

TYUDDMNPCA

(The Yet Unnamed Dixie District Monthly Newsletter Promoting Chapter Activities)

Volume 1, Issue 2

May 31, 2009

"I did not receive four stories or fourteen stories but 21 stories!"

Inaugural issue of TYDDMNPCA by Steve Dorn

The inaugural issue of TYDDMNPCA was published on April 30, 2009. I would like to personally thank the **Main Street Harmonizers**, the **Gold Standard Chorus**, **Let's Sing!** and **Thom Hine**. I would not have had a publication if it they had not taken the time to share their stories.

And speaking of stories, the Dixie District really stepped up and delivered. I did not receive four stories or fourteen stories but 21 stories! Thanks for all the sharing from our wonderful Dixie District groups.

If you are a Dixie District chapter or quartet and have a story you would like to share with the District, please email them to me at (stevedorn@yahoo.com). I can accept your stories and pictures in any format and size. Deadline for the June 30 issue is June 28.

Also, this publication is in need of a name. Do you have a name to suggest? If so, please email me your suggestions.



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Dixie District Email Distribution List by Don Lang

Many of you have been using our DIX Yahoo groups for some time. They are a very powerful tool, but not without some difficulties. We appreciate your patience as we try to make them as effective as possible.

Some of you have asked if there is some way to reduce the number of duplicated and extraneous messages! YES there is (I think I heard a collective sigh of relief) but we need your help. We are currently in a major effort to get "everyone" on their appropriate DIX Yahoo groups (please check the list below) then we can moderate the groups more carefully. We will not have to send messages to multiple groups in order to try to reach our intended audience. Instead, we can focus our messages more accurately.

We will use a variety of means to help identify who should be in which groups. Unfortunately, you may see some "extra" messages, as we take steps to get everyone identified, invited, and signed up for the appropriate groups. Please be patient. I am sure you will like the final result.

You do not need to wait for us to identify you as a candidate. Just let me know (donl555@yahoo.com) which group(s) you should be in and I will send you an invite. If you have questions, comments, or would like help, just sing out.

- DIX-Chapter-Presidents**
- DIX-Chapter-Secretaries**
- DIX-Chapter-Membership**
- DIX-Chapter-Mktg-PR**
- DIX-Chapter-Program**
- DIX-Chapter-Treasurers**
- DIX-Chapter-Support-Reps**
- DIX-Dist-Members** - for all DIX members
- DIX-Dist-Chorus-Compet** - for chorus contacts, managers
- DIX-Dist-Quartet-Compet** - for quartet contacts
- DIX-Chorus-Directors** - for directors and assistants
- DIX-Dist-Net** - a new group which is UN-MODERATED for those who may wish to use it
- DIX-Chapter-Contacts** - for chapter designated contact(s) responsible for forwarding information from email messages to those people who do not use email

Southern Splendor Chorus from Athens, AL and Rocket City Chorus from Huntsville, AL by Gerald Roberts



On January 24, the **Southern Splendor Chorus** from Athens, AL and the **Rocket City Chorus** from Huntsville, AL held a joint 2009 Installation Banquet at the Redstone Arsenal Officers and Civilian's Club in Huntsville, AL. The guest speaker was **Charlie Davenport**, Director of Membership and Member Services, from the Barbershop Harmony Society. Approximately fifty people were in attendance. Bailiff **Steve D'Ambrossio** instructed Judge **Colin Bagwell** about the qualifications of the various candidates. Everyone said, "Bring on the Judge", so Judge Bagwell made a ruling on who was qualified and who wasn't and proceeded to instruct the new selectees as to their duties and privileges.

"It was the first time a joint installation banquet was held and it proved to be a wonderful experience!"

Several quartets from each chapter sang two songs apiece and the two choruses also gave renditions. The evening was closed with a joint singing of the theme song, "Keep America Singing." It was the first time a joint installation banquet was held and it proved to be a wonderful experience! Everyone enjoyed meeting members of the other chorus, which was assisted by several singers being members of both choruses.

On a sad note, **Bob Stephens**, the bass of Huntsville's oldest quartet, the **Singing Commodores**, made his last appearance with the aid of his walker. Bob passed away in April after a long battle with cancer. Bob taught music at Athens State College, sang in the Decatur Community Chorus, and was a wonderful deep bass and a real part of the Rocket City Chorus. Bob will be missed.



