



# Dixie Town Crier

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



February 1, 2015

Volume 7, Issue 2

March 13-15; Registration Now Open

## Dixie District Spring Convention in "Rocket City"

The Spring 2015 Dixie District Convention and Contest will be held in Huntsville, AL on March 13-15. The convention venue will be the East Hall of the Von Braun Center in downtown Huntsville. The headquarters hotel is the Embassy Suites next to the Von Braun Center.

Registration for the convention is now taking place online at [www.dixiedistrict.org](http://www.dixiedistrict.org). The registration price is \$51. However, an early bird registration rate of \$41 is available if made before March 1. A mail-in form is also available on page 3 of this issue.

In addition to the headquarters hotel, rooms will be available at the Spring Hills Suites and Homestead Suites. Links to these hotels, including rates and convention codes, are available on the district website: [www.dixiedistrict.org](http://www.dixiedistrict.org).



## Charlie McCann

**50+ Year Member Barbershop**

**Harmony Society**

**Past International President**

**Past Dixie District President**

**Past Nashville Chapter President**

**Dixie District Hall of Fame**

**Nashville Chapter BOTY,**

**Dixie District BOTY**

**Self-Proclaimed:**

**"World's Greatest Tenor"**



# Spring Contest Information

By Jim Sams

## Contest Administrator

Gentlemen Songsters!

The time is upon us once again to gather at the **Embassy Suites Huntsville, 800 Monroe St. SW, Huntsville, AL 35801 (256-539-7373)** on **March 13-15** for the **2015 International Quartet Prelims and Dixie Chorus Convention**. This convention will be held under **ONE ROOF**, with the **Von Braun Center** serving as our contest site, and will be very convenient for all attendees. **I am depending on each of you** to be sure that this word gets out to **every member/competitor/performer** in your chapters. Check out the Society website in the **eBiz** section under **Contest Entry** to fill out your chorus or quartet **CJ-20 contest entry form**. We will have an **International Quartet Prelim (2 rounds)**, a **District Chorus Championship**, and a **Most Improved Chorus** award based on chorus scores from last spring. We will also offer a **Score for Evaluations Only** session for those choruses/quartets **who do not wish to compete** but would like to receive your **personal score sheet** and a **60-minute coaching or 45-minute evaluation session**. We just need **YOU** there to participate!

Also if there are those choruses who do not wish to participate in the contest but would opt for a **small chorus festival** in conjunction with the contest festivities, I need to hear from you **post haste!** We are striving to put together a cadre of **Dixie coaches/judges** apart from our regular judging panel to work with **2-3 choruses/quartets who are not choosing to compete or perform for Score/Evaluation Only** for at least **1 1/2 hours each** and possibly put together a **megachorus** of these festival groups to sing in the **Joe Barbershopper Chorus** on stage and, possibly, on the **Chorditorium stage** Saturday night. Again, **I need to hear from your chapters** if you have **ANY interest** in this festival so that we can begin planning for those needs

As promised, the **Evaluations/Coaching sessions** following each contest session will be **YOUR CHOICE**. You **MUST let me know** what **YOU** want in the way of **coaching or evaluations on your entry form** in order to be entered in the contest this fall. **YOU MUST ENTER YOUR CHOICE OF EVALUATION OR COACHING** in the **Comment** section of the **CJ-20**. **ENTRY FORMS (CJ-20's) will not be complete** until I have **YOUR CHOICE** of evaluation/coaching listed below. Please look at these and make your choice in advance of filling out your entry form. Then make sure you have **indicated in the comment section of the CJ-20** what your desires are for evaluation or coaching. **Here is the list along with the judging panel that will be on tap for our contest:**

**No Evaluation or Coaching**

**Evaluation Only-3 judges 15min each**

**Coaching-3 judges 20min each**

**Coaching-2 judges (SNG/PRS) 30min each**

**Coaching-2 judges (SNG/MUS) 30min each**

**Coaching-2 judges (MUS/PRS) 30min each**

**Your choice of judges (based on 1<sup>st</sup> come/ 1<sup>st</sup> served) for options 3-6 (indicate in comment section on CJ-20)**

