

The Dixie District's **REBEL ROUSER**

Alabama · Georgia · Mississippi · Tennessee · Eastern Arkansas
Winter 2013



**Fall Winners:
RedZone and Music City Chorus!**

The Rebel Rouser

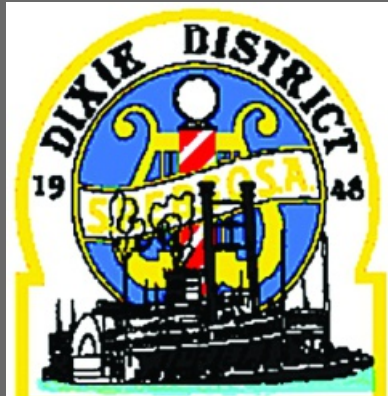
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Editor

Keith Therrell

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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!

2013 Dixie District Executive Team/Board of Directors



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Executive VP
Dwain Chambers



Secretary
Russell Bell



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Jim Sams



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Youth In
Harmony
Jim Moore



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Rebel Rouser
Editor
Keith Therrell



Society Board
Member
Joe Cerutti

Greetings from the President



Larry Deters
District
President

Greetings,

As we enter the holiday season I wish you a very joyous end of year. For me it is nearing the end of my two year term as your District President.

Although we have had a number of challenges, particularly financial, it has been a successful and rewarding period. It

appears that we will finish 2013 in the black, and although we have slightly declined in membership our attendance at our fall convention was the largest since the split with the Carolinas. We have added two new chapters during my term and have two more prospective chapters in the works. We have acquired a new trailer for the district risers and equipment and, with the help of a donor, have acquired new and better sound equipment for our contests.

One major accomplishment headed by Jim Sams, our VP for Contest & Judging, was to initiate a chorus festival at the fall convention. This allowed over 70 of our non-competing chorus members to receive education and coaching from some of the finest teachers in the Society. They also got to enjoy the convention itself and meet and sing with many of you.

There are a number of changes in the works designed to make our hobby more accessible to you and your chapters. Since the Society is moving Harmony University to Nashville, we have decided not to compete with this wonderful opportunity, but instead we will shortly be announcing two mini-schools to be

held in different locations within the district for you to attend. This will be cheaper and require less travel to gain the knowledge and fun of a barbershop school. This will be in lieu of Dixie Lakeside Harmony Weekend and will not require an overnight stay, unless you choose to do so. In the area of Chapter Leadership training, we will be offering the training via webcasts so your chapter can avoid the costs of sending your leadership team to a remote site. It is our hope that we can achieve a much higher percentage of attendance than in the past. In addition, these sessions will be recorded so if you lose

(see President on page 4)

Dixie District Addresses

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President

(Continued from page 3)

a chapter officer during the year he can still receive the needed training to do the job. A special webcast is being prepared for chapter treasurers and secretaries. It is to be available by the end of 2013.

As usual, Jim Moore is working hard to secure a location for our annual Harmony Explosion Camp, and we have some hope that the Sweet Adeline girls will join our nearly 100 boys next summer. Please be working with your local music educators to encourage them to both attend the camp as well as send their kids.

Finally, I want to thank you for your support and encouragement during my term. Dwain Chambers will become our new President on January 1st. He has already begun developing our future plans to continue to grow and prosper in our wonderful hobby.

Hall of Fame Inductees



Hall of Fame inductee Tim Brooks and family.

Congratulations to **Gerald Adams** and **Tim Brooks**, the newest Dixie District Hall of Fame inductees. They were added to this list of District who's who during the Fall Convention in Chattanooga.

Slight Dues Change Upcoming News from the DIX Fall House of Delegates Meeting

Thom Hine, DIX Board member At-large & Chairman of the DIX Budget and Finance Committee

Our district dues are structured to give senior categories a discount. The problem with that approach is that we are an aging Society and district. Thirty-one DIX members pay no dues at all (myself included), while 206 pay half dues (\$15 per year). That's 29% of our district's total dues paying membership. If we take no action to remedy this situation, what will that percentage be next year? 35%? Be advised the DIX Board discussed this issue during our 2013 Summer Board meeting, a motion was made, seconded and approved by the Board to set all senior categories DIX dues at \$20 per year.