Rocket City Chorus from Huntsville, AL and Southern Splendor Chorus from Athens, AL by John Charlton

Harmony was in the air in Athens, AL on Friday, May 15, 2009. On a rain filled Friday evening in the charming North Alabama city, harmony filled the air. **Southern Splendor Chorus** from Athens, AL and **Rocket City Chorus** from neighboring Huntsville, AL provided wonderful chords all night much to the listening enjoyment of the many fans in the audience. The chords ringing off the facade of buildings across the street made the night come alive.

"The chords ringing off the facade of buildings across the street made the night come alive."

In their second year, the city of Athens continued the tradition of highlighting the musical talent of North Alabama in their Singing on the Square, presented each third Friday of the month. For the month of May, the two choruses came together to provide the rich sounds of a cappella music barbershop style. Throughout the event the choruses and the audience members had to dodge the raindrops that fell. Many in the audience scrambled for the shelter of the awnings of local businesses.

Rocket City Chorus, under the direction of **Larry Focht**, started the evening with some wonderful tunes that carried the listeners across this wonderful country. Chapter quartets (**Audio Radiance**, **Rocketeers**, and **Sugar Pops**) filled the streets with their unique style of barbershop harmony presenting a song or two. **Rocket City Chorus** concluded their portion of the show with rousing audience participation in God Bless America.

Southern Splendor Chorus, under the direction of **Dr. John Buttler**, took to the streets next. They energized the crowd with many up tunes, while also providing some snuggling music with the ballads they perform from the heart. **Dixie Junction** and **Natural Selection** (**John Buttler's** quartet from Birmingham) wowed the crowd with their wonderful chords that seemed to fill all the streets with harmony.

North Alabama cities have many events throughout the year which feature local musical talent. All of these events are free of charge. These two choruses will perform together and separately at the Concerts in the Park, Gazebo Concerts, Singing on the Square and even Riverwalks. You can look up some of the events by going to either www.RocketCityChorus.org or www.SouthernSplendorChorus.com and see what they have planned.

Main Street Harmonizers from Lexington, SC by Keith Phemister

The **Main Street Harmonizers** from Lexington, SC performed in April for the International Festival in Columbia, SC at the State Fairgrounds. While the chorus sang, posters were displayed on the stage front that represented all of the countries where the Barbershop Harmony Society has an affiliate. We also included a few countries where barbershop is sung, but an organization has not been established. We wanted our audience to understand the international aspects of our great hobby!

This was our first year of involvement with the International Festival. We noticed they had a projector and a screen behind the stage, so next year we may try to have our poster images projected on the screen for greater recognition!



Barbershop Quartet Singing is International



“We wanted our audience to understand the international aspects of our great hobby!”

Palmetto Statesmen from Spartanburg, SC by Bill Myers

With the recent induction of **Bill Allison** and **Allan Hoyer**, the roster of members in [the **Palmetto Statesman** from Spartanburg, SC] has grown to FIFTY FIVE! That is the largest number since 1973. What makes our chapter grow is the recognition that most inductees were ASKED to join; they didn't necessarily seek us out. That means if we are going to continue to grow, it will require the efforts of all of us. So, please carry the "Come Sing with Us" cards in your wallet. Hand them to friends in your church choir, fraternal club, neighborhood, etc. Attrition is inevitable so it is vital that we continue to seek out and approach prospective members.

[Reprinted with permission from the May 1 issue of Spartunes.]

“...the roster of members has grown to FIFTY FIVE! That is the largest number since 1973.”

Main Street Harmonizers from Lexington, SC by Randy Miller

On April 20th, after a month or so preparing, Lexington County, SC chapter, held their first 2009 guest night. It was a magnificent event.

First the Membership VP got his team together and worked on the planning of the event. They advertised it in newspapers, posters, radio and TV and in the bulletins of churches. Members also gave several names for this team to contact. That was all done.

Next the music team planned the evening's music for all. It included some new songs that were basic, as well as working on current repertoire, a couple of tags and some craft.

