Historian  
Gerald Adams



Budget & Finance Chair  
Thom Hine



Financial Development  
Paul Blazek



Web Master  
Mark Hyde



Rebel Rouser Editor  
Keith Therrell



Society Board Member  
Jim Sams

# Greetings from the President



Larry Deters  
District President

Gentlemen,

Where did the fall go? Here it is November already. I'm happy to report that we had a very successful and fun-filled convention in Tunica, MS. Over 500 of us gathered to celebrate our great hobby. Following the convention, we conducted a survey of competing choruses and quartets and

generally the contest venue and hotel received great marks while the casino smoke and relatively expensive food were a problem to some. We have no plans to revisit Tunica in the near future. Our Events VP, Jack Donaldson, has been negotiating with several first class Atlanta area hotels for 2014 and beyond. Of course we have Gadsden, AL for the Spring, and Chattanooga, TN for next fall. As you might imagine, it is difficult to both find a good venue and keep prices affordable. Our new BHS CEO Marty Monson was introduced at the House of Delegates meeting and to the convention. He originally planned to only be there on Friday but had such a good time he stayed for the entire convention. He was seen coaching a quartet in the Gold Strike lobby at 1:30 AM Sunday.

This past weekend, five of our officers attended the Society Leadership Forum in Las Vegas and were trained in our various disciplines. Over 150 of our society leaders were in attendance. While there, I learned that the Germantown, TN chapter earned a wild card slot for the Toronto International. RSVP and Atlanta Vocal Project will both represent Dixie this summer. Congratulations to both groups for the excellence they

demonstrated. The Real McCoy was selected as our District Quartet Champs and Stacked Deck will represent us in Orlando, FL at the mid-winter seniors contest. It was a great competition that included on the stage a number of chapters who had not competed recently. Congratulations are also in order for Four Voices and George Joslyn who were inducted into the Dixie District Hall of Fame, our highest honor.

At the House of Delegate's meeting a 2013 budget was approved. The district Budget & Finance Committee presented a very tight budget that has us finishing the year in the black,

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

## Dixie District Addresses

|                  |                                     |
|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Larry Deters     | president@dixiedistrict.org         |
| Dwain Chambers   | exec-vp@dixiedistrict.org           |
| Russell Bell     | secretary@dixiedistrict.org         |
| Curt Douglass    | treasurer@dixiedistrict.org         |
| Thom Hine        | bmal@dixiedistrict.org              |
| Drayton Justus   | ipp@dixiedistrict.org               |
| Jim DeBusman     | vp-music@dixiedistrict.org          |
| Bob Davenport    | vp-marketing@dixiedistrict.org      |
| Dave Whitehead   | vp-memberservices@dixiedistrict.org |
| John Butler      | vp-cdd@dixiedistrict.org            |
| Jim Sams         | vp-judging@dixiedistrict.org        |
| Ralph Cordaro    | vp-cslt@dixiedistrict.org           |
| Jim Moore        | vp-youth@dixiedistrict.org          |
| Jack Donaldson   | vp-events@dixiedistrict.org         |
| Dwain Chambers   | communications@dixiedistrict.org    |
| Gerald Adams     | historian@dixiedistrict.org         |
| Paul Blazek      | vp-development@dixiedistrict.org    |
| Russell Bell     | registration@dixiedistrict.org      |
| Steve D'Ambrosio | marketplace@dixiedistrict.org       |
| Mark Hyde        | webmaster@dixiedistrict.org         |
| Keith Therrell   | rebelrouser@dixiedistrict.org       |
| Jim Sams         | societyboard@dixiedistrict.org      |

# Marketing Your Holiday Shows



By Bob Davenport  
Marketing and  
Public Relations

Many of you are preparing for your holiday shows, and I hope your marketing efforts will help you sell out all of your shows! If you don't already have a Facebook page for your chorus, I hope you will investigate the opportunities Facebook provides for promoting all kinds of events. If you need help learning how you can do this with Facebook, feel

free to contact Craig Brown of the Germantown, TN chapter, who administers the District's Facebook page – [www.facebook.com/DixieDistrictBHS](http://www.facebook.com/DixieDistrictBHS). Craig's email is [rsvpsingers@gmail.com](mailto:rsvpsingers@gmail.com).

