



# Dixie Town Crier

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



August 2019      Volume 11, Issue 7

## Next Generation Varsity Quartet Champions Wildfire Wins Gold in Salt Lake City



*Also Featured in This Edition:*

**CATEGORY 4      ENTOURAGE      ROCKY TOPPERS      BACKLINE**  
**MUSIC CITY CHORUS      SOUND OF TENNESSEE**

# *Congratulations: Wildfire and Backline*



**WILDFIRE**  
Next Generation Varsity Quartet  
**GOLD MEDALIST**  
Score: 80.7

**Caleb Hayes**  
**Stephen Goldman**  
**Kevin Mendez**  
**Harrison Cooke**

**BACKLINE**  
Next Generation Varsity Quartet  
**SILVER MEDALIST**  
Score: 79.5

**Jake Hess**  
**Jordan Guyton**  
**Micah Buck**  
**Andrew Carol**



# *Congratulations: Category 4*



## **CATEGORY 4**

**International Finalists**

**Score: 89.7 Place: 7**

**Tim Reynolds, Tim Brooks, Clay Hine, Kirk Young**

*Congratulations: Entourage and Rocky Toppers*



**ENTOURAGE** Score: 81.1 Place: 26  
DC Nash, Ian Galvin, Dusty Schleier, Jeremy Conover



**ROCKY TOPPERS** Score: 77.8 Place: 45  
Matt Parks, Mike Tipton, Mark Beeler, Harrison Cooke

# *Congratulations: Music City Chorus*

Score: 92.1 Place: 7



# *Congratulations: Sound of Tennessee*

Score: 82.6 Place: 17





# Dixie District Fall Convention



## Ringgold, GA • October 4-6, 2019

International Chorus Preliminaries • Dixie Quartet Championship

Senior Quartet Contest • House of Delegates

Contest Venue

## The Colonnade Center

SpringHill Suites Chattanooga  
South/Ringgold

155 General Lee Dr. • Ringgold, GA 30736

706-935-2525

Book your group rate for Dixie District

**Group Rate: \$109.00 plus tax**

Last day to book at this rate is September 3, 2019

Hampton Inn Ringgold/Ft. Oglethorpe

6785 Battlefield Parkway • Ringgold, GA  
30736

706-935-4800

Book your group rate for Dixie District

**Group Rate: \$109.00 plus tax**

Note: Do not be confused by the hotel names and addresses! They are both side by side at Exit 350 off I-75. Both hotels have free hot breakfast. Meetings and activities will be taking place at both hotels.

**ONLINE REGISTRATION AVAILABLE SOON!**

[www.dixiedistrict.org](http://www.dixiedistrict.org)

*From Jim Sams, DRCJ (VP of Contest and Judging)*

## Important Information for Fall Contest Competitors

Plans are underway for the Fall 2019 Dixie District International Chorus Prelims and Quartet Convention. This convention will be held October 4-5, 2019 in Ringgold, GA. The headquarters hotel will be the Hampton Inn located at 6875 Battlefield Pkwy, Ringgold, GA, 30736; (706) 935-4800. The contest venue is The Colonnade Center, 264 Catoosa Circle, Ringgold, which is about 6 minutes from the hotel.

**Deadline** for contestant entries is midnight, Friday, September 13, 2019. However, as of today (August 1) error messages may appear on the Barberscore website. So, I am asking that you **Please do not do ANYTHING in Barberscore just yet.**

There is now a new target date of **August 10th** to have things fully ready for competitors. Again - **DO NOT open your contest sessions in Barberscore until you get the "green light" from Jim Sams and/or receive an email message that Barberscore is up and running!**

**If desired, ALL Competitors may choose to facilitate and start sending "manual" contest entries via email to JIM SAMS to get ahead of things... that is totally up to you. You would only need to collect the basic info to include:**

- **Name of group**
- **For choruses: (estimated # on stage; director name)**
- **For quartets: names and voice parts of members; their BHS member #**

**Which awards/contests they wish to enter**

**Do not even worry about listing songs (just yet). A reminder - once Barberscore is ready for competitors, you will still have plenty of time to get your new charts added to your repertory (as long as you do it within a few days of the contest). Any existing charts will still be in your repertory.**

Together we will get this done. Please get your new quartets registered NOW due to delays in Society processing times. Please also get your quartet renewals done now rather than later.

BE SURE that you have ONLY those men in your chapter who are "officially" signed up to enter your quartet or chorus for contest! If you have questions or need help, contact me ASAP. Again, you will also receive an email notifying you that the Dixie District Convention & Contests is officially open for contest entry.