The greeters and buddy system members went into action an hour before the evening was to start. Each guest would be assigned a "buddy," not just for that night, but for weeks to come. This "buddy" would help the guest with music, see to his needs before, during and after the meeting, and then call him during the following week and get him back.

Well, the guests came. In fact we had more guests than members. We wound up with a chorus of over 40+ men, all who were "Singers". We sang 15 songs and 2 tags. Then we went to a prepared afterglow where some of the ladies and members had a spread for all to enjoy. Quartets sang and the chorus performed, too.

The follow-up was great. Nine guests came back the next week and came again the week after that. Four have asked, "How do we join?" One guest even brought a guest. How neat is that? So, we take a chapter of 35+, with 23+ regulars and add 30-40% with one special night. Man that was fun. If any chapter wants the ingredients for one of these, email me (rm4parttoo@bellsouth.net).

“In fact we had more guests than members.”

“A highlight of the day was asking four men who were standing together to sing with the VLQ.”

Main Street Harmonizers from Lexington, SC by Keith Phemister

A pick-up quintet (VLQ) from the **Main Street Harmonizers** from Lexington, SC did a credible job singing at the South Carolina Poultry Festival in Batesburg-Leesville, SC on Saturday, May 9th. They strolled along from one end of Main Street to the other (probably about a mile) stopping under the shade of enormous live oaks and serenading the older ladies, the tiny ladies, and some in between! A highlight of the day was asking four men who were standing together to sing with the VLQ. Two of them did and did an excellent job! Of course they were given a chorus business card and invited to the chorus's next rehearsal, which they said they would attend. One of them even gave the VLQ two CD's of his gospel group's recordings. What a deal! The VLQ was made up of 3 basses and 2 baris: **Cliff Brown**, a bari who has switched to tenor; **Doug Strickhouser**, bari; **Reg Price**, bass; **Keith Williams**, bass; and **Keith Phemister**, bass turned 'Lead for a day!' Their repertoire was limited to polcats, but that seemed perfectly enjoyable to the applauding passers-by! The event was capped off with lunch at Shealy's Bar-b-que; some of the best food in the South!...at least for Keith P.!

“Usually, we gather about \$1,000 or more from their generosity.”

Main Street Harmonizers from Lexington, SC by Randy Miller

On June 28th and 29th, the Lexington County chapter will present their 5th annual patriotic show, "Let Freedom Ring." It is FREE to the public! Over the past four years, the church's sanctuary where it is held has been packed. We also use this as a fund raiser by asking the patrons to donate a "love offering" at the end of the show. Usually, we gather about \$1,000 or more from their generosity.

The show has an Honor Guard from the South Carolina Highway Patrol. They present and post the colors to begin the show and a pledge and the National Anthem follows. The chorus and several quartets then perform, as well as a Sweet Adelines chorus, for about 1 1/2 hours.

Each year we conclude the show with a salute to our men and women in the armed forces, past and present, with a video and simultaneous singing of each of the service songs. We asked all who are serving or who have served to stand when their song is presented. It never fails to get a standing ovation. Last year that lasted at least 5 minutes.

“Since having fun is part of the charter of this Dixie District Champion Chorus, we have made a point of stressing that aspect at every rehearsal.”

Atlanta Vocal Project from Atlanta, GA by Bill Hickman

Everyone knows that getting ready for a major contest is a boatload of work. Extra rehearsals, demanding coaches, short tempers...we have all been there. It might get the chorus ready, but the stress level is always intense and regrettable. This year the **Atlanta Vocal Project** has turned that paradigm on its ear.

While working hard preparing to give their best possible performance on the contest stage, the 45 members of the chorus, under the direction of **Clay Hine**, are focusing on having fun at every rehearsal. Since having fun is part of the charter of this Dixie District Champion Chorus, we have made a point of stressing that aspect at every rehearsal.

The norm is that everyone arrives with their voices already warmed up. We then go through a focus session with a member of the Music Team where we tune our ears to create "the" sound. We follow this with a review of a couple of repertoire songs to keep them fresh and then buckle down on the goal for the night. It might be creating a more artistic flow in our contest ballad or keeping the energy up during the latter part of the up tune, but for everyone on the risers it is a blast.