Any changes to an existing DIX dues structure must be approved by the House of Delegates. That issue was placed on the agenda and sent in advance to all DIX Chapters. The adjustment in DIX senior dues was approved by the House of Delegates to be effective January 1, 2014.

Very Important: Verify Your Email Address on Society Website!

** All Dixie members please read and comply. **

The Dixie District is in the process of changing our group emails from Yahoo Groups to a new email management system that will reside on our web site. In order to load the new system properly, we need each member to do the following by early January:

* Make sure that your member record has the email address that you want us to use in block 1 of the email section.

* If you are a chapter officer, please make sure that your chapter secretary has you listed in ebiz as currently in that job for 2014. This will permit us to create individual groups for chapter presidents, secretaries, treasurers, etc.

* We plan to populate the new system with a download of all Dixie members as soon as HQ has restored the Excel download process. We will be testing the new system when it is installed and operational and will let you know when we will convert to it.

Several districts have made similar changes, and we do not expect this change to incur any costs to Dixie.

Thanks in advance for your support and cooperation!

2014 District President and Director of Communications
Dwain chambers

Thanks For A Great Five Years!!



Bob Davenport
Marketing/PR

This is my last article as District VP of Marketing/PR. I can't tell you how much of a pleasure it has been to serve the best "cotton pickin'" District in the Society in this capacity! I believe that together we have accomplished a great deal in the promotion of our District events, etc. There's a lot more that can be done with all the communication/marketing tools we all have at our disposal, and I know that my successor will utilize those tools effectively to do an even better job marketing/promoting our District and helping our chapters thrive and grow.

My successor will be Stan Peppenhorst from the Memphis, TN Chapter. Stan has only been a barbershopper for a few years, but he has a wide range of professional experiences which will serve him well in this position. He is a former high school science/chemistry teacher but also has broad experience in marketing and promoting science books for school children, leading workshops at educational conferences, coordinating exhibits at conventions, acting as a spokesperson for organizations, serving on the executive council of AARP Tennessee, etc. He has been serving as the M & PR VP for the Memphis Men of Harmony chorus this year and has been instrumental in increasing their exposure in the community for shows, Singing Valentines, etc. He is well-versed in the use of social media tools such as Facebook, Twitter, etc. and will help all of our chapters make greater use of these great tools. I have every confidence that he will carry on what has been accomplished in the last five years and will help make the District even stronger financially, musically, and administratively. He will introduce himself in the next issue, but you can communicate with Stan at speppenhorst@aol.com.

I have thoroughly enjoyed working with all of you in so many ways. We have done a much better job in promoting our District conventions and DLHW to the general public, in making our District Marketplace more efficient and profitable and, hopefully, in communicating with each other and building stronger relationships between our chapters. I wish I could have visited every chapter and done more to help my chapter M & PR colleagues, but I feel strongly that we have "opened doors" of communication within the District (especially with the Dixie Town Crier publication) that will help all of us share our ideas, success stories, questions, concerns, etc. We're all in this together, and I know that you all will help Stan build even stronger communication channels and relationships between our chapters.

My last official duty will be teaching the online Marketing/PR class for this year's Leadership Academy, under the direction of District VP for CSLT Paul Wietlisbach. The date for that class will be announced soon. I look forward to teaching that class and communicating with all of you one more time as your outgoing District VP. I look forward to seeing all of you at the spring convention in Nashville in March. Thank you again from the bottom of my heart for your encouragement, support, and friendship. I will always stand ready to help my District brothers in any way I can. In the meantime, have a terrific holiday season and get ready for a fantastic 2014!

Youth In Harmony



Jim Moore
Youth In
Harmony

Coming up soon are two Society events that you may want to know more about – The International Youth Barbershop Chorus Festival and the Harmony Foundation Collegiate Barbershop Quartet Contest.

