

THE BLENDER

Newsletter of The Chattanooga Choo Choo Chapter -Dixie District- SPEBSQSA



July 1994

Volume 3 Issue 7



THANKS FOR THE GREAT TURNOUT AT THE CHATTANOOGA CHOO CHOO

By
Steve Grubb
President

Greetings fellow barbershoppers. It's hard to believe half a year has passed. It doesn't seem possible to me. Our membership has stayed around 50, and that's very impressive, considering the number of sing outs have decreased due to our involvement in the Fall Convention preparation.

Our chapter is one of a few across the country selected for study because of our membership retention. We recruit them and keep them. This is true, thanks to a lot of fun and fellowship we all enjoy on meeting night.

Are you studying your music? October seems to be a long way off, but it will be here before you know it. The coaching retreat at Covenant College will help us be "A#" for the fall contest and the appearance during the evening show. Don't miss this opportunity for fun, fellowship, and learning in a beautiful surrounding high on top of Look-out Mountain. James Coulter has done a great job lining up this weekend, so be sure you don't miss this retreat.

We had a wonderful turn-out for our photo session on July 11 at the
continued on page 5, column 3

Fall convention news
by
David Collins



Moving into high
gear as registrations
mount

Thanks to the work of a number of our chapter and Belles members we folded, "stickered" and mailed 1550 flyers to every one of the Dixie District's members. We are asking them to register and make their hotel and special event selection now.

We didn't mail them to our chapter's members, but will put them in your folder. Please get your reservations in ASAP. We need the money to pay back our people for advances they have made (rent, overalls, printing, etc.)

Things are going well without preparations. For Emcees we have Carlson and LaRosa for Friday night, Tim Hamerhan for Saturday afternoon and Jim Warner for Saturday night.

For mike testers on Friday night we have the *Chattanooga Shoe Shine Boys*, and for the Saturday afternoon chorus contest we have the *Land of the Sky Chorus* from Asheville, North Carolina. For the Seniors contest we have the *Dignitaries*. We have quartets and choruses coming out of the woodwork
(continued on page 4, column 3)



Music Notes
by
James Coulter
Music V-P

Just a reminder to each of you! It would be admirable to be off the paper on our two contest numbers before the Covenant Weekend on July 29 & 30. The songs are:

(1) *Good-bye My Lady Love* (2) *Three Girl Medley*

Put forth the effort and be surprised what can be accomplished on that weekend if everyone comes prepared. Schedules for the weekend are to be in your hands on July 18. If you don't receive one, please see me.

Remember, we are a top ten chorus. Keep pushing on our three numbers we are to present as host chapter for the District Fall Convention. The numbers are:

- (1) Ride the Railroad Tonight
- (2) Welcome Back to Dixieland
- (3) Chattanooga Choo Choo

Most of you have not been a chapter hosting a district convention. The demands are seemingly endless and time requirements are gathering like a snowball. I challenge each of you to step forward and help in any manner you can; ask how you can help. It is necessary and appreciated.

**BARBERSHOPPING
CAN BE FUN!**

inside..

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The Chattanooga Chapter

Meets Weekly
Monday 7:00PM

Brainerd Baptist Church
300 Brookfield
Chattanooga, Tenn. 37412

Bulletin Editor
Glen Dabbs
9104 River Oaks Road
Harrison, TN 37341-9504
344-5544

Who's job is it??

*Copied from the
Derbytown Gazette
Akron, Ohio newsletter
Ed Crosley-Editor*

This is a story about four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody, and Nobody. There was an important job to be done and Everybody was sure Somebody would do it. Somebody got angry because it was Everybody's job. Everybody thought Anybody could do it but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it. It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done.

TREASURER'S REPORT

by
Glen Dabbs

The month began with \$4439.63. We received \$2341.67 and disbursed \$1565.35 leaving us with a balance of \$5215.95 as of June 30.

We still are unable to resolve the spring show finances. There is still ticket and ad sales revenue outstanding. If you have not reconciled your ticket or ad money, please do so as soon as possible.

SPLINTERS FROM THE BOARD

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Music Committee

James Coulter advised the board that the fourth steps for all of our risers should arrive in about two weeks.

The coaching retreat is of great importance to the chorus. It is a concentrated effort to polish our performance songs. Every member should make an effort to attend the entire session.

The director and assistant director signed contracts for the coming year.

Business manager

The members of the chorus need to submit their registrations for the district convention just as soon as they can

Although the chorus is not accepting any church sing outs until after the convention, we can still use some paid performances. If you have any prospects, please let Earle Fraser know.

Convention update

Plans are progressing well and we are essentially on schedule with the pre-convention activities. Forrest Bugher, Rick Shultz, and Glen Dabbs are coordinating the development of computer software to aid in a smooth registration for the convention.

A great deal of behind the scenes effort is taking place by numerous members and the Choo Choo Belles. We can use your help as well. Volunteer for an area where you can help,

THERE WAS QUARTET FROM BEL
AIRE
FOUR GUYS WITH NOT VERY
MUCH HAIR
AS THEY BOWED LEFT AND RIGHT,
IN THE GLOW OF THE LIGHT
THEY COULD SCARCELY BE SEEN
FOR THE GLARE

[A. L. Wright]

Perhaps you are as impressed as I am by the announcement by the Akron Ohio "Derbytown Gazette" concerning their guests for their 1995 Annual

Show. They are: **Jokers Wild** (first place in the 1995 International contest in Pittsburgh. That's only the beginning. They also have lined up **Nightlife** (second place winner) and **Marquis** (fourth place).

We pass our congratulations along to the Dixie District's representatives for their outstanding finishes. The **Big Chicken Chorus** placed seventh in the chorus competition and **FRED** finished in eleventh position, just one place from being in the finals.

The count-down toward the fall convention continues to grow closer and closer. Excitement is mounting and all the various committees and individuals responsible for bringing off a great convention are hard at work.

Have you offered to help? There are a number of jobs to do and it is going to take the efforts of the whole chorus to accomplish our goal of the very best district convention Dixie has ever had.

For the next two weeks, a list of members, their addresses, and telephone numbers is going to be at the tub file during our meeting. Please take the time to review the listing for your name and verify the correctness of the information. If you find and error or omission, make a note of it on the form. A new roster will be printed once this is completed.



Shirley "Shook" Spauld

BARBERSHOP HARMONY IS
OUT OF THIS WORLD





THE CHOO CHOO BELLES BY SANDRA STANSBURY

What a wonderful turnout we had for our meeting at the Choo Choo. It was so good to see all of you and the enthusiasm beginning to show on our faces! We are getting closer to the Fall Convention and we will be ready. We are eager to help and do all that we can

Belles, we need at least one door prize from each of you. You can make it or buy it. Some suggestions are: any craft item, picture frames, prints, wreaths, floral arrangements, books, tapes, you name it.

Later, we will be asking your help in supplying sandwiches and various goodies for the Hospitality Room. We will staff the Hospitality Room on Saturday, October 1 from 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Foods needed will be fruit, chips, finger foods, sweets, drinks, coffee, and juices. Be thinking about what you can contribute

Have we ever let down our Choo Choo Chorus? We want the to really be proud of our contribution to the Fall Convention.

Ladies, our yearly contribution for the Ladies' Auxiliary (the Choo Choo Belles) is coming up again in September. We elected to pay \$1.00 per month (or \$12.00 a year). It's so little but believe me, we put it to good use.

Please give serious thought to whom you would like to serve as chairperson for the Belles. The September meeting will be an important one, dues and nominations for a new chairperson. The new chairperson will take over duties on the second Monday of October. I can think of quite a few who would be ideal chairpersons. (Can't let all this talent go to waste!)

I saved the best for last. Have you seen them yet? The cookbooks are fantastic and we are very proud of them. Thank you Belles, and especially the Cookbook Committee for the splendid work. Our cookbook deserves a prize-it's that good.

Someone else that deserves a prize is Evelyn Fraser! This cookbook was Evelyn's sole project for many months and you can see the result. We love you Evelyn; thanks for your total dedication to this cookbook. As always, Belles, you're the best!



HEARTSPRING

Thanks to a contribution from a pickup quartet, "Boys of Noon", Heartspring contributions swelled by \$100.00. David Collins, David Reynolds, Scott McKenzie, and Paul Stone make up the quartet.

To stay on pace to meet our budgeted contribution, we need to find some paid sing-outs and dedicate the fees to Heartspring. Were it not for quartet contributions, we are not close to keeping pace. There is no doubt about our achieving that level again.

Don't forget to turn in the Campbell products labels. They certainly help Heartspring's efforts. Did you know there are many other products, beside soups, that qualify? Look elsewhere in *The Blender* for a listing of the products. Please retain the list and refer to it in the future.

SAVE

Campbell LABELS



REWARD...
FREE
SCHOOL
EQUIPMENT

FOR LOGOPEDICS

Quartet Activities
Submitted by
Dave Reynolds



Classic Harmony

June 10 - Retirement party for LeRoy Hobbs at the Electric Power Board.

Boys of Noon

June 14 - Gil & Curt's Flowers. Sang Happy Birthday

Just 4 Kicks

June 14 - Senior Neighbors, Red Bank Baptist Church

Mixed Blend

June 11 - Bryant, Alabama

Rock City Four

June 6 - Hospice Association, Hutcheson Memorial Hospital

June 10 - Tennessee Coachmen Association

June 16 - Cohutta Banking Corp. Cohutta Lodge, Cohutta, Georgia

June 29 - Northside Baptist Church picnic, Chester Frost Park

Stage II

July 1- Optimist Club Luncheon, Town & Country Restaurant

The songs we sing

contributed by
Richard W. Shultz

The Battle Hymn...More Than Meets The Eye

In the Willard Hotel in Washington D.C. during the early months of the Civil War, the poet Julia Ward Howe penned the words to a poem that she would later sell to the Atlantic Monthly for the sum of \$4. The poem was destined to become the Anthem of the Union, and a symbol of the commitment of America to freedom.

(continued on page 4, column 3)

The Blender is the official publication of the Chattanooga Tennessee Chapter of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America, a non-profit organization. Articles that do not carry a byline are written by the editor and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the members or officers of the chapter. Space is always available for opposing points of view. Members are encouraged to participate by contributing articles to "The Good of the Chapter"



Business Manager

Earle Fraser

JUNE ATTENDANCE

Date	Attendance	Event
6	34	Regular meeting
13	32	Regular meeting
20	25	Regular meeting
27	30	Regular meeting

Average attendance: 31

Fifteen members made the Gold Star list for perfect attendance:

Dave Abercrombie

Paul Blazek

James Coulter

Lloyd Gimber

Lamar Green

Steve Grubb

Fred Jesse

Sam Jones

John Lumpkin

Bill McKeehan

Jack Moore

Bernard Peek

Dave Reynolds

Rick Shultz

Chuck Wilson

The monthly attendance record is on our bulletin board.

The listing below is an update on scheduled sing outs for the near future.

Sunday, August 7 -- Mt Pisgah Baptist Church at 1:00 p.m. We will wear the standard summer uniform of blue shirt, white pants and white shoes.

Saturday, August 20 -- Masonic Flea Market at the Red Food Plaza on Highway 58. Warm-up begins at 12:30 p.m. and performance at 1:00 p.m.

Forty members were present for the chorus
(continued on page 6, column 2)

(continued from page 1, column 2)

as far as quality singing experiences. It promises to be an "uptown" weekend. We are in the home stretch for the Convention and will have a dry run in September to make sure we haven't forgotten something. If we keep up the good work we will make this the best convention Dixie has seen. That's our goal and nothing else will do.

(continued from page 3, column 3)

We should do our best to capture the emotions of those days every time we sing this song. There is more to the Battle Hymn of The Republic than just the stanzas containing the symbolism of the coming of the Lord into the world in the person of the Union army to right the terrible wrong of slavery, and the exhortation to the soldiers to make the kind of sacrifice to free men that Jesus made to wash away their sins.

This poem stirred a militant spirit among a worried people, and placed a religious face on a war that, to many people, was not a holy war. This is seen in two stanzas of the poem that are not usually published in sheet music or hymnals. The original poem consisted of six stanzas of which the original third stanza and the sixth stanza are not often printed. As an example of some of the more militant symbolism in the work, consider the little known third stanza:

"I have read a fiery gospel, writ in burnished rows of steel."

"As ye deal with my contempters, so with you my grace shall deal;
Let the Hero, born of woman, crush the serpent with his heel,
Since God is marching on."

The sixth stanza, when printed at all, is usually found in hymnals as the fifth verse of the hymn and contains the triumphant assertion of the Second Coming of Christ, the certainty of reward for those who would make the ultimate sacrifice, and the equal certainty of
(continued on page 5, column 1)

The Leadership Team Serving Your Chorus

President

Steve Grubb

Music V. P.

James Coulter

Membership V. P.

W.C. Strickland

Program V. P.

Dick Hagar

Secretary

David Reynolds

Asst. Secretary

Earle Fraser

Treasurer

Glen Dabbs

Asst. Treasurer

Niles Fowler

Publicity

Pat Crowe

Business Manager

Earle Fraser

Equipment Manager

Benny Malone

Bulletin Editor

Glen Dabbs

Logopedics Chairman

Charles Petty

Director

Paul Blazek

Associate Director

Horace Brock

Assitant Directors

Tom Keegan

Paul Stone

Board Members At Large

Benny Malone

Clarence Wall

Sam Jones

punishment for those who would enslave others. For as the author says:

"He is coming like the glory of the morning on the wave,
He is wisdom to the mighty, he is honor to the brave,
So the world shall be his footstool, and the soul of wrong his slave,
Our God is marching on!"

And thus ends the attempt of a woman tormented by a ruinous war to find solace in the scriptures for her soul in the midst of the insanity and horror taking place around her, and in so doing producing an enduring masterpiece.



Program
notes
by
Dick Hagar
Program V. P.

MORE EMPHASIS ON QUARTET SINGING

Well, I'm back from the International Convention, held in Pittsburgh, pumped up and ready to take on the challenge of hosting and competing in the Dixie District's Fall Convention.

During the coming weeks I am going to ask the chapter's quartets to share some of their practice techniques with the chorus. Our goal is to have all of our members actively singing in a quartet.

Bear with me as we get the program underway. It should be a lot of fun. Thanks to the *Rock City Four* for entertaining during our meeting at the Chattanooga Choo Choo.

Be sure to make a point of attending the coaching retreat at Covenant College on July 29 and 30. It promises to be a great session where we will polish our contest songs.



Barbershop trivia
taken from
The Vanishing American
Barbershop
by
Ronald S. Barlow
and contributed by
James Coulter

"Barber Bottles"

Barber Bottles stood in an impressive array of vibrant colors on the back bar of even the most humble turn-of-the-century tonsorial parlor. Next to the haircut, the sale of hair tonic was the most profitable business transaction a barber could make. He bought the alcohol-based brew by the gallon, for pennies on the dollar, or made up his own concoction from formulas appearing in early druggist manuals and barber school textbooks.

The Pure Food and Drug Act of 1906 was to stop the Snake Oil game, but even Sears Roebuck was still selling "Seven Sisters Hair Grower" from its mail order catalog in 1911. Eventually the barbers themselves discouraged the use of all but laboratory-tested hair preparations.

Shampoo magnate F. W. Fitch (1870-1951) was a leader in the battle to upgrade hair care products. His amazing story of an eleven-year-old runaway farmhand, who grew up to be a multimillionaire, is in *The Shampoo King* by Denny Rehder, published in 1981. In a nutshell, Fred Fitch discovered that the wood alcohol-based tonics of the 1890's contributed to most of hair loss. He cured his own chronic scalp condition with a coconut-oil-based shampoo and then toured the country selling his product directly to barbers. By 1915, F. W. Fitch & Co. was grossing 12 million dollars a year.



**JUST DO IT!
TAKE THE
FIRST STEP.**

Get into a quartet!

(continued from page 1, column 1)

Chattanooga Choo Choo-40 men attended. We should make the *Rebel Rousers* shine when we make the cover of the next edition.

We are inviting and expecting large numbers for this convention and we need everyone's help. Have you registered for the convention yet? It will get you set to legally sing in the contest and put cash in the convention account. This will make Glen happy and make "Guido" and "Luigi" smile because they won't have to be on contract to collect from our members.

Have you volunteered to help handle the multitudes coming our way? No job is too little, nor no member too large to contribute. We will have a great convention, and you will enjoy it more if you know you've had a hand in pulling off a splendid weekend for the district. Get involved!

Elsewhere in *The Blender* is an enrollment form for registration for the Dixie Barbershop Campout on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, August 19, 20 & 21. This is a splendid opportunity for you and your family to join with other barbershoppers for a relaxed weekend. Please do your best to make it.

Finally, isn't it grand to have our associate director, Horace Brock back and trying to keep the leads on pitch? It requires a big man, and Horace is up to it.



THERE'S MANY A FINE BASS IN
THE WES
BUT THE ONE THEY ALL SEEM TO
LIKE BEST,
IS A WEE GUY CALLED JOE, WITH
A VOICE SO DARN LOW, LIKE A
TUBA THAT'S BUILT IN HIS CHEST



Something to Crowe
about
by
Pat Crowe
Publicity V. P.

The big one is history. Thanks to Brian Lynch of Communications and Garry Stamm of Marketing we had good national media coverage of the International Convention. Saturday and Sunday CNN gave excellent exposure to the chorus from Sweden. Using them as the lead in and again at the close of every segment I viewed.

On the Sunday edition of *Good Morning America* they had a longer segment and an interview with quartet winners *Jokers Wild*. While watching the Jokers interview, they convinced me that at our seminars and functions we attend around the country, events like COTS and Lakeside Harmony, etc., there should be a class on "Being Interviewed by the Media."

If you saw the Jokers interview, I'm sure you came to the same conclusion. No "JOKE," it was sad. First, they did not designate a speaker for the group. Second, in my estimation they didn't seem to know much about the Society; not its Goals, not its Mission nor its Vision Statement.

When asked about quartets, they looked at each other with the look of "HUH?" on their faces, mumbled the appropriate AH? AH'S to match their look of "HUH" until one blurted out with terror and desperation in his voice-- "It's a truly American way of singing."

It's easy being a Monday morning quarterback, just sitting back and not staring into the big eye of a TV camera. I'm sure everyone goes to the competition with the feeling of being a winner. They live and breathe practice, practice, practice to become that winner.

So, my point is, if you feel like a winner, be prepared, practice, practice,
(continued on page 7, column 1)

(Continued from page 4, column 3)

photograph at the Chattanooga Choo Choo locomotive. A hearty thanks to all who attended in spite of thunderstorms that abated in time for the picture taking session.. As most of you know, this picture will be the front page for the next *Rebel Rouser*, the district bulletin issue, featuring the Chattanooga Convention.

Just a reminder-- we will not schedule any more church performances until after the district convention.

Where does the time go? We will soon be working on the Christmas show as well as the contest numbers, plus the performance at the Tivoli. We are busy, busy, busy, which is the sign of a successful chorus.

Don't forget the coaching session at Covenant College on July 29 and 30.



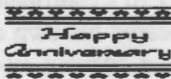
Birthdays

July

- 3 Tom Keegan
- 5 Jack Moore
- 17 Earle Fraser

August

- 10 John Lumpkin
- 17 Charles Petty
- 20 Clarence Wall
- 24 Glen Dabbs



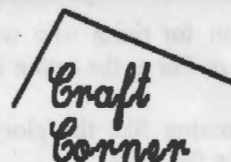
Anniversaries

July

- 2 Charles & Joyce Petty
- 18 Lloyd & Mary Gimber
- 30 Jack & Dot Moore
- 30 Rick & Debbie Shultz

August

- 7 David & Carol Collins
- 19 Dan & Kathleen Bruns
- 21 Bernard & Glenda Peek



Copied from a brochure published by the Whale City Sound, Zaanstad, Holland and carries a message for all barbershoppers.

Barbershop-singing has specific rules

always men's or ladies' chorus; never mixed

always sing by heart - never sight-singing

always four voices and a capella

no soloists

no "fifth-wheeling"

never join in with a singing chorus or quartet, unless you're asked to.

But barbershop music is not just singing. 'Stage Presence' is also very important.

The songs are unimaginable without show.

Therefore:

the outfit of a barbershopper has to be showy.

the contents of the songs are supported by:

Handclapping, marching, fingersnapping, bowing, kneeling, walking, turning, etc.

Also the conductor fills his part in all of this.

humor should be involved.

Harmonizing - Show - Enthusiasm

Put all these components together and everyone will say: "I'm glad to be a barbershopper, 'cause barbershop is fun."

(continued from page 6, column 1)

practice to field interviews like a winner. I'll lay odds the Society PR people worked long and hard to set up national coverage, to get exposure for the Society, and all they get is ah, ah!

Our big weekend is getting closer and closer. I know you are all talking it up with everyone you know and meet. How many of you know the Vision Statement? When asked about our reason for being, why not just express, in your words, the Society's Vision Statement? It will be a heck of a lot better than fumbling and stumbling for words looking like some "Joker." You can find the statement on the first page of the most recent edition of the *Harmonizer*.

If you have been hearing moans, groans, teeth gnashing, and whipping sounds emoting from Kenosha, fear not, it is just the marketing and communications people performing the PR ritual of self-flagellation when their hard fought gains went down the tube.

Gentlemen, I'm not, and I'm sure the convention committee is not into pain and punishment.

Check out that statement and don't drop (I was going to say ball) but don't lose the pitch or go flat on us. Remember, you represent the chapter and the Society.

Campbell's Labels for Education

Product	Package	What to Save
Betis Olive Oil	bottle	sticker with UPC symbol
Campbell's Beans Products	can	front label panel
Campbell's Chunky Soups	can	front label panel
Campbell's Condensed Soups	can	front label panel
Campbell's Cup Instant Soups	carton	bottom panel with UPC symbol
Campbell's Healthy Request Soups	can	front label panel
Campbell's Healthy Request Spaghetti Sauce	can	front label panel
Campbell's Home Cookin' Soups	can	front label panel
Campbell's Low Sodium Soups	can	front label panel
Campbell's Microwave Soups	tub	lid
Campbell's Quality Soup & Recipe Mix	carton	bottom panel with UPC symbol
Campbell's Souper Start & Teddy Bear Dry Soups	pouch	back panel with UPC symbol
Campbell's Tomato Juice	can	front label panel
Campbell's Tomato Juice	aluminum can	cash register tape with product name
Casera Canned Food Products	can	front label panel, including UPC
Casera Frozen Food Products	carton	back panel, including UPC
Casera Corn Oil	bottle	sticker with UPC symbol
Caserita Frozen Food Products	carton	back panel, including UPC
Chef's Kettle (Food Service)	can	front label panel
Early California Olives	can	front label panel
Franco-American Pasta & Gravy Products	can	front label panel
Le Menu Healthy & New American Cuisine	carton	proof-of-purchase seal (UPC symbol)
Marie's Dressings, Dips & Glazes	jar or bottle	lids
Mrs. Paul's Frozen Foods	carton	"Quality Pledge" panel
Open Pit BBQ Sauce	bottle	logo area of label
Pepperidge Farm Products	various	UPC symbol
Prego Spaghetti Sauces	jar	front label panel
Sanwa Dry Soups	packet	front label panel
Swanson Canned Food Products	can	front label panel
Swanson Frozen Food Products	carton	proof-of-purchase seal
V8 Vegetable Juice and Lite 'n Tangy V8	can	front label panel
V8 Vegetable Juice and Lite 'n Tangy V8	aluminum can	cash register tape with product name
Vlasic Ripe Olives	can	front label panel
Vlasic Green Olives	jar	lid
Vlasic Pickles, Relish, Peppers, & Sauerkraut	jar	logo area of label

Dixie Barbershop Campout Reservation
Crescent Group Campground, Starr, SC
Friday, Saturday, Sunday, August 19,20 & 21, 1994

Name _____
Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
Phone _____/_____-_____

()Tent Camper/Trailer () Size _____x_____

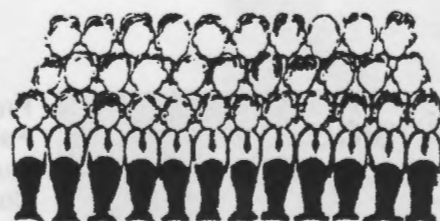
\$20.00 per tent or camping unit.

Full details will be sent on receipt of your check

Make check to: John Witner 803/375-1510

Send to: 111 Rainbow's End
Anderson, SC 29624

Please cut out the chart above from and retain it in a convenient place in your kitchen. It will serve as a reminder to save those labels



Coming Events

Date	Event	Location	Time	Dress
7/22	Dixie Lakeside Harmony	Clemson University	Afternoon	N/A
7/23	Dixie Lakeside Harmony	Clemson University		N/A
7/24	Dixie Lakeside Harmony	Clemson University		N/A
7/25	Chapter meeting	Brainerd Baptist Church	7:00 p.m.	N/A
7/29	Coaching retreat	Covenant College	4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.	Casual
7/30	Coaching retreat	Covenant College	8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.	Casual
8/1 -8/6	Harmony College			
8/1	Chapter meeting	Brainerd Baptist Church	7:00 p.m.	
8/2	Convention committee meeting	Brainerd Baptist Church	7:00 p.m.	
8/7	Sing-out	Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church	1:00 p.m.	Formal
8/8	Chapter meeting	Brainerd Baptist Church	7:00 p.m.	
8/8	Choo Choo Belles meeting	Brainerd Baptist Church	7:00 p.m.	
8/9	Board meeting	Brainerd Baptist Church	7:00 p.m.	
8/15	Chapter meeting	Brainerd Baptist Church	7:00 p.m.	
8/20	Sing-out Masonic Flea Market	Red Food Plaza - Hwy. 58	12:30 p.m.	Summer

THE BLENDER



Chattanooga Choo Choo Chapter
9104 River Oaks Road
Harrison, TN 37341-9504

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The Blender

October 1994

Convention Corner

by David B. Collins

By the time you read this it is almost over in terms of the preparation for our Fall Convention. The only thing left now is to perform our music and to be Enthusiastic !!!

It is very important that we maintain a good host demeanor even if our visitors get a little crabby.

Please give this little extra effort and for goodness sake have fun and sing as much as you want.

President's Prattle

by Steve Grubb

Greetings to everyone from your Prez! It seems as though it has been forever since my last article. Much water has gone under the bridge, but thanks to many devoted barbershoppers who have stepped up, we have managed to keep our heads above water! The work and time that Glen Dabbs gave this chapter will be sorely missed and his presence can never be replaced. However, the good work of Johnny Jackson, David Collins, Benny Malone and Forrest Bugher have kept our finances together and your reading this Blender is thanks to Barry Owens (and Nancy) Thank these people for their efforts if you haven't already.

Showtime is fast approaching! Are you ready? This first weekend of October will be one to remember in Choo Choo City. Let's show Dixie District how good a show we can put on. Regardless of where we finish (1st or 13th), this convention will be a success because of all the hard work, so go out and

continued on page 2 column 2

Convention Update

by David B. Collins

Extra Rehearsal...Mark your calendar for Thursday for extra work on our convention package. We'll meet at Brainerd Baptist September 29th at 7:00 PM. If all goes well Paul will let us go around 8:30. All should attend

The Friday Aquarium Tour and Buffet has been canceled.

Saturday Morning...Meet at the Tivoli backstage at 7:45 for our walk-on. We are on stage from 8:00 to 8:08 only, so being on stage a little early won't hurt. Makeup and changing rooms will be at the Read House (TBA) and will open at 10:30. We must be in the Silver Ballroom at the Read House at 11:15 for warm-up; we meet at the Tivoli at 11:52 and are on stage at 12 Noon. We're the first chorus on the show, so we'll leave the stage in first place!! There will be a room at the Tivoli for the "workers" to change after the performance. All other men must go back to the Read House to change or stay in chorus garb. Uniform: Red Blazer, white tux shirt, black tux pants, black tie, black socks and black shiny shoes.

Saturday Evening...All men performing are asked to wear their overalls to the quartet finals. A regular long-sleeve white shirt and regular black shoes will complete the outfit. All will be provided a red bandanna by James Coulter. Immediately after the quartet competition concludes, the chorus will meet in the photo room at the Tivoli to prepare for our part of the finale.

Let's work hard and keep the whole world singing!

Choo Choo Bells

by Sandra Stansbury

Wonderful turnout for our September 12 meeting and a lot was accomplished. Fall Convention! Right now, that is the only thing on our minds and we are excited about showing off our visiting barber shop-pers. For those of you that were not at the meeting, here are some important announcements:

Wearing Attire - Friday Night Navy knit Belles shirt, faded denim skirt, white tennis shoes, white socks, engineer hat, kerchief

Wearing Attire - Saturday White blouse, dark denim skirt, white tennis shoes, white socks, engineer hat, kerchief

(Remember to wear your hotel registration name tag and your Belles button provided by Sherry Fowler.) Ladies! Don't forget your Choo-Choo whistles!

Door Prizes - Hospitality

Need at least one item for the door prize (a money donation would be greatly appreciated if you cannot make or purchase an item for the door prizes). Please bring your door prize (or give to your hubby) at any of the Monday night rehearsals. There will be ladies there to receive them.

Finger Foods - Hospitality

Your help is greatly needed for finger foods for the Hospitality Room, Saturday, October 1 (Hours are: 7:00 - 12:00 Noon). The hotel is providing the beverages but we need the following from you: finger foods (for breakfast/brunch), fruit (whole. Will put in large basket for people to take.), any sweets (for breakfast/brunch). Someone will be calling you soon to remind you of this. Thank you so much for your support. We all need everyone's cooperation on this if we want to make this a success!

Next meeting will be October 10. We will elect our 1994-1995 Chairperson so hope you will make a point to be there.

AS ALWAYS, YOU'RE THE BEST!

Presidents Prattle (Continued)

sing a pole cat with a visitor, perform your assigned duty with a smile on your face, and make Chattanooga shine!

Our practices are growing by the week—and so is our membership! Bring a guest and let him "catch the fever" of barbershopping. Hosting the convention should really help our marketability in the area. Show your enthusiasm to a friend and bring him to our big Guest Night planned for Monday October 10th. Let's strike while the iron's hot and keep the whole world singing!



Music Notes

by James Coulter

A lot of music has been put in your hands this year. It's nice to see you on the risers with both hands empty. A big atta-boy for each of you on the hard work and effort put forth. Our district convention is just days away and the feeling of a job well done will be shared by all, I trust.

Just a reminder—come October we will start preparation on music for "Christmas Snow". More on this later.



Something To Crowe About

by Pat Crowe

Pardon me boy, is that the Chattanooga Choo Choo? It's time to board the 709.

She's going back to Dixieland. We'll be huffin', puffin', steamin', dreamin'. And it's time to tell Margie, Nora and Rosie, good-bye my lady love.

Are you ready ?? It's time to get on board those risers. Track 29 is:

continued on page 3 column 1

Route to the best convention ever. Some of you may say. Yeah, with a little luck we can do it. But, I read, "luck is a crossword where preparation and opportunity meet." Another was "luck has a peculiar habit of favoring those who don't depend on it." While we're on a roll here, how about," the dictionary is the only place where success comes before work." And Yogi Bera's famous quote: "It ain't over till it's over". So....What seed or thought am I trying to plant? There will be a lot work before, during and after this great weekend. So be ready to lend assistance. Lets show them Chattanooga is a chapter that comes through. I came across this poem, it pertains to business and certainly this weekend is "big business" for us, and it applies.

A little bit of quality
will always make them smile;
A little bit of courtesy
will bring em in a mile;
A little bit of friendliness
will tickle them 'tis plain
A little bit of service
will bring em back again.

author unknown

Definitions

Smoker: people who claim that the more they fume, the less they fret.

Bari Bashing

A bari told me, "it was so cold last night ,I just lay there and shivered."
I asked, "Did your teeth chatter?" He replied "I don't know, we don't sleep together."
He's the same one who has T.G.I.F. Stenciled on his shoes. It's to remind him, toes go in first"
The big one is here, hey, we gotta lot to crow about!

Business Manager

by Earle Fraser

August Attendance

Regular Meeting	08/01	...33
Mt Pisgah Baptist Church	08/07	...28
Regular Meeting	08/08	...32
Regular Meeting	08/15	...32
Masonic Flea Market	08/20	...19
Regular Meeting	08/22	...25
Regular Meeting	08/29	...32
Average Attendance		...24

Nine members made the Gold Star List for Perfect Attendance

Forrest Bugher	Earle Fraser
John Lumpkin	Pat Crowe
Fred Jess	Bernard Peek
Niles Fowler	Pete Jones
Richard Schultz	

The monthly attendance record, in order of attendance, is posted on our Bulletin Board.

Sunday, August 7, 28 barbershoppers on the risers at Mt Pisgah performed for an enthusiastic audience. This makes the second time for the Choo Choo Chorus, and we thank Ed Thorton, the sponsor, for the opportunity to sing and to enjoy the great buffet. Ed, if you need us in 1995, we will be glad to do it again.

Saturday, August 20. Masonic Flea Market. 19 dedicated members braved torrential rain to perform in between the downpours. We got a break when the rain subsided long enough to allow us to sing for the drenched audience.

September will be a busy month. Contest, Convention, Extra Rehearsals, and we will soon be involved with the Christmas Program.



The chorus grieves the loss of Glen Dabbs and Jessie Stinechipher. They will be missed.

This is the first article submitted to the new editor of the "Blender". We wish you well Barry Owens and we are glad that you are aboard.

Until Next time
Earle Fraser



S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A., Inc.
Chattanooga, Tennessee Chapter

Meeting of Board of Directors, August 9, 1994

Present: Crowe, Fraser, Grubb, Jesse, Jones, Reynolds, Wall

Guest: Jackson

Absent: Coulter, Hagar, Strickland

Meeting was called to order by Steve Grubb at the Brainerd Baptist Church at 7:03 PM.

Secretary - The minutes of the July 12, 1994 meeting were approved with corrections.

Treasurer - (This place in the minutes is usually filled with a summary of a very complete, and well documented report by our excellent Treasurer and dear barbershopper, Glen Dabbs. His untimely death has not only left a vacant place in these minutes, it has left a vacant spot in my heart and I'm sure, in the hearts of all who knew him. Glen, you were a credit to barbershopping, and we will miss you.)

David Collins, Johnny Jackson, and Benny Malone will visit Betty Ann and collect Treasurer's records and files.

Steve Grubb has been talking to a prospective interim treasurer, but he hasn't gotten a firm commitment as yet.

Music Committee- No report.

Program Committee - No report.

Membership Committee - On behalf of Strickland, David Reynolds submitted Matthew B. Guyton's application for membership. Crowe moved for approval, seconded by Wall. Passed. Reynolds also reported that there were five guests at the meeting of August 8, three of whom were potential new barbershoppers. He also reported he had, at Strickland's request, given an application form to another guest who had attended the meetings for some time.

Publicity - Crowe - The chapter misses a good chance for publicity by not supporting the channel 45 call for telephone answering volunteers during the educational TV station's call for pledges of support. One quartet volunteered.

Business Manager - Fraser - He really has a problem setting up chorus performances when the members who promise to be at a performance don't show up. There was a general discussion concerning ways to get chorus members to definitely commit to a performance.

Old Business

Riser Trailer - Sam Jones has gotten a commitment from a person who can install the vinyl siding on the trailer Wall moved that we accept this offer, seconded by Crowe. Passed.

New Business

Bulletin Editor - Steve Grubb announced that Barry Owens will be the Bulletin Editor for the remainder of the year, with the assistance of his wife, Nancy.

Chapter Treasurer - Steve also announced that Johnny Jackson had accepted the post of Treasurer for the remainder of the year.

Adjourned: 8:05 PM

David Reynolds
Chapter Secretary



Quartet Performances

Stage II

July 12.....Lifecare Center, Cleveland TN
July 26.....Mississippi River Queen Steam Boat
Aug 6.....City Swim Meet, Warner Park
Aug 13....Coca Cola Collector's Society, Day's
Inn East Ridge
Aug 25.....Mississippi River Queen Steam Boat
Sept 17.....3rd Anniversary North Georgia Con-
vention Center

Mellow Tones

Aug 6.....Red Bank Baptist, Wedding Reception

Classic Harmony

July 16.....United Methodist Church District,
Riverpark
Aug 7.....Mt Pisgah Baptist Church
Sept 17.....UTC Family Day

Just 4 Kicks

Aug 11Channel 45

Just 4 Kicks & Rock City Four

Aug 28.....Peavine Baptist Church (quartet and
double quartet)

Harrison Bay Harmonizers

Aug 19.....Sunday School Services First Cente-
nary Methodist

Aug 21.....Mason's Flea Market
Sept 4.....M. B. Bell Family Reunion
Sept 9.....Train Ride to Patten Mansion

SPEBSQSA, Inc.

Chattanooga, Tennessee Chapter

Meeting of Board of Directors, September 13, 1994

Present: Crowe, Jesse, Coulter, Fraser, Jones,
Reynolds, Strickland, Grubb

Absent: Malone, Jackson, Wall, Hagar

Meeting was called to order by Steve Grubb at the
Brainerd Baptist Church at 7:05 PM.

Secretary - The minutes of the August 9, 1994 meet-
ing were approved as read.

Treasurer- No report

Music Committee - Coulter submitted a written
report - attached:

- * Polishing up the chorus contest numbers and the
three show numbers

- * Christmas show music being considered by the
Music team

- * The 4th step for the risers has been received

Program Committee - No report.

Membership committee - Strickland submitted the
names of two men who have handed in their appli-
cations - Jeremiah Pritchard and Keith Wheeler.
Reynolds moved their applications be approved.
seconded by Crowe. Passed Strickland asked for pro-
visional approval of membership for Randy Goff
who had requested an application on Monday, Sept.
12. Coulter moved to approve. Seconded by Jones.
Passed.

Grubb suggested that the board consider setting a
date for a Guest Night after the convention. Mon-
day, Oct. 10 was agreed upon by the board. An an-
nouncement of this special meeting will be put in
the contest program.

Publicity - Crowe- See Convention Update below

Continued on page 6 column 1

Business Manager - Fraser - The John Ross Festival chorus performance set for September 24 has been canceled. Festival planners didn't have a slot for that Sat.

Old Business

Riser Trailer - Sam Jones reported that Ron Weaver feels that he can cover the sides of the trailer with vinyl at less than \$100.00. After a discussion, Coulter volunteered to discuss this with Ron and report back to the Board.

Convention Update - Crowe suggested that a \$10.00 ticket be sold to barbershoppers on Friday afternoon for the buffet at the Visitor's Center. A space would have to be set aside in the registration area, a sign would have to be printed, and tickets printed. The board members approved. He will discuss this with Wall.

Fred Jesse reported that he still needs additional "shepherds" and ushers for the contests. He hasn't heard from the Sweet Adelines. He also needs "Xerox" helpers to copy the contest results and distribute the copies to the hotels. The final meeting of the convention team will be held at the Read House and Tivoli beginning at 8:30 am on Saturday, Sept. 17.

New Business

Nominating Committee - Fraser reported that the committee has selected nominees for all positions except two. The initial committee announcement of the nominations will be made on Monday, September 19.

Christmas Party - Tentatively set for either Monday, Dec. 5 or Monday Dec. 12. Crowe will check on the availability of the Blue Cross facility for one of those dates.

Adjourned: 8:35 PM

David Reynolds Chapter Secretary

Treasurer's Report

Since Glenn's last report, we have had debits (receipts) of \$1241.13 and credits (disbursements) of \$466.61 leaving us with a balance of \$6031.67.

1994 Spring Show revenues were as follows:

Tickets	\$3973.00
Ad Sales	<u>\$3324.00*</u>
Total Revenues	\$7297.00

Expenses were as follows:

Uniforms	\$ 78.50
Misc. Show	\$ 509.37
Auditorium	\$ 350.00
Scenery	\$ 41.07
Lighting	\$ 354.30
Publicity	\$ 205.30
ASCAP-BMI	<u>\$ 46.00</u>
Total	\$1684.54

Net Income \$5612.46*

*There are still some ad sales out, but they may not be collectible.



The Editor's Wife

by Nancy Owens

Barry has spent hours and hours on the Blender and is issuing this issue with some trepidations. I've always heard that the first time a person does anything is always the hardest. I sure hope so.

To the editor: Happy Birthday.



Memories of Glen Dabbs

I count it fortunate to have known "send money" Glen. He steadied the financial rudder of our chapter. He "stood tall" in stature and accomplishment. His shoes can not be filled. He enriched our lives. He was my friend and I will miss him. *Forrest Bugher*

The Chattanooga Choo Choo Chorus has lost a great barbershopper, an able chapter officer and Blender editor, and a great friend with Glen's passing. When I became a chapter officer, I realized what a help and guidance he was to the goals and affairs of the chapter. His wisdom and thoughtfulness was needed and appreciated in helping me in my terms as president.

The thing he didn't like, and he told me in no uncertain words, was the distance between his and my house. This became apparent when I scheduled board meetings at my house. His first attempt to get there was not pleasant. He made a wrong turn, got lost, called me, and we sent Sam Jones to get him.

He did a magnificent job as editor of our chapter newsletter—The Blender. His continual improvements were noteworthy and noticed by us and others in the Dixie District.

I'm sorry that I did not spend more one on one time with him. A man with his experience is good to know and have on your team. The chapter, and I too, are indebted to him perhaps more than I know. He was a barbershopper in all ways, and I am proud to have known him.—*Fred Jesse*

The one thing that I remember about Glen is that even though he was very busy with his duties in the chorus and the time he spent practicing, he always took time to ask how you were or what was going on in your everyday life. He really seemed interested.—*Pete Jones*

Glen, I thank you for the opportunity of being your friend and sharing this great hobby—"Barbershop Harmony".

Your contributions to the Chattanooga Chapter were

numerous. Today we are a better chapter because men like you give 110% and I will miss our times at conventions, C.O.T.S., rehearsals, board meetings and most of all—your ever present request—"Send Money"!—*Sing-cereely, James Coulter*

I remember when asked to give a treasurer's report at our business meeting, which are supposed to be kept short, Glen most often said "Send Money".—I will never forget the first time I saw Glen as the Ghost of Christmas Past. He was standing, with a black sheet over his head, pointing at Scrooge. He looked very intimidating! I thought this was the best cast role ever!—*Bernard Peek*

I remember Glen's smile, no matter how bad he felt—his kindness, even when I presented him with a bill and he had to write a check!

I remember a trip to Columbia S.C. We were with the Greens in Lamar's new van. We were miles and miles past Atlanta...no rest area...no stores...no anything....Us gals were having a caffeine attack. We needed CHOCOLATE! About this time we looked out the window and here comes Glen driving by—eating a L-O-O-O-N-G Butterfinger! He smiled, waved and went right on by.—*Glenda Peek*

Glen—Thank you for your friendship and cooperation in handling of and selling pecans and paying bills. We miss you very much. We had some very good times together. Thank you.—*John Lumpkin*

We will greatly miss the close relationship that was developed over the past nine years as members of the Choo Choo Chorus. With me as business manager and with Glen as treasurer and "Blender" editor, our rapport was especially close. He was affectionately called by me "the Great Poobah".

Glen was recognized by the "Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America" as among the best of the editors of a chapter newsletter.

His capability as chapter treasurer and his proficiency with computer technology will be sorely missed and difficult to replace.

I am sure the heavenly choir was improved with the

addition of a great bass, but we in the Choo Choo Chorus will grieve the loss of Glen profoundly.—
Earle Fraser

Glen and I were alike in many ways. We were both tall, big guys, married to loving wives, and plodders. We believed in crossing the t and dotting the i.

Glen, like me, expected events to start on time and for people to do what they say they will do.

Glen and I both shared a love of barbershop harmony. Boy, what I'd give to have his deep, rich bass voice,

My biggest hope is that Glen knew how much we loved and needed him in our chapter. He left a legacy with his splendid production of "The Blender" and his unerring job as treasurer that will, I fear, never be filled.

He claimed, at times, not to be a quartet man. But I know differently. I quartetted with him many times and I know he loved it!. I and the chapter will miss Glen and his endeavors on behalf of the chapter.—
Barry Owens

From the editor

by Barry Owens

It is with great trepidation that I start on this journey: your *Blender* editor. Although I wear size 14 shoes, my feet would not begin to fill Glenn's shoes. Glenn's editorial career was just getting started when he was taken from us. Glen had received many accolades for the *Blender*, but I felt even greater things were coming to him in the future. Can you just imagine him as the replacement for Chuck Witherspoon for the *Dixie District Rebel Rouser*? Would that it could have happened.

As many of you know I am working second shift at ABB-CE forty hours per week. The rest of the time I spend either in school-related activities or barbershopping. I am a senior at UTC, majoring in multi-discipline education (K-8). In September of '95 I plan to retire from ABB-CE and start my student teaching semester. This is a goal I have been

working toward for many years.

Although my wife, Nancy, is a talented graphics designer, she hasn't had the time to work on this edition of the *Blender*. She was quite busy with the contest program. I hope to have her valuable input in the future.

For the next year, I fear the *Blender* will be a little bland, at least by Glenn's standards. However after my retirement I will be able to devote more time to my editorial duties. I am depending on you, the average Joe Barbershopper, to send me articles that interest you and you think would interest the rest of us. The officers and board members, of course are expected to keep you informed through the *Blender*. If you have any ideas for Blender articles please write, phone, or fax them to me. This is your big chance to get anything off your chest that has been bothering you about our hobby.

When Nancy proof-read this article, she wanted to know how I was going to manage to fit her into my schedule.

Barry Owens
103 Morris Drive
Ringgold, GA 30736
891-9501 Home Phone
755-4526 Work
8911508 Fax



The Blender

Special Convention Edition

This special edition of the Blender is published so that chapter members, the Choo Choo Belles and their families and friends can share the praise. The convention appears to have been an overwhelming success. Each person should feel proud that their contributions combined with the contributions of others to produce a wonderful end result. Sit back, relax and enjoy!



6213 Bridlewood Lane
Brentwood, TN 37027
October 5, 1994

Dear David,

Just a note to tell you how much I enjoyed the District Convention in Chattanooga this past weekend. I know all of you now have drawn a sigh of relief. It's a big job to host a District Convention, but you guys and your ladies did an outstanding job from start to finish. We thought the facilities that you had arranged for all of us were great. How can we have a better auditorium than the Tivoli? The gilt and velvet and the acoustics and the stage equipment are outstanding. The way the chapter had organized and kept the events on schedule was welcomed by all. But best of all was the warm and friendly reception that all of your chapter members and their ladies gave to each of us at many times over the weekend.

Thank you, Chattanooga, for a great convention!

I'm enclosing a copy of a letter that I've sent to Jeff James. I hope he agrees with me, but in any event Chattanooga is my 1994 Chapter of the Year.

Sincerely,

Hap Macintire



6213 Bridlewood Lane Brentwood, TN 37027 October 5, 1994

MEMORANDUM FOR: Jeff James, Dixie District President

FROM: Hap Macintire, Area Counselor, Division 4

SUBJECT: Recommendation for Chapter of the Year in 1994

I nominate the Chattanooga, TN Chapter as 1994 Chapter of the year. Chattanooga Chapter has been one of the 2 chapters that I have worked with for the past several years. When I first started visiting them 5 years ago, the music program was not very good. There were, however, a good core of regular members. They recognized that membership was down, quality of performance was mediocre, and that improvements were needed. Today it is an entirely different story.

Membership: They have increased their membership and had the largest number of members on stage for this fall's contest in all the years I have been following them.

Music Program: While the chorus didn't break any records at this year's contest, they sang a new package and sang in a most creditable fashion. In addition, they have had an active performance schedule throughout the year, singing at a number of churches and also on civic occasions. They had an entertaining Spring show. (I was unable to attend this year's show on account of illness, but was told by one of our other chapter members who attended that it was entertaining.) Their quartet program is an active one that involves over 20 chapter members.

Convention: I feel sure you will agree that Chattanooga organized an outstanding convention for the District on the weekend just past. The organization of the convention, the facilities obtained for lodging and for performance, and the warm and friendly greetings to all of us over the weekend made each of us glad that we were attending the convention. And the ladies' auxiliary of the chapter were most gracious in providing a hospitality room Saturday morning.

Chattanooga truly is a chapter that deserves recognition for their accomplishments in 1994.



P0 Box 923
Millers Creek NC 28651
10/7/94

To: David Collins, Dixie Fall Convention Chairman, 9/30-10/2/94, Chattanooga, TN

Thank you very much for your assistance, and that of all the men and women who worked with you. I've heard many comments from judges, competitors and others - all confirming that this was a great contest and convention. It was a pleasure working with you!

Looking forward to seeing you soon!

Sing-cerely,

Don Lang, DIX DACJC



1535 Woody Creek Road
Matthews, NC 28105

Mr. David Collins
218 W. Euclid Ave.
Chattanooga, TN 37415
10-12-94

Dear David:

My apologies for the tardiness of this letter. I wanted to personally send this "thank you" to you and Carol and to the entire Chattanooga Choo Choo Chorus and families.

Your group has a few special things that helped to make the weekend complete. Your two key assets were, seeing that everyone enjoyed themselves by way of your hard work, and having your families to help you succeed while showing their smiling faces and at the same time rendering that true southern hospitality.

I can't remember enjoying a Convention Weekend so much. Everything seemed to be perfect and those things don't come by accident.

Dixie District is very grateful to each of you.

I must mention that the contest were all Great and I haven't heard anything but positive comments about the entire event.

Again, thanks for it ALL, I'm sure the gang over in Winston Salem will be looking for good advise and support for next year's convention.

Keep Lovin' This Hobby!

Your friend in harmony,

Jeff James



4405 Curve Avenue
Edina MN 55424-1048
October 6, 1994

Mr. David B. Collins
218 West Euclid Avenue
Chattanooga, TN 37415

Dear Dave:

It was great to see you at the Dixie fall convention last weekend! Whenever I visit, it feels as if I am coming home. The district's hospitality is always so very gracious.

Your chorus did a fine job on stage, particularly given the fact that you also had to manage and staff the convention. So kudos all around for your guys...and especially to you for organizing such a well-run and fun convention!

As you know, my weekend was primarily intended to put the endowment program before a dedicated group of Barbershoppers, many of whom had not been exposed first-hand to the idea of making a gift to the future of barbershopping. I hope I was able to plant the seeds with them about the importance of building an endowment fund.

If nothing else, I hope I was able to prompt some of the men to get on with the task of writing a will. It's amazing how many men have "not gotten around to it."

Please remember that when you come to the Twin Cities, be sure to give me a call. I would love to host you at a meeting of the Hilltop Chapter.

Hope to see you soon.

Chord-ially,

Charles H. Green



Hi David;

Just wanted to let you know that Metro Sound Barbershop Chorus sincerely appreciates the FINE job that you, the Choo-Choo Chorus and your ladies did this last weekend at the convention. Your hard work paid off, for all the visitors had a terrific time - GREAT JOB! (I know how it really is, though, if it weren't for Carol, you probably wouldn't have gotten off first base!)

I also want to personally thank you for the unselfish use of your time to sing with the Volunteer Statesmen during this stressful time for you

Again, GREAT JOB Chattanooga, and thanks, Dave.

John Ham, personally and for the Knox Metro Chapter



Dear Dave:

It was FANTASTIC a convention! Thanks to you & your whole chapter for a great weekend. I know how hard you worked & how many bases you covered personally to make it a success. We can't thank you enough.

I also greatly appreciate the hospitality you extended to my family & me. Please pass my thanks on to the entire chapter & your wonderful ladies.

Chordially,
Bobby



Dear Carol and David

Dick and I had a great weekend in Chattanooga. It was one of the best contests. The long hours you spent preparing for us certainly showed. You would be pleased to hear all the nice compliments.

The ladies and gentlemen made everyone feel welcome. All the extra activities and the very nice hospitality room will be remembered.

Thanks to all of you. You are a special group of people.

Your friends,

Eloise and Dick Belote



David!

Just a note of thanks to you and through you to all the members of the Chattanooga Chapter and especially to all those wonderful "Belles".

I have never seen a district convention run so smooth. All the facilities were great and everyone was ready to pitch in if needed.

I highly recommend you do it again sometime!

Best Regards!

Jack Frobose



Many thanks to you.

Thanks for the opportunity to meet all the wonderful people during the convention. I enjoyed their music back & forth too! I appreciate you giving me the job for the shuttle service, it's the most enjoyable job I have had in 13 years!

Thanks again,

Debbie



6213 Bridlewood Lane Brentwood, TN 37027 October 5, 1994

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FROM: Hap Macintire, Area Counselor, Division 4

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Chattanooga truly is a chapter that deserves recognition for their accomplishments in 1994.

The Blender

November 1994

President's Prattle

by Steve Grubb

Greetings from your Prez! That big "sigh" everyone heard on Saturday night was the Choo-Choo Chorus exhaling after an outstanding convention. We did a fantastic job hosting this year's convention, and should feel duly proud. David Collins deserves a medal for all the hard work he did to pull this off; if you haven't already, tell the new retiree how proud we all are of his efforts. Remember, Thursdays are mowing days, so you might want to catch him on another day.

The new editor, Mr. Owens, asked me to reflect on this year's convention from the President's viewpoint. I'll make this short and sweet. It's a distinct pleasure to serve as President for a chapter that is so willing to work together as a team. A leader is known by the group he leads, and that makes me the best chapter President in all of Dixie! Because of everyone's hard work, I was able to sit back and say with pride that I serve this chapter as its President. My job is made easy when the membership is always doing its job so well. All the praise for a job well done goes to each man in this chorus for always striving to make Chattanooga chapter the best it can be (and this is no military pun). Thanks again for making my job a breeze!

The Christmas shows (2 this year!)will be here before we know it. Let's all dedicate ourselves to knowing our music early this year, at least a day before dress rehearsal would be nice. We always do well at this time of year— not only for our loyal audience but also for the local charities we support with the proceeds from the shows. As the year winds down, we all need to keep our energy

(President's Prattle continued)

level up and close out the year with a bang!

Once again, you have entrusted me with the responsibility of serving this chapter as its President for another year. It is my pledge to you as a chapter to do the very best that I can in fulfilling the duties of this office. As I made reference earlier, my job is a snap as long as you all do your jobs. Let's all agree to make 1995 the best year Barbershopping has ever seen in Chattanooga! Until next month, Keep the Whole World Singing.

Soon -To-Be-VP-Program's Pleas(e)

by David Collins

As I am prone to do I have read the Manual for Program VP and I was very surprised at all one of these people are supposed to do. Do you realize that the chapter member is responsible for the success of every meeting? I say meeting because that is what we have each Monday night—a Chapter meeting.

The way we have a meeting (as opposed to a chorus rehearsal) is to have scheduled activities and scheduled meetings. The requested mix of activities is the responsibility of each chapter member.

The responsibility of scheduling and coordinating each meeting is mine and I will start pulling together the month's activities for the first quarter of next year and publish this in December. It is time for your input—tell me what you would like to see happen at our weekly meetings (please tell me verbally because I know how you hate to write things down) and I will do my best to schedule them.

Choo Choo Belles

by Sandra Stanbury

Comments like those from a Big Chicken "Rooster Booster", "I do not know how you pulled off such a wonderful Hospitality Room with no more women than you have. We have as many as 75 women and could not pull off anything that nice!" or a woman from Knox Metro who said, "I've been trying to think of the nicest compliment for you Belles and all I can come up with is, you Belles deserve the Chapter of the Year Award." One gentleman wanted to know if we would do International and on and on they came, one compliment after another and they were all richly deserved, believe me — for I know of no other ladies who worked so well together and put so much effort into the Fall Dixie District Convention as you ladies have done.

Special recognition goes to : Nancy Owens, Glenda Peek, Guelda Malone, Carol Collins, and Sandra Stansbury for heading committees, for many long hours of work and dedication. A special thanks for all the ladies who came to meetings and helped in any way they could and the food. What a wonderful display of home cooked food. You really came through on this endeavor. Just seeing the pride on our guy's faces at how well everything went is truly our reward.

The Belles nominated and voted in our new 1995 slate of officers. They are:

President:

Virginia Jones (She'll be terrific)

Secretary:

Anita Bugher (She'll be great at this)

Treasurer:

Glenda Peek

Assistant Treasure:

Majorie Neeley (Two classy ladies)

Congratulations! We look forward to working with these wonderful ladies.

(continued in next column)

(continued from previous column)

Now it's time for my special little note. Thank you Belles. I have enjoyed so much being your President for 1993-1994. You have really been a joy to work with and I have learned so much from all of you — what teamwork is all about and lasting friendship.

AS ALWAYS, YOU'RE THE BEST!



Announcing the 1995 Chapter Officers

President	Steve Grubb
Music VP	James Coulter
Membership VP	W.C. Strickland
Program VP	David Collins
Publicity VP	Pat Crowe
Secretary	Dave Reynolds
Treasurer	Bernard Wheeler
Board Member At Large	Dave Abercrombie
	C. W. Wall
	Benny Malone

Nominations By The Membership Required

Ass't Secretary	Earle Fraser
Bulletin Editor	Barry Owens
Business Manager	Earle Fraser
Heartspring Chair	Bob Stansbury

These Are Appointed Positions

Nominating Committee

For 1995 Officers

Chair—Earle Fraser

Fred Jesse Tom Keegan David Reynolds

Something To Crowe About

by Pat Crowe

Well, we did "TT" ""

Wanna bid on the next one...??

How about publishing a "How To" book. The book may give them the guidelines. But in no way will it give them the dedicated chapter members, or the creative "BEAUTIFUL BELLES" of Chattanooga. The compliments about, and the admiration for, the presentation and variety in the hospitality room were innumerable. It was outstanding. Ladies, Ladies, Ladies you are the "GREATEST".

It was a long, yet very short 11 months ago at the first convention committee meeting we looked at the tremendous task that lay before us. As I look back on the four "W"s. The WHO, WHAT, WHERE and WHEN. I want to thank all those that helped and shared my load. Which in my humble opinion, was one of the, if not the "BEST", conventions the district has ever seen. DO I HEAR AN AMEN Brother!! Thank you.

In reviewing it, the year went pretty well as scheduled, though there were a few times I wondered.

January:

The ad committee set the guidelines and prices for the program advertising.

February:

An article promoting the convention, Chattanooga and its attractions sent to the Rebel Rouser.

March:

Spring Convention. And competition in Tuscaloosa. An information table, with maps (not Earle's) brochures from hotels and tourist information promoting our fair city made available.

April:

Maps and brochures plus 24x30 inch poster with a collage of Chattanooga attractions, mailed to Charley Rose to display at regional competitions in the Carolinas. Thanks Charley. Mailed promotion letters with maps to chapter Presidents and

(continued in next column)

(Something to Crowe About continued)

Bulletin Editors. Also requested information and/or pictures of chorus and quartets for PR releases in this area.

May:

Spring Show.. And BOY WHATA SHOW!!!!

Second article sent to Rebel Rouser.

June :

Wondered....Is there anybody out there.... there's been no feedback or action from the other chapters OH BOY..What did we get ourselves into ??

July:

To Heck with it ..Forget everything and go on vacation. Prepared another article for the Rebel Rouser. Spent a great weekend rooming with Sam Jones at Covenant College "OH ... SAMMY" !!

August:

Sent out 53 pieces of PR materials to radio, TV and the print media in GA, AL and SE TN area.

September:

GAWD!!! Its awful quiet out there ... not one nibble or call from the media...Wait...What's this...Just days before the "GREAT" event my phone starts ringing... Whoopee!! its not a bill collector. TV 9, 3 and 45 are interested. Don Welch on the Morning Show gave us about 12 minutes with the Harrison Bay Harmonizers --- Blazek filled in on Bass, as Hagar thought Work was more important than our great hobby. The nerve of that guy. Our little biddy buddy Pete Jones got us air time on Battlefield TV of Fort Oglethorpe. Thanks, Pete. Classic Harmony appeared on WGOW talk radio. Plus ... They wrote and sang a commercial. Great going guys. Mark Kennedy gave us a full column in the Times. Channel 9 showed up on Friday and filmed a quartet in the Read House Barbershop singing while the barber made like he was giving me a trim. Friday night. OY VEH OY VEH!! Channel 3 was turned away at the Tivoli due to a misunderstanding about copyright rules. BUT... Tanks Be to Gott they got some footage of the RTP chorus at the Comfort Hotel.

Help "I'm surrounded by ASSASSINS. Channel. 45 shows up Saturday night and is given the

(continued on page 5, column 1)

Letter to the Editor

Dear Barry,

Thank you for sending me a copy of your first Blender. I appreciated the kind thoughts of so many who remembered Glen. It made me cry but it also made me happy to know that so many thought so much of Glen.

I enjoyed the show very much. The chorus just gets better and better. Good luck in the spring competition.

Betty Ann



**S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A., Inc.
Chattanooga, Tennessee, Chapter
Meeting of Board of Directors
October 18, 1994**

Present:

Crowe	Jesse	Hagar
Fraser	Jones	Wall
Grubb	Reynolds	Strickland

Absent:

Malone
Jackson
Coulter

Guest:

Collins

Meeting was called to order by Steve Grubb at the Brainerd Baptist Church at 7:00 PM.

Secretary - The minutes of the September 13, 1994 meeting were approved as read.

Treasurer - Collins reported for Jackson: (Full report attached) Bank balance as of September 30 was \$5774.38. Fall convention will net approximately \$1000.00

(continued in next column)

(continued from previous column)

Music Committee - Collins reported for Coulter: Christmas show being finalized. Music selected. Quartet assignments made. Script being put together. Collins will have learning tapes for the "new" chorus members (approximately ten tapes to be made).

Program Committee - Hagar thanked James Coulter, Clarence Wall, and all who put together the recent Guest Night program. His job has kept him away on Monday nights and he appreciated the other guys "picking" up the ball for the good of the chapter. Twenty-two guests attended the special meeting which was enhanced by the help of the Choo Choo Belles.

Membership Committee - Strickland reported that Shane Stanbery had submitted his application; for membership on Monday night. Clarence Wall moved that his application be accepted. Seconded by Hagar. Approved. Eight guests attended the meeting last night (Oct. 17). Strickland would like the board members to be considering another guest night in Jan. 1995 schedule on a first-come-first-served basis.

Business Manager - Fraser - Would like to reactivate the church concerts in Jan. 1995. Would

Publicity - Pat Crowe is working with Channel 45 TV on a chorus performance on that channel,

New Business

Christmas show - Ticket prices set at \$8.00, discounted a dollar for seniors and students. Title to be "A Barbershop Christmas." Matinee to be given at 2:00 PM per vote of the board 7 for and 3 against (Collins voting for Jackson) Matinee price to be \$5.00 for all.

Heartspring - Collins reminded the board members that the collections for 1994 should be sent to

(continued on page 7, column 1)

(Something to Crowe About, Contd from page 3, column 2)
 same bad information. I couldn't find a knife and couldn't use my comb to slash my wrists because my overalls are so big I couldn't reach my pocket, besides a possum has setup housekeeping in it.

BUT... I got an offer from the Americas Cup team, so all is not lost. They want to use them as a spare sail.

All in all the weekend was great. So ... Hey guys and gals thanks for all your support.
MAN O MAN, DO WE HAVE SOMETHING TO CROWE ABOUT!



Business Manager

by Earle Fraser

October attendance:

10/01	40	convention and contest
10/01- A	45	convention show
10/03	36	guest night 19 guests
10/10	42	regular meeting
10/15	16	convention celebration party
		Wolftever Fishing Club
10/17	34	regular meeting
10/30	23	Boynton U. M. Church

Average attendance: 34

Six members made the gold star list for perfect attendance:

David Collins	Fred Jesse
Pat Crowe	Bernard Peek
Earle Fraser	W. C. Strickland

The monthly attendance record, in order of attendance, is posted on our bulletin board.

(continued in next column)

(continued from previous column)

The convention was an outstanding success. We have received praise from organizations and individuals from all over the Dixie district. It took a concerted effort from all of the chorus committees and the Choo Choo Belles to make it happen, a profound thanks to all of you. We have been asked to do it. again, hopefully in the distant future. Will keep you posted.

The convention show, 44 on the risers with Paul Blazek conducting, was received by a packed house with appreciation and enthusiasm All of the hard work paid off with a "superb performance". I am quoting many people who said this. The convention party celebrating the successful convention was attended by only 16 chorus members. To the members who did not attend, you missed a good time and plenty of tasty food. Boynton United Methodist Church performance, 23 members performed. Food and fellowship after. The chorus entertained with a selection of our standard tunes. The Rock City Four also contributed and as usual, were received enthusiastically by the audience in the fellowship hall.

Coming events:

November:

11/17	Parkwood Nursing Home
11/27	Fairview Baptist Church

December:

12/03	Christmas Show
	(Matinee and Evening)
12/05	Christmas Party

Cattlemen's Assoc.	Details later
Covenant College	Details later

Until next time



Excerpt from
The Vanishing American Barbershop

by Ronald S. Barlow

submitted by James Coulter

The Modern Barber Pole originated in the days when bloodletting was one of the principal duties of the barbering trade. The two spiral ribbons painted around the pole represent two long linen bandages, one twisted around the arm before bleeding (to make the veins stand out), and the other used to bind it afterwards.

The patient clutched the staff firmly during the entire operation. Originally, when not in use, the pole with bandage pre-wound (so that it might be ready when needed) was hung at the door as a sign. Later an imitation was painted and given a permanent place on the sidewalk outside.

"Modern barber poles, with revolving interior cylinders, cost from \$300 to \$750 each and are still available from the last remaining factory outlet, the William Marvy company of 1538 St. Clair Avenue, St. Paul, Minnesota. The Marvy factory has produced more than 75,000 poles over the last half century. Today much of their activity centers around replacement parts and restoration work; but they still offer a selection of nine barber poles ranging from eighteen to forty-seven inches tall.

Treasurer's Report

by Johnny Jackson

September and October were very expensive months for the chapter. Receipts were about normal at \$2,261.60. Disbursements were \$4,260.40. This included \$896.00 for our fall retreat, \$200.00 to Heartspring for the Belles, \$250.00 to Heartspring for Rock City 4 (these were both "pass through" transactions), \$331.35 for COTS and \$1,160.00 for the new fourth step for our risers. Our closing balance was \$1,032.87. However we appear to have done well on the District Convention. I should have a final reporting on this for the next Blender.

From the editor:

Barry Owens

I am writing this at the midnight hour. The deadline is now! Today (Sunday) I just got back from another Chapter Officers Training School (COTS) in Atlanta. This is at least five COTS for me and each time I come back with my batteries charged and loaded for bear. This year, however is a little different because of my relative inactivity with the chorus this past year. Nobody regrets this circumstance more than I.

I went to COTS to learn how to edit a chapter bulletin, but alas, the class I needed most wasn't offered. Instead I was privileged to stand in for our outstanding youth coordinator Ron Weaver. I attended the Youth Outreach, Harmony Explosion class. With Ron's success this past year, I felt he could have taught the class. At any rate, I am looking forward to working with Ron in the near future with the Youth Outreach program. I also attended a mini-class on "Coping With Difficult People" taught by this huge guy from New York. He adapted this important subject which my wife, Nancy, also teaches at UTC, to his barbershopping experiences. It was very enlightening.

I hate to sound redundant, but I can't close my remarks without saying something about the convention. Remember, I haven't been around to get much of the feedback. Our Choo Choo Belles, I think, could have probably produced the convention without our help! Weren't they marvelous! At COTS they are still talking about what happened at Chattanooga. The outstanding convention was truly a team effort.

A word of warning: make your reservations early for Gatlinburg. We learned in Atlanta this weekend that the entire Dixie District will have their spring convention in Gatlinburg at the same time! It will almost be like a fall convention, only bigger. The college quartets will also be competing. So if you want to OD on barbershop, that will be the weekend to do it.

(Board of Directors continued)

the District Heartspring chairman for credit.

Spring Show - Collins stated that even though we don't have a spring show chairman, we should be looking for a guest quartet now in order to assure that we secure the services of a satisfactory group.

Good of The Chapter - Comments included the concern that the chorus should collectively review the video tape from the recent competition in Chattanooga. Also concerns raised that we still haven't gotten the song "Chattanooga Choo Choo" up to performance standards.

Adjourned: 8:30 PM

David Reynolds

Chapter Secretary



Membership

by W. C. Strickland

My! What a great guest night! Thanks to the Belles for the wonderful food and gift to Heartspring and to each of you who invited a guest. We had twenty-two visitors, the most ever. Since January 1 we have mailed information packets to twenty-six men who had not visited us before. We have accepted six new members into our group. Six new members in nine months is a good report. Keep up the good work. Our six new members are:

Brandon Guyton
Chad Guyton
Jeremiah Pitchard
William Wheeler
Jay Highsinger
Lamar Smith

Soon-To-Be-VP-Program's Pleas(e)

by David Collins

As I am prone to do I have read the Manual for Program VP and I was very surprised at all one of these people are supposed to do. Do you realize that the chapter member is responsible for the success of every meeting? I say meeting because that is what we have each Monday night—a Chapter meeting.

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Barry Owens
103 Morris Drive
Ringgold, GA 30736
891-9501 Home Phone
755-4526 Work
891-1508 Fax

Quartet Performances

Harrison Bay Harmonizers

9/27 - Collegedale Chamber of Commerce
10/18 - Parkridge Hospital
10/16 - Bob Stansbury's retirement party

Rock City Four

10/15 - Ketner's Mill

Special Quartet

10/20 - Special Olympics (National Anthem)

Senior Class

9/27 - Private Party

Stage II

9/28 - Performance on Georgia cable TV

Classic Harmony

September 28 - WGOW & WSKZ

October 30 - Mortar Board Event --

Parkwood Nursing Home

October 30 - Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church



At Press Time No Reports Received From

Director
Program Vice President
Heartspring Chairman



Reminder

Don't forget the Christmas party to be held on December 5 at the Blue Cross/Blue Shield Building. Appetizers to be served at 6:30.



Mabel's Oatmeal Cookies or Jesse's Famous Cookies

1 cup butter or margarine
1 cup granulated sugar
2 cups brown sugar
1 egg, beaten
2 cups all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon soda
1 teaspoon cinnamon
1 cup rolled oats
1 cup chopped nuts (1/2 walnuts and 1/2 pecans)
1 teaspoon vanilla

In large bowl of electric mixer cream butter and two sugars. Add egg, then sifted dry ingredients. Add vanilla, beat well and remove from beater, fold in nuts and oats. Chill for one hour in ice box or refrigerator. Form into walnut-sized pieces and place on greased cookie sheet. Butter bottom of small glass, dip it in sugar and flatten out the little balls. No need to rebutter the glass bottom, just resugar it each time. Bake at 350 degrees for 12 to 15 minutes. Cookies will puff up, then flatten out, that's their nature. Very crisp.

Memories of Jesse Stinecipher

I remember Mr. Jesse as a kind, amicable old gentleman who enjoyed barbershopping and greeted you with a smile. His cookies were delicious and like Lay's potato chips, you could not eat "just one". He enjoyed life and by his presence enriched yours. He was my friend. I will miss him.

Forrest Bugher

Jesse, I valued your friendship very much. I enjoyed each singout we attended. I'll remember you always. We enjoyed your cookies too. Thank you. We also had many good times together.

John Lumpkin

My best memory of Jesse was about an hour I spent with him at North Park Hospital. I visited him there and he told stories of his younger years. He told me about going to college and forming a quartet. The college sent them on a promotional tour around the country. I also remember Jesse was nearing 90 when I first met him and he was one of the most dependable chorus members.

Bernard L. Peek

My memory of Jesse is before I met him. Bernard had just joined the chorus and came home talking about this almost 90 year old guy wanting to buy a push mower (the antique kind without a motor) to mow his yard if they would lower the price enough. He also baked delicious cookies for our functions.
Glenda Peek

I will always remember Jesse's "presence" at our chapter meetings. Without a word, he showed us all that barbershopping has no age limits. His devotion to our craft will always be remembered. He may be gone, but will not be forgotten.

Sing-cereely
Steve Grubb

I want to thank you Jesse for the privilege of being your friend through the medium of barber-shop singing. Your contributions to the "Society" are appreciated and will be remembered.

Sing-cereely
James Coulter

I had only known Jesse a short time since joining the chorus a couple of years ago. The one memory that stands out in my mind is the smile he had. Almost anything time that you called his name he would greet you with that big smile no matter who you were. I will always remember that.

Pete Jones

I always felt sort of a bond with Jesse, just because his first and my last name are the same. My last visit with Jesse was certainly my most memorable. The chorus visited Southern Living for Seniors and gave a performance in his honor on May 23, 1994. I had a real opportunity to sing tenor in a quartet with him as bass, singing "My Wild Irish Rose". This may have been his last

quartet experience, and I know it was a happy one. His smile said it for sure. It certainly was my pleasure.

I am saddened by his passing because he was full of life's stories that can never again be told. His musical background was unique, and he was always ready to tell me about it.

He would greet me with a smile, an outstretched hand, and would call me "Jesse". I liked him for that, and will miss him for it. I never have known anyone over the age of 90, but his years did not reduce his love of singing or his interest in others. I'm glad he was a part of my life.

Fred Jesse

XX

About Jesse Stinecipher

I have known Jesse since he joined the chapter. We became instant friends. As our friendship progressed, Jesse became more close to me than ever. When he was sick, he would call me and let me know what hospital he was in. When he had surgery, he would call me and let me know what surgery was done and what room he was in. I always went to see him, check on his progress and let the chapter know. When he was placed in the home to be looked after I went to see him and let the chapter know. We really worked with the home to get the chapter to go out and sing for the people there. Before Jesse died I made two visits at the hospital before he passed away. Losing Jesse was like losing family. I miss him greatly.

— Jack Moore

XX

What a dear man Jesse was. As a former public relations director for the Chattanooga Choo Choo Chorus, I had the pleasure of interviewing Jesse several times, formally and informally. I remember writing a story about his advanced age. I went to the public library to read the 1897 (year of his birth) local papers. Jesse was born in a turbulent

time here in the south. There seemed to be weekly lynchings.

I used to kid Jesse about being a "war baby" — the Spanish American War! The statue of Liberty was only twelve years old when he was born. In the year Jesse was born, Buffalo Bill and his Wild West Show came to Chattanooga.

A truly gentle man, Jesse was born in Rhea County. He was one of the relatively few people in his day to go to college. In the 1920's he was on the road with a traveling quartet. Music always played a big part in his life.

Although Jesse was a barbershopper for over two decades, he didn't join the Society until he was in his 70's. I remember when I first joined the chapter, I sang bass. Jesse took me under his "wing" helping me to learn the repertoire. My first year at Clemson barbershop school, Jesse sat beside me at the Saturday night show and taught me my part while gang-singing before the show. It is rare for us to be able to "pick the brain" of a man Jesse's age. I found it a pleasure to do so. Jesse's mind was sharp and he enjoyed telling stories of the past. I don't know if he enjoyed the telling as much as I did the listening. I'll miss having Jesse around to talk and sing with!

Barry Owens

XX

Jesse was the senior member of the Choo Choo Chorus and was an inspiration to all of us. His devotion to music over the course of his life was recognized not only by the members of the chorus but by the entire community.

His dedication to the chorus was outstanding. He seldom missed any chorus activity and would stand on the risers for hours during rehearsals and performances. He had no difficulty learning the music and the words; in fact, faster than some of the younger men.

Jesse was a pleasure to be with, a true gentleman, who never had a bad word, or thought, or deed to anyone.

We will miss Jesse deeply, but we are grateful

for the time he was with us.

Earle Fraser

XX

MY FRIEND JESSE

by Don Hausmann

It was nearly ten years ago that I attended my first Chattanooga Chapter meeting. Jesse was there with a big smile, a handshake and a warm welcome. Somehow you felt that he really meant it — that he wanted to be your new friend. He must have been 87 then, an old codger, with a slight waver in his voice. But age was not to hold him back. He was a regular, in there sluggin and quick to sing in any quartet.

I remember he drove that old, yellow '66 Dodge. Don't know if it was the car that expired or if he gave up driving, but Jack Moore or David Reynolds became his chauffeurs in recent years. Do some of you remember the Christmas singouts when we did "*Chestnuts Roasting On an Open Fire?*" Paul Blazek would point to Jesse when we got to the line about "kids from one to ninety-two." It would bring a renewed smile to Jesse's face — and ours. He sang in our annual show for the last time in 1993. This year he sat in the audience and was recognized with a rousing ovation.

Somehow Jesse and I became close. I don't know why; it could be that my Dad would have been about his age. We visited a lot during meetings. He was from the Spring City area and knew about that geologically interesting place called Grassy Cove. I also spent some time in Demorest, Georgia where he went to college. We shared several stories about that locale. He said you could hear the old trestle near the school rumble for miles around when the Tullulah Falls Railroad came through. Author Alex Haley said that an old person's death is like losing a library to a disas-

trous fire. How true.

Jesse would bake cookies for chapter meetings on a regular basis. Sorry, but I didn't realize that no one else had the recipe or I would have offered it for the Cousins Cookbook. Carol makes a batch of 'em every now and then and they're real good. Anyway, you'll find the recipe elsewhere in this month's *Blender*. Maybe you can paste it on the last page of your book. The famous recipe lives on! (Editor's note: Recipe is located page 8 Column 2)

You knew Jesse became Doctor Steincipher when Piedmont College awarded him the Doctorate a few years back. He was proud and so were we, but he would still answer to plain ole "Jesse".

Then there was the time Jesse and I went on a long canoe trip at our Camp Ocoee Retreat. It was in the cool of the evening. The sun had set behind the mountains but it was not yet dark. It was a slow trip; we paddled awhile, coasted, and then paddled again. We enjoyed the placid waters, watched the birds, and shared a lot of small talk.

Never before have I seen a man so honored at a funeral. Y'all were there. He was eulogized as a loyal family man, scholar, diligent employee, Christian, church supporter, friend to many, and an accomplished musician. The service was moving and never to be forgotten. The Lord rewarded Jesse with a long life.

I sang a quartet number with our friend the last time we saw him. It was back in June at the home. After our chorus performance, David Abercrombie, Fred Jesse, and myself got together with Doctor Jesse for "*My Wild Irish Rose*." I tried to get a bass to help him out, but he scolded me with a "I can carry my own part" — and he did too. Pat Crowe took our picture and it's on the bulletin board. It was his last song, but I do firmly believe, as sure as God created heaven and earth, Jesse and I will sing together again.

XX

The 1994 Leadership Team Serving Your Chorus

President
Music V. P.
Membership V. P.
Program V. P.
Secretary
Asst. Secretary
Treasurer
Asst. Treasurer
Publicity

Steve Grubb
James Coulter
W. C. Strickland
Dick Hagar
David Reynolds
Earle Fraser
Johnny Jackson
Niles Fowler
Pat Crowe

Business Manager
Equipment Manager
Bulletin Editor
Logopedics Chairman
Director
Associate Director
Assistant Directors

Board Members at Large

Earle Fraser
Benny Malone
Barry Owens
Charles Petty
Paul Blazek
Horace Brock
Tom Keegan
Paul Stone
Benny Malone
Clarence Wall
Sam Jones

The Blender

Chattanooga Choo Choo Chapter
103 Morris Drive
Ringgold, GA 30736

The Blender

Special Addendum

to November 1994 Issue

Christmas Show

by Fred Jesse, Chairman

Although this is being written three weeks after the Dixie District Convention, I still want to thank those who participated. Many of you folks helped out and many helped me in particular. I am grateful for your time and patience, and heaven knows, much of both was needed to do your part. Those of you who worked the house as ushers are in large part responsible for the compliments received from various attendees. I know the job required some interaction with visitors, and in all respects, you were gracious hosts. You made our chapter, and the Dixie District, proud. Now on to other things — Christmas. We have a show to do. Again we will be at UTC, and this time on Saturday, December 3. Because we have been filling the house at our shows, this year we are having a matinee performance at 2:00 p.m. and an evening performance at 8:00 p.m. If these are well attended and are well received, it may be continued for the spring show.

There is lots of Christmas music to learn and relearn. Please work on yours at home, in the car or wherever. We have just a short time to do it. A script is in the works, and music will be assigned to various quartets in the interest of time. By the time you read this, it will be less than a month, so your help is needed. We will be needing some of you for speaking parts too, so you may be called on. Thanks in advance for your help.

Songs To Learn

December 3

Frosty The Snow Man

I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus

It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year

Jingle Bells

Jingle Bell Rock

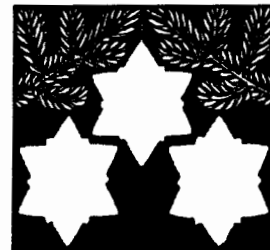
Let It Snow

Silent Night

The Twelve Days of Christmas

White Christmas

We Want to Wish You a Merry Christmas



The Blender

November 1994

President's Prattle

by Steve Grubb

Greetings from your Prez! That big "sigh" everyone heard on Saturday night was the Choo-Choo Chorus exhaling after an outstanding convention. We did a fantastic job hosting this year's convention, and should feel duly proud. David Collins deserves a medal for all the hard work he did to pull this off; if you haven't already, tell the new retiree how proud we all are of his efforts. Remember, Thursdays are mowing days, so you might want to catch him on another day.

The new editor, Mr. Owens, asked me to reflect on this year's convention from the President's viewpoint. I'll make this short and sweet. It's a distinct pleasure to serve as President for a chapter that is so willing to work together as a team. A leader is known by the group he leads, and that makes me the best chapter President in all of Dixie! Because of everyone's hard work, I was able to sit back and say with pride that I serve this chapter as its President. My job is made easy when the membership is always doing its job so well. All the praise for a job well done goes to each man in this chorus for always striving to make Chattanooga chapter the best it can be (and this is no military pun). Thanks again for making my job a breeze!

The Christmas shows (2 this year!)will be here before we know it. Let's all dedicate ourselves to knowing our music early this year, at least a day before dress rehearsal would be nice. We always do well at this time of year— not only for our loyal audience but also for the local charities we support with the proceeds from the shows. As the year winds down, we all need to keep our energy

(President's Prattle continued)

level up and close out the year with a bang!

Once again, you have entrusted me with the responsibility of serving this chapter as its President for another year. It is my pledge to you as a chapter to do the very best that I can in fulfilling the duties of this office. As I made reference earlier, my job is a snap as long as you all do your jobs. Let's all agree to make 1995 the best year Barbershopping has ever seen in Chattanooga! Until next month, Keep the Whole World Singing.

Soon -To-Be-VP-Program's Pleas(e)

by David Collins

As I am prone to do I have read the Manual for Program VP and I was very surprised at all one of these people are supposed to do. Do you realize that the chapter member is responsible for the success of every meeting? I say meeting because that is what we have each Monday night—a Chapter meeting.

The way we have a meeting (as opposed to a chorus rehearsal) is to have scheduled activities and scheduled meetings. The requested mix of activities is the responsibility of each chapter member.

The responsibility of scheduling and coordinating each meeting is mine and I will start pulling together the month's activities for the first quarter of next year and publish this in December. It is time for your input—tell me what you would like to see happen at our weekly meetings (please tell me verbally because I know how you hate to write things down) and I will do my best to schedule them.

Choo Choo Belles

by Sandra Stanbury

Comments like those from a Big Chicken "Rooster Booster", "I do not know how you pulled off such a wonderful Hospitality Room with no more women than you have. We have as many as 75 women and could not pull off anything that nice!" or a woman from Knox Metro who said, "I've been trying to think of the nicest compliment for you Belles and all I can come up with is, you Belles deserve the Chapter of the Year Award." One gentleman wanted to know if we would do International and on and on they came, one compliment after another and they were all richly deserved, believe me — for I know of no other ladies who worked so well together and put so much effort into the Fall Dixie District Convention as you ladies have done.

Special recognition goes to : Nancy Owens, Glenda Peek, Guelda Malone, Carol Collins, and Sandra Stansbury for heading committees, for many long hours of work and dedication. A special thanks for all the ladies who came to meetings and helped in any way they could and the food. What a wonderful display of home cooked food. You really came through on this endeavor. Just seeing the pride on our guy's faces at how well everything went is truly our reward.

The Belles nominated and voted in our new 1995 slate of officers. They are:

President:

Virginia Jones (She'll be terrific)

Secretary:

Anita Bugher (She'll be great at this)

Treasurer:

Glenda Peek

Assistant Treasure:

Majorie Neeley (Two classy ladies)

Congratulations! We look forward to working with these wonderful ladies.

(continued in next column)

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Now it's time for my special little note. Thank you Belles. I have enjoyed so much being your President for 1993-1994. You have really been a joy to work with and I have learned so much from all of you — what teamwork is all about and lasting friendship.

AS ALWAYS, YOU'RE THE BEST!



Announcing the 1995 Chapter Officers

President	Steve Grubb
Music VP	James Coulter
Membership VP	W.C. Strickland
Program VP	David Collins
Publicity VP	Pat Crowe
Secretary	Dave Reynolds
Treasurer	Bernard Wheeler
Board Member At Large	Dave Abercrombie
	C. W. Wall
	Benny Malone

Nominations By The Membership Required

Ass't Secretary	Earle Fraser
Bulletin Editor	Barry Owens
Business Manager	Earle Fraser
Heartspring Chair	Bob Stansbury

These Are Appointed Positions

Nominating Committee

For 1995 Officers

Chair—Earle Fraser

Fred Jesse Tom Keegan David Reynolds

The Blender

December 1994

President's Prattle

By Steve Grubb

Where has the year gone? If time flies when you're having fun, these past few months must have been a blast! The Choo Choo Chorus has had a great year. While we have backed off on the number of performances, it has not adversely affected the chapter's growth. We presently stand at 55 members and could gain some more men shortly. That is tremendous news, especially for our Vice President of Membership, W. C. Strickland.