**Other option if not listed above (Indicate in comment section on CJ-20)**

**Judges who are on the Official Panel:** MUS- Steve Jamison & Raymond Schwarzkopf; PRS-Dwain Brobst & Barry Towner; SNG-Harry Haflett & Chad St. John

If you have any trouble filling out the **CJ-20** for your chorus or quartet, **PLEASE contact me ASAP** and allow me to walk you through the process. I didn't cut and paste that lengthy process into this article because it is so bulky and I'm not sure most of you even read it. If you need it, I will be more than happy to send you a copy for you to work through it. **Again, I am available to help you fill out your CJ-20's if needed.**

**The cut off for CJ-20 entries for this convention is midnight February 20th** which NOW gives you **three weeks** to get your entries filled out. That is **3 weeks from the start of the convention weekend**. Please let me hear from you **SOON** as to what your plans are for this convention. I would like to know what your intentions are as early as possible so that I may contact you to discuss the possibilities with you.

I will be sending out weekly reminders as to our progress. You may contact me at [jimsamsca@bellsouth.net](mailto:jimsamsca@bellsouth.net) and at 901-488-3128. **EACH of you** is important to the well-being and future of our Dixie District. And we want you to have a grand experience at this **2015 Dixie Fall Convention**. Bring your family and friends to enjoy the very best that DIXIE DISTRICT has to offer!

ALL y'all come now, ya hear??!!



Dixie District Spring 2015 Convention  
March 13-15, 2015 – Huntsville, Alabama

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter Number: \_\_\_\_\_ (ex. B104)

Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_ Chorus/Quartet: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Handicapped Services Needed (Request must be received prior to March 1, 2015)

Description	How Many	Cost	Total
Early Bird Registration Member		\$41.00	
Early Bird Registration Guests		\$41.00	
If mailed after March 1 add \$10.00 per registration		\$10.00	
		Total Due	

Make check/money order payable to "Dixie District BHS"  
**PLEASE WEAR YOUR CHAPTER NAME TAG**  
We will be using pre-printed tickets for entrance. No Name tags will be printed.

Credit card payment complete the information below. (MasterCard, Visa, American Express or Discover)

Credit Card No. \_\_\_\_\_ exp(MM/YY) \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name as it appears on Card \_\_\_\_\_ CVV2 Code \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL COMPLETED FORM TO:  
Russell Bell  
2716 Braemore Gln SW  
Powder Springs, GA 30127-1760  
Phone: (770) 439-8249

email to:  
registration@dixiedistrict.org

\*Form must be Postmarked by  
March 1, 2015 to receive early  
bird registration rate.

Official Use only  
Circle One - Mail - Online - Email Form Received on \_\_\_\_\_ Entered into Database \_\_\_\_\_  
Ticket Numbers assigned \_\_\_\_\_

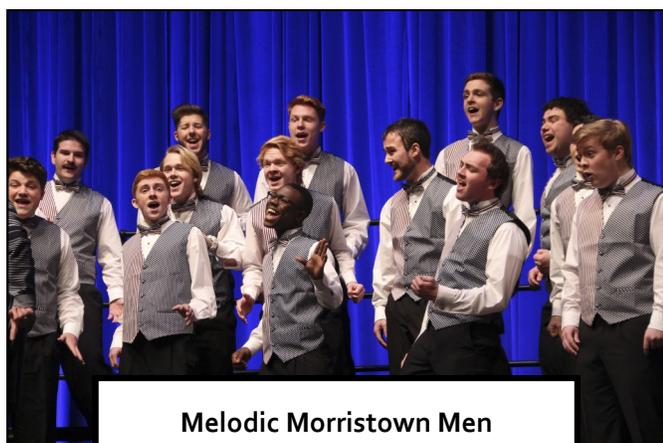
OR REGISTER ONLINE AT WWW.DIXIEDISTRICT.ORG

# Dixie District Representatives 2015 Youth Chorus Festival

*Photos Courtesy of Lorin May,  
Barbershop Harmony Society*



**Southern Gentlemen**  
Georgia Southern University—SUPERIOR



**Melodic Morristown Men**  
Morristown, TN—GOOD



**Music City Youth Chorus**  
Nashville, TN Chapter—OUTSTANDING



**Georgia Spirit**  
Atlanta Metro & Atlanta Area —OUTSTANDING



**Foothills Sound**  
Knoxville, TN Powell HS—EXCELLENT

## Youth In Harmony

Jim Moore, VP

### Date set for Harmony Explosion Camp

Put this date on your calendar: July 16 – 19, 2015, Harmony Explosion Camp, University of Tennessee Chattanooga.