There are two youth choruses from within the District that will be competing at the annual

mid-winter convention in Long Beach California on January 31, 2014. There is Georgia Spirit, a group of around 40 young men from various Georgia schools, sponsored by the Atlanta Chapters, with help from Pete Pifer and Mardel Kolls, and directed by Clay Hine and Tim Brooks. The other chorus is the Foothills Chorus from Powell High School in Knoxville Tennessee. With around 30 members, they are directed by Lee Franks. Both choruses are in the lowest age plateau, having an average age of less than 19 years. (There are three plateaus, less than 19 years, less than 22 years, and less than 25 years). There will be 20 choruses competing, and there will be a webcast that you will want to watch. Webcast information will be available on the Society web page.

In 2015, this event will be held in New Orleans, which is a bit closer to Dixie than California. Be thinking about your chapter getting together a youth chorus, and let's be well represented there.

The College Quartet Contest preliminaries take place at our Spring Convention. I expect that there will be several entries this time. Here are some of the rules: The contest is open to young men who are 15-25 years of

age. Society quartets who meet the age requirements are also eligible to compete. Two songs in the barbershop style must be sung in each round of the competition. The highest scoring quartet in the District contest becomes the District representative to the contest finals in Las Vegas in July. Or a quartet can also qualify by attaining a score of 73%. A complete set of rules and regulations is available on the Society website.

The 2014 Harmony Explosion Camp is still in the planning stages. Preliminary plans indicate that it will be a very exciting camp, possibly with more participants than ever before. When details are set, announcements will be made, so keep an eye out for the news.

Every music educator that has ever shown an interest in barbershop music, or that you think would like to know more about it, should be encouraged to request a FREE Music Educator Kit from the Society. If you have them go to the website, www.barbershop.org, and click on "Go to full site", then find the "Education" pull down tab, and click on "Educator Resources", they can enter their contact information and receive a free kit that contains music and learning tracks for 12 songs, a Guide, and a CD that is a great resource.

And if you are interested in working for your chapter with young persons, I would encourage you to go to the same website and click on "Documents". Then download the Youth Resource Manual, which contains extensive information about all of the Youth In Harmony programs.



Standing Ovation Program



Sherwood Platt
Standing
Ovation
Program

Would your Chorus or Quartet benefit from a Standing Ovation Review?

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.

Here's an abbreviated copy of one Standing Ovation Program form, the Reviewer's worksheet, so you can see some of the aspects that are considered.

STANDING OVATION PROGRAM REVIEW WORKSHEET

A. Facilities:

Parking _____	Handicap Access _____
Lobby / Foyer _____	Auditorium _____
Sound _____	Lighting _____
Temperature _____	Comfort _____
Sight Lines _____	Washrooms _____

B. Song selection:

Traditional Barbershop _____	Other BB-shop Style _____
Novelty _____	Comedy _____
Inspirational / Religious _____	Contemporary _____

C. Singing Quality: (Rated Above / Below Avg.)

Singing _____	Musicality _____
Presentation _____	Words _____
Intonation _____	Energy _____
Discipline _____	

D. Song Sequence: (Rated Above / Below Avg.)

Opener _____	Flow _____
Interest _____	Closer _____

Comments or questions? Contact:

Sherwood Platt, Dixie District SOP Chairman

901-747-2358

901-219-8793 (cell)