There weren't many "low-lights" to our year. The lack of sing-outs has been mentioned by many. Another year has passed without performing "Chattanooga Choo Choo" Both of these sore spots will be rectified this year according to your sing-cere Music Vice President, James Coulter. Our greatest losses were obviously the deaths of Jesse and Glen. Both men are gone but not forgotten,

The "high-lights" are too numerous to mention. These stand out to me—1) We as a chorus went gold again this year; 2) The chorus pulled together as a group to carry on after the death of our treasurer and bulletin editor; 3) The rousing success we enjoyed as host of the Dixie District Convention. They'll be talking about this one for years to come all over Dixie!

Plans are already under way for making 1995 even better. If you haven't already returned your member survey, please return it to David Collins. Your input is vital to making all that we do an enjoyable and rewarding experience for each person in the chorus. Get involved and everyone will "Thrive in '95"!

Till next year, Keep the whole world singing.

Music Notes

By James Coulter
Music Vice President

Where has this year gone? December already! I hope you are looking forward to the Christmas show on December 3 and to a meaningful Christmas season.

Our church programs are continuing through the winter, so see Earle Fraser, Business Manager for scheduling.

Pick up your railroad music and brush the dust off for Gatlinburg in March of 1995. Also, fine tune your "baggy" overalls for better stage presence.

Spring show details to be announced later.



Meeting of Board of Directors

November 15, 1994

By David Reynolds
Chapter Secretary

Present:

Coulter	Crowe	Grubb
Jesse	Jones	Reynolds
Strickland	Wall	

Absent :

Fraser	Hagar	Jackson
--------	-------	---------

Guest:

Collins

Meeting was called to order by Steve Grubb at the Brainerd Baptist Church at 7:00 PM.

Secretary - The minutes of the meetings of October 18 (regular) and November 7 (called) were approved as read.

Treasurer- The treasurer's report is attached. We now have a bank balance of \$4,401.42. The net on the fall convention is \$1,645.07

Music

VP Coulter reported:

- ❖ Chorus now polishing up songs for the Christmas show
- ❖ Extra rehearsals called for November 17 and December 1 (Thursdays)
- ❖ Music Committee encourages church concerts to be scheduled in Jan. '95, a month of usually low activity.
- ❖ District Spring Contest - Will sing the railroad songs and wear the engineer's costumes

Program VP- elect - Collins has distributed a two-page questionnaire to the members to find out what kind of programming is desired by them. He has received nine surveys and expects to get the rest soon. He will develop a summary and try to draw some conclusions which will be printed in *The Blender*.

(Continued next column)

(Continued from previous column)

- ❖ David will check with Dick Hagar and offer some help as needed in the planning of the Christmas party and Officer Installation Dinner.
- ❖ Steve Grubb will contact an installing officer
- ❖ Dinner will be at Blue Cross and cost \$11.00 per person

Membership- per Strickland, membership will be 55 with the addition of Ed Brown. Jones moved Ed Brown's application be approved. Seconded by Crowe. Passed.

Publicity - Crowe reported that the show flyers have been mailed.

Business Manager- No report

Old Business

Riser Trailer - Jones reported that the trailer is now at Ron Weaver's place. He is applying the vinyl coating. Will require 3 sheets of vinyl at approx. \$80 per sheet.

Video Tape of Competition- Grubb suggested viewing it next year some time before the spring contest. The board members agreed.

Christmas show - Show Chairman Jesse reported he needs a few more volunteers. The board members volunteered for several required duties, etc. Fred emphasized that except for the price of admission, there will be no difference between the matinee and evening shows.

Net proceeds from the show - There was an in depth discussion on this subject after which Wall moved as follows: The net proceeds from the show would be divided on an 50/50 basis as follows: 50% would go to the local high school music departments and their directors as determined by the Harmony Explosion Committee. The other 50% would be used in the purchase of black tux coats for the chorus. The Heartspring

(Continued on page 3, Column 1)

(Continued from page 2, Column 2)

contribution from the show proceeds would be considered a part of the gross. Seconded by Crowe. Passed.

There will be a special board meeting Monday, Nov. 21 to determine what the approximate Heartspring contribution will have to be.

New Business

Spring Show, 1995 - David Collins volunteered to chair the spring show if no one else has or will fill this important post. The Board gladly accepted his offer. The date has tentatively been set for May 6, 1995, Saturday) at the UTC Fine Arts Center. David has contacted Sound Standard of Knoxville. They may have a conflict with the May 6 date (one of their members has a drill weekend at that time). David suggested we use a standard program such as the Society's "Remember Radio," which includes several songs the chorus knows and others could be substituted as well.

Adjourned: 8:35 PM



SOMETHING TO CROWE ABOUT

By Pat Crowe
Public Relations V.P.

"QUARTETS"

Promoting you promotes the chapter. "Believe it or not, you are part of the program. A very important part."

The reason.... our name sez it all.. "BARBER SHOP QUARTET SINGING IN AMERICA"

The perception is "QUARTETS" and because of this perception the question most asked is about, that's right ...QUARTETS..

So... I need fact sheets. Promoting you promotes the chapter.

(Continued next column)

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What do I need?

*Well you can start off with the quartet name.

The way you like to see it in print i.e. 4 vs. Four or FOUR, Two or II or 11 which has been known to come out as eleven in print.

* Date a group was formed and a brief history of the members.

* Names of organizations or places you have appeared.

* A humorous or interesting incident that will pique the interest of the interviewer. This kind of item gives the writer an angle to work into a longer story than just a straight one or two lines stating "The Flatulence Four" have also performed for the Gas Company.

A good example was Mark Kennedy's column in the Times. He really latched on to the Buffet Bob story and it gave birth to a page length column.

It's like the old story of getting the mule to go to work. First, you've got to get his attention. The first thing you do is hit him between the eyes with a 2 x 4—then he pays attention. So you guys, help me, help you.

Cause when we are promoting you, we are promoting the chapter.

"CHURCH PERFORMANCES"

To get coverage of these events the papers have guidelines which must be met.

* Date and Time

* Location, i.e. Fellowship Hall, Sanctuary etc.

*Pastor's name this a "MUST".

* Will we be part of the service, the service, or a concert. Again the more information the more likelihood of publication.

Give me something to CROW about!



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Nominations By The Membership Required

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These Are Appointed Positions

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Treasurer's Report

By Johnny Jackson

November was an expensive month, but fortunately, lucrative month for the chapter. Receipts were good at \$2,347.65. This included \$1,645.07 from the Dixie District Convention (more on this later) and \$410.29 from Heartspring contributions (members and sing-outs). Disbursements were \$1,979.10. This included \$256.00 for jackets and shirts for our new members and \$1,450.00 to Heartspring (this

(Continued in column 2)

(Continued from previous column)

along with previous contributions by quartets and the Belles, brings us to the Gold level of contributions again this year). Our closing balance \$4,401.42

As previously mentioned, we netted over \$1,600 from the convention. Along with \$1,047 paid for uniforms this means we realized nearly \$2,700 from the convention. When you consider the horror stories we had heard from other chapters, this is particularly gratifying. Well done everybody.



Business Manager

By Earle Fraser

November Attendance:

11/07	35	Regular Meeting
11/14	34	Regular Meeting
11/17	22	Parkwood Health Care Center
11/21	38	Regular Meeting
11/27	30	Fairview Baptist Church
11/28	40	Regular Meeting

Average attendance 33

15 Members made the gold star list for perfect attendance:

Dave Abercrombie	James Coulter
John Lumpkin	Paul Blazek
Edgar Dawson	Charles Petty
Horace Brock	Niles Fowler
Dave Reynolds	Forrest Bugher
Earle Fraser	Lamar Smith
David Collins	Sam Jones
Bob Stansbury	

The monthly attendance record in order of attendance, is posted on our bulletin board.

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Our outside activities consisted of two performances:

11/17 Parkwood Health Care Center, 22 members participated and were glad to bring some entertainment to the shut-ins who don't get much opportunity to enjoy live performances. The Choo Choo Chorus is dedicated to performing at nursing homes and hospitals as part of our charitable commitment.

11/27 Fairview Baptist Church. This was televised on Georgia PBS channel 3 and 30 Barbershoppers gave a rousing performance to an appreciative audience. The Harrison Bay Harmonizers and Classic Harmony contributed to this one hour show and we are grateful for their help. After we were treated to snacks in the fellowship hall, we sang some of our traditional songs. A freewill offering of \$120 from the audience was presented to our chorus for Heartsprings, our primary charity. The exposure on TV should bring a smile to Pat Crowe, our VP of Public Relations.

Coming Events:

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| December 1 | Thursday Extra Rehearsal |
| December 2 | UTC Fine Arts Theater, Dress Rehearsal |
| December 3 | Christmas Show, Matinee and Evening |
| December 6 | Cohutta Bank Christmas Party, Paid Performance |
| December 8 | Cattleman's Association, Paid Performance |
| December 12 | Choo Choo Chorus Christmas Party Blue Cross Building
Appetizers 6:30
Dinner 7:00 |

Merry Christmas



Choo Choo Belles

By Virginia Jones

The Choo Choo Belles are busy getting ready for Christmas. We are looking forward to seeing everyone at the Christmas Show. At the November 14 meeting, Sandra Stansbury, past president, was presented a personalized garment bag by Virginia Jones, president. Evelyn Fraser was also given a garment bag. Sandra has been an inspiring leader to all of us and we wanted to let her know her efforts were appreciated. Evelyn did a marvelous job as the chairperson of our cookbook fund-raiser.

We are a fun group and we invite all of you ladies who support the chorus to become an active part of the group. Wives, mothers, sisters, girlfriends, everyone who supports the guys are welcome to join us. Our next meeting will be held on Monday January 10. Please come join us. I hope to see you then!

P.S.

Merry Christmas from me and all the Belles!



From the Editor

By Barry Owens

It was great to get my fix with the Christmas show. On August 4, 1986 I officially became a member of this Society and have been *hooked* ever since. I started as a bass in that great section with Dr. Lee Walker, David Collins, and some guy who use to direct the Tallahoma chapter named Paul something.

We in the Chattanooga Choo Choo Chapter are extremely fortunate to have Paul Blazek as director. Many other chapters would kill for a director as talented as ours. I would give anything to have

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(Continued from Page 5, Column 2)

half the musical skill he possesses. I would encourage each member not to take him for granted. If you were pleased with the Christmas show, tell him. If he has helped you musically this past year, tell him.

As most of you know this past year I have had to work the evening shift so that I might finish my studies in day classes. I truly miss you guys. I still haven't had the opportunity to get to know some of our newer members yet. But I retire next September and will be able to rejoin you. I am still quarteting, but I miss the chorus.

Benny Malone gave us quite a scare just before the show. I am glad to report that he underwent a successful angioplasty for a blockage in his heart and will return to us soon. I know your thoughts and prayers were with him and his family during the past week.

I don't know what Jerimiah Pritchard has planned for the future, but I hope it has something to do with children. He was so great working with the children as Frosty the Snowman. He has a special gift with children.

My only regret was that we didn't have a chance to see Johnny Jackson and Steve Grubb do their *schtick* again. They never did it the same way twice! They are truly innovative hams!

Wasn't it great to have a Stanbery directing us again? The Sweet Adelines were great and complemented our style.

Spring show chairman David Collins assures me that we will be able to learn our music for the show easier this year. I have seen this show performed at Harmony College and it is great! I am already suffering withdrawal symptoms—I can't wait for my next fix!

The Christmas Show From a Crowe's View

By Pat Crowe
Public Relations V.P.

Well the Christmas show is history. A vote of thanks to all those behind the scenes people for their effort and hard work.

OBSERVED AND OVERHEARD

"He has Bette Davis eyes, but boilermaker ears?"
Say what??

Ask Don Hausmann to repeat this six times as fast as he can: "We wish to thank the "SITTY SWEENIC SEET ADELEENS."

There are times that Sam Jones stands out, and the chorus parts like the Red Sea.

Frosty the Snowman literally let it all "HANG OUT".

Would you say Jerimiah has a split personality?

"Do they have a new chorus director ?? This one is much thinner.

Hey...we even hid his bald spot!

No wonder the Iraqis gave up ...they heard about Lt. Colonel Hunch.

Hunch and Grunch, what a dynamic duo. Those guys slayed me! Loved em, Loved em.

I wished there were a few more shows just to see these two characters upstage each other.

There was more "HAM" up on that stage than Jimmy Dean or Bob Evans could ever produce.

What more is there to say, It was "GREAT" !!!

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(Continued from Page 6 Column 2)

To paraphrase that great American elucidator Lawrence Welk: "DANK YOU, DANK YOU, DANK YOU"

Now its onward and forward to the spring show. Rehearsal tapes can be picked up May 2, staging May 5th, show May 6th.

Christmas Show Epilogue

By Fred Jesse
Show Chairman

My many thanks to all who had a part in our 1994 Christmas Show. You people simply amaze me. What looks and sounds like a disaster on Friday, receives a standing ovation on Saturday. All of you chorus members and Choo Choo Belles deserve a round of applause for all your work to bring our show to our barbershop friends. Thanks to those who saw a need and helped without being asked. A show chairman can't think of or do everything. That's why I appreciate those of you who did some of the things I forgot, or reminded me to do them.

I received many good comments from those in the audience. The script by Don Hausmann was delightful to the audience, who appreciated both the sad and the fun parts. Especially they liked the performance by Jeremiah Pritchard as Frosty, and his interaction with the children.

I also want to thank the Choo Choo Belles who once again greeted our audience at the front door and worked backstage providing nourishment and encouragement to all.

This was a great show put together by great people. Only one question—How do we top it next year?

Merry Christmas to you all.

The Show. The Show

By David Collins
Spring Show Chairman

But not the show we just did. Ha, Ha fooled you. I'm talking about the **SPRING SHOW**

RADIO !!!

Yes **RADIO**, the slapstick re-visitation of problems encountered producing a radio show in the 30's or early 40's. This was one of the most entertaining shows produced at Harmony College.

Learning tapes and music will be issued the first week in January, so there will be no reason for not singing in this show. We are looking for 40+ people on the stage for this show. With tickets issued the first week in April we are going to fill the house (twice) and have the most successful performance in chapter history. Mark your calendars—May 6, 1995—and don't let anything interfere with our planned production.



Chorus Mailing List

Dave & Mary Abercrombie
1505 East Brow Road
Signal Mountain TN 37377

Paul & Lindy Blazek and Children
431 Stoneridge Drive
Hixson TN 37343

Horace Brock
1302 Worthington Street
Chattanooga TN 37405

Ed & Dee Anna Brown
5624 Barrington Country Circle
Ooltewah TN 37363

Dan & Kathleen Bruns
and Children
8721 Hurricane Manor Trail
Chattanooga TN 37421

Forrest & Anita Bugher
2824 Nile Road
Chattanooga TN 37421

David & Carol Collins
218 West Euclid
Chattanooga TN 37415

James & June Coulter
1816 Georgetown Lane
Chattanooga TN 37421

Pat Crowe
Route 4, Box 332G
Ringgold GA 30736

Edgar & Pat Dawson
193 County Road 722
Byrant AL 36958

Ed & Nancy Durden
936 Mountain Creek Road
Chattanooga TN 37405

Niles & Sherry Fowler
525 Cone Drive
Fort Oglethorpe GA 30742

Earle & Evelyn Fraser
204 Stillwood Lane
Chattanooga TN 37421

Lloyd & Mary Gimber
719 Pyron Lane
Chattanooga TN 37412

Don & Wilma Graham
405 Carter Drive
Lookout Mountain GA 30750

Lamar & Martha Green
Route 9, Box 297
Ringgold GA 30736

Steve & Christi Grubb and Children
1611 Allison Terrace
Rossville GA 30741

Chad Guyton and
Brandon Guyton
2530 Rolling Hills Drive
Cleveland TN 37312

Dick & Jeanne Hagar
245 Hiwassee Avenue N.E.
Cleveland TN 37312

Don & Carol Hausmann
2222 Fishtrap Road
South Pittsburg TN 37380

LeRoy Hobbs
113 1/2 Morningside Drive
Chattanooga TN 37404

Jay Hysinger
3266 61st Street N. W.
Cleveland TN 37312

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Johnny & Sally Jackson
714 Haven Hill Drive
Chattanooga TN 37412

Fred & Judy Jesse
Route 1 123 Old Three Notch Road
Ringgold Ga 30736

Pete & Virginia Jones
14 Broadway Street
Rossville GA 30741

Sam & Pat Jones
6031 South Highway 341
Chickamauga GA 30707

Tom & Barbara Keegan
1727 Crestwood Drive
Chattanooga TN 37405

Dowell & Sidney Kelly
4616 Pine Street #801
Chattanooga TN 37416

Edgar Liendecker
7925 Hale Road
Hixson TN 37343

John Lumpkin
4220 12th Avenue
Chattanooga TN 37407

Benny & Guelda Malone and Sons
9811 Lakeside Road
Harrison TN 37341

Ron & Reba Massingale
Route 9 Box 326
Ringgold GA 30736

Bill & Betty McKeehan
Route 1 Box 496
Georgetown TN 37336

Scott & Susan McKenzie
107 Talley Road
Chattanooga TN 37411

Jack & Dot Moore
16 Holiday Lane
Chattanooga TN 37415

Frank & Marjorie Neely
P. O. Box 81
Wildwood GA 30757

Barry & Nancy Owens
103 Morris Drive
Ringgold GA 30736

Bernard & Glenda Peek
Star Route Box 196
Trenton GA 30752

Charles & Joyce Petty
40 Virginia Avenue
Rossville GA 30741

Jerimiah Pritchard
529 Carson Road S. E.
Cleveland TN 37323

Dave Reynolds
3879 Azalean Drive
Chattanooga TN 37415

Rick & Debbie Schultz
310 South Lowell Avenue
Chattanooga TN 37411

Lamar & Louise Smith
120 Bentley Drive
Rossville GA 30741

Shane Stanbery
1106 Spring Creek Road
Chattanooga TN 37412

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Bob & Sandra Stansbury
141 Rolling Ridge Drive
Chattanooga TN 37421

Paul & Darlene Stone
Route 10, 6 Smitherman Drive
Ringgold GA 30736

W. C. & Mary Strickland
11 Edgewood Circle
Fort Oglethorpe GA 30742

Randall & Billie Stulce
7712 Ooltewah-Georgetown Road
Ooltewah TN 37363

Ed & Linda Thorton
Route 1 Box 410
Mt Pisgah Road
Ringgold GA 30736

Clarence & Sally Wall
1115 Lula Lake Road
Lookout Mountain GA 30750

Ron & Mary Weaver and Children
1287 N. W. Murraytown Road
Cleveland TN 37311

Bernard & Jo Ann Wheeler
5907 Straightcut Road
LaFayette GA 30728

William Wheeler
207 Georgetown Road
Cleveland TN 37311

Chuck & Melissa Wilson
107 Gillispie Terrace
Chattanooga TN 37411



Barbershop Craft

As chapter bulletin editor I receive many bulletins from other chapters. Here's an interesting article written by our friend and old assistant director "Woody" Woodson. It appeared in the November issue of the *Garden City Chorus Bulletin* from Augusta, GA. I hope he doesn't mind if I steal this gem.

Tone Syllables

By Dennis Woodson

I can remember when I was singing in the Boys Glee Club in middle and high school that we sang a lot of music by Fred Waring. Who is Fred Waring, you ask? Well back in pre-rock days, the premier choral group was Fred Waring's Pennsylvanians, a professional glee club that put on concerts around the country and appeared on all the big radio and early TV shows. School glee clubs may still sing his music. I don't know. The thing that sticks in my mind about his arrangements is that written below the words was a phonetic enunciation. You may remember seeing it, too, if your music teacher used the Waring arrangements. His enunciation system was based upon the simple fact that audiences depended on hearing the words to understand what the group was singing. Now I ask you, is that basic, or what?

As singers, we too, need to enunciate clearly so that our audiences may understand the story we are telling. Waring's enunciation system is expressed in four rules:

Rule 1: Be conscious of all consonants which have pitch and sing them with exaggerated intensity and duration.

Rule 2: Establish continuity of tone from word to word and from syllable to syllable.

Rule 3: Be conscious of the placement of each tone syllable within the time value of the note, or notes, on which it is sung.

Rule 4: Be conscious of all vowel sounds, and

(Continued on Page 11, Column 1)

(Continues from Page 10, Column 2)

sing them with what seems like exaggerated distinctness.

While the phrasing of these rules may sound a little technical and stilted to us, it is interesting to note that these rules are stressed in some form or another in every craft or coaching session we attend. We are taught to energize "singable" consonants; to connect our words into smoo-oo-ooth phrases; to be aware of tone placement; and to exaggerate our vowels.

Since it appears that the same techniques in singing apply to Barbershop and to Big Band vocal music, does it mean that we can apply these to all our singing activities; like church choir, shower singing, musical theater, etc.? Think so? The answer is a resounding "You bet!!!" When we put all this together and sing with our hearts and our heads, we make ourselves proud—and Fred Waring would be proud, too.



Chapter Quartet Activity

Quartetting is an important part of our chapter and society. Our chapter is blessed with many fine quartets that will sing at the drop of a hat. Quarteting is a great way to make you a better chorus singer by developing better breathing techniques and better chord balance. I encourage each of you to experiment with several different voices to attain that "special sound." Remember, just because you sing a certain part in the chorus, don't get bogged down in one voice part. Many of you have the range to experiment with other parts. Some of you basses might be great tenors! Here are some of the performances that some of our chapter quartets did in November:

Harrison Bay Harmonizers

Nov. 13
Siskin Rehab. Center
Nov. 15
Parkridge Hospital
Nov. 27
First Lutheran Church-Cleveland
Both morning services
Nov. 27
Cracker Barrel Rest.-Cleveland

Stage II

Nov. 28
Channel 9 TV (Christmas Show
Promotion)
Nov. 29
Channel 3 TV (Christmas Show
Promotion)

Blue Plate Special

Nov. 30
Brass Register Resturant

Classic Harmony

Nov. 6
Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church
Nov. 13
Parkwood Nursing Home
(for MortarBoard Honor Society)
Nov. 29
Kingsmen Sunday School Class
of Brainerd Baptist Church



*Season's
Greetings*



The 1994 Leadership Team Serving Your Chorus

President
Music V. P.
Membership V. P.
Program V. P.
Secretary
Asst. Secretary
Treasurer
Asst. Treasurer
Publicity

Steve Grubb
James Coulter
W. C. Strickland
Dick Hagar
David Reynolds
Earle Fraser
Johnny Jackson
Niles Fowler
Pat Crowe

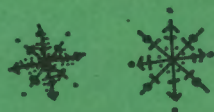
Business Manager
Equipment Manager
Bulletin Editor
Logopedics Chairman
Director
Associate Director
Assistant Directors

Board Members at Large

Earle Fraser
Benny Malone
Barry Owens
Charles Petty
Paul Blazek
Horace Brock
Tom Keegan
Paul Stone
Benny Malone
Clarence Wall
Sam Jones

The Blender

Chattanooga Choo Choo Chapter
103 Morris Drive
Ringgold, GA 30736





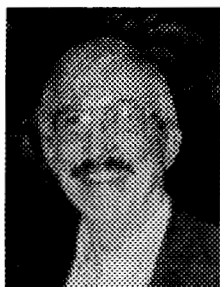
The Blender



January 1996

Volume 5 Number 1

The Official Publication of the Chattanooga Chapter of
The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America
Chattanooga, Tennessee Dixie District



Tom's Tempo

by Tom Keegan
President

A new year has begun with lots of new-ness ahead for our chapter. 1996 (or the year of the Rat, according to the Chinese calendar) brings a mostly new group of officers together to work towards making barbershop singing more enjoyable for each of us. Thank goodness we have Reynolds as secretary and Wheeler as treasurer to give the board some experience and stability—and of course Collins, with a new job to add to that experience. In 1996 we need to move to a new meeting place, we need to add new members, we need to increase our public exposure to the people of Chattanooga, we need to raise extra funds for our December '96 trip to England, and we need to continue to make our chapter a vibrant, good-singing, fun-filled organization. So what else do we want? We want you! We want you to come to meetings; we want you to learn your music; we want you to accept a job when we ask for help; and we want your ideas and suggestions.

What can your elected officers do to make this a better chapter? We'll put forth the effort—help us with your input. In closing, let us extend our thanks to those previous officers who served us well for the past two years, Grubb, Strickland, Collins, Coulter, Crowe, Malone, and Fraser. Thank you all for your time and efforts—and for a job well done.

Coming Events

January 6-7 COTS

January 19-20 North Carolina Harmony Brig.

February 1-4 International Mid-Winter Con.

February 12 Valentine Banquet

February 14 Singing Valentines

March 15-17 Spring Convention at Gatlinburg

April 13 Spring Show Rehearsal Motlow Col.

April 27 Spring Show Rehearsal Motlow Col.

May 4 Spring Show at Chattanooga

May 18 Spring Show at Nashville

July 1-6 International Convention at Salt Lake

July 19-21 Clemson

July 28-August 3 Harmony College

August 2-3 Covenant College Retreat

September 9 Nominations Committee Meets

October 4-6 Fall Convention at Knoxville

November 9-10 COTS

December 7 Christmas Show

December 26-January 3 London, England

*The Chattanooga chapter of
The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America
meets Monday evening, 7:00 East Ridge Church of Christ, McBrien Road (interim)*

Membership Matters



by Dave Abercrombie
Membership VP

Because none of ya'll had the guts to run against me, I am your new Membership VP. Before I digress too far, right now, let's give Strick a big hand for doing a great job for our chapter. (Somehow applause doesn't sound as good when your are by yourself.)

Well, I have a lot of ideas for growth, but they all include participation from everyone in the group. So get ready for a great ride—really how big do you want us to be? If your answer is "real big," then what are you, yes you individually, willing to do to make it happen. Whatever you decide, don't expect me and my committee to do all the work. Be willing to do your part!

Probably all you have to do is tell enough folks what a great hobby you have, how much you enjoy the fellowship, and how good it feels to ham it up in front of an audience. Write a few names of people you can target as potential members and regularly invite them to come and visit. (Please know that if you don't target individuals, you are not likely to gain any—it may be a law, I don't know).

In closing, I want to say that I appreciate the opportunity to serve in this capacity. I have received so much good in my life from being a member. I welcome the opportunity to possibly give something back. Let's all get together and see how big we can make this thing.

Heartspring Report



By Bob W. Stansbury

December 29, 1995

Well, another year has gone by. We are another year older, wiser, more handsome, improved in contest points, and FATTER, but we've still got a lot to work to do. I sure would like to see us grow. The money collected for Heartspring at our weekly meetings for the 1995 year was about \$1,240. If you were to average this out with 50 members, it would be \$24.80 per member. For 30 members, it would be \$41.33 per man. The point I am trying to make is that we need to have every member at our meeting and contributing. Boy, wouldn't we sound great! Let's work on attracting everyone to our meetings, even new prospects. Don't forget your soup labels! I will be sending them in soon.

	Oct	Nov	Dec
02	\$28.00	06 \$33.00	04 \$30.00
09	34.00	13 27.00	11 00.00
16	25.00	20 30.00	18 28.00
23	28.00	27 39.00	25 00.00
30	25.00		



New Additions to Our Library

by Barry Owens
Librarian

(source: Dan Naumann, Director of Music Ed.
SPEBSQSA)

Caroline and *Floatin' Down To Cotton Town* are the two newest additions. These have been favorites for many years among barbershoppers.

A number of arrangers have "had a go" at *Floatin' Down To Cotton Town*. Here's a super treatment by Rob Campbell of a great up-tune. Rated a "3" in difficulty, this arrangement will provide terrific fun for those groups able to tackle a bit of a challenge.

Are there many among us who haven't tried to "woodshed" *Caroline*, ala The Boston Common? We now have the written arrangement as sung by the 1980 champs. Written by Randy Newman (who also composed the infamous *Short People*), The Boston Common, at the urging of their baritone Wally Cluett, woodshedded their way through the song, assisted by some harmonies put to paper by Larry Coyle. The result has become one of the most popular and beloved barbershop arrangements of all time. Enjoy!

We have hundreds of great arrangements to all kinds of music in our library. See me if your want to browse. I have a list, in alphabetical order, of all of our music. Many of the songs are now out of print, making them priceless gems to music lovers. During the transition period, the music library will be stored at my house. This will give me an extraordinary chance to update the file.

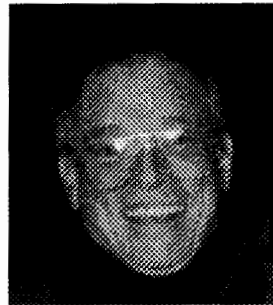


Our Newest Board Member



Lamar Smith with wife, Louise

David's Notes



by David Collins
Public Relations VP

Well there is nothing to publicize so far this year, but that is going to change very quickly. I need help in capturing names and addresses of the local paper in the area you live. The big daily's are on automatic coverage, but I need access to the paper in your area to publicize that our chapter will be in your area performing and you are a part of it. The best "spreads" we received last year were from Pat's work with the smaller newspapers and the reason was simple—you or another member lived in that area.

If you are in a quartet and have a "big" singing engagement (National Anthem at UTC) and give me a picture, I'll try to get a release out. If you win an award or a competition or if the chorus will be in an area, let's sing to lots of people and get the public acclimated to good barbershop music.

I'll Take You Home Again, Kathleen

Thanks to the *Devil Mountain Despatch*
Art Howell, Editor

I'll Take You Home Again Kathleen is a well-known song which, when examined, reveals no reference to Ireland and is not an Irish ballad. Neither was it written by an Irishman, but by a Virginian named Thomas Paine Westendorf, who was living at the time in Indiana.

Nor, as sometimes said, was Westendorf trying to cheer up his wife who was ill and unhappy over the death of a son. Researchers from Richard S. Hill of the Library of Congress established that Westendorf was lonesome for his wife (they hadn't been married that long). She was visiting her family in Ogdensburg, New York, while Thomas was stuck in Plainfield, where he had a teaching job. Evidently he thought the name Kathleen was a more romantic name than his wife's, Jennie.

According to the late Sigmund Spaeth, authority on popular music, Westendorf's direct inspiration was another song called *Barney, Take Me Home Again*—written by Arthur W. French and George W. "Persley," whose real name, by the way, was George W. Brown.



Belles' Business



by Nancy Owens
Belles' President

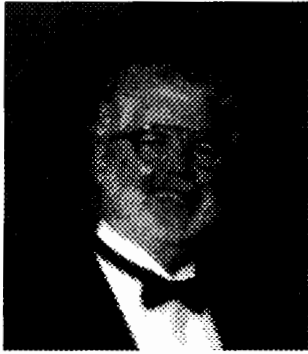
Well, here we are at the beginning of an exciting year for the chorus. The chorus is moving to a new "home", a joint chapter show with lots of new music is planned for May.....and a trip to London! Sounds as if we are going to be busy Belles for a while!

I'm really excited about the possibility of the chorus and families going to London at the end of the year. I wonder what the dress is for New Year's Eve in London, England.

The biggest project facing us in the coming year is how to help the chapter raise funds to defray the cost of the trip. It will be an expensive endeavor for the chorus. If anyone has an idea about how to raise a whole big hunk of money, bring it to the attention of a Belle. If two or three of you know a project that will earn us a little money, let me know. A whole bunch of little money adds up to bigger money. Having listened to the editor carry on about the financial shape of the chapter, I know any money we raise will be appreciated. (Of course, this is from the man who always thinks there is never enough money.....and of course, he's right! I haven't won the Publisher's Clearing House Sweepstakes. Yet!)

Remember to mark the second Monday of each month on your calendar (except when the chapter doesn't meet on that day) for our monthly meeting. In January, you will be at the meeting (if you attend) on the day this is distributed. Any questions, call me at 891-9501 evenings or 755-4526 at work.

The Last Word...



by Barry Owens
editor

It's that time again: a new slate of officers to serve the chapter. Being an officer in this chapter can be tough. Many hours of non-singing time are put in by these men. They need and deserve our support and cooperation. Probably the easiest job is president—provided the rest of the people do their job. It is simply a matter of delegating authority. It sounds good on paper, doesn't it? Unfortunately it doesn't work like that.

However, Tom is lucky. He has good people working with him. I have every confidence in Tom's ability to make this one of the most memorable years in the history of our chapter. During his administration the chapter will produce a combined show with Nashville's Music City Chorus. Once again we will have the opportunity to pick Larry Deters' brain and musical talents. Along with our own Paul Blazek, how can we fail? Earle Fraser will be our business show chairman. We are doing the Disney show. The chapter performed this show a couple of years before I joined. I hear that I'm in for a treat. I am already starting to learn my music. I've had the learning tape and music for years, hoping that we would do the show again someday. There will be many new songs to learn, and we must attempt to learn them on our own time. Paul won't have the time to teach each note of each song. That's too much to ask of any director. You can be ahead of the game if you make your own training tape. Don't wait for someone to do it for you. Just

find someone to play your part on the piano and then record yourself singing it. It's a fast way to learn notes and lyrics.

Tom's administration will also be the first to take the Chattanooga Choo Choo Chorus abroad. There will be plenty of opportunities for each member to contribute ideas for this historic endeavor. London, here we come!

At this point Tom may be feeling a little intimidated. Not to worry! For the first time since I have been a member, the new president has not had an opportunity to attend COTS before taking office. In Atlanta I'm sure he will learn all he needs to know.

Can you believe it: a new meeting place! At press time it wasn't officially confirmed, but I've got good vibes about it. For all of us who have had to set up and take down our risers, move furniture, and generally work ourselves to death each week, it's going to be great to have a meeting place all to ourselves. I can envision it now: large pictures of our chorus and chapter quartets hanging on the walls, all of our Heartspring awards and plaques, past and present directors' pictures, barber poles, the works!

One of our biggest challenges this year is improving our membership retention rate. Membership VP Abercrombie will get some valuable info at COTS, but this is something that we must all be concerned with. What are we doing right to attract new members and what are we doing wrong in not retaining them? After they pay their dues and sign on the dotted line do we ignore their needs? Do they get the music they need to sing our repertoire? Do they have a buddy sitting next to them, helping to learn our songs? Do we show concern when they are missing for a couple of weeks? Are they important to us? You bet they are, and we must do better!

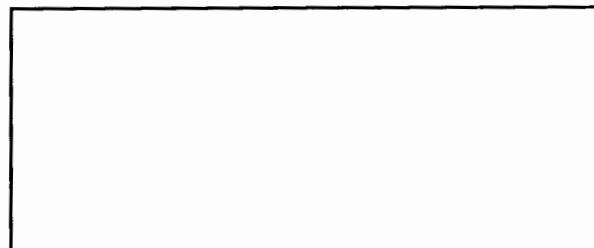
The 1996 Leadership Team Serving The Chapter

President	Tom Keegan	(423) 756-5660
Music Vice President	Fred Jesse	(706) 375-5935
Membership Vice President	Dave Abercrombie	(423) 886-1588
Program Vice President	Johnny Jackson	(423) 892-8317
Publicity Vice President	David Collins	(423) 875-5533
Secretary	Dave Reynolds	(423) 875-2674
Assistant Secretary	Earle Fraser	(423) 892-7630
Treasurer	Bernard Wheeler	(706) 638-4013
Board Members At Large	Bernard Peek	(706) 398-3104
	C. W. Wall	(706) 820-0579
	Lamar Smith	(706) 866-2481
Bulletin Editor	Barry Owens	(706) 891-9501
Business Manager	Steve Grubb	(706) 861-6171
Heartspring Chair	Bob Stansbury	(423) 894-7760
Music Director	Paul Blazek	(423) 870-9832
Associate Director	Horace Brock	(423) 756-1392
Assistant Directors	David Collins	(423) 875-5533
	Paul Stone	(706) 935-9160
Equipment Manager	Benny Malone	(423) 344-9211
Choo Choo Belles President	Nancy Owens	(706) 891-9501

The Blender

*The official newsletter of the Chattanooga Chapter of
The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement
of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America*

Barry Owens, Editor
Chattanooga Choo Choo Chapter
247 Morris Drive
Ringgold, GA 30736





The Blender



February 1996

Volume 5 Number 2

The Official Publication of the Chattanooga Chapter of
The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America
Chattanooga, Tennessee Dixie District

Barbershopping Comes to Chattanooga

by David Reynolds
Chapter Historian

It was a cold Saturday afternoon in January, 1962. A caravan from Knoxville pulled up at the Read House Hotel, escorted by elements of the Chattanooga police department. They were greeted by the Mayor of Chattanooga and 75 Chattanoogaans (including 20 former barbershoppers) singing *You're As Welcome As The Flowers In May*.

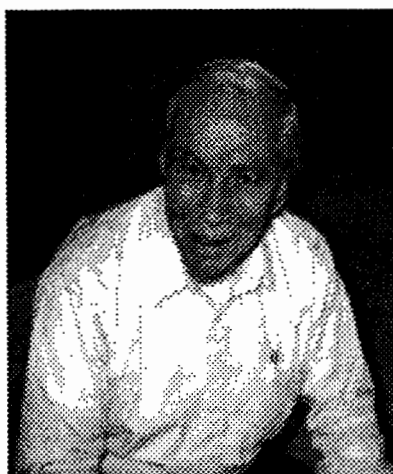
Something important was happening at Chattanooga's premier hotel that day, the 27th of January, 1962—barbershopping was coming to town!!!

Before the day was over 150 or so barbershoppers and guests had enjoyed a variety of barbershopping activities designed to establish a chapter in the Choo Choo Town, the only major Tennessee city without



Charter Member, Jack Moore

a chapter. The event attracted some 75 potential Chattanooga barbershoppers and the 1962 Dixie Champion Smokyland Chorus from Knoxville, the Peachtree Chorus from Atlanta, Knoxville's fabulous quartet The Dignitaries, The Bama-chords Quartet from Birmingham, a "woodshed" quartet from Tuscaloosa, and other barbershoppers from those cities.



Charter Member, Lloyd Gimber

The groundwork for this momentous event was first laid by the Knoxville chapter, which boasted not only the best chorus in Dixie, but had the best competing quartet in Dixie, the "Digs", the administrative leader of the District, Dr. Tom Prince (of the Digs), and the *Rebel Rouser* editor, Ray

(Continued on page 4 column 2)

The Chattanooga chapter of
The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America
meets Monday evenings, 7:00 at All Saints Academy, 310 East Eighth Street Chattanooga, TN

The Blender

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Fax (706) 891-1508

E-mail bowens@chattanooga.com

Ferd's Words

by Fred Jesse
Music VP

This is the first article I have written as a chapter officer in over a year. I had a year off, but now I have new responsibilities. This year will be busy for all of us. There are six new songs to learn, and a lengthy Disney Medley to learn for our joint chapter shows with Nashville. More about that next month.



This month is one for organization and goal setting. We must set some realistic goals in keeping with our chapter organization. It is tough to be all things to all our members, but I hope we can have something for everybody. There will be new music, shows, contests, church performances, quarteting, singing Valentines, and coaching.

All of this will require something from us. From some of us it will mean a rededication to our hobby of barbershopping. We must be willing to do our part to promote our chapter. This means being involved, involved with the chapter members, our patrons, our new meeting facility, and especially those for whom we sing.

Singing with others at a meeting is a lot of fun, but sharing our style of music with other is fun too. We will have lots of opportunities to share

this year. It might be with our fellow barbershoppers in the Spring show or at contest, but we must not forget that we are performers too.

We perform not only for our enjoyment, but also the enjoyment of others. And the enjoyment of all of us is enhanced when we perform well. This should be our primary goal, to improve our performance, and show it at contest and in learning the new music we will be performing this year. With your help this will be a great year!

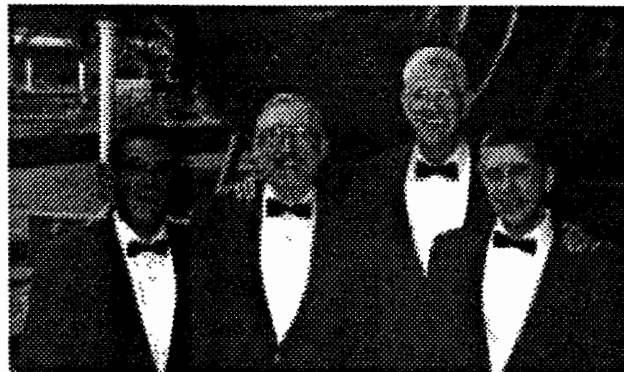
Quartet Performances

December 1995

Blue Plate Special

- 12/15 Colsted Retirement Home
Christmas Party
- 12/15 Boynton Elementary School
Christmas Party

* * * * *



Harrison Bay Harmonizers

- 12/01 Olan Mills - Special holiday performances in work areas and cafeteria
- 12/06 Chattanooga State - Dance Theater Workshop Show
- 12/09 Country Place Restaurant
- 12/12 Signal Mt. Golf & Country Club - Lions Club Christmas party

Chatting With Chad

by Chad Newgaugh

We all know hindsight has 20/20 vision, and all about Monday morning quarterbacks. In a recent interview Deion Sanders stated, "If it don't make money, it don't make sense." Vice President candidate, Admiral Will Stockdale, in his opening speech to the electorate stated, "Who am I; why am I here?" as he advised us on the state of the campaign. On advice, someone once said, "Hazard not your wealth on a poor man's advice." Johann Wolfgang von Goethe stated, "To accept good advice is but to increase one's ability." And to quote Syrus: "Many receive advice, only the wise profit from it."

What is profit?: "an economic efficiency index determining the amount of surplus left after expenses." So as the admiral said, "Why am I here?" Old Chad says from his quarterback position. I am here to say: in our chapter Treasurer, we have, with his discipline of banking and investment experience, sound knowledgeable advice and investment know-how. But through rose-colored glasses and personal emotion we rejected his facts. Thereby adding a \$1,400 tab to our show. I'm not saying we would be \$1,400 to the better in our piggy bank—but how much do you figure?

What are the key words again? Advise! Profit! So class what have we learned from today's lesson? I'm sure there are many proverbs, epigrams, aphorism, sayings and bon mots to cover the actions we took. How about those golden oldies, "Look before you leap" or "Buy with your head, not your heart".

Let's "profit" from advice and not be swayed or wooed by one's emotions of "feathers in our caps" or great for the chapter. You may get a tickle out of a feather in your cap, but for me, feathers are for the birds! I'd rather have a healthy bank balance than see that quartet take our money to their banker. Next time, think about what Syrus had to say on advice.

Quartet Performances

December 1995



Rock City 4

- 12/09 Valleybrook Golf & Country Club
- 12/12 Mack Parker Open House
- 12/16 Gibbs Open House
- 12/16 Chattanooga Golf & Country Club
- 12/16 Erwin Open House
- 12/18 Parkridge Hospital
- 12/21 Parkridge Hospital ICU

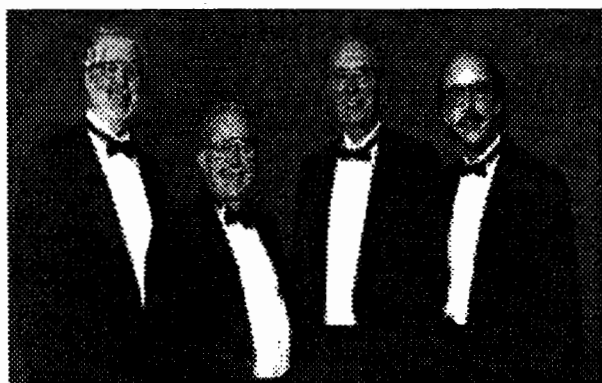
Blender articles are due the last Monday of the month

247 Morris Drive
Ringgold, GA 30736
fax 891-1508

E-mail: bowens@chattanooga.com
Submissions welcome from anyone

Quartet Performances

December 1995



Classic Harmony

- 12/03 Parkinson's Support Christmas Party
- 12/05 Moccasin Bend Hospital Christmas Party
- 12/10 Baird Bruce & Co. Sales Promo
- 12/12 Harrison Realter's Christmas Party
- 12/12 Federal Employees Credit Union Christmas Party
- 12/12 Oakwood Baptist Senior's Christmas Party
- 12/13 WRCB-TV Share Your Christmas Food Drive
- 12/22 Sugart & Sons Hoisery Mill

Coming Events

- February 12 Valentine Banquet
- February 14 Singing Valentines
- March 15-17 Spring Convention at Gatlinburg
- April 13 Spring Show Rehearsal Motlow
- April 27 Spring Show Rehearsal Motlow
- May 4 Spring Show at Chattanooga
- May 18 Spring Show at Nashville
- July 1-6 International Convention at Salt Lake
- July 19-21 Clemson
- July 28-August 3 Harmony College
- August 2-3 Covenant College Retreat
- September 9 Nominations Committee Meets
- October 4-6 Fall Convention at Knoxville

(Continued from page 1 column 2)

Shetler. Shetler did a lot of the preliminary letter writing in 1961 setting up the January, 1962 event. Former barbershoppers living in Chattanooga, Ernest Jordan in particular, and Ray Beebee, and Dick Clem, were very much responsible for the success of the organizational meeting. Ernest Jordan was to become the first president of the new chapter (chartered in May, 1962), and Dick Clem was to be the first Music Director.

Two current members of the chapter, Lloyd Gimber and Jack Moore, were also present at the organizational meeting on January 27, 1962. Lloyd was a former barbershopper from the Cincinnati, Ohio Chapter, a group which had some very active quartets but a weak chorus program. It had been four years without barbershopping for Lloyd, and he was thrilled to hear the sound of that great four-part harmony again. The Chattanooga guys, to Lloyd, seemed to be interested in establishing a strong chorus program, which also excited him.

The organizational meeting was a huge success. Jack and Lloyd became charter members of the Chattanooga (Rock City) Chapter along with 53 others whose names were on the official charter document, signed on May 17, 1962. They presented their first show at Chattanooga High School (City High) on July 14, 1962. In their first chorus competition in Macon, GA in October, 1962, they placed third, behind their two sponsoring chapters, Atlanta and Knoxville. The Choo Choo was rolling!!!



Chapter Historian.
David Reynolds

Meeting of Board of Directors, January 18, 1996

Present: Collins, Peek, Wheeler, Jackson, Reynolds, Keegan, Smith
Absent: Abercrombie, Grubb, Coulter, Wall, Jesse
Guest: Owens

Meeting was called to order by President Keegan at E. Ridge Church of Christ at 7:15 PM.

Secretary - The minutes of the December 14th meeting were approved as read.

Treasurer - Bernard Wheeler submitted a written report, attached. A summary follows:

Previous Balance - \$3,744.36; Received - \$2,566.50; Disbursed - \$4,328.08; Balance - \$1,487.78
Heartspring - Bernard had sent in money to cover the 1996 pledge of \$50 per man based on a membership of 53. He was informed that the chapter did not meet the "gold" requirement because the recorded membership was 56 and \$250 of the chapter donation had been credited to the Marietta Chapter as an honorarium to Tom Hine, who coached the chorus last year. Bernard, after some persuasive talk on the phone, was able to have the chapter awarded the gold by sending in the \$400 difference.

Audit Committee - The committee's report on 1995 finances is due at the Society office on January 31.

Spending Authorization - Bernard Wheeler, Tom Keegan, and the spring show finance chairman are authorized to collect and spend chapter funds.

Membership - For Abercrombie, Reynolds submitted Richard Bidwell's application for membership and moved for approval. Seconded by Collins. Approved. Guest Night - Has been postponed until sometime after the Valentine Party.

Music Committee - Keegan reported for Jesse that all the show music has been ordered. Jesse will meet with Blazek to determine assistant directors for 1996.

Program - Johnny Jackson reported that the fellowship room at the East Ridge Church of Christ will be the location of the Valentine Party set for Mon., Feb., 12. Cost will be \$9.00 each for a catered meal with the choice of two meats, salad, vegetable and desert. This met with the board's approval.

Publicity - Collins is putting an ad in the area papers and shopper's guides about the Singing Valentine program by the chapter.

Chapter Bulletin - Owens reported that he is printing 75 Blenders each month. He sends a copy to recently dropped members as well as some "outside" mailings. The Blender has photo capability now so he can insert pictures of officers and others with articles in the chapter paper. Good Job - Barry. The board gave Barry a big pat-on-the-back for doing an outstanding job as Bulletin Editor.

Business Manager - Keegan proposed for Grubb that the minimum performance fee for the Chorus be reduced from the current \$300 level. Collins moved that the minimum fee be set at \$100 with the understanding that the Business Manager may use his discretion in setting the actual performance fee based on the circumstances. Seconded by Reynolds. Passed.

Spring Show - Earl Fraser will be the show chairman for the Chattanooga Show. He would like to set the ticket price at \$10 for advance sales and \$12 at the box office. The ticket-handling through UTC will have to be finalized.

Old Business

New Facilities Committee - David Collins reported that the chapter has received permission to

use the All Saints Academy building as a meeting place for two years. The Chapter was also authorized to make some necessary improvements.

Phone Matrix - 44 names and numbers put into the matrix. The system will be tested next week.

New Business

Trip to England - per Keegan some procedures will have to be established to determine how much of the chapter funds can be spent financing the trip and how it is to be divided. He asked Bernard Wheeler to determine the legal and tax aspects of the chapter funds being used for such a purpose.

Good of the Chapter - Reynolds reported that the chapter is due refunds from the District for first, the tax on the Christmas show, the proceeds from which went to charity, and second, two pre-paid registrations for the COTS for members who couldn't attend. The chapter will receive \$98.10 refund from the Sheraton Hotel for two pre-paid reservations for guys who didn't attend COTS. Johnny Jackson suggested that the board meetings be limited to one hour.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15

* * * * *

Report of the Treasurer of the Chattanooga Chapter of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America

Month ending December 31, 1995

Ending Balance on November 30, 1995 \$3,744.36

Receipts

300	Chapter Dues	\$38.50
310C	Christmas Show Rev.	1,622.00
340	Heartspring	330.00
460	Social Activities	576.00

+ 2,566.50

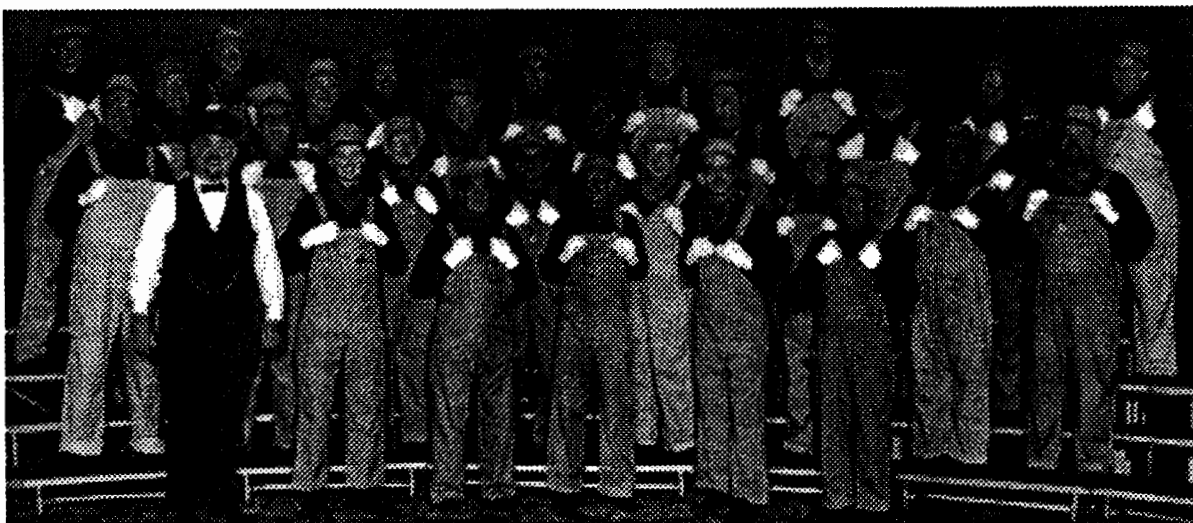
Disbursements

411	Director's Expense	\$140.00
432	Office Exp.	32.00
433	Blender	52.13
440	Misc.. Show	73.47
442	Scenery Exp.	191.68
444	Printing	202.10
446	Guest Expense	1,550.00
450	Donation	1,740.00
460	Social Activities	588.00
470	Misc..	253.70 (Forgotten Child...\$225.00)

- 4,823.08

Balance on Hand December 31, 1995

\$1,487.78



1995 Chorus Activities

by Earle Fraser
1995 Business Manager

January

- 04 John Lumpkin Funeral
- 08 Guest Night

February

- 03 Extra Rehearsal
- 09 Extra Rehearsal
- 11 Special Olympics Banquet/
National Guard Armory
- 18 Spring Contest, Gatlinburg

April

- 20 Extra Rehearsal
- 27 Extra Rehearsal

May

- 04 Extra Rehearsal
- 06 Spring Show, "Radio"
- 15 Guest Night
- 20 Soddy Daisy High School Band
Recognition

June

- 15 Extra Rehearsal
- 22 Extra Rehearsal
- 29 Extra Rehearsal
- 30 Rehearsal with the Chattanooga
Symphony Orchestra

July

- 01 Pops in the Park Concert
- 20 Covenant College Coaching Session
with Thom Hine

August

- 13 LaFayette First Baptist Church

September

- 17 Tyner United Methodist Church
- 24 Rossville Days
- 28 Extra Rehearsal

October

- 07 Dixie District Convention/ Winston-
Salem, NC
- 15 Boynton United Methodist Church
- 29 Memorial Baptist Church

November

- 01 Brainerd United Methodist Church
- 12 Oakwood Baptist Church
- 18 Rossville Class Reunion/ Walker Co.
Civic Center
- 30 Extra Rehearsal

December

- 02 Christmas Show/ "What the
Dickens"
- 11 Rossville High School Faculty
Christmas Party/ Chattanooga Choo
Choo

Attendance percentage for the year, including
regular meetings: **62.5%**

Belles' Business

by Nancy Owens
Belles President

Shirts for Gatlinburg.....Last year for the Gatlinburg contest, some of the Belles (and beaus) wore white sweat shirts embroidered with the Chorus/Belles logo. If you missed out on ordering one last year, just bring a sweat shirt to practice (along with \$10) by the last Monday in February (2-26). Give to Benny Malone with a piece of paper pinned to it with the name you want to have embroidered on it. Please use a permanent marker to put your initials on the label. I would suggest that you wash it before sending it.

Also anyone who needs (or wants) the raspberry colored golf shirt, please give a piece of paper to Benny with your name, the name you wish embroidered on it, the size you need and a check for \$25.00. If you want any other item embroidered, talk to Guelda Malone (344-9211). Barry likes the white sweat shirt so much, that we're having a different colored one done.

We will meet on the second Monday of March. This is the Monday before spring contest. We'll meet at the new home of the chorus. For many of us it will be the first look at the facility. Try to make it. We will firm up any plans that need to be taken care of for Gatlinburg.

By the way if you haven't seen a sample of the itinerary for the London trip, make sure "your guy" shares it with you. If you haven't ordered/renewed your passport, do so soon. The more I hear about the proposed activities, the more excited I become!

Barry and I surfed the 'Net and toured downtown London and the country side. There is a whole bunch of exciting sites to see and things to do. I hope a lot of you are giving serious thought to going.

Been There, Heard It, Seen It, Done It

by A. Nony Moos

Signal Mountain: Frustrated map readers, did you see the smile on Earle's face as you complained about the map. It wasn't his!! You forgot the golden rule: "When all else fails, try following instructions." All of us "non-macho" guys had no problem following the very clear, explicit and informative directions. Is it true that Keegan is part baritone? Hear he was moving the risers wheel side up!!! Pretty tough sledding, Tom.

How many knew that in our audience, the little white-haired gentleman wearing the green plaid shirt, who also had an Irish accent is the world head of the Alexian Order? When not traveling the world for the order, he resides at the Signal Mountain village site. He said it was an enjoyable performance.

We are now looking to help Earle get his nose out of his jacket. He got it caught when he was laughing up his sleeve at all those bonehead map readers. Speaking of help, it's also needed by those baritones who, at our last chapter meeting, stood up with the guests. Guess they thought because it was a different meeting place they were guests!

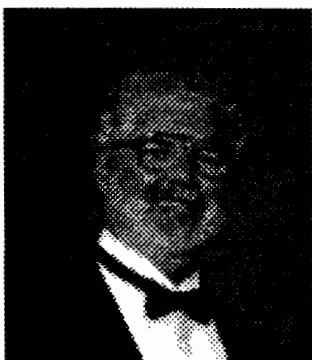


***Valentine's Dinner
Monday, February 12
East Ridge Church of
Christ***

The Last Word...

by Barry Owens
editor

I had a great time at Chapter Operations Training Seminar (COTS) on Jan. 6-7. Because they didn't have a seminar on chapter bulletins, I attended the public relations seminar. Our Public Relations VP, David Collins, had other seminars to attend in the district, Division 4, so he asked me if I would represent our chapter. I picked up quite a few good ideas for PR and passed them along to Dave. The buzz words for the entire weekend were **Singing Valentines!** Virtually every class talked about it.



Public Relations seminar. Our Public Relations VP, David Collins, had other seminars to attend in the district, Division 4, so he asked me if I would represent our chapter. I picked up quite a few

Many chapters last year made their entire operating budget through this innovative, lucrative, and downright fun endeavor. As I see it, making tons of money is the least exciting aspect of Singing Valentines. As a former Public Relations VP, I am always looking at the PR angle. You know me, I always work the crowd. Ask David about my experience at a nursing home several years ago! Singing Valentines puts us before the public, lets them know who we are, what we do and how to contact us. Dave Abercrombie tells me that WRCB-TV will send a cameraman around with Classic Harmony to deliver a Singing Valentine. An even more exciting aspect of Singing Valentines is that it takes us back to our roots as a barbershop quartet singing society. Many of our non-quartet singing members are going to participate in Singing Valentines in this our inaugural

year. To you new-comers, I promise you that you will have the time of your life.

I think congratulations are in order. We have started the new year off with a rousing success. We have just signed-up our first (January) member in the society's Harold Hill membership program. Welcome Dick Bidwell! We here in Chattanooga are committed to increasing our membership. Why deprive local men of having the fun we experience every Monday night? Do them a favor. They need us as much as we need them.

What a great meeting place we have! All Saints Academy, the former Notre Dame School is truly an historic place. If those walls could talk, what stories they could tell of all the boys and girls who have passed through those hallowed halls? My wife, Nancy and her mother attended the school. Niles Fowler and I worked Saturday Jan., 20 pulling up the old carpet. What a mess! I especially like the location of our room, overlooking the parking lot across the street. I talked to a Little Theater member, one of our neighbors, and he said they have had no trouble in that area of town. There is a fully equipped lunchroom, an auditorium, and a great basketball gym.

For our first chorus singing performance of the year, it couldn't have been better: a great venue, a great audience, and great singing. To get a standing ovation from people whose ability to stand is sometimes impaired, is something that I wish every chorus in our society could experience! The Harrison Bay Harmonizers, The Rock City 4, and Stage II with Fred was just the right touch!

Our Program VP, Johnny Jackson needs more help from some of our younger members when it comes to moving our risers. I noticed President Keegan struggling with a set of riser, sweat pouring off his forehead. I offered to take them the rest of the way to the truck. Being a little taller than Tom, I assured him that there was a certain knack to manhandling the risers. Pat Crowe, of course, couldn't resist pointing out that the wheels go down!

The 1995 Leadership Team Serving The Chapter

President	Tom Keegan	(423) 756-5660
Music Vice President	Fred Jesse	(706) 375-5935
Membership Vice President	Dave Abercrombie	(423) 886-1588
Program Vice President	Johnny Jackson	(423) 892-8317
Publicity Vice President	David Collins	(423) 875-5533
Secretary	Dave Reynolds	(423) 875-2674
Assistant Secretary	Earle Fraser	(423) 892-7630
Treasurer	Bernard Wheeler	(706) 638-4013
Assistant Treasurer	Johnny Jackson	(615) 892-8317
Board Members At Large	Bernard Peek	(706) 398-3104
	C. W. Wall	(706) 820-0579
	Lamar Smith	(706) 866-2481
Bulletin Editor	Barry Owens	(706) 891-9501
Business Manager	Steve Grubb	(706) 861-6171
Heartspring Chair	Bob Stansbury	(423) 894-7760
Director	Paul Blazek	(423) 870-9832
Associate Director	Horace Brock	(423) 756-1392
Assistant Directors	David Collins	(423) 875-5533
	Paul Stone	(706) 935-9160
Equipment Manager	Benny Malone	(423) 344-9211
Choo Choo Belles President	Nancy Owens	(706) 891-9501

The Blender

*The official newsletter of the Chattanooga Chapter of
The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement
of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America*

Barry Owens, Editor
Chattanooga Choo Choo Chapter
247 Morris Drive
Ringgold, GA 30736



The Blender



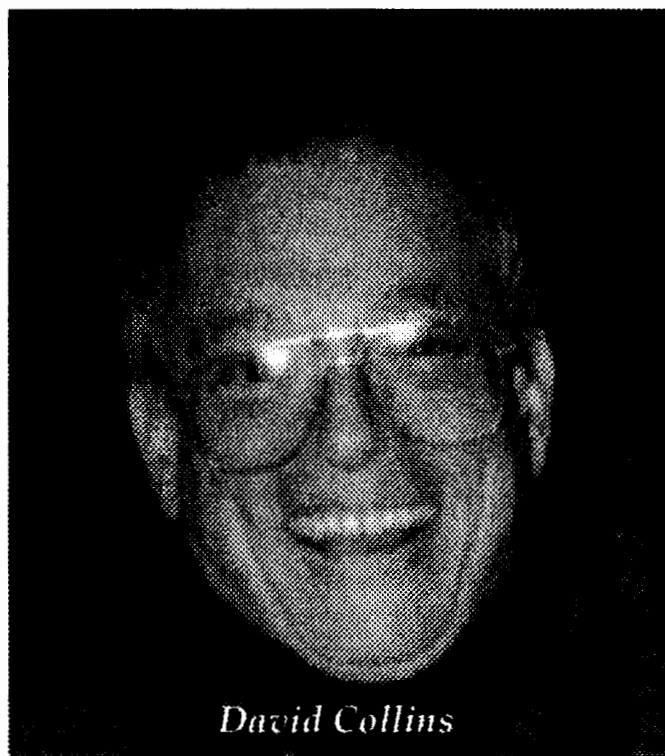
March 1996

Volume 5 Number 3

The Official Publication of the Chattanooga Chapter of
The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America
Chattanooga, Tennessee Dixie District

Barbershopper of the Year

At the Valentine's Party we announced our Barbershopper of the Year. Barbershoppers of the Year are not chosen every year; there are rigid standards that must be met. For David Collins to have achieved this status three, count 'em, three times is remarkable. This time it wasn't easy to choose. There were several members running neck and neck for the honor. Why do we seemingly pick the same guys for this honor? Simple! They are the workers, the backbone of our chapter. Without David Collins in our chapter, our chapter might not be the growing, vibrant, dynamic chapter that it is. For the love of barbershopping and for the love of our chapter David has done many extraordinary things this past year. Congratulations David and Carol!



David Collins

*The Chattanooga chapter of
The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America
meets Monday evenings, 7:00 at All Saints Academy 310 East Eighth Street, Chattanooga, TN*

I Wanna Have Fun In Just One Lifetime

by Tom Keegan
President

I don't know how any barbershop chapter could have had more fun than we've had these first two months of '96. Our first sing-out at Alexian Village on January 25 was performed for an audience that responded as if we were International Champs! We followed that with our annual Valentine's Dinner, which was an absolute blast (thanks to Johnny Jackson and Steve Grubb) and attended by a record crowd of barbershoppers and sweethearts. If you left that dinner without a smile on your face, it had to be because you were sick with the flu or left home without your dentures. Thank you Rick Hasty and Sum-R-Fun for super entertainment. Next on the agenda was our Valentine Sing-Outs, with seven quartets delivering 107 Singing Valentines. That was great participation! Thank you one and all for helping us raise some much needed funds. Frankly, I believe the singers had as much fun as the recipients. Last Monday (Feb. 26) was our Open House Guest Night and we had six "singers" (real good singers) plus Claude Walker as guests for another enjoyable evening. Thank you Claude for teaching those tags—keep coming back. And, of course, our Choo Choo Belles set up a very nice selection of food and drinks for all.



So, those have been our "special" activities that have certainly added spice and variety to our hobby. But then activities that are different and well-planned usually are fun. What has been making it extra special for me has been our attendance, not only at these activities, but at our Monday night rehearsals as well. When 40+ barbershop quartet singers meet together for a rehearsal, that's fun! The sound is better, the companionship is better, and the chapter is better. It's a positive feeling that's generated when so many people show up

on Monday night. We're all busy people, at times overwhelmed by daily pressures, but oh how they melt away when we start singing.

My final comment has reference to our new meeting place. When I first saw this run-down, dilapidated room, I thought we'd made a mistake. But thanks to the foresight of James Coulter and

David Collins and the hard work of many members that room has changed dramatically. While not totally finished, it is truly a place to call "home", said with pride. Those of you who have volunteered their time should be proud of your accomplishment. All in all, that's what makes barbershopping fun today—the good times, better singing, good fellowship and your response. Please keep it up; it's just not as much fun without you. So let's all go to Gatlinburg and show our fellow barbershoppers what it's like to be part of a talented, fun-filled chapter!

Belles' Business

by Nancy Owens
Belles President

I could start out an article with some witty saying....for whom does the belles toil? The answer of course, would be the guys in the chorus. After the March trip to Gatlinburg, the belles will be busy (busy belles?) helping the guys prepare for the dual show coming up in May. All the senior belles are aware of the work that the belles put in to help make each annual show a success. Some of our junior belles will find out.

What some people haven't understood is that while the guys are having their fun, some of the belles are having fun too. Thank goodness the belles are not expected to sing; but there are always other ways to have fun. Okay, enough of this garbage.

If you haven't paid your dues for 1996, please send a check to Glenda Peek. Where else can you have so much fellowship and fun for only twelve bucks a year!

Well, I hope to see you at the meeting of the belles next week at the new facility. By the way, there is a fully equipped kitchen. I heard some of the guys talking about maybe the belles could cook some good meals there. Now if Chad A. Newgaugh was writing this, he'd have a smart quote about hold on Nellie or cheapskates not wanting to spend a buck at the Krystal. I just say, the more belles we have at the meeting, the louder we can say, "No way!" (or at least that we do it when we want to do it and not a minute before.)

P.S. Remember to get your passport request in soon. With the current government happenings, who knows when the passport agency will be open for business. Steve Grubb has a number of passport applications or you can get one from a Post Office. You need a passport for the London trip!

I Want To Be A Mouseketeer

by Hap MacIntire
Show Chairman
Reprinted from
Music City News
Volume III, Issue 2

Here's our plans so far for our 1996 show. We've agreed to a joint show with the Chattanooga chapter.

Show theme: Disney Songs

Performances: Chattanooga, May 4

Nashville, May 18 at Hunter's Lane High School
Joint rehearsals will be held at Motlow Community College near Tullahoma on Saturday April 13 and 27. These will start at 9 AM CST and will end as early in the afternoon as possible.

The first half of the show will have the Disney theme. The second half will showcase chapter quartets and have non-theme numbers.

First half songs:

Quartet songs:

Fortuosity, Ten Feet Off the Ground

Jolly Holiday, Heigh Ho (maybe a mixed octet)

With a Smile and a Song

Chorus Songs

Give a Little Whistle, When you Look Upon a Star, A Spoonful of Sugar

Disney Medley (portions by quartets)

Second half: About 30 minutes will include, at each chapter's option, some individual quartet numbers, chapter quartets or possibly an out-of-the-chapter quartet. (Nashville is not planning for an out-of-the-chapter quartet.)

Chorus Songs:

Alexander's Ragtime Band—joint

What I Did for Love--Nashville

Masquerade--Chattanooga

God Bless America--verse by VLQ followed by joint choruses

(continued on page 7, column 2)

The Blender

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The Vagabond Chorus

by David Reynolds
Chapter Historian



Well, it may be overstating it a bit to call the Choo Choo Chorus a vagabond chorus, but the chorus has moved its meeting place eleven times since the chapter was organized nearly 34 years ago. The chapter moved out of the Brainerd Baptist Church fellowship hall and

meeting rooms in December of 1995 and began to meet temporarily at the East Ridge Church of Christ, thanks to the kind hospitality of that church through Steve Grubb and Johnny Jackson (who are members of that church) until our next regular meeting place could be selected.

The chapter voted to move to the All Saints Academy building on Eighth Street, and we had our first regular meeting there on Thursday, February 8. We also had our first Board Meeting there after the regular meeting that night.

Over the years the chapter has met in church buildings, bank buildings, the American Legion Hall, the Patten Hotel (now the Patten Towers), a fitness center (Frye Institute, then on Cherry Street), and the Siskin Building on Vine Street. This is

not including one-time meetings at UTC, various churches, staged meetings (membership drives) at Northgate and Eastgate Malls, and Auditions for Admissions at a barbershop downtown and one in a bank in Eastgate Mall.

The chapter met continuously at Peck Hall, Trinity-Woodmore United Methodist Church for twelve years, the longest stretch at one location. At one time, when the chapter was struggling to stay "alive," they even met in the home of the Chapter President.

We've had work crews at the All Saints building every Saturday since January 27 (with the exception of the week-end of the Ice Storm of '96, February 3). We've been given permission to pretty much adapt the room at All Saints to meet our needs, so we will probably be busy there on selected week-ends for a few more months.

The Selection Committee, James Coulter, Paul Blazek, and David Collins, deserve a real pat-on-the-back for selecting an excellent meeting place for the vagabond chorus of Chattanooga. Attaboys!



Operation Harold Hill Scores Early Successes

by Dan Daily
Publications Editor
SPEBSQA

January, 1996, saw 389 new members join the Society as a result of Operation Harold Hill. That is more than 6 percent ahead of the target of 366. Great Work!

Been There, Heard It, Seen It, Done It

by A. Nony Moos

In the Tennessee state general assembly a bill banning "Mule Diving" has been withdrawn. Too bad—I, for one, hoped it had of passed—could have saved us Jackasses from taking a bath on high-priced quartets appearing on future shows.

Heard it from a bari...in his opinion, the tire companies are behind the "Flat" tax. They want the public to purchase new tires. Observing signs and other definitions: Found this one confusing. "Free telephone, \$19.95 a month. Say Whaaa!! In sports—Why do they call them "Free Agents" when they demand "millions"?"

Other definitions...

Age—that which makes wine worth more and people less.

Alibi—slip cover.

After-dinner speaker—the person who starts the bull rolling.

Big Gun—frequently an individual of small caliber and immense bore.

Quartet—four people who think the other three sing off-key.

Ego—the only thing that can keep on growing without nourishment.

Egotist—the fellow who certainly knows a good thing when he says it.

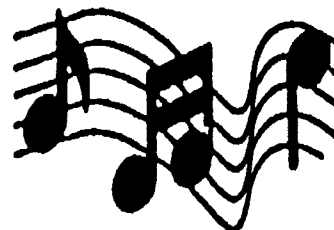
And with the primaries bombarding us night and day...

Election Time—when the air is filled with speeches and the speeches are filled with air.

How many experienced "cabin fever" during the storm last month? A person could go insane with only his or her spouse to talk to, and nothing but business and school closings on TV. I don't know which one was more repetitive.

And what about those "lovelies" who eat out every day and don't cook—"crisis time". I know one who had to call me for nine one one's number; the dust in her oven had caught on fire. Have you ever wondered what people do with all that bread and milk they stock up. The storm lasts two days and they've got a ten-day supply. I hear Scottie Mayfield was really pulling for us to keep up with the demand. His cows were in shock trying to produce all that milk. Heard it was an "udderly" drawn-out experience. They were pulling for a power outage; it was really draining. Now that I've milked that, let's move on.

We can expect an increase in the legal and medical business as a result of "cabin fever". The immediate business will be for lawyers, as cooped-up couples file for divorce. Nine months down the road the medical boys will be on hand as the population shows an increase. Now with the average age of our members, I don't think we have any worries about adding to the population explosion. Along that line, it's like that line of figurines they sell—"precious memories". We've been there, heard it, seen it, done it.



Blender articles are due the last Monday of the month

247 Morris Drive
Ringgold, GA 30736
fax 891-1508

E-mail bowens@chattanooga.com
Submissions welcome from anyone

Some Stage II Valentine Experiences

by David Reynolds

One of our Cleveland Valentines was delivered to the lady personal assistant to the CEO of the company. She wasn't there when we arrived, but the receptionist said she would arrive in about X number of minutes and would ascend a flight of stairs to the main office. So we waited. She arrived a bit later than expected, and we almost had to tackle her as she sped up the stairs. After we finished singing "Always," she wiped a tear from her eyes and hugged each one of us. It was worth the wait!!

In the afternoon, we were to deliver a Valentine to a lady in a Broad Street business. She wasn't in the office when we arrived, so we decided to deliver a Valentine at Provident. However, that lady wasn't "home" either. The receptionist contacted the lady's office and left word that a barbershop quartet was waiting to deliver the Valentine, whereupon the whole office, her boss, and her boss's boss began searching for her. She was nowhere to be found. A crowd developed at the reception desk, and we were tempted to give a performance—but, true to the "code," we didn't.

Finally, we went back to the Broad Street business and delivered that Valentine. We also sold, cash, another Valentine across the street.



Well, we went back to Provident and delivered that Valentine. Tears and hugs followed. (I hope we didn't get this little lady in trouble; in other words, I hope they were tears of joy, not tears of foreboding.)

Our last Valentine of the day was to be delivered to a lady in Ooltewah. We had the address, but no directions on how to get there. We bought a recent city map (1995), but the street was not on that map. Paul, in desperation, called the residence and contacted a teenager. We spent twenty minutes driving around the area but couldn't find the street. Finally, Paul, who was driving, flagged down a deputy sheriff by following very close and flashing his lights. The deputy couldn't find the street on his map either, so he had to call headquarters for the information. Well, we finally arrived at the address and delivered the Valentine to a party of people who had been waiting for us (unknown to the recipient). Upon request, we sang two additional songs for them. Hugs and photos followed!

/ / / / / / /

Darryl Flinn New Executive Director

by Dan Daily
Publications Editor
SPEBSQSA

SPEBSQSA Board of Directors selected Darryl Flinn from a field of more than 40 applicants as SPEBSQSA executive director. The position oversees the operation of the headquarters staff in Kenosha, Wis. Flinn brings a wealth of experience in barbershop singing and administration, as well as business skills, to the job.

Look for a profile article on this 39-year Barbershopper, Society president in 1987, in the May/June issue of *The Harmonizer*.

Convention Notes

by Fred Jesse
Senior Class

It's Saturday, February 3, 1996. It's one o'clock. This is it! Five minutes later, it's over. What happened? It's kind of a blur. I remember the before and after, but what happened during those five minutes? Whatever it was has been recorded on video tape, so I can fill that in later.

It started with bad weather on Thursday, a decision to start early to Atlanta, cold rain, a left turn instead of a right, a U-turn, a sigh of relief, a good night's sleep. Then breakfast, airport shuttle, wait for a late plane, arrive Jacksonville, cab ride, convention registration, open air dinner in 70 degrees, tornado warning, the Florida Theater, Best of Barbershop, spicy chicken wings, a good night's sleep.

Next, a breakfast foursome, quartet practice, tuxes, make-up, photos, shuttle, pattern, 5 blank minutes, applause, 21 more quartets, 17th place, relax, dinner for six, Show of Champions, good night's sleep. Then breakfast for four, pack, cab ride, plane ride, intercom quartet, shuttle ride, car ride, icy windows, slippery roads, home again. Whew!

There was great barbershop harmony from 22 senior quartets, Jacksonville Big Orange Chorus, 1995 Senior Quartet Champions—Reminisce,

5th place medalist—Backbeat, 4th place medalist—Standing Room Only, 3rd place medalist—Nightlife, 2nd place medalist—Yesteryear, 1st place medalist—Marquis, new Senior Quartet Champion—Fatherly Advice, and a local quartet—Keepsake.

This was perhaps the greatest weekend in my barbershop life. It was certainly a one-time event. I am grateful for the support of quartet members and their wives who came with me, Benny, James and June, and Clarence and Sally. Thanks also to the Choo Choo Chorus members, Dixie District coach Bob Eubanks, and for the good wishes of all. Thanks for this opportunity to represent you all to this 1996 Mid-Winter Convention.



Mouseketeer (continued from page 3, column 2)

Fun in Just One Lifetime--joint

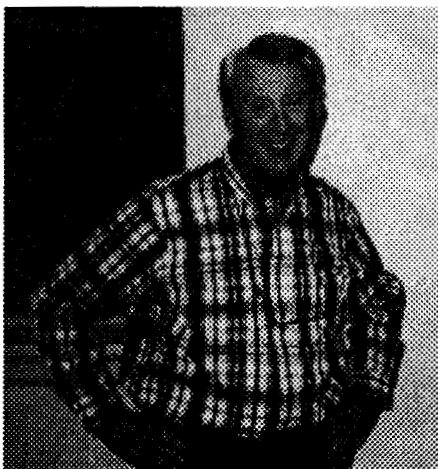
Each chapter will have its own ticket sale, program ad sale, and be responsible for its own auditorium. Other than joint expenses such as scenery, or possibly costuming, each chapter will pay its expenses in its city as well as gain any surplus in its city. Our tickets will be available about April 1.

(Editor's Note: This was included to let you see how the other half was proceeding. It is for information purposes only.)

Valentine's Day Testimonial

by Lamar Owens

Quartet Number One, consisting of Johnny Jackson, bari; Edgar Dawson, bass; Lamar Owens, lead; and Benny Malone, tenor thoroughly enjoyed singing for the 18 people for whom we were blessed to be able to perform. We left several of the ladies in tears, and at least one about to pass out. She made the comment that this was her most memorable Valentine's Day ever. The most encouraging thing about our performances were the two that we did for music professionals. Mr. Bill Lee, Professor of Music at UTC and Mr. Don Rucker, retired opera singer, gave us excellent critical reviews and very much enjoyed the performances. Each of us in the quartet, actually quintet, since our drive Bob Stansbury sang on each occasion, enjoyed it tremendously and look forward to participation next year!



Don't you just envy this new member already singing in a quartet!



Show Songs

by Fred Jesse
Music VP

Chorus Songs

Give A Little Whistle
When You Wish Upon A Star
I Love To Laugh
A Spoonful Of Sugar
Disney Song Medley
Alexander's Ragtime Band
God Bless America
The Masquerade Is Over

Quartet Songs

Fortuosity
Ten Feet Off The Ground
Jolly Holiday
Heigh Ho
Disney Song Medley
With A Smile And A Song
(Let's Go Fly A Kite)
(Chim Chim Cher-ee)

Let's Welcome Our Newest Members!

Dick & Clara Jane Bidwell
5745 Antoino Lane
Hixson, TN 37343
423-870-3196 Home
423-825-8298 Work

Larry & Gloria Huber
1201 Crown St. NW
Cleveland, TN 37312
423-339-1697 Home
423-476-2100

Brooks & Audrey Gist
6605 Ballard Drive
Chattanooga, TN 37421
423-892-7191 Home

Bill & Pat Slack
614 Sleepy Hollow Road
LaFayette, GA 30728
706-638-3791 Home
706-638-5848 Work

Lamar & Janice Owens
617 Reid Drive
Chattanooga, TN 37421
423-894-8559 Home
423-894-9980 Work

Barbershop Quartet Champion, The Ritz To Perform in World's Largest Concert March 7, 1996

***Show to feature "Teach the Children
To Sing," theme song for
SingAmerica/SingCanada***

From SPEBSQSA

SPEBSQSA 1991 International Quartet Champion THE RITZ will join millions of school children across North America in "The World's Largest Concert," to be broadcast Thursday, March 7, 1996, on PBS stations. The quartet will perform Joe Liles' "Teach The Children To Sing," which SPEBSQSA has adopted as a theme song for SingAmerica/SingCanada, a service project that supports music education in our schools and communities.

Also appearing in the World's Largest Concert will be the Northwestern Michigan Children's Choir, the Interlochen Arts Academy Orchestra, and five-time Grammy® winner Mervyn Warren. The program is produced by the Music Educators National Conference (MENC).

"The World's Largest Concert" launches MUSIC IN OUR SCHOOLS MONTH, an outreach program of MENC aimed at raising awareness of the importance of music education. The 1996 theme, "Music is Key!" was chosen to underscore the importance of music to the growth and development of school children, and the crucial contribution music makes to the well-being of our schools and communities.

"The Ritz was the natural choice for the show," said Liles, composer and arranger of the song. "They are all professional music educators, and

were honored with a special award from MENC in 1992. They're the perfect ambassadors to carry the message that music is a lifelong recreational activity and an essential element in one's cultural well-being." Liles, who recently retired as executive director of the barbershop society, was inspired by a vision of a world united in song.



Coming Events

March 15-17	Spring Convention at Gatlinburg
April 13	Spring Show Rehearsal at Motlow College
April 27	Spring Show Rehearsal at Motlow College
May 4	Spring Show at Chattanooga
May 18	Spring Show at Nashville
July 1-6	International Convention at Salt Lake City
July 19-21	Clemson
July 28-Aug. 3	Harmony College
Aug. 2-3	Covenant College Retreat
Sept. 9	Nominations Committee Meets
October 4-6	Fall Convention at Knoxville
Nov. 9-10	COTS
Dec. 7	Christmas Show
Dec. 26-Jan. 3	London, England

Chauffeur Turns Singer

by Bob Stansbury

Boy, what a time I had last Wednesday, Valentine's Day! I did not think I could do it but I did. That was to sing with a quartet. I was the designated driver for quartet Number One: Johnny Jackson, bari; Benny Malone, tenor; Lamar Owens, lead; Edgar Dawson, bass; and myself. I would like to thank these guys for letting me sing with them. I do not know when I have ever seen so many happy and teary eyes. I was going to drive my car, but

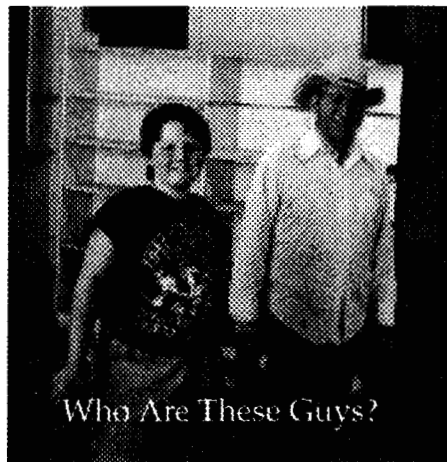


Edgar said, "Why don't you drive my **big Lincoln Towncar**; it has more room." We started from Johnny's house at 8:00 am. Our first stop was at Memorial Hospital at 8:30; we left there to go to a house in Harrison. When we got there, we rang and rang and rang the bell and was about to leave when a young woman came to the door carrying a baby. "We just got up," she said (yea!). We gave her the card, candy and rose and told her we were there to sing a Valentine song to her from her husband. As we sang her tears started flowing. As we sang, we didn't see her husband until we were ready to leave and he then thanked us as we were leaving. Back in the car I said, "I'll bet you that before we get to the end of the block she'll say,

'Come on, honey; let's go back to bed!'" Someone said, "I'll bet that they were still in bed when we got there; that was what took so long for her to come to the door!"

We were dressed in gray slacks with blue blazers, white shirts and tie (all we needed was a pair of dark sun glasses). Lamar does not have his red blazer yet so this is what they wanted to wear. We went to a dentist's office in Ringgold and we all piled out of the car and went to the door. All we could see were faces looking from behind the receptionist's window. We walked in, gave them their gifts and songs. Later they said they thought that we were the FBI or the police coming to arrest someone!

These are just two of the many **good** things that happened on this trip. All I can say is that we need to do much more of this type of singing. It sure makes a person feel **good**!



i have a spelling checker,
It came with my PC.
It plainly marks four my revue
Mistakes I cannot sea.
i've run this poem write threw it,
I'm sure your pleas to no,
It's letter perfect in its weigh,
My checker told me sew.

—Anonymous

The Last Word...

by Barry Owens
editor

All Saints Academy

A small number of us have been working at a hectic pace trying to ready our new meeting place, make it a place to be proud of. For those of you who have been unable to help, I realize how difficult it is to visualize how much work has gone into this endeavor. We have had some dedicated barbershoppers who have given up their Saturdays for several weeks to make it happen. To some, the room seems rather small. I can tell you as I labored to help paint it, it seemed HUGE! Isn't that a beautiful carpet? The house committee chairman asked me to convey to you the necessity of keeping our drinks off of it. Our refreshments will be set up in the hall (a great place to ring a chord!), so please keep your food and drinks in that area. Thank you in advance for helping to keep our new carpet looking great.

Singing Valentines

Again this year I had the pleasure of delivering Singing Valentines. I receive so much pleasure from doing it, sometimes I feel that I should pay the recipients instead of the other way around. The biggest joy this year was to see so many of our non-quarteting members become involved. I can assure you that they also enjoyed it! Lloyd liked it so much that he joined us to make a five-some. He drives almost as good as he sings. He did pretty well, considering he had three back-seat drivers. Can you imagine what it's going to be like next Valentine's Day when all these new singers form new quartets! They have a year to learn a part to two love songs. All the members can use this golden opportunity to sing a different part than normally sung. I am told by James that we were very successful monetarily; but more importantly, we made a lot of people happy.

Valentine's Party

Speaking of Valentine's Day, wasn't that a great

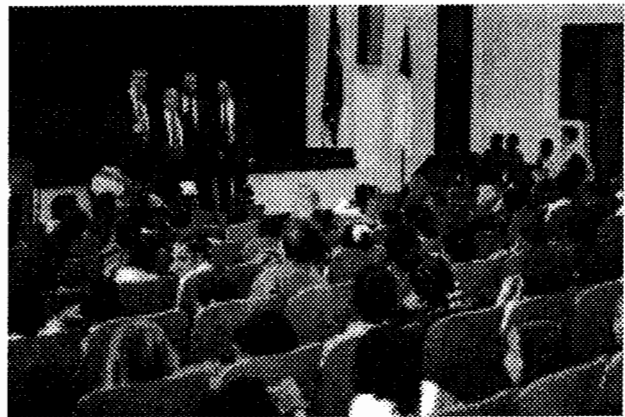
party? Program VP Jackson is to be commended on his arrangements. East Ridge Church of Christ has been a friend to this chorus in a big way. We owe them, and I'll bet Johnny could arrange a musical payback! Wasn't Rick Hasty great? Rick is a classmate of mine at UTC. He was just initiated into the education honor society. He, like me, is planning to teach. Sum-R-Fun's gig was something else! Is that Bill Bice a loose cannon or what? I don't know who enjoyed the quartet the most: themselves or us.