**\*\*IMPORTANT NOTE! \*\*\*** Enter ALL your songs in your REPETOIRE list that you plan to sing OR MAY sing. If you are waiting for a new arrangement, enter it into the song list anyway and then if you don't have it cleared before contest, just don't sing it or remove prior to contest. It is **worse** IF you sing a song that is NOT in your REPETOIRE entry list. IF you fail to enter a song by contest time that you plan to sing, it cannot be entered late OR after the contest. For those of you who are not aware, a quartet cannot sing THE SAME song TWICE at any point in your quartet contest sessions. If a quartet song is sung by quartet members in a chorus contest, the song is legal to be sung once in quartet competition during the weekend.

(continued on next page)

For **CHORUSES**, we will have an **International Chorus Prelim, Most Improved Chorus, and Plateau Awards** presented. You may also sing songs **FOR SCORE FOR EVALUATION ONLY** if you so choose.

For **QUARTETS**, we will have a **District Quartet Championship (2 round)**, a **Seniors Quartet Champion**, a **Super Seniors Quartet Champion**, a **Seniors Quartet Prelim**, a **Novice Champion**, and a **Super Novice Champion** awarded. We will also offer a **Score for Evaluation ONLY** session for those quartets **who do not wish to compete** but would like to receive your **personal score sheet** and **evaluation /coaching session**. We just need **YOU** there to participate! **PLEASE** get your quartets registered and **dues paid up**, your choruses entered and **all competitors paid up**, and have convention registrations for all competitors.

**\*\*IMPORTANT NOTE:** Any mixed quartets, mixed choruses, female quartets, or female choruses will be welcome to perform for score and evaluation/coaching only. International prelims for these choruses will be open in Dixie beginning in fall 2020, and quartets beginning in spring 2010 for the BHS international convention in Cleveland, Ohio, in July 2021.

The **Evaluations/Coaching sessions** following the **Quartet Semifinals, Chorus Finals** and the **Quartet Finals** on Saturday will be different beginning this fall contest. The SCJC had produced a new **EXCEL Evaluation/Coaching** Program for ALL districts to begin using this fall. The Contest Administrators and the Judging Panel will make the final decisions on whom and when you will be evaluated/coached. **Once you have entered the contest, you will be sent a form to fill out of your choices for coaching/evaluation. These forms will be turned into the Contest Administrators.** Your choices will be considered. Decisions will be based on **PANEL CHOICES**, rank, and, numbers of choices requested. I will not be a part of that decision any longer. I will still be able to help with dual memberships in choruses and to prepare the Order of Appearance. Beyond that, the Panel will in charge of evaluation/coaching.

Here are the judges who are on the Official Panel: MUS- Rick Spencer (DIX) & Patrick McAlexander (DIX); PER-Pat Brown (ONT) & Gary Steinkamp (FWD); SNG-Alan Gordon (FWD) & DC Nash (DIX).

Again, if you have ANY questions, need any help, or just want to chat, please feel free to call me ANY time. I am available to help you if needed. But remember; only qualified representatives so noted by Barberscore can OFFICIALLY enter your chorus or quartet. I cannot do it for you as Barberscore/SCJC rules forbid it.

Harmoniously,

Jim Sams, Dixie DRCJ (VP of Contest and Judging)

[jimsamsca@bellsouth.net](mailto:jimsamsca@bellsouth.net)

(901) 488-3128



*Voices of the South* sang four selections at the "I Love America" celebration at St. Aloysius Catholic Church on June 21. Here, they're singing *The Morning Trumpet*.

— Photo by Anna Callahan

## Voices shares its patriotic music at 'I Love America'



"I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands..."

*Voices of the South* brought the audience to its feet as they sang Lee Greenwood's *God Bless the USA* at the St. Aloysius Catholic Church's I Love America concert June 21. They sang their a cappella music to a packed house in Bessemer, Ala.

It was a fun night of patriotism, religion and good ole down-home American singing.

The Lake View American Legion Post 2011 presented the flags as *Voices* sang *The National Anthem*. The combined performers — St. Aloysius Choir, The Waylighters quartet and *Voices* — and the audience stood and sang each branch's theme song — Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Coast

Guard and the POW flag — as each flag bearer marched in.

The place exuded patriotism.

Conductor Will Krysiak; organist Sam Morris, pianist Suzy Spencer and drummer Justin Aldridge provided the accompaniment.

