



Dixie Town Crier

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



October, 2018 Volume 10, Issue 9

2018 Dixie District Fall Convention and Contest

What a Weekend!



It was quite a weekend in Oxford, Alabama, as the Dixie District returned to the Oxford Performing Arts Center for the 2018 fall convention and contest.

Huge numbers of participants made for two fantastic days of barbershop harmony.

Friday night there were 28 competing quartets, including novice quartets, senior quartets, super senior quartets, quartets seeking the district quartet championship, and even a mixed quartet.



Also singing on Friday night was the 78-voice **Dixie District Senior Chorus**. The group, under the direction of Jimmy Tompkins, included singers from throughout the district. The Senior Chorus posted a qualifying score of 71.3, and will represent the Dixie District at the Midwinter convention.



Saturday saw performances by 12 choruses in the morning/afternoon, a special Saturday Premiere Show, the quartet finals, and the Show of Champions.

Top honors for the weekend included **Entourage** taking the district quartet championship in its first ever contest. Also taking quartet honors in their first attempt were **Mac-n-Cheese** (senior quartet, Midwinter representatives), **Note Walkers** (super senior quartet), and **Sentimental Gentlemen** (novice quartet).



Nashville's **Music City Chorus** will represent the district at the Salt Lake City international contest. Their 90.5 average score is the highest ever post in a Dixie District contest. **Southern Splendor Chorus** was the Plateau A champions and Most Improved Chorus. **RSVP** was the Plateau AA champion.

Music City Chorus

Dixie District Representative to 2019 Salt Lake City International Plateau AAA Champion



Dixie District Senior Chorus

Dixie District Representative to 2019 Nashville Midwinter



Southern Splendor Chorus

Most Improved Chorus
Plateau A Champion

RSVP

Plateau AA Champion



ENTOURAGE

Dixie District Quartet Champions

DC Nash—Tenor

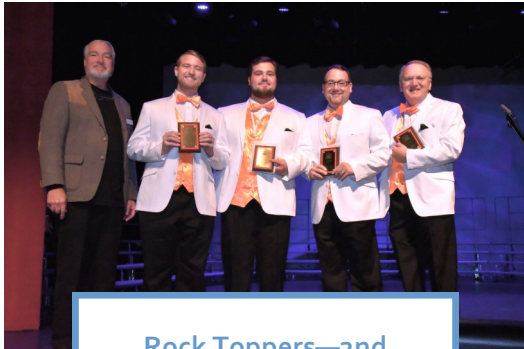
Ian Galvin—Lead

Dusty Schleier—Baritone

Jeremy Conover—Bass



Matt Parks
Tenor
Mike Tipton
Lead
Mark Beeler
Baritone
Harrison Cooke
Bass



Rock Toppers—2nd

Allen Reynolds
Tenor
Aaron Evens
Lead
Howard
McAdory
Baritone
Tony Clifton
Bass



Frequency—3rd

James
Pennington
Tenor
Daniel Huitt
Lead
Kevin Mendez
Baritone
Chad Bennett
Bass



Barbershop Pot Luck—4th

Josh Moore
Tenor
Mike Beck
Lead
Danny Becker
Baritone
Steve Moore
Bass



High Gravity—5th



Mac-n-Cheese

Dixie District Senior
Champions
Representative
to Midwinter

Bob Davenport—Tenor
Howard McAdory—Lead
Paul Wietlisbach—
Baritone
Tony Clifton—Bass

