



# Dixie Town Crier

Dixie's monthly chapter newsletter  
dedicated to the original town crier,  
Chuck Witherspoon



March 1, 2018      Volume 10, Issue 3

March 16, 17, 18

## Dixie District Spring Convention Returns to Huntsville, Alabama

The 2018 Dixie District Spring Convention will be held on March 16-18 in Huntsville, Alabama. The beautiful Von Braun Center will once again be the contest venue.

Eight quartets will sing on Friday night. The order of appearance:

- 1) Air-a-Parent (mixed quartet)
- 2) Dad Bod
- 3) Up Front
- 4) Frequency
- 5) High Gravity
- 6) Cahoots
- 7) Four Bass Hit
- 8) Category 4

Eleven choruses will sing on Saturday morning. The order of appearance:

- 1) Rocket City Chorus (Huntsville)
- 2) Sound of Tennessee (Cleveland)
- 3) Voices of the South (Central Alabama)
- 4) The Appalachian Express (North East TN)
- 5) Stone Mountain Chorus (Greater Atlanta)
- 6) Southern Splendor Chorus (Athens)
- 7) Choo Choo Chorus (Chattanooga)
- 8) Crimson Pride Chorus (Tuscaloosa)
- 9) RSVP (Germantown)
- 10) The Big Chicken Chorus (Marietta)
- 11) Music City Chorus (Nashville)



The traditional Joe Barbershopper Chorus will open the Saturday morning contest. The quartet finals and show of champions will be held on Saturday night.

## Join the JBC at the VBC

The Joe Barbershopper Chorus will once again be our mic tester chorus. The JBC will meet Friday afternoon and then again Saturday morning before contest and is open to competitors and attendees alike. If competitors would like a chance to get a preview of the stage before competing with their own choruses they are both welcomed and encouraged to do so. More information—including the rehearsal locations and the surprise director—will be revealed soon via the district Facebook page and email.

## Program Ad Space Still Available

The deadline for program ads is Friday, March 8<sup>th</sup>. Ads are open to anyone (chapters, quartets, individuals, businesses, etc) and the sizes and prices are the same as in the past:

¼ page	2 1/8" x 3 1/4"	\$50
½ page	4 3/4" x 3 1/4"	\$75
Full page	10" x 3 1/4"	\$100

Ads and payments should be submitted to district secretary Russell Bell at: [secretary@dixiedistrict.org](mailto:secretary@dixiedistrict.org).

## CONGRATULATIONS “WILDFIRE”

Next Generation Varsity Quartet Qualifiers for Orlando International!



*Submitted by Scott Phillips*

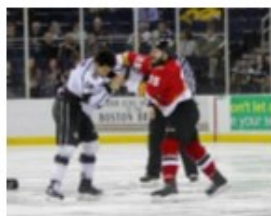


## Stone Mountain Chorus sing Canada and USA Anthems



(Photo: Melinda Brunson)

On Sunday, February 18<sup>th</sup> the Stone Mountain Chorus sang "O' Canada" and "The Star-Spangled Banner" prior to the Atlanta Gladiators hockey game at Infinite Energy Arena in Duluth, GA. A group of 100 from members, families, and friends attended an eventful game. Sadly, the Atlanta Gladiators did not win, but there was a lot of "action" on the ice (and even some hockey was played). The game was riddled with penalties and many punches thrown, but it was a good match up for the hockey fans in the crowd.



(Photos: Amanda Bingham)

The Chorus has performed several times for the Atlanta Gladiators over the last couple of seasons. It is always a good time for fellowship at the arena and the game.

We will perform again on **Saturday, April 7<sup>th</sup>** for "Star Wars Night". If you would like to join us in our section, please let us know ([eventsales@stonemountainchorus.org](mailto:eventsales@stonemountainchorus.org)). Tickets are \$15 each, and our section has been right behind the goal the last few games.