### Harmony University Music Educator Scholarship Nominations

If you know of a music educator that would like to attend Harmony University on a full Dixie District scholarship, you may submit that teacher's nomination before April 1, to Jim Moore, 3385 Breton Court NE, Atlanta, GA 30319. Include a resume and a letter indicating interest in attending.

## Director Search



The Roswell Firehouse Harmony Brigade of BHS is looking for a director. A barbershopper is preferred, but is not required. Directing experience is a plus. We're a small chapter with an unconventional approach in the Atlanta, Ga., area. If interested, please contact Vern Otwell, MuVP, at:

Phone: 404-509-7075

E-mail: [hvotwell@gmail.com](mailto:hvotwell@gmail.com).

Visit our website at <http://therfhb.org>.

# Nashville Chapter Honors Memory of Long-Time Member Charlie McCann



The Celebration of Life Ceremony held in honor of Charlie McCann included many participants from the Nashville Chapter. Charlie was a member of the chapter for more than 50 years, serving along the way as Chapter, Dixie District, and Society President. (The complete obituary appears on page 7.) **MC4**, the current Dixie District Champion Quartet, was the first to sing at the service. The **Music City Chorus** then sang four songs. Chapter member Bob Davenport delivered the sermon, with Clyde Perkins presenting the benediction. During the service, Jim Warner, the 1988 International Society President and member of the Memphis chapter, gave remarks as a longtime friend and barber-shopper. (Photo courtesy of Lee McNeil)

*Do you have loved ones in the Nashville area?*



# Singing Valentines

*Sung to your Sweetheart by a Barbershop Quartet*



*Say "I Love You" with a song!*

*Includes: 2 live songs, a red rose, and a box of candy*

**Basic**  
**\$50**  
 Any time all day

**Standard**  
**\$75**  
 2-4 hour window

**Deluxe**  
**\$100**  
 Time-specific  
 (restaurant or business) or outside the area

*Deliveries will be Friday & Saturday, Feb 13<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup>*

Call **615-200-6193**, or order online at **www.musiccitychorus.org**

# ORDER YOURS TODAY!

# Dixie District Notes

## Passing of Two Hall of Fame Members

### CHARLES PHILLIP MCCANN

**Charles Phillip McCann**, age 86 of Nashville, TN went home to be with the Lord on January 19, 2015.

Charles was born in Nashville, TN on November 7, 1928 to the late John & Hazel McCann and was raised on a farm in Brentwood.

He attended David Lipscomb High School and graduated with honors from Vanderbilt University's School of Engineering in 1950. He began his career with McCann Steel Company, a family business, and later started his own engineering firm, Charles McCann and Associates. He retired as a structural engineer and closed his firm December 31, 2014.

Charlie had a passion for a cappella four part harmony and was a member of the Barbershop Harmony Society for more than fifty years. He served the organization at the local and district levels before being elected International President of the Society in 1990. Among the many honors Charlie has received are the Chapter and District Barbershopper of the Year award and was inducted into the Dixie District Hall of Fame. Over the years he sang in several registered quartets, including three district senior champions.

He was preceded in death by his loving wife Jean Barrett McCann; daughter, Penelope Joyce (William) Waller; and sister, Dorothy McDonald.

Survivors include his soul mate; Betty Shelton; daughter, Kathy (Robert Lee) Smith; sister, Carol Burden; brother, John (Ruth) McCann; 6 grand children; 10 great grandchildren and a host of nieces & nephews. The family received friends on Saturday, January 24, 2015 at Harpeth Hills Funeral Home where a celebration of Charlie's life was conducted on Sunday January 25.