Sentimental Gentlemen

Dixie District Novice
Champions

Steve Callahan—Tenor
Keith Lowry—Lead
Tom Brown—Baritone
Ed Wharton—Bass



Note Walkers

Dixie District Super Senior
Champions

Mark Wilson—Tenor
Kirk Jordan—Lead
Tom Holshouser—Baritone
Tom Kilpatrick—Bass

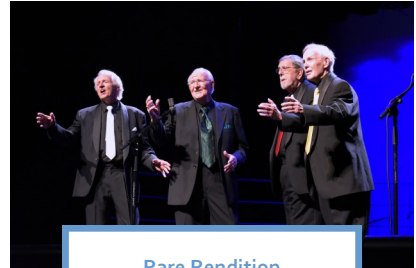
2018 Fall Quartet Contest



Sentimental Gentlemen



Vocal Connection



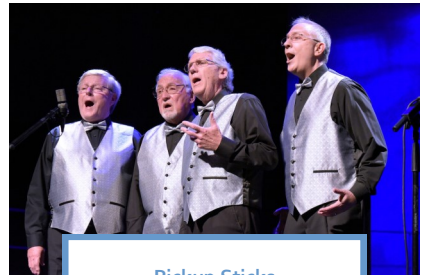
Rare Rendition



Copeland Road



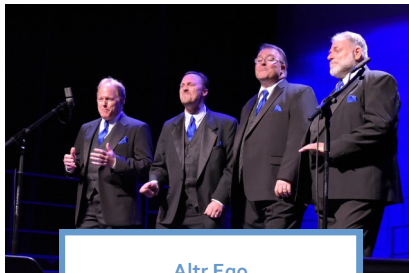
Frequency



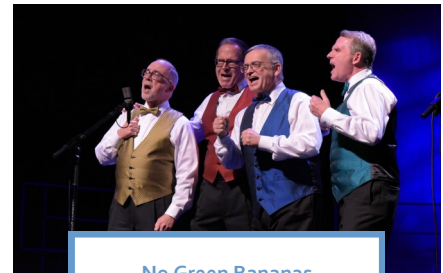
Pickup Sticks



Forecasting Chords



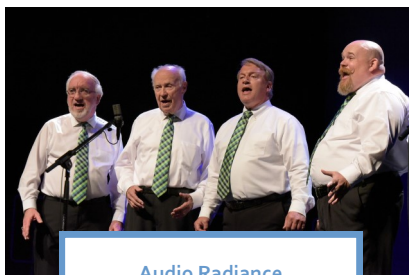
Altr Ego



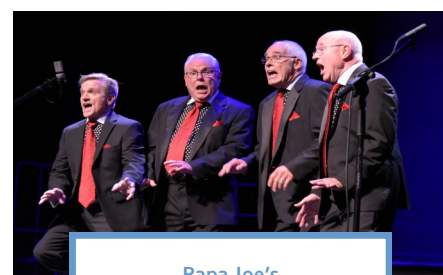
No Green Bananas



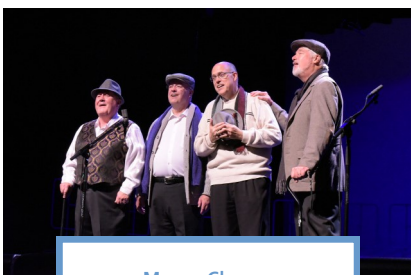
Three Nice Guys



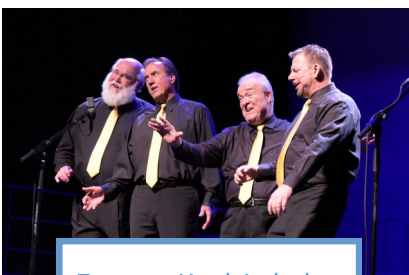
Audio Radiance



Papa Joe's



Mac-n-Cheese

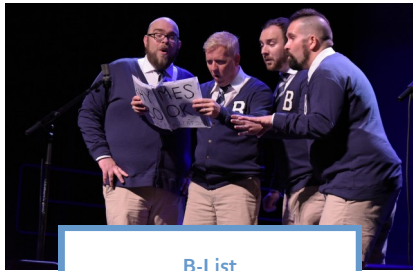