*Voices of the South* performed three a cappella pieces as well as *The National Anthem* — *The Morning Trumpet*, *Swing Down Chariot* and *God Bless the USA*.

The Waylighters quartet sang four arrangements including *Jesus Loves Me*.

The St. Aloysius Choir sang four songs including *Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy*.

The singing filled the sanctuary for more than an hour and a half.

Audience Sing-a-longs included: *Onward, Christian Soldiers*, *God of Our Fathers* and *This Is My Country!*

This was the seventh annual celebration.

# THE CHOOCHOO CHORUS - A SALUTE TO DISNEY

The show happened because of a suggestion from member Dan Bullock who was a tenor with the Humdingers quartet (a barbershop quartet from a large theme park in Orlando who was our guest quartet for the show and afterglow and who invited Dan to join them for a song). Two audience attendees won Christmas show tickets from the Quiz below. Could you have won?

### Program

- Ten Feet Off the Ground*
- A Dream Is A Wish Your Heart Makes*
- A Whole New World*
- When She Loved Me*
- Zip-A-Dee-Doo-Dah*
- Remember Me*
- Give a Little Whistle*
- When You Wish Upon a Star*
- Go the Distance*
- Almost There*
- Can You Feel The Love Tonight*
- Circle Of Life*
- Mickey Mouse March*

### Do You Know Your Disney Productions

Match the song with the production

- The Lion King* \_\_\_\_\_
- Toy Story 2* \_\_\_\_\_
- Pocahontas* \_\_\_\_\_
- Mickey Mouse Club* \_\_\_\_\_
- Aladdin* \_\_\_\_\_
- Song of the South* \_\_\_\_\_
- Coco* \_\_\_\_\_
- The One and Only, Genuine, Original Family Band* \_\_\_\_\_
- Cinderella* \_\_\_\_\_
- Hercules* \_\_\_\_\_



The Humdingers from the left, Chad Bennett, Aaron Stratton, Tony De Rosa, and Roger Ross

'When She Loved Me' was very touching with a young girl in first half of the song and a ballerina teenager in the second half

'Circle of Life' was the audience favorite with Matt Van Stelle, soloist, and Wally Edmondson, drummer.



The show closed with the 'Mickey Mouse March,' and as shown here with Paul Blazek directing, after the 'Y' was raised, Emcee and Show Chairman, Steve Grubb, says, "WhY? Because We Like You."



# International Relations – Barbershop Style



Photo: Lourdes Sukari

How did the **Stone Mountain Chorus** get invited by the Atlanta Canadian Consulate to sing *O Canada* in the atrium of City Hall for the Consulate's official Canada Day celebration? It's a story that begins with the chorus' mission, to share our joy of singing with the local community.

Last year, the chorus took part in the first annual Johns Creek International Festival, performing for the crowd and staffing a booth for the day. There amongst the face painters, jewelry makers and candle vendors was the **Stone Mountain Chorus**, selling nothing but the joy of four part harmony. Guys from the chorus sang in small groups to entertain festival goers and to sing tags with anyone willing to give it a try. As we wandered around the Festival grounds, we noticed the Canadian Consulate had a booth there as well. Having learned an arrangement of *O Canada* to sing at Atlanta Gladiators hockey games, we asked them if they would like to hear it. They did, and loved it! They kept our contact information, and called on us to perform at their official Canada Day observance.

It was a great event, and we are proud to have done our small part to enhance international relations with our northern neighbor. Appropriately, we ended the event with the barbershop anthem, *Keep The Whole World Singing*. We also learned an important lesson that would apply to other choruses – you never know what doors will open if you just get out there and sing!



HOUSTON HEALTHCARE



# Leisure Time

## An Evening of Barbershop Harmony

Presented by Heart of Georgia Barbershop Chorus



Andy Thomas, Agent

478-975-0069

[www.andythomas.us](http://www.andythomas.us)



The Southern Harmony Brigade, an invitation-only a Capella chorus will join us singing many old-time songs in barbershop harmony.

Tickets \$15 (\$10 for groups (10 or more), students, military, and seniors)

September 7th, 2019, 7:00p.m.

Southside Baptist Church, 1040 S Houston Lake Rd,  
Warner Robins, GA 31088





August 1, 2019  
Marietta, GA



## Program Announcement

### "2019 Real Men Sing"

The **Big Chicken Chorus** will present its annual **"Real Men Sing"** at the **Marietta Performing Arts Center**, 1171 Whitlock Avenue in Marietta on the campus of Marietta High School on Saturday, September 14<sup>th</sup> beginning at 1 PM.