Additionally, there is a great new tool you can use through which you can process credit card transactions on the day of a show or even before the show. We were able to use it at the recent Fall convention in Tunica for Registration and the District Marketplace, and it worked tremendously! It is called a Square card reader, produced by a company called Square.com. The card reader is free (just order it through [www.squareup.com](http://www.squareup.com)). All your treasurer needs to do is download the Square app and Register onto his cell phone or iPad and link the app to the chapter's bank account. When he gets the free card reader, he can plug it into the microphone or headset port on his phone or iPad. Swipe a customer's credit card through the reader (hold the reader and phone steady when you do so), and the app will take care of the rest. It will take the person processing the transaction to the Register, where he/she will type in the amount of the transaction and touch the

appropriate button to complete the transaction.

The app will tell you whether the credit card information is processing or not. When the transaction is approved, the customer can sign his/her name on the phone or iPad with his/her finger. The customer will then be given the option of receiving a receipt by email or not at all. They can also be given a printed receipt if you purchase a receipt printer that can be attached to your mobile device as well, but the email receipt option  
(see *Marketing* on page 6)

## President

(Continued from page 3)

although just barely. Dues and Registration fees will remain unchanged for 2013.

Other good news is that we have several new locations seeking licenses, including Peachtree City, GA, and Clarksville, TN. Our new membership VP, Colin Bagwell, will be assisting them in completing the process. I am also pleased to announce that the HOD approved Jack Martin as our new Chapter Leadership & Training VP for the coming year. Jack has plans to restructure this program during 2013. Lastly, our Leadership Academy will convene in Nashville on November 17th under the able leadership of Jim Debusman (VP for Music & Performance) and Bob Davenport (VP for Public Relations). A good crowd is expected for this valuable training for new chapter officers.

See you in Gadsden

Larry Deters, President  
Dixie District

# Youth In Harmony



This is the time of year when your Chapter officers plan and prepare for 2013. It is a time when a Chapter can start to formulate a plan to invest in the future by implementing some part of our multi-faceted Youth In Harmony programs.

By Jim Moore  
Youth In Harmony

Very few of our Dixie District chapters have a person designated to be a youth activities chairman. But every one of them should, just because we all want to see singing and harmony continue for our future generations.

As members of the Barbershop Harmony Society, the largest all male singing organization in the world, it is our duty to support these programs if we want to preserve and encourage singing, and in particular, barbershop style harmony, in our educational systems and for future generations

So if you agree, and you have an inclination to spend some time seeing that youth in your area have the opportunity to know about and enjoy this wonderful hobby, then please let your chapter know, and let me know, and together we can look into the possibilities.

This article will outline several activities that are a part of the overall program and give you information about how to get started.

## Find a Teacher

Educators of all vocal music at all levels, from elementary to collegiate, can benefit from our clinics, workshops and school visits. Most, however, are very busy and are not looking for

more work and responsibility. So we must be willing to take the initiative to seek to understand how we can be helpful to them. Chapter involvement can be as simple as providing funds to help purchase music for a school, or as complex as sponsoring a clinic or festival. A great start is giving a free “Music Educator Kit” to a teacher. It’s on the Society website. Just remember that we are here to support the idea and importance of music education as part of a well rounded education – not to dictate to the educator how it is done. Having a teacher friendly to barbershop will go a long way toward support of other youth activities.

## Performance Opportunities

A good start for future involvement is to invite a school group to be a guest performer on your chapter show. And you might even offer a quartet or chorus to be a part of their concert. If this happens, care should be taken to have high level and accomplished groups performing. Often this will lead to opportunities to teach tags to young persons. Tags are a great introduction to ringing chords. Everyone should learn to teach a tag or two.