We would like to thank members of Atlanta Harmony Celebration! (Harmony Inc.) and Georgia Sensation Chorus (Sweet Adelines International) for being part of our group this time! We love the support in the Metro Atlanta area for harmony and fellowship! And thanks to the Atlanta Gladiators for allowing us to entertain in the concourse before the game and sing the Anthems for the entire arena.



The Stone Mountain Chorus also sang "The Star-Spangled Banner" for Georgia State University Basketball on January 27<sup>th</sup>. This marks the 5<sup>th</sup> time that we have sung for Georgia State University (Basketball and Baseball) over the last two years, for both women's and men's games.

Submitted by Robert Siegel, President, Stone Mountain Chorus

## Why We Sing: Stone Mountain Chorus Connects with Local Charity



There are many reasons we barbershoppers keep showing up at rehearsals to ply our craft, among them the fun of singing harmony, the camaraderie of fellow singers, and the thrill of performance. On a frigid (by Dixie standards) Saturday in January, the **Stone Mountain Chorus** experienced another, more meaningful benefit: the joy of sharing our music with special needs kids and their families.

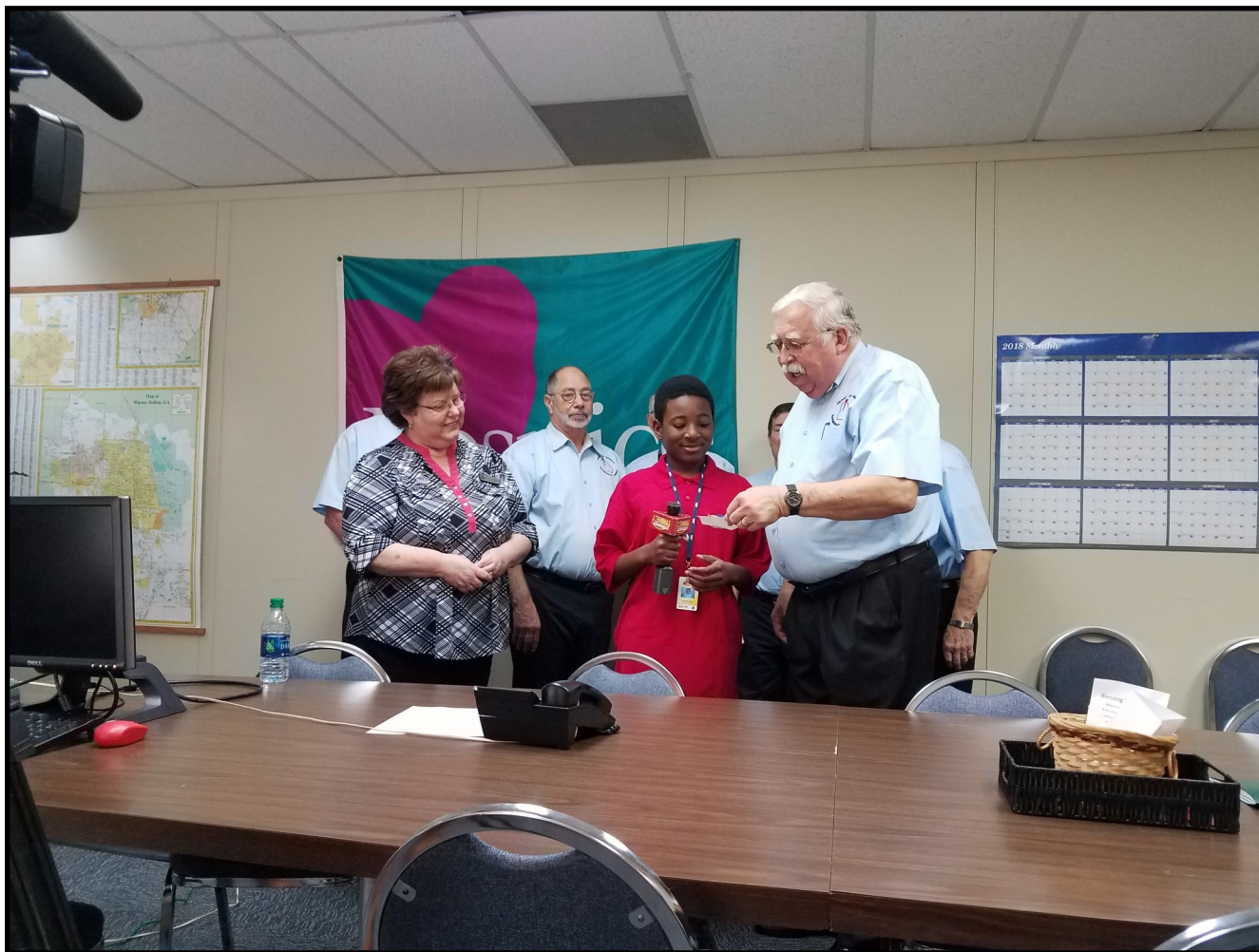
Focus is an Atlanta charitable organization founded in 1983 to support children with medical or developmental disabilities and their families. The **Stone Mountain Chorus** began its association with this charity early in its history, when the granddaughter of a director benefited from the services offered. The Chorus has maintained a close connection to Focus since that time, directing a portion of our proceeds to them, yet opportunities for more personal interactions have been limited. A recent “Family Chili Cook-off” event which included interactive music therapy afforded that opportunity. The Chorus sang at the event, and seeing the bright smiles of kids and their families as we performed was so rewarding for our singers, it was hard to tell who was benefiting more from the experience. A recent shift in our repertoire to more familiar and fun songs really helped make a connection with the audience.