Tennessee Vocal Authority



Rock City 4

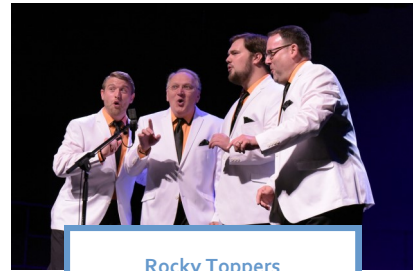
2018 Fall Quartet Contest



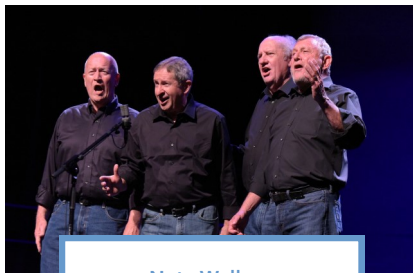
B-List



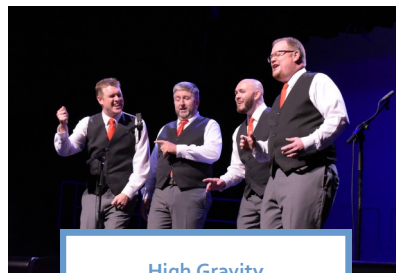
Barbershop Pot Luck



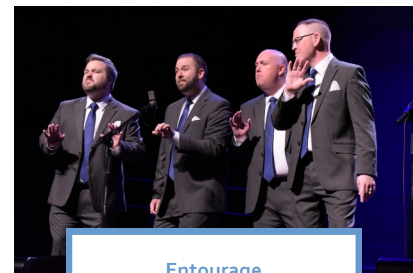
Rocky Toppers



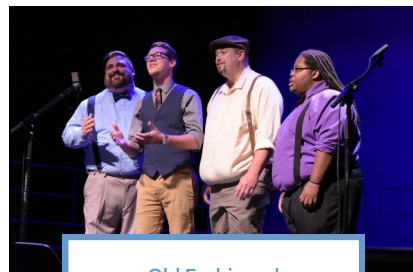
Note Walkers



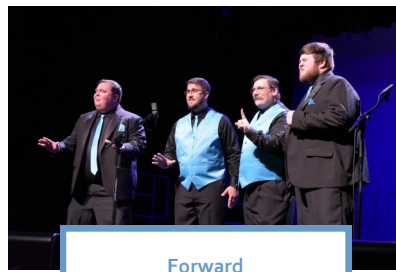
High Gravity



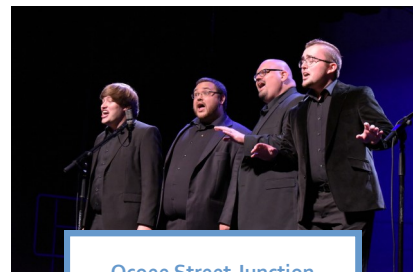
Entourage



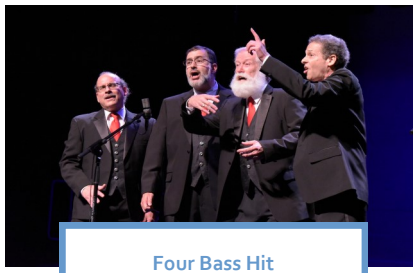
Old Fashioned



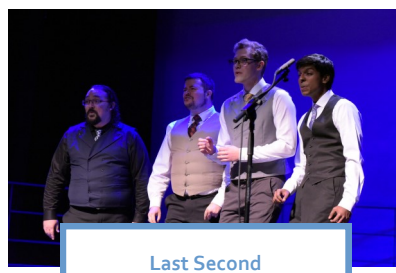
Forward



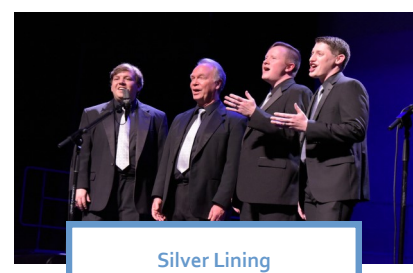
Ocoee Street Junction



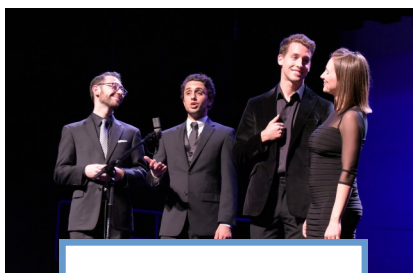
Four Bass Hit



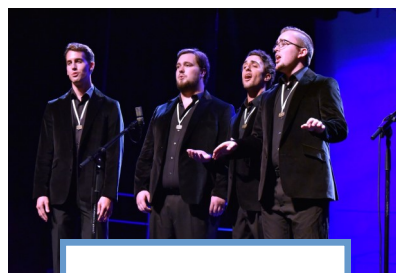
Last Second



Silver Lining



Three Men and a Quincie



Wildfire (MT)

2018

Convention Highlights



TONY NICHOLS
For Providing Most of the Convention
& Contest Photos Used in This Issue!