## Classroom Visits

Visits to choral classrooms are fun for everyone. A quartet can demonstrate the style and involve the student with tag singing. If you do not have a quality quartet, show a video of good young performers. There are numerous examples at [www.youtube.com /barbershop38](http://www.youtube.com/barbershop38).

## One-Day Festivals

Festivals are usually a full day – often on a Saturday – usually arranged with the help of a

(see *Youth* on page 7)

# Marketing

*(Continued from page 4)*

is extremely easy. They can type in their email address on the device, or you can do it for them. You could also type in your email or a general chapter email address so that the receipt goes there as well. The receipt will go immediately to both email inboxes with all of the transaction details, including date and location of purchase. You can also program the app to indicate what the customer is purchasing (show tickets, Singing Valentines orders, etc.), and that information will appear on the receipt as well.

The credit card processing fee to use this application is only 2.75% for each transaction. If the credit card information is typed into the device manually instead of swiped through the reader, the fee is 3.15% per transaction, which is still cheaper than the processing fees charged by most credit card companies.

Also, each member could sell show tickets before the show date with his own card reader by linking the app to his own bank account (which deposits the money into his account) and then writing a check to his chapter for the amount of the tickets. Another option (if the chapter treasurer is willing to give this information to each chapter member) is for each member to link his Square app to the chapter's bank account and have the money deposited directly into that account.

More and more show patrons who do not buy tickets until the day of the show would rather purchase the tickets with a credit card instead of cash or check. Think about the possibilities of selling more tickets and not having to keep up with credit card paperwork or not having a phone line for a credit card machine available

for your use, etc. As I stated earlier, you could also use this device for taking Singing Valentines orders before or even on Valentine's Day. A customer who asks a quartet on Valentine's Day to sing to his sweetheart could have that transaction processed on the spot and will have a record of that transaction.

Many thanks to Ron Regan of the Big Chicken Chorus for showing me this new technology at Dixie Lakeside Harmony Weekend in Huntsville last July. They use this device all the time for their shows and other events at which they charge admission. It is completely safe (retail establishments like Starbuck's, etc. are beginning to use this technology as well). I really think this could help all of you, especially in selling tickets on the day of a show. You can train anyone to use it (it is very user-friendly).

As I close this last article for 2012, please let me know anytime if your chapter marketing/pr VPs need help in marketing any of your events or if you have questions about anything. I hope all of you have great holiday shows and happy holidays with your families, and I look forward to working with you all in 2013!

## Youth *(continued from page 5)*

teacher or teachers of a school district, where two or three songs are taught by a clinician and a teaching quartet, and performed at the end of the day. Sometimes this will be mixed groups, where cooperation with Sweet Adelines is helpful. Harmony Foundation financial assistance is available for festivals. An excellent example of a festival, on video, is available on youtube.com – just search for MAD Festival Video.

### **College Quartet Contest**

If a school has a quality quartet, they may be interested in competing in this annual quartet competition. Music suggestions and offers of coaching may be of interest to them. The District and Harmony Foundation help the winners financially with their expenses. Barbershop.org has a large section concerning the college quartet contest.

### **Harmony Explosion Camp**

The three-day summer camp is a District sponsored activity that depends on participation by all of its chapters. Dixie's next camp will be held in Huntsville, Alabama on July 18 – 21, 2013. Your Chapter can support this camp by finding young singers who are interested and by sponsoring them if possible. Dixie has had a successful camp for the past nine years, but few of the campers have come from states other than Georgia and Alabama. We can make the camp more successful by getting wider participation.

### **Music Educator Scholarships**

An excellent way to get a teacher involved with barbershop is to send that teacher to Harmony University, the week long school for barbershoppers that is held in St. Joseph's Missouri in July. The Dixie District will offer a full scholarship for one teacher each year. If you know of a candidate that you would like to nominate for this scholarship,



contact Jim Moore before March 31, 2013.