While supporting a charity financially is great, there is nothing like getting out there in the community for a more direct interaction. This experience validated our commitment as a chorus to “get out there and sing”



**Smiles All Around: Stone Mountain Chorus guys at Focus & Fragile Kids event**

more, to brighten our own lives as well as the lives of those for whom we sing.

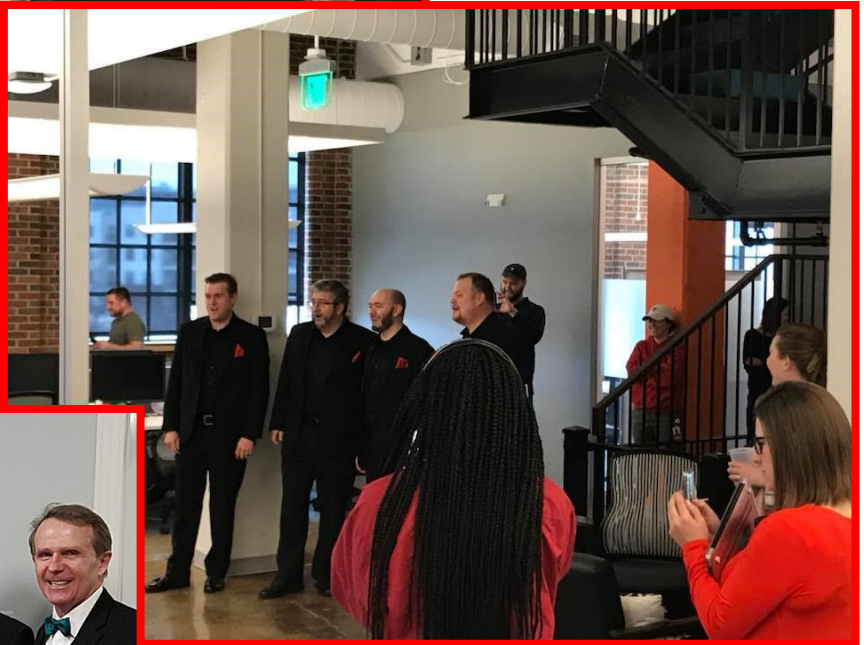


The **Heart of Georgia Barbershop Chorus** has been supporting the Heart of Georgia Hospice for the last several years. Recently the chorus delivered our 2017 distribution to Sherry Robinson, Heart of Georgia Hospice Manager.