Convention Highlights





Marietta Chapter, Frank Hrach reporting

Real Men Sing 2018

The 2018 Real Men Sing clinic was conducted by the **Marietta, GA Chapter** Saturday, September 8 at the Marietta Performing Arts Center, with over 200 young men in grades 6-12 and 18 choral directors from area schools in attendance.

Sponsors of this event included the Estate of Dean Olander, KFC – Big Chicken location, Atlanta Northeast Marriott, the Marietta Kiwanis Club, Marietta Performing Arts Center, and individual donors. The sponsorships provided the funding for the costs of venue rental, clinician and teaching quartet expenses, the acquisition of music and learning tracks, a KFC Dinner, and a custom designed T-shirt that was worn as a uniform by the participants during the performance at the conclusion of the event. Participants paid a nominal registration fee of \$5 per participant.

The event was a one day vocal clinic conducted by Adam Scott of Pleasant Grove, UT and Lars Grevstad, choral music director at Marietta High School. The 2018 Next Generation International Varsity Barbershop Quartet Champions – **Frontier**, served as a teaching quartet for the High School Chorus, and three members of the **Big Chicken Chorus** served as a Teaching Trio for the Middle School Chorus.

The free performance following the clinic was a standing room only, enthusiastic audience in the 750 seat theater. The concert included all the clinic participants, **Frontier**, and the **Big Chicken Chorus**.

The purpose of the event was to encourage and promote the participation by young men in the vocal music programs in their respective schools. Clinic registrants included students from 21 schools in Cobb, Bartow, Douglas, Ben Hill, Fayette, Gordon and Pickens counties and Marietta City Schools. The participants were separated into a Middle School Chorus and a High School Chorus, each of which was instructed in two songs plus two songs performed by both choruses in conjunction with the **Big Chicken Chorus**.

Many members of the **Big Chicken Chorus** provided support for the execution of the event. Lars Grevstad provided musical leadership and guidance in preparation of the event. Administrative leadership for the day was provided by Jeff Hoffman, Frank Hrach, and about a dozen other members of the Big Chicken Chorus. More than 25 members of the **Big Chicken Chorus** performed on the show following the event.

The event received glowing reviews from the participants, choral directors and the audience in attendance for the performance. Over the past five years, this program has served 775 students representing 40 schools from 12 Georgia Counties. Each of the events has seen a growth in participation, and the 2018 event was proclaimed to be the best to date by many who have attended the program in prior years.

Q & A with the Harmony Foundation CEO

Interview with Perry White,
Harmony Foundation International President and CEO



Q: Perry, you have been CEO of Harmony Foundation International for over a year now. What have you learned thus far?

A: The Barbershop community is such a welcoming and giving community! While on the road visiting chapters, I was delighted to find so much enthusiasm and support for the work HFI is doing to ensure funding for singing programs of all ages is available year after year. I've also learned that even though we have a good number of loyal donors already, there is still a greater number of singing enthusiasts we hope to inspire to join the cause. From the Barbershop Harmony Society membership, only about 22% are actively giving to HFI's annual fund. The potential for fundraising growth by reaching new donors is necessary to help bridge the gap between funding needed and what is currently being raised.

Q: What tactics have been implemented to tap into such growth potential?

A: We want to get to know our community even better than ever before and get the opportunity for them to get to know us. Although we are a small yet mighty staff, we have made it our mission to try and visit every Barbershop Harmony Society chapter within the next two years. Sharing stories of what donor dollars are able to accomplish and giving the opportunity for people to either renew their gift on the spot or give for the first time makes for a fun and inspiring time together. We have also geared up our efforts towards signing up singers to our Legacy of Harmony program. There are so many planned giving options that allow people to leave their legacy on the singing community. Since this program is so important, we have dedicated staff to educate and facilitate those interested through the simple process. We have also started expanding our constituent list of potential donors by partnering with another Barbershop organization, Harmony, Inc. HI's Directors First program is a perfect fit for our mission by helping them engage their membership in order to fund their chapter music leadership to attend Harmony University in Nashville.