### **Youth Barbershop Chorus**

The International Youth Barbershop Chorus Festival and competition will be held at the 2013 BHS mid-winter convention in Orlando, Florida from January 10th through 12<sup>th</sup>. The chorus contest will be held on Friday and is expected to draw close to 1000 participants. Dixie has plans to send two choruses to Orlando. The District and Harmony Foundation help support financially the choruses that are taking part in this festival.

Many thanks go to quartets **Harmony Express** and **The Angle** for doing classroom visits recently, and to **Pete Pifer** for becoming the VP of YIH for the **Greater Atlanta Chapter**, and **Craig Brown** and **RSVP Chorus** for planning a festival.

# 2012 Fall Quartet Competitors



4 Degrees North



7th and Broadway



Backdraft



Crimsonaires



Decades



DinoChords



# 2012 Fall Quartet Competitors



Dischordia



Everything Jake



FourTuitous



Free and Easy



Front Page



Harmony Express

# 2012 Fall Quartet Competitors



Honchos



Instant Message



Macon Harmony



Power of 4



The Real McCoy  
2012 Dixie District Quartet Champions



Sagacity

# 2012 Fall Quartet Competitors



Singamajigs



The Stacked Deck  
Senior Quartet Champions  
Mid-Winter Senior Quartet Representatives



The Angle  
2012 Dixie District Novice Quartet Champion



Up Front



Vox



Whoa Nellie

# 2012 Fall Chorus Competitors

***Atlanta Vocal Project***  
Atlanta Metro, GA  
Clay Hine, Director  
*International Qualifier*



***The Big Chicken Chorus***  
Marietta, GA  
Lars Grevstad, Director



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



# 2012 Fall Chorus Competitors

***Crimson Pride Chorus***  
Tuscaloosa, AL  
Ron Montgomery, Director



***Magnolia Chorus***  
Jackson, MS  
Michael Lenoir, Director



***Music City Chorus***  
Nashville, TN  
Dusty Schleier, Director



# 2012 Fall Chorus Competitors

## *Men of Harmony*

Memphis, TN  
DC Nash, Director



## *Rocket City Chorus*

Huntsville, AL  
Cathy Rosol, Director



## *RSVP*

Germantown, TN  
Craig Brown and Robert  
Strong, Directors  
*International Wildcard  
Qualifier*



# 2012 Fall Chorus Competitors

***Smokyland Sound***  
Greater Knoxville, TN  
Lee Franks, Director



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



***Southern Splendor Chorus***  
Athens, AL  
Tommy Mitchell, Director



# 2012 Fall Chorus Competitors

## *Stone Mountain Chorus*

Greater Atlanta, GA  
Dylan Oxford, Director



## Chorus Contest Results



Toronto 2013

Dixie District Chorus

Representative

**Atlanta**

**Vocal**

**Project**

Atlanta Metro, GA



Wildcard Chorus

Representative

**RSVP**

Germantown, TN



# Chorus Tier Winners



First Place Small Chorus  
RSVP  
Germantown, TN  
Robert Strong and Craig Brown,  
Directors



First Place Intermediate Chorus  
Atlanta Vocal Project  
Atlanta Metro, GA  
Clay Hine, Director



First Place Large Chorus  
Stone Mountain Chorus  
Greater Atlanta, GA  
(A very speedy) Dylan Oxford, Director



Most Improved Chorus  
Men of Harmony  
Memphis, TN  
DC Nash, Director

## The Real McCoy

2012 Dixie District Quartet Champions  
From left: Danny Rushing, Howard McAdory,  
Jimmy Barr, James Estes



# Dixie District Hall of Fame Inductees

## Four Voices and George Joslyn



Four Voices baritone Brandon Guyton receives congratulations from Drayton Justus as brother, and quartet lead, Chad looks on.