asp11@juno.com

2013 Fall Quartet Competitors



Copeland Road



56-Year Spread



The Slide Rules



DinoChords
Senior Quartet Champions



Retro-tones



Heartsong

2013 Fall Quartet Competitors



Vox



City Cafe House Band



Crimsonaires



129 & Counting



Four-tuitous



Harmony Express

2013 Fall Quartet Competitors



Perimeter Sound



Up Front



RedZone
District Champions



Stacked Deck
Senior International Qualifiers



Instant Message



The InsurGents

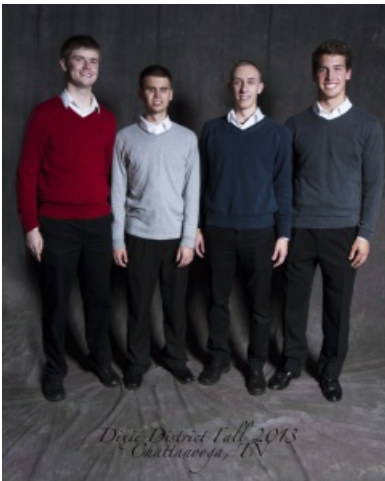
2013 Fall Quartet Competitors



Steel City Four
Novice Quartet Champions



Dark Horse



Phase IV



Solid Rocket Boosters



Boardwalk



Whoa Nellie!

Congratulations!



Steel City Four
Novice Quartet Champion



Dino-Chords
Senior Quartet Champions



The Stacked Deck
Senior International Qualifier



Perimeter Sound
5th Place Quartet



InsurGents
4th Place Quartet



Instant Message
3rd Place Quartet



Boardwalk
2nd Place Quartet



RedZone
2013 Dixie Quartet Champions



Music City Chorus
Nashville, TN
International Chorus Qualifier

2013 Fall Chorus Competitors



**Chattanooga, TN
Choo Choo Chorus**



**Huntsville, AL
Rocket City Chorus**



**Memphis, TN
Memphis Men of Harmony**

2013 Fall Chorus Competitors

**Marietta, GA
Big Chicken Chorus**



**Athens, AL
Southern Splendor Chorus**



**Greater Knoxville, TN
Smokyland Sound**

**Dixie District Most
Improved Chorus**



2013 Fall Chorus Competitors



**Tuscaloosa, AL
Crimson Pride Chorus**

**Dixie District Plateau AA
Champion**



**Germantown, TN
RSVP**



**Greater Atlanta, GA
Stone Mountain Chorus**

*Quartet and Chorus Photos
Courtesy of
Jordan Peterson*

2013 Fall Chorus Competitors

**Central Alabama
Voices of the South**



**Nashville, TN
Music City Chorus**

**Dixie District Plateau AAA
Champion**

**International Chorus
Contest Qualifier**



**Atlanta Metro, GA
Atlanta Vocal Project**

**Dixie District Plateau A
Champion**



Convention Photo Album





Dixie District Chorus Plateaus- What Has Changed??



Jim Sams
VP Contests
and Judging

Since the 2013 Fall Convention, several chorus members began asking questions about the “new” plateau awards and how they were determined. I’m sure many others had questions as well and really didn’t know who or what to ask. When this program was initially designed, a description of it was sent out to all the folks to whom I send all of my mass mailings every convention season. Based on your questions, however, perhaps many of you didn’t get the word. So, whether this is a refresher for you or you are reading it for the first time, here is what happened and why.

For several years now I have been questioning whether using the number of chorus competitors on stage is a fair way to determine plateau awards. I surveyed all of the 17 districts and found that a number of them were moving away from competitors on stage and going to the scoring system for determining chorus plateaus. If you think about it, one of the small choruses, Germantown with 21 on stage, is singing in the 900’s, whereas other small choruses are singing in the 700’s. Is that fair? Germantown, under the old system, would be winning Small Chorus plaques every fall. In the Large Chorus Plateau, Marietta, with 41 on stage, would be competing for the Large Chorus Plateau plaque against AVP and Nashville. Would that be fair? Now you see why I felt that plateau awards based on number of singers on stage would not be a fair comparison. In addition, some choruses could leave some of their chorus members at home and compete in a smaller plateau level with a greater chance of winning the plaque, but I never saw that this was a problem.

By utilizing the scoring level tool to predetermine Plateau A (600-799), Plateau AA (800-899), and Plateau AAA (900+), each chorus was placed in a scoring range with other choruses in the same range totally independent of the numbers on stage. This scoring average is determined by adding the LAST TWO contest scores and dividing by TWO. This will be done just prior to every Fall Contest where Plateau Awards are earned. Every chorus has the potential to move into the next plateau, from A to AA, or AA to AAA. Of course, the reverse could happen just as well! Would you agree that this is a much fairer way to earn Plateau awards?