Q: What are the short and long-term goals for Legacy of Harmony?

A: Immediately, we are focused on providing a giving option for those who can't make contributions today towards annual fund but want to make an impact after death through planned giving. Plus, those who can contribute to the annual fund but also want to make a greater impact on their legacy, LOH is a great option. Our long-term goal for LOH is to one day have an endowment large enough where the disbursement from earnings will fully cover our operation expenses and grant requests year over year ensuring a financial foundation in support of all singing. We currently have \$1.3M in our HFI Endowment Fund which is a great start. We also have \$9.8M in LOH commitments that have yet to be realized and added to the fund. Overall, our endowment needs to be north of \$50M.

Continued on Next Page



Continued from previous page

Q & A with the Harmony Foundation CEO

Q: Why should HFI's endowment matter to your donors?

A: Right now, gifts to the annual fund are crucial for HFI to operate and fund singing programs. As our endowment principle grows, we will rely less and less on annual fund gifts to operate HFI and fund programs, allowing 100% of the funds raised each year to support programs. Tiered giving is the best way to think about the short and long-term needs of HFI: Annual Fund first, then Endowment Fund, then Legacy of Harmony planned giving. Here is an example:

Annual Fund: Donor contributes \$1,000 to the annual fund every year for 30 years. This funding is necessary for both current day operations and program grant funding. 100% of the gift is *spent* every year. Annual fund gifts should not be redirected to endowment.

Endowment Fund Option 1: The same donor also contributes \$1,000 to the endowment every year for 30 years. 100% of the gift is *invested* every year and over time, the earnings continue to grow and offset the cost of operations. These investments will yield about \$50 the first year, \$500 a year after 10 years, \$1000 a year after 20 years and finally \$1,500 a year after 30 years, in perpetuity.

Endowment Fund Option 2: The same donor also contributes a one-time endowment investment of \$30,000 instead of \$1,000 a year over 30 years. This way, their gift to principle will yield about \$1,500 a year – FOREVER – and again, offsetting the cost of operations but at a much more rapid pace.

Legacy of Harmony: In addition to contributing to the annual fund and endowment, the same donor signs up to give a percentage of their estate to HFI after they pass. Since their singing community is just as much a part of their family as their blood relatives, planned giving options can make sure everyone can share in their legacy. Signed commitments are kept on file at HFI but nothing is collected until after the donor passes. The amount contributed to HFI will go into our endowment getting us ever closer to the financial security goal of \$50M ensuring support for life-long singing forever.

Q: What else is on the horizon for Harmony Foundation International?

A: We are working closely with our Board of Trustees to build and launch a strategic plan for HFI. We are focusing on being as lean as possible in our operating expenses while diversifying our pool of potential supporters. With growth in potential comes growth in support and in turn provides growth in impact of investment. Please look forward to more information on our strategic plan to be released in the coming months.



Saturday, November 10th



With



"Atlanta Entertainment Traditions"



Peachtree Corners Baptist Church

4480 Peachtree Corners Circle, Peachtree Corners, GA.

Saturday Nov 10th - Two Shows - 2pm & 7pm

Tickets \$25 on sale online: www.StoneMountainChorus.org



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 October 25, 2018. Submissions should be sent to:

david.belden@comcast.net



The Shamrocks, an Albany, GA based quartet, added a realistic touch to the fall 2018 Theatre Albany production of *Music Man* by appearing on stage in the role of the theatrical barber-shop quartet. **The Shamrocks**, a group that formed around 2009, has three long-time members: tenor Joe Wingard, baritone, David Hogue, lead, tenor Joel Johnson, and newcomer bass, Andrew Bode.

**Is YOUR Chorus or Quartet
Missing
from the Dixie Town Crier?**

**Chapter, Chorus, and
Quartet activities,
including photos, show
posters, news and
information should be
submitted to:**

david.belden@comcast.net