### Four Voices

From Left - Lester Rector, Chad Guyton, Jason van Hook, and Brandon Guyton

*From the induction remarks by Drayton Justus.*

Only three times in the history of our Society has a quartet brought the coveted gold medals back to Dear Ole Dixie. In 1956 it was the Confederates. In 1999 it was FRED. The most recent occurrence was the culmination of a story which began several years earlier in Cleveland, TN, a little city of about 40,000 people, not far from Chattanooga, and the home of Lee University. Four young college students who were singing in the Voices of Lee, the University's renown choral group, became interested in barbershop harmony, and the "rest of the story" is an exciting history of rapid, phenomenal growth and accomplishment. They called themselves simply "Four Voices," and in 1996 at the Salt Lake City convention, they were Collegiate Quartet Champions.

The Guyton brothers Chad and Brandon were (and are) inspirational leaders and joint founders of our Cleveland, TN, chapter; both are certified Singing judges and are well-recognized coaches in the Society. Four Voices went on to win the Dixie District Quartet Championship in 1999. In 2002, in Portland, Oregon, Four Voices became the first Collegiate Champion to win the International Quartet Championship.

# George Joslyn

*From the induction remarks by Tim Brooks.*



**Tim Brooks presents George Joslyn with his Hall of Fame plaque.**

George grew up listening to recordings of all the great home town quartets of the day; Mid-State 4, 4 Renegades, etc. His dad was a barbershopper in the old Skokie Valley chapter in Chicago. Back then, the Illinois District was THE district in the society and home to countless quartet and chorus champs, Society leaders, judges and many great chapters—just like the Dixie District today!

George got his first taste performing barbershop in high school in 1965. His choral director in Skokie, IL was a barbershopper, and he would gather 15 guys at 7:15 AM every morning to practice. As George put it; “lots of lead and bass and almost no baritone.”

He moved to Atlanta in 1983 and joined the Atlanta Peachtree Chorus. He became an area counselor in the late 80’s and got his first taste of show production when during an official visit, the Fayetteville Chapter asked him to help out backstage at their upcoming show. Being the willing helper, he said “SURE”. It was a thankless job, but he was OK with that.

The Atlanta Chapter was struggling in the late 80’s, so George stepped up and become their president. He and his Peachtree Street quartet-mates hung in there and did the best they could to keep it together until the bitter end when the chapter folded in 1992. They

moved to Stone Mountain shortly thereafter where George took on the “coveted role” of Chorus Manager. It was another thankless job, but he was OK with that.

His afore-mentioned quartet Peachtree Street sang together for over ten years. They did a lot of local gigs, had a few libations, rang some chords — Stingers and Ringers! They never won any contests, but he was OK with that.

For the past 10 years or so, George has been the Stage Manager for our DIX contests. He owns the microphone that we use at center stage. It’s also used on the Int’l stage and has become quite a recognizable icon for George. Funny, he’s so behind-the-scenes that the picture people have of him is of his Schoeps microphone! Nonetheless, George prides himself on keeping out of sight working backstage. The Stage Manger is another thankless job, but he’s OK with that.

Now George is a candidate in the Contest and Judging program. He’s working to become a Contest Administrator and should certify this next summer. He’ll just do his job and stay behind the scenes. And, he’s OK with that.

On the personal side, he and his lovely wife Marianna rescue dogs and give them a second chance at life. He once drove clear across the state to rescue a dog that was just a few hours from being euthanized. I’m happy to report that dog is a permanent resident of the Joslyn household.

# Standing Ovation Program



Sherwood Platt  
Standing Ovation  
Program Chairman

SOP review of your performance. It's educational, interesting, and most of the time it's painless.

Here's how it works.

The Dixie District Standing Ovation Program provides an opportunity for your chapter's chorus and quartets to be evaluated in their public performance presentations. This is a voluntary, confidential program. Results are not reported to the Society, any of its committees, or any other chapter. The evaluation is strictly between the chorus or quartet being evaluated and the trained reviewer.