We have been helped this year by some of the society's best coaches: **Joe Connelly**, **Tony DeRosa**, **Brandon Guyton**, **Chad Guyton**, **Tim Brooks**, **Sandy Marron**, and **Cindy Hansen**, all of whom have given us the gift of their time, talent, and attention.

The guys are pumped and having fun, which, by the way, is the whole point. Right?



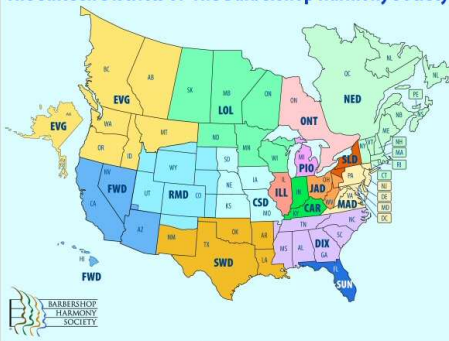
High Country Harmonizers from Blue Ridge, GA by Thom Hine

The Blue Ridge, GA chapter, which meets in Blairsville, GA, just lost their director. The chapter is very near and dear to my heart as I assisted them through the licensing and chartering process many years ago, then conducted at least a half dozen annual chapter installations. They are a super non-competitive bunch of guys who take great pride in community projects.

If you know of any candidates who would like an opportunity to come to their aid, contact their President, Mark Johnston (ma.johnston@tds.net). It would be a shame to see a quality chapter such as this fail for lack of a director.

Their immediate concern is a show scheduled for August 8. They are fortunate to have someone willing to direct them for the interim.

The Sixteen Districts of The Barbershop Harmony Society



Atlanta Vocal Project from Atlanta, GA by Brian Williams

The **Atlanta Vocal Project** spent the weekend of May 15-16 in a coaching session in preparation for their trip to Anaheim as one of Dixie's representatives to the International stage. The coaches for the weekend were among the best in the Society. We brought in Dixie's own **Chad Guyton**, lead of the 2002 International champion quartet **Four Voices**. To compliment Chad, we brought in **Tony DeRosa**, 3-time gold medal winner and currently the lead of **MaxQ**, the 2007 International champion quartet.

Friday evening's session was slow-going. It seemed the chorus and the coaches spent the evening trying to get acquainted with each other. We accomplished some work but generally felt like we were just laying the ground work for a full day on Saturday.

We started Saturday morning at 9:00 a.m. with a good set of warm-ups from our own internal warm-up master, **Lars Grevstad**. After warm-ups, we had a nice pep talk to get completely focused for the day ahead. We jumped right into our new uptune, *Hard Hearted Hannah*. **Clay Hine's** new arrangement is one of the very best he's ever done. The arrangement requires the singer to take on many different characters through the song. It's at times like this that you can never go too far overboard. The changes must be swift and dramatic. In order to do that, each singer must be willing to move way out of their comfort zone. Our coaches showed us that this is the only way to achieve the level of performance we want. It's a lot of hard work but it's also incredibly satisfying when we accomplish the goal!

After lunch we worked more on the uptune and also jumped into the ballad, *If Ever I Would Leave You*. Our coaches showed us where the ballad's phrasing could change, making the song come across with more meaning. The changes also help keep the song fresh for each person in the chorus. Again, the coaches showed us where it's easy to not give enough and not emote enough. It takes a lot of effort by everyone on the risers to keep the focus and let the message go to the back of the auditorium. Keeping the space in the sound and matching the guys around you is an ongoing battle. Our coaches were quick to jump in when we started to let down. The small differences by each singer makes a huge difference to the overall sound and performance.

We ended Saturday tired. It had been a long weekend but we made great strides towards delivering a great performance for Dixie in Anaheim. We hope to see you there!

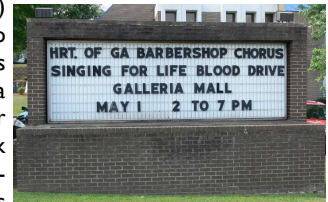
"They are a super non-competitive bunch of guys who take great pride in community projects."

"The coaches for the weekend were among the best in the Society."