A Graveside service was held Monday, January 26, 2015 at Harpeth Hills Memory Gardens.

In Lieu of flowers expressions of sympathy may take the form of donations to Harmony Foundation International, Inc. 110 Seventh Ave. N., Suite 200, Nashville, TN 37203 [www.harmonyfoundation.org](http://www.harmonyfoundation.org), in honor of Charles Phillip McCann.

### THOMAS JOE HINE

**Thomas Joe Hine** died at Tranquility at Kennesaw Mountain on December 28, 2014, ending his 3 ½ year battle with cancer. He was peaceful and surrounded by his family. A memorial service for Thom was held on Saturday, January 3, 2014 at Alpharetta First United Methodist Church in Alpharetta, GA.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to Harmony Foundation, to acknowledge Thom's lifelong passion to the Barbershop Harmony Society. For those so inclined, please add a note at the bottom of the donation, "In Memory of Thom Hine."

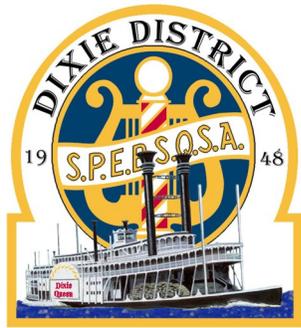
Thom was born on August 19, 1935 in Martinsville, Indiana to June and Marion Hine. At age 14 his high school shop teacher wanted to form a barbershop quartet, and the rest, as they say, is history. He quickly developed an incredible love of vocal harmony and barbershop singing that led him to lifelong friends, his wife, Carla, of 52 years, and a family connected by love and music. Thom was a 64-year member of the Barbershop Harmony Society (BHS), and tirelessly shared his passion and his talent for singing and for leadership with barbershop singers across the US and around the world.

Thom graduated from Proviso Township High School (Maywood, IL), and received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics from Lake Forest University (Chicago, IL) in 1957, where he was a member of the Kappa Sigma fraternity. He served in the US Army and Illinois National Guard, achieving the rank of Specialist E-4. After college he worked at Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company, then was employed in various roles at Allstate Insurance Company for 33 years, retiring in 1993 to pursue his passion - barbershop harmony.

Throughout his life he lived in many places, including Indiana, the Chicago area (a few times), Arkansas, North Carolina, Ohio, Michigan, and finally metro Atlanta, as director and then Director Emeritus of the Big Chicken Chorus, and then as a member of the Atlanta Vocal Project. Thom loved coaching and teaching barbershop harmony, and directed several choruses throughout his life. He sang in many quartets, including the popular Midnight Oilers, The Four Henchman (11th place, International Barbershop Quartet Competition in 1982), The Atlanta Forum (Dixie District Quartet Champions with his son, Clay, in 1987), and The Old Kids on the Block (International Senior Quartet Champions in 1991).

Thom is survived by his loving wife, Carla Beyer Hine, his sisters Patricia Haskett (Carmel, IN) and Jean Morgan (Scottsdale, AZ), his sons, Clayton and Bradley Hine, their wives Becki and Georgia Hine, grandchildren Melody, Camden, and Kelso, and the thousands of people he made part of his extended family.

We'll miss you Thom...but the bass section in heaven just got a whole lot better!



# Leadership ACADEMY

January 2015  
Fayetteville, GA





## THE DIXIE TOWN CRIER

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

Dwain Chambers, President

Stan Peppenhorst, VP of Marketing and Public Relations

David Belden, Editor

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

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

# 2015 Dixie District Calendar

## Spring Contest

March 13-15

Huntsville, Alabama

## Harmony Explosion Camp

July 16-19

University of Tennessee Chattanooga

## Fall Contest

October 23-25

Dunwoody, Georgia

**THE DEADLINE FOR CHAPTER, CHORUS,  
AND QUARTET NEWS FOR THE MARCH 1 ISSUE  
IS FEBRUARY 25!  
SEND YOUR NEWS TO  
[DAVID.BELDEN@COMCAST.NET](mailto:DAVID.BELDEN@COMCAST.NET)**