Reviewers are trained to observe the overall performance of a chorus or quartet, identify performance strengths and weaknesses, make recommendations to improve the presentation, and suggest appropriate resource material that might be useful.

After receiving a request from a chapter chorus or quartet, a Standing Ovation Program reviewer is assigned and the visit is scheduled at a mutually convenient time. The cost to the chapter consists of two complimentary tickets to the performance and any hospitality they wish to provide; reviewer travel expenses are reimbursed by the district. Contact me if you are interested in having an SOP

Well, it's happened again. Summer vacation is gone and more of the guys are showing up at rehearsal getting ready for District convention and competition. Perhaps, holiday music is being dusted off and Jingle Bells is being sung in preparation for Christmas performances. This might

be a good time to request an

review of your performance.

Would you like information on becoming an SOP reviewer? Send me an e-mail that includes:

Your Name

Your Chapter

Home Address

Home Phone Number

Cell Phone Number

A brief description of your abilities and experience in this area.

While budget limitations are of concern, we will do everything possible to provide Standing Ovation Program services to your chapter's chorus and quartets, even if you've already had a review and would like a follow-up evaluation to check on your progress.

Sherwood Platt, Dixie District SOP Chairman

901-747-2358

901-219-8793 (cell)

[asp11@juno.com](mailto:asp11@juno.com)

# BHS Society Board Meeting Report



Jim Sams  
Society Board  
Liaison

This will be my last Society Liaison report as I move off of the Society Board after a four year term. It has been a very busy time for the SBOD and culminated with the hiring of our new CEO, Marty Monson. I have had some time over the last couple of months to visit with Marty and to see his initial work as our Society director and I am totally impressed and confident that our Society is in store for some wonderful years ahead. I am leaving a very talented, dedicated, and determined Board and am confident that their goals and vision for barbershopping will be achieved.

We had a full day of meetings on Friday the 9<sup>th</sup> and accomplished all that we set out to do. Some of the highlights of the meeting are listed below.

Gary Plaag, who is heading up the Global Strategy Development Task Force, reported that our Affiliates are very pleased that the BHS is working even harder to open more communication lines and to provide additional resources and information to help grow their organizations worldwide. The SNOBS are still very interested in potentially becoming our 18th Society District! The communication and how differently it tends to translate between the BHS and our Affiliates continues to be a problem. Gary Plaag and others on his committee are working hard to overcome these differences in understanding.

Under Joe Cerutti's leadership, the Mixed Harmony Task Force is moving forward toward forming a new Society affiliate of Mixed Quartets and ensembles. We found out that BING, our German brothers, are very involved with mixed groups in their organization as well and are looking forward to seeing this affiliate added. Both Sweet Adelines and Harmony Inc will be approached for some collaboration on this task force. More to come!

Don Fuson and his committee are making great strides in seeing that an official Information Technology Policy for the Society is put into place. To date, a number of IT areas have been selected, and work is being done to define just what guidelines will be used for each defined area of IT. Budgeted dollars are in place for 2013 to add an IT manager on the Society staff. The purpose of this position will be to help train and manage and work "hands-on" with a Society IT "force," to help increase our utilization of Aptify, and to help develop an IT program which will open up a whole new world of information highways for our entire Society. It helps that Mary Monson has a heavy background in IT management and consulting. He will be involved in setting goals and priorities for our IT future. Exciting days are ahead in IT for the BHS!

Dave Calland has taken over the Foundation for a Lifetime of Learning Task Force to open up barbershop education and school music tracks for use in the households of home-schooled students. It

*(see **Youth** on page 7)*

has been determined that there are over 2.5 million students of which approximately 1.2 million are males. Dave's Task Force is working hand-in-hand with Sweet Adelines and Harmony Inc to develop some guidelines and produce some training materials and music for this program. What a marvelous way to help reach many more of our nation's youth and potentially provide an additional resource for future BHS members! Stay tuned!