Heart of Georgia from Macon, GA by Bob Smith

My thoughts about SFL2009 go back to the January COTS held in Atlanta when **Bob Burns** gave a great informative briefing on "Singing for Life 2009." It caught my interest because I had always been a blood donor and know the importance of it. But this isn't about me...sorry....so about the middle of February, I was on the phone with **Philip Maxfield** and then with **Bob Burns**, who put me in contact with my local ARC folks. Once I contacted Jackie Conners (Macon ARC rep), we were immediately "penciled in" for the 1st of May. It was to be her Annual Customer Appreciation Day and everything fell into place.

To start of with, this is a very giving community (more on that later). We had great media coverage, both newspaper and local radio. We were on the radio on the morning of the blood drive. There was a large marquee on the main street of town (owned by a local bank) and we had super coverage with it. The guys in the chorus stepped up and were responsible for many of the signups. One in particular was my wife, Pamela. She is a breast cancer survivor and was able to be a donor, after 10 years. I am so proud of her! Our quartet went to her and sang one of her favorites, "Shine On Me." The blood drive took place at our local mall right outside of Belk's (who were very supportive). Most of our chorus was able to be there (our high schoolers joined us after school). Out of 66 pints of blood, we had 60 good pints! We are already "penciled in" for next year's blood drive.



Now more on the "giving community". Our chorus practices at a local church every Monday night. Our blood drive was on a Friday and the following Monday there was a blood drive held at the church. The chorus also sang for a portion of that blood drive and 66 pints were donated. There may be a close correlation between close harmony singing and giving of blood. We may have hit on something!

I also want to mention the **Heart of Georgia Chorus** has been very busy this month; SFL2009; a Mother's Day gig (result of receiving business card during SFL2009!); support of Relay For Life Dinner; Veteran's Day Appreciation at a local church; Older Adult Appreciation at a local church; and on the 9th of June, the chorus will be singing for the Chamber of Commerce Banquet.

I'll close by mentioning that we have a new web-site in the making. Please check it out www.hogchorus.org.

"Giving blood now comes with background music."



"Overall cost of the project was over \$8,000, but with the grant, and help from Harmony Foundation, the cost to each boy was only \$125!"

Atlanta Vocal Project from Atlanta, GA by Jim Moore

The **Atlanta Vocal Project** recently received a sizable grant to apply to Youth In Harmony programs. Recognizing that there were many high school boys in the greater Atlanta area who had previously attended a Harmony Explosion camp, and seeing that the Society was continuing to hold an International Youth Chorus Festival (contest) at the Barbershop Harmony Society Mid-winter Convention, AVP assembled a 15-man chorus to participate. The name chosen was **Georgia Spirit**. A few AVP members qualified age-wise and helped to anchor the group. The average age of the group was 17. **Clay Hine**, with the help of **Tim Brooks**, directed. Airline tickets and uniforms were purchased, three songs were learned over a period of six bi-weekly weekend rehearsals and off to Pasadena they went. Overall cost of the project was over \$8,000, but with the grant, and help from Harmony Foundation, the cost to each boy was only \$125! A great time was had by all. Georgia Spirit finished only 1 percentage point out of first place for their age plateau. There is already talk of getting the group back together for the 2010 Mid-winter Convention in Tampa.



129 & Counting by Shelby Robert



What would you call four guys who have spent 48, 38, 24 and 19 years, respectively, as active members of the Barbershop Harmony Society? That's **129 & Counting**, the latest quartet to come out of Marietta's **Big Chicken Chorus**. All four guys are accomplished quartet singers and they are having the time of their lives making some great harmony. They have known each other for years, but they never sang together as a quartet...until now! **129 & Counting** was officially organized on April 7 and since that time they have hit the ground running. With several successful performances already under their belts, they are excitedly making plans to compete in the fall. Pretty energetic for four guys who have been around for 129 years!

For more information on availability or booking for **129 & Counting**, contact Bill Schreiner (Bill@129andCounting.com) or (770) 953-3970. The quartet has a broad repertoire and is available for chapter shows, conventions, after dinner entertainment, "stroll-and-sing" engagements, and all sorts of performance opportunities. To impress your audience, visit www.129andCounting.com. You'll be glad you did.

"Pretty energetic for four guys who have been around for 129 years!"