Senior Class

Thank you for representing us in Jacksonville. I know it involved time, travel, bad weather and money. We are proud of you. We couldn't ask for better ambassadors from the Dixie District! Readers check out Fred's article elsewhere in the *Blender*.

Guest Night

How about our successful Guest Night! The place was full and did we ring some barbershop chords! As usual our director, Paul Blazek, did a masterful job of presenting our style of music to our guests. Claude Walker continues to amaze me with the tags that he knows and can teach. What an asset to the chapter if we could get him to re-join us. If I don't miss my guess, we'll get some new members from that night. Once again the Choo Choo Belles outdid themselves with the refreshments. Some of them who couldn't attend sent food via their singing partner. Belles, be assured that we appreciate you for everything you do.



Classic Harmony at Hillcrest Elementary School

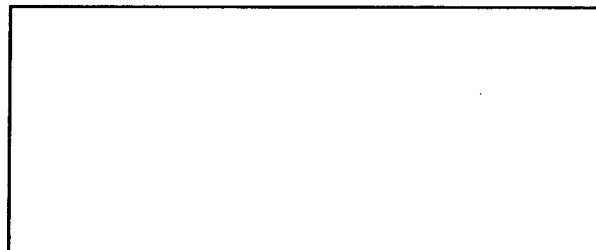
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The Blender

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of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America*

Barry Owens, Editor
Chattanooga Choo Choo Chapter
247 Morris Drive
Ringgold, GA 30736





The Blender



April 1996

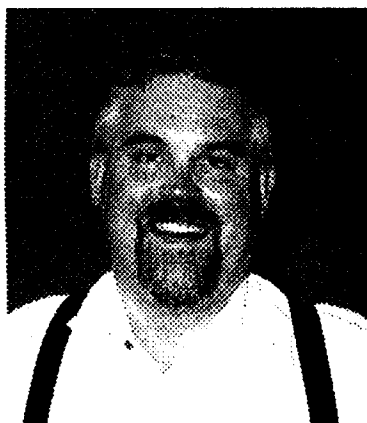
Volume 5 Number 4

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Chattanooga, Tennessee Dixie District

Congratulations Just 4 Kicks Division IV Quartet Champions

Directly Speaking...

by Paul Blazek
Chorus Director



After a long hiatus, your director's column has finally returned. It's not that I don't have anything to say; it's just that I seem to find little time to put it down on paper.

Having come back from a successful and enjoyable convention in Gatlinburg, I want to congratulate each of you that were able to be with us at the contest. My goal is to be better each time we compete, and we were certainly better this spring than we were last spring. We scored a very solid B rating, which is fine for us. I would like us to move up in the B range as we go to contest this fall, so I will be asking more from each of you as we get ready.

Our show is just a few weeks off, and I will continue to have sessions on Thursdays as long as there is support for them. These sessions, dedicated to music only and not business, will be a great help to our preparations for joint rehearsals with Nashville in April. Overall, we're a little behind my expectations in terms of preparation, but when has it ever been otherwise? Keep up the good work at chapter meetings and rehearsals, and keep working on the music outside of our meetings, and we will put on a great show. The material we have chosen practically guarantees us that the show will be a hit.

It seems that more and more lately I talk about believability, artistry, "getting into the song", and "telling the story". As men, particularly men of an older generation, we find it sometimes difficult to express feelings. As barbershoppers, we probably are more prone to express feelings than other men, but we still find it hard to break out of our shells. The "trick", if you will, is to understand and BELIEVE the message that the com-

(Continued on page 3, Column 2)

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Business Manager's Message

by Steve Grubb
Business Manager



Look Out, London, Here We Come!! Well, the contract has been signed and returned to London. We've also invited neighboring chapters, Nashville and Knoxville, to attend. The information will soon be rolling in, and I'll do my best to keep you all up to

speed. Our immediate attention must turn to the payment schedule. It is as follows:

- First deposit of \$200 per person by May 8
- Second deposit of \$300 per person by Sept. 2
- Final names on roll by Oct. 14
- Final deposit by Nov. 15

The chapter will be making all transactions with Youth Music via bank transfers. No personal check to YMOW will be accepted. Thus, it is imperative that you work with me and Bernard to supply the funds needed for this trip. Beginning April 1, I will accept payments (partial or in full) to be placed in the chapter treasury at our meetings. You may pay with cold cash or a check made out to the chapter. The first deposit amount of \$200 per person **must** be in the treasury by our meeting on May 6.

Should someone decide to go after either May 8 or September 2, we can still collect their funds and wire the transaction to Switzerland. After October 14, we must cut-off any additional names. This will be a major task over the next few months, and all help will be greatly appreciated. If you or your spouse would like to help me, Buffet Bob and Bernard Wheeler, let us know.

Dollars are still the name of the game for this trip: How can our chapter raise more funds? Do you have an idea or know someone who will contribute and/or sponsor our organization? Let me know, so we can get the wheels turning. Do you know of some group who'd pay us to perform? We love paid gigs, and need more of them! The only idea that for sure won't work is the idea not mentioned or pursued. Speak up and help your chapter!

Upcoming event

- Sunday, June 2, Dalton GA
- Cancer Survivor's Day 11:30 am to 3:00 pm
 - Patriotic Theme
 - Free lunch for the chorus and their guests
 - Paid Gig: \$300

More events are being worked out, but we could always use more sing-outs. Let me encourage you as members to search out people who want to hear us sing, and put me to work lining up engagements! We need the cash and the exposure.

Chapter minutes
and
the treasurer's report
located on fly sheet.

Is your article missing from this *Blender*? If a newsletter is to be "news" there must be articles that convey the news of the chapter. Hopefully next month will show an increase in the number of officers and members who have news to share with the readers of this publication.

The Last Word...

by Barry Owens
editor

This has been a hectic month for me. While in the middle of my second placement of student teaching at Lafayette Middle School, and performing in the contest at Gatlinburg, I haven't had much free time. It's almost press time and I'm just sitting down at the computer. I normally write my column all month, just a little here and a little there.

That's why sometimes it reads so disjointed.

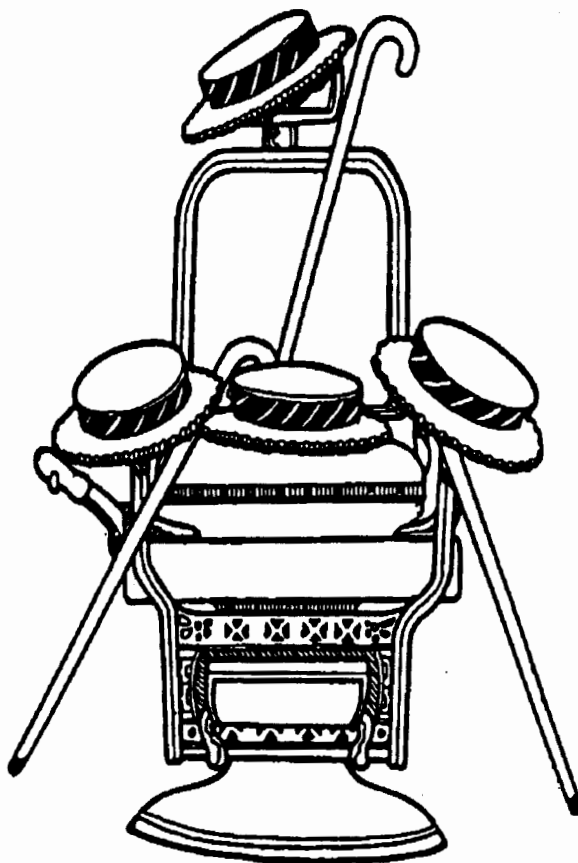
School has been a long haul for me and most of you have shared my trials and tribulations with me for these past eight years. I would like to take this opportunity to invite every one of you to my graduation on Sunday May 5, at 2:00 at the UTC Roundhouse. That's the day after our show. Now all I need is a job! After working with Bernard for 30 years at ABB-CE, I'm ready to start teaching little crumb-crushers.

Just 4 Kicks will go down in Barbershop history as being the last quartet to win the Division 4 Championship! I understand that the divisions will be abolished next year. I am very proud of them. Way to go Ron, David, Benny and Fred!

Our own **Four Voices** from Lee College in Cleveland literally had the place buzzing after they performed their set in Gatlinburg. Being first to sing, they set a standard that few could match. There was a noticeable oooh and ahhh when that young bass slid down to that low note. If you weren't there Friday night to support our

quartets, shame on you. There ought to be a law against any four guys that young, that talented, and with such flat stomachs!

But you know, the **Chattanooga Choo Choo Chorus** didn't do too badly up there in the mountains either. Sixth place is a goal that we haven't achieved since I've been a member of the Society. Our membership is growing, giving Maestro Blazek a little more to work with. If you haven't done it yet, personally thank Paul for all the work he does for our chorus. Guys like him don't come by a chapter just every day.



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Chattanooga Choo Choo Chapter
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May 1996

Volume 5 Number 5

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Chattanooga, Tennessee Dixie District

Tom's Tempo

by Tom Keegan
President

Did You Know That:

- There are already more than 7,400 registrations for the Salt Lake City Convention in July.
- Chattanooga, Nashville, Birmingham and Charlotte are identical size chapters; each with 52 members through the first quarter of '96.
- Only one other chapter (Macon) in the entire Dixie District has had a greater increase in membership for '96 than Chattanooga (good job, Dave!).
- Dixie Lakeside Harmony Weekend at Clemson is scheduled for the weekend of July 19-21. Reservations for a great weekend of education and entertainment made prior to June 30 cost \$90, including room and meals. If you're interested, you could be part of a 90 man chorus directed by Scott Werner, who presently directs the 1995 International Chorus Champs from Alexandria, VA.
- A mega-chapter meeting of the Birmingham, Tuscaloosa and Birmingham Metro chapters is being held on Thursday night, May 16 in Birmingham. Jim De Busman from Kenosha will be present to conduct a special program on Team-work, Positive Communication training and Vocal Production. Anyone interested

in attending?

- The London Parade, in which our chorus will participate on January 1, 1997, is the largest event of its kind in Europe and will have a street audience in excess of one million people.

Extra! Extra! Read All About It!

We have some chapter members who have put forth extra effort to make the Chattanooga Chorus a better organization. Those folks deserve special recognition in print. So here's the list of those to whom we all owe a special thanks:

- **Bill McKeehan, Bernard Peek, David Collins, Mixed Blend and Rock City 4** for their financial donations used to make our meeting facility the first-class place it has become.
- **Earl Fraser**, ably assisted by **Bob Stansbury, Forrest Bugher** and **Chuck Wilson**, for making our Disney Show a smoothly-run operation and a financial success.
- **Ron Weaver** for agreeing to become an assistant director and doing such a good job the past six weeks at getting the chorus tuned-up for the Maestro.
- **James Coulter**, not only for his work at making the Singing Valentine's program such a

(Continued on page 2 Column 1)

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(Continued from page 1 Column 2)

success, but for his willingness to be ad chairman for our show, chairperson for the Mother's Day Singouts, and worker extraordinaire on our meeting room at All Saints Academy. What would we do without his efforts?

- **Steve Grubb** for his willingness to be business manager this year and handle all arrangements for our year-end trip to London.
- **Fred Jesse and Don Hausmann** for their work at making the on-stage, musical part of our Disney show so enjoyable and entertaining.
- **David Collins**, who worked so hard at getting our meeting room to look extra special and for arranging the joint Disney Show with the Nashville chapter.
- **The Choo Choo Belles** who once again made certain that we earned our reputation as a hospitable chapter. They worked out a food and drink program at UTC so that our Nashville visitors would have some nourishment prior to singing on our show. They support us in so many ways.
- **Paul Blazek**, our Maestro of Song, for his willingness to work with us and teach us so many new songs for the Disney Show. He's put in a lot of extra time and work to make us better singers.
- And last, but certainly not least, **Barry Owens** who gives so generously of his time at putting out this first-class newsletter each month.

Thank you all! Aren't we fortunate to have so many so willing to give their time to make our hobby more enjoyable.

Just Gettin' Started!

by Ron Weaver
Assistant Director

Let me start this article off by letting all of you know just how much I appreciate your support. I hope each of you understand my intentions as an assistant director. I hope that I am perceived for what I am: SUPPORT! What I mean by this is: I will try to do everything I can to keep the warm-up brief, positive, and informative. I will take suggestions, comments, advice from our music leadership, director, and members of the chorus on what I can do during my time to help us become the best chorus that we can be.

This is not a one-sided action taken on my part. I will continue to need your participation in these exercises. Although you may not feel that a certain exercise may benefit you personally, your attempt may be an inspiration to the guy singing next to you, and what does that make you? SUPPORT!

In the next several weeks I shall attempt to add to the warm-up things that we can do on our own to help: pitch reference, intervals, and recognition of singable and non-singable consonants. This sounds like a lot, but it's things you are already doing (quite well, I might add), and I need to learn to teach it better.

Once again I would like to thank all of you, and I hope we continue this atmosphere which as developed over the last few years. As a team we should all realize that by working together there is nothing we can't do.

Keep your smiles bright and your voices strong!



Snow White
and an
unidentified
dwarf.

Chatting with Chad

by Chad Newgaugh

Just wondering...

Do you think the new meeting place is as great as I do?

Just wondering...

With blackboards on two of the walls, why don't we use them more to illustrate the changes made in our music? Sure would eliminate a lot of chatter and save time.

Just wondering...

Do you find answering machines irritating? Love them when calling long distance. After punching in numbers, stars and pound signs, you get a two minute commercial. You can run up a \$100 bill nowa days and never talk to a human being.

Just wondering...

If I wanted to hear a beep, why don't they list the Road Runner's number. I tried to say my good night prayers last evening and got a message from God, "I'm not in right now, please wait for the beep!"

Just wondering...

Is this what started the "Unabomber" on his path of destruction?

Just wondering...

Is it true, ticket sales are so bad the people who don't intend to pay aren't buying.

Just wondering...

About authority and responsibility: sometimes authority doesn't work. In California, the pedestrian is authorized to cross the street in a marked crosswalk even if traffic is coming. The pedestrian should still be responsible to look both ways. Have you ever seen a white line stop a truck? Sometimes neither works. General George Custer

had authority and responsibility; Sitting Bull and the Sioux remained unimpressed.

Just wondering...

Is quality control an oxymoron? Shouldn't quality be uncontrolled? The company I work for are very strict about quality control. One man was fired for cheating in quality control. It happened to be with his bosses wife. To err is human. To err a thousand times an hour is technology. My friend Barry Tone bought a pen with a lifetime guarantee and it broke. He was afraid he was going to die that night—or the pen company would have him eliminated.

Just wondering...

What is the status on new tuxedos for the chorus?

Just wondering...

That restaurant chain, Steak and Shake, has that got anything to do with Mad Cow Disease?

Belles' Business

by Nancy Owens
President

As usual, the Belles did their business with style and grace. Thanks to each of the ladies who was instrumental in the Belles' aspect of "show time". Summer is usually a slower-paced time for the Belles. We will still meet next Monday, May 13 for our regular meeting. Nothing special happening, just a quick get-together. If anyone has an agenda item give me a call.

Hooray! Barry graduated (with honors) on Sunday. Any bets on how long it takes him to start on his Master's?

Blender articles are due the last Monday of the month

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Submissions welcome from anyone

Ferd's Words

by Fred Jesse
Music VP

This is being written after our second Motlow rehearsal, before our May 4 show, and will be read when it's all over. Our show is over and I know it was great. Lots of people helped to make it a success. The Choo Choo Belles are to be commended and thanked again for their invaluable help.

Let me run this past you for your thinking and comments. How about another railroad contest package? Would you work hard to perfect these two for Fall contest: *Welcome Back To Dixie Land* and *Chattanooga Choo Choo*? It will mean some real hard work on both. Can I count on you? Will you let me know?

Chattanooga Choo Choo has a gazillion barber-shop chords in it. There are several strings of nine or more, including one of twenty. That is where the problem lies. All of them must be perfectly tuned. It means you must think about tuning while you sing.

There are three harmony parts trying to tune to a melody. If the melody doesn't work around the tonal center, the harmony parts have nowhere to go. The "tune-up" chord provides the tonal center. The melody runs both above and below it, but always comes back to it. And when it does, it must be the same pitch as it was before, just where you left it.

Barbershop is sung without instrumental accompaniment. That is because few instruments can tune **perfect** chords. The human voice is one, and can. You can. But it requires training your ears and the brain between them to know when the chord is right and when it isn't.

Find yourself a source of a constant tone like on an electronic keyboard, or even the constant 120 cycle hum of a motor or a transformer. Listen to it. This is your tonal center. Sing with it, harmonize with it, even try inching your voice pitch up and down ever so slightly. Where does it sound good? Where does it sound best? This is very good ear/brain training. Try it; it works and helps.

For The Good Of The Chapter

by Pat Crowe

Everything is up to date in Kansas City, what with buildings seven stories high and walking to the privy in the rain without wetting your feet.

Well this is nothing to compare to the wonders of the Kansas City, Missouri chapter. The latest edition of the PROBE advises us of what may be a society record. Nine quartets, working 14-hour shifts for 2 days delivered 341 Singing Valentines and earned nearly \$13,000!

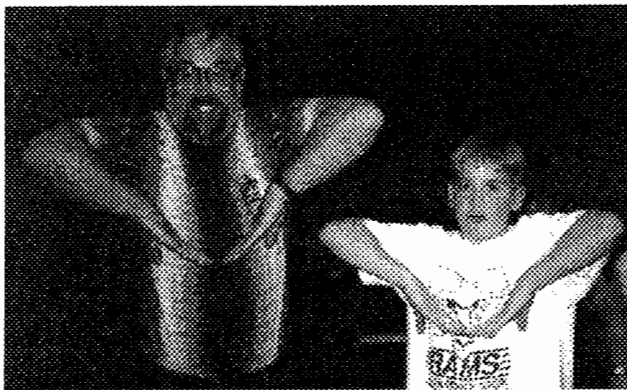
The Heart of America Chorus is setting up a "Boiler Room" operation to sell show tickets. A team follow-up campaign will see each member given names from the chapter mailing list to call, together with a phone script to be used. What a great idea! I know it's too late for our Spring show but it sure is something to think about the way our tickets sales are going at the time of this writing, 10 days before show time.

Ever notice the number of tour busses that visit our area? In California the Rhonert Park Chapter did. What an idea they came up with! A real bonanza of a money-maker. Periodically they rent a hall with full kitchen facilities, contact local tour bus operators and for \$15 a head provide a pasta dinner and cabaret show. Every show is a sellout. Tour operators cooperate fully as they are happy to offer their patrons something out of the ordinary. Three shows scheduled for the 1996 season are sold-out, and this is before the season is scheduled to start. What an excellent money-raiser!

If we decided to get involved, there are other options such as having an outside caterer for the food. But let's face it, there are many service organizations or churches with facilities that are looking for ways to replenish their treasuries. A split of the proceeds would be beneficial to all. They supply the hall, we'll supply the ball! Let your board members know your thoughts on this.

Coming Events

May 16	National Health Care
May 18	Show at Nashville
June 2	Dalton Convention Center
July 1-6	International Convention
July 19-21	Clemson B'shop School
July 28-Aug. 3	Harmony College
Aug. 2-3	Covenant College Retreat
Sept. 9	Nomination Committee
Oct. 4-6	Fall Convention, K'ville
Nov. 9-10	C.O.T.S.
Dec. 7	Christmas Show at UTC
Dec. 26-Jan. 3	London, England



Father and son act!



Wonder what
our newest
member thinks
about all this?

Barber Shopper Want Ads

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Why Editors Resign

by Dick Johnson
Melbourne, FL

Contributors are the foundation of any chapter bulletin. I have not been able to depend on a stream of contributions from the chapter administration or members. The product is an impersonal news-letter filled with items that may be of general interest to the reader, but lacks the personal touch so important to chapter inter-communications. It is my feeling that continuing under these conditions will not contribute to the chapter's success or welfare.

I realize that, in itself, a chapter bulletin is not a determining factor in the success of a chapter. It should, however, reflect that success. Many of the bulletins in my exchange file are filled with articles from chapter officers, committee chairmen, music team members and section leaders. Reading these bulletins gives me the feeling of a chapter that is vibrant and successful. With our limited bulletin support, our chapter achievements have received much less support than they deserve.

(This article apparently has been passed around much by bulletin editors. I stole it from the March 1996 issue of The Valpo Vocalizer from the Valparaiso, Indiana chapter. Editor)

The Last Word...

by Barry Owens
editor

There are many reasons for being a volunteer: self-satisfaction, helping other people, having new experiences, etc. However, as I see it, being recognized for your contribution is paramount. Everybody likes **ataboys**! When someone, officer or not, writes an article for the *Blender*, please take the time to acknowledge that at least you read it. Some of us are not natural-born authors; it takes

quite a bit of thinking to share our thoughts with the rest of the chapter. I had a committee chairman tell me that he occasionally writes an article, but has yet to hear any feedback from the members. Are you reading out there?

I am writing this part of my editorial before the Spring show. Its strikes me as peculiar that we are producing a show featuring the music of Walt Disney movies and we somehow have neglected to have a child's ticket for the show! Judging from our overwhelming receptions when we sing for children and students, especially at Covenant College, it seem ludicrous to me that they have to pay the same price as adults. I realize that I am not speaking for the treasurer, he likes to see his coffers full. I am speaking from the standpoint of a person who likes to sing before a sold-out house. I know some of you didn't like my diatribe at a recent meeting about having the Choo Choo Belles buy tickets for our shows. After much thought on the subject, I have concluded that we should not charge any wife (Belle or not) for our shows. In many ways it is like charging ourselves. For months before a show our wives have to put up with us rehearsing our songs, hitting plenty of clinkers before we are able to polish it up. Neither the show theme nor the music is new to our wives. They should not pay to hear what they have been hearing for months! Our money from our shows should come from our many fans who appreciate good barbershop harmony, not our wives.

I love this job! I get to say almost anything, and I usually do. Being a teacher, I tend to be a little didactic, so bear with me. After our first rehearsal at Motlow State, I realized that we need more inter-chapter activities. It was great to see our Nashville friends again. Perhaps we could have a division 4 picnic for old times sake. I understand we are not going to have division contest anymore, only district. Let's do something with Huntsville and Knoxville too.

For some of you who don't come to many meetings, we have two new assistant directors: Ron Weaver and C.W. Wall. With his mentorship, Ron not only led the Four Voices to barbershop, he

coached them too. He has a lot to give to us if we will let him. C.W. also is no stranger to the front of a chorus. For many years he was Hickory's director. He is not only a talented singer and director, but also plays guitar and classical music on piano. Let's give them our support.

Speaking of directors, we need to support David Collins and his Chattanooga State Singers. David is a college student once again and is enjoying every minute of it. He has been taking a director's class this semester.

I agree with Membership VP Dave Abercrombie that we should keep better tabs on our absent members. After two absences, start calling. Don't wait for your section leader. We are family!

I don't know about you but I am glad to see Pat Crowe back with us. This editor sure missed him. He contributes!

Are you on-line? If not, you are missing a lot of barbershop stuff. (great word, eh?) On the Internet there are pages and pages of barbershop paraphernalia (better?). You can order unpublished arrangements, CD's or just talk barbershop with a group of other barbershoppers. Incidentally, I would like every member's e-mail address for my files. It's a cheap way to communicate.

As chapter librarian I would like to remind you that our well-stocked library is at your fingertips! Peruse the contents at your leisure; however, don't remove anything before checking with me or Music VP Fred Jesse.

After attending last month's board meeting, I realized that I didn't have time to say what I came to say. The meeting was scheduled one hour before our regular meeting, in the same room. Now we have a very dynamic chapter with lots of things going on, a sure sign of a healthy chapter. But, come on guys, we can't do the chapter's monthly business in an hour! There were many questions that went unanswered at that meeting. I wanted the chapter to move to install a phone in our room. That's the only thing that's holding up a new brochure on our new meeting place. Surely we can schedule board meetings on a day and at a time where the meeting could be extended to accomodate agenda items.

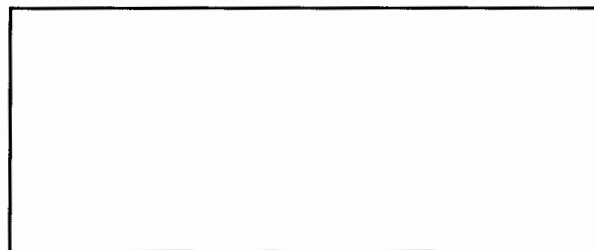
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The Blender

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The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement
of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America*

Barry Owens, Editor
Chattanooga Choo Choo Chapter
247 Morris Drive
Ringgold, GA 30736





The Blender



June 1996

Volume 5 Number 6

The Official Publication of the Chattanooga Chapter of
The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America
Chattanooga, Tennessee Dixie District

Tom's Tempo

by Tom Keegan
President

Great Show! Best ever! Those were some of the comments overheard from folks leaving the Fine Arts Center after our May 4 Spring Show. In fact, we even received a letter from a woman, who brought some out-of-town friends to see the show. She said the friends could not



stop talking about the quality of entertainment that was presented. They were thrilled by the singing of the Four Voices (as we all were) and the joy they received from the entire program. It's sure nice to receive comments like that.

As reported, we sold 428 of the 496 tickets offered so we had a near sellout, making the evening a financial as well as an entertainment success. And we certainly needed the financial assistance to help with our year's budget. While our new home at All Saints Academy has been made into

a very attractive meeting room, it has taken extra funds to accomplish that. Our new air conditioner has already been installed, so we're now ready for the summer heat (or Sum 'R Fun). To those members who couldn't make the Disney Show, now's the time to come back and sing with us. We're finished with Disney for a while.



*The Chattanooga chapter of
The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America
meets Monday evenings, 7:00 at All Saints Academy 310 East Eighth Street, Chattanooga, TN*

The Blender

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Something To Crow About

by Pat Crowe

I'm sure every column in this month's *Blender* has show remarks. Without sounding repetitious, let me add my *Spoonful of Sugar*. If you agree, *Give a Little Whistle*. You don't have to *Wish Upon a Star* to have *Fun in Just One Lifetime* because we *Love to Laugh*. Checking out my Funk & Wagnall, it defines Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious as a nonsense word by children to represent the longest word in English. That may be so, but there was no nonsense in the presentation by the choruses.

I elected to sit out front due to missing most rehearsals by being out of town. I didn't want to be a standout in the watermelon section. (Though there were a carload on board the *Chattanooga Choo Choo*. There is an adage that states: "Those who cannot do, teach" or become critics. I can't teach so here is my critique. As Jiminy Gryllus Domesticus sez, "I'll let my conscious be my guide."

The Four Voices: What can you say! Those of us sitting out front were "blown away". As Tony the Tiger used to say about that breakfast cereal: You can yell it from the roof tops about these guys—They are Great!!! They could have sung the alphabet and still got a standing ovation—Wow! Their potential is limitless.

There's that certain something about baritones. Larry Huber's interpretation of Dopey and Johnny Jackson's reaction to that spoonful of sugar was worth the price of admission. Johnny's characterization and reaction didn't diminish or end when

he and Mary Poppins' interaction was completed. Like the "Pro" he is, he held that smile and stayed in character during the whole set.

I know some would say it was type casting to pick a bari to play Dopey. But you know, Larry's portrayal seemed so natural. Makes one think—typecasting—Hmmm maybe so. With that plumbers helper as a prop he really "Plunged" into the part.

'Nuff said about *Chattanooga Choo Choo*; we beat that to death at our Monday meeting. Lighting: much to be desired. We missed most of Dopey's great performance as he cavorted in the dark. One spot wasn't enough illumination.

In some ways this was a dress rehearsal, what with lighting and some of the blocking in need of "tweaking". Maybe we should put the first show on the road. We did the last time, in Tullahoma if I remember correctly. It still was a great show and all deserve "Attaboys", for Snow White, an "Attagirl" and Mary Poppins, "Atta..?? Atta..?? Atta whatever!"

Monday meetings. Don't you just love em?! There is a never-ending chain of events. Humor is an ongoing happening. Monday May 13. Watching Bill McKeehan and Earle (with an "e") Fraser trying to unlock the door was like watching a Laurel and Hardy bit. "Cheez" Earle let's get it right, turn the key right side up. I also love the way Earle gets frustrated, don't you? "Cheez!!" Niles Fowler added to his plight by assuming Earle's jacket was his. The "Old Map Maker's" blood pressure was ascending, with gritted teeth, fists clenched and images of Ed Durden's shoes dancing in his head, he stalked the area searching for the evil-doer. Was it "Shoeless" Lloyd Gimber?? Nah..he's the guy with the footwear compulsion. Jackets are not his forte. Humiliated, mortified, humbles, debased, degraded and vitiated, Niles confessed and threw himself on the mercy of the group. With James Coulter as his defender and champion, who introduced him to the group as "Niles Gimber"!! He was given absolution by his jury of peers. And so another page has been added to chapter lore. Who says we have nothing to crow about!

Just Gettin' Started

by Ron Weaver
Assistant Director

How quickly time flies when you're having fun! I would like to thank all of you who have come to me with your suggestions and kind comments. I hope all of you are getting something out of the warm-ups.

My recent concentration has been to assist members with exercises that help with memorizing the tonal center (do). As I have stated during the warm-up, these types of exercises are some of the most difficult, and some members question why I would attempt these so early in the warm-up. All I can answer to this is: most of you men have been enjoying this hobby for many years, so a little challenge might be a little overdue, and you new guys get to try techniques bigger choruses use.

Let's put all the pieces of the puzzle together, become the best each one of us can be, develop a system that secures our strength and works on our short-comings. Please keep the comments coming, practice at home, start warming-up before you get to rehearsal, sing in a quartet, and help and encourage your neighbor. **And remember...we're just gettin' started!**

London Pay Schedule

May 2	\$200/person
Sept. 2	\$300/person
Oct. 14	List of names
Nov. 15	Final Balance

New Music Programs Recap

by Dan Daily
Publications Editor
SPEBSQSA

The May/June issue of *The Harmonizer* included an article on page 8 about two new music programs—*Music Premiere* and *Free 'n' Easy*. The first is a subscription program available to all members. The second is an automatic distribution of public-domain arrangements to chapter music directors *only*.

The headquarters office has received a number of calls from members who wish to subscribe to *Free 'n' Easy*. This is not a subscription program; if you're interested in this music, contact your director. Copies of this material may be made for everyone in the chapter—there is not copyright fee.

Coming Events

June 2	Performance at Dalton Convention Center Cancer Survivor Day 11:30 Warm-up
June 27	Lions Club Installation at Hutcheson Medical Center
July 4	Collegedale, Tenn.
July 1-6	International Convention
July 19-21	Barbershop School at Clemson
Aug. 3	Harmony College
Aug. 2-3	Covenant College Retreat
Sept. 9	Nomination Committee Meets
Oct. 4-6	Fall Convention at Knoxville
Nov. 9-10	C.O.T.S.
Dec. 7	Christmas Show at UTC
Dec. 26- Jan. 3	London, England

Blender articles are due the last Monday of the month

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Submissions welcome from anyone

Ad Sales

by James Coulter
Ad Chairman

Just a note to thank each of you who made the effort to sell an ad for the Spring Show Program. I also want to express my appreciation to Scott McKenzie and Steve Grubb for leading their respective teams. The final tally shows the **Happy Harmonizers** under Captain McKenzie with sales of \$1370. The victorious **Chord Busters**, captained by Steve Grubb sold \$1700 for a grand total of \$3070. Thanks again.

Points of Interest

Total Ads sold	61	
Total Money sold	\$3070	
Sid Kiser Award	David Abercrombie	\$440.00
Runner-up	Niles Fowler	\$430.00
Honorable Mention	Leroy Hobbs	\$240.00
Sales by Section	Bass	\$1060.00
	Lead	\$1040.00
	Bari	\$500.00
	Tenor	\$470.00
Sales by Size	Full Page	5
	Half Page	6
	Quarter Page	40
	Patron	10



James and June Coulter

Just Exactly Where Is London?

Geographic Information on Britain's Capitol.....

from the internet

The metropolitan area of London consists of what most people think of as the city of London and its surrounding suburbs and smaller towns. For the tourist though, these terms can become a little confusing because of some slight differences in language and nomenclature.

First off, there is a specific part of London that is specifically called, 'The City'. While you can be stuck in a gargantuan traffic pile-up in Piccadilly Circus, watching the entire world go by, you wouldn't really be in 'The City'. In London, this term applies exclusively to a roughly one square-mile area in the eastern part of 'downtown' where you would find most of the financial institutions that are a major industry in London. For this reason, the term 'City' is roughly analogous to 'Wall Street' in America - you will frequently hear of

'City analysts', 'City institutions', etc. The term has historical interest: The City is roughly the area that was enclosed by the original Roman wall built around the original City of London, way back before McDonald's even had a branch there. On your map, the City would be on the north side of the Thames, between Tower Bridge and roughly Blackfriars Bridge.

Most of what you would think would be the City of London; Piccadilly Circus, Soho, Buckingham Palace, etc., is *actually* in the City of Westminster. Just to confuse things a bit more, there was for a while, a large governmental entity called London. Actually, it was called something like the Greater London Council or something like that, but it

(Continued on page 5 column 1)

(From page 4 column 2)

doesn't matter much because the working class politicians who ran London really got into Margaret Thatcher's bloomers as we used to say back in Indiana, and she abolished the Council, dividing London into lots of small local councils, which can confuse you even MORE. You will see street signs that make you think you are in places like Hampstead, Camdem, Kensington, Chelsea, etc., when you really thought you were in London. The best thing to do is to think of these areas as neighbourhoods inside London and not to worry about the politics. None here worries much about it either - the Tories will all be gone in a year anyway, and we can all have our city government back and it will all be London again.

Chattanooga Choo Choo

by Barry Owens
editor

It occurred to me that many of you haven't heard the story of how we acquired the Walter Latzko arrangement of the *Chattanooga Choo Choo*. Earle Fraser asked me to share it with you.

At the Pittsburgh international convention, I had a pretty good seat on the main floor of the convention hall. Beside me sat an attractive, mature lady that many people stopped to talk with. On her other side, her husband, Walter Latzko sat in his wheel chair. He had suffered a stroke earlier in the year I think.

I didn't know who he was, but I knew he was an important fellow. It seemed like everyone—dignitaries, international quartet winners, international officers—everyone stopped to either talk to or kiss him, men and women. I started talking to his wife and found out that she use to be a Chordette (of *Mr. Sandman* fame). She started talking about her husband, as good wives will. Let me tell you; I was impressed!

Walter Latzko played a church organ for about 40 years before his stroke. Back in his early days he arranged songs for Arthur Godfrey, Julius LaRosa, the Buffalo Bills, and many international quartet champions, including whole CDs of the Bluegrass Student Union. No wonder the people came by his wheel chair to pay him homage. I had a musical heavyweight sitting two chairs from me!

Since his stroke, his home chapter bought him a computer program that allows him to continue to arrange barbershop music. The other day I was surfen' the internet and found many of his arrangements listed in the barbershop home pages.

I told him about our arrangement of *Chattanooga Choo Choo*, about how we had so many wrong notes. It was a bad arrangement. He volunteered, on the spot, to arrange it for us. I immediately went back about ten rows to find David Collins and brought him to Mr. Latzko for an introduction. David is not one to let an opportunity like this pass by. He filled out the proper paper work so that we could get this wonderful arrangement of *Chattanooga Choo Choo*.

Walter Latzko is truly an amazing man. He was in on the ground floor of early television musical shows. Perhaps some day someone will write his biography. It would be quite a story!

Chapter Directory Now Available

from Update April 1996

It took some time to get the programming right in the new Kenosha Komputer, but the Directory of Chapters is now available from Harmony Marketplace. Listed by country and then alphabetically by state and chapter name, each entry provides the chapter meeting time and place information, plus the chorus name and a contact man's address and phone number. The 136-page document is printed on demand and the cost is \$5, stock no. 4351.

Chatting With Chad

by Chad Newgaugh

I never realized the effect the TV show "Beverly Hillbillies" had on the fashion mavens of the nation. Just look around you. All those dudes in collarless shirts, unshaven, trying to look like Jed Clampett.

It has also been suggested they have the appearance of immigrants of the early 1900s, descending the gangplank at Ellis Island. I wonder how much money the shirt industry is saving by not attaching collars? As they laugh on their way to the bank, they ain't talking, just enjoying the profit by not having button-down collars.

Speaking of fashion, what's this wearing of hats "backwards" and (a pet peeve of mine) wearing them "indoors". This really bugs me. Especially when these "Louts" leave them on during a prayer or the national anthem...didn't their mommas ever teach them anything about respect or etiquette.

Come to think of it Jed Clampett wore his inside too. Boy, this guy was a real style and trend setter. Who wouldn't want to emulate him—other than Gomer & Goober. Who started this fad? Barney Oldfield? Baseball umpires? or S.W.A.T. team snipers! How long before this goes the way of Nehru jackets, Leisure suits, etc. I can only hope it's soon.

On "Attaboys", I agree with Barry's Last Word column. But Barry... Barry... Barry you've got to remember there are baris in our midst and guys like me whose lips move when we read...didactic??? Didactic??? What's that; something you did in your attic? Webster says, didactic: inclined to teach or lecture others too much: a didactic old lady. Now at our board meetings there are others whom are more didactic and may I add redundant, for you to claim that honor.

I've read when Calvin Coolidge became Vice-President, Channing H. Cox succeeded him as governor of Massachusetts. In that position Cox would meet with many people and work long hours to get his office duties done. Visiting

Coolidge in Washington he was surprised to see Coolidge had many visitors, yet finished his work at a normal hour. Cox asked, "How can you see so many and finish so early, when I have to stay until at least 9 o'clock every evening?" Coolidge replied, "You talk back!"

I couldn't agree more with your view on wives not paying at our shows. Division get-togethers sound great too. If a phone is one of the reasons for the lack of a new brochure, I'm at a loss why it isn't in the minutes of the board meeting. Are we printing only what the board thinks we should know; doesn't the "Sunshine Law" apply in our chapter? Is this why that committee chairman isn't getting feedback from members?

While we're at it, the amount of absenteeism by board members at regular chapter meetings is disheartening. As is the exodus of members at break-time. Someone once said: "Meetings are like Pandas mating: The expectations are high but the results are usually disappointing."

Quartet Performances

Classic Harmony

4/25

Clairion Hotel, Birthday party celebration

Rock City 4

4/14

Rhea County March of Dimes Walkathon
4/29

Tennessee Baptist Children's Home Dinner

Stage II

4/27

Private party - One of Paul's colleagues proposed to his intended. The quartet sang before the proposal and after her acceptance.

Has Your Tweeter Turned Into A Woofer?

from PROBE moter April-June, 1996

Have you got a musical cookie (pitchpipe) that doesn't work? Kenosha staffer Dan Daily reminds us that those Master Key pipes sold through the Society carry a lifetime repair guarantee. Simply return them to the manufacturer for free repair and re-tuning. If you've lost the case and the literature that came with your pipe, the address is:

W.M. Kraft Co.
988 Johnson Place
Union, NJ 07083-6904

Belles' Business

by Nancy Owens
President

We'll be meeting the second Monday of the month...as usual. See you then (I hope!)

For those of you who went to Nashville for the show...wasn't it great to have our hospitality returned? The Barbettes did a great job of welcoming our guys (and girls). The food was delicious and the atmosphere friendly. Good old southern hospitality!

When we meet, we'll discuss some social activities for late summer. What do you think about a home-made ice cream get-together? A potluck picnic? What's your idea for an easy-on-the-Belles social activity? Come to the meeting and put in your two cents worth or even a dime's worth if you've got that much to say.

The Last Word...

by Barry Owens
editor

Talk about the show must go on...with the cooperation of both Nashville's and Chattanooga's choruses and a friendly audience, the Nashville spring show was a huge success! With a massive power

outage right at curtain time, the show seemed to be in jeopardy. But like the troopers that barbershoppers are, we just simply pulled the risers forward, mounted them and sang our hearts out under emergency lighting and flashlights! Mary Poppins truly had a five o'clock shadow!

I would like to speak about a special pet peeve of mine for a minute. Wincing may have its place in the scheme of things, but I have never seen any good it serves. It takes a lot practice to be a good winner. You must be a great singer, never singing off-key to be able to criticize other singers through your wincing and hand gestures. Our director, Paul Blazek, has all the right in the world to do this; he is a teacher of music, and a good one. But some of you self-proclaimed virtuosos out there should reconsider when you feel the urge to wince. If a pick-up quartet with some new members, with little confidence in their singing ability, can't sing a polecat number in the warm-up room (not on stage, mind you) without someone wincing and calling to "tune it up or shut it up", something is wrong in Mudsville. What message are we delivering to our less-than-perfect singers?

Although the audience was not large, our singing performance at the nursing home was very rewarding to me. Let's face it: that's our bread and butter audience. These poor shut-ins are starved for entertainment, and that's just what we provide. Someday I may be in a wheel chair, in a nursing home. Someday, maybe a barbershop chorus will come sing to me. It's truly a gift we possess: to be able not only sing, but also to stand!

Be sure to read Chattanooga's, whoops!, Chad Newgaugh's article in this issue. Nancy was reading it over my shoulder while I was keyboarding it. She was laughing so hard I thought she was going to have an accident. He sure has a way with words!

Quartets, remember to send me your business cards and a good quality picture. I want to help promote quarteting all I can with the *Blender*. After all, that's part of our name. If anyone has a good picture that you would like to share with the membership (and other people throughout the USA), get it to me.

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July 1996

Volume 5 Number 7

The Official Publication of the Chattanooga Chapter of

The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America
Chattanooga, Tennessee

Dixie District

An Overview & Brief History of the Tube

from the internet

It's Old. End of Story.

OK, not really the end of story, but it really is old. If you're a trivia/history buff, then impress the pants (which in England means UNDERpants) off your friends with this one: London has the oldest underground train system in the world, Baker Street being the oldest tube station still in use. Like you cared.... The Metropolitan line, (the oldest) started working back in 1863, and if you're lucky, you can ride in one of the original cars on the Northern Line (just kidding, but the Northern has some pretty old cars....) The original trains had steam locomotives, so the original tunnels weren't very deep and had holes every now and then to let the smoke out. Nowadays, the whole system is electrified, so if your kids are acting up, you can always accidentally drop the stuffed bear on the electrified rail.... nothing calms the little rugrats down like seeing Teddy on a couple of million volts.

The Underground (hereafter called The Tube) is the backbone of London's transport system. Unlike Los Angeles or some other American cit-

ies, driving a car in London is restricted to the criminally insane, taxi cabs and Members of Parliament (there's a lot of blurring between these categories mind you...) A typical stretch of road in London changes names every 1/4 mile or so, bends like a contortionist on Robaxin and is probably one-way in the wrong direction anyway. Since they all drive on the left here anyway, why would you possibly want to risk ruining a perfectly good holiday this way? Let the rain do that for you - then you can say you had a traditional London vacation! But back to the point: people here actually use the Tube. Real people, with real jobs, with real money. It's not the working-class-only thing you find in the states, so don't worry about being on it - it's really quite safe, and it beats the pants off of driving.

The system runs throughout the inner city, near all the tourist destinations and hotels, to Heathrow Airport, as well as out into the suburbs and even into the countryside. It carries over two million people each day, but is never as busy as those pictures you see of Tokyo subways where they cram all those people into those tiny cars. Ouch!

*The Chattanooga chapter of
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The Blender

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Johnny's Jabber

by Johnny Jackson
Program VP



The weekly chorus rehearsal program is yours. While show and contest preparation dictate a large portion of the program prior to these events, we have some flexibility in structuring the program for other times of the year.

Last rehearsal, Ron Weaver suggested that we have a "Barbershopper of the Week" each week who could decide what we will do for five or ten minutes immediately after the break. It might be to get three other guys and sing in a quartet or pick one of the chapter quartets to sing a song or maybe to learn a tag. The choice would be theirs.

Suggestions like this are welcomed. No, encouraged! If you don't like the way the meeting is going, let your leadership know. Fred Jesse, Dave Abercrombie or any other of the chapter officers are ready and willing to hear your suggestions.

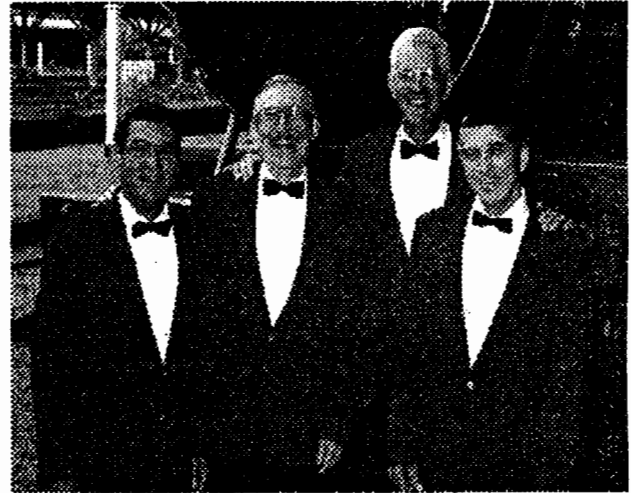
Quartet Performances May, 1996

Mother's Day Quartets

- 5/11 Two performances (Owens, Keegan, Wilson, Collins)
5/12 Three performances (Owens, Keegan and Brock, Reynolds, Wall and Blazek)

Rock City 4

- 5/12 Prater's Mill



Harrison Bay Harmonizers

- 5/02 Parkridge Hospital
5/26 50th Anniversary Celebration, Dalton
5/30 Parkridge Hospital



Stage II

- 5/24 Graduation Mass at St. Peter & Paul
Catholic Church for Notre Dame High School

Just Gettin' Started

by Ron Weaver
assistant
director



Let's take a moment to discuss the makings of a tenor. Did you know that many coaches feel that it takes more vocal strength than any other part to sing? Maybe this is why there are so many falsetto exercises singers use to help their lower registers. Development of a good falsetto should start with octave runs (do, re, me etc. from about Ab to octave Ab and back. Then a singer might want to try glisses up and down the octave. These types of routines also help to blend the passigio (or break in the voice).

A tenor in the chorus and in a quartet can have different sounds to contribute to either group. The quartet tenor should be light and on pitch (maybe a little sharp), singing vowels heavy and consonants light, mostly because he is singing with just three other guys. In a chorus the discipline can be relaxed a little, depending on the ratio of other singers.

Always remember, the tenor usually sings the 3rds and 7ths, which are sung on the high side, light. Last but not least, don't depend on your tenor to create a lot of expanded sound. These formats (overtone) are developed in the lower registers. This part fills the chords, and adds to the beauty of the music and the arrangement.

Keep up the good work and practice whenever you can cause...we're **Just Getting Started!**

(source: Manitowoc Chapter bulletin, HI-LITES)



Don't Forget!

Coming Events

July 4	Collegedale, Tenn.
July 1-6	International Convention
July 19-21	Barbershop School at Clemson
Aug. 3	Harmony College
Aug. 2-3	Covenant College Retreat
Sept. 9	Nomination Committee Meets
Oct. 4-6	Fall Convention at Knoxville
Nov. 9-10	C.O.T.S.
Dec. 7	Christmas Show at UTC
Dec. 26-	London, England
Jan. 3	

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Submissions welcome from anyone

Belles' Business

by Nancy Owens
president

NO Belles Meeting in JULY!!!. We will meet at our regular time and place the second Monday of August.

The only news to share is that a hot dog supper/ice cream social is planned for August 24 (Saturday) 6:00. We booked the pavilion at the dam, River Park side. It will be a nice way to socialize. The only thing anyone needs to bring is their chairs. Everything else will be provided courtesy of the Belles. This will be a time to kick back and visit. Nothing strenuous is planned. We are keeping our fingers crossed that the weather will be nice.

This is being distributed on Monday, July 1. Do you realize that means it is only 159 days until the Christmas show is presented? And don't forget the fall convention and competition—October 4-6.

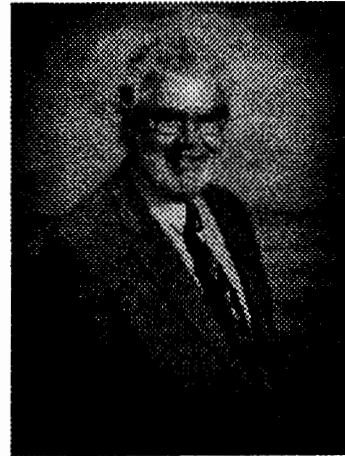
One of Barry's bulletin exchange newsletters described a unique feature of that chapter. Seems they have a Ladies' Night. I saw the headline and said that sounds interesting. Was I surprised! Ladies, the Ladies Night was a regular meeting where the women sat next to their spouses. I lost interest fast. I told my beloved soul mate that if the chorus ever wanted to honor the ladies, a nice dinner would do just fine! I guess I'm jaded (Is my sweet Barry the only one who seems to eat, sleep and live barbershop?). I hear quite enough barbershop without sitting through a meeting side-by-side!!

I hope you glance at some of the other chapters' newsletters. Barry brings them in for anyone to read. They are interesting. Many successful chapters do many of the same things we do. But there is always something to learn or a different way to do the same thing. Some time take a few minutes to read over a few of the articles.

Well, enough said.

The Last Word...

by Barry Owens
editor



Our performance at the Dalton Convention Center was a memorable one. For a Sunday 12:30 warm-up I was surprised at the number of singers that were present. It was gratifying to see so many present for a paid gig.

Bernard Peek was feeling a little uncomfortable about us taking money for a cancer survivor's gathering. Not to worry! I found out that the whole affair was sponsored by the hospital in Dalton. I hate to think what just the flower arrangements on each of the 100+ tables cost. I think this hospital (a profit-making organization) can afford it.

Wasn't Horace great directing us? With Paul and Ron absent, we were lucky to have him! I think he was paid handsomely with our performance of the *Battle Hymn of the Republic*.

Nancy and I finally got around to applying for our passport. It was really quite painless. We first went to Violet Camera Shop for our passport photos. I understand that just any photo will not do. It has to be a certain kind of film and paper. The two photos cost us about \$18 including the tax, and it only

took about five minutes. We next went to the East Ridge Post Office to apply for our passport. They told us that only the Main Post Office at Shallowford Road could do passports, so away we went! All we had to do was show our birth certificates and some picture ID and hand over a \$130 check. Nothing to it. The passport is good for ten years. Don't delay; apply today!

It has come to my attention (don't you just love that phrase!) that there are some singers out there in singing land that have not been able to link-up with other singer to form a quartet. I propose using a section of our vast blackboard space as a kind of sign-up for anyone who would be interested in singing in a quartet. They would list any and/or all voice parts that they would be willing to try. It would be understood that these quartets are just for fun, a tryout to see if the voices blend, etc. If the quartet doesn't meld, for any reason, simply disband and try another group. What do you think? Give me some feedback.

Using this column as a bully pulpit is one of the benefits of being editor. I would like to lobby for our chapter installing a telephone at All Saints Academy. It's true that it is not free, but I think the cost is reasonable. The telephone salesperson says that only churches are entitled to a non-profit rate. The cheapest business phone available to us is \$35 per month (plus tax) Each out-going call is billed at:

0 to 16 miles 2 cents per min.

16 to 30 miles 5 cents per min.

30 to 40 miles 10 cents per min.

40 miles out regular long distance rate minus 20%

There is no charge for incoming calls. This includes one listing in the white business pages and one in the specialty heading in Yellow Pages. Additional listings are considered advertising and are negotiated by the advertising division. If we got one paid performance through this medium, it would pay

for itself. Let your officers know what you think!

What a great guest night we had! The theme was father-son, but anyone could claim a father or a son and sing in a quartet. And how about those Gimber boys! You could just see the pride bursting from father Lloyd. Ron Weaver did a superb job teaching us the tag to *My Father, My Friend, My Dad*. If you get the opportunity, sing the entire song. Paul was a great teacher on guest night. That is the kind of craft session that we have been missing. He has so much musical knowledge; somehow we have got to pick his brain better. As usual the Choo Choo Belles came through with our refreshments. Most of you just saw Audrey Gist and Nancy Owens there, but the food was supplied by all the Belles. They do so much more than simply supply refreshments. Let them know what they mean to us. It reminds me of what Mark Twain said about his late wife: "With her I had riches; without her I am a pauper."

I guess you've noticed how great our meeting place looks, thanks in large part to James Coulter. He truly goes the extra mile when it comes to looks, to class. It has become quite obvious that we will need another air conditioning unit for the room, and I have all the confidence in the world in James' ability to deal with it. Where would we be without James and a few other doers working for this chapter?

Congratulations are in order for Horace Brock. He has been selected to perform with his church's hand-bell choir. This, however, is bad news for us. It seems that his rehearsal nights are in direct competition with ours, and, at least for the time being, we lose. Horace says that he will still be active with Stage II quartet.

It has been nice this past month to have Assistant Director Clarence Wall lead us in our warm-up. C.W. is a talented musician who has a lot of knowledge to share with us. He is also a guitarist and a classical pianist.



The Blender



July 1996

Volume 5 Number 7

The Official Publication of the Chattanooga Chapter of

The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America
Chattanooga, Tennessee

Dixie District

An Overview & Brief History of the Tube

from the internet

It's Old. End of Story.

OK, not really the end of story, but it really is old. If you're a trivia/history buff, then impress the pants (which in England means UNDERpants) off your friends with this one: London has the oldest underground train system in the world, Baker Street being the oldest tube station still in use. Like you cared.... The Metropolitan line, (the oldest) started working back in 1863, and if you're lucky, you can ride in one of the original cars on the Northern Line (just kidding, but the Northern has some pretty old cars....) The original trains had steam locomotives, so the original tunnels weren't very deep and had holes every now and then to let the smoke out. Nowadays, the whole system is electrified, so if your kids are acting up, you can always accidentally drop the stuffed bear on the electrified rail.... nothing calms the little rugrats down like seeing Teddy on a couple of million volts.

The Underground (hereafter called The Tube) is the backbone of London's transport system. Unlike Los Angeles or some other American cit-

ies, driving a car in London is restricted to the criminally insane, taxi cabs and Members of Parliament (there's a lot of blurring between these categories mind you...) A typical stretch of road in London changes names every 1/4 mile or so, bends like a contortionist on Robaxin and is probably one-way in the wrong direction anyway. Since they all drive on the left here anyway, why would you possibly want to risk ruining a perfectly good holiday this way? Let the rain do that for you - then you can say you had a traditional London vacation! But back to the point: people here actually use the Tube. Real people, with real jobs, with real money. It's not the working-class-only thing you find in the states, so don't worry about being on it - it's really quite safe, and it beats the pants off of driving.

The system runs throughout the inner city, near all the tourist destinations and hotels, to Heathrow Airport, as well as out into the suburbs and even into the countryside. It carries over two million people each day, but is never as busy as those pictures you see of Tokyo subways where they cram all those people into those tiny cars. Ouch!

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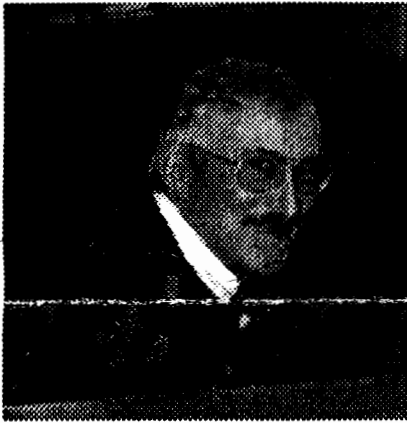
August 1996

Volume 8 Number 5

The Official Publication of the Chattanooga Chapter of
The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America
Chattanooga, Tennessee Dixie District

Tom's Tempo

by Tom Keegan
President



We have scheduled our next guest night for Monday, August 12, and I certainly hope we have as many guests as we had at our last guest night. Bringing guest singers to

join us for an evening of harmony should be a goal of every member.

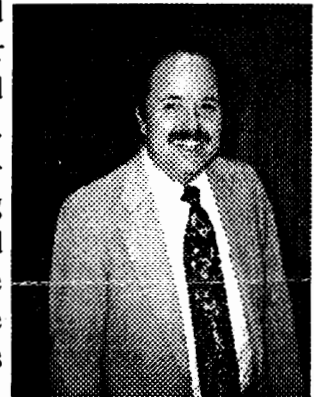
Recently I had occasion to reflect back to 1963 when I first joined the Society. My family and I had just moved from Pearl River, NY to Anandale, Va. where I had started a new job with Mohawk Carpet Mills. A friend in Pearl River had tried to get me to join his barbershop chapter but I was too busy. He did get me to sing *Lida Rose* in a local play, with him and two other friends, so I knew how good four-part harmony sounded. Now I was living in a new area with no friends and no obligations.

While having lunch one day at a local cafete-

(Continued on page 6, column 1)

It's None Of My Business

by Steve Grubb
Business Manager



By the time you read this, we will have our seventh and eighth paid performances behind us. This aspect of our participation was missing somewhat last year, and we all agreed that we would work to improve our number of sing-outs in 1996. It's happening!!

Are you committing to support these efforts? Our numbers at sing-outs has steadily declined, and that concerns me as Business Manager. Paid or gratis, we all have a responsibility to support this chapter's efforts when we're able.

Our annual church sing-outs will soon be upon us. Are you completely comfortable with your music? I know I'm not; unfortunately, commitments to the work at East Ridge Church of Christ will keep me away from these endeavors. My able-bodied (???) assistant, Earle Fraser, will do a super job as contact man for these gigs, as he has done in the past. If you know of a congregation that wants us to sing, give me details early—and

(Continued on page 6, column 2)

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Salt Lake City - 1996

by David Reynolds



This was the eighth International Convention I've attended since I joined the barbershoppers in 1972. The contest was very well organized. Everything was on time; in

fact the quartet finals and show ended earlier than planned, leaving more time for the barbershoppers and their guests to party! !

The judging system was somewhat vindicated in my mind by the final results of the chorus and quartet contests. I arrived at the convention smarting from the result of the quartet prelims in Dixie District, a contest in which only one of the qualifiers from last year made "the cut," and one of those qualifiers was in the top twenty at Miami. The Far Western District had **eight** quartets in the Salt Lake contest, but three of them were in the quartet finals, **Nightlife** winning the contest. The winning chorus, **Masters of Harmony** from Foothill Cities, CA was also from the Far Western District. Dixie's **Big Chicken Chorus** finished seventh. "We was robbed" still applies to the Dixie Contest, however.

Salt Lake City is a town of wide streets and long blocks. A cab driver told me that the city's founder, Brigham Young, wanted the streets in the downtown part of the city to be wide enough that a wagon and oxen team could make a "U" turn in the street (this amounts to about 135 feet). An-

other version was that Brigham Young wanted the streets wide enough that he and all his wives could walk hand in hand down the middle of the street! The blocks are seven to a mile (that compares to seventeen blocks to the mile in my old home town, Baton Rouge, La). The town did seem to have more them "its share" of bums. It seemed to me there was at least one in every downtown block.

The climate was hot and dry, making walking somewhat difficult. To give you an example of how hot it was, Jeanne Hagar and Barbara Keegan walked from the convention center to one of the local shopping malls and when they arrived at the mall, they were so exhausted they were almost too tired to shop (notice, I said *almost*).

Of course, our "kids" were great in the College Quartet Contest. What a great feeling to see those guys on stage the night of the quartet semi-finals being cheered on by that large group of barbershoppers at the Delta Center! !

The quartet contest was close, with **Nightlife** from Foothills Cities, CA placing first by 41 points (out of a total of 8236) over second place **Yesteryear** from Ohio. **FRED** moved up one place in each competition, starting in sixth place in the quarter-finals and finishing in forth. They had the Delta Center in an uproar each time they appeared and "Pooky" (the tenor, Jared Carlson) was never funnier. They did a new routine for their final session singing *Sweet Adeline* with the lead singing the wrong words and the rest of the quartet singing the "correct" words on the repeat. It was hilarious. The audience started stomping on the floor before they finished the song.

I could write on and on about the convention in Salt Lake City, but I feel pretty sure that I would be repeating things which are being said in other articles in this "*Blender*." Suffice to say that a grand time was had by me and the other ten Chattanoogaans who traveled to the Beehive State. I would highly recommend the International Convention and Contest as the site of your vacation, regardless of where it is held! !

THE CHAPTER THAT SINGS TOGETHER STAYS TOGETHER

Ferd's Words

by Fred Jesse
Music VP



As I sit here watching the Olympics on TV, I am glad that barbershop music was at least a small part of it. I had an opportunity to sing with two quartets—**Rock City Four** and **Harrison Bay Harmonizers**. We were asked to provide music at the Lee College cafeteria. This was the area where the Olympic athletes, practicing for the canoeing events on the nearby Ocoee River, would gather for dinner.

Even though we were advised not to interact, show favoritism, sing religious music, or perform our National Anthem, we could see that we were well received on those songs we did perform. Smiles and appreciation were evident. It was a memorable event and an opportunity for a worldwide audience to hear some close harmony.

From Olympic competition to chorus competition, by the time you read this a great chorus weekend will be over. Preparations for our chorus contest was held at Covenant College again. I hope what we were able to do and learn will help us to improve our standing in the District. We must remember that improvement is needed just to stay even. More improvement should be the goal.

We have selected two tough songs to use at contest. We will be testing our range, our execution, and ourselves with these two numbers. All of us must do our best to use what we have learned

to perform these contest songs. Our contest score is the best measurement we have of our improvement.

I've learned a lot about barbershop music in my last ten years. I've found, however, that remembering that stuff while singing is the most difficult part. Perhaps this is true of us all. But knowing this is the first step to improvement. Can we all remember to remember all that stuff? I'm confident we can. Here's to a great chorus going to a great contest!

Picnic

The biggest news flash is **THE PICNIC!** On Saturday, August 24 around 5:00 at the Chickamauga Dam Riverpark Pavilion, we (the Belles, chorus, spouses, family, friends and guests) are having an old-fashioned picnic. The treat is no one has to bring anything... well nothing except your appetites, your chair and a determination to have a good time. The menu will be simple—currently planned as hotdogs with trimmings, potato salad, beans and chips, dessert and beverages. We want this to be a relaxed gathering. Please let me know how many are coming....the answering machine is on 24 hours a day (891-9501).

This is the pavilion by the dam....not where the guys usually sing. If you enter Amnicola from 153, it is the first right after 153. If coming up Amnicola from downtown, it is the second left after the railroad trestle. Then follow a long winding driveway to the Chickamauga Dam Riverpark. Hope a whole lot of you can join us!

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Submissions welcome from anyone

Something To Crow About

by Pat Crowe



Something to Crow About?? How about our meeting room at All Saints Academy! It gets better looking each month. Thanks to the efforts of a few hard-working and dedicated members. They are something else to

Crow About.

What's the next project—an elevator for a few overweight associates? Have you heard them wheezing as they reach that top step? It's the only exercise they get—other than a walk around Shoney's food bar.

While we are on what's next, what happened to Kenosha's PR department? Was it a failure on their part or the local media? We didn't see coverage on the biggest event in the Chattanooga Chapter's history. Namely the **Four Voices** gold medal winning performance and International College Quartet Champions! Not a word about the part this chapter or the District played in their drive to "World Recognition." It would be interesting to hear if other chapters in the District promoted this great event in their local media.

But now I sound like an acquaintance of mine, Heinz Zight. He always has the answers after the fact. But it sure would be interesting to know, so we can correct the situation next year.

Where did we drop the ball? While we are on the **Four Voices**, let's not forget the time and effort Ron Weaver put into their program. Speaking of Ron, you gotta love his dedication and the excitement he puts in our warm-up sessions. One can only imagine this is what would have happened to Clinton if he had inhaled.

Holding the business portion of our meetings later sure has helped to maintain the attendance throughout the evening.

When can we expect to get an itinerary of our England trip? It sure will help those sitting on the fence to make up their minds.

August looks like a busy month. With the Covenant College retreat and three performances in the first two weeks. Now's the chance for all those guys that wanted more outside events. Put your vocal **chords** where your mouth was. In this Olympic year let's get out of the starting gate with Gold Medal performances. Give them more than their money's worth. Make them want to have us back. Give them something to Crow About!

Coming Events

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| Aug. 1 | Bradley Memorial Hospital
at Life Care of America
Warm-up @ 7:00 Sing @ 7:30
Formal uniform |
| Aug. 2-3 | Covenant College Retreat,
Lookout Mt.
Jeff Selano, coach |
| Aug. 4 | Jackson Family Reunion
Warm-up @ 1:30 Sing @ 2:00
Summer uniform
Chickamauga Civic Center |
| Aug. 9 | Dress rehearsal, Chattanooga
Junior Miss Pageant |
| Aug. 10 | Chattanooga Junior Miss
Pageant
Warm-up @ 6:30
Sing @ 7:00 & 8:30
Formal uniform with red
blazer & white trousers
UTC Fine Arts Center |
| Aug. 24 | Picnic @ 5:00
Chickamauga Dam Riverpark |
| Sept. 9 | Nomination Committee Meets |
| Oct. 4-6 | Fall Convention at Knoxville |
| Dec. 7 | Christmas Show at
UTC Fine Arts Center |
| Dec. 26-
Jan. 3 | London, England Trip |

Reflections On Salt Lake City Convention

by Tom Keegan

What a fun experience! The city itself sits in a basin surrounded by the Wasatch Mountains, so the scenery each day was beautiful. Since there were fewer quartets competing than in previous years we spent less time sitting and listening and more time doing leisure activities.

FRED has become a favorite quartet at every competition and their fourth-place finish was greeted with tremendous enthusiasm. They were funnier than ever and sang one completely new routine at the Saturday night finals.

The chorus competition on Saturday afternoon was awesome. I had watched the Northbrook, Ill. chapter practice their routine prior to the contest and later told Barbara that I was sure they'd get a standing ovation from the audience for their Toy Soldier routine. Sure enough, they got that ovation and still finished in second place. So you can imagine how good the winners (**Masters of Harmony**) were. There was also a chorus of young men from Sweden dressed in Viking costumes who threw their director off the stage (about 5 feet high) in the middle of their second song. And when they finished the entire chorus jumped off the stage and walked through the audience grunting and growling and swinging their clubs. They too received a standing ovation (and finished ninth). **Marietta** finished in seventh place and did their last song with a comedy routine featuring Pookie (**FRED's** tenor) that was an absolute side-splitter. He fell on the floor and left the stage (more than once), and how the chorus was able to continue singing was a real mystery. Pookie had the entire audience focused on him, and laughing so hard that you couldn't even tell if the chorus was singing or not. It was a great routine!

The college quartet contest was, of course, very special for us. The **Four Voices** came out and wowed the audience with their singing. As usual a Bowling Green University quartet was also very good and after the contest ended we had the

feeling that our boys would finish first or second. The speaker finally started announcing the winners in reverse order of finish. Fifth place was—fourth place—third place etc. The excitement was increasing since neither the **Four Voices** nor Bowling Green (the two crowd favorites) had as yet been announced. As soon as we heard the Bowling Green quartet announced as second-place winners, we started shouting for joy because we knew that the **Four Voices** had won—and sure enough they did.

It was a very exciting contest with a level of singing much higher than any I'd previously experienced at a college quartet contest. As Bowling Green University has been dominant in this contest since its inception, it was almost as though the underdogs had finally beaten the overwhelming favorite.

Most of the singing during the entire convention was at a very high level. But it was almost as though the best was saved for last. Sunday morning we attended an interdenominational church service featuring the **Mormon Tabernacle Choir**, **Accoustix**, and the **Masters of Harmony**. And it was a truly inspirational program. The sound in the Tabernacle was as clear as a bell and oh so wonderful. All in all the convention was terrific. be calling some of you for help with the refreshments. If you would like to volunteer to bring something, give me a call to save both of us some

Chorus Celebrates Independence Day

The Chattanooga Choo Choo Chorus was the star of the show at the gala 4th of July celebration in Collegedale. The weather cooperated beautifully with almost balmy conditions. A crowd of hundreds was entertained by a variety of acts before the obligatory fireworks. Twenty-one members of our chorus, dressed in our summer costume, looked and sounded great, even without risers. The chorus did a great job on the intro to Berlin's *God Bless America*. Usually a quartet sings this part to lead-in the chorus. One of the hits of the show was *When You Wish Upon A Star*.

(Tom's Tempo cont.)

ria, I noticed the manager wearing a barbershopper pin in his lapel which I recognized. I asked if he was a member of the society. "Yes!" was the reply. "Are you a member?" I said, "No, but I've sung some four-part harmony." Before I knew it, he had invited me to a meeting and even agreed to pick me up so I wouldn't get lost. I went as promised, sang with the Fairfax Jubilaires, and fell in love with barbershop singing. The funny part about this is that the cafeteria manager never came to another meeting after that night. So I've been a member now for 33 years and still look forward to Monday night meetings, not only for the singing but for the friendship and camaraderie.

During the spring rehearsals with the Nashville Chapter at Tullahoma, I spoke with one of the Nashville members who is a psychologist. He believes that barbershop singing is one of the best therapies that a man could find—even better than visiting a professional psychologist. I agree wholeheartedly with his comment. There have been many times in my life when I've gone to a Monday meeting seemingly burdened down with problems. After two or three songs my whole outlook starts to change, and by the time the evening ends I know I've got a better handle on whatever has been bothering me. The point of all this is that barbershop singing is truly a hobby that deserves to be shared with more men. It has so much more to offer than simply the opportunity to sing harmony. So, how about it! Dave Abercrombie issued a challenge recently for each of us to be responsible for a new member. Don't leave the responsibility to someone else—accept it yourself. Bring a guest to our guest night and allow him to share the experience of four-part harmony!

July Guests

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| • Tony Fowler | • Joe Williams |
| • Chad McNatt | • Claude Walker |
| • Chad Guyton | • Brandon Guyton |
| • Andrew Guyton | • Lester Rector |
| • J.B. Van Hook | • John Temple |

(Business cont.)

make sure I write it down, or it will leave my little pea brain.

Let's talk internationally for a moment. All is going smoothly with our London preparations. As we told you, Paul and I will be going over in September to scope things out and nail down final arrangements. This trip is on YMOTW, not Dr. Blazek or myself. They are flying us over and giving us a place to stay; we handle all other necessities—food, entertainment, etc. Please remember us as we dare to travel the "Friendly Skies?". Please write down specific questions you have about the trip, and give them to me or Paul before we leave. We'll do our best to get answers from the blokes while we're over there.

As information is made available to me, I'm sharing it with you. Already you should have the Travel Insurance Declaration form and the Luggage Allowance form. Please get the Declaration forms back to me signed and dated as quickly as possible. The name of the form should be as it appears on your passport. If you don't already have one, get to work on acquiring a passport. We will not be informed until September which airlines we will be utilizing; I do know we will fly out of Atlanta, but then again, doesn't everyone?? We need to be at the airport three hours prior to departure. Our travel dates are December 27, 1996, to January 3, 1997. The flight will take six to eight hours, will include two meals and a movie, and will be an overnigher on our way across the Atlantic. We all need to sleep on the plane, if possible. Remember, one carry-on and one checked piece per traveler.

The hotel we stay in will be of a first-class nature. YMOTW has a contract with Thistle Hotels and Mount Charlotte Hotels in the London area. Each room will be double occupancy; single rooms are available at an additional charge of \$38.00 per night, a total of \$228.00. If interested in this route, let me know. Each room possesses private facilities, TV, radio, telephone, and will be centrally heated. Any US electrical equipment will require an approved transformer (from 110 to 240 volts) together with a plug adapter to fit

UK sockets.

Much more is out there—meals, tours, performances, etc. I'll try to cover the rest of these issues next month. We will not receive a final itinerary from YMOTW until October; I'll try to have a sample one for you at a meeting real soon. I hope what you have read so far answers some questions, and gets ya'll excited about going. If you haven't committed yet to the trip, it's not too late. Final lists aren't set until October. Think about it, and come go with us if you can. For those already committed, your next payment of \$300.00 per person is due in Bernard's hot little hands by our meeting on August 26, 1996.

Until next time...

Tag Tutor Visits



Claude Walker, past music director of the Chattanooga Choo Choo Chorus, visited our meeting July 8. Claude taught the chorus the tag to *Smile, Darn Ya, Smile*. The chorus then recorded the tag for Pete Jones' daughter's birthday.

Four Voices are Champs!

Four Voices, the International Champion College Quartet, visited our meeting on Monday July 8. With shiny, new gold medals with white ribbon around their necks, the quartet came to thank the **Chattanooga Choo Choo Chorus** for all their help and support during the past three years.

They opened up with *Brand New Gang on the Corner*. Every time J.B. Van Hook, the bass, hit one of his patented mellow low notes there were oohs and aahs. They then sang their contest package: *That Barbershop Style* and *My Father, My*

Friend, My Dad. It is easy to see why they won. What a sound! Tenor, Lester Rector, was hitting those high notes full voice! It's great to see two brothers singing together; Brandon and Chad Guyton are so talented.

We can only hope their classes at Lee College in Cleveland, Tennessee will allow them to stay together and keep entertaining barbershop fans. Their potential is unlimited.

Just Gettin' Started

by Ron Weaver
Assistant Director



My focus in this article will concern our dear brothers in harmony, hard-working BARI-TONES. These are the "workers" of our craft; they must take the sounds we make and try to put a

nice in-tune harmony to fill the chord. He is completely reliant on the abilities of the other three parts. He also must fulfill his part within the quartet or chorus, singing his part correctly, executing all techniques that define that part.

What are some attributes of a good bari? For one, he should have some idea of where he is within the chord (most of the time on 3rd or 7th). Also he should be aware of volume relationships (almost equal to melody when below the lead and backing off when going above the lead). And last, he should be able to adjust his timbre of sound (full bass-like in the lower registers, and light and bright with the higher tones).

The saying "bari should be seen, not heard" is not always a true statement; it is as creative a voice part as the melody. How many times have you sat listening to a beautiful arrangement when this wonderful voice adds a "tiddlie". Admittedly they do have to blend ever so sweetly, but that's what makes the beauty of our unique sound.

Thank you baris for the hard work and remember—we're JUST GETTIN' STARTED!

Travel Tips

by Pat Crowe

With our great adventure looming on the horizon, I thought I'd pass along a couple of items which may be of interest, whether it be a domestic or an overseas venture.

A *New York Times* travel editor mentions that failures of tour operators have become more common recently, leaving little chance of recovery of people's money.

They caution if you take out travel insurance make sure the policy covers an agency closing, even if it does not formally file bankruptcy.

Travel insurance is expensive, five dollars or more per one hundred dollars spent on a trip. Do not buy if your main trip cost is airfare. An unused plane ticket can usually be credited for later travel. An acquaintance revealed their money was refunded on a failed tour only because they had used their credit card. The card company canceled the charge; those paying cash were not as fortunate.

On luggage, *Glamour* magazine, in an article, suggests you use an ID tag with your name and **Business** address and phone number—not your home address, which could alert potential thieves to an empty house.

Check-in well in advance so the airline has plenty of time to get your luggage on board. If using curbside check-in, watch to make sure your bags go into the terminal. Watch to make sure they put the right destination tags on them. Mark your luggage with colored tape or ribbon to make bags easy to find when you arrive.

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

Happy Birthday, Jacinda!

On Monday night July 8, the chorus made a video tape for Pete Jones' daughter, Jacinda's sixteenth birthday. Director Paul Blazek led the chorus in Happy Birthday and the tag from *Smile, Darn Ya, Smile*.

The Clemson Crew

by Bill Slack



On July 19 -21, five members of the Chattanooga Choo Choo Chorus attended the 14th annual Dixie Lakeside Harmony weekend held at Clemson University. Lamar Owens, Larry Huber, Bill Slack, Barry Owens, and David Collins attended. The

International College Quartet, The **Four Voices**, Brandon Guyton, Chad Guyton, J. B. Van Hook, and Lester Rector were also there to receive some valuable coaching.

Classes included woodshedding and tags, communications (newsletters), arranging, barber-shop boot camp, basic vocal production, and balancing of sound. Saturday night's show featured our own **Four Voices**, the **Svelte Brothers**, **Class of '94**, **Bandstand**, **FRED**, and **3/4 of Joker's Wild**.

Joker's Wild's tenor was unable to make it, but **Four Voices** had the other three come on stage and sing *It Is Well With My Soul* with them. Lester's beautiful full-voice tenor carried all seven singers. The **Four Voices** was the show headliner, and did they perform!

FRED's bass couldn't make it because he had to work the Olympics in Atlanta. Thom Hine sang one song with **FRED** on the show. With their comedy routines, it's hard for anyone else to step in.

For the new members who attended, we learned of the time and the level of commitment which must be done in order to have a superior quartet or chorus.

All members of the Chattanooga chorus would benefit from attending next year's Clemson weekend, and then utilizing at home what was learned.

Once In A Lifetime

by James Coulter



The "Olympic Spirit" is very much alive today and seems to be everywhere! Our chapter recently has been recognized for providing one of its quartets, the **Rock City Four** at various pre-Olympic functions.

On June 11, 1996 the quartet sang the National Anthem before a crowd of 3,000 at John Williams Field in Warner Park for the girl's softball game between Team USA vs. Tennessee All-Stars.

July 1, 1996 **Rock City Four** was privileged to sing the National Anthem at Engle Stadium before a crowd of 8,000 for the baseball game between Team USA vs. Cuba.

And to top that off, this quartet entertained at the Olympic Village dining hall at Lee College. All of these engagements were well received and achieved a very important goal of our chapter—to keep "Barbershop Harmony" alive in high profile areas as much as possible. GO TEAM USA!

*Be sure to notice the minutes
and treasurer's report on insert.*

Just Visiting

by Barry Owens

Visiting other barbershop chapters can be both enlightening and entertaining. While on a short vacation to my mother's home in Sebring, Florida, I realized that I needed my weekly "fix" of singing and ringing chords.

I called David Collins to find out where the nearest chapter was. We found several, but the

closest was the Polk County Chorus in Winter Haven, home of Cypress Gardens. Even though it was mid-summer, there were twenty-something singers there. They told me that during the winter the chapter doubles and even triples.

It didn't take me long to realize that I was the only tenor there that night. The other two were on vacation. It's always nice to feel needed and wanted. After the meeting they were trying to recruit me, said they'd find a teaching job for me in Florida.

They had a nice meeting place in a building downtown. I got the impression that their rent was pretty high. They apparently didn't have a great benefactor like Father George Schmidt of All Saints Academy! Their walls were decorated with logos from the international, district and local levels. Many pictures of past choruses and quartets were on the wall.

As the men came in they received a list of songs that they would be singing that night and a list of songs that they would be singing the next week. Everyone sat in their seats and got their music out before the meeting began. The Membership VP was originally from Knoxville and he remembered me from conventions when he was in the Smokyland Chorus before there were two choruses in Knoxville.

The director, a Charlie Stanbery look-alike, gave us an impressive warm-up for about 20 minutes. We must have sang 10-15 songs. Some we sang once, others we worked on key changes etc. They work on a Christmas song or two every meeting all year so that they don't have so many of them to learn come Christmas. One of the things that took some getting use to was the pitch. They used an electronic device for pitch-taking. The director got this from visiting the **Big Chicken Chorus**. Apparently Clay Hine uses this because of the difference in pitch pipes.

It was a fun, fast-paced meeting that lasted from 7:30-10:30. Believe me, it didn't seem that long. The Polk County Chorus believes in planning ahead; and it seems to pay off!

You can learn a lot when you visit other chapters, and also appreciate what we have.

Health Emergencies Travel...and Your HMO

by Gregory Henry, MD
American College of
Emergency Physicians

When preparing to leave on a trip, people who belong to health maintenance organizations (HMOs) often forget to check whether they are covered for emergency medical care on the road.

Here's what to do if you need a doctor or an emergency room while you are traveling on vacation or business...

BEFORE YOU GO

Examine your policy to see what steps your HMO requires when you're traveling. Most plans will cover out-of-area emergency care for "acute" conditions. Others require that a condition be life-threatening.

An HMO may later refuse to pay the bill, but—if in doubt—you should be examined by a doctor and work out the payment problems later.

Pack a list of the steps the HMO requires, such as when to call the HMO to alert it to your condition. Some HMOs have special toll-free numbers for travelers requesting information or confirmation that a condition is covered.

Call your plan to see whether it has reciprocal arrangements with any hospitals or doctors at your destinations. Make a list of where the HMO wants you to go in emergencies.

Take some blank claim forms to ensure their speedy submission after you have been treated.

IN AN EMERGENCY ON THE ROAD

If it is a major emergency, forget about the HMO. If you face a major crisis—such as a stroke, heart attack, broken bones, fainting spells, etc.—seek care immediately and worry about the HMO later. Your health is much more important than whether or not your HMO cover such treatment.

If you are traveling alone, be sure that your family members at home have access to your HMO's phone numbers. In a crisis, call home as soon as you are able to and ask someone there to

make all of the time-consuming, stressful calls for you.

If you are traveling with others, each person should have everyone else's HMO data.

When calling your HMO, be very specific about your symptoms and say you must seek care. And be absolutely clear about why you're seeking care now rather than waiting until you return home.

Note: HMOs usually have health care professionals available 24 hours a day, but some HMOs are better than others when responding to emergencies.

Example: Don't say you've been having chest pains for two weeks. Instead, say you've had a sudden onset of pain—or that it just got much worse.

Get copies of all bills and, if possible, letters from doctors who treated you explaining why you needed treatment immediately. Ask them to mail your medical chart to you. The information on the chart should give the HMO everything it needs.

*(from Bottom Line/Personal, July 15, 1996
submitted by Pat Crowe)*

Chattin' With Chad

by Chad Newgaugh

Do you remember when August was the month you couldn't get the bus window open, which you couldn't close in December? Is it true an adult is one who has stopped growing, except in the middle? It's been said: an ambitious wife is the power behind the "drone" and an alibi is a slip-cover. The definition of a "Big Gun" is frequently an individual of small caliber and common bore. The only difference between death and taxes is that death doesn't get worse every time congress meets. Tell me, is congress the opposite of progress?

My friend Barry Tone said he had applied for a position at Sears as a counter spy. I was at a loss until I found the P.C. description: Store Detective. Hey, please try not to snicker. Remember, he's a baritone. He also thought the "Orient Express" was Chinese fast food. Barry's girlfriend

(for those who have not met her, her name is Dee Sturbed) was reading the other day about birth and death statistics. She turned to Barry and said, "Do you know that every time I breathe a man dies?"

"Very interesting," Barry replied, "Have you ever tried mouthwash?"

While on the subject of baritones, a recent edition of the *Chattanooga Free-Press* listed headlines from other papers that had to have been written by baris:

- The *Cornell Daily Sun* wrote: "Study Finds Sex, Pregnancy Link"
- The *Baltimore Sun* enlightened us with: "Malls Try To Attract Shoppers"
- The *Sunday Oregonian* startled me with this one: "Teenage Girls Often Have Babies Fathered By Men" My lands Clyde, who ever would've believed it!!
- *Newsday* came up with: "Low Wages Said Key To Poverty" This sure was an eye-opener to me.
- The *Rochester (NY) Democrat and Chronicle* brought it out in the open for all true fishing mavens: "Fish Lurk In Streams" Bait the hook, Boy! We're heading for the stream!!
- I love this real "Bari" statement by the *Columbus (Ohio) Dispatch*: "Lack of Brains Hinder Research" WOW! Now it all comes out!

Belles' Business

Nancy Owens
Belles' President

Belles remember guest night is to be held the second Monday of August (as we requested!). I'll be calling some of you for help with the refreshments. If you would like to volunteer to bring something, give me a call to save both of us some time. See ya'll Monday.

PS: Steve and Paul, when you go to London find out how formal/informal the dress will be for the "gala New Year's Eve Party". I'm interested in what the ladies will be wearing!

The Last Word...

by Barry Owens
editor



I have really been busy this month. With a short vacation to Florida, Clemson barbershop school, and David Collins working me to death on his new log mansion!

At our July 22 regular Monday night meeting I couldn't help but notice some

changes. About an hour and a half into the meeting Paul gave us a five minute break. That was great because we have been letting our breaks extend to as much as 25 to 30 minutes. I was, however, expecting a business meeting after the break. It looks like we have moved it to the end of the rehearsal! Perhaps that *will* keep less members from leaving at breaktime.

However, I think I know a better way of keeping the members from leaving in the middle of rehearsal: Have more **fun** at the meeting/rehearsal! What a novel idea! On this particular Monday night we sang/worked on four songs...four songs the whole evening...four songs that I have known for a long time. Talk about redundancy! After an hour of *Amazing Grace*, covered by two directors (Ron & Paul), I was ready to tear up my music.

It gets boring singing the same songs over and over, most of the time just part of the song. I have had some members complain to me that they are not having fun at our meeting anymore. Perhaps some of the work could be done at sectional rehearsals. I can't remember when we last had one of those.

President Keegan and Vice President Jackson take note: If it isn't **fun** you will lose them.