Our Governance and Bylaws Committee was represented by Chris Buechler in our SBOD meeting. He presented a number of policy changes dealing with:

- 1) Eligibility of quartets competing at International Seniors Quartet Contest dealing with Affiliates being Society members.
- 2) Amendments dealing with the CBQC rules concerning entry fees for HS/College quartets.
- 3) Proposed amendments to the Society Bylaws dealing with Society Nominating Committee reports.
- 4) Board Policy Manual changes, revisions, and discussions to resolve some conflicts between the Board Policy Manual and the Society Bylaws.

A Society Board Finance Committee will be formed in 2013 to help oversee Society/HFI finances in an effort to better disseminate financial information to the SBOD to help in understanding budgets, budget flow, and help with more educated financial decisions by the entire Board. This Committee will replace the Finance Task Force that completed its work earlier this year.

The 2013 Society Budget was discussed, voted on, and passed by the SBOD. The 2013 International Convention in Toronto, Canada (our 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary) will be a financial challenge to the 2013 budget. The Society Treasurer, Dwayne

Cooper, and Society CFO, Heather Verble, were challenged to begin looking at more ways we might be able to either increase those revenues and/or reduce expenses to help with the net income from this huge event. The Society is in very good financial standing and is moving forward with promises of even more financial help with programming from Clarke Caldwell and Harmony Foundation International in coming years.

Lynn Weaver, the wife and First Lady of Doug Weaver, President of the Pioneer District, was vetted and approved by the SBOD to be the newest member of the Harmony Foundation Board of Trustees replacing Roger Lewis who is stepping down after his term on the HFI Board.

CEO Marty Monson provided a very detailed 8-page report on his three month involvement in nearly every facet of Society programming, administration, goals, contacts, and vision for the BHS. His energy, excitement, and confident leadership role was very refreshing and readily received by the Board. Incoming Society President, Shannon Elswick, says that Marty will be his best friend during his term as President. The SBOD is looking forward to working closely with Marty to support him and his staff in their future endeavors for the betterment of the BHS. We all feel that Marty is the man we have been looking forward to and are all confident that he will be most helpful in moving the BHS ahead to some very positive years of growth and inclusion in world harmony collaboration. I foresee much more horizontal approaches in all Society/District committee, Board, Task Force, and leadership roles to help energize our chapters and to help provide the manpower and resources to enable all of our chapters to succeed and grow. Yes, exciting times are still ahead for our Society!

To all of my friends in the Sunshine and Dixie Districts, I wish you the very best in your endeavors to undergird and grow your chapters. Our future resides in the hearts and minds of our chapter members, and I think we are all on the same page in this. I will continue my work in Dixie and in my chapter. After my four years on the SBOD, I am so thankful for my experiences and insight into the inner workings of our Society. I am more confident than ever that these men and Society leaders have our best interest at heart and will continue to work very hard for all of us in the trenches to see that we are successful in providing strong leadership and building stronger ties between us and our chapters. I hope that you make your new Society Liaison, Joe Cerutti, another MAD great, feel every bit as welcome as you have made me feel these last two years. The potential in Dixie and Sunshine is very high and you both have the men in place to meet the challenges. If I can be of further assistance to any of you down the road, please don't hesitate to contact me.

All my very best to each of you!

Jim Sams, Society Liaison for Dixie/Sunshine Districts 2012

# The Rebel Rouser

Keith Therrell, Editor  
6846 Holly Hill Drive  
Germantown, TN 38138



## Plan Ahead...

---

- |               |   |
|---------------|---|
| 12/08         | Marietta, GA Chapter Show<br>Nashville, TN Chapter Show<br>Northeast Tennessee Chapter Show |
| 12/13         | Northeast Tennessee Chapter Show  |
| 12/15         | Atlanta Metro Chapter Show  |
| 01/08 - 01/13 | Mid-Winter Convention,<br>Orlando, FL   |
| 03/08 - 03/09 | Dixie District Spring Contest and Convention<br>Gadsden, AL                                 |