Stone Mountain Chorus from Stone Mountain, GA by Scott Phillips

I would first like to remind you that Memorial Day is a United States federal holiday observed on the last Monday in May. Formerly known as Decoration Day, it commemorates U.S. men and women who died while in the military service. First enacted to honor Union soldiers of the American Civil War (it is celebrated near the day of reunification after the Civil War), it was expanded after World War I to include American casualties of any war or military action.

This year the **Stone Mountain Chorus** helped remember those who we honor with this holiday with two performances in Gwinnett County (in Metro Atlanta, GA).

Saturday, May 23rd, the chorus performed at the Memorial Day Celebration held in City Park in the city of Lilburn, GA. The chorus entertained those who gathered even with threatening weather in the forecast. We closed our performance with our standard Armed Forces Medley and America The Beautiful paying our respect to the holiday.

Then on Monday, May 25th, the chorus performed in the city of Dacula, GA following the city's 16th annual Memorial Day Parade. The parade through Dacula has become the largest parade in Georgia honoring the Memorial Day holiday. We were proud to be the opening entertainment following the parade performing before a packed downtown area.

These two community performances continue to open the doors for the Barbershop community in the Metro Atlanta area. Through awareness and performing opportunities like this we continue to expand the reach of our Society.

"This year the Stone Mountain Chorus helped remember those who we honor with this holiday"

13th Colony Sound from Savannah, GA by Bob Kearns



In April, the **13th Colony Sound** from Savannah, GA performed "The Barber of Seville, GA" at Armstrong Atlantic State University's Fine Arts Theater. The theme of the Show was the eternal conflict between the bottle and the Bible, with the village barber and his customers keeping all heads cool - until a visit to the village by Sweet Georgia Brown herself raised temperatures through the roof! The Chorus fully endorsed the idea of singing TO Sweet Georgia Brown rather than singing ABOUT her, and the audience shared that opinion!

Sweet Georgia Brown was played by Savannah salon entrepreneur, Ms. Ashley Love.

"Sweet Georgia Brown herself raised temperatures through the roof!"



Garden City Chorus from Augusta, GA by Harry Kline

*“...best show
GCC has ever
done!”*

The **Garden City Chorus** performed a spring show on May 2nd at the Maxwell Center for the Performing Arts on the campus of Augusta State University. It was well attended considering the competition we had that night, including Hal Holbrook as Mark Twain at another venue in Augusta.

The first half of the show was a short, comical play called “Experiencing Technical Difficulties.” It was well received and got lots of laughs and lots of applause for the nine songs included with the dialog. Then the second half included two local quartets and the showstopper, **Lunch Break**. Their performance was par excellence and we were fortunate to have them perform with us.

Several former and current barber shoppers were in the audience and all had rave reviews for the show. A few commented that it was the “best show GCC has ever done!” It was our 46th annual production, by the way.

An afterglow followed the show providing another opportunity for us to share our craft and our fellowship. All agreed it was a magical evening.

The Memphis Men of Harmony Chorus from Memphis, TN by Jim McLane

*“We are
Memphis men
who love to sing
and entertain
and we seek
harmony in our
singing and
fellowship.”*

“What’s in a name?,” was once asked by William Shakespeare. In mid 2008, the Memphis, TN chapter began to ask the same question about the name of our chorus. Recognizing that our **Cotton Boll Chorus** name might not be serving us in terms of recognition and image within the community, we decided to explore changing our name. With input and name suggestions from our members at a brain-storming session, a final list of six potential names, including our current name, was prepared and submitted throughout the community. The ballot form survey was sent to randomly selected audience members, as well as high school singers, people in the arts, entertainment, marketing and events planning areas of the Memphis community. From those results we decided on a new chorus name. On April 18th we performed our first annual show as **The Memphis Men of Harmony Chorus**.

We believe the new name really says who we are and what we do. We are Memphis men who love to sing and entertain and we seek harmony in our singing and fellowship. However, we are still the Memphis chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society and will continue to carry the legacy of our rich 63-year history and traditions that include: our 1958 International Chorus Championship under Dixie Cotton Boll Chorus, the only chorus in the Dixie District to claim a chorus gold medal, and we are the home chapter of the 1956 International Quartet Champions, the Confederates. We are committed to our four-part a cappella style of harmony and continue our charitable support of community and youth music programs that we are known for in Memphis and the Mid South.