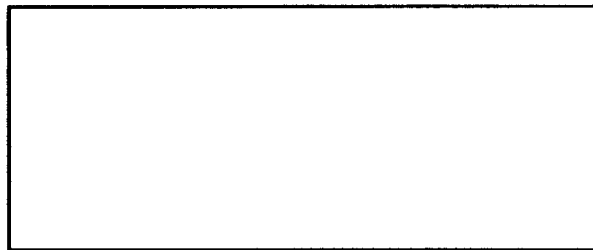
The 1996 Leadership Team Serving The Chapter

President	Tom Keegan	(423) 756-5660
Music Vice President	Fred Jesse	(706) 375-5935
Membership Vice President	Dave Abercrombie	(423) 886-1588
Program Vice President	Johnny Jackson	(423) 892-8317
Publicity Vice President	David Collins	(423) 875-5533
Secretary	Dave Reynolds	(423) 875-2674
Assistant Secretary	Earle Fraser	(423) 892-7630
Treasurer	Bernard Wheeler	(706) 638-4013
Assistant Treasurer	Johnny Jackson	(423) 892-8317
Board Members At Large	Bernard Peek	(706) 398-3104
	C. W. Wall	(706) 820-0579
	Lamar Smith	(706) 866-2481
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Director	Paul Blazek	(423) 870-9832
Assistant Directors	Ron Weaver	(423) 476-3200
	C. W. Wall	(706) 820-0579
Equipment Manager	Pete Jones	(706) 861-2113
Choo Choo Belles President	Nancy Owens	(706) 891-9501

The Blender

*The official newsletter of the Chattanooga Chapter of
The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement
of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America*

Barry Owens, Editor
Chattanooga Choo Choo Chapter
247 Morris Drive
Ringgold, GA 30736





The Blender



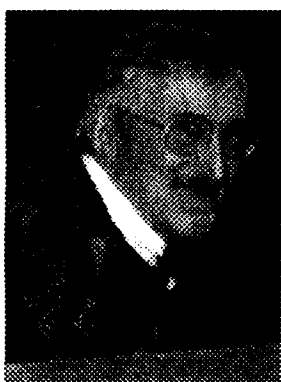
September 1996

Volume 5 Number 9

The Official Publication of the Chattanooga Chapter of
The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America
Chattanooga, Tennessee Dixie District

Tom's Tempo

by Tom Keegan
President



On your mark...get set and get ready for Knoxville on the week-end of October 4-6. We'll be competing once again against the other "best choruses" in the Dixie District. We've been in the top ten the last few

years and as we continue to grow in size and improve in singing, we have every intention of continuing our upward progress. We have met with Paul about the presentation aspect of our performance and we'll begin adding that to our rehearsal effective immediately. We only have roughly eight rehearsals remaining during September and we need your attendance to help us offer our best performance in Knoxville. As the old saying goes: "It ain't the same without you, Pal!" So please make that extra effort to attend every rehearsal you can. We have started an extra rehearsal night on Thursdays during September. Monday night will be our regular meeting night, at which we'll be adding some "fun" sessions such as octets, quartets, tag singing, etc., while Thursday will be full concentration on our chorus competition num-

bers, *Chattanooga Choo Choo* and *Welcome Back To Dixieland*.

We will have two quartets competing in Knoxville: **Just For Kicks** in the regular and **Harrison Bay Harmonizers** in the seniors quartet competition. We wish them both the best of success.

A big thanks to the Choo Choo Belles for the fun picnic on Saturday August 24. We had some 20+ members, accompanied by spouses, friends, and children; and a very nice time was had by all. Thank you very much ladies for that special treat.

We want to personally thank Johnny Jackson for having served as Program VP for the past several months. Johnny is going back to school for an advanced degree and has classes on our rehearsal night. As a result he is resigning his position and we have fortunately found a willing replacement in Larry Huber, one of our newer members. Thank you Larry for your willingness to serve.

Members:

Notice the enclosed

- * Program Survey
- * Minutes of the Board Meeting
- * Treasurer's Report
- * Tentative Sample Schedule for Concert Performers in London!

*The Chattanooga chapter of
The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America
meets Monday evenings, 7:00 at All Saints Academy, 310 East Eighth Street, Chattanooga, TN*

It's None of My Business

by Steve Grubb
Business Manager



Well, this is a slower time for sing-outs right now. Our next gig is September 22, 1996 at Brainerd Baptist. This will be our first church performance of the year and our first time in our new tuxedos! Please have all alterations done by this date, and plan to sing if able. We need a big number for this gig, as we used their facilities for so many years. Also, this gig is for James Coulter, as well; with all the work James has done and is doing for this chapter, we need to make this performance a great one. Plan to be there, if at all possible. A list of future gigs is listed below:

Sunday, Sept. 22, 1996
Brainerd Baptist Church
Dress: New Tuxedos
Warm-up 6:30 pm Sing 7:00 pm
James Coulter, contact

Saturday, Oct. 12, 1996
Chattanooga Marriott Hotel
Dress: New Tuxedos
Warm-up: 7:00 pm; Sing: 7:30 pm
463 Heavy Bombardment Reunion
Paid gig

Sunday, November 10, 1996
Eastview United Methodist
Dress: New Tuxedos
Warm-up: 4:30 pm; Sing 5:00 pm
Bill McKeehan, contact

From an international aspect, Paul and I leave Thursday, Sept. 12 for London. We will return Monday, Sept. 16 around 5:00 pm. Barring major jet lag, we will be at the meeting that evening, probably past 8:00 pm to give a quick report of our trip. Again, please get questions to me by Monday the 9th and I'll try to get answers while in England. Write them down, or I'll forget them

for sure. Things are going to move fast from here on out, so I need your help to pull it all together. When I ask for something, please try and get it back to me ASAP. Thanks for your help in this matter.

While in London, we will try to nail down flight times, air carriers, hotels, etc. I would give this info to ya'll now if I had it, but I don't. This makes for inconveniences to those with special travel plans, and I apologize for any delay this has caused. Included in this article is a sample schedule for you to look over; our final plans will not be firm until October. Hope this is helpful. The package right now includes a Continental breakfast each day and a planned evening meal. YMOTW will alter this for those who wish to change to a Full breakfast and no evening meal, leaving you to provide your own supper each day. Think about it, and we'll discuss it upon our return. The meals look very good; I'll bring the sample list to practice for everyone to review before we decide.



Coming Events

Sept. 9	Nomination Committee Meets
Sept. 22	Brainerd Baptist Church
Oct. 4-6	Fall Convention at Knoxville
Oct. 12	Chattanooga Marriott Hotel
Oct. 14	List of names for London
Nov. 9	Parkway Baptist; Eat at 4:00
Nov. 10	Eastview United Methodist
Nov. 15	Final payment for London
Dec. 7	Christmas Show at UTC
Dec. 26-	
Jan. 3	London, England

The Sun Always Shines on Barbershoppers

by Nancy Owens
President, Belles

When Sally Wall called in a reservation for the picnic. I mentioned Barry and I would be there rain or shine. She told me the weather would be fine because the sun always shines on barbershoppers. Well about 3:30 on Saturday, I would have told her she was a little too optimistic. The sky turned dark, the wind blew and the rain came....torrents of rain. The trailer was loaded with all the paraphernalia, the food, the grill and various other sundry items. There was one major problem, the tailgate wasn't in place. Barry wasn't about to go out in the storm—oh did I mention the lighting bolts striking all around?.

After about 30 minutes, everything calmed down and we could get on our way. It was still dark and gloomy and rain pattered on the windshield. We got to the pavilion at 4:30....hardly enough time to set everything up. We thought we might have to eat 150 hot dogs all by ourselves since it was still overcast.

But Sally was right. Just about 5:00, the sun did shine on barbershoppers. Actually, the rain had cooled the temperature down and drowned all the insects. The Belles were pleased that so many of the chorus, our families and friends could join us and visit for a while. Over 50 people came, ate, sang and just plain old had a good time. The weather couldn't have been more pleasant, the company couldn't have been finer and the food tasted mighty good.

Blender, Editor Barry M. Owens
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Submissions welcome from anyone

Belles Business

by Nancy Owens
President, Belles

Since no meeting was held on Labor Day, you won't be reading this before the second Monday of the month. By now, I hope you know that we are changing our meeting days. I am teaching on Monday nights this semester and class ends at 8:10. Guelda Malone is in Bells (as ringing) practice on Monday nights. We both suggested the Belles get on about their business minus us, but apparently we're more popular than we thought. The active Belles voted to meet on an alternate night. We'll be contacting you to see which night is your preference. Right now it looks like Thursday nights. Tuesday was an alternate choice, but I also teach a class on Tuesday nights. Oh, well!

It's dues time again. The Belles have membership dues of \$12. We use this money for things like sponsoring the picnic. Please either turn your dues in to Glenda Peek at one of our meetings or mail a check to her (Glenda Peek, Star Route Box 196, Trenton GA 30752).

Remember, next month is the fall contest.

Society Continues to Grow

(from Update, Aug. 1996)

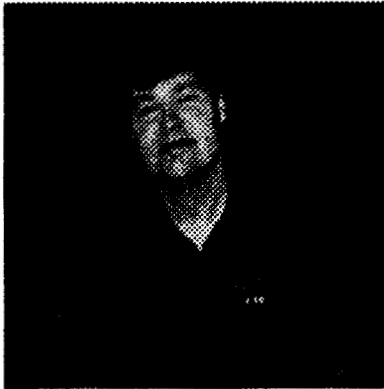
For the fifth consecutive month, the Society has shown a membership gain over last year. As of July 31 there were 33,009 members, 676 more than a year ago. That's a growth of more than two percent. One needs to go back six years to find another five-month growth spurt, and back into the 1970s to find six or more consecutive months of growth.

Also contributing to our growth is the number of newly licensed and chartered chapters. To date in 1996, we have licensed 17 chapters and chartered a total of nine. That compares to 12 licenses and six charters during the same time period in 1955.

Growing pains—aren't they wonderful?

Here's the Plan

by Larry Huber
Program VP



As your new Program Vice President, I am eager to make your chapter meetings successful. By the time you read this, some changes will

have already been made to improve meeting format and content.

In the short term, we must show our commitment to reach a solid B level of contest performance by: getting the most from rehearsals; practicing at home (I'm especially lax about this myself); attend as many Thursday night rehearsals as possible between now and contest. Remember, we said after Gatlinburg we would work to increase our score, and we learned at Covenant College that we definitely have the potential.

In the long term, my priority is to help build the organization through good programming. This is programming that attracts new members because it focuses on good singing, good fellowship, and good fun. Since balancing these needs is not a simple proposition, I foresee meetings with a lot of variety in programming, rather than a set pattern of activities.

If you disagree, now is your chance! Enclosed is a brief survey of some elements of chapter programming. Please answer the survey and turn it in to me or a chapter officer. You can answer anonymously or put your name on it. Several of you have already begun putting in your two cents worth, and I appreciate it, but I still need everyone's input on the survey. The survey is on the colored insert. Please fill it out and turn in to me next Monday.

BE A BARBERPOLE CAT

Ferd's Words

by Fred Jesse
Music VP

Christmas Show! Gotta work on this! Jeff Selano suggested and sent to me some Christmas song arrangements for a chorus and quartets. We need some additional Christmas music. Do any of you have any legal arrangements we can use or obtain permission to use? Christmas songs are few as Society arrangements, and I would like to use some music we haven't done. Search your music files and let me know. Does your quartet have songs to perform on the show? Tell me this too.

Jeff gave the chorus some ear training that has helped us keep pitch. Remember—sing a note, then one a whole step above. Sing the original note, then one a half step above. Sing the original note, then one a quarter step above. Sing the original note, then one an eighth step above. Hear the intervals? The differences? He stressed the need to make "micro-corrections" to the pitch to keep it from sagging.

A good spot in the music for a micro-correction is a place where you sing the root of the chord then move up to a third or fifth. An ever-so-slight upward correction will make that chord expand, ring, and create overtones. I am pleased with the improvement we have made in keeping pitch. This will help us a lot toward being a "B" chorus.

Look at our two contest songs. Check to be sure you are singing the newest words and music. Look at it closely. Count our the first 8-12 measures. We must have these down cold. Jeff said judges know about where you'll score by that time, and won't move much from it. Let's make that first impression a good one, then keep the score from dropping. Let's make this contest score the best ever!



Chatting with Chad

by Chad Newgaugh

Do you remember *September Song*? I believe it was John Huston who sang this "show-stopping" hit on Broadway in the fifties. But I can't remember the name of the play. As I recall part of the lyrics they remind us:

"It's a long, long time from May to December,
But the days grow short when you reach September.

As the days dwindle by to a precious few...
November...December..."

Well the substance of this homily is that we are on "short time". Knoxville in October, England in December. Are you prepared, primed and set to go? And might I add psyched and "versatile". The latter because we have until October 5 to finalize our stage presentation. I know this is nothing new in that respect, but have you ever wondered... Gee, what would it be like to know it before we got on the risers and the curtain starting to rise.

The word is out that Jeff Selano gave those in attendance at Covenant a great learning experience—with diplomacy and tact, plus two new names to add to our chapter lore: Captain Steve and Laser Face.

The Belles did their usual great job with refreshments on our guest night. Thank you ladies, and forget what Sam said about the dishes.

Did you notice there were fifteen or sixteen basses present. Wow! What a great rumbling sound. Glad to see Jack Moore visiting, thanks to Sam Jones, his chauffeur for the evening. Happy to hear Rick Schultz lending his bass talents to quartets during the break. Good to see you again Rick. Hope to see both of you at our regular meetings.

So, are we prepared? Are we primed? Are we set to go? Remember the days are dwindling down to a precious few.

THE CHAPTER THAT SINGS TOGETHER STAYS TOGETHER

Work, Vacation or Just a Trip?

by Pete Jones
Equipment Manager



Well for me, when you talk about the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta, it was a trip in more ways than one. I did actually work while I was there. I drove one of the mass

transit shuttle buses that carried people from the out-of-town Park and Ride lots to the downtown venues.

But it really didn't seem like work; it was more like a vacation. What about that! Go on a vacation and get paid for it. Yes, I would do it again. The bus drivers didn't get in to see the events, but that was okay because we heard enough from the passengers to pacify us. What made it enjoyable was meeting all the nice people—passengers and drivers. Well most of the drivers were nice, but there were a few of the women drivers that were—well y'know "Sweet Adelines". I think these women were probably their mean, ugly stepsisters—whew! Well enough about them.

There was one passenger that stuck out in my mind, out of those that I spoke to. A Japanese man and his family got on the bus and the man leaned toward me looking me square in the face. I thought I had done something wrong, then he smiled and said "Good Morning" very plain, very well pronounced as a matter of fact. I had always heard that many Japanese were respectful that way; now I know.

Well to summarize the time spent, it was: a lot of driving open interstate and the crowded downtown streets, passengers, pin trading, selling frenzies, official Olympic uniforms being given up and sold for ridiculous prices, the bomb, death and life, strong spirit and commitment, the American Dream—anything is possible.

But for now I will remember these things and look forward to the possibility of being a part of it again, if I get the chance. Go Team USA!

Just Gettin' Started!

by Ron Weaver



This month's article we will concern ourselves with the foundation of our harmony—the basses! Now these fine gents have a lot going for 'em. They not only sing with a full, rich sound, but some say they are considered the “second lead” of the chorus. I think what they mean by this is they usually sing at a comparable volume, clean consonants, and many times given solos and pick-ups in an arrangement.

What does it take to become a good bass singer? Well, in my opinion, it starts with a confident attitude that he can sing his part as nice as a lead. Since a majority of expanded sound is created in the lower format, he must sing clean intervals, good vowel sounds at the right volume level. His timbre match with the lead voice can add a greater unit sound to the ensemble, and gives the other harmony parts a sound they can hang their hat on!

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Next month is the final installment of this series, but fear not gentlemen, for there's more to come. Cause—We're Just Gettin' Started!



A Different Genre

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Dixie

by Pat Crowe

We have had a lot of fun bugging Paul about D. D. Emmett's great song *Dixie*. But I ask, has your curiosity ever been tweaked? What, why and where is Dixie? What is the origin of the name?

I found this in *The Complete Speakers and Toastmaster Library* by Jacob M. Braude. The origin of the affectionate nickname for the southern part of the United States is confused and lost in varied legend.

There are those who think it stems from the Mason-Dixon line which was originally established in 1763 to settle a dispute between the Lord Proprietors of Baltimore and Pennsylvania. The names of these surveyors, Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon were applied to the line which was marked by milestones. This line later marked the boundaries of free and slave states.

Another version of its historical origin is that years ago a bank in New Orleans issued notes in both French and English because there were so many people in that city who could only read French. On the French ten-dollar note was printed

(Continued on page 11 column 2)

Something to Crow About

by Pat Crowe

August sure started out with a lot of togetherness: Thursday the 1st Lifetime Care Center in Cleveland for the Bradley Hospital; the 2nd and 3rd, the Covenant College retreat; Sunday the 4th the Jackson family reunion; then on the 9th, the Miss Hamilton County pageant rehearsal for the performance on the 10th. The 12th was guest night at All Saints Academy and the Choo Choo Belles' picnic on the 24th.

The Bradley Hospital was a tough gig; it felt like we weren't reaching the audience. Was it because we were standing between them and the goodies that Lifecare was going to present to them? You could see it in their eyes: "Come on you guys, they've fed me, now let's get the stuff their gonna give me so I can get the heck out of here and go home!"

Sunday's Jackson reunion was a complete reversal. Not only were they appreciative with their applause "during" and after our songs, but we received a standing ovation at the end of our performance. And may I add another big plus—they fed us too! Do you have to guess who was first in line??? I don't think so. They were very generous with their compliments and comments. I was asked if they could purchase tapes. This is not the first occasion I have heard this request. It's a good question. Why don't we have tapes? Why not make them available at our shows and at our sing-outs. Hey guys, what's your thoughts? Let your board member know. Though there are times they are hard to find on a Monday.

He must have been a bari in another lifetime: James Coulter was giving information on our new tuxedos, the cost and the option of buying outright or paying for half. In all sincerity there was this bass/bari who wanted to know if he paid half, which half would be his! Say what? Top? Bottom? Maybe the right side or the left!

There is another bari in our group. Next time he wears the summer uniform, take a look. He has the belt insignia upside down—so he can read

it.

Pete Jones has returned from the Olympic Games. He was one of the many bus drivers brought in for the event. You know, where so many of them got lost. He tells me that there is not truth to the rumor that Earle (with an E) Fraser supplied the maps.

How about our appearance at the local Miss Hamilton County. What's your impression? Did we get lost in the shuffle? With all the patriotic songs preempted by the other groups, it sure limited us. The music committee should look into a package we could draw from. Maybe we should have sung *O Canada*. It's sure patriotic enough for me—or how about *Dixie*. While looking through their program I find that for the member who missed this event or the ones who didn't get enough of the girls that sang in the talent portion of the competition, they have tapes available! At forty bucks a pop! Boy, such a deal!

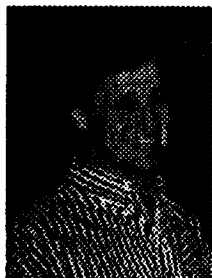
Some time ago I was at an affair. The emcee introduced a singer: "She is the product of a very expensive musical education—her father was sued by three different neighbors at the same time."

And how about the Miss Hamilton County "dress rehearsal" call for 7:00 pm on Friday. The instructions on the blackboard said it should take 30 minutes. Was it lack of communication, interpretation or a departure from the truth? For the four that showed (three as early as 6:30) it was 8:55 before we walked through our part. And I gave up a trip to Dollywood for this! Now I'll never know if Dolly would.

Someone please clarify the term "dress rehearsal". When I trod the boards as a very amateur thespian (for baris this is an actor, not a sexual preference). If it was a "dress rehearsal", it meant you were dressed in costume or uniform of the character, to personate, act, depict, play or perform a role, assume the guise of. My point? Don't call it a "dress" if we are not required to wear our uniforms. So when getting or giving instructions, please clarify, make plain, render intelligible, make simple... or as Sergeant Joe Friday use to say, "Just the facts, Ma'm."

Just Gettin' Started!

by Ron Weaver

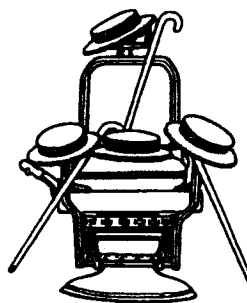


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(Continued on page 11 column 2)

Jeff Selano Coaches Chorus



On Friday and Saturday August 2-3 the Chattanooga Choo Choo chorus met at Covenant College high atop Lookout Mountain for a retreat.

About 27 singers were present to receive the lessons from Coach Jeff Selano, bass from Bandstand.

David Collins led the chorus in its warm-up session on Friday evening. Canadian Selano, who is applying for US citizenship, let the chorus through its paces. He is studying to be a judge in the singing category and had a lot of valuable knowledge to impart to the chorus. He used several different techniques such as sections linking arms to receive vibrations and energy from each other. Selano said we sing to please our audience, and the judges are simply the audience with a pencil!

The chorus worked very hard on its two contest numbers: Welcome Back To Dixieland and Chattanooga Choo Choo. Paul and Jeff re-arranged some problem spots that greatly improved the singability.

The food, as usual, was excellent. After lunch on Saturday the chorus sang for the staff at the cafeteria. This annual retreat has been a favorite of the chorus because of Covenant College's hospitality and the cool mountain air.



Doing what we do best!

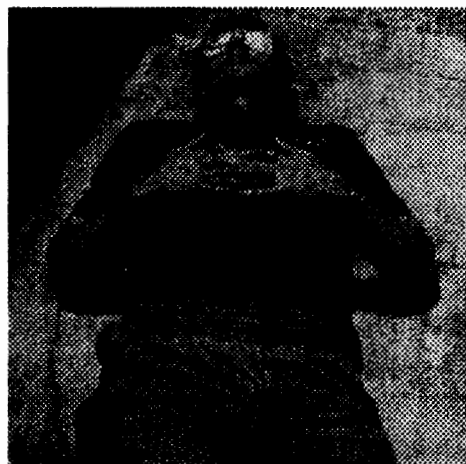
Chorus Sings for Beauties

On Saturday night August 10, twenty members of the Chattanooga Choo Choo Chorus, dressed in patriotic red, white and blue entertained the crowd at the UTC Fine Arts Center for the 1997 Miss Hamilton County Scholarship Pageant. Horace Brock directed the chorus in God Bless America. For the finale the chorus joined the Gloria Scott Choir and the Scenic City Sweet Adeline Chorus in a rousing rendition of The Battle Hymn of the Republic.

Pete Jones helped arrange the performance, loaned the large flag to the pageant, and arranged a nice ad for the Choo Choo Chorus in the program. Well done Pete!

Chorus Shakes The Jackson Family Tree

On Sunday August 4 the Choo Choo Chorus entertained the Jackson family re-union at the Civic Center in Chickamauga, Ga. Pat Crowe's friend Margaret Green supplied the family, the chorus supplied the music. This was a Dixie-kind of audience, so the chorus sang both Dixie and the Battle Hymn of the Republic. A little girl sitting up front was the inspiration for When You Wish Upon A Star. The chorus was feted with good home-cooking after the performance.



Scott's Breaktime at Conenant

Pitch Pipes Not Guaranteed Forever

(from Update, Aug. 1996)

Picked up from an erroneous posting on the Harmonet, a notice was carried in *PROBEmoter* earlier this year to the effect that Master Key pitch pipes purchased through the Society carried a lifetime repair guarantee. This notice was reprinted in many chapter and district bulletins (including the *Blender*). As a result, the Wm. Kratt Co. has been flooded with used pipes for free repair—many rusted, corroded and ancient beyond belief.

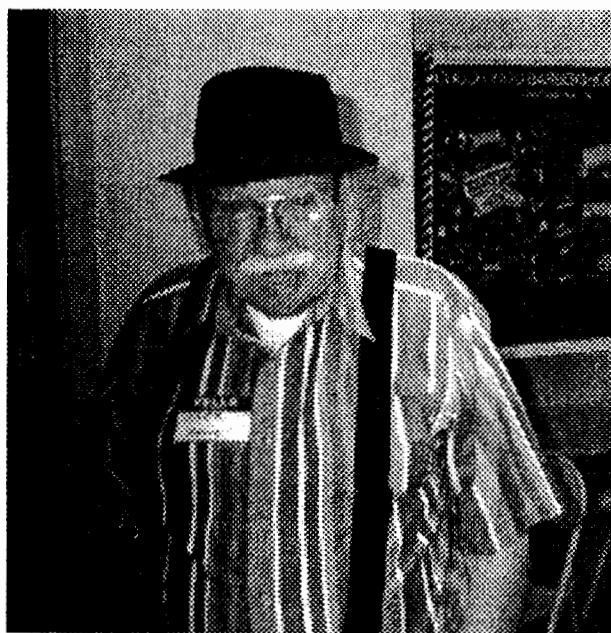
Master Key pitch pipes are *only* warranted to be free of defect upon purchase, and will be repaired or replaced free of charge on that basis—not after use. Always include a copy of your sales receipt with a returned pipe, whether to the Wm. Kratt Co. or to the Harmony Marketplace.

Choo Choo Chorus Entertains Life Care of America Employees

The chorus sang a twenty-five minute set at the headquarters of Life Care of America in Cleveland, Tennessee. The grounds of the headquarters were beautifully kept with flowers abounding. The 25 singers, dressed in their red formal coats, looked almost as colorful as the flowers. The Chorus sang two songs they rarely sing on the same program: *The Battle Hymn of the Republic* and Irving Berlin's *God Bless America*.

August Guests

Bob Lisenba
Greg Guinn
Dale Crawford
Joe Williams
Tony Fowler



Jack Moore Visits

On Monday August 12, guest night, charter member Jack Moore, the only continuous member since the founding of the Chattanooga chapter in 1963 paid the chapter a visit. Jack has been ill for some time, and it was good to see him. Chapter Historian David Reynolds introduced Jack to the new members and guests.

(Recipe from Covenant College)

Arizona Salad

One-half gallon Mayonnaise
One-half cup cooking sherry
Two drops Tobasco sauce
One-half cup wine vinegar
One-half cup honey (add more to taste)
1 teaspoon celery salt
1 cup sugar
1 teaspoon garlic salt
2 teaspoons lemon juice
15 pounds broccoli
Cooked bacon
Sunflower seeds
Raisins
Mix in with broccoli

Beauty Pageant

by Pete Jones
Equipment Manager

The lady that chaired this project, Pat Dooley, said it was a scholarship pageant, not a beauty pageant. Miss Hamilton County, that is. There was beauty involved and talent and intellect and a good chunk of money to the winner—\$4,000 as a matter of fact. As for us we didn't sing very much, two songs, but we did stand a lot and looked good while doing it!

We wore Red, White and Blue—patriotic y'know. That's what got the whole thing started; she wanted to use our big flag for a backdrop. Then she wanted to know if we could sing on the show. Well you know us, anything for some ladies. We said sure. We just didn't get enough singing time to satisfy our longing and to show our stuff.



Guest Night

The second guest night of the year was observed Monday August 12. It was a fun night. Guest booklets were in every seat with songs and a program in it. Acting Program Vice-President Larry Huber emceed the event. President Keegan welcomed the guests. David Collins led the chorus in *The Old Songs* and warm-up. Director Paul Blazek taught a tag to *Wait Till the Sun Shines Nellie*. At break the Choo Choo Belles had quite a spread of goodies for the men to enjoy. The Belles requested *Darkness On The Delta* by the chorus. Tag teacher extraordinaire Claude Walker taught two beautiful tags. The Harrison Bay Harmonizer and Rock City Four sang a couple of numbers, along with a pick-up quartet consisting of Paul Blazek; bass, Bernard Peek; lead, Johnny Jackson; bari and Dan Bruns; tenor.

Quick Way to Check Hotel Bills

(from "How to do Everything Right" *Bottom Line/Personal*)

Adjust the amount of the tips so every item that's added to the bill ends with the same digit. Example: Tip odd amounts to have the bills for all meals end with the numeral six. It takes only a moment to skim the list for items that don't end in six, and thus don't belong on your bill. The odds of an accidental six occurring on the bill are nine-to-one in favor of the traveler.

Happy Birthday

(from several bulletins including Rock Valley Ramblings, editor David Heitzman, Milton, Wisconsin)

Most people are startled to learn that *Happy Birthday to You* is still in copyright. In fact, it will be until 2010.

The song was written by two sisters, Patty Smith (lyrics) and Mildred Hill (melody), kindergarten teachers in Louisville in the 1890s. They believed in songs as an educational tool and published a Sunday school book of songs in 1893.

One of the songs was *Good Morning to All* to be sung by teachers to their pupils. The tune was the melody that has become immortal. The sisters tinkered with the song over the years. One version was *Good Morning Dear Teacher*, but the one destined for fame was *Happy Birthday* in 1935.

The annual income from the song approaches six figures. It all goes to the Hill Foundation in Chicago for children's education. The copyright is now held by Summy-Birchard Co. of Princeton, NJ. They inherited it from Clayton Summy, a Chicago piano teacher who published the sisters' work.

Mildred died in 1916 and Patty in 1946, but their song goes on and the money rolls in.

Cohan Medley

(from Rock Valley Ramblings, David Heitzman, editor, Milton, Wisconsin)

Recently Dennis Rohrs, well-educated lead and world traveler, mentioned during a sectional that the reference in *I'm a Yankee Doodle Dandy* to going to London to ride the ponies was literal. Seems in the musical Johnny Jones was an American jockey who went to England to ride in the Derby. Or Darby. Or whatever.

Expanding on that, according to the video I borrowed from the Janesville Public Library a few weeks ago (and I don't know how factual it was), both *Yankee Doodle* and *Give My Regards to Broadway* were part of Cohan's very first musical. Remember that once early on in our exposure to the medley we observed that the text of *Give My Regards* did not seem to fit the upbeat tempo? Well, the sequence in the video for the tempos was the opposite of our arrangement. The story line is that Jones loses the race so badly that he is accused of throwing it. He must stay in England to clear his name but goes down to the dock to see off a friend who is returning to America. Jones first sings *Give My Regards* while he is in his down mood and does it in a slow tempo. Then, after the ship sails but before Jones even leaves the dock (isn't make-believe simple?), his friend signals from shipboard that he has discovered evidence that another passenger is to blame for the results of the race. This obviously brightens Jones' mood, so the reprise is sung with a fast tempo.

I recommend watching the movie to gain some flavor about Cohan specifically and the theater of the time in general. Most of the songs in the medley are also in the movie. Maybe somebody could read the book and tell us where the liberties were taken. I can report that Cohan was actually born on July 3 rather than July 4. But the Fourth made for a better legend, so what the heck!



(From Page 7 column 2)

the word DIX which means TEN. It was the most popular of these notes and in time was called "Dixie". The bank became known as the bank of "dixies" and little by little the south was nicknamed the "land of the dixies".

Still another tells us that a kindly slave owner named Dixie in New York, sold his slaves to a southern cotton planter, when slavery was forbidden in the North. His former slaves talked so much of "Dixieland" where they had been happy, that it came to be regarded as a sort of paradise. When D. D. Emmett wrote this Minstrel song in 1859 he may not have known that "Dixieland" was in the North, or he may have thought the song would have appeal if it was placed "way down south in de land ob cotton". At any rate nowadays when we speak of "Dixie" we are referring to the South.

So the next time you are queried, or in December when you get across the "Pond" and you're approached by some Bloke who asks, "I say ol chap, just what the deuce is Dixie?" You can tell him with southern pride, "Wall muh momma didn't raise no fool cuz we'uns gotta edge-ah-mah-kation. If'n you'uns hanker to know. Wall this be the dang scoop, yuh heah! You'all listen up cuz you and your'n sure do talk funny. Kaint even speak real English, I reckon. In the beginning He all kree-ated Al-ah-bam-ah..."



The Last Word...

by Barry Owens
editor

It is great not to have many last words. In the past much of the *Blender* has been my words, and I am not all that exciting! In this issue notice all of the different bylines. That's a sign of a healthy, vibrant chapter. It ensures that we are doing the "P" in SPEBSQSA!

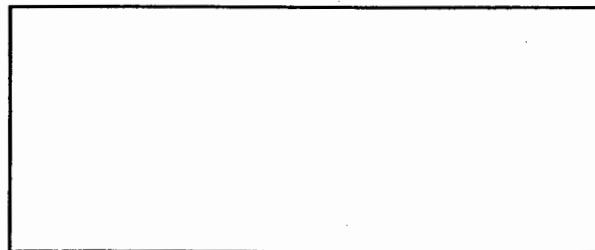
The 1996 Leadership Team Serving The Chapter

President	Tom Keegan	(423) 756-5660
Music Vice President	Fred Jesse	(706) 375-5935
Membership Vice President	Dave Abercrombie	(423) 886-1588
Program Vice President	Johnny Jackson	(423) 892-8317
Publicity Vice President	David Collins	(423) 875-5533
Secretary	Dave Reynolds	(423) 875-2674
Assistant Secretary	Earle Fraser	(423) 892-7630
Treasurer	Bernard Wheeler	(706) 638-4013
Assistant Treasurer	Johnny Jackson	(423) 892-8317
Board Members At Large	Bernard Peek	(706) 398-3104
	C. W. Wall	(706) 820-0579
	Lamar Smith	(706) 866-2481
Bulletin Editor	Barry Owens	(706) 891-9501
Business Manager	Steve Grubb	(706) 861-6171
Heartspring Chair	Bob Stansbury	(423) 894-7760
Director	Paul Blazek	(423) 870-9832
Assistant Directors	Ron Weaver	(423) 476-3200
	C. W. Wall	(706) 820-0579
Equipment Manager	Pete Jones	(706) 861-2113
Choo Choo Belles President	Nancy Owens	(706) 891-9501

The Blender

*The official newsletter of the Chattanooga Chapter of
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of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America*

Barry Owens, Editor
Chattanooga Choo Choo Chapter
247 Morris Drive
Ringgold, GA 30736





The Blender



October 1996

Volume 5 Number 10

The Official Publication of the Chattanooga Chapter of
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Chattanooga, Tennessee Dixie District

It's None of My Business

by Steve Grubb
Business Manager



By the time you read this, we will have done our best on the stage in Knoxville, TN. I trust we will again be among the 10 best choruses in Dixie District! That fact is a real nice selling point when I speak to someone who wants the chorus to perform...we are one of Dixie's finest. Of course that is true regardless of how a panel of judges score our ability to sell a song. This is a GREAT chapter to be associated with.

The list of gigs for October has not changed. The dress for October 26 is red coat, black tie, etc. This is per the secretaries' request. Times have not changed for 10/12, 10/19, 10/20 or 10/26. We may be adding a church sing-out for 10/27...if a director is available. Listen for more information at a chapter meeting. Two of these gigs are paid and that always makes our treasurer smile broadly. November is filling up quickly, and the December program will be on us before we know it. If you have a church gig, let me know real

soon or we may miss you this year. And of course, we have that little commitment in London.

Our plans are coming together for our trip very rapidly. If you have not, please return the completed and signed Travel Insurance form to me ASAP. By October 14, a list must be compiled and sent to London of all those traveling. I will begin collecting names and dates of birth at our meeting on October 7. Please provide me with the name as it appears on the passport for yourself and all those going with you. The list must be alphabetized, placed on a disk and sent to England. If your name is on the list, you are committed to traveling with us. More names may be added up to November 15 (the date for the final payment). Remember our treasurer needs final payment of \$900.00 per person by November 4. I will accept a personal check up to the meeting on October 28. If you plan to pay off the balance at our November 4 meeting, you must pay in the form of a CASHIER'S CHECK OR CASH. All payments must be in to me by Monday, November 4,

(Continued on page 12)

Members:

Notice the enclosed

- * Minutes of the Board Meeting
- * Treasurer's Report

*The Chattanooga chapter of
The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America
meets Monday evenings, 7:00 at All Saints Academy, 310 East Eighth Street, Chattanooga, TN*

Ferd's Words

by Fred Jesse
Music VP



Again it is before the contest that I write, but after the contest when you read. Maybe our Blender should issue in the middle of the month to include comments about our efforts in activities like contests and shows. Editor Barry, take note. Our Christmas show

is the first week of December, for example.

Christmas. It's not that far away. Again we will have our Christmas show at the Fine Arts Center. We'll need lots of help. Dig out your Christmas music, brush up on it. don't rely on our Monday nights to do that for you. Our Christmas repertoire is listed elsewhere. Check it out. Most of these will only need refreshing in your memory. New music will be given to new members since last Christmas show.

The repertoire list also includes our other songs that we sing on our church performances and in our sing-out packages. We will try to do two or three of them every week to keep them fresh. We would do well to practice them as if we are performing. We need the emotion and faces each time we sing them so it seems unnatural without.

There is another reason for the list. It is to show to our customers that we are well-rounded and can give them a performance worthy of our \$300 fee. The folks in London would like to know, as well as the business and professional ladies who visited our meeting several weeks ago. With this variety of music we are more employable.

The rest of this year will be busy. Most of October is full. November is to prepare for Christmas. December is to prepare for —London! Are you excited? I am! I expect this to be the highpoint of my barbershopping life. How about you? It's not too late to sign up!

Here's a Prescription for the Care and Feeding of Joe Barbershopper

by George Bloomfield
PROBE VP-Pr

(stolen from *Derbytown Gazette*, Akron Chapter)

The chapter p.r. officer and bulletin editor are the two chapter members charged with keeping the membership well-informed and in good health. And we all know that a well informed barbershopper is a happy one.

Here's an idea that many of the more successful chapters have adopted. Along with a regular chapter bulletin and continuous internal public relations program, the use of a weekly *Fact Sheet* has proved to be a very useful communications tool.

The *Fact Sheet* can be used to keep the membership informed about:

- The meeting schedule for that night.
- What songs will be worked on; if sectional rehearsals will be held, if a craft session will be held are there examples of what may be covered?
- Use it as a reminder of activities upcoming.
- Publish a schedule of upcoming performances, together with the uniform to be worn and travel instructions.
- An up-to-date report on any ailing members.

Basically, the weekly *Fact Sheet* should be used to communicate with the members between issues of the chapter bulletin.



And the Survey Says:

by Larry Huber
Program VP

Thanks to everyone who returned the program surveys. Below I have tabulated the results. The numbers may not all compute, as not everyone answered every question.

Time spent on:	Too much	Too Little	About Right
Warm-up	2	1	9
Contest Songs	4	3	6
Repertoire	0	11	1
Polecat Songs	1	7	4
Quarteting	1	8	3
Woodshedding	1	5	4
Break/Fellowship Time	4	1	6
Vocal Techniques	0	5	7
Business Meeting	4	0	8
Use of Plans/Agendas	0	5	5

I'll let you draw your own conclusions from the data. There were also many constructive comments directed toward specific areas of improvement. For the sake of space, let me paraphrase a few recommendations:

more sectional rehearsals, work on unit sound, record parts
need to work on woodshedding

- work more at home to save time rehearsing
- limit contest song practice to special nights
- spend more time on repertoire
- more variety (this was most often mentioned)
- more quarteting during meeting time
- keep business meetings planned and short

I promise you that your responses and comments will carry a lot of weight when the program and the music committee has its next meeting. Even though we are developing a stronger and more skilled chapter, there is always room for improvement, both in our singing and in the fun we can have at meetings. So...keep your suggestions coming!



Chatting With Chad

by Chad Newgaugh

Pretty good turn out at the "Belles" picnic. There was no need for anyone to go away hungry. One may have had to bend over pretty low to get to the chili, but so what? Everything was great! I guess there is a law of physics that states: "If your toast falls, it will land "Jam side down." This also applies to chili pots!

While we are on picnics, did you ever wonder about the ingenuity of the South? How about fried chicken and watermelon. It had to be a southerner who figured it out. After a "mess" of fried chicken, watermelon is just the ticket to get rid of the grease.

Can you believe it? Summer's gone! Fall sales are in full swing. Halloween must be close 'cause I've already seen Christmas displays—as if we aren't aging fast enough by ourselves. The retailers push every season before its time. Before you know it Lamar Green will be tucking us in for the "BIG SLEEP".

You know, those guys who leave their Christmas lights up all year aren't lazy, they're just smart!

Another reminder of the season is those small colleges prostituting themselves playing larger institutions of "learning" for BIG money. Ah...the pureness of "amateur/collegiate" sports....GO FOR THE BUCK! 'Bama and the Vols brought in the usual sacrificial lambs to carve up giving their fans a reason to salivate over another win.

There is truth to the definition of gross stupidity: What are 144 fans in one room? You got it "Gross Stupidity" (Baris: there are 144 in a gross.)

Could be why most 'Bama fans didn't know that their "lamb" was from Bowling Green, OHIO, not Kentucky. But who can blame them. Their geographical boundaries are limited to the Southeast conference. Now that the University of Alabama canceled its driver's education program, it's going to really diminish their horizons! What...You didn't hear? The mule died!

There was a problem at Neyland Stadium. They couldn't pronounce "UNLV" Most thought

it was a new Greek fraternity.

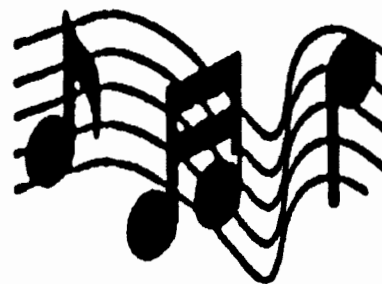
I heard a rumor that there is a bill being submitted to Congress to combine the states of Tennessee and Alabama. This would solve the problem of Alabama always wanting a Grand Ole Opry and Tennessee always wanting a winning football team.

One astute Tennessee fan mentioned to me "Will ya'll look who the Vols are playing wiff in thar sekund guy-um! UCLA! uh-klaw, you-slaw? Dang, those Greek names are gittin on my narves!! Why ain't they all playin southern names lah-k Dawgs, Rebels, Razorbacks, Gators and Semy-Holes." What can I tell you—144 football fans in the same room.

On September 21 the Gators arrived in Knoxville. If UTK fans had ever visited the Okefenokee Swamp the tour guides could have warned them. Gators find dogs a really delectable morsel. That is why they will not allow dogs on the tour boats. Gators have been known to charge the tour craft if they sense a dog is on board. Now you know why "Old Smokey" looked so nervous on the sidelines. He was in real peril in the first quarter.

I also heard that coach Spurrier had recently purchased a book from the Korean Kennel Club: *101 Ways to Wok your Dog.*

Didn't you think that viewing the past week of TV one didn't know which was worse...the repetitious political endorsements or the unrelentless UTK/GATOR hype. There was more verbiage than the second coming! Like the man said, "144 football fans.. same room"—in the rain!!



Chattanooga Choo Choo

Chorus Repertoire

Performance Songs

A Spoonful of Sugar
 Alexander's Ragtime Band
 Amazing Grace
 Battle Hymn of the Republic
 Chattanooga Choo Choo
 Darkness on the Delta
 Disney Medley
 Dixie
 Fun in Just One Lifetime
 God Bless America
 Heart of my Heart
 I Believe
 I Love To Laugh
 Keep the Whole World Singing
 Leaning on the Everlasting Arms
 Radio Ride the Railroad Tonight
 Shine On Me
 Simple Melody
 Sweet and Lovely
 Tag for Your Wife
 There a Meeting Here Tonight
 We Sing That They Shall Speak
 Welcome Back To Dixieland
 When There's Love at Home
 When You Wish Upon a Star

Christmas Songs

Angels We Have Heard On High
 Do You Hear What I Hear?
 Frosty the Snowman
 I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus
 Jingle Bell Rock
 Jingle Bells
 Let It Snow
 My Two Front Teeth
 O Come All Ye Faithful
 Silent Night
 The Christmas Song
 The Most Wonderful Time of the Year
 Twelve Days of Christmas
 We Want to Wish You A Merry Christmas
 White Christmas
 Winter Wonderland

Tuxedos

by Pat Crowe

Well shoot fire Bubba, didn't we all look real cityfied in them there duds? Swank-ee!!

Looking up the origin I found that in 1886 a group of young socialite gentlemen at the opening dance of the exclusive Tuxedo Park, NY Country Club, flaunted a new type of jacket, cut to their design. It has since become America's national costume for evening wear. Unwittingly, by eliminating the tails of a formal full dress coat and thus creating the "tuxedo", they imitated the word's origin. Tuxedo comes from the Algonquin Indian p'tauk-seet, "the bear", an animal, black and tail-less.

Well gol-lee, ain't that enough to slap your Ma-maw!!!

Belles' Business

by Nancy Owens
 President



Why take a thousand words to say nothing....I'll only take a hundred or so. Since I teach on Monday evenings this semester, the Belles have not met. As soon as the "guys" get their Christmas

show plans together, we'll have regular meetings to assist with that.

Thanks to all of you who inquired about my absence at Knoxville. Sally Wall brought me over some of C. W.'s magnificent roses and I really enjoyed them over the weekend. So even if I wasn't there to enjoy the camaraderie, I had a touch of the barbershoppers here at home. Until later.....(101 words!)

Coming Events

- Oct. 12 463rd Heavy Bombardment reunion at the Marriott Hotel. Dress: new tuxedos. Warm-up: 7:00 pm; Sing 7:30 pm
- Oct. 19 Boy Scouts of America (N. GA). Location: Shields Rod & Gun Club, Shields Lake, Chickamauga, GA. Dress: Blue chorus shirts, comfortable pants, light jacket recommended. Eat: 6:30 pm; Warm-up: 7:45 pm; Sing: 8:15 pm
- Oct. 20 Tyner United Methodist Church. Dress: new tuxedos. Warm-up: 6:30; Sing: 7:00 pm, ice cream supper after.
- Oct. 26 Professional Secretaries Assn. Trade Center. Dress: Red Coat, Black tie, etc. Warm-up: 7:45; Sing: 8:00 pm.
- Nov. 9 Senior group, Fairview Baptist Church
- Nov. 10 Eastview Methodist Church
- Nov. 15 Final payment for London
- Dec. 7 Christmas Show at UTC
- Dec. 26- London, England
- Jan. 3

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Nobody's Watching!

by Rob Ollett, PRO, Far Western District
(stolen from *Derbytown Gazette*, Akron Chapter)

As an officer in the Far Western District, I do my share of follow-up on dropped members. It occurs to me that nobody's watching within their own chapters. To be specific, a member skips chapter meeting and:

- The music director didn't notice the missing voice.
- The section leader didn't contact him.
- The music v.p. didn't notice the group was smaller.
- The membership v.p. notices, but doesn't call to find out "why".
- The chapter president didn't remember not seeing him.
- His "Man of Note" recruiter didn't call to inquire.
- His buddy on the risers didn't mention his absences.
- The secretary didn't report his dues weren't renewed.
- No board member at-large volunteered to call him.

No wonder he's gone—*nobody's watching!*

Do a favor for your district, your chapter and most of all, those buddies you don't want to lose: start watching!



A quartet celebrates in London, England!

Pros and Cons of Group Travel Tours

(from "How to do Everything Right"
Bottom Line/Personal)
submitted by Pat Crowe

Best reason to choose a package tour: Economy. Savings can amount to several hundred dollars per couple. The food and drink on chartered jets tends to be better than on commercial flights, but space is more cramped. Chartered air-conditioned buses between airports and train stations are a big convenience and eliminate the need for constant tipping in foreign currency. Warning: Chartered deluxe European express trains are pleasant but by no means express. They are frequently sidetracked for the real express trains.

Tours also save time on planning and organizing and are especially helpful to those who have not traveled to a country before or do not speak the language.

Minuses for package tours: Rushed sightseeing schedule. Be wary of promises of full American breakfasts. They're usually of poor quality. It's probably better to stick with a traditional roll and coffee in Europe.

Tip: Save coupon books for gourmet dinners at restaurants on special nights. Pay cash for light suppers when you're tired or have had a late lunch.

Best tour to pick: One sponsored by a local professional, cultural, or educational group. It usually assures you of finding compatible companions.



We're Not In Kansas Anymore, Toto!

by Paul Blazek
Musical Director

Our adventure in London started as we arrived at Gatwick Airport (about a 70 minute drive away from London). After passing through Immigration and Customs we arrived at our hotel, the Bloomsbury Park, about 10:45 AM. The rooms in our hotel were small but comfortable, having two twin beds or a double bed, desk and chair, sitting chair, wardrobe, and bathroom with shower or tub, depending on the room. There was a hair dryer in each room and a place in the bathroom that will take an American plug for an electric shaver. This outlet will not handle any larger appliance, so if you have hot curlers, curling iron, or something similar you will need to purchase a plug/voltage adapter so that you will be able to use your appliance on the 240V British system. Some rooms also have a pants press built into the wall, so your pants can have a fresh crease every morning. A tea/coffee maker was in every room.

We found it necessary to acquire local currency for small purchases, although most places take VISA/MasterCard/AMEX. The recommendation is to bring plastic and use it whenever possible, as the credit card companies give you a very favorable exchange rate. Otherwise, bring American Express Travelers' Cheques IN DOLLARS (not sterling) and find an AMEX office to exchange them. There was one just a short walk down the street from our hotel. There we could exchange the travelers' cheques without paying a commission 3 pounds).

Our lunch was "pub grub", a very common situation, since just about every public house serves food along with drink. I had cold poached salmon (delicious!) with hard crusty rolls and salad. Dessert was pear/almond tart with clotted cream (cream that has been beaten almost until it becomes butter, thick, bland and fairly dry). One great way to enjoy your trip overseas is to keep

an open mind about food. Just about anything deserves a taste before condemning it and looking for MacDonalds (ask Steve about the octopus). You might have trouble if you ask for iced tea, but most places can provide ice water or a soft drink with ice in it.

After lunch we rode with our host in his Jaguar to Wembley Hall, the site of three days of concerts in which we will participate. The hall is circular and will seat about 2,000 people. We will perform on steps set like risers at the front lip of the stage, which will extend out into the audience area. I think that some physical comedy or choreographed numbers will do very well in this venue. Also, you will need to order tickets for your spouse or guests.

When it was time to leave the concert hall and go back to the hotel, I mentioned a nap. Our hosts responded with a strong suggestion that I try to stay awake the rest of my first day, eat a light supper and go to bed early. This is the best way to help your system reset its clock and adjust to the time shift. We walked about four city blocks to a small fish shop and had fish and chips for supper. Whenever potatoes are part of a meal, count on getting a large portion; the British love potatoes. A word at this point about prices - 1 pound sterling equates to about US \$1.60, and prices seem to follow the rule that if you pay a dollar in the USA, count on paying a pound for it in the U.K. My dinner of fish and chips with an extra saveloy (sausage about 9 inches long and quite tasty) and can of Coke ran about 5 pounds, or about eight dollars.

Day two

The Continental breakfast (which is part of the package) was great. There was a large buffet table with peach halves, pineapple wedges, grapefruit segments, grapefruit and orange juice, sesame and wheat rolls, croissants, six different kinds of Kellogg cereals, sliced salami and luncheon ham, and sliced cheese. White or wheat toast was served fresh to the table, along with coffee, tea, or hot chocolate. For 2 pound extra (which will probably be available at that price when we get there)

you could get the English breakfast - all of the above and a large plate of eggs, bacon, link sausage, potatoes and tomatoes.

After breakfast we rode a taxi to Westminster Bridge, the starting point of the parade. A side note about taxis in London - "black cabs" (which aren't always black) are not cheap, and not easy on the nerves. The "oh god" handles are bright red and should be held firmly as soon as you get seated in the cab. These cabs are specially built, and they can make a U-turn on almost any street, no matter how narrow. Their drivers are trained and tested for their knowledge of the area, and well-paid. They will get you to your destination quickly and efficiently, if not calmly.

Our walk along the parade route took us past many famous landmarks of London. The parade will end near Piccadilly and the theatre district. Talk about serendipity (look it up if you need to, it's a good word) - "The Odd Couple" was playing, and the production starred Tony Randall and Jack Klugman. Our contact, David Gillespie, told me about the half-price ticket booth in Leicester Square and promised to tell us how to find it.

We finished our parade walking tour at the Red Lion, another pub. I had a pint of Guinness stout (dark, heavy ale) and tried "bangers and mash" - a delightful plate of Cumberland sausage (sort of like our smoked sausage) and mashed potatoes (about 3 cups) smothered in onion gravy with heaps of sliced onions. English mustard is strong and hot, and added just the right amount of sweat to my forehead. Price: about seven pounds.

Despite the worst blisters I have ever encountered (bring comfortable, NOT NEW, walking shoes), we hobbled down a few blocks to the Hard Rock Cafe in London, the original, celebrating its 25th anniversary year (special T-shirts available for 14 pounds). We then walked about two more blocks to the Underground station at Hyde Park Corner and rode the Tube to Leicester Square. Riding the Underground is sort of like riding the trains at Hartsfield Airport in Atlanta, only these trains are large and frequent. You still have to hang on during starts and stops, because acceleration and deceleration is pretty stiff. However, you

let you ride the Underground or the buses anywhere within zones 1 and 2 (just about anywhere a tourist would want to go within London proper). This was good for me, as it became very painful to walk anywhere.

At Leicester Square, we got off the Tube and went to the half-price ticket booth. There, we were able to purchase tickets for that night's performance of "The Odd Couple" for 15 pounds each. We then returned to the Underground and rode a train back to Holborn Station (about two blocks walk from the hotel).

That night, we ate dinner at a hotel near Marble Arch. The Great Cumberland Hotel Carvery served a buffet dinner for 17.50 (12.50 early bird special during the week) with prime rib, roast pork, roast lamb, turkey, hors d'oeuvres, cold foods and salads, soups and desserts. This was a great meal, and I was able to eat with my father- and mother-in-law, who were also in London on a cruise. After dinner, we rode the Tube back to Piccadilly to catch Tony and Jack in "The Odd Couple". Steve talked me into walking around to the stage door after the performance, and we were able to meet the two gentlemen and get their autographs. If only we had thought to bring the camera!

Day Three

The Continental breakfast was just as good, and I ate just as much. Our chauffeur picked us up at the hotel for a preview of the guided tours our group will experience at Windsor and Oxford. Windsor is the site of the famous castle, and a quaint English town with steep hills and many shops. A local merchant gave us some good advice: the steeper the hill (in other words, the closer to the castle), the steeper the price. This was true. You could walk another block or two and get the same item for a lower price at another shop. We walked around the town. However, we did not take the castle tour at this time since we wanted to experience it with the group. But, we browsed quite a few shops.

Lunch was at another pub. Pubs are unique in that they date back to a time when many people were illiterate. Therefore, to distinguish them-

selves from other pubs, the proprietors would paint symbols on the signs so that the patrons would recognize their favorite pubs even though they could not read. The names of the pubs still reflect these symbols—the Rose and Crown, the Red Lion, the Garden of Eden (you should see THIS sign). Chicken curry on saffron rice (6.50), Belgian apple flan (what we call Dutch apple pie) (2.00), chicken "burger" (fillet sandwich) and chips (3.95), Pepsi with ice (1.00), Heineken (2.00 per pint).

Our chauffeur then picked us up and drove us to Oxford, home of the famous university. We walked around the many shops and churches, and walked on to the university campus without taking the tour. If Alice in Wonderland is a favorite of yours, remember that Lewis Carroll (actually Reverend Charles Dodgson) was a math professor here. Alice's Shop is near the campus and features many unique items.

Our day ended with dinner at the hotel and some walking around the shops in the vicinity. Within a few minutes walk you will find chemist shops (pharmacies), news agents (news stands), pubs, gift shops, Italian and Indian restaurants, banks, bureaux de change (currency exchanges), American Express, a casino (for members only, fee 25.00), lingerie and electronics shops, and many other interesting places. Television is somewhat different in the U.K., although you will find many American shows being broadcast. There is cable TV in the rooms, but the selection is somewhat limited. Football (soccer) is a REALLY big sport, and the leagues are followed more closely than baseball in this country.

Day Four

Our trip to the airport was uneventful, though getting your luggage through the checkpoint involves X-rays and answering lot of questions for the nice security guards. I felt better knowing that they were extremely interested in making my flight safe, even if this caused me some slight inconvenience. Before you board your return flight, you might want to take advantage of the duty-free shops in the airport itself. Liquor, perfumes, cam-

eras and electronics, fashions, many items can be purchased and brought back duty-free. Be sure you understand Customs regulations as they apply to these purchases. Nine hours after takeoff, we were back on American soil.

There is still much to say about our trip. Feel free to ask either of us about our experiences. We are terribly excited about going back!

Last minute contest comments:

I can't say I was very happy about finishing twelfth in Knoxville, but there are some compensations. People who heard us singing in the hotel lobby said that they considered it the best sound coming from Chattanooga in years. They were right. I'm sorry that the process of arriving on stage was not as pleasant or as planned as it could have been. I am going to work with the Board and the Music Team to insure that these kind of circumstances never bother us again. In the meantime, keep your heads up; we are still the best Chattanooga Choo Choo Chorus that I can remember and we have a lot of good times and good performances ahead.

Reminders:

Applied for your passport?
 Measured your suitcases?
 Purchased your adapter (Check with Steve)?
 Thought about rain gear?
 Saved spending money?
 Read your brochure on Customs?
 Got a second job to pay for the trip?
 Checked on how to stop your mail?
 Made a mental note to stop your newspaper?
 Made a check list for important items?
 Made a list of questions you want answered?
 Listened when details of trip discussed?
 Read updates in the *Blender*?

Tipping Guide

(from "How to do Everything Right"

Bottom Line/Personal)

submitted by Pat Crowe

Restaurant tipping guidelines from restaurateurs Vincent Sardi (of Sardi's) and Tom Margittai (co-owner of the Four Seasons):

- Waiter: Fifteen percent of the bill (not including tax).
- Captain: Five percent. Note: If diner writes tip on the check, the waiter gets it all, unless the diner specifies how it is to be split. (Example: Waiter, \$5; captain, \$2.)
- Headwaiter who seats diners: Five dollars or \$10 or more at intervals for regular patrons. He should be tipped in cash.
- Sommelier: Ten percent of the wine selection or 5% if the wine is expensive. Two dollars or \$3 is a good tip.
- Bartender: One dollar minimum or 15% of check.
- Hatcheck: Fifty cents to \$1 per couple.
- Rest-room attendant: Fifty cents.
- Doorman (to get taxi): Fifty cents normally. One dollar in bad weather or rush hour.
- Other staff at a restaurant that is used regularly should be tipped once or twice a year. Hosts, switchboard operators (where the restaurant provides telephone service).
- Nightclubs: Headwaiter should get \$2 to \$10 per person, depending on the impression the party host wishes to make on his guests. (Higher tip usually ensures better service.)
- other tipping:
- Limousine service: Fifteen percent to the driver. If service charge is included in bill, tip an additional \$5.
- Hotels: Valet, room service, bartender, should get about 50 cents, depending on the amount and quality of service. Bellman: Fifty cents per bag. Chambermaid: One dollar per day.
- Sports arenas and racetracks: A \$5 tip to an usher will often give you and your guests access to unused reserved seats.

(From page 1, Grubb)

ing the money by November 15, 1996. NO EXCEPTIONS!!

We will have an itinerary by October 14. It should be similar to the one in last month's Blender. Our flight plans should be in by that date as well. We depart December 27 and return on January 3. Most likely, we will leave close to the time Paul and I went over (8:00 PM) and get back in the States late afternoon (5:00 PM). The flight is approximately an eight hour journey. There is a five hour time difference. Our flight will be on Delta and we land at Gatwick Airport. Two meals will be provided on the flight. Sleep is strongly suggested going over, as we will get to London early in the morning and spend the day in activities prior to retiring for the night. On the plane, time will pass more quickly with a crossword puzzle book, needlepoint piece, or a deck of cards. When we return home, you would be wise to allow yourself to "catch up" on January 4 by not planning any work activities if possible....you will be tired on your return.

Things will cost more in London. One pound is equivalent to \$1.60 at present. Thus a Coke for one pound will be \$1.60. A meal you would pay \$10.00 for here, you will pay ten pounds (\$16.00) in London. Daily spending will depend on each individual. The continental breakfast (croissants, rolls, butter, jams, lunch meats, cheese, cereal, juices, coffee, hot tea, fruit) will fill you up. If you choose, you may have the full breakfast for two pounds (\$3.20) more. This includes eggs and meat along with the usual fare. I would suggest carrying crackers, fruit, or snacks for lunch. The evening meal will be generous and quite filling. We, as a group, need to decide by October 14 how we wish to go for evening meals. YMOTW will provide the evening meal with a continental breakfast or a full breakfast and no evening meal....leaving us to explore and find our own cuisine each night. This is the recommended route to follow, if you can stand the cost. An evening meal can run anywhere from \$15.00 to \$75.00 depending on where you choose to eat. Every style

of food imaginable is within walking or underground distance of our hotel. We will discuss this and decide something soon.

Take the majority of your funds in American Express Traveler's checks. They have areas where you can exchange for pounds without a surcharge. Changing money at the local banks or "de change" buildings will bring with it a \$3.50 cost each time you exchange money. Your best bet is to charge as much as possible on Visa or Mastercard. This negates a surcharge and gets you the current charge at "pound" cost. Souvenirs are reasonable, but can be very costly if you so choose for them to be. Each person may have two pieces of luggage and one carry-on. Purchases over \$400.00 must be declared through Customs on your return to the United States. Pick up a brochure about this if you haven't already.

Service Merchandise will sell us a nice pack of adapters for \$14.97 each, if more than 12 agree to purchase them. This is a savings of \$3.00 a piece. You will need an adapter for any appliance (curling iron, camcorder, etc.) other than an electric razor. The hotel will provide a hair dryer for each room. Cable TV (SKY) is in each room, with local sports, three local channels, and three movie channels. Each room is individually heated. The temperature should be between 35 and 50 Fahrenheit. It will be windy, cold and rainy that time of year. Rain gear, hats and umbrellas would be a must. The New Year's Eve party is casual. We can attend a party at our hotel, get together with other adults at a designated area, or simply explore the local pubs of London for this evening. Going to Picadilly is an option for those who wish to. We will have a couple of free days to do with as each person sees fit. Our contact will set up excursions for us if we wish—shopping at Covent Garden, theatre in Soho, tours of London, whatever. We will discuss this and decide later.

I'm out of thoughts for now, Dr. Blazek's article should have more information and tidbits for you to consider. Please consider going with us if you are not already committed. We have 32 men going and want more along if possible. Those of

you who are "Special" travelers—flying over on your own or staying extra days—make sure you let me know this before October 14! I'm tremendously excited about this trip; if you have any questions and missed our report last week, ask me and I'll try to answer it. Come go with us if you can!!

Until next month Keep the Whole World Singing.

Politics and Ethics

by Dan Daily
SPEBSQSA Publications Editor

As you should know, Cannon 8 of the SPEBSQSA Code of Ethics prohibits the introduction of political issues into the affairs of the Society. In this political year, a few words of advice may be in order.

Quartets and choruses may perform at political activities, paid or unpaid, *only* if no reference is made to the Society. You may use your quartet or chorus name. No mention, however, may be made of your affiliation with SPEBSQSA.

Make sure that spokespersons refer to you simply as a "men's quartet or men's chorus." It is the responsibility of the performing group to see to this matter.



The Last Word...

by Barry Owens
editor

It was nice to receive the long awaited info about our upcoming London trip. At press time I have received only Steve Grubb's report, and a fine one it is! (Hold the presses! Paul just faxed his article to me!)

I am typing this column on Sunday afternoon, the day after our performance at Knoxville. It's hard for me to be upbeat after our 12th place finish, but I am trying. If you don't win, contests have a way to do this. To me, the judges seemed to be very hard on all of us: Just For Kicks, Harrison Bay Harmonizer, and the Chattanooga Choo Choo Chorus. But then again, I know little of such things. I just sing to entertain my audience and myself.

I choose to think that we haven't regressed. Rather, that many of the other choruses have made big improvements. There were several choruses that I thought would finish behind us before I heard them sing. However, after hearing them, I realized that they had greatly improved, and deserved their position.

I'm sure at our next music committee and board meeting we will discuss these issues, and maybe reassess some of our goals. That's one of the purposes of Larry Huber's survey. Are the goals of the membership the same as the leadership's goals? Are we on the same page? Why do members leave rehearsal at half-time? Would they rather be doing something else? These questions, I'm sure will be answered in due time.

Meanwhile, let's stay up-beat. We've had a great year so far, and more coming. Fred Jesse is right! The London trip will be the highlight of my barbershopping life (except maybe winning 1st place in the jamboree quartet years ago with the River Blenders and being chosen as our chapter's Barbershopper of the Year in 1991!)

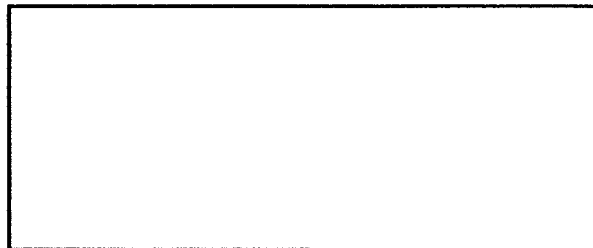
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The Blender

*The official newsletter of the Chattanooga Chapter of
The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement
of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America*

Barry Owens, Editor
Chattanooga Choo Choo Chapter
247 Morris Drive
Ringgold, GA 30736





The Blender



November 1996

Volume 5 Number 11

The Official Publication of the Chattanooga Chapter of
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Chattanooga, Tennessee Dixie District

It's None of My Business

by Steve Grubb
Business Manager

October was a busy month—two paid gigs, one freebie for the Boy Scouts and two church sing-outs. Thanks to everyone for supporting these events as you were able. Singing is what we're all about, and what I know we love to do! November is filling up (See gig dates in *Blender*) and December means the annual Christmas show. Good choruses stay busy, and we are living proof of this fact. Don't forget in late December we have that little trip across the pond to visit with our British friends.

Speaking of England, everyone should have seen our draft itinerary by now. The final itinerary will arrive by December 9. I hope the activities planned have maybe enticed someone to join us who hadn't planned on the trip earlier. Final payment must be turned in to me by Monday, November 4 (Today! !) in order to have all funds clear the bank for the transfer by November 15. Don't forget to order seating for your spouses/guests for our performance at Wembley Hall and the Parade itself. Wembley Gala seats are \$10.00 each and the Parade seats are \$20.00 each. These are reserved seats, so our families will have a bird's eye view of the chorus. Make checks payable to

(Continued on page 3, Column 1)

Ferd's Words

by Fred Jesse
Music VP

Christmas will soon be upon us and our Christmas Show even sooner than that. December 7 is just a month away. There is lots of Christmas music to review in our preparation. A repertoire was included in last month's *Blender*. Please get your music out and review it. We can't spend a lot of time learning old music.

We will have one new chorus number—*Do You Hear What I Hear*. It is an easily learned song that will get good audience response, and will become a standard chorus number from now on. If you would like to try the soloist part, please ask me. I would like a volunteer, but if we have no soloist, we have no song.

With just a few weeks, we need quartets who can sing one or two Christmas songs. Please let me know what you will sing so we can fit it into the program. The show will be similar to other years, that is, a story line and dialogue with actors

(Continued on page 5 Column 1)

Members:

Notice the enclosed

- * Minutes of the Board Meeting
- * Treasurer's Report

The Chattanooga chapter of
The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America
meets Monday evenings, 7:00 at All Saints Academy, 310 East Eighth Street, Chattanooga, TN

Barry Owens, editor
247 Morris Drive
Ringgold, GA 30736
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Chorus entertains bomber group

On Saturday evening October 12 the Choo Choo Chorus sang for the famous World War II 463rd Heavy Bombardment reunion at the Marriott Hotel. As always it was a pleasure to entertain these heroes. Without their sacrifice we might well be speaking German today. The dining room was full of ex-soldiers and their wives, a truly friendly audience. They joined us in the final chorus of *God Bless America*. The chorus looked spiffy in their new black tuxedos with purple ties and cummerbunds. The choreography for *Chattanooga Choo Choo* and *Back in Dixieland* was well received by our audience. The only thing missing on this Columbus Day was Stage II singing *Please Mr. Columbus!*

Boy Scout Jamboree Hears Barbershop

First of all, it was cold! The first taste of the coming winter lent itself to this gig. Saturday night October 19, the Choo Choo Chorus sang patriotic songs, including Dixie, The Battle Hymn of the Republic, God Bless America and the National Anthem, for the Cherokee Council at the annual Boy Scout Camporee. The Boy Scouts listened attentively to a solemn ceremony celebrating the native tribes from this area. Even though many of the youngsters were cold in their thin shirts, they gave us a warm welcome. Thanks goes to Pete Jones for letting the young boys hear barber-shop music, some for the first time. The Boy Scout leadership treated the chorus to a steak dinner in a perfect, tranquil setting of the lodge and lakes.

Proposed Officers and Board Composition for 1997

Tom Keegan	President
David Reynolds	Secretary
Lamar Owens	Treasurer
Benny Malone	Assistant Treasurer (not a Board Member)
Lamar Smith*	VP for Chapter Development
Lamar Smith	Membership Committee Chairman
Barry Owens	Publicity Committee Chairman
Barry Owens	Bulletin Editor
Steve Grubb	Business Manager & Marketing
Fred Jesse*	VP for Music & Performance
Fred Jesse	Music Committee Chairman
Larry Huber	Program Committee Chairman
TBA	Show Chairman (appointed by Fred Jesse)
Bernard Peek	Board Member at Large (1 year)
Rick Kulp	Board Member at Large (3 years)
Dick Bidwell	Board Member at Large (2 years)
Steve Grubb	Immediate Past President

* Board to be composed of 13 members. The two VPs would always chair the Music and Membership Committees. Because of doubling at two positions, (Immediate Past President/Business Manager and Publicity/Bulletin Editor) the 1997 Board will have 11 members.



(Business)

the chapter for these seats.

Let me give you some information about the activities planned for us while in London. Our half day tour of London will take us by the **Tower of London**, **St. Paul's Cathedral**, the **Tower Bridge**, the **Bank of England**, **Westminster Abbey**, **Hyde Park**, **Oxford Street**, **Buckingham Palace** with the changing of the Guard, **Harrod's Department Store**, and **Royal Albert Hall**. Our half day tour of **Windsor Castle** will allow us to visit the official residence of **Her Majesty the Queen**. This nine hundred year old edifice stands majestically over beautiful, rolling countryside. We will see **St. George's Chapel**, the burial site of ten sovereigns including Henry the VIII.

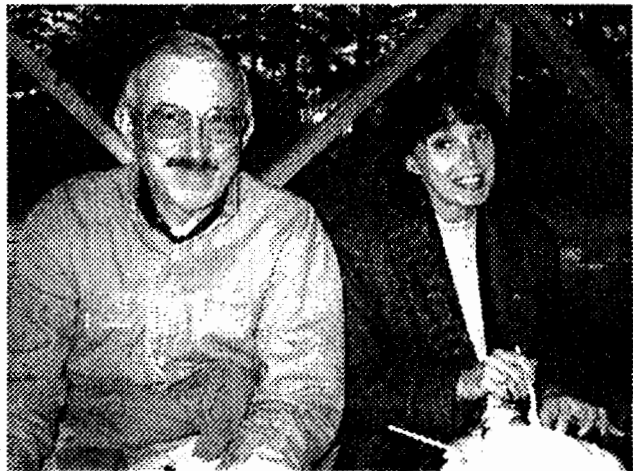
While at Oxford, the city of Dreaming Spires, we will visit **Oxford University**. This is the oldest university in Britain, and has educated many great men over the years, e.g. John Wesley, William Penn and Bill Clinton. From Oxford, we will travel to **Stratford on Avon** and see the birthplace of William Shakespeare. One evening we will cruise down the **River Thames**. This two and one-half hour cruise will take us downstream to Greenwich and upstream to **Lambeth**. We will pass the **Tower of London** and **House of Parliament**, both beautifully illuminated at night. All public areas are covered and heated, and come with a taped commentary on the sights of night time London. Another evening will be spent at the theatre district, **Soho** and **Covent Garden**. We will see a West End production, most likely "**Buddy**." This is the story of Buddy Holly, and is greatly praised as first rate. Time should permit another evening in Soho to see another production, if you so choose. Theatre in London is great—Trust me.

On New Year's Eve, we will be able to celebrate the new year with British flair. As an adult group, we may either sample the local atmosphere in a *traditional pub* or on the streets around **Parliament Square**, or attend one of the specially arranged functions either in our hotel or at a local restaurant. Dress for the evening should be semi-formal to casual, depending on where you choose

(Continued on page 7 Column 2)



Dick & Jeanne Hagar roughin' it with the scouts



Tom & Barbara Keegan too...



They're not!

For the Good of the Chapter

by Pat Crowe

Presentation: noun (1) the act of presenting, exhibition, performing, portrayal, show.

So—what is this all about? Look around you at our performances (surreptitiously, that is). When a quartet is out front, what is your presentation? How, as a chorus, are we performing? Are we showing or portraying professional courtesy? Or are we a distraction? It's been mentioned we have unconsciously upstaged the performers.

We should have a uniform stance; just (surreptitiously, that is) check it out. You'll find a number of different stances and postures are: hands at sides, hands behind, hands in front, hands in pockets, hands scratching, hands picking, arms crossed, slouching and unnecessarily moving.

Music committee, is stage presence covered in your discipline? If it is, please fine tune us. While I have the music committee's attention, did you notice the audience when Classic Harmony gave their medley of I'll Fly Away, etc.? They really perked up. We need to put the "spirit" in our program. At times it really drags. How about a couple of Gospel songs, foot stomping and rafter ringing that the audience could join in the second time through? Or would this be a mortal sin in the eyes of the home church in Kenosha, or lack of confidence on our part?

Coming Events

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| Nov. 9 | Parkway Baptist Temple
Eat at 4:00, Sing @ 6:00
Red Blazer Uniform |
| Nov. 10 | Eastview United Methodist Church
Warm-up @ 4:30, Sing @ 5:00
Eat after; Black Tuxedo |
| Nov. 15 | Final payment wired to London |
| Nov. 24 | First Nazarene Church
Warm-up @ 5:15, Sing @ 6:00 |
| Dec. 7 | Christmas Show at UTC |
| Dec. 26-
Jan. 3 | London, England |

Ahh, To Be Young Again!

by Larry Huber
Program VP

On Monday, October 21, the Chorus joined the Scenic City Chapter of Sweet Adelines International to conduct a workshop, "Lessons in Harmony" at Ridgeland High School for area choral groups. The workshop opened with choral demonstrations by the women and men, followed by a gang sing by the youth directed by our host, Dan Hanson of Ridgeland High School. Paul Blazek delivered an overview of barbershop harmony and the history of SPEBSQSA and Sweet Adelines, International.

The attendees were divided by gender, with Scenic City hosting the gals and Choo Choo working with the guys. Each group received instruction on basic vocal techniques, then learned a song and a tag. In addition, both groups learned their version of the Mickey Mouse tag.

The groups reconvened and performed their tags and songs. You could feel the excitement as each audience, in a spirit of friendly competition, overwhelmingly supported the performers. Afterward, the choruses performed a few more numbers, followed by Choo Choo's "Keep America Singing" and the entire crowd holding hands for Scenic City's "Harmonize the World."

While always leaving the crowd wanting more, lingerers were treated to refreshments and some dynamite singing by some regular and pick up quartets from the Choo Choo chorus. There's nothing like the enthusiasm of a young (and mostly female) audience to get our guys going!

Not only was a great time had by all, but Scenic City reported having two young visitors and a "mom" for their following night's rehearsal!



(Fred Jesse)

and music as scripted by Don Hausmann. This fellow is a valuable asset to our past Spring and Christmas shows. Please thank him.

Following Christmas is—London! I don't usually show or express real excitement about things, but down deep I am really feeling excited about this. When else can you trip off to London for a week with such a great group of people? This will be a welcome change for the usual holidays and the often occurring letdown immediately after. Be prepared, be flexible to accommodate the unexpected, and all of this adds to the excitement. The trip also adds to your Delta Frequent Flyer miles.

Let's make this Christmas season the best ever!

Tyner United Methodist

by Earle Fraser (member)

This was the fourth time we have performed for the Sunday evening services. I think the first church performance was at Tyner. There were 23 members of the chorus singing to a small but very appreciative audience. We were directed by the able and talented Clarence Wall. Paul was fighting the flu or cold bug and was unable to make it. The church songs in our repertoire which we performed were enthusiastically received, and the applause was an indication of approval.

The Rock City 4 and the Harrison Bay Harmonizers quartets helped to make this engagement successful.

The ice cream and refreshments were enjoyed by the chorus in the fellowship hall. The chorus performed some of our barbershop songs for the audience and the quartets pitched in to give a 45 minute performance.

A love offering was received and we were asked to come back next year.

Just Gettin' Started!

by Ron Weaver
Assistant Director

I want to break away from the form of my usual article to share with you some of my thoughts on the sing-out for the secretary's group at the Trade Center. To put to a word my thoughts on our performance—WOW!!! What a great time for all of us. There are no words to express the sight of 700 ladies rising to their feet to give us a standing ovation. What a thrill!

Gentlemen, I have been enjoying this hobby for twenty years now; I have sang with some of the most popular and famous barbershoppers in our society; I have seen some of the greatest performances put on by champion choruses and quartets; I have been lucky enough to share a "Gold Medal" with our current college champs, but none of these match the feeling I had standing in front of this chorus that night!

How many of you remember the sound of the applause when we went into the step move in our opening number? Or how about that dead silence between our last note in *I Believe* and the applause that followed? I knew right then and there it was going to be a special night.

I want to thank each and every one of you for making that a night I know I'll never forget. You're are a great bunch of guys and I'm proud to be a member of the Choo Choo Chorus! And it just goes to show that even under what could be considered adverse conditions you men rose to the challenge.

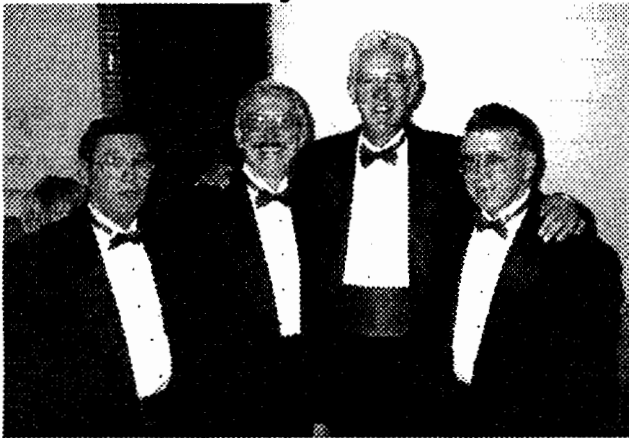
Thanks again for sharing that special experience with me, and I know there will be many more to come. And above all remember—We're Just Gettin' Started!



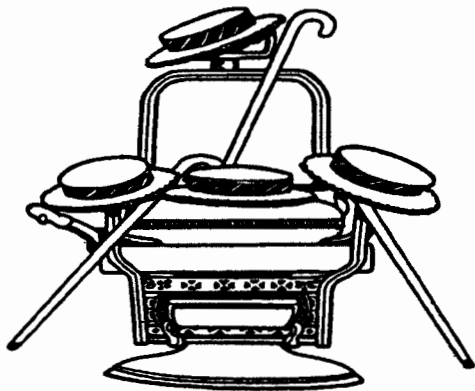
Oakwood Baptist Enjoys Chorus

The Choo Choo Chorus presented an evening service of sacred music on Sunday Oct. 27 at the Oakwood Baptist Church. Paul Blazek lead the chorus through its paces for an appreciative audience. Members Brooks Gist and Benny Malone arranged the performance, and an offering was taken for Heartspring. Rock City 4 and Harrison Bay Harmonizers performed two beautiful songs. Harrison Bay Harmonizer tenor Benny Malone, anxiously awaited lead Tom Keegan to arrive from out of town, and he made it in the nick of time. The church really put on a feed for the chorus after the service in the fellowship hall.

Harrison Bay Harmonizers



Benny Malone, tenor; Tom Keegan, lead; Dick Hagar, bass; David Reynolds, bari



Secretaries Rave about the Choo Choo Chorus

On Saturday evening October 26 the Chorus entertained about 700 lovely ladies for the Professional Secretaries Association convention at the downtown Trade Center. They were a wonderful audience with many smiles, flash bulbs and much applause. Assistant Director Ron Weaver led the Chorus through their paces. We are very fortunate to have a back-up director with Ron's talent. Being unprepared to direct the chorus until the last minute, Ron truly showed his skills! The audience insisted on an encore and *Sweet and Lovely* was the perfect vehicle.

Earle's Church Hosts the Choo Choo Chorus

The Tyner Methodist Church held its annual ice cream social/church service/Choo Choo Chorus concert Sunday evening October 20. Even though they hear our songs every year, we keep getting invited back. We must be doing something right! Along with the chorus, four chapter quartets entertained the faithful: Harrison Bay Harmonizers, Rock City 4, Classic Harmony, and Just For Kicks. Thanks Earle Fraser for giving us the opportunity to spread barbershop harmony in your church!

Quartet Activity

Rock City 4

- 10/13 Prater's Mill Stroll
- 10/20 Ketner's Mill Stroll
- 10/20 Tyner United Methodist
Evening Service
- 10/27 Oakwood Baptist
Evening Service



Our Senior Members
Lloyd Gimber & Bill McKeehan



Bernard, Dave & Edgar at a gig!

Rock City 4



Dave Collins, bass; Randy Goff, bari; James Coulter, lead; Fred Jesse, tenor
Perhaps the busiest quartet

(Steve Grubb)

to celebrate the new year. Everyone will celebrate somewhere, because right outside our hotel is a pub that I know will be rocking that evening. Find a place to your liking and enjoy the evening.

We will be given a walking tour of London while there, which will allow you to get a feel for the area. London is a great town. The itinerary is such that we have a day to two days free to explore and discover London. Take advantage of this chance. Maybe tour the **Tower of London** and see the **Crown Jewels** (Cost app. \$20.00 per person), take in a **West End** show (cost app. \$20.00 per person), spend the day shopping in Covent Garden (Cost up to you), take a bus ride around London (Cost app. \$8.00 per person), eat **Fish & Chips** or **Bangers & Mash** in a local pub (Cost app. \$8.00 per person), or just relax and walk around. Our contact person will help with whatever arrangements we need to make, either as a group or individually.

Finally, let's talk performance. We will give at least two performances while in London. The first will be at **Wembley Hall**, along with the other participants, and the other will be at a special **invitational concert hosted by a London Mayor** for attending dignitaries at a designated venue. In addition, any other venue we are in that will allow spontaneous singing (cathedral, street corner, pub, etc.), I'm sure we'll be giving it a rip. Let's have a blast and show England what fun Barbershopping is! ! If able, we may even get to hook up with the chapter that meets in London. Paul has the number and we will attempt a rendezvous while in London. Limey, that would be great! ! !

Until next month, Keep the Whole World Singing.

BE A BARBERPOLE CAT

What Should The Blender Do?

(from *PROBE*, I think)

- **EDUCATE** all members (particularly the new members) by telling them the history and organization of the chapter, district and Society. Publish it in small doses and frequent intervals.
- **INFORM** all members of coming chapter events and district activities. Highlight all special events. Tell the members what committees are doing and announce the plan of the chapter board of directors. Inform the members of the president's policy.
- **PROMOTE** all chapter events and activities, publicize the activities of quartets and the chorus. Assist in promoting attendance and membership.
- **RECRUIT** prospective members into the chapter letting them know what the chapter is doing and how they can enjoy membership in its ranks.
- **RECOGNIZE** the contribution made by everyone who works for the chapter. Acknowledge the work of individuals, committees, quartets and choruses. Give recognition to the officers, committee chairmen and of the other men who have a job and do it. Remember to recognize members who serve the Society at district and international levels.
- **RECORD** all chapter activities for historical purposes. A loose-leaf binder of chapter bulletins provides the best possible chapter history.
- **ENCOURAGE** pride in our hobby and organization by calling attention to the caliber of

our programs and our participation in charitable functions. It should offer a medium by which to reach each member.

Chatting With Chad

by Chad Newgaugh

October 26 paid performance

I don't know what your feelings are, but I personally was very disappointed by the absence of some of the membership. Here we have an audience of over six hundred, and we get on the risers lacking the spirit or the confidence and wondering "What the heck is the program! Is the tail wagging the dog? Or where is the glorious leader?" With cellular phones, fax and plain old "Ma Bell", why are we not communicating?

I find it hard and sad to think it was a ball game. To think that some would prefer to watch a bunch of "overpaid, crotch scratching, conceited, spitting prima donnas." Their public image of self-centered greed and complete disrespect for fans, override the true meaning of sport.

I know sport is defined as a game contest or tournament. But on the other hand some of the synonyms of sport fit the fan. And what in this age of "Professional Athletics" sadly but truly describe him. Rodales Synonym Finder lists a multitude under the word sport. Among them are: butt, fool, ass, laughing stock, goat, dupe, chump, sap, schnook, boob, sucker, soft touch, push-over, dummy and stooge. And you wonder why these athletes get away with flaunting the laws i.e.: theft, rape, battery and even murder. I leave you with the initials of a favorite morning citrus beverage (baris, the first letter is O).

We'll be looking forward to seeing you at the next singout—sport!

The Quartet Connection

by Larry Huber

It doesn't take a rocket scientist to figure that quartets are not just the root of the Society, but the lifeblood of any chorus. Simply observing the correlation between the number of competitive quartets in a chorus like Stone Mountain and the level of performance of their chorus demonstrates this principle. Quartets are essential to chapter success because they:

- instill confidence in individual ability
- provide variety in show and chapter programming
- expand the outreach of the chapter through performances
- promote creativity and stage presence
- develop vocal leadership abilities in members

Based on these observations, your survey responses, and feedback from the Music Committee, it is my goal over the next year to support quarteting as the primary vehicle for reaching our target of B level chorus performance. Specifically, I would like to see 50% of our membership actively involved in a quartet. This means doubling the current number of active quartets. Further, I would like to have three quartets compete in the jamboree in Gatlinburg this spring.

Both of these targets can only be reached by encouraging each other to join quartets, receiving support and coaching from our veteran quarteters, and dedicating rehearsal time to quartet activity. If you have ideas for encouraging quarteting within our chapter, please do not hesitate to pass them along to me.

