

Dixie Town Crier

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

January 1, 2017 Volume 9, Issue 1





UPCOMING DIXIE DISTRICT EVENTS

- January 27-28: District Board Meeting, Fayetteville, GA
- January 28: District Leadership Academy, Fayetteville, GA
 - March 17-19: District Spring Convention, Huntsville, AL
 - September 22-24: District Fall Convention, Oxford, AL

Nashville Chapter to Host Celebration of Life in Honor of Steve D'Ambrosio on January 7

Steve D'Ambrosio, one of the Dixie District's most identifiable barbershoppers, passed away on December 12. The Nashville Chapter will host a Celebration of Life in honor of Steve on January 7 at 2 p.m. The Celebration of Life will be held at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 2300 Knights Of Columbus Blvd, Nashville, TN. The Knights of Columbus Hall is the regular rehearsal site of the Music City Chorus.

Steve was a native of the state of New York and sang in a chapter there before relocating to the Dixie District. He previously sang with both the Huntsville and Birmingham chapters. At the time of his death, Steve had recently performed on the Music City Chorus Christmas show and had just been installed at the President of the Athens Chapter (Southern Splendor Chorus).

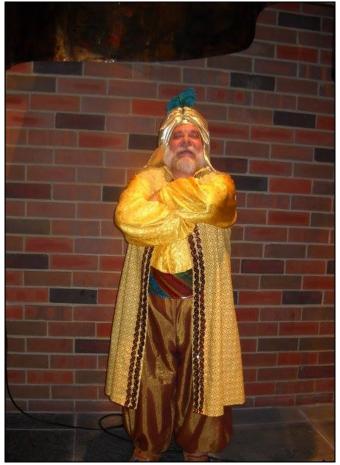
Not only was Steve an outstanding bass, he had a gregarious personality that shown on and off the stage. In sharing memories of Steve, Music City Chorus members almost unanimously shared the same story: Steve was the first person to greet them when they visited as a guest, was the first person to welcome them when they became a member, and each week

made sure each man made was welcome at rehearsal. Steve was well-known throughout the Dixie District as he manned the Dixie Marketplace at Dixie District conventions for many years. It was in this capacity that his nevermet-a-stranger personality came to be well-known to hundreds of barbershoppers and spouses.

Steve's love of barbershop extended to the international level. Grady Kerr, BHS Historian, memorialized Steve in a Facebook post. "Stevie was one of the GREAT guys. He served on the Society Historical Archives Committee for over 10 years and was dedicated to preserving the history of the Society and very instrumental in the 75 Anniversary Exhibit seen in Toronto in 2013. He spent HOURS working in the Archives (as a volunteer) and made a difference with his work and passion for the Barbershop Harmony Society and the members."

The Nashville Chapter invited barbershoppers from through the Dixie District to join us on January 7 as we honor Steve's memory.





IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT!

COME TO THE 2017 DIXIE DISRICT LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

What: 2017 Leadership Academy (Chapter Officer Training)

When: Saturday, Jan 28th, 2016 9AM - 4PM

Where: Covenant Presbyterian Church, 819 Hwy 314 N. Fayetteville, Ga. 30214

<u>Hotel:</u> Holiday Inn Express, Fayetteville, Ga. <u>770-461-5600</u> Negotiated room rate \$99/night. 2 man rooms (\$49.50/man). Includes free breakfast. Tell them you're with the "Dixie District Leadership Academy". All attendees staying at the hotel must pay for your own room and arrange for your own roommate.

<u>Cost:</u> ONLY \$20 per man to cover facility and faculty. Pay at the door. <u>Does NOT include food.</u> Chow provided separately, or you can eat on your own.

<u>Classes:</u> Each class is taught twice for your convenience. AM class is 9-Noon, PM class is 1-4. You can attend one class twice or attend another class of your choice to broaden your knowledge or if you're time constrained, just go to the one class you need.

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PLEASE RSVP ASAP to pwezul@gmail.com AND TELL ME WHICH CLASS YOU DESIRE

Coming in 2017

Music City Chorus Christmas CD in Recording Process











Photos by Reggie Rogers

Nashville Chapter Installs Officers, Presents Awards at End-of-the-Year Dinner



Paul Wietlisbach (pictured below, with Music City Chorus President George Reynolds) was presented two awards for 2016. He was given the President's Cup for service to the chorus and the Frank Cristina Spirit Award.



Ben Krotje was honored as the 2016 Music City Chorus Barbershopper of the Year at the annual Christmas Dinner on December 20. Ben was presented his award by his father, Pete, the winner of the award in 2015.





Photos by David Belden

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THE DIXIE TOWN CRIER

An electronic publication of the Dixie District of the Barbershop Harmony Society
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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 January 25. Submissions should be sent to:

david.belden@comcast.net



The Heart of Georgia Barbershop Chorus sang Christmas songs to the residents and staff at Warner Robins Rehab & Nursing Home. Photos by Luis Morales