The "Real Men Sing" program is a gateway to generating an interest in vocal music for young men in grades 6 through 12. This program has been executed with great success and praise from area music educators. The Big Chicken Chorus, along with the support of area music educators, Barbershop Harmony Society (BHS) clinicians, and BHS teaching quartets, has executed a one day choral music festival for young men since 2014, which provides the impetus for them to recognize the enjoyment music can bring. To date we have served 750 area students with this program.

This event is intended for all-comers; no audition or selection process is involved, and current involvement in a school choir is not a requirement. Two choruses are formed: one for young men in middle school and a second for young men in high school. The music involved is taken from age-appropriate standard choral repertoire and will include music arranged in the 4-part a cappella harmony style as sung by Barbershop Quartets, to be sung along with the Big Chicken Chorus and the Teaching Quartets.

The education, music scores, a free dinner and a custom designed T-shirt are provided to the participants in return for a registration fee of \$5 per participant. **No student will be excluded for financial reasons.**

The day will conclude with a **FREE concert**, open to the public, which will include the **Middle School Chorus**, the **High School Chorus**, the **Big Chicken Chorus**, **Quadrphonics** and **Wildfire**. In 2019 we expect to attract more than 200 young men plus music educators from local middle and high schools. Our intention is to keep their focus on the joy of singing.

Sponsors of this years' event include: KFC – Big Chicken location; Northwest Atlanta Marriott; Marietta Kiwanis Art Fund; Marietta Performing Arts Center and the Big Chicken Chorus.

Terry Morrison, president of the Marietta Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society says, *"The Big Chicken Chorus is a multi-generational, male chorus of more than 50 voices, singing a cappella, four-part harmony, in the style of a Barbershop Quartet. Our annual Real Men Sing Performance provides an opportunity for the young men in our community to experience the thrill of performing a cappella harmony as part of a large male ensemble. The clinic and performance illustrate the value to be gained by participating in choral music programs provided at area schools."*

*(Continued on page 13)*

### Music Leadership for 2019 Real Men Sing



**High School Clinician: Jimmy Tompkins** holds a Bachelor's degree from Jacksonville State University in AL. He has had a long career as a Music Minister, presently at Morris Hill Baptist Church in Chattanooga, TN

Jimmy is a 20 plus year member of the Barbershop Harmony Society and has a wealth of performing and directing experience. He is currently a member of the Metro Atlanta Chapter of BHS. In January 2019 Jimmy directed the Dixie District Senior Barbershop Chorus to an International Championship held on the stage of the Grand Ole Opry in Nashville, TN.



**Middle School Clinician: Vincent Sandroni** began his musical career with 15 years in The Maryland State Boychoir, serving as a chorister, soloist, and conducting intern. He received his Bachelor of Science in Music Education degree from Towson University. Vince has been the chorus teacher at Cockeysville Middle School in Baltimore County, Maryland for the past five years. He started singing barbershop in high school and has since participated in numerous conventions, harmony brigades, No Borders Youth Consort, and Parkside Harmony.

Vince is the Tenor of **Pratt Street Power** the **2017 International Collegiate Barbershop Quartet Champions**. **Pratt Street Power** has continued to compete and is currently among the 2019 Top 10 International Barbershop Quartets.



**High School Teaching Quartet: Wildfire**, whose members hail from Nashville, TN and Tampa, FL. The members of the quartet come from different musical backgrounds and expertise after singing with numerous other quartets through their early years in the Barbershop Harmony Society.

In July 2019, Wildfire represented the Dixie District in Salt Lake City, UT at the **International Next Generation Varsity Quartet Contest** and won the contest; they are the **2019 International Next Generation Varsity Quartet Champions**.



**Middle School Teaching Quartet: Quadraphonics**, a quartet of members of the Big Chicken Chorus, will assist Vincent Sandroni and the Middle School Chorus in the polishing of their songs. Although the quartet is relatively new, each of its members has many years of experience in singing.

More information and registration can be made via the Big Chicken Chorus website [www.BigChickenChorus.org](http://www.BigChickenChorus.org).

Questions concerning Real Men Sing can be addressed to: [rms@BigChickenChorus.org](mailto:rms@BigChickenChorus.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 July 25, 2019. Submissions should be sent to:

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

*In loving memory*



The Music City Chorus/Nashville Chapter sadly announces the passing of

# MARK DICKHAUS

just one week after singing with the chorus at the Salt Lake City international, and after a brave battle with cancer.