WANTED

Baritone seeks lead, tenor, and bass for new quartet. Goals are: perform in upcoming Christmas show, Singing Valentines, and compete in the Dixie District Quartet Jamboree. Strong preference for Tuesday night or weekend rehearsals. If interested, contact Larry Huber.



The Last Word...

by Barry Owens
editor

I regret that I didn't make the school singing gig and workshop in Rossville. As a first-year teacher, I find that my time is limited. Nobody told me in college that I would be working 12-15 hour days when I got a job!

I hope that I will be up to the job this next year (if I'm elected) as combined bulletin editor and public relations officer. It will be a daunting task. Fortunately I will not be the only PR person in the chapter—all of you are PR people, if not you should be. I find myself constantly promoting this great hobby of ours, not only to educate the public, but to preserve what O.C. started.

I would hate to think what my life would be like today without Nancy and barbershop. Sometimes it seems like I committed bigamy, marrying Nancy and barbershop. I'm glad she didn't make me choose.

This hobby goes far beyond singing in tune, making harmony. It is a way of life (and a good one) for many of us. One can become addicted; I know I need my fix, even on vacation. We are a family in most every sense of the word. I miss my brothers who have passed out of my life: Raulston, Bruce, Kieser, Songer, Stiencipher, Dabbs, Pounds, and Lumpkin.

Nancy and I are excited about the upcoming trip to London. We have our passports. I haven't flown in 35 years, so I am going to get a patch for airsickness, just in case. I understand that Wal-Mart sells ear plugs made for flying. They are suppose to help with the take-off and landing pressures. We are also doing a lot of walking so that we will be in shape for the expected walking tours of London. I'll also pack some Long-Johns because it is bound to be cold!

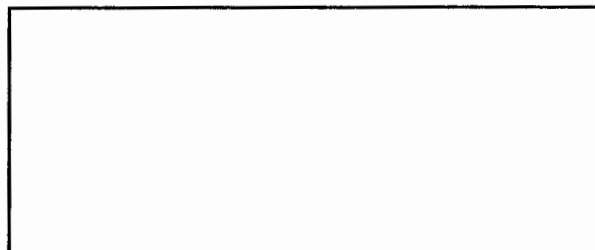
The 1996 Leadership Team Serving The Chapter

President	Tom Keegan	(423) 756-5660
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Membership Vice President	Dave Abercrombie	(423) 886-1588
Program Vice President	Larry Huber	(423) 339-1697
Publicity Vice President	David Collins	(423) 875-5533
Secretary	Dave Reynolds	(423) 875-2674
Assistant Secretary	Earle Fraser	(423) 892-7630
Treasurer	Bernard Wheeler	(706) 638-4013
Assistant Treasurer	Johnny Jackson	(423) 892-8317
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	C. W. Wall	(706) 820-0579
	Lamar Smith	(706) 866-2481
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Heartspring Chair	Bob Stansbury	(423) 894-7760
Director	Paul Blazek	(423) 870-9832
Assistant Directors	Ron Weaver	(423) 476-3200
	C. W. Wall	(706) 820-0579
Equipment Manager	Pete Jones	(706) 861-2113
Choo Choo Belles President	Nancy Owens	(706) 891-9501

The Blender

*The official newsletter of the Chattanooga Chapter of
The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement
of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America*

Barry Owens, Editor
Chattanooga Choo Choo Chapter
247 Morris Drive
Ringgold, GA 30736





The Blender



December 1996

Volume 5 Number 12

The Official Publication of the Chattanooga Chapter of
The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America
Chattanooga, Tennessee Dixie District



Chattanooga's Barber College circa 1936 at 1263 Market Street
(James Coulter's father is the first chair barber; his grandfather is standing in the isle)

See story inside!

Members:

Notice the enclosed:

* Christmas Card Addresses

*The Chattanooga chapter of
The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America
meets Monday evenings, 7:00 at All Saints Academy, 310 East Eighth Street, Chattanooga, TN*

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Barbershopping—More Than Music

by James Coulter



James and June Coulter

In 1924 Chattanooga's first barber college opened its doors at 1263 Market Street under the proprietorship of W. T. Evans, Sr., my grandfather. He had moved his family from West Frankfort, Illinois, where he was a coal miner.

The "College" was a big hit with Chattanooga not only for the services it provided, but the employment it also offered for young men eager to find a trade to follow. Men who came to the college were interviewed, and if accepted, were placed in one of three classifications: (1) Barber first-class and would occupy the first four chairs. Haircuts in this class were 15 cents, (2) Junior department would occupy the middle chairs. Haircuts in this class were 10 cents, (3) Apprentice class would occupy the back chairs. The price in this class was FREE. Customers getting haircuts in this class usually did not look in the mirror when

they left and if they didn't like it, you had no refund to return.

Prices during the middle 1920s were:

- Haircuts 15 cents
- Shave 15 cents
- Massage 15 cents
- Tonic 15 cents
- Shampoo 15 cents
- Shine 10 cents
- Facial 15 cents

You could get "the works" for \$1.00. Tipping was allowed but did not happen due to hard times. Well-to-do citizens would have their chauffeur park their limousines out front while they were getting a haircut.

Once a student graduated from apprentice to barber, he could move up front or seek employment at another shop in town, depending on a chair being available.

As usual, the barbershop was the place where all the latest gossip was heard, politics discussed or you name the subject and you would get it fully analyzed.

The college turned out many graduates and in 1932 my father, Buford Coulter had just married Mr. Evans' oldest daughter, Reba. During the "Great Depression" jobs were very scarce and being unemployed, my dad was given a job at the college and after a time had worked his way up to the number one chair as a barber (Marrying the owner's daughter has its privileges!).

My dad stayed at the college for several years before moving to the Read House Barbershop and eventually his own shop in the 1940s across from the East Lake Courts, where Mom became a licensed beautician. Together they operated Coulter's Barber & Beauty Shop. Their last move took them to 701 Dodds Avenue where they retired in 1981.

In addition to my grandfather and dad, our family also had two uncles and a son-in-law in the barber profession.

In recalling past memories of dad's career, these stand out:

- He held the record for most haircuts in one day—72. This record was never broken dur-

ing the eighteen-year span that college was open. Dad also made \$13 that day.

- The barber college was closed in 1942 due to the outbreak of World War II when most young men were in the Army. The college was then turned into a regular barber shop using the front chairs only.
- Ladies were customers too, their most requested styles were (1) shingle and (2) wind-blown.
- Ladies were not allowed to smoke in the shop.
- Worst customer—a 5 year-old kid did not want his hair cut and had to be held down while Dad cut his hair. After he got out of the chair he got in the floor and tried to stick his hair back on.
- First child, a son, James was born in the apartment over the barber college.

My grandfather closed the barber shop in 1950, going to work for his son until retirement several years later.

With this background, then adding the music, how could I help but not love this great hobby!!

London Bulletin

by Steve Grubb
Trip Organizer

On Thursday, December 5 at 7:00 at All Saints Academy an organizational meeting will be held. The time is getting short until we fly off across the ocean. I'm sure some of you have questions and concerns that need to be addressed. Make a list and bring them to the meeting. Anything I don't know I will try my best to find out.

We will receive a final itinerary a week or so before we fly out. Until then, the itinerary is tentative and subject to change.

I know that the excitement is building and also the anxiety. Just bear with us and soon everything will be in place and we'll be in London before you know it. See you Thursday!

We're Just Gettin' Started

by Ron Weaver
Assistant Director



I ask that before you read this article please refer to the Nov. - Dec. '96 issue of *The Harmonizer* (Voices in Harmony: More Keep America Singing).

This is probably the most difficult article I've written to date! It is bound to anger some, yet many can agree

this issue, no matter how painful, affects us all. Being a quartet man myself I remember certain jobs I walked away from knowing I (we) did not put out our best effort. Over the years I have come to realize that this does not only reflect on my personal or my quartet's talents but YOURS also.

Let me tell you when I first realized this. I had just finished singing a song with a quartet in the lobby of Memorial Auditorium (a traveling production of *The Music Man* had an former chapter member in its quartet) before a nice crowd. Upon exiting the auditorium I stood waiting for traffic to clear when a lady standing next to me congratulated me for a fine song. I thanked her and asked if she'd be interested in coming to our next show. She gave me an evasive "no" (I knew she must have liked musicals or she wouldn't have been there) and I quickly asked if she had ever seen one of our shows. She replied "no" and gave me an evasive look (she turned to her husband and he frowned at her). I knew there was something wrong.

I went ahead and offered them two tickets anyway, she graciously rejected the offer then I just asked what the problem was. She surprised me when she said that she contacted a quartet to sing at her church for a meeting. After a very 'professional' pitch by the contact man she hired the group. She felt that the job she received was sub-par. I explained that she should remember that we are not professionals. She replied the sales job she got lead her to believe differently. I thought

that maybe she just expected too much...then her husband added that several people never came back after that meeting. I was stunned by that!

I told them I couldn't apologize enough, if there was anything I could do to make it right, I would. I gave them my quartet card and told them my quartet wasn't great but, we'd do our best for them, no charge! Embarrassed, they took my card and I walked away. A month later the woman called, reintroduced herself, and asked to hire my quartet. I took the information and her number, called the guys, it was a go! A few weeks later we put on a thirty minute program for her group, she called the next day and told me how happy they were to have us! I felt the fence was mended!

Now if any of you think this is about you, I want you to know that I never meant to embarrass anyone, and okay, maybe I'm using poor judgment bringing this up but didn't we both? I don't want to look like I'm throwing stones. At the last contest I was in my quartet scored at a "C" level. So I really can't say a lot, except, I try to be very careful at the profile of jobs, I accept. I don't want to embarrass myself (or you)!

If your ego hasn't stopped you from reading so far, let me give you some pointers on how to tell where your group stands. First of all, CONTEST...if you practice hard enough to get there you're on the right track! See how you score, take the judges comments and build on them. If you like performing, you'll work hard. Second, go to school, DLHW or Harmony College or just get some coaching, even if it's a fellow barbershopper. Get someone to see your act. Third, BE REAL! Watch your audience! Do you have their attention, or are they going through the motions of politeness? Is that REAL applause or mercy applause? And did you get any job offers off the gig? Did they even call you back?

Remember it's better to be good and famous, than just famous! Three things can make you successful in this hobby: 1) TALENT (which can be developed) 2) KNOWLEDGE (If you're willing to learn) 3) COMMITMENT (this is something YOU solely can give). If this sounds like a lot, remember...We're Just Gettin' Started!

I Want To Thank...

- **Dave Abercrombie** for his professionalism in presenting barbershop.
- **Dick Bidwell** for becoming part of our chapter after moving to Chattanooga.
- **Matt Blazek** for his great portrayal as the Chattanooga Shoe Shine Boy!
- **Paul Blazek** for sharing his endless knowledge of barbershop talents and time.
- **Dan Bruns** for his great tenor voice.
- **Forrest Bugher** for sharing computer knowledge and abilities with the chapter.
- **David Collins** for being a part of Rock City 4 and hauling us around in his van.
- **Pat Crowe** for his assistance in Singing Valentines at Blue Cross. Keep the Canadian flag flying properly, Pat.
- **Edgar Dawson** for his humbleness after October 26.
- **Niles Fowler** for his untiring work behind the scenes.
- **Earle Fraser** for his maps and jokes, not necessarily in that order.
- **Lloyd Gimber** for his expertise in "footwear".
- **Brooks Gist** for his warm smile.
- **Randy Goff** for singing bari in Rock City 4.
- **Lamar Green** as "Digger", the last person to "let you down".
- **Michael Green** for the clean-cut image he gives to the lead section.
- **Steve Grubb** for his tireless efforts in promoting the London trip.
- **Dick Hagar** for his white socks.
- **Don Hausmann** for his dedication to barbershopping.
- **LeRoy Hobbs** for his denial of knowing Sam Jones.
- **Larry Huber** for his role as "Dopey".
- **Johnny Jackson** for being "The Face".
- **Fred Jesse** for being another part of Rock City 4 and his knowledge of turnip greens.
- **Pete Jones** for his time in hauling our risers.
- **Sam Jones** for his friendship.
- **Tom Keegan** for his willingness to spend

money on anything.

- **Rick Kulp** for his part in keeping the age level in balance in the chorus.
- **Benny Malone** for being a part of "Senior Class" and many talents.
- **Bill McKeehan** for his craftsmanship and hard work with show scenery.
- **Scott McKenzie** for being the original bass in Rock City 4.
- **Lamar Owens** for "Man of Note" #11, and his friendship.
- **Barry Owens** for his work as editor of Dixie's best chapter newsletter.
- **Bernard Peek** for his dedication to the chapter.
- **Charles Petty** for being a part of our great bass section.
- **David Reynolds** for being on of the "pillars" of our chapter.
- **Will Rogers** for his timid smile.
- **Bill Slack** for his leadership potential. (Say when, Bill)
- **Lamar Smith** for "Man of Note" #10 and his solid commitment to the chapter.
- **Bob Stansbury** for his knowledge of where to eat at conventions. For a small fee he will provide a computer print-out by city.
- **W. C. Strickland** for his gentlemanly role in the bass section.
- **Clarence Wall** for being a part of "Senior Class", and the trip to Jacksonville, Florida will always linger.
- **Ron Weaver** for "Man of Note" #6. A very talented person.
- **Bernard Wheeler** for his efforts to keep our chapter solvent.
- **Chuck Wilson**, a "shining" example as the perfect bari.
- **Walter Wright** for his outstanding choreography by lifting an eyebrow.

These thanks are well-deserved to each of you individually, and as a group, you are the BEST. I shall never forget my contact with each of you.

Your friend in Harmony,
James Coulter

Coming Events

- | | |
|----------|---|
| Dec. 7 | Christmas Show
at UTC Fine Arts Theatre |
| Dec. 7 | Afterglow and Christmas Party,
Clarion Hotel |
| Dec. 10 | Board Meeting, All Saints Academy |
| Dec. 17 | Rossville Middle School Teachers
Chattanooga Choo Choo |
| Dec. | Quartet performances at Rock City |
| Dec. 27- | London, England |
| Jan. 3 | |
| Jan. 11 | COTS in Atlanta |



Eastview United Methodist Church Host the Chorus

It was a long drive, but well worth it to the Choo Choo Chorus. The quaint, historic clapboard church was nestled in the trees, and it was packed for the Sunday night service. Bill McKeehan's church is right out of a picture postcard. Rock City 4 and Harrison Bay Harmonizers both shared the service with two songs each. Our sacred music program was enjoyed by the congregation, and a covered dish supper was served after the service. After dining the chorus sang some songs from their entertainment package.

Combating Air Travel Fatigue

Before takeoff:

Food and beverages. Eat and drink lightly for 24 hours before a flight. *Recommended:* Salads, fish, chicken, wine. *Avoid:* Liquor, bon-voyage parties.

Forty-eight hours before departure: Ask the airline for a special severe hypoglycemia (low blood sugar) in-flight meal. You will probably get a nice seafood salad from the first-class galley; even if you have an economy ticket. On boarding, remind the chief flight attendant about the special meal you ordered.

Clothes: Wear loose-fitting clothing. Bring slip-on shoes. *Reason:* Long hours of sitting can cause swelling of the legs and, especially, of the feet.

Women: If possible, plan a plane trip within 7 to 10 days after the onset of the menstrual cycle.

Medication: Take an adequate supply and a copy of your prescriptions. A note from your doctor can often avoid hassles with overzealous customs officials.

In the air:

Avoid consuming all the food and drink offered. Alcohol, nuts, soft drinks, and other foods that have empty calories can cause a swing from high to low blood sugar. You go from feeling great to feeling tired, cramped, and headachy.

Don't do important business work while flying. *Reason:* Decision-making and complicated paperwork add to an already increased stress level. *Better:* Accomplish as much as you can before departure. Aboard: Read non-demanding work-related material. *Preferred:* Relax by reading an absorbing book.

At your destination:

Changes of time, space, and place can cause a feeling of dislocation. Continue following the airborne guidelines of moderation suggested. Realize that your tolerance level for everything from decision-making to dining are below average while on a short trip abroad.

Source: Warren Levin, MD, and Howard Bezow,

MD, World Health Group, 5 World Trade Center,
New York 10048



Participation Is The Key

by Frank Ortega
editor, The Masters Voice
Foothill Cities Chapter

Are you a contributing member of your Chapter? You can evaluate your performance by examining this 10-point checklist:

- Attend every rehearsal. This is not always possible, but perfect attendance is a worthwhile objective.
- Set challenging goals for yourself and work with diligence and purpose to achieve musical excellence.
- Use a cassette recorder to practice and reinforce what you learn from week to week.
- Prepare and practice your music and choreography at home; give your best performance every week at rehearsal.
- Exercise self-discipline on the risers. If you want to talk, raise your hand, and, when recognized, let everyone hear and benefit from what you feel compelled to say.
- Participate in all contests, shows, and performances. Never refuse an opportunity to sing.
- Serve actively on at least one Chapter committee.
- Support your Chapter by reporting new ideas and making tasteful suggestions for improvement to the Board of Directors.
- Invite guests to rehearsals to see and hear the chorus. Then, follow up? It takes an average of three rehearsals to convince a guest to become a member.
- Write articles for your chapter bulletin.

Traveler's Security

(from "How to do Everything Right" *Bottom Line/Personal*)

Nothing puts a damper on a vacation faster than having your money stolen. *Basic Precautions:*

Keep only the amount of cash you will need for a day or two, and divide it up among family members. Keep the rest in traveler's checks. Never put all your cash or traveler's checks in one place or one pocket.

Leave credit cards you won't need at home.

Use a thin wallet, and put it in an inconspicuous place (never in your back pocket).

Don't drop off your room key at the hotel desk until you check out. If the hotel has a duplicate key for your room, tell them you want it. When you're at the pool or beach, put your key in your bathing suit, not on a chair or in your robe.

Burglar-proof your hotel room: (1) Ask the maid service to make up the room as early as possible. (2) Leave the TV or radio on and the do-not-disturb sign on the door.

Good place to hide things in the hotel room: Under the rug beneath the bed. If it's difficult to get to, it will also be difficult for the burglar.

Don't use a "pickproof" lock on hotel dresser drawers. That lets the burglar know precisely where your valuables are.

Do buy a travel lock to attach to your hotel room door. Cost: About \$12. Too many people have access to hotel keys.

As you leave the hotel room for dinner, insert a small piece of paper low down in the door. If it isn't still there when you return, it means that someone has entered the room. *What to do:* Go back and get someone from hotel security to enter the room first.



The Chorus Performs at Nazarene Church

The only thing missing in this performance was having James Coulter present. But, alas, he was ill. It was his mother's church, and she would have loved to have heard James' quartet Rock City 4 perform. The Harrison Bay Harmonizers stepped in and performed three songs to augment the Chattanooga Choo Choo Chorus. This November 24 performance was our last church performance of the year. The church not only took up a love offering for Heartspring, but fed the chorus as well.

Quartet Activity

Rock City 4

November

10 Eastview Methodist, evening service

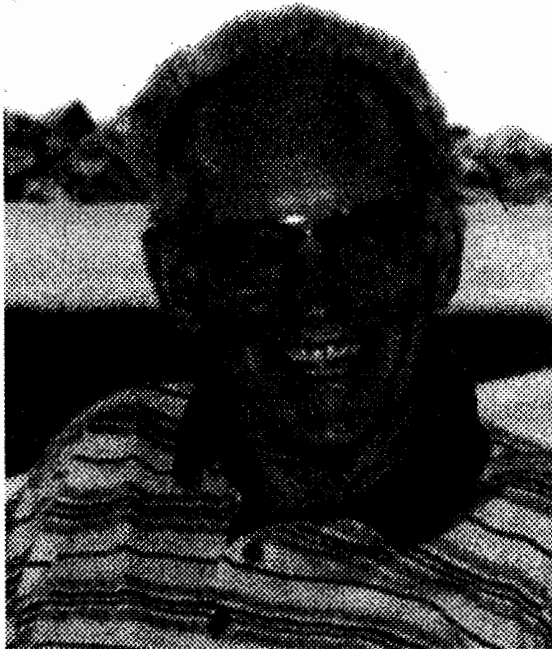
12 Hamilton Place Mall, Christmas

Welcome Santa

15 Rock City Gardens, Christmas stroll

Parkway Baptist Seniors Enjoy Barbershop

The senior's Thanksgiving dinner was the occasion, and Parkway Baptist Temple was the venue. The Saturday afternoon crowd was entertained by the Choo Choo Chorus with sacred and secular musical selections. Before the chorus sang they wrecked havoc on the buffet table—a big mistake letting this crew eat first! Niles Fowler's congregation was a great audience and the food was delicious!



Thanks To You!

by Niles Fowler

Many thanks to all of you who came to the Thanksgiving supper for the Golden Agers at Parkway Baptist Tabernacle on November 9. It meant so much to Sherry and myself to have such good participation and support. Words cannot thank you enough. We hope you agree with us that the reception given us was great.

They were amazed at the way we were dressed. One lady said we looked like big shots. Barry said to me later, "No, we just wear big coats!"

We were still hearing compliments Sunday morning telling us how much they enjoyed the singing. They were really impressed!

Buffet Bob ate nearly all of my turnip greens and I didn't get to take but a mouthful back home.

Thanks again. Hope we can do it again sometime.

**Merry
Christmas**

Belles' Business

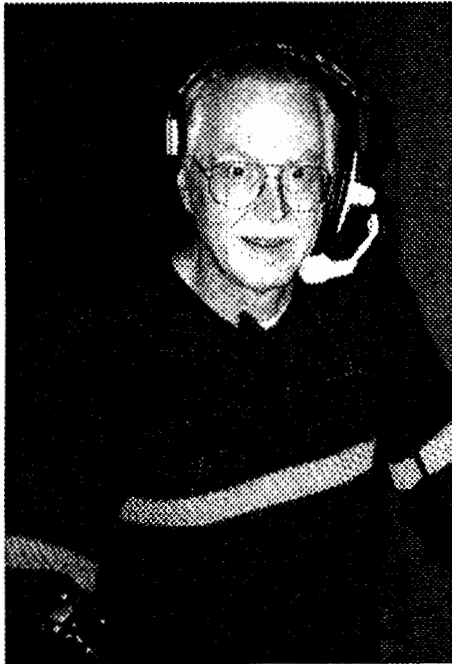
by Nancy Owens
Choo Choo Belles
President

Well, the excitement builds for those of who are going to London. We'll miss all of you who can not make the trip. Since several of our Belles are shutterbugs to the maxxxxx, we'll try to have a travelogue get-together afterwards to share our experiences with everyone.

Steve Grubb is holding a meeting of all London-bound persons on THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5 at 7:00. Afterwards, the Belles will meet for Christmas show planning. Please try to attend.

I hope each and every one of you have a safe and happy holiday season. Barry and I will be wishing you this in person at the after-glow/Christmas party/installation of officers affair, etc. In case no one else mentions it in the *Blender*, it will be at the Clarion Hotel, 407 Chestnut after the show (we have the whole restaurant) reserved. The official start-time is 10:00 p. m. The menu is: chilled assorted juices, fresh fruit, fluffy scrambled eggs, crisp bacon, sausage, ham, breakfast potatoes, cheese grits, French toast with maple syrup, biscuits and country gravy, coffee (regular and decaffeinated) and hot tea. Yum, Yum. Sounds good to me.....and not one of us has to cook or clean up the kitchen! Thanks to Larry Huber and his elf Jina Johnson!





Don Hausmann

Writer, Director, Producer, Stage Manager, Prompter, and Lighting Director of our Christmas show *There's No Place Like Home For The Holidays*.



Earle & Evelyn Fraser

The Last Word...

by Barry Owens
editor

The *Blender* is a little small this month because none of the officers wrote an article. Oh well, the smaller the *Blender*, the cheaper it is to print.

We, as a chapter, are on the verge of perhaps the most exciting time in our history. We are one of only two barbershop choruses to represent the United States in the largest parade in the world, larger now than the Macy's Thanksgiving parade, the London Parade.

I don't know about you, but Nancy and I are excited. I've been surfing the internet reading about London. History abounds there. Our British roots are deep, starting with Captain John Smith and Pocahontas.

This issue has a plethora of James Coulter articles. There is a reason for this. We are losing James to a barbershop chapter in Nebraska. James and June want and need to be closer to their children and grandchildren. Somehow the Chattanooga Choo Choo Chorus will survive this move. It will not be easy. James is the work horse of the chapter. James is not only a worker for our chapter, but has brought in more members than any person since I have been here. He and June have been supportive in so many ways it would be difficult to list them all. Our loss is Nebraska's gain.

Last month I made a boo boo (*e pluribus unum*). I listed our senior members as Bill Mc Keehan and Lloyd Gimber. Well, it seems that we have a very youthful-looking Earle Fraser between those two. My apologies Earle. Do you still get carded?

Nancy and I want to take this opportunity to wish each of you a safe and happy holiday season. Note the enclosed members' addresses for those who send Holiday Cards.

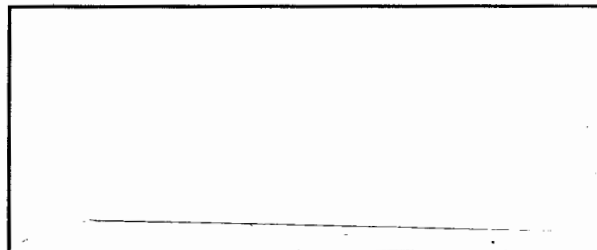
The 1996 Leadership Team Serving The Chapter

President	Tom Keegan	(423) 756-5660
Music Vice President	Fred Jesse	(706) 375-5935
Membership Vice President	Dave Abercrombie	(423) 886-1588
Program Vice President	Larry Huber	(423) 339-1697
Publicity Vice President	David Collins	(423) 875-5533
Secretary	Dave Reynolds	(423) 875-2674
Assistant Secretary	Earle Fraser	(423) 892-7630
Treasurer	Bernard Wheeler	(706) 638-4013
Assistant Treasurer	Johnny Jackson	(423) 892-8317
Board Members At Large	Bernard Peek	(706) 398-3104
	C. W. Wall	(706) 820-0579
	Lamar Smith	(706) 866-2481
Bulletin Editor	Barry Owens	(706) 891-9501
Business Manager	Steve Grubb	(706) 861-6171
Heartspring Chair	Bob Stansbury	(423) 894-7760
Director	Paul Blazek	(423) 870-9832
Assistant Directors	Ron Weaver	(423) 476-3200
	C. W. Wall	(706) 820-0579
Equipment Manager	Pete Jones	(706) 861-2113
Choo Choo Belles President	Nancy Owens	(706) 891-9501

The Blender

*The official newsletter of the Chattanooga Chapter of
The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement
of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America*

Barry Owens, Editor
Chattanooga Choo Choo Chapter
247 Morris Drive
Ringgold, GA 30736





The Blender



January 1997

Volume 6 Number 1

The Official Publication of the Chattanooga Chapter of
The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America
Chattanooga, Tennessee Dixie District

Chattanooga Choo Choo Chorus wows multitudes in London Parade

At twelve noon on New Year's Day the famous London Parade, the largest in the world, started at Westminster Bridge, London, England and ended at Berkeley Square. I don't know if any nightingales sang there, but the Chattanooga Choo Choo barbershop chorus certainly did. The old Glenn Miller song, *Chattanooga Choo Choo*, was sung at each station along the parade route: past the Houses of Parliament, Westminster Abbey, the statue of Winston Churchill, Scotland Yard, St. James' Park, Downing Street, Nelson's Column, Admiralty Arch, Piccadilly Circus and finally to Berkeley Square.

At each station the chorus was announced with the following: "The Chattanooga Choo Choo Chorus, under the direction of Mr. Paul Blazek, was chartered by the SPEBSQSA in 1962. It has received the Dixie District's achievement award for being the most active chapter in performing for audiences and has received the Barbershop Society's Gold Award for contributions to charity."

This parade was a week-long event, billed as "the greatest free show on earth". It's the only way to start the New Year...surrounded by clowns, cheerleaders and marching bands, and helping a

worthy charity in the bargain.

The barbershopper's wives sat in the VIP grandstands and enjoyed the parade performances of each entry.

The Chattanooga Choo Choo Chorus sang Sunday afternoon December 29, at Wembley Coliseum to an appreciative audience, receiving a standing ovation. The chorus sang three songs: *Chattanooga Choo Choo*, *When You Wish Upon A Star*, and *The Disney Medley*.

During our stay we were kept busy with sight-seeing excursions: a touring coach (bus) through downtown London, the Tower of London, Westminster, Oxford University, Stratford Upon Avon, Windsor Castle, etc.

A New Year's Eve party was arranged for the chorus and others at the Kingston Hotel. After a slow beginning the chorus members got the ball rolling with Paul Blazek leading a Conga line and

(continued on page 5 column 1 see Parade)

Members:

Notice the enclosed:
Treasurer's Report
Board Minutes

The Chattanooga chapter of
The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America
meets Monday evenings, 7:00 at All Saints Academy, 310 East Eighth Street, Chattanooga, TN

Barry Owens, editor
247 Morris Drive
Ringgold, GA 30736
706-891-9501 Home
706-891-1508 Fax
bowens@cdc.net

Ferd's Words

by Fred Jesse
Music VP

First, many kudos and plaudits to all on your invaluable help with the Christmas Show and Afterglow. For their extra effort, I would like to thank: The Choo Choo Belles for their in-front-of and behind the scenes help, Jina Johnson for arranging for the Afterglow and great location, Don Hausmann for his original script and stage managing, Barry and Nancy Owens for their layout and printing of flyers and programs, Niles Fowler and Pete Jones for their special attention to our sets and props, and to our "cast of thousands" whose individual participation made this show a fitting start to the Christmas season.

Second, and maybe it should have been first, I want to express my sincerest thanks to James Coulter for all he has done for our chorus, especially this year. Look around our meeting place. His influence is seen everywhere. The 1996 Barbershopper of the Year award was only one of the ways to show our appreciation. We, that is, the chorus, and The Rock City 4 will miss him, and it was certainly appropriate to sing for him and the chorus, *Who'll Take His Place When He's Gone*. James, our best wishes for you and June as you move to Omaha. Our loss is their gain.

Third, 1997 holds many good things in store. However, I need some feedback from you on your thoughts about our music program. What is your opinion? What do we need to do better? How can we help you enjoy this great hobby? Come see me with your suggestions.

Get With The Program

by Larry Huber
Program VP

I hope everyone has had a wonderful, relaxing vacation during the holidays! This will be especially important because it is:

- 5 weeks until Valentine's day
- 9 weeks until Spring Contest
- 15 weeks until the Spring Show (6 weeks after contest)

We will also have a guest night (tentatively) in January

This is a tight schedule! The question arises, "How do we get prepared for all this in time, and meet our goal of B-level performance, without practicing twice each week every week?" The answer is simple: Planning + Execution.

Planning

The board and the Music Committee (to which Program Chairman now reports) will be meeting in January to plan out our year. Time will be the biggest barrier to meeting our goals. Each program week will be meticulously planned (I promise!) in order to get the most improvement from every chorus member.

Execution

Talking is easy, doing is hard. To be successful, EVERYONE must be supportive of the plan. This means:

- Being on time
- Focusing on the music
- Paying attention to the director
- Attending every rehearsal possible

We plan to begin a taping program this year. Please pick up a tape recorder at an after Christmas sale, or buddy up with someone so that you have access to a recorder. This will be invaluable in helping each of us improve.

All Work and No Play....

The next 15 weeks will be hard, but that doesn't mean it can't be fun! And singing better is always more fun than singing poorly. It is my responsibility to provide programming that is inter-

(continued on page 7 column 2 see Huber)

Just Gettin' Started

by Ron Weaver
Assistant Director



Let's consider one of the less practiced facets of our hobby...listening! Yes as hard as it is to believe, to be successful in this craft you should be a good listener. Now I'm not just talking about standing in front of an audience and waiting for your quartet to turn a consonant or match a vowel, though these are important to listen for. What I am suggesting is active listening during all instruction of singing.

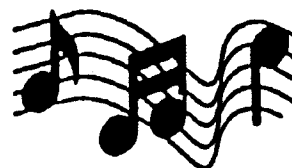
Whether the lead is singing a phrase a certain way, or the director is giving volume assignments, or a coach is explaining the importance of your gestures, listening to, understanding and implementing information is the key to growth and improving overall talent.

There are basically three types of listening:
1) **Inactive:** This is where you literally do not hear what's being said, due to other sounds or obstructions. 2) **Hearing:** You hear the words, but they aren't processed, or given thought. 3) **Active:** You hear what's being said, you process it, take extra time to reinforce it in your memory.

Sounds easy enough doesn't it? But consider for a minute that the brain can comprehend 500 words per minute, we speak informally at up to 250 wpm, speak publicly at about 125 wpm, and sing a ballad at about 60 wpm. If we are hearing conversation at 125 wpm and we're listening at 500 wpm, what does our brain do with all the extra time?

A good listener will use the extra time to reinforce all the information and process the facts into his memory. A poor listener lets his mind wander, loses concentration, and learns very little from information given. Poor listeners usually take several attempts to learn even a simple move or memorize their words and notes.

So please pay attention; do your best to listen to instructions, concentrate on directions and use your time wisely. And remember...We're Just Gettin' Started!



Happy New Year 1997



Time has come to say that last good-bye and as you read this, June and I will be in Omaha, Nebraska starting a new adventure. It won't take long to make new friends, get use to the colder climate, find out where the Omaha Chapter SPEBSQSA meets and settle in with my new job. These will happen quickly. What will take a long time will be the recalling of unforgettable

memories of chapter meetings, convention buddy sessions, work Saturdays and Committee meetings with a wonderful group of men. I will always remember you as my chapter, wherever I go.

I trust your trip to London was very special. I will read the *Blender* and keep up with your accomplishments in the days to come. Please give your 100% effort to Paul and his assistants as you strive to reach another level of performance.

My life has been richly blessed by knowing each of you. June and I will be in Indianapolis, Indiana this summer for the International Convention 6/29-7/6. Looking forward to catching up the latest.

Always your friend,
James Coulter
415 No. 118th Plaza #4
Omaha, Nebraska 68154

1997 Officers Sworn In

At the Christmas/Afterglow party at the Clarion Hotel on December 7, 1996 David Collins, Division 4 Vice-President, swore in the new leadership team for 1997. They are:

- **Tom Keegan**, President
- **Fred Jesse**, VP for Music & Performance and Music Committee Chairman
- **Lamar Smith**, VP for Chapter Development and Membership Chairman
- **Larry Huber**, Program Committee Chairman
- **Barry Owens**, Publicity Committee Chairman and Bulletin Editor
- **David Reynolds**, Secretary
- **Lamar Owens**, Treasurer
- **Bernard Peek**, 1 year Board Member at Large
- **Dick Bidwell**, 2 year Board Member at Large
- **Rick Kulp**, 3 year Board Member at Large
- **Steve Grubb**, Business Manager & Marketing

Let's give these men our support. If they ask for help, a chair for a committee, or be an assistant, give it to them! Most of these men will attend the Chapter Officers Training School in Atlanta on January 11-12. Starting this year all the chapter board of directors in the society will be re-vamped, streamlined. We wish them well!



Coming Events

Jan. 11-	COTS in Atlanta
Jan. 12	
Feb. 14	Singing Valentines
Mar. 14	Spring Contest, Gatlinburg
May 3	Spring Show

He Wins Again!

On Pearl Harbor Day, the night of our Christmas show James Coulter was honored once again as the Chattanooga Chapter's Barbershopper of the Year. It never gets old does it James? James joins our other workaholic, David Collins as the chapter's only three time winner of this prestigious honor. The only other multiple winner in the Chapter's history is two time winner Charlie Stanbery. James has only been in the chapter eight years, a remarkable feat!



Barbershop Arrangements Catalog Available Soon

from Update Nov. 1996

The 1997 edition of the *Barbershop Arrangements* catalog is on the press and will shortly be shipped to all chapter chorus directors and secretaries. A copy is also included in the registration kit for new quartets. As of December 1, 1996, the charge for single copies of arrangements will be \$.95 each. There is a 10 percent discount on orders of 40 or more copies of an arrangement.

**Report of the Treasurer of the Chattanooga Chapter of
Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop
Quartet Singing in America**

Month ending, November 30, 1996

Ending Balance on October 31, 1996	4,556.44
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Receipts

320	Performance Fees	
	Tyner Methodist, Professional Sec.	
	Oakwood Baptist, Eastview Meth.	587.83
340	Heartspring	213.00
350	Other Revenues Earned:	
350B	From Members	
	For Shirts	100.00
350C	From Quartets (For Wall of Fame)	150.00
Total		+1,050.83

Disbursements

401	Meeting Room	140.10
411	Travel to London for Director	680.00
421	Travel & Expense (Show)	259.61
432	Office Expense (Int.Tel., Wire Ser.)	65.00
433	Blender	105.50
434	Purchase of Music	48.50
450	Harmony Foundation	619.45
470	Misc. (Setting up new account)	100.00*
Total		-2,018.16

Balance on Hand November 30, 1996	3,589.11
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* Balance at American National Bank	100.00
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SPEBSQSA, Inc.
Chattanooga, Tennessee Chapter
Meeting of Board of Directors, December 17, 1996

Present			Absent	Guests
Tom Keegan	Fred Jesse	Larry Huber	D. Abercrombie	Barry Owens
C.W. Wall	David Reynolds	David Collins	Bernard Wheeler	Paul Blazek
	Lamar Smith		Steve Grubb	Randy Goff
			Bernard Peek	Lamar Owens

The meeting was called to order by President Keegan at 8:30 PM at the Chattanooga Choo Choo Complex after a chorus performance there.

Secretary: The minutes of the November 19, 1996 meeting are attached for consideration.

Treasurer: Wheeler submitted the written report, attached. A summary follows:

Previous Balance	\$4,556.44	Disbursed	\$2,018.16
Received	\$1,050.83	Balance	\$3,689.11

Heartspring Report: A check in the amount of \$1,150.00 was sent making a total of \$2,400.00 for the year. That accomplishes our goal of \$50 per member to attain the gold category among the chapters. Rock City 4 will probably receive the Funaddics trophy again this year for the largest contribution to Heartspring by a quartet.

Membership: Per Lamar Smith, a guest night will be scheduled for late Jan. 1997.

Music: Per Jesse, there will be a music committee meeting in early Jan. 1997 to select competition songs. UTC sold 81 tickets at the box office. UTC has billed the chapter for \$116, the balance for the hall rental.

Program: Huber reported that he will schedule a meeting with other officers to develop a more innovative program for each Monday night meeting. A small net profit was made on the show afterglow and Christmas party. Collins suggested that in place of the usual "let-down" following a major event (such as the London trip) the chorus should begin the new year with well-organized rehearsals for the spring Dixie District Contest, March 14-15 in Gatlinburg. The board members agreed.

Business Manager: No report.

Publicity: Per Collins, he spent \$312 to publicize the show. This produced a sale of 81 tickets at the box office. He questioned whether the ad expense was worthwhile.

Bulletin Editor: Owens questioned whether the expense of the Blender publishing was too high at about \$82 per issue. He usually prints 100 copies, hands out about 50 and mails copies to the absent members and selected others. The board members agreed that the Blender publishing was well worth the expenses.

Old Business

London Trip: Discussed a chapter-paid special meal during the London trip. No approval given.

Uniforms: Coulter has passed along information concerning the purchasing of uniforms and costumes for old and new members.

New Business

Christmas gifts for the chorus director and assistant directors: David Collins moved, seconded by Smith that the Business Manager be authorized to purchase a \$50 gift Certificate for the Chorus Director and \$25 gift certificates for the assistant directors. Passed.

Singing Valentines: James Coulter reported that Bob Stansbury had agreed to head-up the Singing Valentine program next year. Coulter has turned over his records and has thoroughly briefed Bob on procedures.

Building Security: After a discussion concerning the possession of keys to the meeting room at the All Saints facilities, Randy Goff volunteered to be the Building Manager with the official keys to the facilities. He usually arrives early for the Monday meeting. He will designate someone else to take care of that duty if he is going to be absent.

Retiring Board Members: Tom Keegan, on behalf of the board and the chapter members, thanked the retiring board members and officers for their contributions of their time and efforts during the year.

Adjourned at 8:55 PM

David Reynolds, Chapter Secretary

SPEBSQSA, Inc.
Chattanooga, Tennessee Chapter
Meeting of Board of Directors, November 19, 1996

Present			Absent	Guests
Steve Grubb	Fred Jesse	Larry Huber	D. Abercrombie	Barry Owens
Bernard Peek	David Reynolds	David Collins	Bernard Wheeler	Paul Blazek
Tom Keegan	Lamar Smith	C.W. Wall		

The meeting was called to order by President Keegan at 7:05 PM at All Saints Academy

Secretary: The minutes of the October 10, 1996 meeting were approved as read.

Treasurer: Wheeler submitted the written report, attached. A summary follows:

Previous Balance	\$4,484.31	Disbursed	\$470.87
Received	\$543.00	Balance	\$4,556.44

Keegan reported for Wheeler that a payment of approximately \$800.00 had been made to the Heartspring charity covering the third quarter of the year. Rock City 4 Quartet was given credit for their part of this payment.

Membership: No report.

Music: Per Jesse, Quartets to perform in the Christmas show have been assigned. He complimented Don Hausmann for the work he has done on the show script. Good progress is being made in the preparations for the show. The UTC auditorium has been reserved for May 7, 1997 for the spring show.

Program: Huber reported that the Clarion Hotel downtown will be the location of the Christmas show afterglow. Breakfast will be served in buffet style. Cost will be \$10.00 per person. The BOTY award will be made at that gathering, and the new officers for 1997 will be installed.

Business Manager: Chorus performance scheduled for Dec. 17 for the Rossville teachers at the Choo Choo.

Publicity: Per Collins, he will meet with the Entertainment editor of the Free-Press and try to get an article announcing the show. The board was in favor of putting a paid ad, with a picture of the chorus as an incentive. David will look into this.

Bulletin Editor: Owens will publish the Christmas card address list in the next Blender. The roster has been brought up-to-date by Forrest Bugher.

Old Business

Blazek and Grubb submitted an accounting for their expenses during their trip to London. Blazek's expense was \$113.00 and Grubb's was a similar amount. Huber moved for the chapter to reimburse them. Seconded by Wall. Passed.

London Trip: Grubb reported it was customary to give gifts to the Lord Mayors, two, and the "sub" Lord Mayor, a total of three gifts. Collins moved, seconded by Grubb that the Business Manager be authorized to spend up to \$72.50 on the three gifts. Passed.

New Business

There was a discussion concerning the security of the building during the Monday night meeting and other times. The board was in favor of installing a door bell at the entrance to All Saints Academy, and locking the door during the meeting. A member will be requested to secure and install a door bell.

Program Format: There was a discussion concerning the new format of having no break during the meeting until the last ten or fifteen minutes before the meeting is concluded. There have been complaints regarding this procedure. The board was in favor of continuing this procedure until a more "in depth" study can be made, considering chapter goals, etc.

Adjourned at 8:45 PM

David Reynolds, Chapter Secretary

Lyne to Head Society's Music Department

from *Update* Nov. 1996

Dr. Gregory K. Lyne has accepted the position of director of music education and services on the headquarters staff. He and his family will be moving from Arizona to Kenosha, and he will assume his new duties on or about February 1, 1997.

A highly regarded professor of choral studies at the university level, Lyne has been a Barbershopper for 35 years. He brings a wealth of talent and experience to the position as an arranger, judge, coach, quartet man and chorus director.

Greg's quartet activities include stepping in as baritone of the 1973 international champion Dealer's Choice when Brian Beck moved from Texas to California. Greg is but one of three men to direct two different choruses to an international championship—most recently, the 1996 champion Masters of Harmony.

(from page 1 Parade)

doing the Hokey Pokey. A good time was had by all! Lloyd Gimber was shamelessly flirting with all the single women.

After the parade the chorus re-assembled at a prestigious club in Whitehall for a final performance. Hot beverages were served to the chorus to help warm us up after a bitterly cold day.

On our last evening in London the chorus took a night cruise on the River Thames. It was a time of fellowship and rest. The cruise was not guided so we didn't know what we were seeing. But when given lemons, Lloyd decided to make lemonade: he started rocking and rolling with the teenagers aboard!

A good time was had by all on this historic trip for the Choo Choo Chorus. Many members are planning a return, but next time, in the summer!

Will The Real London Please Stand Up?

by Barry Owens

It was cold! It was very cold! That doesn't really adequately describe the weather, but that's the best I can do. They told us that the weather was a fluke; it rarely gets that cold. Even part of the Thames River froze.

It was quite a thrill being part of the largest parade in the world. The million people who watched the parade last year was kept down this year by the bitter weather. We were forewarned; dress warmly. However we couldn't dress warmly enough. The parade was great, but the two hour wait at the staging area was tough. I felt sorry for the cheerleaders and bands who had to brave to bitter cold.

London's personality is changing. On the corners where the pubs use to be, McDonalds and Burger King are taking over. There are still plenty of pubs, but they don't blend well with the hamburger chains.

And British food, where was it! I was hard-pressed to find a restaurant that specialized in English food (whatever that is). There were Italian, Indian Chinese, and American restaurants everywhere. Steve Grubb took Nancy and me to a great fish & chips working-class restaurant. It was great albeit a limited menu.

Where is the real British telly? Few of the channels featured a British cast. There were plenty of American movies and situation comedies (Sinfeld, Mad About You, etc.)

The buildings are there, but where is the real London?.



1996 Chorus Activities

01/25 Alexian Village
 02/05 Cancelled: Snow, and lots of it.
 02/12 Valentine Party
 03/07 Extra Rehearsal
 03/14 Extra Rehearsal
 03/15 Spring Convention, Gatlinburg
 03/23 Eastgate
 03/28 Extra Rehearsal
 04/11 Extra Rehearsal
 04/18 Extra Rehearsal
 04/25 Extra Rehearsal
 04/26 Red Bank Elementary School
 04/27 Motlow College
 05/02 Extra Rehearsal
 05/04 Spring Show: "A Salute to Disney's
 Favorite Songs" combined with
 Nashville at UTC Fine Arts Theater
 05/16 National Health Care, Fort Oglethorpe
 05/18 Spring Show at Nashville
 06/02 Cancer Survivor Day, Trade Center,
 Dalton
 06/17 Guest Night
 06/27 Hutcheson Medical Center
 07/04 Collegedale, July 4 Celebration
 08/01 Health Care Center, Cleveland
 08/02 Covenant College Coaching Session
 08/4 Jackson Family Reunion, Chickamauga
 08/10 Junior Miss America, UTC Fine Arts
 Center
 08/24 Picnic, TVA Picnic Grounds
 08/29 Extra Rehearsal
 09/05 Extra Rehearsal
 09/19 Extra Rehearsal
 09/23 Brainerd Baptist
 10/05 Fall Contest, Knoxville
 10/12 43rd Heavy Bombardment Squadron
 Reunion, Marriott
 10/19 Boy Scouts of America, Chickamauga
 10/20 Tyner United Methodist Church
 10/21 Ridgeland High School
 10/26 Professional Secretaries Assoc., Trade
 Center
 10/27 Oakwood Baptist Church
 11/07 Extra Rehearsal

11/09 Parkway Baptist Church: Seniors Group
 11/10 Eastview United Methodist Church
 11/14 Extra Rehearsal
 11/24 First Nazarene Church
 12/06 Extra Rehearsal
 12/07 Christmas Show: "There's No Place
 Like Home For The Holidays", UTC
 Fine Arts Center
 12/17 Rossville Middle School Teachers'
 Alumni: Chattanooga Choo Choo
 Complex
 12/27 Leave for London



Rossville Middle School Teachers Enjoy Chorus

On Tuesday Dec. 17, the Chattanooga Choo Choo Chorus treated the Rossville Middle School teachers with songs of the season at the Chattanooga Choo Choo Crystal Room. Buffet Bob Stansbury set the gig up. Bob graduated with the emcee a few years earlier. The Rock City 4 sang their "swan song" and The Harrison Bay Harmonizers added to the entertainment.

Quartet Performances

(not previously reported)

September

Harrison Bay Harmonizers

- 9/19 Parkridge Hospital
- 9/24 Hutcheson Medical Center, Kiwanis Club
- 9/28 George Black Wedding and Reception

Just For Kicks

- 9/7 Macon Georgia Show

Classic Harmony

- 9/6 Chattanooga Choo Choo
- 9/19 Trade Center
- 9/28 Georgia Farm Bureau, Dalton

October

Just for Kicks

- 10/4 Dixie District Contest, Knoxville
- 10/17 Special Olympics

Harrison Bay Harmonizers

- 10/5 Dixie District Seniors Contest, Knoxville
- 10/20 Color Cruise, Nickajack
- 10/20 Tyner United Methodist Church
- 10/24 Parkridge Hospital

November

Harrison Bay Harmonizers

- 11/3 First Lutheran Church, Cleveland
- 11/10 Home Center
- 11/21 Parkridge Hospital
- 11/22 Rock City Garden of Lights Channel 9 TV

December

Rock City 4

- 12/3 UTC vs Penn State, National Anthem
- 12/13 T. J. Snow Co., Christmas party
- 12/14 Professional Eye Assoc. Christmas party
- 12/20 Dr. Franklin Office, Christmas party
- 12/21 UTC vs Tennessee State, National Anthem

(from page 2 Huber)

esting and enjoyable. I need your help in two ways: If you have a program idea, pass it on; when we are trying something new (or at least new to me), put 100% into it - if it doesn't work out, definitely let me know afterward.

Let's go out and show the world how good a chorus we really are!



The Last Word...

by Barry Owens
editor

Man, who would have thought it after that Friday night rehearsal? We couldn't carry a tune in a bucket and didn't know the words to many of the songs. But come show time, much to Maestro Blazek's surprise we delivered one of our best Christmas shows ever! What a great job Don Hausmann did, a virtual one-man show! Writing, directing, producing...what else do you do Don?

How about that afterglow? Great wasn't it; not too long, plenty of good food and a great send-off to our beloved brother James Coulter.

As usual the Choo Choo Belles did a great job. Everything they touch turns to success! Hey you guys, don't forget little Jina Johnson, Nancy's secretary. On her own, without any orders at all, she obtained some wonderful door prizes for our patrons. Quartets, the next time you are in the vicinity of UTC go by and sing her a special song.

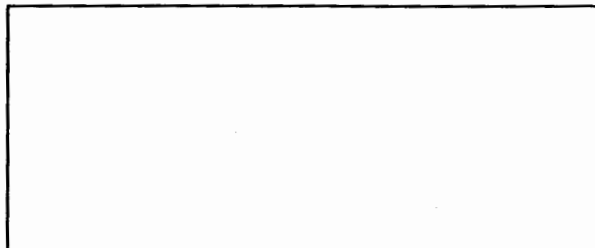
The 1997 Leadership Team Serving The Chapter

President	Tom Keegan	(423) 756-5660
VP for Music & Performance	Fred Jesse	(706) 375-5935
Music Committee Chairman	Fred Jesse	(706) 375-5935
VP for Chapter Development	Lamar Smith	(706) 866-2481
Membership Chairman	Lamar Smith	(706) 866-2481
Program Committee Chairman	Larry Huber	(423) 339-1697
Publicity Committee Chairman	Barry Owens	(706) 891-9501
Bulletin Editor	Barry Owens	(706) 891-9501
Secretary	Dave Reynolds	(423) 875-2674
Assistant Secretary	Earle Fraser	(423) 892-7630
Treasurer	Lamar Owens	(423) 894-8559
Assistant Treasurer	Benny Malone	(423) 344-9211
Board Member At Large (1 year)	Bernard Peek	(706) 398-3104
Board Member At Large (2 year)	Dick Bidwell	(423) 870-3196
Board Member At Large (3 year)	Rick Kulp	(423) 266-0758
Business Manager & Marketing	Steve Grubb	(706) 861-6171
Immediate Past President	Steve Grubb	(706) 861-6171
Heartspring Chairman	Bob Stansbury	(423) 894-7760
Director	Paul Blazek	(423) 870-9832
Assistant Director	Ron Weaver	(423) 476-3200
Assistant Director	C. W. Wall	(706) 820-0579
Equipment Manager	Pete Jones	(706) 861-2113
Choo Choo Belles President	Nancy Owens	(706) 891-9501

The Blender

*The official newsletter of the Chattanooga Chapter of
The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement
of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America*

Barry Owens, Editor
Chattanooga Choo Choo Chapter
247 Morris Drive
Ringgold, GA 30736





The Blender



February 1997

Volume 6 Number 2

The Official Publication of the Chattanooga Chapter of
The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America
Chattanooga, Tennessee Dixie District

London, England Trip

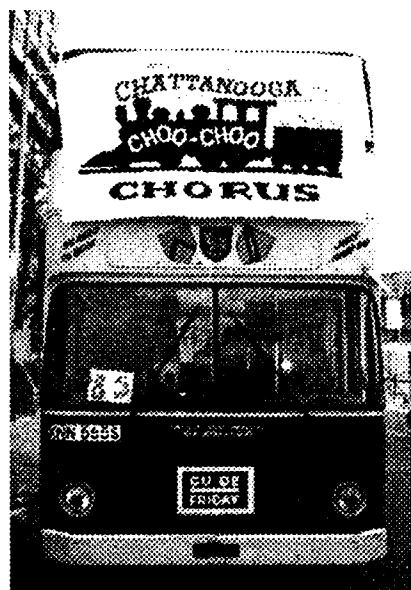
by Lamar Owens

As far as I am concerned the trip we made to London for Youth Music of the World was an unqualified success. There were so many high points it is hard to select those to mention in this article, but these stand out in my mind. I don't think we have ever performed to a more enthusiastic and responsive audience as we did at Wembley Hall. Hollering and screaming in appreciation while we were singing and a standing ovation before we even finished our performance was incredible. We could have done several encores, and they would have reacted the same way. On top of that, we did what I thought was a super job of performing and singing.

The reception along the parade route was just as incredible, singing and dancing to our performance of *Chattanooga Choo Choo*. It just seemed like they were starved for our type of music, even as cold as it was. We should take note of the fact that the audience in Wembley hall was at least 50 percent young people and mostly American. (We ought to be doing more to reach young folks in our area. Look at the response we received from the high school students in Georgia.)

Who would not be awed by the sights, sounds and history we were exposed to in London? How could I not mention our own "Mary Poppins",

Pearla, the West End show, *Buddy* and *Miss Saigon* which several of us attended. To have been able to do and experience all of this with a bunch of people like you guys and gals just made it even better. If we don't do something like this again, when we can afford it, we are crazy. For those of you who could not make the trip you missed a fantastic experience, cold, late luggage and all. I hope you can do it in the future.



Members:

Notice the enclosed:
Treasurer's Report
Board Minutes

The Chattanooga chapter of
The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America
meets Monday evenings, 7:00 at All Saints Academy, 310 East Eighth Street, Chattanooga, TN 37403

Barry Owens, editor
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706-891-9501 Home
706-891-1508 Fax
bowens@cdc.net



Harrison Bay Harmonizers

Benny Malone, tenor; Tom Keegan, lead;
Dick Hagar, bass; David Reynolds, bari

Tom's Tempo

by Tom Keegan
President

When Barbara and I arrived home after our extended European trip, there was a message on my answering machine from a member of the Savannah chapter. Upon returning his call, Jim told me the following story: One of the Savannah chapter wives is very ill with cancer. She and her SPEBSQSA member husband, Bill, was flying to Cincinnati for some experimental cancer treatment and happened to be on the same plane as our returning chorus members. Lloyd Gimber sat next to them and after landing in Cincinnati, he got a group of chorus members together and sang *Heart of My Heart* to Bill's wife. She was thrilled, and the experience made them temporarily forget their

problems. Jim, the original caller, told me that Bill's first wife died of cancer after 15 years of marriage, and now Bill's second wife was suffering from the same disease. He said that he and Bill and the other members of the Savannah chapter were extremely grateful to Lloyd and the other Chattanooga singers who brought some joy to a person in great need. Thank you one and all for your kindness.

At our last board meeting we voted to change the officer position of Program Chairman to Vice-Presidential status. We did this mainly to emphasize the importance of the Program position. A good, well-organized program can make our weekly meetings more enjoyable, without sacrificing our desire to improve our singing abilities. Perhaps you have noted some of the changes recently instituted—regular sectional rehearsals; shorter business meetings; time for “fun singing” of old repertoire songs and more variety. Those of you who have returned the questionnaire given out in London, have mostly said that you want more variety in the program; so we're attempting to do that. If you have any comments about the changes please speak to Larry Huber. If you haven't returned your questionnaire, please do so and give them to David Reynolds. If you need a new questionnaire, see me. We need your input if you want changes.

According to our society's manual “SPEBSQSA is a singing organization, which just happens to be the largest all-male singing society in the world. This is not a fun organization that sings; it is a singing organization where members enjoy doing what they do best—sing barbershop harmony.”

Our aim is to improve the singing ability of each member and thereby make our chorus a quality singing group—and to enjoy ourselves while that's being accomplished. Is that possible? What do you think?



The Ev Nau Show

by Barry Owens

Well, it almost seemed like it. Ev is quite a showman with a quick, sometimes biting wit. Actually it was an historic session of COTS in Atlanta, Ga. The school was held in the same venue as always, with a twist: it was completely renovated with new furnishings and a rearranged lobby.

With new, streamlined offices in the Society, this year's COTS was doubly important for the newly-elected officers. I attended the Bulletin Editor's class and picked up a few new tidbits. I have decided to enter the *Blender* in the District's contest.

One of the first tasks that was undertaken was for each chapter to identify the need for and compose a unique mission statement. Our officers sat around a table and, I think, hammered out a pretty good mission statement for our chapter.

Our own Dixie District Vice-President of membership, David Collins, was sworn in with all the other District officers. I know David, and I know he will do a superb job. The membership couldn't be in better hands.

Our new officers not only received the wisdom of the powers that be, but we were also entertained by the District Quartet Champions, Bandstand.



LeRoy Hobbs

Ferd's Words

by Fred Jesse
Music VP

Christmas is over; the long awaited trip to London is a pleasant memory to those of us who were able to go, and now we have a whole year full of barbershop activities ahead of us.

Our first major activity is Valentine's Day quarteting. A sizable piece of our chapter income comes from this one activity, so we must put our best singing on display. From this activity can come visitors, show attendees, and perhaps, new members.

Next is Spring Contest. We are using the same two songs as in the Fall. This was necessary due to time constraints, but it should make it easier to qualify for the Fall contest when we expect to sing two different songs. This will also likely be the last time we will wear our railroad outfit to sing two railroad songs.

Following that is the Spring Show. Script and song list is still in the works. Many of you will be asked to assist or do specific jobs. Please agree to help. Some have untapped skills that could really help out. A chapter show is a group activity, by and for us. Again, this is a major source of chapter income, so it is in our best interest to put on a good show and promote it to the public.

There are other chapter sing-outs and activities to happen this year. I was a sponge last year and soaked up the fun without major effort. This year is different. I already sense an increase in the level of interest and excitement. That reflects on our performance level and adds to the fun.

As your barbershop skills improve, the excitement of barbershop harmony and your involvement in it, increases. It is the goal of this Music Committee to make this year fun. It is hard to be aware of all your interests, but we would like to be able to keep your interest and involvement foremost in our planning.

Talk to me; how are we doing; what can we do better or differently? How can I help you enjoy this hobby?

It's None of Your Business

by Steve Grubb
Business Manager

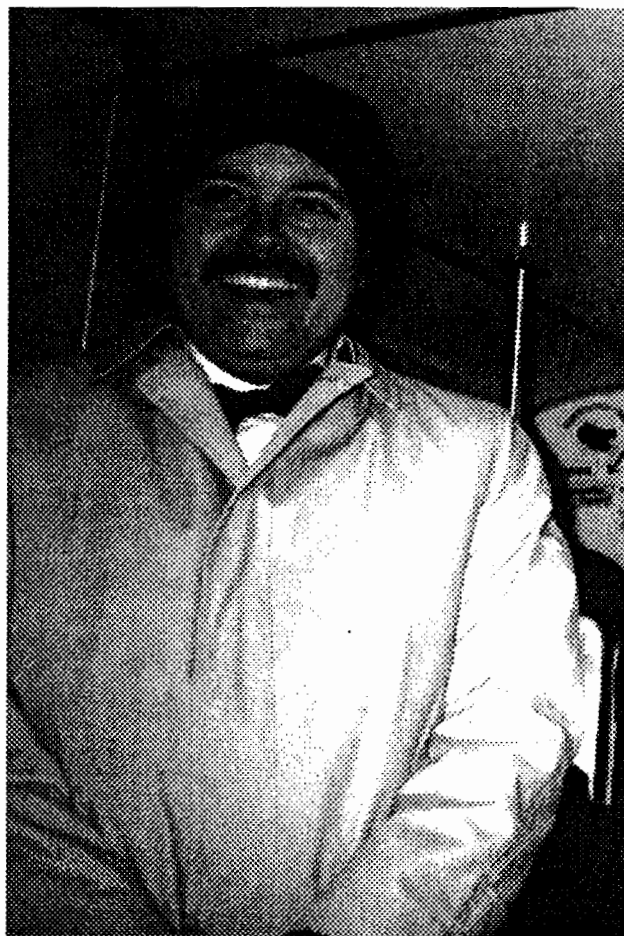
Did we really go to London and "Knock Their Socks Off"? You bet we did!! What a great trip, and what a great bunch of folks to travel with. Barbershoppers are outstanding people to spend a week with, even if it is freezing cold. Brrrr!! I have received notes of thanks from Bob Bone, Executive Director of London Parade, the YMOTW representatives from Virginia, the Lord Lieutenant Roger Bramble, and the Lord Mayor of Westminster, Robert Davis. All were extremely complimentary of our performance, and all three men who received gifts were very grateful for the "Choo-Choo" we gave them. I'll share the notes one night at a practice. Also, I'm confident we will be asked back, possibly around 1999 or 2000. Wouldn't that be a great way to usher in the next century? Thank you all for allowing me to serve as point man for this endeavor, and for your support and cooperation throughout the last year. You all are a great bunch to work with. YMOTW treated Christi and me royally on the flights (although we did not get a suite in London), and no one gave us too much grief over that fact. Let's decide on a night and share our photos with each other and relive the trip, maybe at the party in February? Let me know your thoughts.

Now back to reality: WE NEED GIGS!!! The new year is upon us, and we need to be singing before the public. I need your help to line up sing-outs. We prefer paid performances, but will always welcome a freebie in order to get our product before John Q. Public. If you know of someone who might be interested in our singing, let me know. We are a singing chapter, and need to be doing just that. Our usual rate is \$300 per gig, but will amend this rate to fit the size and financial constraints of the group interested. Let's get out there and sing! One way to market ourselves is soon upon us—Singing Valentines!! Don't let this chance go by without supporting this effort: Sing, Drive, Sell Engagements, whatever you can

do to help. This is a great way to earn revenue for the chapter, and bring a tear to the eye of someone's sweetheart.

For future reference, I will designate uniforms for sing-outs as follows: 1) A-sharp: our new tuxedos, wing-collar white shirt and purple accessories, black shiny shoes and socks. 2) B-flat: our Red Blazer, conventional collar white shirt, black bow tie, black shiny shoes and socks. 3) C-sharp: Our "Summer" garb of white pants, white shoes and socks, and blue chorus shirt; and 4) D-flat: our "Winter" garb of white pant, white shoes and socks, white open collared shirt and colored sweat shirt with a Christmas design. It is my hope that this system will make it easier to keep up with whenever a gig is announced or posted in the *Blender*. Let me know what you think.

Until next month, *Keep the Whole World Singing!*



Steve Grubb, freezing during the parade

Just Gettin' Started

by Ron Weaver

I want to take a minute to talk about last year's Christmas show. How many of you felt the show was on us before we knew it? I know I did! Even with my preparation I always felt like I was catching up. I don't like this. I prefer to be prepared in advance for any performance, yet I was not comfortable.

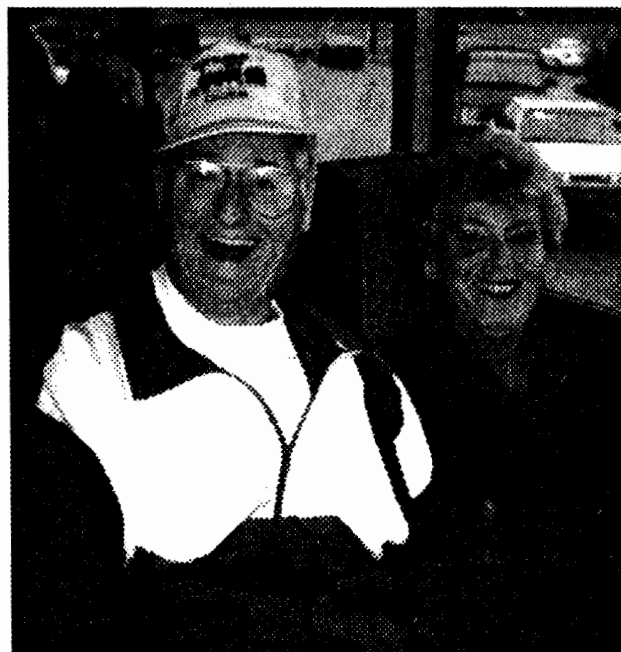
We did a few things differently this year, which may have had something to do with it. Clarence and I were given our own songs to direct, a song with multiple solos, since it was so late in the month.

Now I know that to many of you this is nothing but an excuse and you're correct. But these are also things we, as a chorus, have to prepare for. Different people learn at different rates, so we must schedule our rehearsals to a common average. Maybe when the key situation gets resolved, extra rehearsals can become common practice to those who are in need.

We could also help members by doing more quartet work; this would have to be worked into the program. How, you might ask? You just do it! Since the business portion of the program has been moved to the end of the meeting, it's even more difficult to work a variety into the program. We just seem to work on our music and, heck, it's time to go home!

While I'm on the program subject, let me also add this. I want to personally thank all you men who show up early for the warm-up. I know how hard it is to get to rehearsal, not just every week, but a few minutes early. It takes a love and dedication to this hobby. Sometimes I think we should just do away with the warm-up and go on to something fun or start on new music. But I know many of you come straight from home after a busy work day. Hitting the floor arunnin' maybe is expecting too much.

If you have any suggestions please see me and fill me in, cause remember...We're Just Gettin' Started!



Pat & Margaret, The Jet Setters



Flash! Flash! Flash!

by Ron Weaver
Spring Show Chairman

1997 Spring Show Update...

What: Musical history of America in song

Why: Work some from repertoire back in shape

When: First Saturday in May

Where: UTC Fine Arts Center

Who: Choo Choo Chorus and Quartets with guests, Class of '94

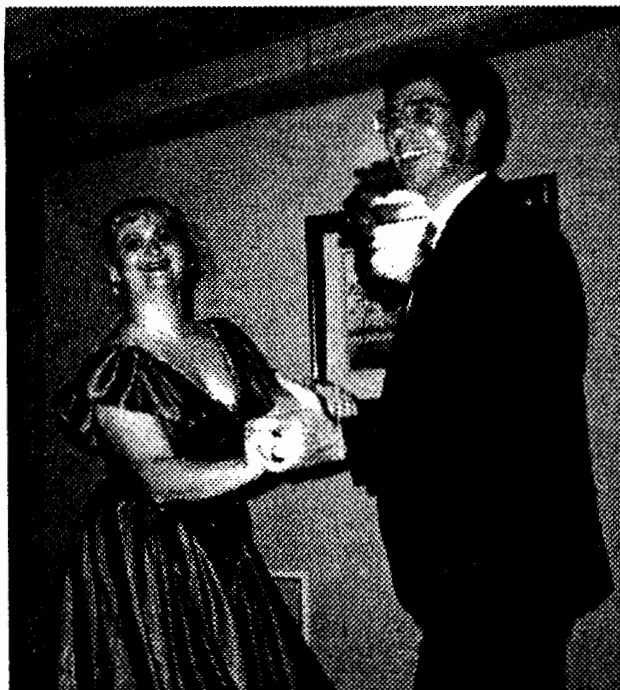
Basic info: All chapter members who can contribute to the show committee please do so by contacting Ron Weaver or Fred Jesse as soon as possible. If you've never helped on a show, but would like to, let us know. "Ask not what your chapter can do for you...but what you can do for your chapter!" (with apologies to JFK)

TREASURER'S LEDGER

A note from your new Treasurer:

Just a few words to express my appreciation for the opportunity to serve the chorus as Treasurer for the coming year. I appreciate your confidence in my abilities and look forward to the experience. Most certainly, I will try to continue where Bernard, with JoAnn's help, left off. He did a fine job in a trying year. You can give me checks anytime and I will write you a receipt at a break or whenever there is time. If you have cash to give me, please wait till a break so we can both count it and I can write you a receipt. If you have bills to be paid please be sure that you have a properly filled out expense voucher; see me for these and the appropriate receipts. Remember that we are a non-profit 501(c)3 organization and do not have to pay sales tax. The tax exemption certificates are in my files for you to supply to our vendors. It is going to be a good year, and I will do everything I can to be as responsive to the chapter's needs as possible. Let's have a great year!

Lamar Owens
Treasurer



New Year's Eve in London

Coming Events

- | | |
|---------|--|
| Feb. 8 | Boy Scouts Annual Banquet and Eagle Presentation
Read House, Downtown Chattanooga
Saturday at 7:15 warm-up,
Sing at 8:00
B-Flat uniform
(see Business Manager article) |
| Feb. 14 | Singing Valentines |
| Feb. 17 | Guest Night |
| Feb. 22 | Ladies Appreciation Dinner |
| Feb. 24 | Brainerd United Methodist Church |
| Mar. 14 | Spring Contest, Gatlinburg |
| May 3 | Spring Show |
| July 18 | Clemson Barbershop School |

LONDON TRIP TAX RULING

by Lamar Owens
Treasurer

Since we are a non-profit organization the cost of your trip, not your spouse or guest, will be fully deductible on your 1996 tax return as a charitable deduction. You must file form 1040 and itemize deductions using Schedule A, line 15, Charitable Deductions.

You can deduct the total cost of your ticket, \$459 and 75 percent of the remaining portion ($\$941 \times .75$ or \$706) for a deduction of \$1165 out of a total cost of \$1400. You can also deduct your cost for the bus ride to and from Atlanta, \$20, plus lunch, dinner and incidental expenses for yourself for 6 days. I discussed this with Mr. Frank Santarelli, Director of Finance and Administration at Kenosha, and he agrees that this is a valid deduction. We can only deduct 6 days of the trip because our official duties were finished with the parade January 1.

Not bad uh, go, have a good time and deduct it from your taxes!



Are we Bristish or what?

Belles' Business

by Nancy Owens
President Choo Choo Belles

After a long interval, the Belles will again be meeting regularly. Beginning in March, we will meet the second Monday of each month on Monday nights while the guys practice. Some of the Belles have voiced interest in meeting at a restaurant like we did a while back. We'll discuss this option and take a vote.

The guys have planned a guest night for February 17. Some of the Belles will be contacting some of the ladies to assist and to provide refreshments. Again, the standard offer, call me (891-9501 or 755-4526) at your convenience to volunteer your time or refreshment.

Since I have nothing else of importance to say, this is the end!



The Last Word...

by Barry Owens
editor

We are on the threshold of one of the most exciting days of our annual barbershop lives, namely Valentine's Day. Let's face it, how many times do we, at our age, get to sing to and vicariously woo a pretty damsel? This will be my fourth year doing this, and Nancy even gives me her blessing! You know the funny thing about it is that the older I get, the easier it is to get permission.

Our chapter and, indeed our society, owes a big thank you to our fine quartet, Rock City 4. They started it all here in Chattanooga. The society took notice of their and others' success with their Singing Valentines and got on the bandwagon nationwide. While the Choo Choo Chorus is trying to raise money for our hobby, Rock City 4 did it totally for altruistic reasons; first the Institute of Logopedics and later Heartspring were the beneficiaries of their largess.

That is one of the reasons that Rock City 4 must continue as a chapter quartet. They are in the process of looking for a replacement for James Coulter. Now is the time to audition, to become a member of one of our best quartets!

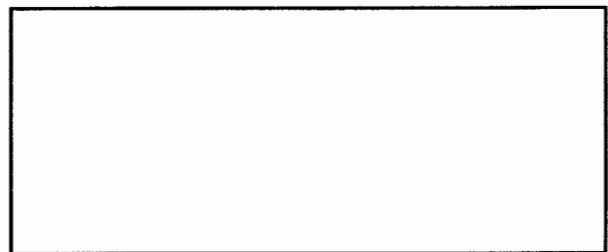
The 1997 Leadership Team Serving The Chapter

President	Tom Keegan	(423) 756-5660
VP for Music & Performance	Fred Jesse	(706) 375-5935
Music Committee Chairman	Fred Jesse	(706) 375-5935
VP for Chapter Development	Lamar Smith	(706) 866-2481
Membership Chairman	Lamar Smith	(706) 866-2481
Program Committee Chairman	Larry Huber	(423) 339-1697
Publicity Committee Chairman	Barry Owens	(706) 891-9501
Bulletin Editor	Barry Owens	(706) 891-9501
Secretary	Dave Reynolds	(423) 875-2674
Assistant Secretary	Earle Fraser	(423) 892-7630
Treasurer	Lamar Owens	(423) 894-8559
Assistant Treasurer	Benny Malone	(423) 344-9211
Board Member At Large (1 year)	Bernard Peek	(706) 398-3104
Board Member At Large (2 year)	Dick Bidwell	(423) 870-3196
Board Member At Large (3 year)	Rick Kulp	(423) 266-0758
Business Manager & Marketing	Steve Grubb	(706) 861-6171
Immediate Past President	Steve Grubb	(706) 861-6171
Heartspring Chairman	Bob Stansbury	(423) 894-7760
Director	Paul Blazek	(423) 622-4493
Assistant Director	Ron Weaver	(423) 476-3200
Assistant Director	C. W. Wall	(706) 820-0579
Equipment Manager	Pete Jones	(706) 861-2113
Choo Choo Belles President	Nancy Owens	(706) 891-9501

The Blender

*The official newsletter of the Chattanooga Chapter of
The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement
of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America*

Barry Owens, Editor
Chattanooga Choo Choo Chapter
247 Morris Drive
Ringgold, GA 30736





The Blender



March 1997

Volume 6 Number 3

The Official Publication of the Chattanooga Chapter of
The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America
Chattanooga, Tennessee Dixie District

Ferd's Words

by Fred Jesse
Music VP

Barbershop music. What a great hobby! Where else can you go out with three other guys for a day of singing to a lot of ladies. Valentine's Day 1997 was that day. The Rock City 4, with Ron Weaver filling in as lead, sang to 17 ladies and one man. In all of nearly 8 hours it was our privilege to bear a message of love, affection, and appreciation, to these people.

It was an emotional experience. Each song was a performance, but also I felt it was up to me to help convey that unspoken, but very real message. Smiles and a few tears were on the faces of all we sang to. This is an experience I look forward to every year. Next year I would like others of you be part of it.

Our chapter dinner was an excellent time to recall the good times we had in London over the New Year Holiday. What a great time we had then. Sharing photos was a neat idea. I wish I had had more time to read the diary that Nancy and Barry included with their photos. Maybe he will include some excerpts in the Blender. Thanks Barry for the freebie extra photos of chapter activities. I will send some to James Coulter.

Looking forward to the Spring District Convention? I am. We need a good group to sing. I

realize it gets boring to continuously rehearse the same two numbers. But, if we are to compete in the Fall, we have to do well now.

You newer guys, get ready for some new music, and you older (in terms of years of chapter membership) guys get out some of those old songs for our Spring Chapter Show. We'll publish a list and hope you have your old music so we can keep our new music costs down. There will be a variety of music, with Class of '94 being our headline quartet. A great show in the making, and we all will be part of it.

Members:

Notice the enclosed:
Treasurer's Report

Shirt Front

by Lamar Owens
Treasurer

In three weeks, we will be ordering shirts for new members and veteran members replacement. For the next two meetings, there will be a sign-up sheet on the chalk board. If you need a shirt, please supply your name and size desired. The order will be placed three weeks from now. Please notice the deadline.

*The Chattanooga chapter of
The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America
meets Monday evenings, 7:00 at All Saints Academy, 310 East Eighth Street, Chattanooga, TN 37403*

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It's None Of Your Business

by Steve Grubb
Business Manager

Not a lot to report for this month, but wanted to keep my name in front of the chorus. Our second paid gig of the year is tomorrow night at Alexian Village. Please try to be there if at all possible; these folks are a marvelous audience and make singing our hobby a real pleasure. Besides, we all owe the chapter our best effort to make as many gigs as we are able in support of Barbershopping in Chattanooga. See everyone there!!

What a nice evening we had at Brainerd United Methodist last Monday evening. The food was well prepared and quite tasty, well worth the \$3.50 that normally goes for that type setting. Our hosts were very pleasant and much appreciative of what was not our best effort at performance. Thanks to Dick for lining up this gig. The Chattanooga Choo Choo was off the track by the time we started, and had nowhere to go but downhill, which unfortunately it did. Maybe that's why it was the only song we worked on after the party broke up. It's a scary thought that this is one of our contest numbers! Despite how dapper we may look in our overalls on that stage, it won't hide a lack of preparation on our part. Let's all commit to working extra hard between now and the contest to vastly improve our performance of the total package. We are one of Dixie's ten best, and I expect us to sing that way in Gatlinburg. We're too good a chorus to allow ourselves to get rattled and perform at sub-par levels anymore. Only the best will suf-

fice. Wouldn't that serve Paul right for working over like he does at times?!?

Listed below are the addresses for Roger, Charlotte and Perla from our London trip. Seeing all the photos last week was a great reminder of the wonderful time we all had. Maybe in the future we can set up a time to view the taping that went on over there as well. That might stir up more memories and maybe encourage others who couldn't attend this time to go when we're invited back, which will surely happen in a few years. Speaking of the Sweetheart Dinner, the attendance was a bit off this year for whatever reason. If you missed the chance to be there, it really was quite enjoyable. Thanks to Johnny Jackson and Larry Huber for arranging the night. It's not too early to be thinking about and pushing our Spring show. Tickets and Ads need to be sold, and volunteers are always needed to make the effort its usual rousing success.

Until next month, Keep the Whole World Singing.

Roger Barclay
7 Jeypore Road
London, England
SW18 2RJ

Perla Blayden
75 O'Donnell Court
Brunswick Square
London, England
WC1N 1NY

Charlotte Johnson
8 1A Marchmont Street
London, England
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Tel: 0171 388 6433
E-mail: cjohnson@dillons.co.uk



Smile-Darn Ya'-Smile!



Just Gettin' Started!

by Ron Weaver
Assistant Director

Lately during warm-up I have been trying to give special attention to good unit singing. In this article I would like to address one issue that several members have commented on as an item of great importance. It is a problem that I, myself, give special attention. It is my "vibrato".

Let me start by giving some definitions to this and related words. A vibrato is a pulsating effect in the pitch of a note we sing, preferably by manipulating the amount of air passing through the vocal folds. A tremolo is a rapid alternation of two separate tones (several cycles apart).

There is a big difference between the two! A vibrato gives the note life or movement, and because the pitch doesn't change, it's easy to harmonize with. A tremolo, on the other hand, varies between two pitches and is almost impossible to harmonize with, in addition it also is difficult to match for a good unit sound.

It takes a great deal of vocal exercises to sing with an even vibrato. The muscles which control breathing are hard to manipulate, but once you master it, you can turn the sound off and on like a spigot. A tremolo is, in our hobby, an unwelcome guest. It is usually a sign of fatigue or poor singing technique.

Next time you hear the Second Edition (1989 quartet champions) sing *Hello My Baby*, listen to the "hanger" tag, notice how the lead will sing the note steady, while the harmony parts sing along then add the vibrato when they bow out, then steady it again when they join back in. That's the way to do it!

'Member to Bring Members!

by Lamar Owens
Membership VP

Guest Night! What a fun evening! As Membership VP, I would like to express my thanks to everyone for making this special night a huge success. It was great to see the room virtually full. Our two teaching quartets, Rock City 4 and Classic Harmony did a great job teaching two pole cat numbers. Musical Director, Paul Blazek was very informative describing our particular musical genre. Ron, it was a great warm-up and thanks for the tag. But most importantly, thanks to the active Choo Choo Belles for the delicious refreshments. Ladies, I hope you know how important you are to us!

I came back from COTS this year fired-up, and I am still looking forward to a great year. Potential members are out there. They just need to be introduced to that good old barbershop style! Let's make every Monday night Guest Night.



Show Notes

by Forrest Bugher

Fellows it is time to start preparing to make our Spring Show the greatest show we have ever produced a financial success. In addition to knowing all the music, notes, stage presence it is also up to you to sell tickets. To help in the sale of tickets we will mail flyers to your neighbors and friends. Please sit down and make a list of the people you intend to sell tickets and ads. Include their name, address, and zip code (5+4 if possible) and give them to Forrest Bugher as soon as possible but not later than April 7, 1997.

If you will take a few minutes to do this and follow up on your list you will be surprised at how many tickets and ads you can sell without twisting arms. Starting early and working methodically makes a big difference in the level of success. It is much more fun to sing to a packed house than one half to three quarters full.

Summer Barbershop Activities

by Barry Owens

Come June, with my first year of teaching under my belt (no pun intended), I will be ready for some fun barbershopping activities. And I am going to do it right!

First, I'll be in Indianapolis, Indiana by July 2 for the College Quartet Competition and later that evening for both Association of International Champion (AIC) shows. Where else can you hear Happiness Emporium, Gas House Gang, Marquis, Acoustix, Nightlife, The Ritz, Keepsake and the AIC Chorus, all under one roof? By the end of the week I'll be barbershopped out...at least for a few days!

Next, it's Clemson University for me. Dixie District's own annual mini-HEP school (July 18 - 20 this year) is always a highlight of my barbershopping life. I renew old acquaintances from across the district each year, always looking for a group who needs a tenor. My only problems are trying to decide which course to take. Thom Hine has proved himself to be a master at setting up this barbershop school. For you guys who have never attended, please consider attending.

And last, before I have to worry about the next year of teaching, I will be a student at Harmony College at St. Joseph, Mo. from July 27 through August 3. I've already been there once, so at least I won't be a freshman and have to wear one of those stupid little beanies with the propeller on it. There, too, I'll have to make some difficult decisions about my curriculum (excuse the teacher-speak).

David Collins and I and, I hope you, will be enjoying these summer barbershop activities. If you decide to go, remember to work out, and lose some weight. Because you will gain it all back at Clemson and Harmony College.

I can hardly wait!

P.S. Nancy and I are planning to go on a vacation this summer too!

On My Honor, I will do my Best!

by Pete Jones

That's what the Boy Scouts say, and that's what the chorus did on Saturday Feb. 8 at the Read House. We performed at the Annual Cherokee Area Council Banquet, which recognizes and honors the boys who have attained Eagle Scout rank during the past year. Also recognized were the adult leaders and volunteers who have put many hours and years into the program, with the highest award possible on the local level—The Silver Beaver Medal.

The chorus and the scouts are not strangers. We have sang for them before (although not under favorable weather conditions, Brrrrrr!). We do have some connections, I am a leader in the program, Paul's son Matt is a scout, which involves Paul from time to time and Barry Owens noted that one of his students was one of the scouts there that night. A classmate of Barry's from UTC was also there. There were many prominent people there that night from around the area, but the surprise came later when I was told that we sang to several millionaires. Had we known that, I'm sure our palms would have been sweatier. After the program, many handshakes and thank yous were given to me to convey to the chorus. And if we—when we—sing for them again—On Our Honor, We will do our Best.

Coming Events

Mar. 14-16	Spring Contest, Gatlinburg
April	High School Music Program (tentative)
May 3	Spring Show
July 4	Pops in the Park (tentative)
June 29-July 6	Indianapolis Convention
July 18-July 20	Clemson Barbershop School
July 27-August 3	Harmony College

CHATTANOOGA CHOO-CHOO CHORUS 1997 BUDGET

SPEBSQSA

02/28/97

INCOME		Budget	January 1 to Dec. 31 1997	Balance	Percent To date
No.	Description				
300	Chapter dues	\$594.00	\$55.00	\$539.00	9.26%
310	Show Receipts				
310a	Spring show tickets	\$3,400.00		\$3,400.00	
310b	Spring show adv. sales	\$2,900.00		\$2,900.00	
310c	Christmas show tickets	\$3,400.00		\$3,400.00	
320	Performance fees	\$6,250.00	\$4,295.58	\$1,954.42	68.73%
340	Heartsprings/Sing America	\$1,680.00	\$221.00	\$1,459.00	13.15%
342	Other contributions	\$240.00		\$240.00	
350	Other revenue				
350a	Refunds to chapter	\$600.00	\$245.00	\$355.00	40.83%
350b	Parties/gifts, etc.	\$1,128.00	\$399.52	\$728.48	35.42%
360	Other revenues/members	\$2,040.00	\$20.00	\$2,020.00	0.98%
	TOTAL INCOME	\$22,232.00	\$5,236.10	\$16,995.90	23.55%
EXPENSES		Budget	January 1 to Dec. 31 1997	Balance	Percent To date
No.	Description				
401	Meeting room	\$800.00	\$134.99	\$665.01	16.87%
411	Director fees	\$1,680.00	\$280.00	\$1,400.00	16.67%
413	Schools expense-COTS	\$850.50	\$70.85	\$779.65	8.33%
421	Travel & exp's	\$552.00		\$552.00	
422	Uniform expense	\$1,914.00		\$1,914.00	
432	Office expense	\$492.00	\$88.33	\$403.67	17.95%
433	Publications (Blender)	\$624.00	\$33.48	\$590.52	5.37%
434	Music purchases	\$800.00		\$800.00	
435	Program expense				
436	Insurance	\$380.00	\$285.00	\$95.00	75.00%
437	Public relations	\$108.00		\$108.00	
438	District delegate exp's				
440	Misc. show expense	\$250.00	\$119.87	\$130.13	47.95%
441	Auditorium expense	\$260.00	\$116.30	\$143.70	44.73%
442	Scenery-props	\$400.00		\$400.00	
443	Valentine day expenses	\$600.00	\$527.79	\$72.21	87.97%
444	Printing	\$768.00		\$768.00	
446	Talent fees	\$1,000.00		\$1,000.00	
447	Publicity	\$504.00		\$504.00	
448	ASCAP-BMI	\$324.00	\$43.00	\$281.00	13.27%
449	City-State tax	\$20.00		\$20.00	
450	Charitable expenses	\$2,500.00		\$2,500.00	
460	Social expense	\$730.00	\$26.85	\$703.15	3.68%
470	Miscellaneous expense	\$1,200.00	\$58.05	\$1,141.95	4.84%
471	Afterglow expense	\$1,000.00	\$260.00	\$740.00	
	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$17,756.50	\$2,044.51	\$15,711.99	11.51%
	TOTAL PROJECTED SURPLUS	\$4,475.50			

Get With The Program!

by Larry Huber
Program VP

The year is only starting and it is already been a whirlwind of activity. We've done one paid gig with another around the corner, survived a successful Valentine's Day and a Guest Night. Our Spouse's Night/London Photo party was a success with countless thanks going to Johnny Jackson for handling all the arrangements.