The plateau levels will be recalculated again after the Spring 2014 contest for Fall 2014. Any new choruses who compete for Rank or Score for Evaluation Only will be entered into this calculation and placed into their appropriate plateau for the following Fall contest. I hope this helps you to understand the process better. As always, I am available for questions or input 24/7. Please feel free to call or write. Keep ringing those chords!

David Wright Brings His History of Barbershop to Atlanta

Paul Schultz, Atlanta Vocal Project

Have you ever wondered how barbershop harmony got started? What did the first barbershop quartets sound like? We have a very special guest coming to Atlanta who can answer those questions and more. David Wright, one of the top arrangers in the Barbershop Harmony



Society, is also a barbershop Historian. He will be coming to Atlanta on Saturday, February 22, 2014, to present his popular Harmony College class...History of Barbershop.

David has done extensive research on the origins of the barbershop harmony style. His History of Barbershop class takes you back to where barbershop harmony began. You will hear examples of what the first barbershop quartets sounded like. David will also take you through the Barbershop Harmony Society's 75-year history during his amazing historical presentation. You will listen to recordings of international quartet champions and other vocal groups that have helped shape the barbershop harmony style of music.

We invite all of our barbershop friends in the Dixie District to come join us for David's unique presentation as we learn more about our wonderful hobby together.

The class will be held at St. John United Methodist Church, 550 Mt. Paran Road NW, Atlanta, GA 30327. Updates on this special event will be announced in future issues of the Dixie Town Crier. Tickets will be available for sale in the near future.

For more information about how you can attend David Wright's History of Barbershop class, please contact Paul Schultz at historyofbarbershop@gmail.com.

Hope to see you there!!!

DIX/JAD Veteran Gary McPherson Passes



The Memphis Men of Harmony's Gary McPherson passed away on November 29, 2013.

Gary was the baritone section leader, music librarian, and MMOH assistant director.

Before moving to the Memphis area in 2004, Gary was an active member of the Singing Buckeyes in Columbus, Ohio, where he served as official time-keeper for the Buckeye Invitational quartet and chorus contest.

Gary's barbershopping first love was quartetting. In Columbus he was a member of the comedy quartet Quite By Accident. Not long after moving to Memphis he became part of Blue Plate Special, appearing on the Dixie contest stage and singing all around Memphis and the Mid-South. At the time of his death he was the baritone in the much-loved comedy quartet Quicksilver.

In addition to barbershopping, Gary was an accomplished French horn player and retired Navy musician. He was active in the Bartlett Community Concert Band and played in the brass quintet Sunday Traffic.

Gary was a tireless promoter of barbershop and never missed an opportunity to share his love of music with everyone he met.

Memphis Men of Harmony director DC Nash said, "Gary was a great man and will

be missed. His passion and joy for music will live on through the close friendships he cultivated within the Society. I am blessed to have known him."

Gary will be interred at Arlington National Cemetery with full military honors.

Carolinas District Loses Bob Wayson



Robert (Bob) Wayson of 2001 Audrey Lane, Columbia, SC 29223 died from a stroke Tuesday, Nov. 19, 2013 at about 5:30 in the evening. He was 78 years old. Bob was a beloved barbershopper

who sang tenor and lead, and loved the music, particularly the parodies and comical songs! He was the Main Street Harmonizers' Secretary, Bulletin Editor, Master of Ceremonies, and last year's Barbershopper of the Year, as well as the Carolinas District bulletin editor.

Keith Phemister
President, Main Street Harmonizers
Lexington County Chapter, Carolinas
District
Barbershop Harmony Society

The Rebel Rouser

Keith Therrell, Editor
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Plan Ahead...

1/17/2014	Dixie BOD Meeting
3/14 - 3/16/2014	Dixie Spring Convention and Contests Nashville, TN
4/26/2014	Greater Atlanta Chapter Show