Golf Capital Chorus from Pinehurst, NC by Fred Wolferman

*“This year’s
show will
feature the
music of Harry
Warren,
probably the
most prolific
and popular
composer you
never heard of.”*

The **Golf Capital Chorus** has announced that tickets are now available for its fall show to be held at the Pinecrest High School Auditorium on Saturday, November 7, 2009.

This year’s show will feature the music of Harry Warren, probably the most prolific and popular composer you never heard of.

Harry had 42 number one songs on the old show, “Your Hit Parade.” Irving Berlin had 33. Harry had songs featured in 100 movies. Harry wrote the music for “42nd Street.” He was nominated for 11 Academy Awards and won three.

Some of the songs to be featured in the show are: “42nd Street,” “September in the Rain,” “That’s Amore,” “Chattanooga Choo Choo,” “Lullaby of Broadway,” and “On the Atchison, Topeka and the Santa Fe.”

This year’s featured guest quartet will be **Max Q**, 2007 International Gold Medal Champions.

Tickets are available from any chorus member.

The **Golf Capital Chorus**, as always, encourages any men interested in singing, camaraderie, and earning money for local charities to visit a rehearsal any Monday night at 7:00 p.m. at the Community Presbyterian Church in Pinehurst, NC. There is still time to join and participate in the November 7 concert.

Golf Capital Chorus from Pinehurst, NC by Chuck Norberg

The weekend of March 20-22 proved to be an exciting and happy one for seventeen members of the **Golf Capital Chorus** from Pinehurst, NC. This was the weekend of the Dixie District Convention held in Winston-Salem and marked the first time that a group from our chapter had participated in a competitive situation. We joined with others from within the District to make "The Big Chorus." However, our contingent of "traveling troubadours" comprised the largest percentage of the chorus.

Although we were not entered in the competition, per se, we did ask to be judged as if we were. There were twenty one choruses entered in the competition, vying for the opportunity to be the 2009 Dixie Chorus Champion. Consequently, we became the "mike testers" opening the festivities at 10:30 a.m.

The chorus assembled at 8:30 a.m. to practice the two songs we were going to sing. Our director was **Jeremy Conover**, a very talented young man who knew exactly what he wanted from his singers and how to get it. He had to be good as he had less than two hours to work with us before "show time." Remember, this was the first time that the full chorus had sung together and the first time we had been with our director!

When the final results of the entire competition and judging were announced, our group had garnered enough points to equal a fifth place finish had we entered actual competition.

This was an experience in which all of us have taken great pride and inspired us even more to "KEEP THE WHOLE WORLD SINGING."

"...this was the first time that the full chorus had sung together and the first time we had been with our director!"

Land of the Sky from Asheville, NC by Bob Burns

Although the Asheville, NC chapter draws from seven North Carolina and South Carolina counties, most of our members come from the North Carolina counties of Buncombe, Henderson and Haywood. We put on an annual "show" in each of those counties every fall and car-pools run from those locations to our Tuesday meetings and to our various performances.

Our Haywood County members asked the Board if they could try their hand at adding people to their car pools (getting some new members) by hosting a chapter meeting. The Board, of course, agreed.

Articles were placed in the local newspapers, posters went up all over Waynesville, NC, quartets sang at church choir rehearsals, and a regular LOS meeting was held May 12th at the First United Methodist Church in Waynesville. We feel that we need to expose any potential new members to our regular meeting, which in our case, a Chuck Greene Compellingly Attractive Chapter Meeting.

The event was a great success. We had 33 Asheville chapter members, five guests (three new and two returning guests who followed us there, including one who drove 1 1/2 hours) and 18 visitors. Everyone seemed to have a great time (I know that I did). One of the guests has already joined!

Here is a photo of 13 guys who live in Haywood County, including two guests. Another member from that county was not able to attend...that bunch (14) could easily establish their own chapter!



If you want to see and hear what went on, go to:

Higher resolution: www.ashevillebarbershop.org/videos/waynesville/waynesville.wmv

Lower resolution: www.ashevillebarbershop.org/videos/waynesville/waynesville_lo.wmv

[lower resolution loads faster]

"...that bunch (14) could easily establish their own chapter!"