When you read this, there will be only two weeks until contest, so I am certain we will have some extra rehearsals to fine tune our presentation. Please be there, be prompt, and be focused!

As we are an ambitious lot, it will be a few short weeks (seven to be exact) from our contest until our spring show, and we have done precious little work to prepare. Ron Weaver will be finalizing the details any day, so please give him your utmost support. We want to limit the number of extra rehearsals, so efficiency will be key!

If this weren't enough, I am working to arrange another high school night preferably in April. We had a good experience with this last fall and need to keep the program going on at least a twice a year basis.

I want to thank all of you who have encouraged me as we attempt new programming approaches. I'm glad some changes have worked; there have been some very positive comments both from the board and the membership. However, we must all remember that there will be times when getting a song down pat will require hard work and that the more we can do outside the Monday rehearsal to prepare, the less time we have to spend drilling instead of having fun.

Keep your comments and suggestions coming. Anything that helps us sing better and provides variety will be welcomed in the program.

BE A BARBERPOLE CAT

Classic Harmony Valentine Gigs

by Barry Owens

Man, you talk about a tough audience! We should have expected it, I guess. After all, how many times do you try to entertain at bankruptcy court! The lawyer's wife hired the quartet to deliver a singing valentine to him at the bankruptcy court. The room was full of woeful faces, waiting for the lawyers to take everything they owned. The lawyers were sitting around a large table, like wolves worrying over a bone. She led us in and asked if they would take a break for a few minutes. We started singing an upbeat rendition of *Side By Side*. The lawyer jumped up, put the rose between his teeth like Rudolph Valentino, and grabbed his six-month pregnant wife and danced a jig with her. Meanwhile, the audience did not crack a smile! Instead of our usual two songs, C.W. suggested we exit this sad place. We did!

After a busy day bringing joy to many people, we ran out of roses with three calls to go. We double parked on Chestnut Street to run inside Joy's Flowers to buy three more roses. While Dave was inside, a meter maid came by to give us a parking ticket. Dave came out and said that we could have the roses on the house if we sang to the employees. We sang inside the store and then sang outside the store to a meter maid...to avoid a parking ticket.

We finished the evening with a thirty-minute gig at the Lookout Mountain Country Club. Our wives joined us for a nice Valentine's Day dinner. Valentine's Day has become one of my favorite barbershopping days of the year, right up there with Clemson.



On Shifting Paradigms

by Jeff Veteto

(from The Ozarkey, a publication of the Sho-me Statesmen, Springfield, Missouri Chapter)

This article is about good news! But you have to bear with me to get to the good part!

I guess what got me started on this topic was the news I recently received about a former member. He was a jovial sort, a bit of a loudmouth, but now he is dying of Parkinson's Disease, a mere shadow of his former self.

Curiously, though, what I recall from my earliest days of barbershopping about this unnamed member is that he seemed to have trouble keeping his dues paid. Such a stink was raised over it that everyone was aware of the situation. Funny how that doesn't seem all that important now.

Now let's set the time machine forward to December of 1995. You may recall that I wrote a little piece for the bulletin about how we should address some musical "problems" (people, I'm afraid) within the chorus. For those of you who hibernated that winter, I should tell you that the response was swift and negative.

How brazen of me, suggesting that members of a singing organization should be good (or at least improving) singers!

Scarcely a month later, one or two of us managed to sneak a tux for a guest to wear to a Lady Bears game. He had a ball performing with us, we had fun, and the chorus performed well.

Within a week, the policy police had mildly chastised us for this iniquity, citing everything from insurance considerations (yeah, yeah...) to bringing up the name of our dying former member.

Within a month, the message had been sent loud and clear: Whether or not you've paid your dues is more important than whether or not you can sing.

Which brings us to shifting paradigms. Now I know this is a trite and overworked subject for those of you in the business world, but it is certainly worth talking about amongst barbershop-

pers. The question is, have our paradigms shifted?

I think they have, for the better. (See, I told you this was a good news article!) We are singing better, which tells me that some of our musical needs are being addressed (largely due to our new and improved director!) And recruitment appears to have shifted toward those with musical ability, with less regard to ability to pay (Read my lips: Young People!).

And you have certainly embraced the illegal alien we smuggled into that Lady Bears performance: None other than our esteemed director, Pete Stibor.

Now that's a paradigm shift!



Hard-working David Reynolds

Thank You St. Valentine

by Larry Huber

This was my first opportunity to deliver singing valentines, and it sure lived up to my expectations! We certainly had a variety of venues, from aerobics class to 4th grade class, from preschool to Sunday school, from church office to doctor's office (even Bill's office and my office!). I'll leave it to my compadres to fill in the details. Instead, I'd like to thank Rick Kulp, Lamar Owens, and Bill Slack for their patience and encouragement as I attempted my first formal quartering experience. Next year is bound to be even better!

Treasurer's Ledger

by Lamar Owens
Treasurer

Yes, some things you do as a barbershopper are tax deductible. This includes some things you do in this country as well as in England. If you itemize your deductions, you may be entitled to include some expenses for barbershop activities.

If you had verifiable out-of-pocket expenses in connection with chapter duty as an elected or appointed officer or board member, or, if you sang in one or more local shows, such expense as travel (12 cents per mile, or actual cost) telephone, postage, parking, etc. for which you were not reimbursed are deductible.

Expense of travel to chapter meetings is not deductible unless you hold an office directly involved in conduct of the meeting, such as program VP.

If you use these deductions, here is the procedure. With Form 1040, use Schedule A, under "gifts to charity, contributions by cash or check," enter the total of your out-of-pocket expense. Be sure these items were non-reimbursed and verifiable. Attach a separate sheet listing the expense by groups (lodging, transportation, etc.), captioned "Expenses incurred in connection with contributions of services to an organization classified as exempt under Section 501 (c) (3)." Then state the name and location of your chapter and the full name of the Society. This would apply to the London trip also if you have not filed for 1996.

Your cash contributions to the chapter, the Society or to Heartspring are directly and fully deductible. Include this figure in the schedule figure and show this contribution on the same attached sheet, but separated from the out-of-pocket expense figure. Be sure to keep verifying records such as appointment books, calendars with notes, etc.

"Happy Tax Reduction"



Public Relations Starts With ME Also!

by Barry Owens
PR VP

I have told President Keegan that, as a new teacher, I just don't have the time to serve this chapter as Public Relations VP. He was very understanding and will try to find a replacement for me.

Ever since I joined this chapter, about ten years ago, I have considered myself a public relations person for the chapter. I was a member only a few weeks when I wrote my first letter supporting our hobby to the editor of the morning paper. I am always looking for ways to put us in front of the public. My point is that you don't need to be an officer to promote our chapter. You promote it by your words and deeds. Public relations and membership go hand in hand.

Encourage one of your Valentine Day recipients to write a letter to the editor; it's free advertisement! Membership VP Lamar Smith set up a TV appearance on a local Georgia cable station, UCT-TV, for Classic Harmony to promote our Singing Valentines. He knows that by putting us before the public we have a chance to increase membership.

How would you like to sing in a hundred-man chorus? We could if you will join us in promoting the chapter any way you can. The next Public Relations VP will need your help. Paul Blazek and Stage II did a marvelous job of public relations by appearing on TV and radio during the Valentine promotion.

President Keegan, maybe you won't have to appoint one man; appoint everyone!



Valentine's Day and Stage II

by David Reynolds
baritone, Stage II

(otherwise known as "Let him get to the table too")

Stage II delivered seventeen paid singing Valentines in addition to a number of "freebees", one of which was to Dan Bruns' wife, Kathleen.

Our day started at radio stations KZ 106 and WGOW at about 6:30 on that Friday morning. We sang our three songs, and Paul told the radio audience what the barbershoppers were going to be doing that day. While we were at the station, we received a frantic phone call, via Bob Stansbury, from a lady who had purchased a valentine for her husband. She wanted to make sure that the quartet didn't go to his office in the morning, because (she whispered), "He's still in bed and won't be in the office until the afternoon." As it turned out, we hadn't planned to visit her husband until after lunch.

Later, as we were in the process of delivering a valentine to a man on the ninth floor of Chestnut Towers, not knowing where he would be in the maze of cubicles and offices on that floor, we asked a man, who just happened to be at the elevator as we exited, if he knew where our customer might be located. The man scratched his head and said, "I might be able to find this fellow for you", and he proceeded to go, via the cubicles, directly to his cubicle. Our pathfinder was also our customer. He must have suspected something, because he was one of the more emotional people we sang for that day.

Another of the men we sang for must have been having a bad day. He was on the other side of town when we arrived at his office. We waited in the office until he arrived (about 20 minutes). His secretary asked him by phone to bring in his camera, to which he gave an emphatic "No!" with an obscene remark. However, when he came in and saw the quartet, he told her, "Get the camera!"

We thoroughly enjoyed our day which ended at the Loft Restaurant. We did one paid and two

freebees there, one for the restaurant owner. Come to think of it, we gave a couple of freebees at our lunch place, the Olive Garden. Do you get the feeling that the guys in my quartet are trying to keep "in good" with eateries???

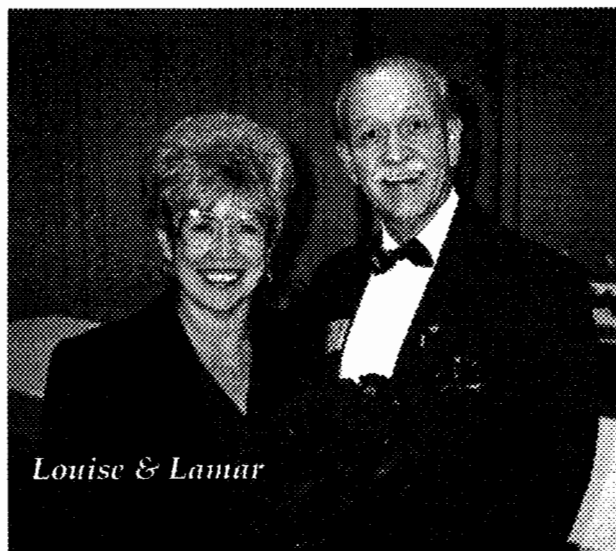
Classic Harmony does a Classic Job for a Classic Car Club

by Pete Jones

There's a lot of class in that statement, don't you think? It all started when some friends of mine came to our Spring/Disney Show last year. They enjoyed the performance very much and wanted to have the chorus perform for the car club that they were members of—The Chickamauga Regional Antique Car Club. The date requested, which was their Christmas banquet, was also the same as our Christmas Show. With that being out, the next possibility was a quartet for their next meeting. That date was Saturday, January 11. Classic Harmony accepted the gig.

As fate would have it, that weekend Barry Owens was attending COTS in Atlanta and Clarence Wall had been sick. Uh Oh! Call in the reserves. Well as fate would have it again, the day of, the weather was so bad (ice and snow) that the meeting was postponed until the next week. All went well. All the members of the quartet were there; I carried over one of our big barber poles with the light on top, and the lady setting the tables had put out cans of Barbasol shaving cream and razors.

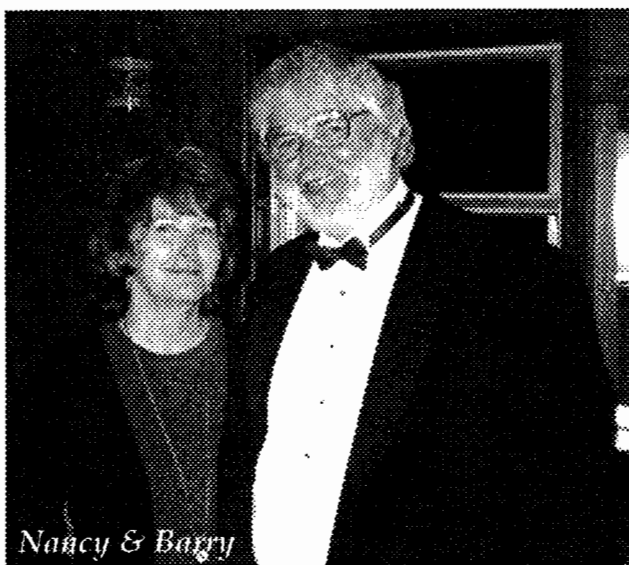
What atmosphere! The music fit right with the audience too. You know old songs, old cars, love songs, because they love their cars and their spouses and of course funny songs to make them laugh and put a smile on their face. Great job guys and I'm sure they will want us to sing again. What a Classic Idea!



Louise & Lamar

Guest Night Guests

Ronnie Hulsey
 Bill Fallin
 Jeremy Goff
 Shawn Coulter
 Jackie Whitlock
 Ron Massingale
 Bob Anderson
 Stanley Payne



Nancy & Barry

Belles' Business

by Nancy Owens

*****REMEMBER*****

Meeting
 Monday, March 10
 Same time; same place!
 See you there.

The Last Word...

by Barry Owens
 editor

How many Singing Valentines could we have delivered if we had plenty of quartets? I'll guess we'll never know. But with seven quartets, we sold out completely! Stage II was on the radio Valentine's morning saying please don't call, we are booked up! How many more people could we have made happy? Brothers, we are doing a public service and making money in the bargain. It is, as President Keegan said, "a win-win situation".

Now is the time for you leads and basses to learn tenor or bari to two love songs for next year! Don't let this opportunity to make so many people happy go by with being completely involved! We could have used some more drivers, too. We were listed on the internet, and we also booked a gig from that listing. The society has a nice page on the internet with all the latest info; check it out.

I was reading the latest edition of the *Music City New*, editor, Dick Belote. He has a new computer and the bulletin looks great! They had over 170 orders for Singing Valentines and grossed over \$5,000. But the item that caught my eye was the passing of baritone, Jim Farrell. I know you remember Jim as the man who warmed us up during rehearsals for our combined shows over the years. The bulletin also announced that Nashville has a new director, Tommy Mitchell. The super-talented Larry Deters is stepping aside for a while due to his new job.

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The Blender

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The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement
of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America*

Barry Owens, Editor
Chattanooga Choo Choo Chapter
247 Morris Drive
Ringgold, GA 30736



The Blender



April 1997

Volume 6 Number 4

The Official Publication of the Chattanooga Chapter of
The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America
Chattanooga, Tennessee Dixie District

Ferd's Words

It's Showtime Again!

by Fred Jesse
Music VP

It was top-ten in Gatlinburg again! We did a good job. The judges were complimentary on our efforts and improvements. We have improved, there is no doubt. I feel it, don't you? We are doing what we planned, and we are having fun doing it.

I hope you were there to hear Class of '94. This quartet is the guest for our Spring show. They narrowly missed being a representative of Dixie District to the next international contest in Indianapolis. These guys are good, and we should promote our show and them as we sell tickets.

We have another great show coming up. A chance to learn some new music and bring back some numbers we haven't done in a while. David Reynolds has worked his magic again. He has authored a script that weaves all our chosen music and quartets together into a complete show of America, Songs That Made Her Great.

We also have made an opportunity to showcase our chapter quartets, and especially our talented assistant directors. They will need your attention as they

prepare their interpretation of these songs. We need to let the community know the extent of our talents, and that includes directors and singers too.

Are we having fun yet? Unfortunately we can't please everyone, but we're trying. What are we doing that you like and that will keep your interest alive in our very special hobby? Tell me, or another chapter officer. What should we be improving? Tell us.

Have you ever thought about the diverse group of guys who meet every Monday? Our diversity is what makes our group so close. We need to show some other guys how much fun it is. Invite a friend to a meeting. Share the fun. Don't wait till guest night.

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Just Gettin' Started

by Ron Weaver
Assistant Director



Is it me, or has anyone else noticed just how much better we, the chorus, are singing? It seems to me that when we start working on something we maybe haven't sung in a while, we seem to sing it a little bit better than I'm used to hearing a piece we haven't practiced.

Why do you believe this is so? I think there are several reasons for this. One, I think we are breaking up "the rut" we get in, program-wise (warm-up, rehearse a number, business, good-night). It gets monotonous week after week after week. Second, we as singers, get more interested when we don't know what's coming next. For example, when we are told to pull out an old piece of music, I'm sure many of us think "Is there something Paul wants to change?" and we sing more intensive. And third, I think many, many of us just like a little variety in our meetings. Something to keep the rehearsal moving.

How many of you recognize these last two paragraphs as something our program VP has been trying to implement on Monday nights? I do!!

My hat goes off to Larry, and all the fine things he's been working into the program. Kudos also to Paul for helping keep it on track. It's got to be hard to stop in the middle of a task, especially when you're in a spot that needs work. The support of our Board should be commended, along with the members who show up early and help out in their own way (Pete, Randy, Earle, Sam, Reynolds just to mention a few).

I'm not sure if this will add many points to our contest scores, but I know one thing, it sure makes that traffic jam at the I-24 split on Monday nights a little bit easier to deal with. Keep up the good work, guys and remember...We're just gettin' started!!

Brothers, you and your families are invited to the wedding of Bernard and Glenda Peek's son, Brian, on Saturday, April 12 at 6:00 p.m. at the Wedding Chapel, 6178 Adamson Circle, Chattanooga, Tenn. Glenda asks you to please wear your A# uniform, the tux, because you just might be asked to sing at the reception.

I Believe

(from Manahawkin, New Jersey Chapter's *Baynotes*, Don Biehn, editor)

Jane Froman, getting ready for a TV show in 1952, came across a letter from a serviceman in Korea. She and her team of writers (mainly Ervin Drake) created *I Believe* as their reply to him and many others seeking ways to put faith into words. Drake said, "This is a song that would give the average person hope."

Miss Froman's USA Canteen performance was a great success, and in 1953 Frankie Lane's recording of this song sold a million copies. As a result, he used that piece of music as a "theme song." Hit Parade Song Magazine named *I Believe* as the most successful song of 1953, and it won the "Christopher's Award" as the year's finest inspirational song.

The Quartet "Fix"

by Barry Owens
Tenor for Classic Harmony

Classic Harmony quartet has been busy entertaining in the community. On Monday evening February 10 we sang on Judy O'Neal's local TV talk show on Georgia UCT cable 3. The only drawback of the gig was that it was on opposite President Clinton's State of the Union speech and O. J.'s verdict. Not to worry, I know at least one person was watching. She called and wanted to know if we had a CD on the market. We were publicizing the Singing Valentine program. It must have worked, because the chorus sold out the slots.

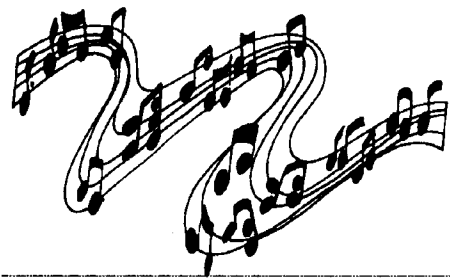
On Valentine's Day Classic Harmony delivered many Singing Valentines. To top off the day, we took our wives out to the Lookout Mountain Country Club for dinner and entertained a party for newcomers to the community. The next evening we were singing at a late Valentine's Party at the Alhambra Shriner's Temple.

March 8 the quartet sang at the renovated Patten House on the campus of UTC for Dave's First Centenary Sunday School class. It is a beautifully restored house, built before UTC was even there.

And finally, we sang in the main sanctuary of the First Centenary United Methodist Church on March 18. If you ever want to ring some chords, that's the place to sing. The acoustics are fabulous.

My purpose in writing this journal is to make you, the non-quartetters, envious! Singing in a quartet is what it is all about, how it all got started in Tulsa. I can't go very long without my quartet "fix". There are many guys who want to link up with other singers; find three other men, perhaps sing another part, but sing in a quartet!

BE A BARBERPOLE CAT



Spellbound

I have a spelling checker,
It came with my PC.
It plainly marks four my revue
Mistakes I cannot sea.
I've run this poem threw it,
I'm sure your pleas too no,
Its letter perfect in it's weigh,
My checker tolled me sew.

(Ann Landers, 2/97)

THE CHAPTER THAT SINGS TOGETHER STAYS TOGETHER



Don Hausmann, Don Graham
Niles Fowler, Lamar Smith

Get With the Program!

by Larry Huber
Program VP

After reaching the halfway point in our whirlwind spring calendar, we have some very positive things to report:

- Singing Valentines were a resounding success.
- Our contest performance was top 10 in the District.
- The Chorus won the Most Active Chapter Award in the District.

I am proud of what we have accomplished and to be associated with such a great group. But is it necessary to improve upon what we've been doing? Certainly, because: We like being an active chapter; We like being ranked 6 through 10 in the District; We like learning new songs; We like to perform well for our audiences. Let's look at each of these to see where our improvement opportunities are:

Being an Active Chapter - This means many and varied activities, from church singouts to spring shows, from school programs to chapter socials. Good program planning helps us balance our most valuable commodity - time - so that we are always learning and enjoying our hobby rather than wasting it. The music committee is helping me develop a year-ahead plan, so that we can begin working on major activities (such as Valentines or Fall Contest) long in advance and avoid the crunch we often find ourselves in. However, without your involvement and participation, even our best planned activities would not happen.

Being Ranked 6 through 10 - This means constantly improving our sound. The chapters ranked around us are constantly improving, so we must get better just to stay even. The assistant directors will be working in both new and "tried and true" vocal exercises and techniques to improve our basic abilities and refine our sound. We need each of you to be serious about the importance of very high quality singing for contest. Remember, it's only two songs.

Learning New Songs - Having been a barbershopper for just a year, I am very sensitive to the demands of learning new music. The music committee is working to develop effective and efficient methods for learning new songs well and in a reasonable amount of time. This will enable us to expand our repertoire while keeping our quality high. However, this may require each of us to spend a little time practicing at home each week.

Performing Well for Our Audiences - One characteristic that sets barbershop apart from other music performances is that we truly love what we do. Our challenge is to show this to our audiences with exciting (not necessarily elaborate) stage presence, confidence, and sound. These can be developed through better singing and knowledge of the music. In addition, our performances should demonstrate a theme that builds or brings the audience more into the music. Your music team is developing formal performance packages to improve our presentation. We need everyone to support this by learning the repertoire established for the packages and delivering the music with skill and gusto.

As always, I am eager to hear your suggestions as we continue to experiment with our programming. Above all, let me know if it's working. Anything can be changed. Thanks for your support!

P.S. If you are setting up a paid or charity performance, let me know as soon as the date is set, so we can put it in *THE PLAN*. Thanks!

Coming Events

April	High School Music Program (tentative)
April 26	Special Olympics
May 3	Spring Show
July 4	Pops in the Park (tentative)
June 29-July 6	Indianapolis Convention
July 18-July 20	Clemson Barbershop School
July 27-August 3	Harmony College

S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A., Inc.

Chattanooga, Tennessee, Chapter

Meeting of Board of Directors, March 13, 1997

<u>Present</u>			<u>Absent</u>
Jesse	Huber	L. Owens	Grubb
Bidwell	Reynolds	Peek	B. Owens
Keegan	Smith	Kulp	

The meeting was called to order by President Keegan at 7:30 pm at All Saints Academy.

Secretary - The minutes of the February 13, 1997 meeting were approved as read.

Treasurer - Lamar Owens submitted the written report, attached. A summary follows:

Previous Balance - \$2371.53	Disbursed - \$1182.32
Received - 4864.58	Balance - 6053.79

London Funds were handled through a separate account from the chapter bank account because this account was basically a holding account for funds paid for by members to the London travel agency for the Dec./Jan. trip.

Committee Reports

Chapter Development - Per Smith, Guest Night, Feb. 17, was very successful. There were eight guests including a former member who plans to "re-up." He submitted Tony Fowler's application for membership and moved to approve, seconded by Reynolds. Approved. Lamar will have chapter business cards printed. Each member will be given a set. The cards will give useful information about the time and place of chapter meetings and will list a telephone number to call for additional information.

Music and Performance - Per Fred Jesse - Spring Show - Ad forms distributed. Tickets ordered. Show to start at 7:30 pm.
Spring Convention and Contest - Choo Choo Chorus is 19th in singing order out of 24 choruses competing. Music Committee meeting set for All Saints at 7:00 pm. on March 20 (Thursday).

Authorization - Peek moved that the chapter allocate \$550 from the chapter's charitable funds for the Sing America/Sing Canada program. The details of how the money is to be handled will be ironed out later. Seconded by Jesse. Passed

Program - Per Huber, he needs more assistance from the Music Team in setting up the Monday night program, particularly the 90 minute segment allocated to rehearsal. This is to be discussed at the up-coming Music Committee meeting, per Jesse.

Business Manager - No report

Publicity - Tom Keegan pointed out that Barry Owens needs help in this area.

Old Business - The chapter financial audit was completed March 13, 1997.

New Business - Traveling Trophy for the Dixie District College Quartet Champs - Lamar Owens moved, seconded by Kulp that the chapter sponsor such a trophy and contribute some of the funds necessary to initiate it. Passed

Adjourned - 9:10 pm

David Reynolds
Chapter Secretary

CHATTANOOGA CHOO-CHOO CHORUS 1997 BUDGET

SPEBSQSA

No.	INCOME Description	Budget	Actual	Funds Transfer	Budget Balance	Percent To date
			January 1 to Mar. 31, 1997			
100a	Certificate of Deposit			\$5,500.00	\$5,500.00	82.90%
300	Chapter dues	\$594.00	\$104.50		\$489.50	17.59%
310	Show Receipts					
310a	Spring show tickets	\$3,400.00			\$3,400.00	
310b	Spring show adv. sales	\$2,900.00			\$2,900.00	0.00%
310c	Christmas show tickets	\$3,400.00			\$3,400.00	
320	Performance fees	\$6,250.00	\$5,338.00		\$912.00	85.41%
340	Heartsprings/Sing America	\$1,680.00	\$491.58		\$1,188.42	29.26%
342	Other contributions	\$240.00			\$240.00	
350	Other revenue		\$26.53		(\$26.53)	
350a	Refunds to chapter	\$600.00	\$255.00		\$345.00	42.50%
350b	Parties/gifts, etc.	\$1,128.00	\$398.52		\$729.48	35.33%
360	Other revenues/members	\$2,040.00	\$20.00		\$2,020.00	0.98%
	TOTAL INCOME	\$22,232.00	\$6,634.13	\$5,500.00	\$15,597.87	29.84%
	EXPENSES					
401	Meeting room	\$800.00	\$144.99		\$655.01	18.12%
411	Director fees	\$1,680.00	\$420.00		\$1,260.00	25.00%
413	Schools expense-COTS	\$850.50	\$70.85		\$779.65	8.33%
421	Travel & exp's	\$552.00	\$220.90		\$331.10	40.02%
422	Uniform expense	\$1,914.00	\$24.00		\$1,890.00	1.25%
432	Office expense	\$492.00	\$186.13		\$305.87	37.83%
433	Publications (Blender)	\$624.00	\$116.78		\$507.22	18.71%
434	Music purchases	\$800.00			\$800.00	
435	Program expense					
436	Insurance	\$380.00	\$285.00		\$95.00	75.00%
437	Public relations	\$108.00	\$40.00		\$68.00	37.04%
438	District delegate exp's					
440	Misc. show expense	\$250.00	\$119.87		\$130.13	47.95%
441	Auditorium expense	\$260.00	\$116.30		\$143.70	44.73%
442	Scenery-props	\$400.00			\$400.00	
443	Valentine day expenses	\$600.00	\$542.79		\$57.21	90.47%
444	Printing	\$768.00			\$768.00	
446	Talent fees	\$1,000.00			\$1,000.00	
447	Publicity	\$504.00			\$504.00	
448	ASCAP-BMI	\$324.00	\$43.00		\$281.00	13.27%
449	City-State tax	\$20.00	\$40.00		(\$20.00)	200.00%
450	Charitable expenses	\$2,500.00			\$2,500.00	
460	Social expense	\$730.00	\$26.85		\$703.15	3.68%
470	Miscellaneous expense	\$1,200.00	\$58.05		\$1,141.95	4.84%
470a	Investment transfer			\$5,500.00	\$5,500.00	N/A
471	Afterglow expense	\$1,000.00	\$260.00		\$740.00	26.00%
	TOTAL	\$17,756.50	\$2,715.51	\$5,500.00	\$15,040.99	15.29%
	TOTAL PROJECTED SURPLUS	\$4,475.50				

Just Visiting

by Barry Owens

Last week, during spring break, I visited my mother in Houston. Before leaving I decided to look up the local barbershop chapter on the internet. I was in luck. The Houston Tidelanders had a page on the internet. It showed me the time, date and place that they meet. I got a map of the address from Mapquest on the internet.

I arrived about a half-hour early. There were about eight men going through their moves and steps on the risers. I was warmly welcomed by the members before the meeting started. I guess I shouldn't call it a meeting; it was more a rehearsal. We sang *The Old Songs* and had a good warm-up by the director. He used a lot of rhythms and practiced intervals. The warm-up was exciting and enjoyable! That's not an easy thing to accomplish.

This is a chapter that is going through a transition concerning their goals. They have decided to be a great competitive chorus. There were no chairs, only risers. Everyone uses a hand-held tape recorder. They practiced two and one-half hours nonstop on the risers. That included about thirty-five minutes practicing their moves for one of their contest songs. The moves were many and difficult, but I heard no complaints. They have decided what their goals are.

I stood on the risers with them, trying to sight-read the music. They are required to submit an audio tape of their songs frequently. If they don't know their part, they don't perform!

The director didn't teach the song; they're expected to know their part. He only gave his interpretation of how the song should sound. These guys are the chorus that goes to international when the Vocal Majority can't.

I found out that there are three other chapters in the area. Their goals are much different than the Tidelanders Chorus. They sing some, socialize some, work less.

I visited the chapter for two reasons: I wanted to see how a large chorus practices and I wanted my weekly barbershopping fix. I saw how the chapter meets, but I didn't get my fix. At the end of the meeting, I was invited to direct *Keep the Whole World Singing*. However, I heard no quartetting. I was not invited to sing with anyone. I left wishing that I knew of the other chapters before I left home.

This is not a put-down of the Tidelanders; it's what they want to do. I am glad that their goals are not our goals. I like the fellowship, camaraderie, and singing that we do! There's no place like home.



Rick & Lesley Kulp

Chorus Sings for Men's Club

by Dick Bidwell

On February 24 the chorus entertained approximately seventy men and women from the Brainerd United Methodist Church Men's Club. The dinner and program were a late celebration of Valentine's Day. All who attended from the church enjoyed themselves and were very complementary of the chorus and its performance. After the dinner the chorus held their regular Monday night practice. I want to thank all who came to support me in this endeavor at my and Scott McKenzie's church.

Membership Musings

by Lamar Smith
Membership VP

We've had three guests during the month of March:

- Roger Gabbei Guest of Earl Fraser
- David Dockery Guest of Benny Malone
- Wayne Pruett Guest of Niles Fowler

We also want to give a big Choo Choo Welcome to our newest member, Tony Fowler, son of Niles Fowler.

I want to remind you to invite men with whom you work, who sings in your church choir, or any men you know that enjoys singing. Remember that membership is every member's business!



Louise & Lamar Smith



Chattanooga Choo Choo Chorus

Official Chorus Uniforms

A#

Black Tuxedo, wing collar white pleated tux shirt with black studs, Purple bow tie and cummerbund. Black patent shoes with black socks.

Tuxedo with slider trousers \$107.00 (you pay \$53.50)

Wing collar white pleated tux shirt \$15.00

Purple tie and cummerbund \$10.00

(all of above ordered from Tuxedo Wholesalers by the chapter)

Black patent shoes \$35.00 (Mitchell's Formal Wear)

Bb

Red blazer, black tux trousers, lay-down collar white pleated tux shirt, black bow tie, black patent shoes with black socks.

Red polyester blazer \$81.00 (We order, you pay Hardwick Clothes)

Lay-down collar white pleated tux shirt \$15.00 (available locally or order from Tuxedo Wholesalers)

Black bow tie \$6.00 (same as above)

C#

Dark blue chorus shirt with logo, white trousers with white web belt and military brass buckle, white socks and shoes.

Not official uniforms, but used frequently

Db

Colored sweatshirt with Christmas design, white collared shirt under, white trousers, white shoes and socks with white web belt and brass buckle.

E#

Dark blue chorus shirt with logo, khaki trousers with dark belt, dark shoes and socks. Should be brown.

(You probably already have the khaki trousers, belt, shoes and socks.)

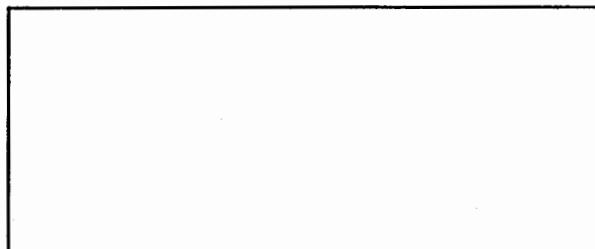
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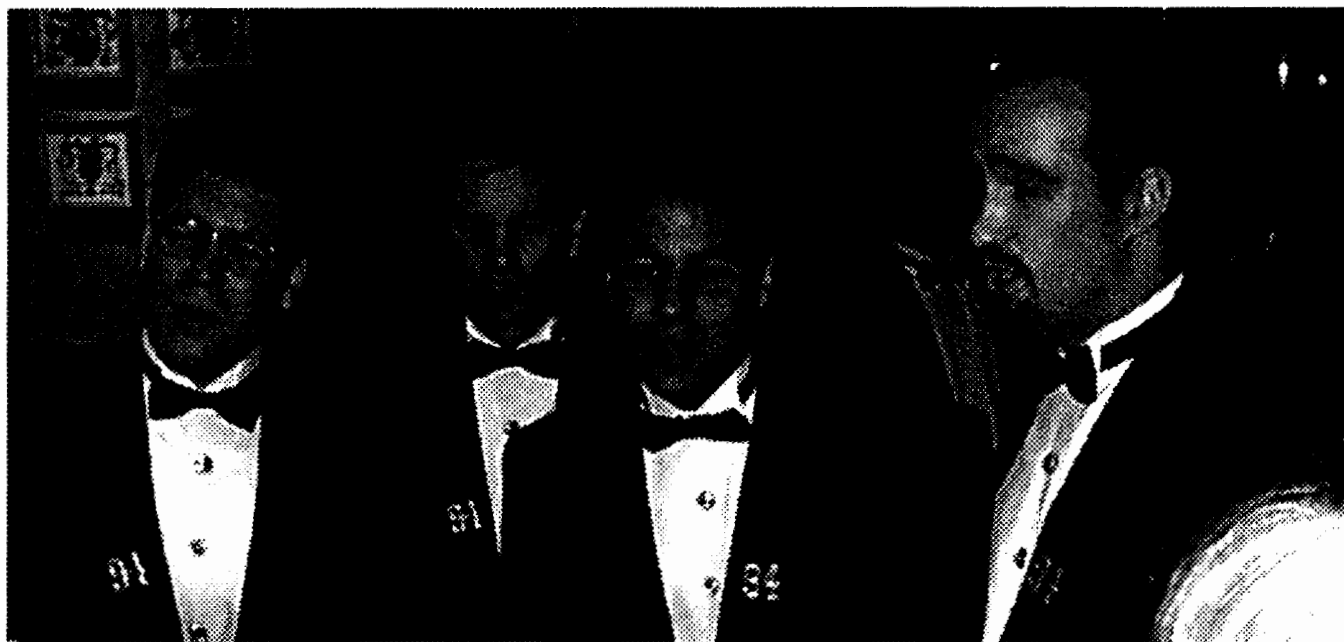
May 1997

Volume 6 Number 5

The Official Publication of the Chattanooga Chapter of
The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America

Chattanooga, Tennessee

Dixie District



Class of '94 Headlines Spring Show

America

Songs That Made Her Great

Show chairman Ron Weaver reported the show was a success. The audience was entertained by a variety of chapter quartets including Stage II, Harrison Bay Harmonizers, Just For Kicks, Classic Harmony, Mixed Blend and Sweet Adeline's quartet Classic Reunion.

The Chattanooga Choo Choo Chorus seems to get better each year. The extra work put into this show paid off with a wonderful sound. The audience was brought to their feet several times during the evening.

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Ferd's Words

by Fred Jesse
Music & Performance
VP



Again you are reading this after our show, but it was written before. I can only presume that it again was a great show. A lot of people helped make it happen, and they have my thanks. It was

good to see and visit with James and June Coulter again.

What is next for the Choo Choo Chorus? Actually, we have much to do yet this year. Two major activities are preparing two new songs for Fall contest, and working on a completely new Christmas show. That show will also involve some new songs, some new ideas, and new format. Unfortunately there are not many more Christmas-related songs we haven't already done.

How do you like our music program, our meeting schedule of events, our practices, use of our assistant directors in the show, and other things? Are we keeping you interested? Understand of course, that we need to do some things every meeting night that meets the barbershop needs of everyone. Not all of those may interest you. But, we all must be a part of the entire program that leads to a better

chorus, a better musical repertoire, and you as a better barbershop singer. If I don't get some feedback from you guys, how do I know if I'm doing my job? Corner me sometime and let's talk.

Let's sing too! I'm trying, and I hope other quartet members are making themselves available, to sing with those not in their quartet. This gives the others a chance to sing with a quartet or small group and build up some confidence to be a part of an organized quartet. Let me know if I can help.

There is a lot of music added to our library. Often it is single copies of music donated by members. This music is available for your use; see Barry Owens. Thanks to him our library is in top shape. However, please don't take the last copy without notifying him. And don't take music you won't use. If you have any extra music too, he will be glad to add it to our library for everyone's use. (No illegal copies please. Thanks.)



The Sun Shone

by Nancy Owens



The saying is into to every life some rain must fall...but the flip side is into every life a whole lotta sun must shine. At the after glow the sun shone brightly on Rick and Lesley Kulp. A whole bunch of golden rays filled with good wishes.

The sunshine list made it easy for us to bring a few rays in small and large packages! OK, in plain English, the "shower" went well and the couple received many nice useful and nice-to-own gifts. The word "family" really does describe our barbershop group.

Treasurer's Ledger

by Lamar Owens
Treasurer

Well, the first quarter has come to a close, and it is past time for me to report on "The State of the Chapter"—fancy, don't you think?

Enclosed with the *Blender* is a spreadsheet showing our results through the end of the first one-third (four months) of the year. There are three important figures on the spreadsheet and these are: Percent to Date results on Certificates of Deposit, Total Income, and Total Expenses. If you will look at these three figures you will see that almost seventy-five percent of our income for the year is invested and earning income for the chapter. We are just about on target for income at thirty-three percent and we are under budget on expenses at almost eighteen percent year-to-date. Our income figure does not reflect the true picture since your Spring show advertising sales and ticket sales are not fully accounted for on this spreadsheet. Of course the same thing can be said for expenses, but we will still be under budget even with those expenditures included.

We look to be in pretty good shape as long as ad and ticket sales are close to budget. It does look like we will go way over this year on performance fees as long as we concentrate on booking more paid gigs.



Teaser

Answer to last month's teaser: This quote was by our twenty-sixth president, Theodore Roosevelt. Okay, okay, so maybe this one was a little bit too esoteric (huh?) for you. Here is an easier, more down to earth one for you this month.

Who said, "Every time I get next to a pig pen my heart flutters." Watch next month's *Blender* for the answer. Be happy!

Thought for the Month

Erma Bombeck wanted to be remembered for her work, not the illness which ultimately claimed her life. She wanted to leave people laughing, not crying. At the end of a column which ran on March 10, 1987, she writes: I always had a dream that when I am asked to give an accounting of my life to a higher court, it will go like this:

"So empty your pockets. What have you got left of your life? Any dreams that were unfulfilled? Any unused talent that we gave you when you were born that you still have left? Any unsaid compliments or bits of love that you haven't spread around?"

And I will answer, "I've nothing to return. I spent everything you gave. I'm as naked as the day I was born."

A good thought, Uh?

Blender articles are due the last Monday of the month

Place articles in folder at practice.

Mail to me at 247 Morris Drive, Ringgold GA 30736.

Beginning Monday, August 21, 1995 fax 891-1508.

Earlier faxes welcome, notify first 891-9501.

Submissions welcome from members.

It's None of Your Business

by Steve Grubb
Business Manager

Missed having any words of wisdom before the chorus last month, so here goes my May pole effort. By the time this article will be perused, our annual Spring show will have been a rousing success. The chorus, quartets and soloists will have all done their usual great job. Class of '94 will have wowed 'em, and our audience will have sent us away with words of encouragement and congratulations. How do I know this to be the case? Because one of Dixie's top ten choruses will not put on anything but the classiest of shows, right?!!

It is nice to be back in the top ten, where we belong to be for both our singing ability and our community involvement. We, through efforts of the chorus and its various quartets, do a tremendous job of presenting barbershop harmony to this community. As a matter of fact, we have an opportunity next week to introduce a friend to this great hobby at our Guest Night on May 12. If you haven't already, invite a buddy to come along and sing the old songs with you. We need someone to get hooked after his first visit and join up, so Dr. Blazeck won't be the only one who can tell that same old story before each guest night!! Seriously, I am glad that Paul was drawn in to our great hobby in Music City all those years ago. He's a good friend and an excellent director who only wishes for us to do our best. He's still going to classes to improve his technique and make us a better chorus, and, for a Polish guy, he's pretty quick-witted and easy to be around. No money changed hands for this endorsement, just a note of thanks from the Lead with the biggest voice (This fact is undeniable, since someone tells me to tone it down at least once every meeting). Paul, thanks for all your hard work on behalf of the Choo Choo Chorus.

We have a couple of gigs upcoming in June and one tentatively set for September. That leaves more than a few open dates to fill. If you know of

a group that would enjoy our type of entertainment, let me know. Singing is what we're all about, and we need to be out there performing our craft. Those of you hoping to have the chorus sing for a religious service, it's not too early to begin lining things up where you attend services. Let's sing!!!

One more quick note of thanks: To the Choo Choo Belles and Nancy Owens, a big thank you for spearheading the Sunshine collection on behalf of Rick and Lesley Kulp. It's great to see such an outpouring of concern for a fellow harmonizer and his family. Way to go!! London addresses are listed at the end of this article for anyone who might need them. Also, if you need a London Parade patch for your shirt sleeve, let me know.

Until next month, Keep the Whole World Singing.

Roger Barclay
Perla Blayden
7 Jeypore Road
75 O'Donnell Court
London, England
Brunswick Square
SW;8 2RJ
London, England

WCIN INY
Charlotte Johnson
81 A Marchmont St.
London, England
WCIN 1AL
Tel: 0171 388 6433
cjohnson@dillons.co.uk



FYI

Be sure to read the copy of the minutes and the Treasurer's report on the slip sheet in the center of *The Blender*.

Singing Valentine Report

by Bob Stansbury
Valentine Chairman



I know this is long overdue, but I was trying to wait until I received all of the outstanding money from the Valentine singouts.

I want to thank each of you for making this such a big success. This successful fund-raiser could not have been done without you and your assistance.

I know there will be some fond memories from this, and maybe next year we can double what we did this time. I hope to get it started early next year, and with help from the music, program and publicity committees and our director, we can do it.

Below is a breakdown of gross revenue/expenses/bad debt/net profit. The count from my records showed we performed 125 singouts. I know there was more (some free and publicity) than the count shows. Also, several patrons gave extra money just because they felt it was for a good cause.

$$125 \times \$40 = \$5,000.00$$

Expenses:

Flowers	\$216.00
Candy	132.40
Cards	22.99
Gasoline	75.00
Advertisement	<u>96.40</u>
Total	\$542.79
Losses (unable to collect)	120.00
Money collected:	\$5,088.00
Expenses	<u>542.79</u>
Net	\$4545.21

Get Your Program!

by Larry Huber
Program Chairman



As the Spring show season comes to an end, we now enter a phase of the program year with "white space" between the church program season of summer/fall, the fall contest, and the Christmas

show. What are we supposed to do with this time? Well, take advantage of it, of course! You are already aware that there will be a guest night on May 12. But more activity is being planned that will require our attention:

Music for fall contest has been selected and is being ordered. These will be completely new songs, and we will need to learn them at a "B" level (in order to place in the top 10). This will require some diligence on the part of the music team and each of us.

Clarence is working up the new church package. He has promised new music, special dialog, etc., so there will be a lot of new stuff to learn. You can't afford to miss a rehearsal when Clarence is in charge, or you'll be missing something completely new.

The ideas being tossed around for the Christmas show suggest a little more complexity and variety than usual. We have to get these ideas fleshed out early and begin working on our show plan so we aren't learning new music or making show arrangements up to the last minute.

Sure, we can take a "breather" after the show. But we can't afford to slack off for two or three months, or even two or three weeks. Instead, make an even greater commitment to attend and I promise you'll experience some new music, new warm-ups, new performance packages, more great "cooler nights," and some awesome singing.

See you next Monday!

Just Gettin' Started

by Ron Weaver



This month's article concerns chapter quartets more than it does our chorus. I've noticed at several of our sing-outs and shows that we are over-singing our parts. I have to catch myself many times trying to out-sing the other members of my own

quartet. This is true with the other groups within our chapter.

Our director has the ability with the wave of his hand to back us off. Quartets, on the other hand, are at a disadvantage. Unless they have an experienced fifth wheel listening in, they rely on their own ear. The great quartets know this is almost impossible. Within the ensemble you can't hear what's going on as a whole.

Most trust our own talents more than we do others, and nothing could be more from the truth. We may think we're doing something one way when, in fact, we're doing it another. We need to set our egos aside and use better judgment and get help.

Now I don't mean to convince you to hire an international judge and coach, but get someone who is familiar with a good sense of barbershop sounds and knows how to work singers to get that sound. You can get an early jump on the coach by purchasing society tapes and recordings. These are most of the time done "live" so you can get an idea of what the better quartets do to put on a quality show, and you can compare these with videos of your quartet.

Here are a few pointers to help get you on track:

- Lead: Always sing with quality and style, the melody should be dominate.
- Bass: Foundation of all chords, and overtones. Should be sung at a volume just below the melody. Remember that it takes more energy to sing low with quality.

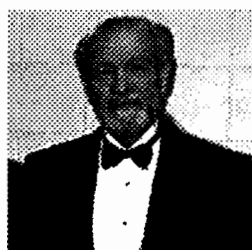
- Tenor: High tones carry! Back off and blend; be aware that explosive consonants are better if sung through the "facial mask".
- Baritone: Know where you are compared to the melody. When above try to sing more like a tenor; when below sing more like a bass. But remember to blend!



Class of '94 Groupie

Membership

by Lamar Smith
Chapter Development VP



Congratulations to David Reynolds on receiving his third Man of Note. We also want to give a big Choo Choo welcome to our new member Ron Massingale. Ron its good to have you back with us. We have

missed you and Reba for the last several years.

I want to extend a gentle reminder to everyone who has not sent in their membership renewal.

Remember our guest night Monday night May 12. We are looking for a large number of members and guests. Every member should make an effort to bring a guest. Also a big thanks to Nancy Owens and the Choo Choo Belles for providing those great refreshments again.

Belles' Business

by Nancy Owens
Belles President

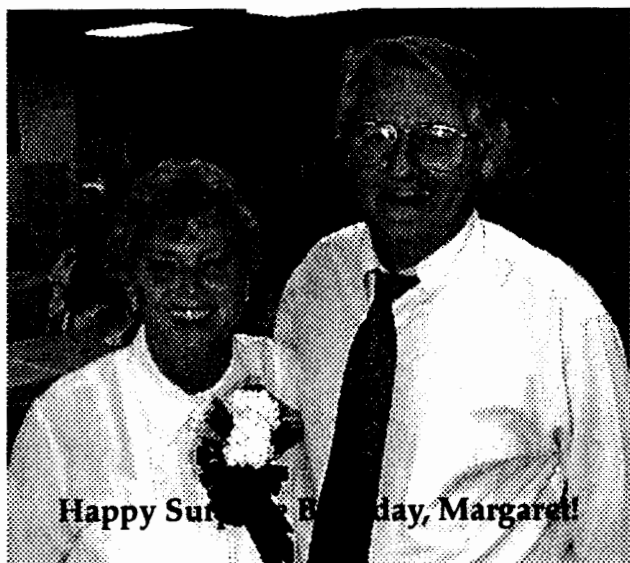
Thanks to the Belles who worked so hard on the show. This includes those behind the scenes Belles who may not take an active role but still support the chapter by other means.

The guys were appreciative of the bounty of the hospitality table on Saturday. Many of them were vocal in their thanks to the Belles for stocking it and maintaining it throughout the day.

The afterglow was a nice touch to finish off the long day. I think the Clarion is a winner and we should continue our association with them for as long as possible. Perhaps a few "special" dinners might also be held there. (Blatant hint!)

The chorus has planned a guest night for May 12. This is great because it is our regular meeting time. As usual, one of the Belles will be calling on a few of you to provide some delicious morsels to entice our guests to become active members of the chapter. Hopefully, a new guest will equal a new active Belle!

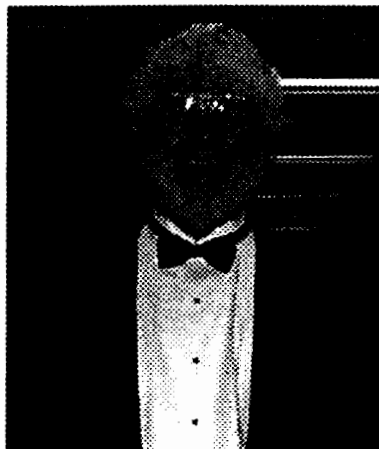
Again a sincere thank you not only from me but from the chorus as well.



Happy Sunday, Margaret!

The Last Word...

by Barry Owens
editor



There was a great article in the last *Harmonizer* entitled *Tips for a Chapter Chorus* by Steve Shannon, Music Director, Spring, Texas Chapter. They seem to have it together.

They've got the

best of both worlds: a hard-working chorus and a fun chorus. I have heard some (to me) horror stories about competition-based choruses, choruses that stand on the risers for two and a half hours singing only their two contest numbers. Frankly, it doesn't sound like a whole lot of fun. They sing no "Polecats." They do little fellowship. They do not relax. They sing their two contest numbers over and over until something resembling perfection is achieved.

That's fine, if the membership wants it. However, I can't see our chorus dedicating itself to this constant striving to be number one. It seems to me that we need to find ways to improve our sound. I personally don't have any problem with auditioning to perform in public with the chorus. It would certainly make us a better chorus, that is if we didn't run everyone off first. I think there is a happy medium somewhere to be found.

I think maybe we should take Fred Jesse up on his offer to listen to tapes and have him critique us. It should be done on voluntary basis; but it should be done. I am sure we could trust him to keep the criticism on a positive note. After all, none of us, to my knowledge, are Enrico Caruso.

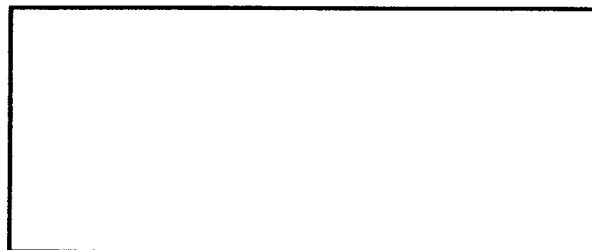
The 1997 Leadership Team Serving The Chapter

President	Tom Keegan	(423) 756-5660
Music & Performance VP	Fred Jesse	(706) 375-5935
Chapter Development VP	Lamar Smith	(706) 866-2481
Program Committee Chairman	Larry Huber	(423) 339-1697
Publicity Committee Chairman	Barry Owens	(706) 891-9501
Secretary	Dave Reynolds	(423) 875-2674
Assistant Secretary	Earle Fraser	(423) 892-7630
Treasurer	Lamar Owens	(423) 894-8559
Assistant Treasurer	Benny Malone	(423) 344-9211
Board Member At Large (1 year)	Bernard Peek	(706) 398-3104
Board Member At Large (2 year)	Dick Bidwell	(423) 870-3196
Board Member At Large (3 year)	Rick Kulp	(423) 266-0758
Bulletin Editor	Barry Owens	(706) 891-9501
Business Manager & Marketing	Steve Grubb	(706) 861-6171
Immediate Past President	Steve Grubb	(706) 861-6171
Heartspring Chairman	Brooks Gist	(423) 892-7191
Musical Director	Paul Blazek	(423) 622-4493
Assistant Director	Ron Weaver	(423) 476-3200
Assistant Director	C.W. Wall	(706) 820-0579
Equipment Manager	Pete Jones	(706) 861-2113
Choo Choo Belles President	Nancy Owens	(423) 755-4526

The Blender

*The official newsletter of the Chattanooga Chapter of
The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement
of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America*

Barry Owens, Editor
Chattanooga Chapter
247 Morris Drive
Ringgold, GA 30736





The Blender

June 1997

Volume 6 Number 6

The Official Publication of the Chattanooga Chapter of
The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America

Chattanooga, Tennessee

DIXIE DISTRICT

Finally, He is in Print!

by Paul Blazek
Musical Director



If this actually works, you will be reading words of wisdom from your director for the first time in many moons. It seems that no matter how hard I try, the e-mail will not cooperate. However, at this point in the paragraph, I must assume that whatever Greek, Roman, or Norse god is responsible for

e-mail will have done his/her thing and we are truly communicating.

The show is long over, but I want to express my thanks for the hard work you put into it. Overall, it was a very good show and I believe the audience got their money's worth. They certainly stood up at the end (I wonder why...).

We have two new songs for contest this fall: *Margie*, and *The Last Time I Saw Henry*. *Margie* is the same song we did as part of the *Three-Girl Medley*, but this is the standard Society arrangement. *The Last Time I Saw Henry* is an old but funny song about having a girl friend stolen away, and it should be a great follow-up to *Margie*. The arrangement needs some work, including a new intro and tag, but it should be finished soon. We will have learning tapes available within a couple of weeks.

Pops in the Park is on. We will be performing the *Berlin Medley* and the *Cohan Medley*, so be prepared to work hard, especially on the *Cohan Medley*. We will also have about twelve minutes during the intermission to perform by ourselves, and that program will be chosen soon.

Plans are being made right now for our Covenant College weekend. This is always a very intense learning experience, and a chance to take advantage of "expert" coaching (a guy who comes at least 50 miles, and has a briefcase). PLEASE plan to attend this session!

That's all for now. Do something this week to improve your singing, and resolve to keep doing it.

*The Chattanooga Chapter of
The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America
meets Monday evening, 7:00 at All Saints Academy, 310 East Eighth Street, Chattanooga, TN 37403*

Letters, We Get Letters...

Hello Barry,

Once again thanks for sending *The Blender*. I really enjoy reading about Choo-Choo.

After reading your article about the Houston Tidelanders and the contest chorus I wanted to give you some things to ponder, since I have been in both worlds.

Striving to win contests does various things for a chorus, and the main thing it does is give direction and attitude. Attitude gives pride and as Vince Lombardi said, "The harder you work, the harder it is to surrender." I can remember when it took the Chattanooga Chorus two or three months to learn a new song. Now I am expected to be off the paper in two weeks and, when necessary, be ready to perform in three weeks. This is a pride thing to us. This hard work helps each member learn quicker, have more pride in any performance, whether it be the smallest "singout" to any contest. We help new members or anyone else catch up. This hard work gives us confidence, joy in performance and a closeness hard to describe, rather than drudgery, dread, and resentment.

I'm not saying we're right and you are wrong. No way would I do this. I only wanted to give you some thoughts from the other side of the coin.

Again many thanks and I treasure the friends at Choo-Choo

Tony Songer

(Editor: Tony sings bass with the Big Chicken Chorus)

The Blender
Barry Owens, Editor
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Ringgold, Georgia 30736
Voice (706) 891-9501
Beeper (423) 550-6800
Fax (706) 891-1508
bowens@cdc.net



Congratulations to David Collins who has been elected a Colonel in the prestigious Confederate Harmony Brigade. This elite organization does not admit men to their ranks haphazardly. They are carefully scrutinized for their leadership, service and character. At the '96 rally, David's quartet, The Poolside Four, won first place.

Registration Countdown

by Dan Daily
Update SPEBSQSA

At the end of April, the registration count for the Indianapolis convention was already 9,830. It's gonna be a biggie, get your registration in *today*!

FYI

Be sure to read the copy of the minutes and the Treasurer's report on the slip sheet in the center of *The Blender*.

From the Membership Desk

by Lamar Smith

Guest night was filled with fun, good fellowship and a lot of good singing. Thanks to everyone for another successful guest night. Our guests on Monday night May 12, 1997 were:



Mark Trundle
Kriston Maddox
Terry Schuster
Bobby Knight
Damon Daffron
Jimmy Weaver
Rob Reid

The Belles did an outstanding job, as usual, with our refreshments. Thanks for everything.

Here's a reminder to those members who have not renewed their membership, now is the time to do so.

Continue to invite guests to our meetings and keep on singing.



David Reynolds
Secretary & Historian

There's a Bug in This Program!

by Larry Huber
Program VP



As you can see, I'm getting desperate for column titles, just as I am getting desperate for something new to say about programming. I would like to update everyone on the status of our big projects: Contest, Christmas Show, and Spring Show.

Paul is putting the finishing touches on the arrangements for the contest songs. Music and learning tapes will be available about two weeks after you read this. Paul and Fred are trying to get us a coach for Covenant College who can help us "package" our performance better so that we not only sound good, but look "mahvelous."

The Christmas Show concept was roughed out. The general idea will be a variety, as opposed to theme, show. We are looking at getting bell ringers, a chorale, Sweet Adelines, ballet, string ensemble, etc., as well as doing more audience sing-a-longs interspersed through the show. If you have any ideas on this (especially new music), pass them along to Fred or Ron.

The Music VP will be asking for formal proposals for the Spring Show. Dust off your old ideas and tweak your the new ones, get an outline of your dialog and repertoire, put it on paper, and submit it to Fred.

As I promised last month, we're working on new stuff all the time, so if you miss a week, you'll miss something new!

On the social side, I'm interested in ideas for a summer social. Let me know what has been done in the past that you liked (or didn't) and what you'd like considered this year.

Future Activities Planning

by Lamar Owens
Youth Outreach

We are now working with the local school systems to put together an annual Sing America high school quartet contest. The contest would be open to quartets of both genders from all schools in the Chattanooga area and would include private and Georgia/Alabama schools. The Sweet Adelines would work with us and the ladies' quartets that enter the contest. The event would be held in April of 1998 and would be judged like our annual contests. The music would be that which is written for young voices and supplied by us. The male winners would be invited to sing on our spring show and would be awarded scholarships to the Harmony Explosion camp which will be held at Clemson each year. The scholarship would include the music teacher or coach. The ladies would be invited to sing on the Sweet Adelines fall show. The monies expended for scholarships would come from funds earmarked for Heartspring and Sing America and would still count toward our Gold Chapter designation. In this effort there will be the need for quartets to sing for school assemblies or music departments. Most of these requests will be need to be met during daytime hours when the students are available.

The Raleigh chapter in North Carolina (Golden Triangle) just did this in their area and it was enthusiastically received. They had seven high schools participate and close to three hundred attended the contest. There will be over twice that many schools in our new merged system, not counting private schools and other states. This could turn out to be a very large event. This is an excellent venue to accomplish our goals for Sing America, garner publicity for our hobby, increase membership and guarantee more attendance at our spring shows. We as a board hope you will give this your enthusiastic support. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer your quartet to sing or just volunteer to help with this endeavor please speak to any board member. This is not a

finished product and there is much work to be done and many decisions yet to be made.

It's None of His Business

by Larry Huber
Business Manager (acting)

Well, Steve was too busy to write a column this month, so I have commandeered his space. I hope everyone has enjoyed their brief respite from contest/show commitments, because we've got a whole mess of gigs coming up. So bring that C# (white pants, blue shirt) out of mothballs, dry clean the A#, shine up the patent leathers, and get ready! The upcoming performance schedule is as follows:

East Lake Park

Saturday, June 14
w/u 2 PM, sing 3 PM
Uniform: C#

Pops Rehearsal

Thursday, 7/3, 7:30 PM
Memorial Auditorium

East Ridge Camp Jordan

Friday, July 4 (time TBA)
Outfit C#

Pops in the Park

Saturday, July 5
Performance, 7:15
Assembly time TBA
Uniform: C#

North Georgia Farm Credit (Paid)

@ Walker County Civic Center
Thursday, July 24, w/u 7 PM
Uniform: A#

North Georgia Farm Credit (Paid)

@ Sonorville
Thursday, August date/time TBA
Uniform: A#

Meeting of Board of Directors, May 8, 1997

<u>Present</u>			<u>Absent</u>	<u>Guests</u>
Fred Jesse	Lamar Owens	Larry Huber	Steve Grubb	Bill Slack
Dick Bidwell	David Reynolds	Lamar Smith	Bernard Peek	Paul Blazek
Tom Keegan	Barry Owens	Rick Kulp		

The meeting was called to order by President Keegan at 7:35 PM at All Saints Academy.

Secretary - The minutes of the April 10, 1997 meeting were approved with two corrections.

Treasurer - Lamar Owens submitted the written report, attached. A summary follows:

Previous Balance	\$6780.82	Disbursed	\$461.32
Received	\$746.94	Balance	\$7,056.44

Committee Reports

Chapter Development - Keegan reported for Smith: Guest Night set for May 12. The program has been developed, songs have been selected.

Music and Performance - Fred Jesse - **Spring Show** - Fred Jesse commented that there was some ill-feeling about the way the tickets were priced. Tickets for the next show should all be priced the same, giving discounts for early purchases. (children, seniors, etc.) The board agreed. **Fall Competition** - Competition songs will be *Margie* and *The Last Time I Saw Henry*. The music has been ordered. **1998 Spring Show** - Fred will check on availability of the UTC Auditorium on May 2 or May 9 (Saturdays). The May 2 date is preferred.

Program - Larry Huber submitted a written report, attached. He reports \$40 surplus for the show afterglow. Guest Night Program set up. He suggested that a Quartet Activity Chairman be appointed by the Music VP who would be responsible to "encourage the formation and development of barbershop quartets.

High School Outreach Program - May 19 set for High School Night with Central High School. Lamar Owens volunteered to head up the High School Outreach Program. The board accepted his offer enthusiastically.

Business Manager - No report.

Bulletin Editor - The digital camera he is using is producing some great pictures.

Publicity - Lamar Owens reported that he had sent out press releases to nine radio stations and four newspapers covering the Guest Night. Lamar volunteered to be the new Publicity Chairman. President Keegan and the board members enthusiastically accepted his offer.

Old Business - Fred Jesse submitted the revised Mission Statement and Vision Statement to the board for their approval. David Reynolds moved, seconded by Barry Owens that the statements be published in the *Blender* and later be submitted to the membership for their approval. Passed.

New Business - Christmas Show, 1997 - Board agreed to present a show at UTC. Fred will try to reserve the auditorium for either December 5, 6, 12 or 13. The board agreed that the preferred dates would be either the fifth or the twelfth, Fridays, considering the amount of local activity on the Saturdays.

Adjournment - 9:25 PM

CHATTANOOGA CHOO-CHOO CHORUS 1997 BUDGET

SPEBSQSA

May 31, 1997

No.	Description	Budget	Actual January 1 to May 31, 1997	Accts. Rec. or Funds Transfer	Budget Balance	Percent To date
INCOME						
100a	Investments-CD's		\$27.60	\$5,500.00		49.67%
300	Chapter dues	\$594.00	\$247.50		\$346.50	41.67%
310a	Spring show tickets	\$3,400.00	\$1,854.00		\$1,546.00	54.53%
310b	Spring show adv. sales	\$2,900.00	\$1,330.00	\$860.00	\$1,570.00	45.86%
310c	Christmas show tickets	\$3,400.00			\$3,400.00	
320	Performance fees	\$6,250.00	\$5,503.00		\$747.00	88.05%
340	Heartsprings/Sing America	\$1,680.00	\$704.58		\$975.42	41.94%
342	Other contributions	\$240.00	\$25.00		\$215.00	10.42%
350	Other revenue		\$34.81			
350a	Refunds to chapter	\$600.00	\$245.00		\$355.00	40.83%
350b	Parties/gifts, etc.	\$1,128.00	\$1,057.52		\$70.48	93.75%
360	Other revenues/members	\$2,040.00	\$99.25		\$1,940.75	4.87%
	TOTAL INCOME	\$22,232.00	\$11,128.26		\$11,166.15	50.06%
EXPENSES						
401	Meeting room	\$800.00	\$144.99		\$655.01	18.12%
411	Director fees	\$1,680.00	\$700.00		\$980.00	41.67%
413	Schools expense-COTS	\$850.50	\$170.85		\$679.65	20.09%
421	Travel & exp's	\$552.00	\$220.90		\$331.10	40.02%
422	Uniform expense	\$1,914.00	\$234.61		\$1,679.39	12.26%
432	Office expense	\$492.00	\$246.54		\$245.46	50.11%
433	Publications (Blender)	\$624.00	\$257.97		\$366.03	41.34%
434	Music purchases	\$800.00	\$139.00		\$661.00	17.38%
435	Program expense		\$9.16		(\$9.16)	
436	Insurance	\$380.00	\$285.00		\$95.00	75.00%
437	Public relations	\$108.00	\$40.00		\$68.00	37.04%
440	Misc. show expense	\$250.00	\$149.08		\$100.92	59.63%
441	Auditorium expense	\$260.00	\$116.30		\$143.70	44.73%
442	Scenery-props	\$400.00			\$400.00	
443	Valentine day expenses	\$600.00	\$542.79		\$57.21	90.47%
444	Printing	\$768.00	\$417.50		\$350.50	54.36%
446	Talent fees	\$1,000.00	\$630.00		\$370.00	63.00%
447	Publicity	\$504.00	\$68.66		\$435.34	13.62%
448	ASCAP-BMI	\$324.00	\$43.00		\$281.00	13.27%
449	City-State tax	\$20.00	\$20.00		\$0.00	100.00%
450	Charitable expenses	\$2,500.00			\$2,500.00	
460	Social expense	\$730.00	\$93.78		\$636.22	12.85%
470	Miscellaneous expense	\$1,200.00	\$58.05		\$1,141.95	4.84%
471	Afterglow expense	\$1,000.00	\$260.00		\$740.00	26.00%
	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$17,756.50	\$4,848.18		\$12,908.32	27.30%
	TOTAL PROJECTED SURPLUS	\$4,475.50				

Something To Crow About

by Pat Crowe

Sizzle Sells: A Lesson in Salesmanship



Remember the steak houses that brought the steaks on a "sizzlin" platter? The sizzle sold more steaks! The second half of guest night, we **SIZZLED**. We were having fun. It was the reason the Society was born...**WE LOVE TO SING!!!** The first half brought to mind the old Scot, who, when asked his

opinion of an event replied, "Weel laddie, I hah mah doots about it."

At break time a few members were heard expressing their "Doots" also. Comments like "Boring" and "overkill on the mechanics". Dave Abercrombie saw it. The eyes glazing over, the checking of watches, the what the heck is this look. I thought they sang? Being a sales oriented person, he quickly realized they didn't need a repetition of sectional sounds by a second quartet. So..."**PLOP PLOP FIZZ FIZZ, OH WHAT A RELIEF IT IS**", he got right in to quarteting...also called "singing." You know, the sizzle that sells.

Prior to USA's entry into W.W.II Winston Churchill was admonished by members of the British parliament for his pursuit and political romancing of FDR. They thought his giveaway of British territory in the Caribbean in exchange for fifty old US Navy warships was outrageous. To paraphrase his reply: "To win a virtuous maiden, or in this case a potential ally, one must romance her and one must pursue her. But all changes once we have them safely in our harem."

Bringing a guest to a chapter guest night we know up front that this guy likes to sing! He is receptive to singing. So like a savvy fisherman you set your hook with the right bait. Don't hit him over

the head with the mechanics, etc. He'll be scared off! Lectures he can get on the job or at home. He's looking for a hobby! He wants to **SING**! So set that hook, **SING, SING, SING**. Let's sizzle! Let's not forget the **FUN** along with the **FUNDamentals**. Let's pursue them. Let's romance them. Let's **SIZZLE** and above all, let's **SING**. Once we get them in the "harem" they are ours.

Society Continues to Grow

by Dan Daily

Update SPEBSQSA

For the 14th consecutive month, the Society has experienced membership growth. As of April 30, 1997, our total was 33,296 members—up 320 from a year ago. This is the highest April membership numbers since 1992.

Twelve districts shared in the growth, with Rocky Mountain and Dixie leading the way, each with a five-percent growth over last year. Retention has been running slightly ahead of previous years' trends. It looks as though, on the whole, we are bringing 'em in and keeping 'em!

Looking for a Professional Specialist?

by Dan Daily

Update SPEBSQSA

For quite some time, Society headquarters has been collecting occupation codes that appear on the back of renewal notices (except for Canadian members who pay their chapter directly) and on the back of new member applications. Rosters of these occupation codes are available for nominating committees or other *qualified* barbershop use.

We encourage all U.S. members to please mark these codes for us.

Chattin' with Chad

by Chad Newgaugh

Webster defines shoe: An external covering for the human foot, usually of leather and consisting of a more or less stiff or heavy sole and a lighter upper part ending a short distance above, at or below the ankle.

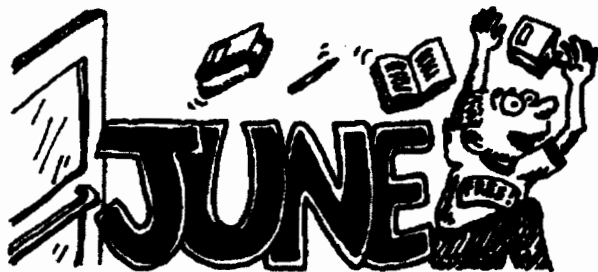
But to the Chattanooga Choo Choo Chorus it is an object of recognition, a subject that brings many a retort and jest from the populace. It is Lloyd Gimber's cross to bear. He has yet to live down that day of infamy. That day that he walked off with Ed Durden's shoes.

Though we didn't see Ed at many of our chapter meetings, he along with James Coulter, Fred Jesse and Dowell Kelley gave many performances as the Rock City 4.

You have heard the old saying, "What goes around etc." Well it has come full circle.

On guest night Lloyd rose and made a statement. In his words: "I don't know if you would call this a historical or a hysterical announcement. But someone walked off with my shoes at the Spring Show." After the hoopla died down, I got to wondering. I don't want to point fingers or cast any suspicions, but is it just a coincidence that James Coulter traveled all the way from the snow-swept plains of Nebraska just to sing with the Rock City 4? Or was it revenge? Hmm, I wonder.

Maybe we should strike a medal "The Order of the Shoe" and award it annually to some poor soul whom we deem worthy. The Queen of England bestows "The Order of the Garter." We would be a step ahead with the "Shoe."



Teaser

Answer to last month's teaser. This quote was by recently deceased humorist, Lewis Grissard. He included this comment in his performances after one his operations where a valve in his heart was replace by that of a pig.

Who said, "Neither a borrower nor a lender be for loan oft loses both itself and friend."? Read next month's Blender for the answer. Be Happy!

Thought for the Month

He worked by day
And toiled by night
He gave up play And some delight.

Dry books he read
New things to learn,
And forged ahead
Success to earn.

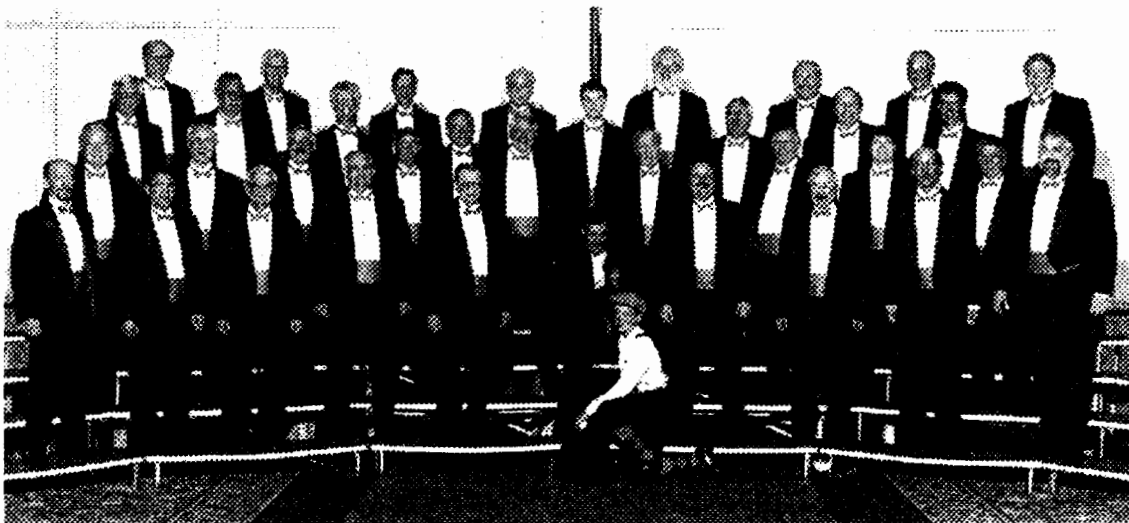
He plodded on
With faith and pluck,
And when he won...
They called it luck!

That Old Quartet of Mine



The Riverblenders

Barry Owens, Bernard Peek, David Collins, Johnny Jackson



Writing Right

by *Who Rays*, Plantation, Fla. Bulletin
Mike Roth, editor

The life of a bulletin editor isn't easy—that's why we get the big bucks! Just have a look at a few of the rules, rules, rules that we have to keep in mind...

- Always avoid alliteration.
- Prepositions are not good words to end sentences with.
- Avoid clichés like the plague.
- Be careful to use adjectives and adverbs correct.
- Always proofread to see if you any words out.
- Avoid the use of ampersands & abbreviations, etc.
- Parenthetical remarks (even when relevant) are distracting.
- Its important to use apostrophe's with great care.
- It is better not to unnecessarily split an infinitive.
- About sentence fragments.
- Avoid unnecessary redundancy.
- A writer must avoid shifting you point of view.
- A verb must agree with their subject.
- Foreign words and phrases are not apropos.
- Never generalize.
- Watch out for irregular verbs which have crept into our language.
- Steer clear of quotations. "I hate quotations, Ralph Waldo Emerson said. "Tell me what you know."
- Metaphors are like similes.
- Be more or less specific.
- Understatement is always the best.
- Exaggerations a billion times worse.
- The passive voice is to be avoided.
- Use colloquialisms when pigs fly.
- Even if a mixed metaphor sings, it should be derailed.
- Who needs rhetorical questions?
- Above all, writing should be sincere, whether you mean it or not.

Chauncey Olcott

An American Musical Leprechaun

excerpted from an article by Ed Shanaphy
Sheet Music Magazine
March 1985

Once upon a time in New York City, and in many other American cities where émigrés of the Emerald Isle had settled, the name (or photograph) of Chauncey Olcott appeared on every kiosk and playbill-covered wall, in newspapers and major periodicals, on the covers of sheet music.

He was a true musical star in every sense. A beautiful Irish tenor voice, which caused men to cheer and women to swoon, made him a singing sensation and the darling of Broadway. The songs he composed, and the lyrics he wrote including *My Wild Irish Rose*, *When Irish Eyes Are Smiling*, and *Mother Machree* were, and continue to be, multi-million sellers.

Born in Buffalo, New York on July 21, 1858, his first public appearance was at that city's Academy of Music as a singer of ballads. He also appeared as a blackface minstrel with a troupe, in leading roles in light opera productions, and as an Irish singer in musical plays. For many of these plays Olcott wrote the musical scores as well as the libretti.

Chauncey Olcott and Ernest R. Ball were an inspirational musical partnership. Some of Ball's best-loved songs were co-authored and introduced by Olcott including *Mother Machree*. Chauncey Olcott also wrote, in collaboration with George Graff, the lyrics for Ernest Ball's melody of *When Irish Eyes are Smiling*.

The story is told that Ernest Ball went the Olcott home armed with a new batch of songs. When Ball played *When Irish Eyes Are Smiling*, Chauncey exclaimed, "That's too hard to sing, Ernie. That note's too high." "Faith now and it isn't," Ball replied. "That G sounds like a high C. Wait till you try it." And in a few moments Olcott did, and leaned on that note for all it was worth.

"Ernie, lad, that's the best one you ever did. God bless you."

Olcott left this world at his home in Monte Carlo early in the morning of March 18, 1932. That's what it was in Monte Carlo. But back home, back where they loved him dearly, back at Fifty-Seventh and Fifth, back where the strains of his music floated on the late night air, it was still the 17th of March.

And the minstrel said 'goodnight' on Saint Patrick's Day.

Belles' Business

by Nancy Owens
Belles' President



Thanks to the Belles who assisted (either behind the scenes or up front) with Guest Night. The guys seemed to enjoy the spread of goodies.

We received a thank you note from Rick and Lesley Kulp. It read:

Dear Ladies,
Thank you so much for the donation. We feel so blessed to be surrounded by so many people who care. Thank you for organizing such a wonderful sunshine shower and for making us feel so loved.

Love Rick and Lesley

Since summer is here and so many of us have vacation plans, the Belles will not meet until later in the summer. If we need to have a meeting, a special one will be called.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Chattanooga Chapter of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America is to promote and encourage the joy of barbershop harmony by:

- Preserving the craft and style of barbershop music
- Encouraging formation and development of barbershop quartets
- Educating young people, as well as older ones, in the enjoyment of close vocal harmony
- Singing an exciting and varied repertoire
- Performing for the public at charitable, religious, educational, and paid engagements
- Promoting unity and fellowship through musical, social, and Society activities
- Growing steadily in membership by attracting enthusiastic male singers of all ages
- Instilling individual commitment to develop musical and singing skills through training, motivation, mentoring, and participation
- Improving singing quality as measured by competition scores.

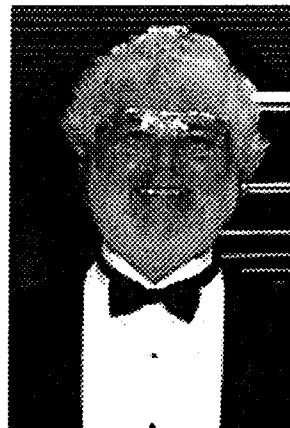
Vision Statement

The Chattanooga Chapter of the S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. is a large, vibrant group of male singers that enjoys learning, fine tuning, and performing the craft of singing in the barbershop style. Barbershop music bonds each member fraternally, and that strengthened by the mutual respect and support each man has for the others. Each member takes great pride in his ability, and his contributions to the Chorus, the Society, and the community. Furthermore, the Chorus is well respected within the community, the Dixie District, and the Society, because of its high quality of performance, very active singing schedule, and support of local and national educational and charitable organizations.

Pete Jones' father passed away Sunday June 1, 1997. The funeral will be at Wilson's Funeral Home in Ft. Oglethorpe at noon Tuesday. Interment will be at the National Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations to Hospice at Hutcheson Memorial Hospital will be appreciated by the family.

The Last Word...

by Barry Owens
editor



It's payback time. What goes around comes around. Hey, I'm full of clichés, or, at least, full of something.

Tom Keegan thinks its time to give payback for the life-saving treatment he underwent a while back when he had open-heart surgery at Park Ridge Medical Center.

He does this the only way he knows how; he gets his Harrison Bay Harmonizer quartet together each month and goes room to room singing an uplifting song to some very ill people.

Twice, lately, I've had the privilege and pleasure to fill in with this quartet. I would be quite a writer if I could convey to you the look of pleasure and gratitude we receive from these patients and their loved ones. I'm still not sure who enjoys it most—us or them!

Tom, there's a special place up there somewhere for people who pay their debts! Thank you for letting me help!



The Blender



June 1997

Volume 6 Number 6

The Official Publication of the Chattanooga Chapter of
The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America

Chattanooga, Tennessee

Dixie District

Finally, He is in Print!

by Paul Blazek
Musical Director



If this actually works, you will be reading words of wisdom from your director for the first time in many moons. It seems that no matter how hard I try, the e-mail will not cooperate. However, at this point in the paragraph, I must assume that whatever Greek, Roman, or Norse god is responsible for

e-mail will have done his/her thing and we are truly communicating.

The show is long over, but I want to express my thanks for the hard work you put into it. Overall, it was a very good show and I believe the audience got their money's worth. They certainly stood up at the end (I wonder why...).

We have two new songs for contest this fall: *Margie*, and *The Last Time I Saw Henry*. *Margie* is the same song we did as part of the *Three-Girl Medley*, but this is the standard Society arrangement. *The Last Time I Saw Henry* is an old but funny song about having a girl friend stolen away, and it should be a great follow-up to *Margie*. The arrangement needs some work, including a new intro and tag, but it should be finished soon. We will have learning tapes available within a couple of weeks.

Pops in the Park is on. We will be performing the *Berlin Medley* and the *Cohan Medley*, so be prepared to work hard, especially on the *Cohan Medley*. We will also have about twelve minutes during the intermission to perform by ourselves, and that program will be chosen soon.

Plans are being made right now for our Covenant College weekend. This is always a very intense learning experience, and a chance to take advantage of "expert" coaching (a guy who comes at least 50 miles, and has a briefcase). PLEASE plan to attend this session!

That's all for now. Do something this week to improve your singing, and resolve to keep doing it.

*The Chattanooga Chapter of
The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America
meets Monday evening, 7:00 at All Saints Academy, 310 East Eighth Street, Chattanooga, TN 37403*

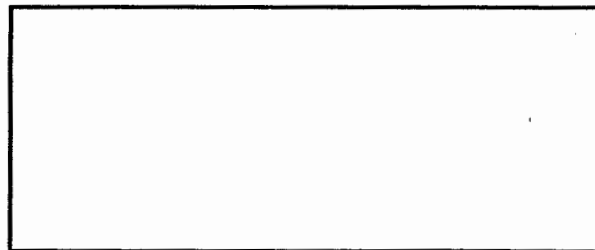
The 1997 Leadership Team Serving The Chapter

President	Tom Keegan	(423) 756-5660
Music & Performance VP	Fred Jesse	(706) 375-5935
Chapter Development VP	Lamar Smith	(706) 866-2481
Program VP	Larry Huber	(423) 339-1697
Publicity Chairman	Lamar Owens	(423) 894-4638
Secretary	Dave Reynolds	(423) 875-2674
Assistant Secretary	Earle Fraser	(423) 892-7630
Treasurer	Lamar Owens	(423) 894-8559
Assistant Treasurer	Benny Malone	(423) 344-9211
Board Member At Large (1 year)	Bernard Peek	(706) 398-3104
Board Member At Large (2 year)	Dick Bidwell	(423) 870-3196
Board Member At Large (3 year)	Rick Kulp	(423) 266-0758
Bulletin Editor	Barry Owens	(706) 891-9501
Business Manager & Marketing	Steve Grubb	(706) 861-6171
Immediate Past President	Steve Grubb	(706) 861-6171
Heartspring Chairman	Brooks Gist	(423) 892-7191
Musical Director	Paul Blazek	(423) 622-4493
Assistant Director	Ron Weaver	(423) 476-3200
Assistant Director	C.W. Wall	(706) 820-0579
Equipment Manager	Pete Jones	(706) 861-2113
Choo Choo Belles President	Nancy Owens	(423) 755-4526

The Blender

*The official newsletter of the Chattanooga Chapter of
The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement
of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America*

Barry Owens, Editor
Chattanooga Chapter
247 Morris Drive
Ringgold, GA 30736





The Blender

August 1997

Volume 6 Number 8

The Official Publication of the Chattanooga Chapter of
The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America

Chattanooga, Tennessee

Dixie District

A Tribute Tinged With Sadness

by Tom Keegan
President

We are all saddened and shocked by the terrible accident that happened to Larry Huber, our Program VP. As most of you know, Larry left our meeting on Monday night, June 9 and had a serious automobile accident on his way home. So serious, in fact, that as of this article, almost eight weeks later, Larry has still not regained consciousness.

To learn that one of our chapter members has been hospitalized is sad in itself; but to see him lingering in a silent world with no sign of being able to communicate is sadder still. In the few short years that Larry has been a barbershopper, he has been a very active member. He has excellent organizational skills, and once he took charge of programming, our Monday night meetings became very organized and focused. He did such a good job that we elevated the position of Program Chairman to Vice President, Program. He was full of enthusiasm and ideas and loved singing barbershop.

His wife, Gloria got him started in barbershopping.

Larry is a Georgia Tech graduate, and he and Gloria moved from Atlanta to Cleveland, Tennessee. Gloria loved to sing, joined the Sweet Adelines and persuaded Larry to visit our Chattanooga Chapter to see if he'd like barbershop singing. In fact, Gloria came with him during his first two visits. Once he heard those baritone notes, he was hooked. And now we want him back.