The **Heart of Georgia Barbershop Chorus** is dedicated to the preservation and encouragement of barbershop quartet singing; building communities through singing programs in long term care facilities, hospitals, office groups, etc. At the same time we are singing harmony, we have fun and fellowship. We meet every Monday in the Choir Room of Christ UMC, 511 Russell Pkwy, Warner Robins.

In the photo: Don Schall, past President (right), LeeVaugh Scott (13WMAZ junior journalist), and Mike Wade, and Ms. Robinson (left). **Photo by Luis Morales**

*Heart of Georgia Chorus*



**Singing  
Valentines:  
Nashville  
Style**

## During Valentines Week, 2019, think Voices of The South

**Voices** had a great Valentine's Week campaign this year.

We had three quartets out delivering on the two big days — the day before and the day of Valentines. We delivered to places of business (like **UPS** stores and **Publix** Supermarkets), restaurants (like **Glory Bound Gyro** restaurant and **Five** restaurant); schools (like **McCallah Middle School**); private residences all over the greater Birmingham area (Mountain Brook, Leeds, Homewood, Hoover, Bluff Park, Chelsea ....); and even a hotel room in a **Residence Inn**.

"Valentines Day is a special event for **Voices of the South**," says **Ed Wharton**, who was the overall coordinator of the event. "It's one of our favorite things we do! It gives us a special opportunity to share our singing and performing talents in a very personal and heartfelt manner. We get to convey one person's love to another person."

The quartets traveled all over the area delivering joy, amusement, embarrassment and fun.

**Voices** had a team of chorus members "manning" the phones and dispatching quartets for about a week.

Next February you need to think **Valentines Day** — chocolate, roses and, even a tuxedoed, quartet singing "**Heart of My Heart, I Love You**" or "**Let Me Call You Sweetheart**" to your dearest loved one.

Look for our signs: "**Singing Valentines, 252-Sing**" and then make the call."



Top Photo (from left) Frank Butler, Frank Holmes, Summer Wales, the recipient, Jim Phillips and Dennis Jones at Intermark. Middle (from left) Arlin Wilsher, Karl Turner, Allie Carter, the recipient, Keith Lowery and Dennis Jones at Five Restaurant. Bottom (from left) Ina Cross, recipient, Dennis Jones, Tom Brown, Karl Turner and Linc Parrott at Saint Mark UMC.



## THE DIXIE TOWN CRIER

An electronic publication of the Dixie District of the Barbershop Harmony Society

Paul Wietlisbach, President

James Donaldson, VP of Marketing and Public Relations

David Belden, Editor

Deadline for chapters and quartets to submit articles and photographs for the next issue is March 25. Submissions should be sent to:

[david.belden@comcast.net](mailto:david.belden@comcast.net)

# 2018 Dixie District Calendar

March 16-18	Dixie District Spring Convention/Contest, Huntsville, Alabama
July 1-8	International Convention, Orlando, Florida
July 19-21	Harmony Explosion Camp, Chattanooga, Tennessee
July 22-29	Harmony University, Nashville, Tennessee
September 28-30	Dixie District Fall Convention/Contest, Oxford, Alabama

## Date Change for Fall 2018 Convention

The date for the Fall 2018 convention has changed. NASCAR released their 2018 schedule after our date was set and the fall race in Talladega, AL (located about 25 miles away from Oxford) conflicted with our original convention date. We have a contractual obligation with the hotels that stipulates that we will not hold our convention the same weekend as either Talladega race. We will still have our contest in Oxford but the new date is **September 28-30, 2018**. Please adjust your chapter calendars accordingly. See y'all (two weeks earlier) in Oxford!