Three weeks ago Larry was transferred from Erlanger Hospital to Health South, a rehabilitation center, in hopes of bringing him out of his coma. While that has not happened yet, I personally believe he's making great progress. Last Monday the entire chorus visited Health South and sang for Larry, who was seated in a wheelchair. As the thirty-plus members sang *Play a Simple Melody*, Larry's eyes popped open and stayed that way until the song was finished. Having visited Larry a number of times, I've never seen his eyes open like that, and it brought a lump to my throat. He truly seems to be making progress. Please God may that continue to happen.

Barbershop Harmony singing is a wonderful hobby. Each of us loves to sing—but the fellowship goes far beyond singing. That's why it makes us so sad when one of our brothers is injured. We know Larry's wife, Gloria, misses him, but so do we. Please keep him in your prayers.

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The Blender

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Pick-up Quartet Performs Twice

Although those guys don't have a name, Those Guys can still perform! On Tuesday afternoon June 10, they sang for Foster Grandparents at a picnic given by UTC Children's Center. Two days later Those Guys delivered a singing birthday card to a lovely lady at a dentist's office. Pictured from left to right are Those Guys: Bill McKeehan, bari; W.C. Strickland, bass; Lamar Owens, lead; and Barry Owens, tenor.

Augusta's Bulletin Fifth in Society

Congratulations to Bob Green, editor of the *Garden City Chorus Bulletin*. Bob has improved his *Bulletin* every year. The Garden City Chorus is from Augusta, Georgia, the same chorus that our beloved Woody Woodson directed for a while. This year the Society recognized him as the fifth best editor in the entire barbershop world. I have been a class-mate of Bob's in our various schools in the Dixie District. He has always been helpful with his advise and comments. Once again, congratulations, Bob!

Chattanooga Choo-Choo Chorus Repertoire

Performance Songs

Alexander's Ragtime Band
All Hail The Power Of Jesus' Name
Always
Amazing Grace
Battle Hymn Of The Republic
Chattanooga Choo-Choo
Darkness On The Delta
Dixie
God Bless America
Heart Of My Heart
I Believe
Irish Blessing
Keep The Whole World Singing
Margie
Minstrel Montage
Nearer My God To Thee
Radio
Ride The Railroad Tonight
Shine On Me
Simple Melody
Sweet And Lovely
Tag For Your Wife
The Last Time I Saw Henry
This Is My Country
We Sing That They Shall Speak
Welcome Back To Dixieland
When You Wish Upon A Star

FYI

Be sure to read the copy of the minutes and the Treasurer's report on the slip sheet in the center of *The Blender*.

Ferd's Words

by Fred Jesse
Music & Performance VP

Barbershop and Ragtime Piano

My sister and I just returned from the 23rd Annual World Championship Old-Time Piano Playing Contest. How does that relate to barbershop? In a lot of ways. This contest is like ours in many respects. The contest music is turn-of-the-century through 1927, popular tunes, ragtime, and blues. Piano players wear period costumes and play at an old open front upright piano. Scoring is similar to ours and playoffs continue until the top five are chosen.

I attended a workshop on ragtime music performers, and those pianists were performers. They, just as we do, had to keep the audience involved. The present day performer, as then, must improvise to keep the audience from getting bored. It was said that the average listener is very good, but doesn't know why. They can look right through the performer, that includes us, and can relate to a good performance. You can't fool your audience. You must keep them interested, involved, and they will come back.

The Saturday night sing-along had a song book with words to all the old songs we barbershoppers sing, like *You Tell Me Your Dream*, *Shine On Harvest Moon*, *Let Me Call You Sweetheart*, *The Band Played On*, and lots of others. However, it is a little hard to sing a barbershop arrangement to a ragtime accompaniment.

At the convention in Indianapolis, David Reynolds and I, and a busload of other barbershoppers and ladies went to Boggstown Inn in Boggstown Indiana for lunch, and listen to Ragtime piano. What a fun time, ask Dave. At the sing-a-long, the pianists, there were two, were awed, (there's that word again) when they found that this group not only knew the song, they also knew the tune, words, and even better, four-part harmony as well. A hand-picked, or was it pick-up, quartet performed

for all. It was the best of my two favorite worlds, barbershop and ragtime piano. Next time, more thoughts on the convention.



Shut-In Quarteting

by Tom Keegan
President

In our last issue of *The Blender* Barry Owens wrote about singing at Park Ridge Hospital as a substitute tenor with the Harrison Bay Harmonizers. That has been an ongoing program for almost three years at that hospital.

Every month our quartet has been visiting the fifth floor patients, going from room to room singing one or two songs to each patient. They look forward to our coming and it is, without a doubt, one of the most rewarding things I've ever done in barbershopping. The patients don't really care whether the quartet is one of Dixie's Top Ten quartets or not—they simply know that they're going to get an entertaining break in their hospital routine.

I specifically remember walking into a room where the patient was in great pain and crying for a nurse. Seeing her anguish, we started to leave, when she asked us to go ahead and sing anyway. As we began singing, she stopped crying and for a brief few moments, she forgot that pain. To see the change was remarkable. When we finished, she asked us in a calm voice, if we would now get her a nurse.

If you want appreciation for our hobby, sing for those who are ill and shut-in. They don't need a concert or a chorus—just a little entertainment—and we can supply it. Nursing homes, hospitals, rehabilitation centers, boy do they need quartets! How about it?

Something to Crow About

by Pat Crowe

Pops in the Park.. Oh, mmm, was it as good for you as it was for me? Ooops!.. Sorry. Before someone reads that wrong let's rephrase. Pops in the Park with the Chattanooga Symphony and Opera Association...or how I spent a summer day with 20,000 plus Rednecks and Dang Yankees!

I knew it wasn't a happy event the previous day with severe storms causing power outages and wind damage. But it brought in perfect weather, not the blistering heat and sweat of prior Pops performances.

The only thing we were sweating over was "where are the tenors!!" Rick Kulp stepped in to the breach ready and willing to sub in the Stage Eleven's quartet with their lead-in to God Bless America. But then their "Tardy Tenor" finally graced the risers. Thanks Rick. In the past some of us have been heard discussing (and in not too pleasant of terms) about the heat retention qualities of our chorus shirts. Well, let me tell you Bubba, they felt like mesh tank-tops compared to the heavy woolen attire the Civil War 8th regimental band of Rome, Georgia graced on their torrid, blazing bodies. Wow! Talk about "Sweatin' to the Oldies." Even money says they had to have wrung out a gallon or more of perspiration. I'd say those woolen uniforms shrunk a whole size during their time on stage.

And how about symphony director Bob Bernhardt? What a guy. Always smiling, always giving encouragement. We'll overlook and forgive him for those cornball stories. The one about the Panda Bear was a real "groaner." One could see the wheels turning and the perplexed countenances until the punch-line finally struck home, and the groans began to float across the area. Honest, it was so bad you couldn't help but love it.

Thanks are in order. First to Sam Jones and his boyhood bass buddy LeRoy Hobbs. They again

showed us "avoid the hassle and fuss; leave the driving to us." (Or would they say Us'n?) The exodus from the park was worry-free, as those thousands in attendance hit those same narrow park roads for home.

Also thanks to those faithful members who show, and share their joy of barbershop harmony. Hey, and the food twern't bad either! Special thanks to the old "Pathfinder" Earle (the pearl) Fraser, who unselfishly offered to share his "Fix-O-Dent" so we wouldn't lose our dentures while forming those perfect vowels. How about that guy. Now that's something to Crow about!

Letter to the editor

Barry, just a word to remind the members regarding the article in the Sunday Free Press about the chapter's participation in "Pops in the Park".

Most members don't realize the effort and process it takes to get a few lines in any publication.

I want to tip my hat to Lamar Owens, our fine Public Relations chairman, for not only the "Pops in the Park" performance, but he have us a "Grand Slam" with the (to my knowledge) never before mention of our London Trip and our efforts in High School Barbershop Quartet Competition.

Great Work!! For many this will be a first time news item.

Personally knowing the lack of cooperation and the frustration of getting print space or media air time, the chapter owes Lamar a vote of thanks for a job well done.

But more than that, he needs your cooperation to continue his tasks.

Pat Crowe

P.S. Did you ever see such a motley looking quartet?

It's None of Your Business

by Steve Grubb
Business Manager.
Immediate Past President &
Acting Program Vice-President

This is my first effort as a three-way "Office Holder"— Business Manager, Immediate Past President and *temporary* Program Vice-President. Does that mean the article needs to be three times as long, or do I need to write three different articles? After almost no deliberation, I've decided it would be best to contain my thoughts to only one article (I know you're cheering inside), and preserve my friendship with the membership as well as our ultra-dedicated Bulletin Editor.

Speaking of said Editor, has anyone seen him lately? Rumor has it he went to Indianapolis, but I can't confirm this. Also, it was reported he was at our latest sing-out, but it's been so long I can't recall for sure how he looks or what part he sings. Uh, I just remembered what he looks like; and it seems even when he's here we're debating what part he's singing! I guess there's some benefit to every job, and summer time free for travel is now Barry's perk. He's been gone almost the entire summer it seems, and I've missed his enthusiasm for singing, as well as the *Blender*. Barry, keep doing the great job you do and enjoy your summer away from mindless immaturity and disdain for discipline (You all can decide if this means his students or his fellow Barbershoppers!). Let's sing one together when you return!

Pops in the Park was a rousing success, as always. The weather was great, and the crowds enthusiastic. The Symphony seemed to enjoy our contribution to the program, and Paul was, for the most part, agreeable to our effort. A goodly number represented the chorus, despite a large contingency already shining for Chattanooga at the Convention. That must have been a blast! Congratulations to Big Chicken and FRED for their great work; Dixie can be proud of this outstanding group of singers. Look out for '98 in Atlanta! ! Let's

plan now on attending the convention when Hotlanta hosts next year. They will put on a great show; plan to be there! !

Our latest sing-out went very well with over thirty men singing. Thanks for your support of this effort. Remember, next month we do it again in Sonoraville, GA (Near Calhoun) for the North Georgia Farm Credit group from that area. Different audience, same organization hosting and expecting the same great show. Let's support this gig that Mr. Wheeler has parlayed for us. This is \$600.00 for the chorus coffers, and we need to present ourselves accordingly.

Speaking of gigs, here's a list of upcoming events we need to be aware of now:

—Friday, 8/22/97

Chattanooga Christian School
Freebie Bar-B-que provided for chorus
Dress: TBA

—Saturday, 8/23/97

North GA Farm Credit
Paid Sonoraville, GA
@ approximately 8:00 PM Dress: A# Tuxedo

—Saturday, 9/13/97

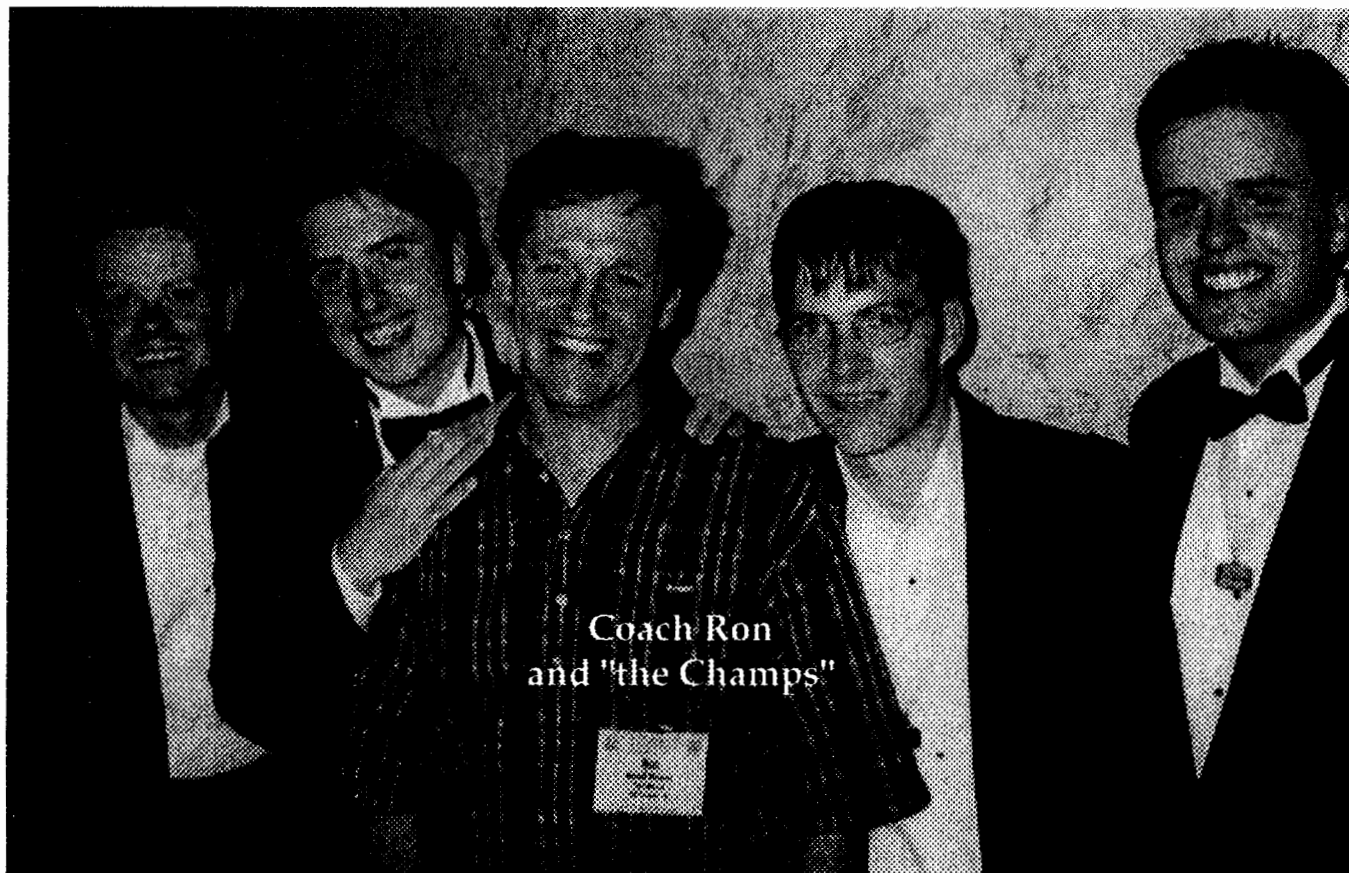
Chatt Valley Church of Nazarene Freebie
Sing for approximately 1 hour
2 or 3 PM Dress: TBA

—Sunday, 11/9/97

Benny Malone's place of worship Sunday evening,
more information to follow
Freebie Dress: A# tuxedo

Doubtless more will be said elsewhere, but Covenant weekend will have just ended as we read this *Blender*. Great fellowship and fun will have been had by all, and much work done on our contest numbers. Let's all dedicate ourselves to performing these two pieces to the best of our ability come October. We need to do this in order to remain a top ten chorus in Dixie. Let me encourage everyone to attend competition in Greenville, SC this fall. It's not too far to travel, and you'll have a

Continued on page 9 Column 1



Coach Ron
and "the Champs"

A Message to MBNA on the College Quartet Contest

Taken from *update*
July 1997

The following was submitted to and printed in the daily bulletin in Indianapolis:

"It is well with the soul of barbershop when the HARMONY EXPLOSION program introduced barbershop harmony to a couple of brothers who'd never heard it before and who went onto become 1996 MBNA America Quartet Champs—namely, **Four Voices**. There are wonderful stories behind *each* quartet that competes and we thank MBNA America for supporting the contest and making dreams come true. May your fortunes be doubled—so much as has the contest doubled our joy."

Being A Barbershopper

by Pat Crowe

The June issue of *The Blender* printed the Chattanooga chapter's Vision Statement. In part, it reads: "Barbershop music bonds each member fraternally, and that strengthened by the mutual respect and support each man has for others."

In the spring edition of the *Rebel Rouser*, Thom Hine in his thank-you upon receiving the Dixie District BOTY award, reportedly said, "The barbershop Society is not just an organization, it is **family**." The events of Saturday July 19 and Monday July 21 is further proof of the membership's belief of these statements.

The "Old Pathfinder", Earle Fraser, was surprised by members of the chorus on that Saturday morning. When "Buffet" Bob led him into the banquet room of the Country Place Cafeteria, he was

Continued On page 8 column 1

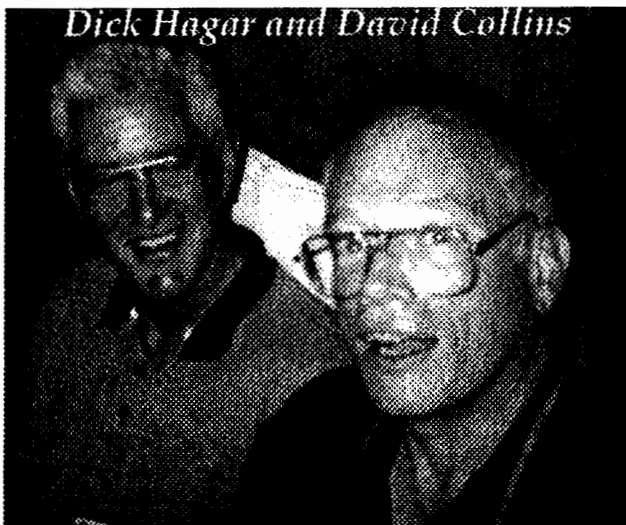
Continued from page 7 column 2

speechless. There, along with members of his family from out of town, he was serenaded and entertained by the chorus, their spouses and friends. He was speechless. But not for long, as he joined the chorus to prove to his out-of-town guests he really and truly does sing with one of the Dixie District's Top Ten Choruses!

The children and grandchildren were amazed by the "Old Curmudgeon." It was a happy birthday for Earle, and don't forget it's spelt with a small "e". The following Monday, thirty-four "Brothers" in harmony joined in song at the Health South Rehabilitation Clinic, singing to brother barbershopper Larry Huber. With songs in our throats and prayers in our hearts we strived to open that door for Larry, and for him to regain consciousness and join us with one of his bari "tiddlies." The chorus also performed a short program for the clinic's other patients and visitors. We were well-received by those present. Our Vision Statement: "mutual respect and support each man has for others." Thom Hine, you have it right: "It is not just an organization—it is **Family!**"

THE CHAPTER THAT SINGS TOGETHER STAYS TOGETHER

Dick Hagar and David Collins



International Competitor and Fan

Belles' Business

by Nancy Owens
Belles President &
Current Barbershop Widow

I feel as if I should call this column THE REAL LAST WORD. If this *Blender* looks a little different it is because sweet Barry is off to Harmony College and I am putting it together. Not that I mind. Barry had everything typed in and the pictures scanned, I just had to import and arrange...or was it arrange and import.

Barry called from St. Jo, and he was having such a great time. All you guys need to go to Harmony College at least once. Now ladies don't beat me up the next time you see me.

Barry went two weeks early this summer (when he went to Virginia University for the SECME Institute) and then another two weeks (when we went on our western odyssey) without barbershop. The poor man went through withdrawal. If he hadn't had a replacement (tapes in the car), he might have been in serious trouble!! (and if I wasn't able to block out unaccompanied tenor, I might have gone bonkers!!) Since school starts back soon, I think he'll be at meetings for a while.

Now, for business. Barry tells me that our chapter has been asked to help with the Nashville convention (2001). I haven't been told yet whether there will be a need for the Belles' assistance, but whether we are needed or not some of our guys will be. Be understanding and "cut them some slack". We have plenty of time to plan any thing that needs to be addressed. After I get my fall schedule down, we'll resume our meetings and will start to work on the fall show.

I hope all of you have had a nice summer and look forward to seeing you at some of the up-coming events. Take care....

Continued from page 6 column 2

great time singing, fellowshiping, and representing the Choo-Choo Chorus. Come go with us if at all possible.

Last, but not least, wasn't it great to see Larry looking as good as he did last month when we sang for him? Only the Lord knows what progress he will yet make, but let's not forget him or give up praying for him. Go by and see him whenever you can; visits mean so much to both patient and family. Hang in there, Larry; we're all pulling for you and wishing you and Gloria the best.

Finally, thanks to all of you for your support of my feeble efforts to fill Mr. Huber's shoes as PVP. Cranking this group up and making it go each week is a challenge, not to mention the fact that I have to be there on time now for the meetings. Your cooperation has made the transition a very smooth one. If there are things we're not doing that you feel we need to, let me or Fred Jesse know ASAP. This is YOUR meeting time; let's make it worth everyone's while to be there.

Have you tried our new phone number? Call up the chapter sometime!

Until next month, Keep the Whole World Singing!

Pick-up quartet entertains Food Bank Volunteers at the Riverpark



Ron Weaver, lead; Barry Owens, tenor;
Dave Collins, bass; Chuck Wilson, bari



The Last Word...

by Barry Owens
editor

Our boys from Dixie did us proud in Indianapolis! With forty-three quartets singing Thursday, Bandstand almost made the first cut of the top twenty. The Svelte Bros. finished fifteenth, and of course, FRED is the second best barbershop quartet in the world.

I listened to all forty-three quartets; believe me, there were no bad quartets, only shades of good and great.

Everywhere we went, people were talking about Four Voices. They were the mic testers for the college quartet competition, and they also entertained while the judges were marking their final score cards. At the Good News Gospel sing-out they stole the show! It gave Lester a chance to witness to multitudes. They also sang at a sold-out professional baseball game on Saturday. I think they sang four songs. Fred Jesse said (a la Gomer Pyle) that he likes them; he don't love them (he had to sleep with them).

The city of Indianapolis is a lovely place with many monuments to their historical heroes. I saw virtually no street people; surely they have them.

It was great to see Dick Hagar compete with the Providence Chorus. They sang a very entertaining medley from the *Music Man*.

Several of us Chattanoogaans went to lunch on Saturday. David Collins and David Reynolds went into the rest room at the restaurant. Collins saw a shiny penny in the bottom of the commode and told Reynolds. Reynolds said that he has his standards and would not fish it out for only a penny. Now if it was a nickel...



The Blender

August 1997

Volume 6 Number 8

The Official Publication of the Chattanooga Chapter of
The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America

Chattanooga, Tennessee

Dixie District

A Tribute Tinged With Sadness

by Tom Keegan
President

We are all saddened and shocked by the terrible accident that happened to Larry Huber, our Program VP. As most of you know, Larry left our meeting on Monday night, June 9 and had a serious automobile accident on his way home. So serious, in fact, that as of this article, almost eight weeks later, Larry has still not regained consciousness.

To learn that one of our chapter members has been hospitalized is sad in itself; but to see him lingering in a silent world with no sign of being able to communicate is sadder still. In the few short years that Larry has been a barbershopper, he has been a very active member. He has excellent organizational skills, and once he took charge of programming, our Monday night meetings became very organized and focused. He did such a good job that we elevated the position of Program Chairman to Vice President, Program. He was full of enthusiasm and ideas and loved singing barbershop.

His wife, Gloria got him started in barbershopping.

Larry is a Georgia Tech graduate, and he and Gloria moved from Atlanta to Cleveland, Tennessee. Gloria loved to sing, joined the Sweet Adelines and persuaded Larry to visit our Chattanooga Chapter to see if he'd like barbershop singing. In fact, Gloria came with him during his first two visits. Once he heard those baritone notes, he was hooked. And now we want him back.

Three weeks ago Larry was transferred from Erlanger Hospital to Health South, a rehabilitation center, in hopes of bringing him out of his coma. While that has not happened yet, I personally believe he's making great progress. Last Monday the entire chorus visited Health South and sang for Larry, who was seated in a wheelchair. As the thirty-plus members sang *Play a Simple Melody*, Larry's eyes popped open and stayed that way until the song was finished. Having visited Larry a number of times, I've never seen his eyes open like that, and it brought a lump to my throat. He truly seems to be making progress. Please God may that continue to happen.

Barbershop Harmony singing is a wonderful hobby. Each of us loves to sing—but the fellowship goes far beyond singing. That's why it makes us so sad when one of our brothers is injured. We know Larry's wife, Gloria, misses him, but so do we. Please keep him in your prayers.

*The Chattanooga Chapter of
The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America
meets Monday evening, 7:00 at All Saints Academy, 310 East Eighth Street, Chattanooga, TN 37403*



The Blender



September 1997

Volume 6 Number 9

The Official Publication of the Chattanooga Chapter of
The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America

Chattanooga, Tennessee

Dixie District

A Special Opportunity

by Tom Keegan
President



At our recent chapter Board meeting on August 14, we were shown a video tape by the director of the Cerebral Palsy Signal Center in Chattanooga. This tape showed us the kind of educational and social programs offered to adults and children who live with the physical and mental handi-

caps of cerebral palsy. The Signal Center presentation was to enlist our chapter's support for their activities, hopefully by donating the proceeds from our annual Christmas Show. This all came about as a result of our recent sing-outs at Health South Rehab Hospital where Larry Huber is a patient.

Health South is a publicly owned two-billion dollar Birmingham, Ala. corporation that owns over fifty Rehab hospitals throughout the United States. Each year they "adopt" various charities to which they donate their corporate efforts and financial support. One of these deserving charities is United

Cerebral Palsy.

Upon hearing our chorus sing for Larry Huber, their Program Coordinator approached Fred Jesse about our doing some program for their adopted charity. At Fred's request the Health South people came to our Board meeting and brought along the Cerebral Palsy group. At the conclusion of this joint presentation the Board voted unanimously to donate all profits from our Christmas Show to the Chattanooga Cerebral Palsy Signal Center.

This is truly one of those situations where everybody benefits. We will be providing help to a very worthwhile local charity. From a public relations standpoint this event will certainly create positive benefits for our Chattanooga SPEBSQSA Chapter. Healthsouth has promised to add their corporate support into publicizing and promoting the show, and also help in selling tickets.

United Cerebral Palsy will also promote the show and help sell tickets. The contributors to Cerebral Palsy will be considered part of our chapter's yearly donations by SPEBSQSA Kenosha headquarters. We will be credited just as we would if the money went to Heartspring or SingAmerica. We thank Healthsouth and United Cerebral Palsy for presenting us this opportunity to help our

(Continued on Page 4, Column 1)

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Treasurer's Ledger

by Lamar Owens
Treasurer



Since the final figures are in for the spring show, I thought a little analysis of our income producing activities was in order. The up-to-date figures for the Spring Show, including the afterglow, are total

income of \$5,389 and expenses of \$2,791.67, leaving a net profit of \$2,597.33. In looking back at our Christmas Show last year, income was \$2,098 with expenses of \$847.27, leaving a net profit of \$1,250.73. Compare these two money-making activities to Valentine's Day sing-out income of \$5,088 with expenses of \$542.79 and a net profit of \$4,545.21. It is not difficult to see which is our most productive and highest percentage-returning activity.

I think that we should start now to concentrate on developing more quartets for next year. We definitely will have more orders to fill next year. Not only will there be more immediate profits to be seen as additional money is brought in but we will also see long term benefits as more people become familiar with us. The long-term results will be more exposure, additional new members, more chorus bookings and additional revenues. We have to start now to prepare for our future by develop-

ing more singers that are able to sing other parts. As an example, we have more leads than any other part and would only need about ten for quartets. The remaining leads could learn the tenor and baritone parts to 3-4 songs that could be used for Valentine's Day and allow us to field up to ten quartets. This would allow us to fill more orders and make more money for the chapter. As an example, ten quartets could deliver twenty valentines each at \$40 for a total income of \$8,000, less about eleven per cent for expenses for a net profit of \$7,120.

Summary

One way to increase our bookings for next year would be to begin now contacting the major florists in the area and make arrangements with them to deliver a bouquet of flowers, ordered through the florist, along with a singing valentine. Surely one or two florists would jump at the idea to offer something to his/her customers that was not generally available from other florists in the area.

What do you think about these ideas? Would you be willing to help with either of these endeavors? Let me or someone on the board hear from you!



Two Maestri

FYI

Be sure to read the copy of the minutes and the Treasurer's report on the slip sheet in the center of *The Blender*.

Ferd's Words

by Fred Jesse
Music & Performance
VP



I just received the bill for our weekend at Covenant College. The chapter is paying over \$400 for that coaching session. That's about \$16 per member participating. Approximately twenty-five attended from our membership of over fifty, less than half.

And in addition, because they lost count of those of us for dinner Saturday, the ladies ate for free.

I guess my take on the whole thing is, do we want to do this again next year? If we choose to go somewhere else, will the attendance be less because you guys will have to commit to a weekend instead of just driving a few minutes? I also received a reservation form to sign up again for next year. Should I do it? Let me hear from you.

What else can we do, or where else can we go. Will you commit to coming if we do. Will you help defray the expenses of an expensive coach? Should we make it mandatory if a member is going to sing on the contest stage, as some choruses do? Give me your ideas.

Maybe it boils down to this. Do we want to sing to our audience, or do we want to perform for them? Do we want to continue as a "C" rated chorus, or do we want to perform at a "B" level? We can, but we have to want to. Then we have to work at it.

I recently heard a radio interview with Itzhak Perlman, the world-renowned violinist. I quickly wrote down three things he said:

- Nothing in music is easy.
- It takes thought and preparation.
- The melody must be done well.

Have you heard this before from others in a similar way—our director, our music team, our coaches, our contest judges' reviews, or articles in our barbershop publications?

Even the professionals recognize the work involved. I recall a quote attributed to Duke Ellington: "When you play a song, make it your own." As applied to us: "When you sing a song, make it your own."

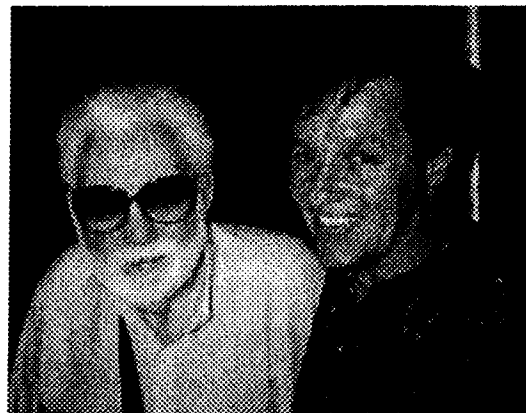
Every song is a story; it has a message; the words mean something. It is up to us as performers to tell the story. When we sing *Heart of My Heart*, what do you think of when you sing: *Life would be naught without you?* It means life would be nothing, zero, zilch, absolute nothingness. Do you communicate that message, for example, to the lady on Valentine's Day? We tell stories and have a message in music. Doing it is worth doing it right, and that's why we need coaching.

Only Free 'N' Easy Is Free

(from *Update*, August 1997)

There seems to be some confusion among members about making copies of music obtained from the Society. Only the *Free 'N' Easy* series may be photocopied free of charge by members of SPEBSQSA, as indicated in the copyright notice at the bottom of the first page of music.

All other music published by the Society, including the *Music Premiere* series, is under copyright,



Ain't they Purdy?

(Keegan)

neighbors. It will make this an extra-special Christmas Show!

Contest is Coming—Are You?

We have a dynamite presentation package to go along with our new song, *The Last Time I Saw Henry*, thanks to Chad Guyton. Chad has obviously worked very hard at putting this package together and we need to prove to him that we're not a chorus of elephants locked in a closet. Practice, practice, practice and please come to every rehearsal.

The District Contest is the weekend of October 3-5 in Greenville, SC, so we don't have much time remaining until that final curtain. We will be adding an extra rehearsal night during the month of September—every Thursday night, as well as Monday. Please come—we won't be as good without you! Thursday night rehearsal will begin at 7:30 pm and contest rehearsal will end at 9:00 pm. After 9:00 we'll have woodshedding, quarteting, octetting and other fun stuff—Be There!



Board Member Dick Bidwell

Our Newest Member...



Robert "Wayne" Pruett

Wayne was born on January 23, 1939. He and his wife, Lynn, own **Direct Maytag Home Appliance Center** at 6227 Lee Highway, Chattanooga, Tennessee. They have been married since May 24, 1996—newly-weds! They have two sons

and two daughters and seven granddaughters with an eighth granddaughter due in November. Wayne and Lynn and members of Parkway Baptist Temple in Ft. Oglethorpe, Georgia and sing in the choir. They also do some special singing for special occasions. Prior to moving to Tennessee in '92, Wayne sang bass in a Southern Gospel quartet and was emcee for the group. His interest in music began as a young boy, and it continues today. Wayne says that he is looking forward to being a part of this fine organization.

We Lose A Champion

(from Update, August, 1997)

Randy Chisholm, lead of 1995 international quartet champion Marquis, passed away on August 3 from complications following a staph infection incurred in mid-July. He was 46. Barbershoppers everywhere are saddened by this sudden and untimely loss.

Memorial gifts may be made to Harmony Foundation—specify the "Keep A Melody Ringing" fund, in the name of Randy Chisholm—or to a fund to assist with his daughters' college tuition:

Randy Chisholm Memorial Fund
c/o Star Bank
P.O. Box 150
Eaton, OH 45320

Tuesday, Sept. 30

North Georgia Farm Credit

W/U: 7:00 pm Sing: 7:40 approx.

Dress: A# Tuxedos

Location: Rome Civic Center (We plan now to take a bus down; more info to follow)

Friday, Oct. 4 thru Sunday, Oct. 6

Fall Competition

Greenville, SC

Monday, Oct. 13

Ridgeland HS for regular Monday meeting

Student Emphasis day w/Sweet Adelines

Time: 7:00 pm to 9:30 pm

Dress Summer

Location: Hwy 2 and Happy Valley Rd.

Saturday, Oct. 18

Oakwood Baptist Church

Hamilton County School Teachers (freebie)

W/U: 7:00pm, Sing; 7:30 pm

Dress Summer

Location: 4501 Bonny Oaks Dr.

Monday, Oct. 20

Fall Guest Night

Time: 7:00 pm to 9:30 pm

Dress: Summer

Location: All Saints Academy

Classic Harmony Sings For Red Cross Volunteers

On Saturday afternoon, August 23, chapter quartet, Classic Harmony, entertained a crowd of Red Cross volunteers at the pavilion at Chester Frost Park. With the audience giving the quartet instant feedback, the quartet rose to another level. It wasn't a "paid gig", at least not in money; they were "paid" with a standing ovation!

TEASER

Answer to last months teaser: This quote was written by the great newspaperman, Grantland Rice, in one of his five books of verse about sports. Mr. Rice was born in Murfreesboro, Tennessee and graduated from Vanderbilt University. Obviously Mr. Rice and Vince Lombardi did not agree about winning and losing!

Who said, "Government, even in its best state, is but a necessary evil; in its worst state, an intolerable one.

Read next month's *Blender* for the answer. Don't worry, be happy!

Thought for the month:

There is so much good in the worst of us,
And so much bad in the best of us,
That it hardly becomes any of us
To talk about the rest of us.

Pavarotti Can't Read Music!

(from Update August 1997)

In a story released to the Internet on July 21, it was revealed that Luciano Pavarotti, arguably the finest operatic tenor singing today, cannot read music. Instead, he relies on his *ear* and his own, rudimentary form of annotation to learn a classical work.

Pavarotti said that his technique, "refined over the years," consists of memorizing the music with the help of a large notebook with the lyrics in block capitals and notations showing whether the melody goes up or down. "I am not a musician," the tenor was quoted as saying, "I don't go in too deep. The musical score is one thing, and the singing part is another. If you have the music in your head, and you sing it with your body, you'll be all right."

Sounds like good advice.

SingAmerica High School Quartet Contest

by Lamar Owens
Youth Coordinator

Plans for the first annual SingAmerica High School Quartet contest are progressing very well indeed. This past Thursday, August 21, I met with twenty one teachers from the choral music arts program of the newly combined Hamilton County school system. These teachers represented eleven high schools and ten middle school programs. There, I announced our High School Quartet Contest and gave them the following particulars.

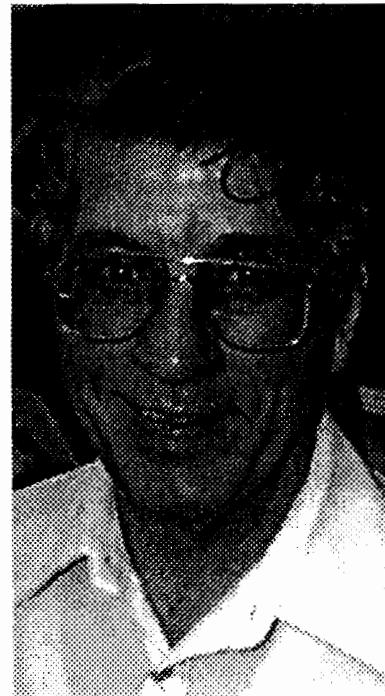
One winner will be judged for both a male and female quartet. Two selections will be required for all those competing in the contest. The male winners will sing on our spring show, May 2, 1998 and be awarded scholarships to attend Harmony Explosion Weekend at Clemson University in June of next year. We will pay their tuition, meals and lodging. We will also pay the way of the teacher who entered the winning quartet. The school music department of the winning male quartet will receive a \$200 check to spend as they see fit. The female winners will appear on the Sweet Adelines fall show and have their way paid to the international convention in Atlanta. The music teacher of the winning female quartet will also have her way paid to the convention.

All those attending the meeting were very enthusiastic and I expect at least eight or nine of them will participate in the contest. So far three schools in the Hamilton County system have indicated that they will field two quartets each. Ridgeland High School has also indicated they will field two quartets. I have today, August 22, mailed the first of the announcements to the list of 32 schools that I compiled for Chattanooga and the surrounding area. School starts August 25 and we already have four schools signed up for the program. The remaining twenty three announcements will go out when I receive a supply of SingAmerica/

SingCanada brochures from Kenosha.

While at the meeting we decided that the contest would be held April 25, one week before our show. I also committed that we would give a performance for all the music teachers in the area sometime in mid October of this year and also offered to have quartets perform for any of the school music departments. We discussed where the contest would be held and have been given assurances that the auditorium of Chattanooga High School or Howard High School would be available and could be arranged for the weekend.

So far, our cost for this endeavor will be about \$100 for the quartet music, \$500 for the scholarships and \$200 for the winning music program. All this money will be counted toward our qualification as a gold chapter and will not be extra expenses for the chapter. Not a bad deal, we introduce the students and parents to barbershop music, maybe pick up some members, adult and students, get more publicity for the chapter and fill more seats at our spring show all at no extra costs. Not bad!



**Our great secretary, historian, and baritone
extraordinaire!**

Get It In Writing!! or How To Become A Member Of The "Grand Ole Opus"

by Pat Crowe



For whom the pen
tomes
Writ by hand, Lil'
Abner age 18
And other nonsensical
titles

One his way to Harmony
College, our assiduous
(*FB) bulletin editor

again threw himself on the mercy of the chapter.
A plea for *Blender* articles.

He was not asking for the next "Great American Novel", or that you become a Hemingway, Fitzgerald or John Grisham, just a small column, a paragraph, would you believe a few lines? Help! Help! Help! was his imploration. (*FB)

Some fear the pen. They've heard it is mightier than the sword. Not to worry! The worse-case scenario is a papercut. I know writing skills are not part of the criteria to be a barbershopper, but it is rewarding to see your opinion or observation in print. Reaching all those members who can read, and hopefully stir interest or even a rebuttal. (*FB)

When facing that blank sheet of paper for the first time, it is tempting to copy a clever article from other periodicals. This approach, however, lacks the personal touch of an item written specifically about our chapter.

So how does one begin that "Magnum Opus". (*FB) For starters describe an activity of the chapter, a social event, a performance, with the theme that if they hadn't attended, they missed a good time. Mention people by name who were present and what their comments were, or who we missed. Keep it personal. People love to see their name in

print. Build up a coming event. Mention how they will be missed, and the good time that can be had. Tell something of your barbershop life that was a learning, comical or moving experience. That which made you feel glad about being a barbershopper.

Lloyd could tell us about that sweet young thing at our Walker County performance. Remember, Lloyd, the one that thought you were soooo cute and wanted to take you home!

Write about the quality of our chapter, or the society. Mention names; praise the workers. We've got some great ones! Bring up subjects for future activities. Ask questions about social activities, pot lock suppers, bus trips, etc.

Always use the four W's: Who, What Where, When and Why. Bari's are you counting? So pick up that pen. You'll find it's fun and it will benefit all, most of all to Barry, that hard-working, diligent (*FB) bulletin editor/librarian/etc./etc. and all-round tall guy, who loves to sing.

*FB (for baritones)

- **Imploration:** an act of making a plea. Not the importation of procurers.
- **Magnum Opus:** a great work. This is not Magnum P.I.'s middle name.
- **Rebuttal:** the act to oppose by contrary proof. No! No! hasn't go a thing to do with liposuction of lower body parts.
- **Assiduous:** Constant in application or attention. No, nothing to do with donkeys or lower body parts.
- **Diligent:** attentive and persistent in doing anything. NO, not a man making pickles.

May I say the chapter would be in a pickle without him, so get those columns, paragraphs or few lines to him.



How To Keep Our Guests Returning

(from Minneapolis Chordinator, Clary Reinhardt, Editor)

- Speak to them. There's nothing as nice as a cheerful greeting, "Glad to see you!"
- Smile at them. It takes only 14 muscles to smile. It takes 72 to frown. So smile!
- Call them by name. The sweetest music is the sound of their own names.
- Be friendly. To have friends, be friendly. Let them know they are welcome.
- Be cordial. Speak and act as though everything you do is a genuine pleasure. (It is, isn't it?)
- Be interested. Be genuinely interested in them.
- Be generous with praise. Be cautious with criticism.
- Be considerate about their feelings. It is appreciated and will encourage their return.
- Be thoughtful of their opinions. Encourage them to speak out.
- Be helpful. Be alert to their needs and ready to serve. One of life's most rewarding activities is what we do for others. "Please come back again."

Chorus Sings for Chattanooga Christian Schools

Friday afternoon, August 22, at a bar-b-que celebrating the start of a new school year, the Chattanooga Choo-Choo Chorus entertained several thousand students and parents. The weather was perfect. Assistant Director C.W. Wall directed the chorus. Even with our sound system, it was difficult to be heard through the throngs of line-standers waiting for their food. Harrison Bay Harmonizers also sang a number.

The Last Word...

by Barry Owens
editor



What a great time I had at Harmony College! I had been once before, so I didn't have to wear the stupid beanie with a propeller. This time I made sure that I took plenty of singing classes.

This was Dr. Greg Lyne's first Harmony College as dean, and I think it was the best. I took a repertoire class with Tom Gentry, one of the society's most prolific arrangers. During the week in that class, we sang through about twenty-five songs, many from the Harmony Explosion package. We also attempted some difficult songs like: *I'm Afraid the Masquerade is Over* and *The Moment I Saw Your Eyes*. Admittedly, we didn't sing them particularly well, but it was fun to try. I had this course the last time I went, but this time we went at the perfect learning speed.

I also sang in on the Saturday Night Live Chorus, so we had two rehearsals per day, learning five new songs. Kevin King, the lead from BSQ, the fifth-best quartet in our international competition, was our director. I got stuck with writing a daily bulletin for the chorus. I enjoyed doing it, but it did take up not a small amount of my free time.

To sing the *Battle Hymn* with 700 other singers, under the direction of its arranger, Joe Liles was a thrill that may never happen again. To sit in the audience with Freddie King on stage talking about his barbershopping life is an experience that may never be repeated, too. He lead us in *Little Pal*, and there was not a dry eye in the house!

David Collins went to the first Director's College under Dr. Lyne. He picked up some very salient points that could help our chapter if we will let him share them with us. David had some of the best teachers the Society has to offer.

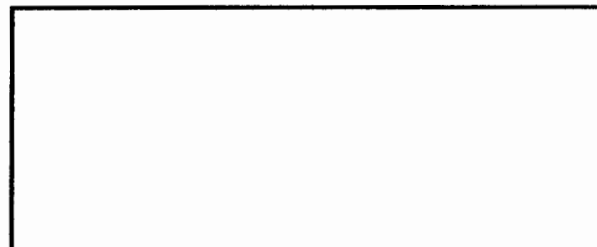
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Barry Owens, Editor
Chattanooga Chapter
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The Blender



October 1997

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Chattanooga, Tennessee

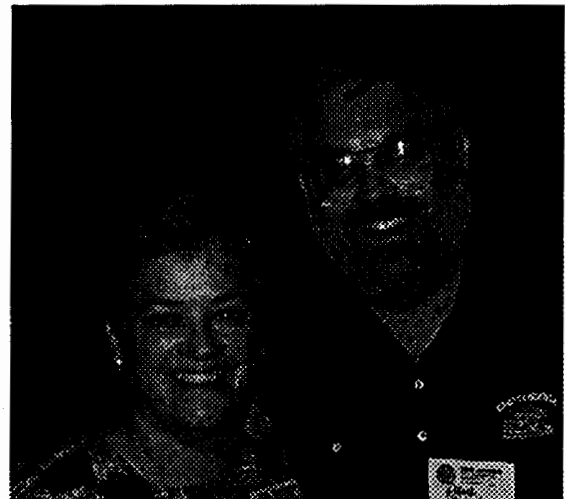
Dixie District

Why Bother?

by Paul Blazek
Music Director

Why, indeed! Many of you have figured out why we place so much emphasis on techniques of vocal production, interpretation, and other facets of performance enhancement. Every time we perform, we have an opportunity to share our beloved (look up the meaning and derivation of the word "amateur") hobby and to affect the emotions of our audience, hopefully in a positive manner. Music is a great vehicle for this process because it allows us to reach people directly. Have you ever noticed that you could get some idea of what was going on in a song that was sung in a foreign language, even if you couldn't speak that language? Music somehow enters our consciousness directly, and affects us at a level underneath our intelligence.

What causes me to wax eloquent like this, you ask? Lately, we have shown a great deal of potential talent being realized in our rehearsals and performances. In rehearsal, it is always exciting when we hold pitch and generate overtones. When our stage presence plan comes together, we get excited about our accomplishments. When we go out to perform and get (and deserve) that standing



Paul and Lindy Blazek

ovation, it is a fine reward for the job we have done. In short, the better we do, the more fun it is. Try to take Bob Eubanks' advice, and become more personally responsible for, and more personally involved with, our music.

Looking ahead, we have a convention and contest just around the corner, church performances already being scheduled, and a Christmas program. Next year, we will sponsor our first high school quartet contest. We will certainly stay busy, and yet we may remain the best kept secret in Chattanooga.

(Continued on next page)

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 bowens@cdc.net

(from page 1)

During my recent trip to Denver I had the opportunity to direct a 75-man chorus. I love you guys, but I would love you twice as much if there were twice as many of you. You all know the story of how my friend bothered me and nagged me and pestered me until I finally went to a barbershop meeting with him on the condition that he would never bother me again. Try it, it works. Let's build our chorus to the point where we can put 50 men on the risers any time we feel like it!



Teaser

Answer to last month's teaser: This quote was penned by the great political commentator of the Revolutionary War era and writer of the book *Common Sense*, Mr. Thomas Paine.

Who said:

"I expect to pass through this world but once. Any good therefore that I can do, or any kindness that I can show to any fellow creature let me do it now. Let me not deter or neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again."

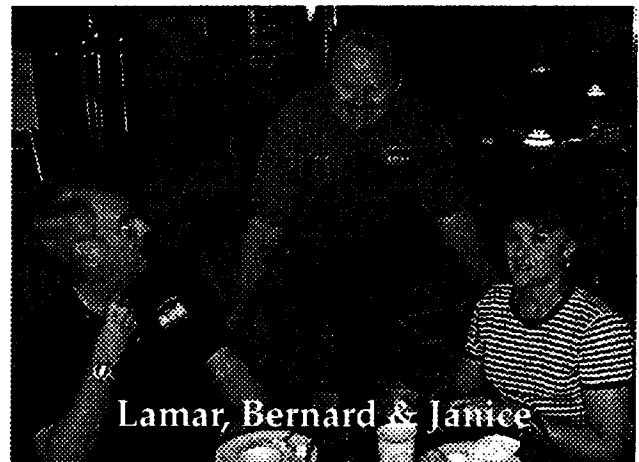
Read next month's Blender for the answer.

Thought for the month:

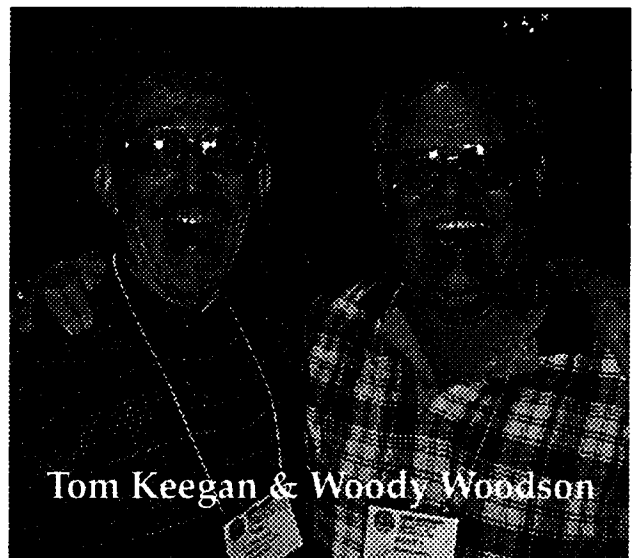
Home is the place where, when you have to go there, they have to take you in!

Congratulations to our new slate of officers for '98!

President.....Bernard Wheeler
 Chapter Development VP.....Rick Kulp
 Music VP.....Dick Bidwell
 Program VP.....Steve Grubb
 Secretary.....David Reynolds
 Treasurer.....Lamar Owens
 Public Relations VP.....Trey Kennedy
 Bulletin Editor.....Barry Owens
 Business Manager.....Lamar Owens
 One-year Board Member.....Benny Malone
 Two-year Board Member.....Sam Jones
 Three-year Board Member.....Bill Slack
 Past President.....Tom Keegan



Lamar, Bernard & Janice



Tom Keegan & Woody Woodson

Letters, We Get Letters...

Greetings to all our friends back home. Please excuse the tardiness of this "hello" to you, but since arriving here in January, I have been very busy getting settled in.

Barry, I want to thank you for the *Blender* each month, as it keeps me up to date on your activities. I am so proud of what I am reading about your accomplishments this year. I can just see the smile on Glen Dabbs' face reflecting the balance of the treasurer's report by Lamar Owens.

I wish the chorus great success this October 3-4 in competition against the best in *Dixie*. I know you will look great in your black tuxes again. I will miss being with you very much.

The chorus here in Omaha has qualified for the Central States District competition in Des Moines, Iowa the same date you are in Greenville. June and I are looking forward to the venture, but it will not replace our memories in Chattanooga. We are doing a couple of Irish ballads and it sound pretty decent.

We enjoyed our trip to Indianapolis this summer to the International Convention. Much to our delight, we were able to have an evening meal Saturday with most of our "gang" before the show. Good times pass too quickly. It was during our meal that we learned of Larry Huber's accident. Please keep us informed of his recovery. During the *Heartspring* breakfast at the convention, I was so proud of Rock City 4. During the awards ceremonies, David Collins and I were present to receive recognition as one of the top four quartets in the society in contributions (\$1,000). I wanted to send the award back to Chattanooga, but Dave would not listen.

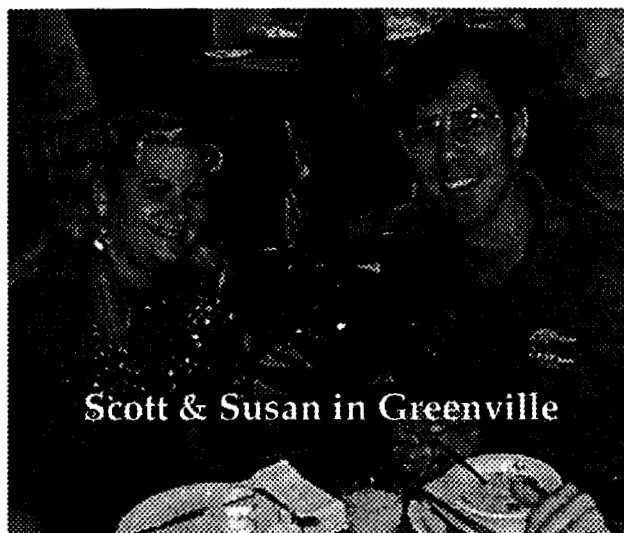
If anyone has the time, June and I would love to hear from you at 415 N. 118th Plaza, Omaha, NE 68154 or call at 402-691-1666.

Yours with a song,
James Coulter

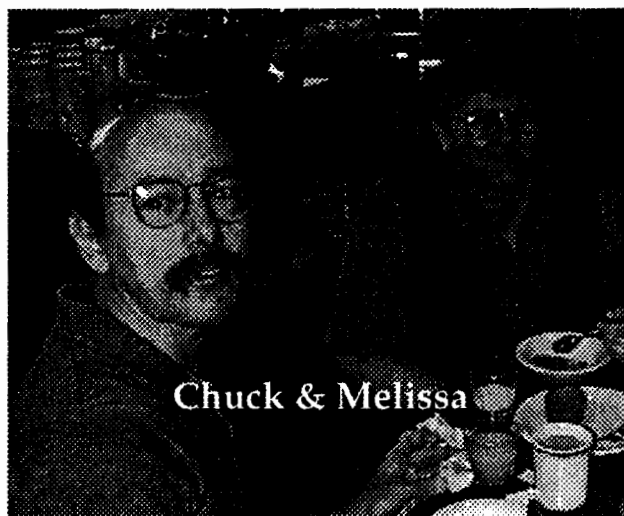
From the Music VP Elect

by Dick Bidwell

I want to thank each of you for your vote to the office of Music Vice-President in typical Choo-Choo (Train) style. I told the nominating committee I was not really a musician, but I would do my best in this position. I have some ideas to propose, but the first thing I feel we need is to form a music committee. If you would like to serve on this committee with me as Assistant Director, Section Leader, or a General Member, Show Chairman, Convention Coordinator, etc., contact Paul or me for consideration. I hope next year can be a time of new energy, fun, and excitement for the Choo-Choo Chorus.



Scott & Susan in Greenville



Chuck & Melissa

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Chattanooga, Tennessee

Dixie District

Tom's Tempo

by Tom Keegan
President

What Kind of Chapter Are We?



Last week while traveling to Chicago, I had time to reflect on our Chattanooga SPEBSQSA Chapter. How do we compare to other chapters? This is my fourth chapter so

I've had the opportunity of participating at other places—Fairfax, Va, Westchester County, NY, Saratoga Springs, NY, and Chattanooga.

I've sang on the International stage on three occasions with Saratoga and know the kind of stress involved at that level. When I first joined Chattanooga in 1979 it was a very small group, and I've watched it grow and grow. Many times the singing was poor because we didn't have enough of one part or another to make a balanced sound. Today that's not the case; we always seem to have enough members to make good harmony.

None of the other chapters had as much activity

as we do. It seems as though we always have something going on—whether it be a show or performance or competition. But the thing that stands out in my mind about Chattanooga is the camaraderie that exists between the members.

Each person seems to have genuine caring and concern about his fellow members, and that's very special. I'm not saying it doesn't exist in other chapters but not to the degree we have in Chattanooga. So in my opinion we're good on activities, very above average on friendliness and relationships—but what about singing?

If you judge by the district score sheet, we seem to be in the middle of the pack. (at least we're consistent in that respect) Would we like to sing better? Of course! How do we go about it? Should we stand on the risers for two hours every meeting night drilling two or three songs to make them sound better? Should we have more coaching sessions using the services of outside coaches? Should we spend more time on sectional rehearsals? Should we have more craft sessions? What do you think would make us sing better?

Some months ago, a few members traveled to Knoxville to sing in a chorus directed by Dr. Greg Lyne, former director of the Masters of Harmony
(Continued on page 7)

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Choo-Choo Chorus Teaches at Ridgeland

On Monday October 13, the chorus, along with a contingent of Sweet Adelines, performed and introduced barbershop harmony to high school students at Ridgeland High School in Rossville, Georgia. Director Paul Blazek took the chorus and the boys into the music room to sing tags and some barbershop chestnuts.

The girls went with the Sweet Adelines to do the same. Later, all came together for a grand finale, each giving the other a standing ovation.

Get a discount!

(from Update, October 1997)

Atlanta convention prices remain at \$75 until the end of 1997, after which they will increase to \$90. Check the registration form in *The Harmonizer* for details.

From the Membership Desk...

by Lamar Smith
Membership VP

Guest night was a wonderful success. Thanks to everyone for your support. Claude Walker gave us an enjoyable evening of tag singing, and we had a pleasant surprise with the Four Voices doing some outstanding singing as they always do. The refreshments were plentiful and delicious thanks to the Choo-Choo Belles. We could not have had a Guest Night without an excellent turnout of guests.

Visiting as guests of the Four Voices, Holly Pierce and Christa Starnes were delightful. We also welcomed Lexie Walker, Claude's beautiful bride. Other guests were: Kriston Maddox, Lester Rec-tor, Michael Maddox, Rob Reid, J.B. Hook, Chase Guyton, Jimmy Weaver, Tony Fowler, and Marty Malone.

I appreciate our chorus director for the fine job he does in our guest participation segment.



Guest Night Guests

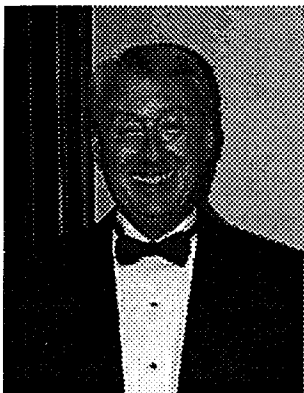




Chad Guyton teaching the SP for contest

Christmas Show

by Lamar Owens
Show Chairman



As of the day I am writing this article, I will be stopping by the Signal Centers to pick up money for tickets they have already sold. I hope, since someone else is helping us sell tickets, we don't let down and let them out-perform us. We have

250 tickets to sell and we need to sell all of them. I saw the number of tickets that Bob Stansbery had left the other night and it was more than half of them. There were 32 of us there and we should have been fighting for tickets. We only have three weeks to pack the house and that's what we need to do. Come on guys, get tickets and sell them!



Teaser

Answer to the October teaser: This was written by Stephen Grellet but has been attributed to others. Sorry, this was a hard one but is a great thought to try to follow.

Now for an easy one!

Who said:

For the want of a nail the shoe was lost,
For the want of a shoe the horse was lost,
For the want of a horse the rider was lost,
For the want of a rider the battle was lost,
For the want of a battle the kingdom was lost-
And all for the want of a horseshoe nail.

Read next month's *Blender* for the answer.

Thought for the month:

Prosperity

Spending money we haven't earned,
To buy things we don't need,
To impress people we don't like!



Quartetters Increase Museum Archival Material

(from Update)

Mark Green has donated his **Joker's Wild** costume to the Heritage Hall Museum's costume collection. Ben Ayling, of **The Ritz**, has donated his championship costume.

In addition, The Ritz has donated its "gay 90s" costumes, The Ritz buttons, and a complete set of its recordings. The Museum is very happy to receive these items and sends its thanks to Mark, and to Ben, Nic, DJ, and Jim.

Ferd's Words

by Fred Jesse
Music VP



It's that time of year again—Christmas, and that means our annual Christmas Show. This year the title, *Songs of Christmas*, tells it all. It is an all music show featuring the Choo-Choo Chorus, chapter quartets, and special guests, The Voices of Lee. There will be lots of sing-

ing, and a narrator giving the story behind many of the songs.

We are glad to have the Voices of Lee to provide us with some different arrangements and other Christmas music. It has been several years since we had a non-barbershop vocal group as part of the show. Remember, the Four Voices started with this group.

We are also proud to be supporting the Signal Centers/United Cerebral Palsy with the proceeds of our show. We have had some close ties with this organization this year, but maybe none at all if it hadn't been for the terrible accident of Larry Huber. We sang for him several times while they were working on his rehabilitation. We appreciate their attention to Larry and we are glad we can do something in return.

Fortunately there is not a lot of new music to learn for this show. We do have some songs from *Yuletide Favorites* that have not been used on previous shows. These are some carols and sacred songs that we have made a larger part of our show this year.

We can hope for a sell-out crowd this season because we will be getting some additional publicity with Signal Centers/United Cerebral Palsy. They also have been given a large block of tickets to sell. We still have to sell our share of the tick-

ets too, and the box office will sell some. With the added interest generated by our local charity, we should have a full house.

Let's not let them down after the show publicity. We all need to sing our best, put on our best faces and show them why singing at Christmas is the best part of the holiday.



Upcoming Performances

Saturday, Nov. 22, 1997

Parkway Baptist Church

Battlefield Parkway across from Cedar Ln.

Meet at Noon for meal and singing

Freebie (Church Sing-out)

Dress: A#

Thursday, Dec. 11, 1997

John Calvin Apts.

Northgate Center by Sears Store

Freebie (Buffet Bob's Mom)

Warmup 6:30 pm, Sing 7:00 pm

Dress: Bb

Monday, Dec. 13, 1997 (tentative)

Dalton, GA for Cattleman's Association

Warmup 7:00, Sing 7:45

Paid Gig

Dress: Bb

Thursday, Dec. 18, 1997

Rossville Middle School Faculty

Chattanooga Choo-Choo

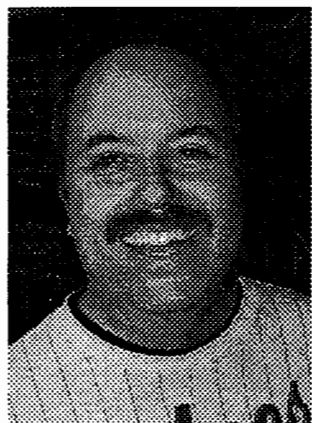
Warmup 7:00, Sing 7:30

Paid Gig

Dress: A#

It's None Of Your Business

by Steve Grubb
Business Manager



Moving the due date of *Blender* articles to the middle of the month, helps to stretch out the deadline. I always put myself under stress to produce a piece for the *Blender*. So here I am two weeks later than usual scurrying to get all my thoughts together. Year end is al-

ways a time to look back over what has been a busy year—Valentine Sing-out's, Spring show, Gatlinburg and Greenville competitions, numerous paid sing-outs, church packages, and untold practices preparing for all of our efforts. All in all, it's been a very successful year for the chorus. As we prepare for the upcoming Holiday show and sing-outs, let's dedicate ourselves to closing the year on a positive note and support as many of these gigs as is possible. November and December are incredibly busy times for everyone, but let's give the chapter all we can in support of Barbershop Harmony.

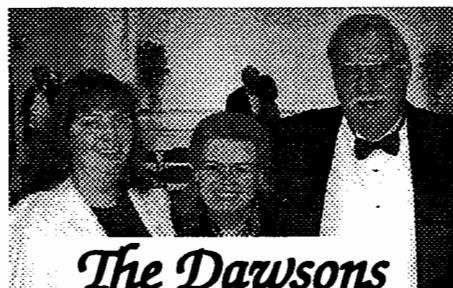
Much has been said in our meetings about the recent competition in Greenville, SC. Here's my little bit from that encounter. Great food, great place to stay, great time spent together with wives and members, and some great singing by the choruses and quartets! ! It was a great weekend all the way around. And if you gave your all on stage, it was a great weekend for the Chattanooga Choo-Choo Chorus. If you didn't, then let me encourage you to determine why that was the case and correct the situation. It is my belief that each of us wants the chorus to be the best that it can be; but are we willing to sacrifice the time and effort to make that happen? We are at a crossroads for the chapter: Do we remain a pretty good C + or B - chorus, or do we push ourselves to be better? Each

of us must answer this for himself. We have the ability to do better; are we willing to provide better to our audiences? Let's discuss this and decide where Chattanooga is going.

We leave soon for COTS in Atlanta, GA, to prepare for the new year. We have an excellent slate of officers to lead this chorus. What they need is each member's support and encouragement, especially that Program VP. Let me know what is good and what you'd like to see changed about our meeting nights. It's your time to sing; let's make it meaningful to everyone. Also, the Board needs to know your feelings on improving the competition level of the chorus. If we truly hope to compete, the Board needs to know that desire in order to plan accordingly for the year. This is a great group to sing with and be around; but we can be better and present a better package to our audiences. There is no particular wrong or right way to go, just the way that the majority wants to travel. Make your feelings known to your Board and our esteemed Director. Let's make '98 better than the year we're closing out right now!

The Holiday show is coming up soon. Let's pull out our music and brush up on those notes. Sell tickets when they are made available to you. Volunteer to help in any way possible. This is a great year-end closer, and we're helping a great cause. Let's really make the auditorium ring for a full house on December 6th. There will be only two extra rehearsals for the show this year. The dates are Thursday, Nov. 20 from 7:30pm to 9:00pm at All Saint's Academy and Friday, Dec. 5 from 7:30pm to 9:00pm (or until Paul sends us home) at UTC's Fine Arts Theatre. Plan now to be there.

That's all for now. Until next month, Keep the Whole World Signing.



The Darwsons

Larry Huber Update



Gloria called me yesterday and brought me up-to-date on how Larry is doing. As those of you who come to the meetings know, Larry was moved from HealthSouth here in Chattanooga to a LifeCare Nursing Home in Cleveland in order to be closer to home and make it easier

for Gloria to visit him daily. She said that she was apprehensive about putting him in a nursing home and was afraid that the level of care might drop but that has not been the case. She said that if we visited him now we would be surprised at the progress he is making.

Larry is now talking, in a whisper, but he is trying to communicate. She said that he sometimes gets really wound up and lets the words fly, the only problem is he is still having trouble putting the words and thoughts together with the breathing and it is hard to understand. Gloria did say that she can understand him sometimes and is thrilled by the progress. She said he is also expressing himself more.

The other day a group came by the home to perform for the patients and Larry was in the audience. When the group finished, Larry applauded. The staff and therapist are working with him daily in all phases of his recovery and he is definitely making progress.

Gloria also said she was looking forward to our coming to Cleveland to sing for Larry and the other patients. We need to make plans to go up there one day and sing for them. We need to keep Larry and Gloria in our prayers.

Lamar Owens



Songs of Christmas 1997 Christmas Show

- The Most Wonderful Time of the Year* (Chorus)
- **The Christmas Song* (Chorus)
- Silver Bells* (Classic Harmony)
- White Christmas* (Chorus)
- **Let It Snow* (Chorus)
- **I'll Be Home for Christmas* (Weaver's Quartet)
- Home for the Holidays* (Chorus)
- Winter Wonderland* (Chorus)
- **Santa Claus is Coming To Town*
(Harrison Bay Harmonizers)
- **Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer* (Stage II)
- **Jingle Bells* (Chorus)
- **I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa* (Rock City 4)
- **Twelve Days of Christmas* (no tag) (Chorus)

Intermission

Cerebral Palsy Mention

- **Away in a Manger* (Chorus)
- Do You Hear What I Hear* (Chorus/Soloists)
- While By My Sheep* (Chorus/Echo Rock City 4)
- **Angels We Have Heard On High* (Chorus)

Audience Sing-a-long

- **O Come All Ye Faithful* (2 verses) (Chorus)
- **Hark the Herald Angels Sing* (2 verses)
(Chorus)
- **Silent Night* (see below) (2 verses) (Chorus)

Voices of Lee, by special invitation

- Joint song, or *Silent Night* (All)
- Twelve Days of Christmas* (Tag only)
(Chorus/All)

- *Narrator, Brief story of the song before it is sung



Rock City 4 Gigs

October 11

Sang for a Benefit for Walker County Hardship Fund at Max Stoker in Lafayette.

October 15

Sang National Anthem for the Special Olympics at Tri-State Bowling Lanes in East Ridge, TN.

October 24

Sang the National Anthem and performed the half-time show at UTC soccer match at Findley Stadium



Four Voices entertaining at Guest Night

Guest Night was deemed a success on October 20 by Membership VP Lamar Smith. The guests were entertained by International College Champions Four Voices of Lee University in Cleveland. Their performance was topped off by Lester's rendition of *It Is Well With My Soul*.

Rock City 4 sang Ragtime Lullaby, and former director Claude Walker taught the guests some great tags.

Director Paul Blazek explained and taught the Barbershop genre.

(Tempo from page one)

(International Chorus Champions). He took this pick-up chorus and quickly made us into a respectable singing group. He performed this magic in one hour.

How did he do it? By making each one of us sing to the best of our abilities. "C'mon basses, give me some masculine notes, not that whimpy sound. Let's make this melody sound pretty. Leads, don't chop it up." Did each of us do what he wanted? You bet we did! And we enjoyed doing it! His secret was that he brought the best out of us as individuals. He made us sing better. Can't our director do this—he certainly tries hard enough. Perhaps because we see him every week, we take him for granted. Maybe we don't always give him our best. He can mold us, teach us, point out our mistakes, select and interpret our songs, but he can't make the sound.

The music comes from you and me. The responsibility for singing better is up to you and me, not him. How about each of us pledging to work at singing better—I'll bet we can do it. Remember SPEBSQSA is not a fun organization that sings. It is a singing organization whose members enjoy doing what they do best—singing barbershop harmony. I think our chapter is terrific! Let's make it sing that way.

Do Not Fax Renewals!

(from Update, October 1997)

Several members are still trying to fax their renewals to us in Kenosha. While we appreciate the effort, please understand that the color of the new renewal forms does not fax well. In fact, the sheet comes out black on this end and we have no idea who is trying to renew!

So, if you're wondering where your new membership card is, perhaps it's because you tried to fax your renewal and we couldn't read any of it. Please mail them to us instead.

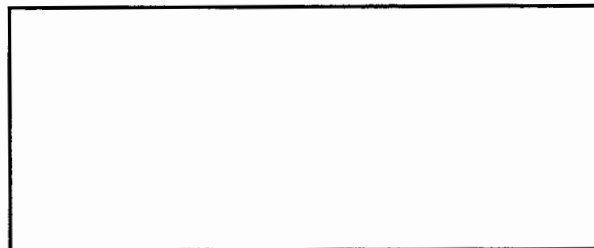
The 1997 Leadership Team Serving The Chapter

President	Tom Keegan	(423) 756-5660
Music & Performance VP	Fred Jesse	(706) 375-5935
Chapter Development VP	Lamar Smith	(706) 866-2481
Program VP	Larry Huber	(423) 339-1697
Publicity Chairman	Lamar Owens	(423) 894-4638
Secretary	Dave Reynolds	(423) 875-2674
Assistant Secretary	Earle Fraser	(423) 892-7630
Treasurer	Lamar Owens	(423) 894-8559
Assistant Treasurer	Benny Malone	(423) 344-9211
Board Member At Large (1 year)	Bernard Peek	(706) 398-3104
Board Member At Large (2 year)	Dick Bidwell	(423) 870-3196
Board Member At Large (3 year)	Rick Kulp	(423) 266-0758
Bulletin Editor	Barry Owens	(706) 891-9501
Business Manager & Marketing	Steve Grubb	(706) 861-6171
Immediate Past President	Steve Grubb	(706) 861-6171
Heartspring Chairman	Brooks Gist	(423) 892-7191
Musical Director	Paul Blazek	(423) 622-4493
Assistant Director	Ron Weaver	(423) 476-3200
Assistant Director	C.W. Wall	(706) 820-0579
Equipment Manager	Pete Jones	(706) 861-2113
Choo Choo Belles President	Nancy Owens	(423) 755-4526

The Blender

*The official newsletter of the Chattanooga Chapter of
The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement
of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America*

Barry Owens, Editor
Chattanooga Chapter
247 Morris Drive
Ringgold, GA 30736





The Blender



December 1997

Volume 6 Number 12

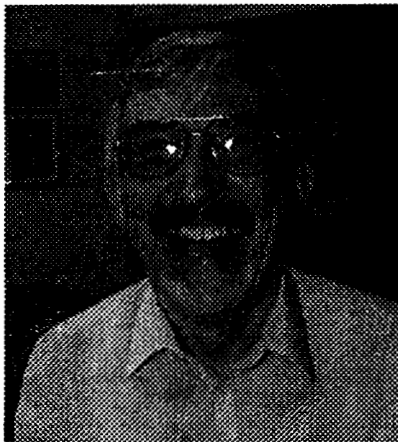
The Official Publication of the Chattanooga Chapter of
The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America

Chattanooga, Tennessee

Dixie District

The Lame Duck Says...

by Tom
Keegan
President



Our wonderfully entertaining Christmas show was a great way to end 1997. Comments from the audience were very favorable, and everyone raved

about our guest group, the Voices of Lee. The musical talent of those fifteen university students was astounding. And their performance was equivalent to listening to a Broadway show. Besides the entertainment, we were able to contribute \$2,000 + to Signal Centers/United Cerebral Palsy. So the show was successful in more ways than one.

We're preparing now to turn over the chapter leadership to a new group of officers. Out with the old—in with the new! I've enjoyed being president for the past two years and want to thank my

fellow officers and board members for making the experience an enjoyable one. The only sad memory was Larry Huber's accident. For a long while no one was sure whether he'd ever regain consciousness. But those who joined our recent sing-out at the Life Care Center in Cleveland were overjoyed to see Larry speaking and singing. It's amazing what the combination of God, prayers, willpower and medicine can do. He still has a long way to go, but he's making lots of progress.

Thank you Steve Grubb for your willingness to take over as Vice-President of Programming, as well as continuing to be our Business Manager. Thank you Fred Jesse for all your work as Vice-President of Music and overseeing all our shows and competitions. Thank you Lamar Smith for your efforts at Chapter Development and new member recruitment. Thank you Dave Reynolds for handling most of our chapter reports and paper work and functioning as our very reliable secretary. Thank you Lamar Owens for the professional handling of our finances and the reporting thereof, and for your willingness to take on responsibility for chapter publicity. Thank you Barry Owens for doing a top-notch job as our Bulletin Editor. Thank you Rick Kulp and Dick Bidwell

(Continued on page 5, column 2)

*The Chattanooga Chapter of
The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America
meets Monday evening, 7:00 at All Saints Academy, 310 East Eighth Street, Chattanooga, TN 37403
Phone 423-855-1947*

The Blender

Barry Owens, Editor
247 Morris Drive
Ringgold, Georgia 30736
Voice (706) 891-9501
Beeper (423) 550-6800
Fax (706) 891-1508
bowens@cdc.net

A Benefactor Passes

by Barry Owens

Melvin Grubb never missed a show. He supported us with his presence and presents. A true patron. I knew him all my life, or at least he knew me. I have a picture of him in his army uniform during WWII with my sister and I as babies. He lived next door to my grandmother in East Ridge. He lived there his whole life. Steve's dad was a wonderful man. They were very close.

French poet Jean de La Fontaine (1621-95) said,

Death never takes the wise man by surprise,
He is always ready to go.

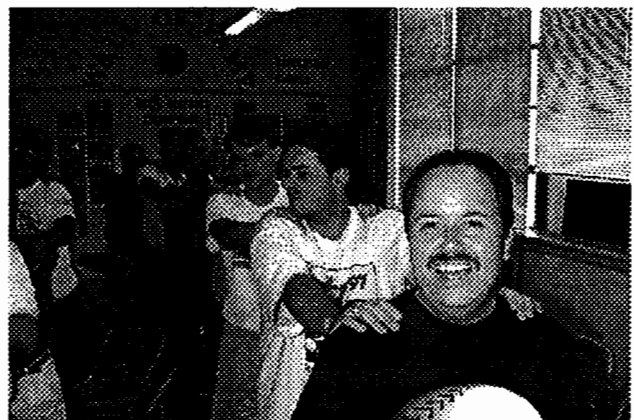
From what I saw at the crowded church at the funeral, Melvin was truly ready to go.



Eating at Oakwood Baptist

Vision Statement

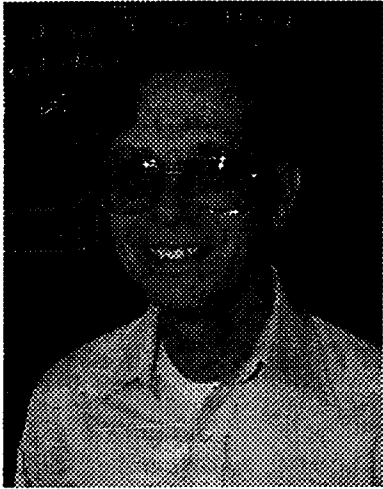
The Chattanooga Chapter of the S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. is a large, vibrant group of male singers that enjoys learning, fine tuning, and performing the craft of singing in the barbershop style. Barbershop music bonds each member fraternally, and that strengthened by the mutual respect and support each man has for the others. Each members takes great pride in his ability, and his contributions to the Chorus, the Society, and the community. Furthermore, the Chorus is well respected within the community, the Dixie District, and the Society, because of its high quality of performance, very active singing schedule, and support of local and national educational and charitable organizations.



Massage Class 101

Ferd's Words

by Fred Jesse
Music VP



This may be my last bit of writing for a while since I no longer hold the Music VP position. I would like to use this opportunity to thank you for the help and support during my tenure. This has been an interesting year, and we

finished it with a great Christmas show.

I have heard nothing but good comments on the performance by the Voices of Lee. They were a welcome addition to the program. The performance by the chorus was perhaps improved by our concentration on singing and not on acting and other stage activities. There are some in the audience who prefer the latter, and some who want to listen to good Christmas music. This year we concentrated on the good music.

There are a lot of good things in store for the chorus this year. New officers have new ideas. Plans have begun with music being selected for contest and the Spring show. I expect there will be several new songs to learn, something that chorus members always like. I'm looking forward to it; are you?

I would like to thank all of you for making this a very memorable and historic year for the Choo-Choo Chorus. It started in London, England, and has continued through sing-outs, contest, and shows. We have new chorus members who are real assets and on whom we will be relying as 1998 begins in a few weeks.

Also beginning in a few weeks is a new chapter

opening in Cleveland, Tennessee. Our former assistant director, Ron Weaver, has been working on this for several years. Now, with our help as a sponsoring chorus, it has become a reality. We, and especially I, wish him well on this new venture. He can count on our support in the effort to keep America singing. I would like to thank him personally for all the energy he seems to have, and how he directed our chorus and spread his enthusiasm in the world of barbershopping. Many thanks Ron, and good luck!



Christmas Show

by Lamar Owens
Treasurer

Well, the show is over and if we outsold Signal Centers and HealthSouth it wasn't by much. So far they have turned in \$1,387 and Bob Stansbury has received \$1,323 from us. There are still about 50 tickets to be accounted for so our total sales will rise. At the present time, with all known expenses turned in, we have made a profit of \$1,964.30. On Thursday, December 18, Tom Keegan and I will present a check to the Signal Centers for \$2,000, profit to date plus additional anticipated profit. The Free Press is to send a photographer to capture the event for publication in the paper. When the final count is tallied, we will write them a check for the remainder of the profit from the show.

We have already been asked to do this again next year and the new board will make a recommendation to the chorus in the coming days. Overall, it was a more successful show than the attendance showed, with \$3,032 revenue to date. I will publish a final account in the next *Blender*.

Class of '94 Sings Swan Song

By Scott Phillips
editor, Rock Tock
Stone Mountain Chapter

As you may or may not know this year's annual show (November 14 & 15) marked the final performance by our very own **Class of '94**. These guys have been singing together since early in 1993 when they were getting ready to graduate from college, and ready to embark on a fine quartet relationship. Their first year in competition they won the Dixie District award. They were instant hits among the younger barbershoppers all across the society. Their events calendar started to fill up, and they were very happy with the success.

Now, four years later, three of the four have married and all four are in the working world. Time has become more valuable and while they are all still great friends they have decided to discontinue as **Class of '94**.

With this break up there is, however, good news. As of this article three of the four have formed or become part of another quartet, even though not together, but going their own way. Erick King and Dylan Oxford are going on with two guys from the former **Bandstand** (A former Big Chicken Quartet) and Ryan is singing bari with **The Svelte Bros**.

Latest word is that both quartets will be strong competition quartets and **The Svelte Bros** are still filling out gigs and booking more dates for the coming year. Both quartets will be competing this spring for a spot to International this summer in Atlanta. Eric and Dylan's new quartet, **Riptide**, will be eligible for the District title this coming fall.

I personally can't wait to see the quartet competition this spring in Gatlinburg. I have a feeling it's going to be the best one in a while. I hope the judges will see it that way and give us the chance

to have a good representation in our home district for International.

If you have not bought tickets to the 1998 International Convention in Atlanta I encourage you to buy them this month (Ladies this would make a GREAT Christmas present for your singers). Remember that after December 31 prices go up for seating.

Party Time

by Pete Jones
Chairman



Ho! Ho! Ho!—
Auld Lang Syne—
—and away we to
into 1998. Let's
start the New Year
off on a good note
and a good meal.
Come join your
f e l l o w
barbershoppers
for our: After
Christmas/After
New Year's/

Christmas/Officer Installation Banquet. Whew!
(That was a mouthful.)

Bring your wife, girlfriend, children or just a hungry friend, if you have one. It's buffet style; all you can eat; that goes for you too, Bob! The price is \$8 per person. There is no required uniform for the event. However, if you want to show off that new Christmas tie or the ladies want to show off their new outfits from Santa, this is the perfect occasion.

Date: Monday, January 5, 1998

Time: 6:30 pm

Location:

Old Country Buffet

Hamilton Village Shopping Center

2020 Gunbarrel Road

(across from Hamilton Place Mall)



update

notes from the headquarters office

SPEBSQSA
6315 Third Ave.
Kenosha, WI 53143-5199
(414) 653-8440 • (800) 876-SING
FAX (414) 654-4048
Internet: update@spebsqsa.org

November 1997



Update is regularly distributed to selected officer positions at all Society levels.
Because many recipients hold one or more offices at various levels, duplicate receipt may occur from time to time.
Three copies are sent to each chapter—president, secretary and bulletin editor—please share with others.



'98 Harmony Sweepstakes agenda set

The Harmony Sweepstakes A Cappella Festival is calling for entries for regional competition. Sponsored by Primarily A Cappella, the contest is open to groups ranging in size from three to seven members. Performances in any a cappella style, with a 10-minute maximum time limit, will be judged to choose a regional winner.

Regional prizes of cash and goods are awarded, plus each regional winner receives free transportation and lodging for the national finals on May 9, 1998 in San Rafael, Calif. For more information, contact the region nearest you:

Boston - March 7
Rob Heist (617) 277-0858
Chicago - March 14
Gary Podolsky (708) 215-2821
Denver - April 5
Robert Johnson (303) 758-2156
Los Angeles - March 7
Peter Neushul (310) 543-1902
New York - February 21
Ronnie Italiano (201) 365-0049
Pacific Northwest - March 14
Carolyn McIntyre (360) 786-1131
San Francisco - February 28
Nette Worthey (415) 455-8602
Washington, D.C. - March 14
David Hsiao (703) 534-1302

VM to be on national radio and TV

The Vocal Majority will make a guest appearance with the Tabernacle Choir in Salt Lake City on Sunday morning, November 23. Check your radio and TV listings for the program *Music and the Spoken Word*.

Convention countdown

At the end of October, registration totals were:
Tampa 836
Atlanta 3,915

Draw held for seniors contest

Twenty five quartets are registered for the 1998 Seniors Quartet Contest at the Tampa midwinter. The draw for order of appearance has been set:

1. The Note Factory *CAR
2. Seasoned Sound LOL
3. The Alumni JAD
4. Pacific Express FWD
5. The Bamburger Express RMD
6. Forget Me Notes *ILL
7. Grumpy Old Men SWD
8. Aliens EVG
9. Main Street Four MAD
10. Mellow Fellows ILL
11. Never Home 4 DIX
12. Vocal Accord NED
13. Tri-County Reclamation Project *ILL
14. The Nash Ramblers ONT
15. Older Lang Syne SLD
16. Barons CAR
17. The Old Yorkers *MAD
18. Tri-City Slickers *ONT
19. Dean's List *JAD
20. Live Music *JAD
21. Gulf Coast Reunion *SWD
22. Harmonious Accord *EVG
23. Flipside PIO
24. Endangered Species SUN
25. Jurassic Larks CSD

* At-large representative

Chase the sun in
TAMPA
1998 midwinter convention



1998 International chorus contestants announced

The following choruses are scheduled to compete in the international contests in Atlanta next July. The listing is in order of the draw for housing. The draw for singing position will be held at the Society Board meeting in April.

American Barber Boys
St. Joseph, MO *CSD
Chorus of the Genesee
Rochester, NY SLD
Ambassadors Of Harmony
St. Charles, MO CSD
Granite Statesmen
Nashua, NH NED
The Phoenicians
Phoenix-Saguaro, AZ FWD
Grand Central Chorus
East Midlands, England BABS
Alexandria Harmonizers
Alexandria, VA MAD
Singing Buckeyes
Buckeye-Columbus, OH *JAD
Heart Of America Chorus
Kansas City, MO *CSD
Big Apple Chorus
Manhattan, NY *MAD
Senate-Aires
Salem, OR EVG
Heart of Texas Chorus
Central Texas Corridor, TX SWD
New Tradition
Northbrook, IL ILL
Dukes of Harmony
Scarborough, ON ONT
Great Lakes Chorus
Grand Rapids, MI PIO
Southern Gateway Chorus
Western Hills (Cincinnati), OH JAD
Great Northern Union
Hilltop, MN LOL
Louisville Times
Louisville Metro, KY CAR
Big Chicken Chorus
Marietta, GA DIX
Heralds of Harmony
Tampa, FL SUN
Saltaires
Wasatch Front, UT RMD

*wildcard

(The Vocal Majority drew first place for housing)

New Society employees aboard

Several vacant positions on the Society staff in Kenosha were filled at the end of October. Look for photos and bios in the next *Harmonizer*, but here are the essentials:

Scott Hoge, from Alexandria, Va., is our new manager of information systems. He has a strong background in computer technology and will oversee all database and other computer-related operations. Scott replaces Greg Rismoen, who suffered a heart attack last June and was unable to resume his duties.

Reed Sampson, from Destin, Fla., has been hired as a public relations specialist. He comes to us with wide experience in print and electronic media, and was last a newspaper editor/writer.

Larry Gilhousen, from Columbus, Ohio, is the new director of development for Harmony Foundation. He has worked for many years in the fields of fundraising and financial planning.

Music Department opening at Harmony Hall

SPEBSQSA is now accepting applications for a music specialist. We seek an energetic, creative and professional musician who can communicate the excitement of barbershop harmony to members and non-members and work effectively with the staff music team.

Major duties include: chorus director development activities, music activities for youth and music teachers, music festivals/workshops and district travel to facilitate the Society's mission statement.

A bachelor degree in music or education is required; a master in music education is preferred. Previous experience in music activities for youth, proven success as music director of a barbershop chapter and excellent teaching skills (as demonstrated at Society education programs such as HEP, Top Gun, Harmony/Directors College) required.

For more information on how to apply for the position, contact Lani Dieter at SPEBSQSA headquarters: (800) 876-7464.

Dept. of typos and oversights

The eagle eyes of Munson Hinman discovered that the Code of Ethics on the back of the new membership cards is missing a word: quartet! For the record, the correct reading should be: "... old-fashioned vocal *quartet* harmony, ..."

Lacking the magic "q" word, the meaning is less precise, but the "spirit of the law" remains intact — experience the joy of singing barbershop harmony! The irregularity will be corrected in the next reprint of the cards.

We gather together

Turkey ... stuffing ... yams ... cranberries ... pumpkin pie. What comes to mind? Probably only one thing—Thanksgiving dinner.

That large feast filling the table surrounded by family and friends is certainly part of our culture. But remember, underlying this celebration are two words that have been juxtaposed to create the holiday. Those words are "giving thanks."

Maybe the best way to give thanks is to help others. As a Barbershopper, you have the ideal opportunity to do this when you support our service projects: SingAmerica (and SingCanada) and Heartspring.

When you donate to these projects through Harmony Foundation you are "giving." You are giving to help with basic life skills for the 40 residential students at Heartspring. And you are "giving" to the thousands of young people in the U.S. and Canada who will experience a quality of life through vocal music that they can pursue as a lifelong activity.

The "thanks" will be heard by you. You will hear it as you see a young person in your own community overcoming the most basic obstacles; and you will hear it in the voices of high school and community singers as they make music instead of trouble.

As your chapter and chapter members make their year-end contributions to the Foundation, try out this new slogan and see if it says something about Barbershoppers and the causes we support: *SING... for life.*

Museum to celebrate anniversary

The Heritage Hall Museum of Barbershop Harmony will celebrate its 10th anniversary in 1998. To mark the Museum's growth over the years, we are refurbishing our original exhibit area.

New exhibit cases arrived last month. After they have been painted, and glass and lights installed, work will begin on the new exhibits. Our revised and expanded exhibits will include more artifacts and memorabilia, the latest information on the roots of barbershop style, and the newest additions to the Museum's collections.

A new interactive audio system will let visitors hear the changing sound of barbershop and listen to the current quartet and chorus champs. Work will continue over the winter months and the new exhibits will be ready for the Society's 60th (and the Museum's 10th) anniversary in April 1998.

Highlights of the Society Board meeting and Leadership Forum

The first concurrent meeting of the Society Board and our 1998 district presidents, vice presidents and their counterpart committee chairmen took place in Racine, Wis., the last weekend of October. Also, Harmony Foundation staff and External Affairs Committee members met with district service chairmen on the new Harmony Foundation organization and discussed plans for 1998 activities.

The Board approved the hiring of an additional staff music person in the 1998 budget. This will increase staff personnel district visits from 294 days in 1997 to 467 days in 1998. The Board also approved a modification to the schedule of events at the convention in Atlanta, where downtown activities on Saturday, July 4, make it difficult to bring choruses from their hotels to the convention site. *The chorus contest will be held Friday afternoon, and the College Quartet Contest and World Harmony Jamboree will take place held on Saturday morning and afternoon, respectively.*

In keeping with the 1998 theme "Let's Grow Young Together," we will be tripling the number of HARMONY EXPLOSION Youth Outreach camps next year. Two will be held in Far Western District and one each in Dixie, Cardinal, Johnny Appleseed and Southwestern districts.

The Johnny Appleseed and Illinois districts have volunteered to find choruses and quartets to test a new "Standing Ovation" program, aimed at allowing performers to get the benefit of advice concerning their performance packages from qualified coaches.

Considerable time was spent among the district, committee and staff leadership discussing the interrelationships and ways to improve the way we cooperate, coordinate and communicate with each other, as well as on the new chapter coach program and the need to promote it better. Tasks for 1998 were shared among all the participants, and a master calendar of projects assembled.

The Forum weekend ended with reinvigorated Society, district and committee leadership committed to making our hobby a more rewarding one for all of us.

More next time,



Dan Daily
Publications Editor

S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A., Inc.

Chattanooga, Tennessee, Chapter

Meeting of Board of Directors, December 11, 1997

Present			Absent	Guests
Jesse	B. Owens	Peek	Grubb	Ron Weaver
Bidwell	Reynolds	Smith	Huber	Bill McKeehan
Keegan	L. Owens		Kulp	Pete Jones

The meeting was called to order by President Keegan at 8:10 pm at John Calvin Apts.

Secretary - The minutes of the November 13 meeting were approved as read.

Treasurer - Owens submitted a written report, attached. A summary follows:

Previous Balance -	\$6410.59	Disbursed -	\$2006.50
Received	- 934.14	Balance -	5337.73

Committee Reports

Chapter Development - Lamar Smith feels that membership retention is very important.

Music and Performance - Fred Jesse reported that we had good membership turnout at the show on Dec. 6. We had 40 members on stage. The show netted over \$2000; Pete Jones reported that he is developing the theme for the Spring Show.

Program - No report

Business Manager No report

Bulletin Editor - Barry Owens reported that he would like to have an assistant Bulletin Editor to help in publishing and distributing The Blender. It is too much work for one person

Old Business -. Revision of the Chapter Code of Regulations - Will be distributed at the next meeting. Chapter voting will be the following week.

New Business - B. Owens moved, seconded by Peek that Larry Huber's dues for 1998 be paid by the chapter. Passed. L. Smith moved, seconded by Bidwell that the Chorus Director be given \$50 as a Christmas gift and the assistants be given \$25. Passed Bob Stansbury will head up the 1998 Singing Valentines program.

New Cleveland Chapter - Ron Weaver and Bill McKeehan asked that the Chattanooga Chapter sponsor the Cleveland, TN. chapter. B. Owens moved, seconded by L. Owens that Chattanooga sponsor the Cleveland chapter. Passed.

Tom Keegan thanked the members of the 1997 Board for their work in 1997.

Adjourned: 9:10 pm

David N. Reynolds
Chapter Secretary

CHATTANOOGA CHOO-CHOO CHORUS 1997 BUDGET

SPEBSQSA

Dec. 22, 1997

No.	Description	Budget	Actual January 1 to Dec. 22, 1997	Accts. Rec. or Funds Transfer	Budget Balance	Percent To date
INCOME						
100a	Investments-CD's		\$89.31	\$3,000.00		15.65%
300	Chapter dues	\$594.00	\$484.00		\$110.00	81.48%
310a	Spring show tickets	\$3,400.00	\$2,434.00		\$966.00	71.59%
310b	Spring show adv. sales	\$2,900.00	\$2,140.00		\$760.00	73.79%
310c	Christmas show tickets	\$3,400.00	\$3,032.00	\$220.00	\$368.00	89.18%
320a	Performance-Valentines	\$4,550.00	\$5,088.00		(\$538.00)	111.82%
320b	Performance fees-Other	\$1,700.00	\$1,465.00	\$350.00	\$235.00	86.18%
340	Heartspings/Sing America	\$1,880.00	\$1,899.99		(\$219.99)	113.09%
342	Other contributions	\$240.00	\$25.00		\$215.00	10.42%
350	Other revenue		\$542.54			
350a	Refunds to chapter	\$600.00	\$245.00		\$355.00	40.83%
350b	Parties/gifts, etc.	\$1,128.00	\$1,057.52		\$70.48	93.75%
360	Other revenues/members	\$2,040.00	\$1,231.45	\$37.20	\$808.55	60.37%
	TOTAL INCOME	\$22,232.00	\$19,733.81	\$607.20	\$3,130.04	88.76%
EXPENSES						
401	Meeting room	\$800.00	\$1,001.89		(\$201.89)	125.24%
411	Director fees	\$1,680.00	\$1,680.00		\$0.00	100.00%
413	Schools expense-COTS	\$850.50	\$701.41		\$149.09	82.47%
421	Travel & exp's	\$552.00	\$220.90		\$331.10	40.02%
422	Uniform expense	\$1,914.00	\$1,786.06		\$127.94	93.32%
432	Office expense	\$492.00	\$685.33		(\$193.33)	139.29%
433	Publications (Blender)	\$624.00	\$541.35		\$82.65	86.75%
434	Music purchases	\$600.00	\$321.00		\$479.00	40.13%
435	Program expense		\$72.12		(\$72.12)	
436	Insurance	\$380.00	\$335.00		\$45.00	88.16%
437	Public relations	\$108.00	\$52.05		\$55.95	48.19%
440	Misc. show expense	\$250.00	\$416.70		(\$166.70)	166.68%
441	Auditorium expense	\$260.00	\$1,531.74		(\$1,271.74)	589.13%
442	Scenery-props	\$400.00			\$400.00	
443	Valentine day expenses	\$600.00	\$557.79		\$42.21	92.97%
444	Printing	\$788.00	\$571.45		\$196.55	74.41%
446	Talent fees	\$1,000.00	\$630.00		\$370.00	63.00%
447	Publicity	\$504.00	\$143.66		\$360.34	28.50%
448	ASCAP-BMI	\$324.00	\$96.00		\$228.00	29.63%
449	City-State tax	\$20.00	\$20.00		\$0.00	100.00%
450	Charitable expenses	\$2,500.00	\$3,813.99		(\$1,313.99)	152.56%
460	Social expense	\$730.00	\$1,134.98		(\$404.98)	155.48%
470	Miscellaneous expense	\$1,200.00	\$324.65		\$875.35	27.05%
471	Afterglow expense	\$1,000.00	\$1,213.44		(\$213.44)	121.34%
	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$17,756.50	\$17,851.51		(\$95.01)	100.54%
	TOTAL PROJECTED SURPLUS	\$4,475.50				
	ACTUAL OPERATING SURPLUS		\$1,882.30			9.54%

Charitable contributions

by Lamar Owens
Treasurer



We are well over target to be a "Gold Chapter" for giving for 1997. We have already sent \$1,813.99 to Harmony Foundation with another \$86 to be mailed for a total of \$1,899.99 for the year to date. Add to that the \$2,000 we will give to the Signal Cen-

ters on December 18 and we have given \$3,899.99 to charity for the year. This total will increase, with another Heartspring collection on December 27 and our additional chorus ticket sales. Mrs. Jane Horton, with Signal Centers also has a few tickets not accounted for so I believe it is safe to assume that we will be over \$4,000 in charitable giving for the year. That works out to over \$80 per man and we will have given a little over 20% of our total income to charity. Not too shabby! We need to make sure that the people we are trying to sell advertising and tickets to know this about us.



**Forrest, David, Larry & Matt
at the Spring Show**

Teaser

Answer to the November teaser: This was written by the kite and key himself, Mr. Benjamin Franklin, in his book *Poor Richard's Almanac*. Shame, shame on you if you didn't know this one! Especially if you went to high school before the '50s.

Try this one!

Who said: "Even a fool, when he holdeth his peace, is counted wise."?

Read next month's *Blender* for the answer.

Thought for the month:

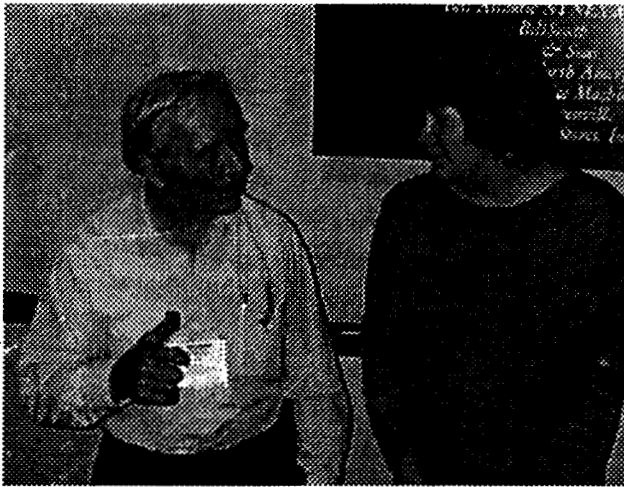
Highbrow

A highbrow is someone educated beyond his intelligence.



(Keegan, from p. 1)

and Bernard Peek for being at-large members and listening and listening and listening. Thank you Ron Weaver for being our assistant director and putting in the extra effort to see that we were properly warmed up each Monday evening. Thank you Clarence Wall for also being our assistant director and handling our church music program. And to all other members such as Brooks Gist, handling Heartspring; Bob Stansbury, our Valentine Chairman; Earle Fraser, show business manager; Forrest Bugher, who worked on our Code of Regulations—thank you one and all. It's amazing how many members work for the benefit of our chorus. We extend our best wishes to all the new board members and to every one of my fellow singers—have a wonderful holiday season.



**Lloyd Gimber making a point to
Nancy Owens at Greenville**

Mission Statement

The mission of the Chattanooga Chapter of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America is to promote and encourage the joy of barbershop harmony by:

- Preserving the craft and style of barbershop music
- Encouraging formation and development of barbershop quartets
- Educating young people, as well as older ones, in the enjoyment of close vocal harmony
- Singing an exciting and varied repertoire
- Performing for the public at charitable, religious, educational, and paid engagements
- Promoting unity and fellowship through musical, social, and Society activities
- Growing steadily in membership by attracting enthusiastic male singers of all ages
- Instilling individual commitment to develop musical and singing skills through training, motivation, mentoring, and participation
- Improving singing quality as measured by competition scores.

Belles' Business

by Nancy Owens
President

Merry Christmas and a prosperous year in 1998. The Belles have been rather inactive this year (in part due to my teaching schedule). Hopefully, I won't be teaching on Monday nights next semester. It'll be the second week in January before I know my schedule.

After January, I hope to reestablish regular monthly meetings. Regular meetings make it much easier to coordinate our activities and our assistance to the chorus. I understand that the music committee, with Pete Jones as show chairman, is already underway with the Spring show. I'm sure that they will be able to use our assistance in some manner.

We also need to re-order some of our shirts. Many of the newer members and Belles do not have the "spring sweat shirts" that we usually wear in Gatlinburg.

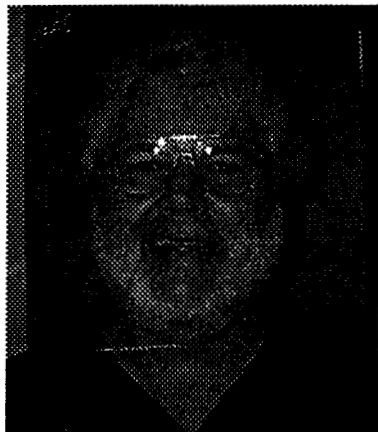
By the way, all active Belles need to send/give their \$12 yearly dues to Glenda Peek. Our treasury will thank you.

See you at the installation dinner in January. Hope Santa will be good to you.



The Last Word...

by Barry Owens
editor



First, I want to wish all the readers of the *Blender* a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

It's been quite a year for us. Actually, under the two years of President Tom

Keegan's administration, it has been two great years, both financially and musically. I recall vividly two years ago, sitting in our planning session at COTS in Atlanta, Tom's surprise at our lack of money in the operating budget. Look at Lamar Owens' financial statement in this month's *Blender*. We've never been so financially sound since I've been a member of the chapter. Thank you Tom for your wise leadership and counsel.

I understand that David Collins has been appointed our Music VP for 1998, a great choice! Dave, like me, is an i-dotter and t-crosser. He plans. While he will have some large shoes to fill, taking over from Fred Jesse, I believe, with our help, he can do it. Getting a running start, his committee has already started selecting music for the spring show and contest. He will be asking for your commitment in learning your music (there will be plenty of it!). His committee will also have to select assistant directors very soon (I hope he puts himself in the running).

I want to thank all of you great writers in the chapter who have contributed to the *Blender* this year. The new officers and committeemen have an obligation to speak to you, the membership, through the *Blender*. Maestro Blazek is a great writer with an informative and entertaining style; I only hope he will show us that style more often next year

(Paul this is a blantant hint).

We have some talented members who have joined this great organization during the past year. Our newest member, Tony Fowler, will be profiled in next month's *Blender*. I only wish I had had my camera at the Choo-Choo gig; Tony looked great in his tux!

Our successful Christmas show enabled us to make a significant contribution to a worthy local charity.

It was wonderful to go to the Healthsouth of Cleveland singing performance and hear and see Larry Huber actually singing with us. Wasn't Gloria beautiful that night. Her eyes were glowing!

I am looking forward to this coming year for our opportunity to spread our harmonic word through our Youth Outreach program headed by Lamar Owens. I only hope we do not burn out Lamar; he is much too valuable to us to let that happen.

And to our very own Belles, as usual you helped make 1997 so successsful! But I ramble. Enough!



*Santa Claus
aka
Barry
Owens*

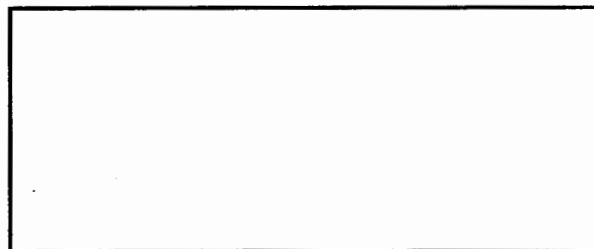
The 1997 Leadership Team Serving The Chapter

President	Tom Keegan	(423) 756-5660
Music & Performance VP	Fred Jesse	(706) 375-5935
Chapter Development VP	Lamar Smith	(706) 866-2481
Program VP	Larry Huber	(423) 339-1697
Publicity Chairman	Lamar Owens	(423) 894-4638
Secretary	Dave Reynolds	(423) 875-2674
Assistant Secretary	Earle Fraser	(423) 892-7630
Treasurer	Lamar Owens	(423) 894-8559
Assistant Treasurer	Benny Malone	(423) 344-9211
Board Member At Large (1 year)	Bernard Peek	(706) 398-3104
Board Member At Large (2 year)	Dick Bidwell	(423) 870-3196
Board Member At Large (3 year)	Rick Kulp	(423) 266-0758
Bulletin Editor	Barry Owens	(706) 891-9501
Business Manager & Marketing	Steve Grubb	(706) 861-6171
Immediate Past President	Steve Grubb	(706) 861-6171
Heartspring Chairman	Brooks Gist	(423) 892-7191
Musical Director	Paul Blazek	(423) 622-4493
Assistant Director	Ron Weaver	(423) 476-3200
Assistant Director	C.W. Wall	(706) 820-0579
Equipment Manager	Pete Jones	(706) 861-2113
Choo Choo Belles President	Nancy Owens	(423) 755-4526

The Blender

*The official newsletter of the Chattanooga Chapter of
The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement
of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America*

Barry Owens, Editor
Chattanooga Chapter
247 Morris Drive
Ringgold, GA 30736





The Blender



January 1998

Volume 7 Number 1

The Official Publication of the Chattanooga Chapter of
The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America

Chattanooga, Tennessee

Dixie District

Wheelin' & Dealin'

by Bernard Wheeler
President



As I begin the year as president of our chapter, I want to express my appreciation to Tom and the 1997 board for a great year. At the officers' installation ceremony Tom recognized

past presidents. I was impressed and recognized this group as a resource for advice and counsel. I am aware that there are many others who have served in leadership positions over the years. Because of your dedication, we have a good organization. I am humbled to follow in your footsteps. I will need and depend on your help.

We are a diverse group but we all share a love for barbershop harmony. We are dependent on each other to fully enjoy our hobby. I wish we could just sing and eliminate the administrative details. However, that is not possible so my goal will be to facilitate the administrative operation of the chapter as efficiently as possible with a minimum emphasis on administration and a maximum on singing and having a good time.

Since being elected President I have attended COTS, read the Chapter Officers Manual, and talked with officers of other chapters, but more importantly I have been listening to you. Many of you have made comments and offered helpful suggestions regarding chapter operations. I appreciate your interest and your willingness to share your thoughts with me. I have made notes and I will strive to address each concern as the year progresses.

I could write a lengthy article summarizing your comments. Based on these comments and my own personal evaluation of our chapter, I could suggest some chapter goals for 1998. However, I think it will be more effective if I subordinate my personal comments, and as your president, speak to you from the consensus of all the officers and directors that you have chosen as a leadership team. When you read this article the board will have met and the process of formulating plans for 1998 will have begun. In future articles I will communicate these plans to you. Please continue to express your thoughts. Each board meeting will be announced. You are invited to attend. Your input is of value.

I look forward to a fun year. Thank you for your encouragement and confidence in me... I'll try hard to make the Choo-Choo Chorus what you want it to be.

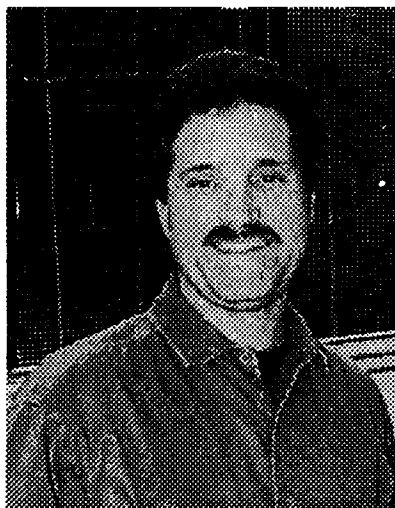
*The Chattanooga Chapter of
The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America
meets Monday evening, 7:00 at All Saints Academy, 310 East Eighth Street, Chattanooga, TN 37403
Phone 423-855-1947*

The Blender

Barry Owens, Editor
247 Morris Drive
Ringgold, Georgia 30736
Voice (706) 891-9501
Beeper (423) 550-6800
Fax (706) 891-1508
bowens@cdc.net

Wanted

Help for Bob Stansbury
with the Singing Valentine Program
Call him and volunteer today!
894-7760



Tony Fowler, our newest member, sings bari and is the son of Niles Fowler. This tall, dark, handsome, 43 year-old owns Fowler Landscaping Company. Niles assures me that his hobby is cutting grass!

Also Wanted
Singers
for the
Singing Valentine Program
Sign up today!



at faculty Christmas party

Classic Harmony Performances

- 11/25 Signal Centers Holiday party
- 12/1 Boy's Club promotion at Hamilton Place
- 12/7 Parkinson's Support Christmas party
- 12/15 Alton Park Middle School Faculty Christmas party
- 12/18 Corporate Christmas party at Fairyland Club
- 1/13 Annual Chamber of Commerce meeting at Trade Center

Christmas show final report

by Lamar Owens
Treasurer

The final income from the show was \$3,170. Signal Centers and HealthSouth brought in \$1,387, we brought in \$1,461 and UTC had \$322 in sales. Final expenses were \$1,067.70 so we made a profit of \$2,102.30. So far, \$2,000 has been given to Signal Centers/United Cerebral Palsy. If we do this again next year, I am sure we will have even better results, especially if we decide now. With this much advance notice, Mrs. Horton will have a head start on public service announcements and other publicity. I don't know about you guys, but I would to see money from the Christmas show continue to go back into local charities.

The Approaching Millennium

by Paul Blazek
Musical Director



What the heck does the approaching millennium have to do with barbershopping? Beats me, but at least I got you to read the start of this article. We have a new music team for 1998, and we can look forward to some pretty

exciting times. By the time you read this, the show will have been selected for this May. We have two good candidates, and either way it has the potential of being a great show. Next month, we will once again put quartets into the field for singing valentines. Not just a good fund-raiser, this activity gets us some good publicity in places we don't normally have access. If you can see any way to become part of a quartet for Valentine's Day, even learning some other part to two or three songs, do so. It's highly rewarding.

I know that New Year's resolutions are a well-worn cliché, and most people who even bother to make them find it impossible to fulfill them, but I'd like you to consider one for 1998. Pick a good singing habit that you don't currently have (just one!) and resolve to acquire that habit before July 1 of this year. That gives you six months to learn and practice and learn and practice and make it an automatic part of your singing. It could be something as simple as breathing from the diaphragm, or something more complex like connecting words when you sing or singing in phrases using inflection. Whatever it is, focus your effort for the next six months and monitor how you are doing. This is perhaps the hardest part, because you have to pay attention to your technique while you are singing. Like any bad habit, you can't fix it until you recognize it.

See you next time.

Ferd's Words

by Fred Jesse



Free! I'm free! I'm free at last! I have no more chorus responsibilities! I'm not president or music and performance VP, or on the Board, or have any other responsibilities! This year will be great! I can come and go as I please, be late and leave early. What a deal! Come to

performances when I feel like it, participate if I want, sit back and let others get stuff done.

Did that get your attention? Actually I still have responsibilities if I am going to participate in this great hobby and continue with this great chorus. I will learn my music, be prompt to meetings, attend performances, add my voice to the chorus and quartets, assist in any way when asked, and have fun doing it.

Can I count on you to do the same? If you will, 1998 will be memorable for all of us, especially those who put forth the extra effort.

Music Team for 1998

Music & PerformanceVP	David Collins
Music Director	Paul Blazek
Asst. Director	Clarence Wall
Asst. Director	David Collins
Lead Section Leader	Trey Kennedy
Bass Section Leader	W.C. Strickland
Bari Section Leader	David Reynolds
Tenor Section Leader	Fred Jesse
Contest Coordinator	Lamar Owens
Librarian	Barry Owens
Equipment Manager	Pete Jones
Show Chairman (Spring)	Collins/Malone
Show Chairman (Christmas)	Benny Malone
Tag Singing	Claude Walker
Woodshedding	Ron Weaver
Quarteting	Fred Jesse
1998 Coaching	Mike Tipton

Music Notes

by David Collins
Music & Performance VP



Happy new year to you too! I hope you noticed some new things being done at the last chapter meeting. I also hope you are as excited about this year's music as I am. Selection of the "Jolson" show this week

(Jan. 12) means that the chorus will need to learn 6 new songs in addition to the 4 songs we introduced (or reintroduced in the case of 3 of them) this last meeting. Learning tapes will be issued this next week. We know that you don't want extra rehearsals so that makes attendance of each chapter meeting night very important. It also makes it essential that you practice your music at home. Nuff said about that.

We (the Team) have determined that we will serve the Chapter by accomplishing the following objectives:

1. Timely issuance of music, learning tapes, and entertainment "packages" including scripts.
2. Delivery of music segments of meeting nights so that other activities can be enjoyed other than a meeting just being a chorus rehearsal.
3. Improvement of Singing quality of chapter members so that our audiences can enjoy our music even more.

We ask members to have patience, to provide feedback, and to support these objectives.

Convention Location Sites Determined By Dixie Board

Spring Sites

Gatlinburg 1998
Greenville, SC 1999
Greenville, SC 2000
Greenville, SC 2001

Fall Sites

Raleigh 1998
Birmingham 1999
Knoxville 2000
Chattanooga 2001



Rock City 4 Performances

- 11/20 National Anthem at Roundhouse
- 12/11 Central High Class of '38 reunion at Park Place Restaurant, Ft. Oglethorpe
- 12/13 Children's Art Festival at Provident
- 12/13 Bank of LaFayette Christmas party
- 12/19 Brainerd Baptist Sunday School Class Christmas party
- 12/20 Coca Cola Collectors Club at Wally's Restaurant

TEASER

Answer to the December teaser. This was written by King Solomon, Son of David, King of Israel and can be found in Proverbs 17, verse 28. Surely all of our Bible scholars knew this one. We do live in the Bible belt you know!

Try this easy one!

Who said,

"...no good at being noble but it doesn't much to see that the problems of three little people don't amount to a hill of beans in this crazy world. Some day you'll understand that."

Read next month's *Blender* for the answer.

Thought for the month.

If you don't pay your exorcist, you get repossessed. I'm told. No pun intended?



update

notes from the headquarters office

SPEBSQSA
6315 Third Ave.
Kenosha, WI 53143-5199
(414) 653-8440 • (800) 876-SING
FAX (414) 654-4048
Internet: update@spebsqsa.org

December 1997



Update is regularly distributed to selected officer positions at all Society levels.
Because many recipients hold one or more offices at various levels, duplicate receipt may occur from time to time.
Three copies are sent to each chapter—president, secretary and bulletin editor—please share with others.



Alexandria Harmonizers to appear on CBS telecast December 26

The Alexandria Harmonizers made their second appearance at a Kennedy Center Honors presentation on Nov. 30. The chorus was part of the segment honoring actor Charlton Heston and also appeared in the program finale.

The Harmonizers appeared in a song from the Broadway musical *Guys And Dolls*, "More I Can Not Wish You." Heston had recited the lyrics to his daughter at her wedding, and the song is very special to him. Headquarters staffer and Harmonizers member Scott Hoge, who returned to join his chorus for the performance, said, "We made Moses cry."

The Kennedy Center Honors telecast will be broadcast on CBS Dec. 26, from 9 to 11 p.m. EST.

"New" Harmony Foundation detailed

An explanation of the Harmony Foundation reorganization and goals may be found on the reverse side of this issue of *Update*.

Arrangement fees increase

Warner Brothers has raised its fee for permission to make new arrangements, and for permission to copy existing arrangements. Because of this, most A & R requests will now be \$50 for permission to arrange and make five copies. Any additional copies ordered at that time will be \$1. Chorus copy fees for most existing arrangements that were \$.45 will now be \$.75.

Convention countdown

At the end of November, registration totals were:

Tampa 1,068
Atlanta 4,715

Music Department opening at Harmony Hall

SPEBSQSA is now accepting applications for a music specialist. We seek an energetic, creative and professional musician who can communicate the excitement of barbershop harmony to members and non-members and work effectively with the staff music team.

Major duties include: chorus director development activities, music activities for youth and music teachers, music festivals/workshops and district travel to facilitate the Society's mission statement.

A bachelor degree in music or education is required; a master in music education is preferred. Previous experience in music activities for youth, proven success as music director of a barbershop chapter and excellent teaching skills (as demonstrated at Society education programs such as HEP, Top Gun, Harmony/Directors College) required.

For more information on how to apply for the position, contact Lani Dieter at SPEBSQSA headquarters: (800) 876-7464.

Chapters may establish credit card accounts

SPEBSQSA chapters may establish their own credit card accounts—handy for Singing Valentines and other sales programs. See the material included with this mailing of *Update*.

Chase the sun in
TAMPA
1998 midwinter convention



Deck the Hall

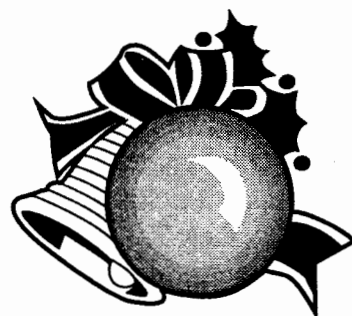
Harmony Hall played host to more than 550 guests for the annual Historic Holiday on Sunday, December 7, our largest turnout ever. Russ & Nancy Foris, John Schneider, and Brian & Laura Lynch greeted guests, directed traffic and served cider and cookies to our guests.

Guests included Bob Johnston, a graphic designer who produced many *Harmonizer* covers in the late 60s and early 70s, and hundreds of other Kenoshans who shared the hospitality of our lovely home. Thanks to everyone who helped out, and most especially to Ruth Blazina-Joyce, who decked the Hall in boughs of holly.

Society office holiday schedule info

The Society offices will be closed for the holidays as follows:

Wednesday, December 24 (after noon)
Thursday, December 25
Friday, December 26
Thursday, January 1



Happy Holidays!

More next time,

Dan Daily
Publications Editor

THE “new” HARMONY FOUNDATION

*by Larry A. Gilhousen
Development Director*

We are proud to announce that exciting changes are taking place with the support of causes Barbershoppers hold near and dear to their hearts. Harmony Foundation will now oversee all our fund raising activities. To accomplish this, the foundation has a new structure, new office space in the Sheridan Road building and some new faces. A board of trustees will continue to oversee the foundation, and Gary Stamm, CAE, who has served the society as Director of Marketing will serve as Executive Director of Harmony Foundation, Inc.

Assisting Gary on the Harmony Foundation team is Development Director, Larry Gilhousen. Larry recently moved to Kenosha from Reynoldsburg, Ohio. Larry has extensive experience in development, financial planning and volunteer management. He is also a long-time barbershopper having served with the Heart Of Ohio, and Buckeye Columbus, Chapters.

Rounding out the team is Administrative Assistant Laurel Peterson. Laurel has worked in the SPEBSQSA offices in member services and as a public relations intern. Laurel also performs with the Riverport Sweet Adelines. The entire team will be fully operational early next year.

Will you leave a legacy for harmony?

Beginning in 1998, the Harmony Foundation team will direct an Annual Campaign to benefit ALL of the society's service projects: Heritage Hall Museum of Barbershop Harmony, SingAmerica(SingCanada), and Heartspring. We will also be seeking grants and sponsorships for our many projects, and major gifts for our endowment programs.

Harmony Foundation also plans to expand its services to SPEBSQSA members. We have already scheduled an Estate Planning and Charitable Planning Seminar at the Mid-Winter Convention in Tampa. The seminar will include an overview of how planned giving can benefit the SPEBSQSA Endowment Fund while providing estate preservation, and favorable tax consequences, for donors. For details on the seminar, or for more information about Harmony Foundation, please call Larry at 1-800-876-SING extension 8448.

SING . . . *for life*

CHATTANOOGA CHOO-CHOO CHORUS 1998 BUDGET

SPEBSQSA

Jan. 15, 1998

No.	Description	Budget	Actual January 1 to Jan. 15, 1998	Accts. Rec. or Funds Transfer	Budget Balance	Percent To date
INCOME						
100a	Investments-CD's	\$125.00	\$10.23	\$3,089.31	\$114.77	8.18%
300	Chapter dues	\$495.00			\$495.00	0.00%
310a	Spring show tickets	\$2,600.00			\$2,600.00	0.00%
310b	Spring show adv. sales	\$2,400.00			\$2,400.00	0.00%
310c	Christmas show tickets	\$3,400.00	\$138.00		\$3,262.00	4.06%
320a	Performance-Valentines	\$5,200.00			\$5,200.00	0.00%
320b	Performance fees-Other	\$1,700.00	\$40.00		\$1,660.00	2.35%
340	Heartsprings/Sing America	\$1,750.00	\$37.00		\$1,713.00	2.11%
342	Other contributions				\$0.00	
350	Other revenue	\$250.00			\$250.00	0.00%
350a	Refunds to chapter	\$160.00	\$160.00		\$0.00	100.00%
350b	Parties/gifts, etc.	\$1,596.00			\$1,596.00	0.00%
360	Other revenues/members	\$1,155.00			\$1,155.00	0.00%
TOTAL INCOME		\$20,706.00	\$385.23		\$20,331.00	1.86%
EXPENSES						
401	Meeting room	\$800.00			\$800.00	0.00%
411	Director fees	\$1,680.00	\$140.00		\$1,540.00	8.33%
413	Schools expense-COTS	\$850.50			\$850.50	0.00%
421	Travel & exp's	\$444.00			\$444.00	0.00%
422	Uniform expense	\$1,536.00			\$1,536.00	0.00%
432	Office expense	\$804.00	\$34.66		\$769.34	4.31%
433	Publications (Blender)	\$624.00			\$624.00	0.00%
434	Music purchases	\$500.00			\$500.00	0.00%
435	Program expense	\$108.00			\$108.00	
436	Insurance	\$300.00			\$300.00	0.00%
437	Public relations	\$108.00			\$108.00	0.00%
440	Misc. show expense	\$400.00			\$400.00	0.00%
441	Auditorium expense	\$1,400.00			\$1,400.00	0.00%
442	Scenery-props	\$100.00			\$100.00	
443	Valentine day expenses	\$625.00			\$625.00	0.00%
444	Printing	\$516.00			\$516.00	0.00%
446	Talent fees	\$1,000.00			\$1,000.00	0.00%
447	Publicity	\$120.00			\$120.00	0.00%
448	ASCAP-BMI	\$108.00			\$108.00	0.00%
449	City-State tax	\$20.00			\$20.00	0.00%
450	Charitable expenses	\$2,500.00			\$2,500.00	0.00%
460	Social expense	\$1,416.00	\$100.00		\$1,316.00	7.06%
470	Miscellaneous expense	\$360.00			\$360.00	0.00%
471	Afterglow expense	\$1,598.00			\$1,598.00	0.00%
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$17,917.50	\$274.66		\$17,642.84	1.53%
TOTAL PROJECTED SURPLUS		\$2,788.50				
ACTUAL OPERATING SURPLUS			\$110.57			
BANK BALANCE			\$5,162.52			

CHATTANOOGA CHOO-CHOO CHORUS 1998 BUDGET

SPEBSQSA

Jan. 15, 1998

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434	Music purchases	\$500.00			\$500.00	0.00%
435	Program expense	\$108.00			\$108.00	
436	Insurance	\$300.00			\$300.00	0.00%
437	Public relations	\$108.00			\$108.00	0.00%
440	Misc. show expense	\$400.00			\$400.00	0.00%
441	Auditorium expense	\$1,400.00			\$1,400.00	0.00%
442	Scenery-props	\$100.00			\$100.00	
443	Valentine day expenses	\$625.00			\$625.00	0.00%
444	Printing	\$516.00			\$516.00	0.00%
446	Talent fees	\$1,000.00			\$1,000.00	0.00%
447	Publicity	\$120.00			\$120.00	0.00%
448	ASCAP-BMI	\$108.00			\$108.00	0.00%
449	City-State tax	\$20.00			\$20.00	0.00%
450	Charitable expenses	\$2,500.00			\$2,500.00	0.00%
460	Social expense	\$1,416.00	\$100.00		\$1,316.00	7.06%
470	Miscellaneous expense	\$360.00			\$360.00	0.00%
471	Afterglow expense	\$1,598.00			\$1,598.00	0.00%
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$17,917.50	\$274.66		\$17,642.84	1.53%
TOTAL PROJECTED SURPLUS		\$2,788.50				
ACTUAL OPERATING SURPLUS			\$110.57			
BANK BALANCE			\$5,162.52			

S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A., Inc.

Chattanooga, Tennessee, Chapter

Meeting of Board of Directors, December 11, 1997

Present			Absent	Guests
Jesse	B. Owens	Peek	Grubb	Ron Weaver
Bidwell	Reynolds	Smith	Huber	Bill McKeehan
Keegan	L. Owens		Kulp	Pete Jones

The meeting was called to order by President Keegan at 8:10 pm at John Calvin Apts.

Secretary - The minutes of the November 13 meeting were approved as read.

Treasurer - Owens submitted a written report, attached. A summary follows:

Previous Balance - \$6410.59	Disbursed - \$2006.50
Received - 934.14	Balance - 5337.73

Committee Reports

Chapter Development - Lamar Smith feels that membership retention is very important.

Music and Performance - Fred Jesse reported that we had good membership turnout at the show on Dec. 6. We had 40 members on stage. The show netted over \$2000; Pete Jones reported that he is developing the theme for the Spring Show.

Program - No report

Business Manager No report

Bulletin Editor - Barry Owens reported that he would like to have an assistant Bulletin Editor to help in publishing and distributing The Blender. It is too much work for one person

Old Business -. Revision of the Chapter Code of Regulations - Will be distributed at the next meeting. Chapter voting will be the following week.

New Business - B. Owens moved, seconded by Peek that Larry Huber's dues for 1998 be paid by the chapter. Passed. L. Smith moved, seconded by Bidwell that the Chorus Director be given \$50 as a Christmas gift and the assistants be given \$25. Passed. Bob Stansbury will head up the 1998 Singing Valentines program.

New Cleveland Chapter - Ron Weaver and Bill McKeehan asked that the Chattanooga Chapter sponsor the Cleveland, TN. chapter. B. Owens moved, seconded by L. Owens that Chattanooga sponsor the Cleveland chapter. Passed.

Tom Keegan thanked the members of the 1997 Board for their work in 1997.

Adjourned: 9:10 pm

David N. Reynolds
Chapter Secretary

Charitable Contributions

by Lamar Owens
Treasurer

We ended the year with total charitable contributions of \$3,813.99. That was distributed as follows:

SingAmerica \$500
Heartspring \$1,313.99
Signal Centers \$2,000

We finished as a "Gold Chapter" for giving for 1997. Based on 50 members that works out to \$76.28 per man which will put us higher in the district rankings, if we really cared about rankings. We gave 18.92% of our income to charity. An even more impressive fact is that we gave 63% of our disposable income to charity. We are truly a charitable organization and our potential patrons and supporters need to know that about us.

Belles' Business

by Nancy Owens
President

Belles, it's time to pay up. Dues for the Belles are \$12 a year. Please submit your check, cash, money order or any other legal tender to Glenda Peek.

We will meet on Monday January 26 at the same time the guys are rehearsing. If you have anything you'd like to bring forward, then is the time.

One of the items of business will be to distribute order forms for the non-singing "uniform" shirts. I don't know what else to call them....the sweat shirts and the raspberry golf shirts. This will also be the time to have the logo embroidered on any other item you desire.

The Last Word...

by Barry Owens
editor

It was a great party. The price was right. The food was great (thanks to Pete Jones for making

the arrangements). The speeches were short. We were entertained by a couple of great quartets, and the chorus sang. What more can you ask for? How about your support for our new president and his administration! If all of his officers do their jobs, he won't have much to do. Let's make it easy on Bernard (and JoAnn).

Bernard has some large shoes to fill, taking the helm from Tom Keegan. When Larry Huber or I tended to run on and on with our comments, we could always depend on Tom to re-focus us in our board meetings. Tom's administration left us healthy financially and musically. I am looking forward to this year. I have been told that we have many new songs to learn, something that I always find exciting.

I got an email from Steve Donovan. His quartet, fore and aft, had to break up because their schedules would not allow them to get together. He is bracing himself for the typical winter New England weather. He says that he will get his exercise shoveling snow.

ministration last Thursday, I was encouraged about how well he has hit the year running. As to board meetings, he said he doesn't like meetings. He wants to keep them to one and one-half hours or less. He will start on time, follow an agenda, and treat it like a business meeting, not a gripe-fest. He has a thick skin and welcomes your comments and suggestions. He said that he will do little talking at rehearsals; he'll speak with the consensus of the board. He made two appointments: Benny Malone as Assistant Treasurer and David Collins as Music & Performance VP.

I have received an email from a fellow editor (Senate-Aires Notes) who will be coming to Atlanta this summer for the convention. He and some fellow barbershoppers from Salem, Oregon would like to park their two 5th wheeler campers somewhere in this area. They plan to stay in a hotel in Atlanta with the rest of their chorus members. He said that if anybody had a field or pasture or any other place to park them, he would appreciate it. Let me know and I'll get word to him.

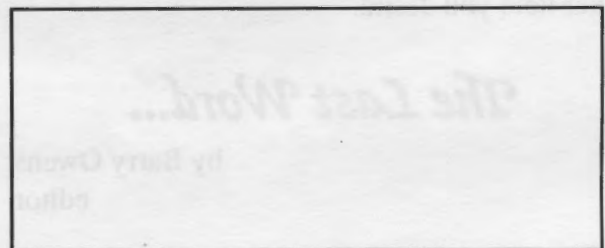
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The Blender

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of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America*

Barry Owens, Editor
Chattanooga Chapter
247 Morris Drive
Ringgold, GA 30736





The Blender

April 1998

Volume 7 Number 4

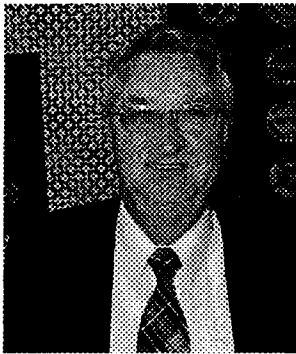
The Official Publication of the Chattanooga Chapter of
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Chattanooga, Tennessee

Dixie District

Wheelin' and Dealin'

by Bernard Wheeler
President



If you went to Gatlinburg I think you should put your right hand over your left shoulder and PAT YOURSELF ON THE BACK. We did good. Let's do even better in Raleigh this fall. If you

were not able to go, you were missed, and I hope you can go with us in October. Preparing for competition is a lot of hard work and Raleigh is a long trip. However, the hard work is rewarding, regardless of our score, because it makes us a better chorus. If competition is not your thing then the weekend of fun and fellowship is worth the effort.

I have been talking about long range planning but it has been on the back burner since we've been so busy with organizing for '98, the singing Valentines, and our spring concert coming up in just a few days. We will continue to be busy with singouts, the DLHW at Clemson, and of course the international convention in Atlanta this sum-

mer. In the midst of our already-planned projects, we must begin looking toward to 1999 and beyond.

A good starting point is our participation in a three-year international promotion called "Chapter Challenge." This is a campaign to encourage each chapter to recruit and retain membership. Rick Kulp, vice-president of chapter development, will be presenting this program to the board at our April board meeting. If the board recommends that we participate, each of you will be given an opportunity for input in developing a written plan and setting our own "real growth" targets.

I will keep you informed.



*The Chattanooga Chapter of
The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America
meets Monday evening, 7:00 at All Saints Academy, 310 East Eighth Street, Chattanooga, TN 37403
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The Blender

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It's Our Business

by Lamar Owens
Business Manager



It continues to be busy for us this year with two new requests for the chorus to perform and five more requests for quartet engagements. It looks like we will be able to accommodate four of the quartet requests. Please make

your best effort to support all of these activities. Your whole-hearted support is expected and appreciated.

Don't forget our Spring Show May 2, "You Ain't Heard Nothin' Yet!". The show begins at 7:30 PM at the UTC fine Arts Center. If you haven't already contacted your friends and acquaintances about tickets or program advertising, now is the time. Our friends at the Signal Centers and HealthSouth are also going to be helping us sell some tickets. Let's work together to make this show a huge success. When you next see David Collins, tell him thanks for all the effort he is putting into this show. We don't do that enough.

Till next month, keep a song in your heart and a smile on your face!

Larry Update

by Gloria Huber



Larry is having another spurt of improvement. He is able to stand unaided for 60-80 seconds (up from 20 last month). He is walking with one assistant (down from two last month). Here is an excerpt from a recent evaluation which will give the membership a much better idea of what Larry & I are facing:

Larry is dependent for ambulation and utilizes a wheelchair for distances. He requires moderate assistance for transfers. He exhibits decreased balance, endurance, and poor safety awareness. Larry requires maximal assistance with bathing, dressing, and grooming. He exhibits profoundly impaired cognitive deficits in memory, orientation, problem solving, expressive communication, and auditory comprehension. He requires verbal cues for completion of tasks. He exhibits impulsivity and poor insight into his deficits. He has problems with self-monitoring, initiation and planning. He is inconsistent with bowel and bladder management.

Lots of challenges ahead. Hopefully he will continue to improve to where some of these problems will just be unpleasant memories and not a way of life. Please keep us in your prayers. Occasionally I go through a photo album with Larry that contains pictures of friends, family and, of course, Barbershoppers. This week when we got to the photo of him singing with the chorus at Life Care in December, I asked him what he thinks of when he looks at it. He said, "I think they're a great bunch of guys." Well, I'll second that and wish all of you good luck and lots of fun with your upcoming show.

Choo-Choo Chorus Top 10!

by Paul Blazek
Musical Director



"Why, thank you, thank you very much!" is the answer. The question is, "What does the director of a top ten chorus say when you ask him, 'Excuse me sir, what time is it?'" "It feels great to be back where we belong, and I'm proud of everyone who attended the extra rehearsal, participated in the

coaching session (a big thanks to Mike Tipton!), went to Gatlinburg, and helped put Chattanooga in the top ten choruses in Dixie. I look forward to this fall when we get to do it again.

In the meantime, there's lots of things going on (so what else is new?) and we need to stay focused. We have only a few weeks until the show, and the music definitely needs some extra work. PLEASE spend some time other than chapter meetings on your music, so we can use what little rehearsal time we have to tweak and polish instead of teach and reteach.

We also have performances scheduled in April and May (look elsewhere in this issue for details), so we will be spending some rehearsal time on repertoire songs. Our April 25th performance for Special Olympics track and field events is, of course, important to me and, I hope, to you. With Lindy being a Special Olympics coach for over 25 years, I've had a lot of exposure, along with our kids. Thankfully, none of our kids qualify as a "special athlete", but they have participated as "special partners" on mixed teams (Unified Sports), as assistant coaches, as volunteers, etc., many times. It's always heartwarming to see the athletes doing their best, but also following the Special Olympics oath - "Let me win! But, if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt!" We

have received a great response from athletes, coaches, and volunteers every time we have performed for them, even if it's just (?) our national anthem, so please make time in your schedule to be there. Also, if you don't have crucial things to do that day, you might consider staying on as a volunteer for an hour or two, or come back later to help as the games wind down (they run until about 2:00 or 3:00). In any case, thanks for your participation.

Thought for the month - "I need to become 'invisible' within the chorus." Wait a minute, I thought I needed to be smiling my face off and singing my heart out and doing all the motions and gestures and getting all the notes right and not forgetting the words and shaping all my vowels and . . . You're right, you need to be doing all these things and more, and having fun at the same time! However, ensemble (there's that French word again!) singing and performance is quite different from quartet singing and performance. In a quartet, you are the only one singing your part, so you need to do it with authority and leadership. Even in a quartet, though, you need to blend your sound with the other three men and present a unified "look and feel" in terms of presentation. In the chorus, this need to "blend in" becomes paramount. There may be dozens of men singing your part, yet it needs to be heard as one voice. You also have to synchronize your face, your body, and your emotions with everyone else around you, so that the audience perceives us as a unit. I've spoken before about repressing the urge to be a "hero" in performance. Let's get serious about this concept, and concentrate on performing as an integral ("invisible") part of the performance unit called the Choo-Choo Chorus, fitting each man's contribution into the overall performance.



Singing Valentines Cincinnati Style

by Bill Cates
Singing Valentine Chairman

Here's a little of what we in the Cincinnati Delta Kings Chapter did this year during the four-day Singing Valentine delivery period.

We processed 307 orders at \$40 each. Some of these orders were for anywhere from \$80 to \$150 each. We had a total of 57 singers qualified to deliver the three songs by devoting a part of each weekly meeting night to the rehearsal of these 3 songs. The ENTIRE meeting on that last Monday night before Valentine's weekend was spent qualifying all of the various quartet combinations in front of the chapter. I assembled the maximum number of quartets possible using the parts available from the individual commitment sheets I issued to each member. I used my judgment on quartets make-up to be sure that each quartet had at least two experienced quartet men in them at all times.

I set up two shifts per day—9:00 am to 4:00 pm and 4:00 pm to 10:00 pm. On both of the peak days, I had 10 quartets on each shift.

Our working guys scheduled vacation, comp time, etc. to participate. Every man who qualified to sing had the opportunity to deliver valentines for at least one of those shifts. No qualified singer was left out. I wound up with 55 different quartets performing over those 4 days. Everyone was happy—everyone got the quartet bug—and we made a ton of money to boot.

We have really gone high tech these past two years with credit card charges, computer scheduling by city map coordinates to keep quartets in defined areas and cut down on travel time, tracking of publicity results by various media (newspapers, television, radio) and know where to spend our publicity \$ for the most benefit.

I have set up and sung bari in each of the publicity quartets used these past 5 years. This past February was the biggest media blitz we have ever had. We sang on every local radio station in the city and several times on a few of them. We also sang on all 5 local television stations. All of our performances were LIVE—nothing was taped—and on Friday, February 13th, we were on "Channel 19 in the Morning" live for over 15 minutes of their 1 hour program.

The results were consistent that each time we appeared on a radio or television program, our two phone lines rang off the hook for several hours afterward. Publicity is the key. Also, a large number of the orders came about from word of mouth.

We started each day at 8:00 am at Harmony Lodge. Roses were prepared a day in advance and stored in our beer cooler there in our Lodge. I had a non-singer arrive early to have coffee and doughnuts ready for the assembling quartets. I assigned the TENORS of each quartet as the "boss"—he had the responsibility of handling all of the details for a successful day. He was given a packet of orders which included minute details on each individual order and the time to be delivered. He assigned each member of his quartet responsibilities for driving, navigating, cellular phone handling, spokesman, rose man, camera "expert" for Polaroid picture of each recipient, distribution of our Delta Kings Information folder to each man present where valentines were delivered. This year we also included a suitably decorated slotted holder for the Polaroid picture as a memento of the occasion. Let me note here that cell phones in each car are an absolute MUST to add those extra jobs that are phoned in while the quartets are all out in the field and for the quartets to inform the "war room" of any problems arising in the field. What a great invention these things are!!!!

We pretty well have this operation down to a science as our annual critiques indicate. One additional thing we plan to do next year is to have our roses prepared professionally even though it will

eat into our profits. In the past we have been buying them in bulk and preparing them ourselves but this leaves something to be desired from the standpoint of overall quality. After all, we have a class act so let's provide a classier flower arrangement.

The total \$ are not all in at this writing but I estimate we made at least \$9,000 PROFIT this year. These extra \$ sure come in handy when we have to squeeze our budget each year and cut stuff out that would be really nice to have. Last year, we used our profits to buy and issue Tuxedos and vests to our members at no charge. This year we are upgrading our 4-track taping equipment and sound system and have a hefty budget approved for Youth Outreach.



Teaser

Answer to the March teaser: this was said by the most famous Prime Minister of Great Britain, Sir Winston Churchill. He said this of the triumph of the Royal Air Force over the German Luftwaffe during the Battle of Britain.

Try this easy one: who said, "The only thing we have to fear is fear itself."? Read next month's *Blender* for the answer.

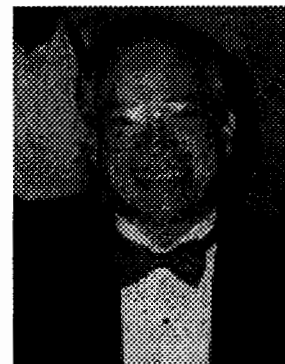
Thought for the month: For of all sad words of tongue or pen, the saddest are these, "It might have been."Whittier

Music Notes

by David Collins
Music VP

Wasn't our convention at Gatlinburg a blast! The weather, the qualification of four Dixie quartets to International, our chorus qualification for the Fall and those great scores for our contest songs; and how well we sang them!! It was a great experience, and I had a lot of fun. That's what it's all about

There is no doubt about it—we are singing in tune and with more quality. We owe a lot to Mike Tipton's excellent coaching, Paul's teaching, and having learning tapes. But what we owe the most to is our own individual concentration efforts and our determination to sing as a unit, with no heroes, and to sing it better every time we sing a song!



Spring Show

By the time you read this it will be almost over. We are going to have a great show, entertain an audience, and attract new people to sing with us. There are a lot of chapter people and wives working hard to bring this off. There are chorus and quartet members practicing hard to learn the music and actors trying to learn their lines. In addition I see members working hard to sell their tickets and ads. It's a lot of work, but when you are on stage and performing, it goes so quickly. Have fun, enjoy it, and just do the best you can.

Get With the Program!

by Steve Grubb
Program VP



Hard to believe I'm actually submitting an article. I know that is what our frustrated Editor

is thinking right now. My apologies to both Barry and the membership for neglecting my responsibility lately. Maybe now that I'm on E-mail it will be easier to get these pearls of wisdom submitted on time.

Wasn't Gatlinburg a great weekend?!?! The weather was perfect; the singing outstanding, and the fellowship with fellow Barbershoppers beyond compare. This was, in my opinion, the best Spring competition in the mountains we've ever had. Hope everyone concurs. Pat yourself on the back for a great effort while in the Smoky Mountains. We sounded really good, and you could tell our efforts were paying off handsomely. Johnny (The Face) Jackson came as an observer, and he felt we sounded better than he had ever heard. He graded us out about eighth from his keen ear; the judges were obviously a little harder act to sell, as we placed tenth, but who's complaining? Our scores were solid "B"s and we should be extremely proud of that fact. During the A & R, every comment given was a positive one with suggestions for improvement that I really felt the judges thought we could attain. Let's continue to work on technique and on applying what we know to make us a better chorus. No time now to rest on our laurels. Each person is personally responsible for making his unit's sound solid and singular in quality. We can improve, but it'll take some work.

The Spring show will be here before we know it; I trust everyone is working to be ready. The music is tough, but we can perform it well (even though the Lead section may never be the same with all those high notes). Hope you're all trying

to sell ads and tickets; this has been the toughest year ever for me to sell for some reason—nobody wants to commit that has in the past. I'll keep plugging and hope ya'll are as well. We need to make this show a success.

Please mark your calendars for Monday, May 18th. The Board is planning a special night for the chorus, and everyone needs to attend. We will have a catered meal, some good barbershop harmony, and a chance to begin planning our five-year goals. We will have a sure-enough professional Facilitator to help us as we lay the ground work for the success of the chorus in Chattanooga. Please plan now to attend this special evening. We will eat @ 6:30 PM and dismiss @ 9:30 PM. So, bring your appetite and a bunch of great ideas for your chorus' future. See ya there!!

Until next time, Keep the Whole World Singing.

Coming Events

April 25

Special Olympics Track & Field Meet
McCallie School Athletic Field
9:45 AM C# uniform

May 2

Spring Show
"You Ain't Heard Nothing Yet!"
UTC Fine Arts Center
7:30 PM

May 15

American Cancer Society
Walk for Life
Lakeview/Ft. Oglethorpe
Athletic Field
Sing at 8:00 PM C# uniform

May 26

Elderfest Performance
Cohutta Springs, Georgia
Warmup 6:15 PM, sing 7:00 PM
Tuxedo A#, paid performance

The Last Word...

by Barry Owens
editor



I am enthused! This show will be the first show in about ten years that I will be using my natural voice (bass). Tenor is fun to sing (ask Dan), but it ain't as easy as you may think. Being able to hit the high notes is certainly not all there is to it. If you like to quartet, I would encourage more of you to experiment with this part; there is a need.

Reading many of the Society's various chapter bulletins, I sometimes run across something that grabs my attention. It was under a chapter expenses heading. There were expenses turned in for all kinds computer paraphernalia: scanners, motherboards, applications, etc. With the investment I have made to be connected with the rest of the world and putting out this Blender, I thought...naw!

When I first joined the chorus, about a dozen years ago, we had a burned-out treasurer, which, incidentally, I never saw or met. This chapter has an unhappy history of finding a singer with many other talents, using those talents, giving scant help, throwing him to the wolves as it were, and watching him give up in frustration. Please don't let that happen to our present treasurer and other members who go the extra mile for us. Lamar Owens has just put in many extra miles and hours into the first high school quartet contest. For several reasons I won't go into here, it didn't pan out. Let him know you appreciate his efforts. Maybe he'll try again. Maybe we will give him more help next time.

As singers we thrive on applause, but in other capacities we can only thrive on attaboys. If a member is loaded down with many responsibilities, offer to give him a hand. My personal pleasure,

from the Blender, is for the membership to simply read it and comment, pro or con. I have, at times, asked a member about an article, written by one of our members, and they said, "Oh I didn't read last month's Blender." Boy, you talk about depressing! To think about all the hours put in and it not being read!

After reading Gloria's update, I wept. I know Larry's road back is going to be long and slow. I can't tell you how much I admire Gloria.

Last month's Blender had an article by Pat Crowe expressing his opinion about us being too busy, learning too many songs. I love Pat's articles. He is thought provoking, witty, and a great writer. I didn't agree with this article, but that has never stopped me from publishing any member's stuff. I send the Blender to editors across the United States. During the month, I received an e-mail from one of the editors. He didn't agree with Pat either. He proceeded to tell me all the songs they have to learn during the year. Alas! I lost his e-mail in that great electronic garbage can in the sky. It was well-written, and I would like to share it with you. Perhaps he'll see this and resubmit it to me.

One last thing...David Collins let me be one of the first to give you an attaboy for your work this year for the chapter, not just being show chairman, but keeping our music department in control. (I told you that he is an i-dotter and t-crosser!)



The Real Last Word...

by Nancy Owens
Choo Choo Belles President

Barry just thought he got in the last word! Belles remember the last meeting before the show is Monday, April 27. I'll be there....

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Barry Owens, Editor
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247 Morris Drive
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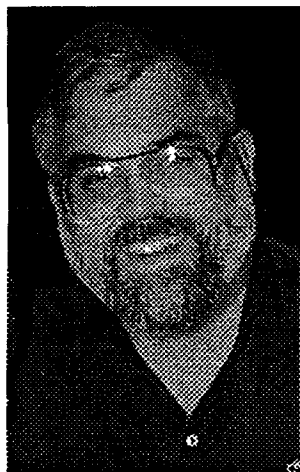
Chattanooga, Tennessee

Dixie District

What Now?

by Paul Blazek
Musical Director

The show is over, contest isn't until October, the Christmas show(?) is a long way off. What better time to back off a little bit and take it easy. . .
WRONG!!!!



This is the time when we can make our greatest strides in the quality of our performance as a group. It is also the time when we can improve personally by using the time we have together wisely. The pressure is off now, at least temporarily, and our summer will not be as critical and crucial as our spring has been. Therefore, let's see if we can concentrate on two things for the next few weeks—having fun, and making some personal improvements.

I would like to thank all of you for your hard work in preparation for the show. We learned quite a bit of new music (although I use the word

“learned” it the loosest possible sense) and I personally received quite a few compliments on the show. I would very much like to keep some of the music in our repertoire, and maybe even use it in contest (*Little Pal? If You Knew Susie? “Your Choice Here”?*).

Thought for the month - “With just a little work, I can be better.” If water drips on a rock for a long period of time, eventually the rock gives way. Each drop of water doesn't do very much work, but the continuing effort will bring about results. Make this philosophy part of your weekly (daily?) barbershop routine. Don't fix everything today, but fix something today, and make the fix stick. It won't take a lot of effort, but next week you will have one less thing to fix. Keep it up long enough, never killing yourself with the effort, and sooner than you think you will be trying very hard to find something - anything - to fix.



STUDY YOUR MUSIC AT HOME

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meets Monday evening, 7:00 at All Saints Academy, 310 East Eighth Street, Chattanooga, TN 37403
Phone 423-855-1947*

The Blender

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bowens@cdc.net

"Get With the Program!"

by Steve Grubb, Program VP



As always, we managed to pull another one out of the fire this year! Really an enjoyable show, fellas. We put on a great show for an appreciative audience and again put our Director through a week of you-know-what as we prepped

for the show. Al Jolson has always been a favorite of mine, so this was a fun show to be a part of for me. He was truly one of a kind! Johnny and I agree that we need only comedic scripting next time to allow us to show off our abilities, limited though they may be. Destroying Don's script is much more rewarding than having to really memorize and deliver lines to an audience. Congrats to everyone for the work they did to make the show a success. I'll not mention everyone for fear of overlooking someone, but we all need to thank David for his hard work in putting the show together again this year. Good job as always, Dave; but maybe we should lose those fancy "Spats" before our next show.

This paper will be in your hands as we begin to chart our future at the special meeting. It is very enjoyable to see the new blood in the President's

chair planning this brainstorming session. Working with a facilitator is a neat experience and helps groups to generate ideas and get to know one another better. Bernard, keep up the proactive, forward thinking. This chapter has so much to offer each member; we just need to tap into all of our resources! This meeting should help us do that. Thanks also to the Board for agreeing to pursue this effort; your Board wants this chapter to succeed and become better and better. Thank them for this innovative approach to finding new ways to grow and improve.

Summer is coming and we run the risk of again "swooning" a bit in our singing efforts—especially with Atlanta hosting International this year. Let's all work hard to stay focused and working to improve ourselves and this chapter. Please try to come to as many practices as possible this summer; you will enjoy the fellowship and singing (that's why we joined, right?) and get to know your Chattanooga brethren better. Speaking of summer, don't you think the chapter would be better represented at sing-outs if we all looked the same from the waist down? Many have voiced this concern, and I agree with them. The different shades of khaki are distracting and give an air of disorganization, in my perspective. Could we all afford to buy a pair of khakis from one clothier and look like a matching group again? Let your Board members know how you feel.

Enough for now. Until next time, Keep the Whole World Singing!



Music Notes

by David Collins

"I'm sitt'n on top of the world"--How about that show , singout, and (by this time) our chapter future planning meeting. Who said that summer was slow in barber shopping circles. Between the chapter, quartets, and the district stuff there's so much going on that it's hard to get "laid back" on the porch on top of the mountain.

Last Saturday Tom, David R. Fred & I substituted for Stage II at the EAA fly-in at the Murfreesboro Airport. The reason we substituted was that the Flying Chapter flew us to Murfreesboro and back. If Stage II had sung the club would have had to fly their twin engine bomber rather than the single engine plane we flew in. Something about weight/engine ratio's. The biggest kick came from Reynold's co-piloting on the way up and Fred's co-piloting on the way back. Both of them greatly missed their pocket protectors when they had opportunities to make notations to the pilot's log. Tom created new lyrics for I Love A Jolson Song (Give them a shove , watch for the Dove) but remembered the words for Radio (Last year's award winning word mystery) which we didn't sing this year! And I got an opportunity to play snare drum for the Band. Drum rolls will never sound the same to me (or I suspect to our audience). When they write about the "barbershop experience" the Kenosha guys never envision the experience we had today.

We are to pick our second song for this year's Fall Convention. It will be an uptune, something with in the singing range of our chorus, and something that will be barbershop. Other than that the Music Team is open to any of your suggestions.

We have also received some suggestion for the Christmas Show (involve a lot of other singing groups, Grunch & Scrooge ride again, use the show as a community choir opportunity, and have some bell ringers (did you know that baritones are our favorite ding-a-lings?). We may do all of the above. How about some more suggestions?

One more final note about the show. Did you notice how many Malone's there were involved in this show? Did you know that Marty had to make up a day of drill for the half a day he had to take off to attend our final practice. Did you know that Stephen had to leave a Prom dance, rush over to dance for us in the "Me & My Shadow, and then rush back to his prom? When you add Old Dad's show jobs, quartets etc., and all the show jobs that Young Mom took on then you see what a talented and hard working family can mean to our chapter. Tell them how much you appreciate them. We don't do this enough.

The View From The Top (Sort Of)

by Steve Grubb

So many people have asked what it feels like to sing in a top five chorus that I feel compelled to use the *Blender* to answer all the questions once and for all. To those readers who don't know, several of the Chattanooga Choo-Choo Chorus singers were asked to join the Roswell Firehouse Brigade Chorus in order to improve the chorus' overall quality. After a long and arduous training regime, we auditioned for membership, and those of us who met the Roswell Chorus' high standards were selected. Then began the really hard work.

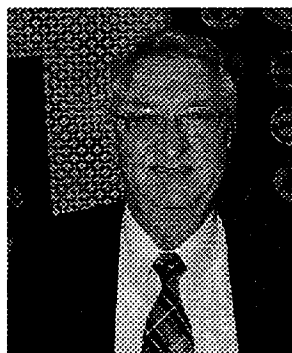
Words can't describe how many hours we spent rehearsing for the Gatlinburg show. All the practice paid off as we closed the competition out with a stellar performance of two intricate numbers, *Sweet, Sweet Roses of Morn* and *Wait 'til the Sun Shines Nellie*. We were led by task masters "Handsome" Dave Philo and Rick Word. They directed the massive chorus in the laissez-faire style, and had the chorus so motivated that the judges were compelled to award enough points to make the Firehouse Brigade the number five chorus in the district. (There were those in the audience who thought the judges were not objective and the chorus should have scored better than RTP.)

What is it like to stand on the stage in such a solemn situation and serenade such a celebrated assembly? My nerves were stretched taut; I had butterflies as thick as flies on carrion, and I was nearly overcome by the unique odor of over 400 male bodies pressed closely together on an airtight stage. The entire experience left me breathless.

Those of us fortunate enough to have been chosen for membership by the Roswell Chorus look forward to an opportunity next fall to meet, compete, and assume our position as "Best in Dixie" District.

Wheelin' & Dealin'

by Bernard Wheeler



My article this month is short and I hope sweet. I am a grass farmer. My hay is ready to cut so I am working long hard days taking advantage of the good weather. Tonight I'm too tired to think, much less write.

But I will say a few words. The spring show is over and many of my friends in the audience said it was "the best ever." I thought we were heading for a disaster, but once again, we pulled it off. Paul, we peaked at 7:29 P.M., May 2. With one minute before show time, why should we worry? Have faith! Seriously, the show was a crowd pleaser. We learned ten new songs. We had fun and made a few bucks. What more could we ask?

I want to say thanks to Paul and our assistant directors, Dave and Clarence, for their patience in helping us learn the music. I especially want to thank David Collins and the team he put together to produce this show. That was no small task. Please express your appreciation to these folks. Don't forget the "extra mile" of Benny and Guelda Malone and their sons.

Happy Barbershopping!

Larry Update

by Gloria Huber

I haven't received a formal progress report from Timber Ridge (it's too early for that), and with Larry's short-term memory problems it is difficult to get information from him about how he spends his time. Several members of the staff have told me that he is very motivated and hard working. When I speak to him on the phone, his tone is positive and he looks forward to being able to come home.

Letters, We Get Letters

Barry,

I just got your March issue, and I note that you guys seem to be having a little difference of opinion on the general direction of your chorus. Pat Crowe asked (page 4) about how much music other chapters learn in a year.

Here in River City, we know we're different. We generally learn 8 to 10 new songs for our annual show, and often another 1 or 2 religious numbers during the summer months. Generally, our songs for fall contest are on the show, but not always, and that would add another song or two. This year we're only learning eight songs for show, and one of those we started last summer, but of those eight, four are David Wright arrangements, including *Mississippi Mud*, which St. Charles took to third place at International last year.

Our contest package is new each year. In the ten years I've been singing with the chorus, we've held over two contest songs, otherwise, both are usually new. It's a lot of learning, but with new material we don't hold over old (bad) habits, and we don't get bored.

In our location, we don't do a lot of paid shows, partly because we're busy learning a new set of music all the time, and partly because there are not a lot of groups with the cash to hire us.

Hope this helps Pat out. Sorry to see your retirement announced. I get enough so-so bulletins each month, that I really appreciate reading a well laid-out and readable one like yours. Good luck finding your replacement.

Harmoniously,

Paul Krull

BE the River City Chorus

Mason City Iowa CSD

Meredith Willson's Home town

Relay for Life Singout

by Barry Owens

Friday, May 15, a good-size group of use sang out for a worthy cause. The weather was perfect; the audience while not large in number was big in heart; and we were pretty good. We, in our own way, supported the *Relay for Life Walk*. While our way was slightly less strenuous than those who chose to walk the walk,, we sang the song.

The audience was surely appreciative of our efforts. How many times do we get such a strong request for "MORE! MORE!?" I love it when an audience begs us to sing more. And our illustrious director gave them more but remembered the old saying, "always leave them wanting more".

Cleveland Highland Harmony Chorus

by Bill McKeehan

President , Highland Harmony Chours

We are getting ready to perform for the first time, and we are very excited. Our first sing-out will be at the Eastview United Methodist Church at their monthly Sunday evening supper. The next sing-out will be at the Johnson Park in Cleveland on May 22. We have 22 paid-up memberships and expect to get more soon. We thank the Chattanooga chapter for their support.



Lloyd Gimber & Bill McKeehan

Belles' Business

by Nancy Owens
President

If I were a barbershopper, I'd find just the right song. A song that had the perfect words to say what I wanted to say. Then I'd sing you a sweet melody.

That's if I were a barbershopper. But I'm not and I assure you none of you want me to sing to you. So I'll just have to say thank you the old-fashioned way. Thank you Belles for your contributions to the Spring Show. If you were not around to hear the guys' thank you, I convey it to you for them. They were most appreciative for all the hard work put in. You know the guys really appreciate us (especially around show time, guest nights and food events).

We will have our regular meeting next Monday. We don't have much going on so plan on a short meeting. At the singout last night, several of you were discussing Atlanta. Why don't those of you who are going to Atlanta come and the discussion can be on Atlanta plans. Hope to see you there.

Coming Events

May 26

Elderfest Performance
Cohutta Springs, Georgia
Warmup 6:15 PM, sing 7:00 PM
Tuxedo A#, paid performance

July 17-19

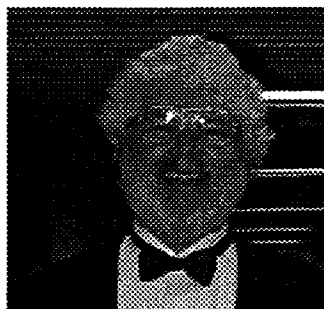
Dixie Lakeside Harmony Weekend
Clemson University
Clemson, South Carolina

July 1-5

International Convention
Atlanta, Georgia

The Last Word...

by Barry Owens
editor



The show was a lot of fun, and I think we did a great job. However, it was a lot of work for a one-time shot. Wait a minute! Why don't we take our show on the road, a sort of mini-show. Remember the

mini-show we had that year we presented the Irvin Berlin show up in Bill McKeehan's part of the country?

I think Al Jolson deserves the same two-venue show! If we don't do the show again, we'll probably never sing *Swanee* again. (I know what you're thinking!) Even though we don't attract a large audience, many of our fans are too far away to travel on the weekend. Maybe the Cattlemen's Association wants us again; we certainly sang enough for them the past year. What do you think?

As a dual member with Cleveland's new chapter, Highland Harmony Chorus, I am enjoying the best of two worlds. I get Paul's expertise and experience, and also Chad, Brandon and Ron's expertise. If Four Voices stays together long enough, they will be International Champs; mark my words! Chad and Brandon may be young, but they know what they are talking about. This chapter has resurrected the idea of a weekly after-glow. They meet each Thursday night after the chapter meeting and eat pizza and sing at the local Pizza Hut.

***"a smile increases
your face value"***

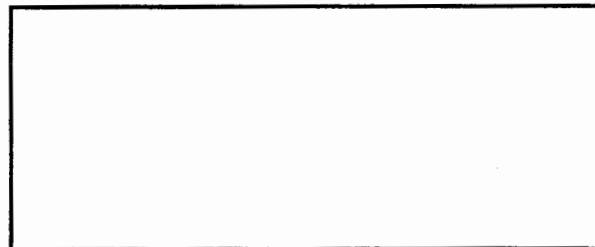
The 1998 Leadership Team Serving The Chapter

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Program VP	Steve Grubb	(706) 861-6171
Publicity Chairman	Trey Kennedy	(706)-861-9656
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Assistant Treasurer	Benny Malone	(423) 344-9211
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Assistant Director	David Collins	(423) 658-2737
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The Blender

*The official newsletter of the Chattanooga Chapter of
The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement
of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America*

Barry Owens, Editor
Chattanooga Chapter
247 Morris Drive
Ringgold, GA 30736





The Blender

June 1998

Volume 7 Number 6

The Official Publication of the Chattanooga Chapter of
The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America

Chattanooga, Tennessee

Dixie District

'Wheelin' & Dealin'

By Bernard Wheeler



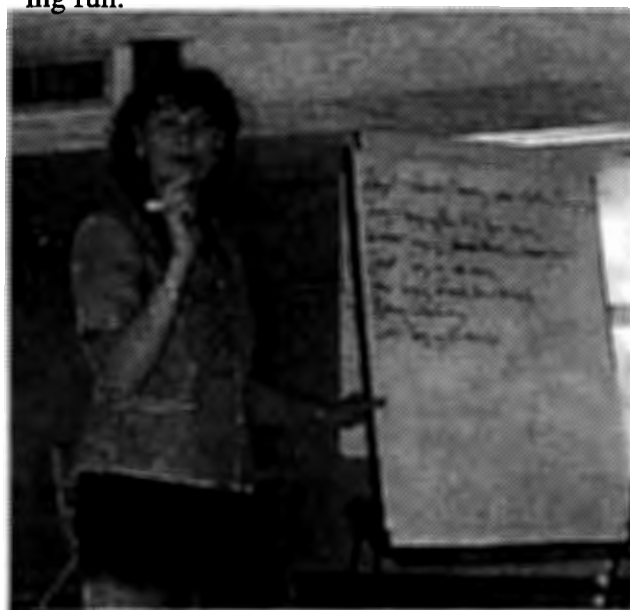
Thank you for your participation in our planning session. We now have your vision of the future for the chorus. Many ideas of how we can expand our membership were expressed. Our definition of "what is

fun" was discussed plus many varied suggestions and thoughts that were on your mind. We cannot implement all of these things immediately but over a period of time, I believe you will see most, if not all your ideas, become a reality. Many of you have asked, "what do we do next?" Every comment will be listed exactly as it appeared on the flip charts. Every member will be given a copy and we can add to the list at any time. Since many suggestions were similar, a compilation of each topic discussed will be developed. As an example, under the topic "What is your vision for the future of the chorus?", I have listed your comments under four headings. They are (1) more members (2) be better known (3) improve the quality of our

singing (4) develop more quartets.

After the compilation of each topic is complete, we will make a summary statement. The next step will be a plan to include all of these ideas. The final and most fun aspect will be the implementation. I will keep you informed and give each of you an opportunity for input in every phase of the process.

I look forward to working with you, and I am "having fun."



Sue Robertson

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Summer Time, and the Livin' Is Easy

by Paul Blazek
Director



What changes for you during the summer? In my case, since the rest of the family is on summer vacation, I have to work harder. However, I also get to play harder, so maybe it's a good deal.

As most of you know, we were invited to join the Chattanooga Symphony for "Pops in the Park"

again this year, but I declined the invitation because of the International Convention in Atlanta this summer. Speaking of the convention (smooth segue, huh?), I understand they are still looking for volunteers to help with all of the various functions necessary to run a good convention, so please consider helping our friends in Atlanta put on a convention that will do Dixie proud.

We will be choosing Christmas music and contest vehicles and show music for next year soon, so please let us know if you have any favorite songs that might qualify. I have noticed that we sing better when we really like what we are singing.

Thought for the month - "Getting there is MOST OF the fun!" Usually, the saying goes, "Getting there is half the fun." I'm not in total agreement. Sure, it's great to have goals, and even better to achieve them, but the work itself in achieving those goals can be tremendously satisfying. Every Monday night, we will make beautiful music during at least part of our meeting. There may also be some not-so-beautiful music that surrounds the pretty spots, but it's the group effort and intermediate successes that make the evening brighter for me. When we decide to be a top-five Dixie chorus, I'll be ready to do the work required. In the meantime, I can be happy with our progress along the way, especially those magic moments when we are all doing the right things at the right times. How do you feel?

See you next month.



Cleveland Highland Harmony Chapter

by Bill McKeehan
President

I received a letter from the international officially welcoming the Cleveland Chapter into the society. It has been a struggle to get where we are, but we are happy with the results and are having some real good meetings. We look forward to a good year and will continue singing out in the community every opportunity we get. Thanks again for your support.

It's Our Business

by Lamar Owens
Business Manager



Summer will soon be upon us and our activities will inevitably begin to slow down. If every member will tell people about and sell what we have been told is the "best kept secret in town", the summer doldrums will not over-

take us this year. All we have to do is tell everyone we meet about the chorus and eventually we won't be the best kept secret in town. The paper might even list "us" as a Chattanooga institution and give us more publicity. If we make a concerted effort "we" can come out of the closet.

Wasn't the appearance at Elderfest '98 a kick! We have appeared before some enthusiastic audiences, but this was the best. We need more of these to keep our spirits high. We appreciate the support of those who participated and especially thank our personal driver, guide and travel agent, Sam Jones, who donated his considerable ability in arranging for and driving the bus. Thanks Sam!

Does your church need someone to present the service one Sunday night? Do you know someone who might need entertainment for a coming event? Why don't you ask; you never know!

Till next month, keep a song in your heart and a smile on your face!

Larry Update

by Gloria Huber



Larry continues to progress at a very slow rate but in the right direction. He no longer sits for hours with nothing to do, so his endurance appears to be decreased. He can walk 75 ft. without a rest break using a hemiwalker with one person assisting. His main problem is maintaining his balance. He's learning to speak with inflection. Cognitively he is showing better awareness and increased attention. It is easier to redirect him to the topic when he goes off on a tangent. He has participated in the following weekend outings: Picnic in the park, Walmart, Farmers' Market in Nashville, bowling, and movies. We got to ride in a pontoon boat on the lake on Memorial Day. Also, there is a music therapist that visits on Monday evenings (what is it about Monday night and music?). I called Larry last Monday and was told he was playing bongos!

Last week Larry asked, "How can I communicate my condition to my people?" I explained that his friends find out how he's doing by contacting me. He seemed very relieved as if he had thought no one cared. I explained that only close family can call him. He referred to the low volume of mail, so I promised to publicize his address so he can hear from you directly:

Larry Huber
Timber Ridge UMC
500 Park Avenue
Lebanon, TN 37087

COME ONE 'N' ALL

Teaser

Answer to the April teaser: This was said by one of our most beloved presidents, Franklin Delano Roosevelt. He made this statement during his original inaugural address when he called for faith in America's future. In January of 1933 we were in the middle of the "Great Depression".

Try this easy one. Who said: "To be prepared for war is one of the most effectual means of preserving peace"? Read next month's *Blender* for the answer.

Thought for the month: Those who purport to know claim your mental health is at its best before the age of twenty-four and after the age of sixty-four. In your youth, they say, hope sustains you, and by the time you hit retirement, you figure there's not much left that can wreck you.

Coming Events

July 1-5

International Convention
Atlanta, Georgia

July 17-19

Dixie Lakeside Harmony Weekend
Clemson University
Clemson, South Carolina

August 30

Fairview United Methodist Church
Program & dinner
Sing at 6:00 PM
A# Tuxedo

October 2-4

Fall District Convention
Raleigh, North Carolina
(Possible charter bus trip, sign-up sheet)

December 13

Chattanooga-Hamilton County
Bicentennial Library
Downtown auditorium
3:00 PM
Paid performance
A# Tuxedo

Chattanooga Choo-Choo Chorus

Planning Session

May 15, 1998

Facilitator: Sue Robertson

Topic: What is your vision for the chorus in five years?

- More members (6)
- Better known (1)
- Special
- Same but more
- Alive to enjoy it
- Younger/more energy (3)
- Having more fun
- Better in competition
- Developing Quartets (1)
- Sing more entertaining songs
- Top competitor
- Known as most entertaining group in Chattanooga
- Better Quality/more polished sound
- Excellent entertainers
- Performing B+ or better
- More dedicated members
- Keep all these guys + more
- Like Dallas, better known in the city
- More professional

Topic: Suggestion for membership retention, getting inactive members back, recruiting new members

- Advertise (singing valentines)
- Individuals recruit
- Entertain/perform (freebe performances)
- Opportunities to be heard
- Sell you product, ask
- Practice in the Mall
- Professional performances (that look like fun)
- Keep our visitors
- More fun
- More singing
- Recruit colleges
- More commitment from members
- Retired men, work with them to sing in an

- ensemble
- Recruit high school-colleges
- Work with youth
- Organized recruitment drive
 - Set goals
 - Set time limit on drive
 - Plan recruitment meetings
 - Follow-up with visitors/ absentee members
 - go after old members
- Show people they CAN sing
- Invite new men to sing with us
- Recruit younger and older people
- Scholarships for young/old members
 - Student rates
 - Grants
 - Deferment of payments
- Build it and they will come
- Sing-outs
- Allow visitors to perform at casual outings/ shows
- Elite (Marines) the few, the proud
- Individual pride
- Make it fun (they must WANT to come back)
- Expose men to quality singing
- Entice men to join
- Think about ways to help member with:
 - Financial obligations
 - Dues , travel, costumes, educational materials
- Play to the audience:
 - Mickey Mouse song to school children
- Restructure Guest night
 - Show only the fun
- Member retention

Topic: What is fun?

- Free meals
- Variety
- Pick-up Quartet
- Impromptu performances, stop the bus
- New songs
- Bustin' chords
- Singing polecat songs
- House parties

- Sing in restaurants
- Kidding around
- Singing lots of songs
- Sing Valentines (not only in Feb.)
- Singing well
- Sing on TV
- Going to conventions
- Doing stuff together
- Organized/planned meetings
- Discuss enough to take care of business
- Choreographed songs
- Large crowds
- Paul's jokes
- Afterglow
- Songs sung right
- Singing with Symphony
- Sing from beginning to end
- Sharing joy of harmony with a novice
- Singing tags
- Singing with quality
- Guest director
- Watching women + others cry
- Christmas Show
- Listening to other good choruses
- Singing with strangers
- Going to Clemson
- Tag quartet No more than ten minutes of talking
- Learning new music
- Breaks are fun (informal quartets)

Topic: Misc. comments not covered by above topics, What's on your mind?

- Singing better (what do we do)
- Desire to improve
- New member individual instruction program
- Better participation in coaching sessions
- More sing-outs
- Clear idea of our identity as barbershopper
- Auditioning new members
- Chorus sponsored sing lessons
- Coaching sessions
- Learn show 6 months in advance
- Offer advertisers free sing-outs

Topic: Why do I enjoy Barbershopping/ Why do we do it?

Lloyd: Quartet singing, new chapters, singing

Tony: Singing, love this type of music

Walter: Singing, fellowship, competition

Scott: Singing without music (instruments)

Don: Singing, friends, social activity

Barry: performing

Sam: Singing, fellowship

Bernard: All the about + stress management

Fred: fun, all the above + self confidence

Bill: Style of singing

Ron: Love of barbershop, love of performing, fellowship

Paul: Music + joining with other guys to make music

David: Sing

Lamar: Sing + fellowship

Niles: Sing

Lamar Smith: Fellowship, stress relief

David Reynolds: Sing in quartets

Pete: Sing = do better myself

Forrest: Sing, fellowship with friends

Earl: Sing/fellowship

Rick: Sing/fellowship

Tom: Hobby/great people

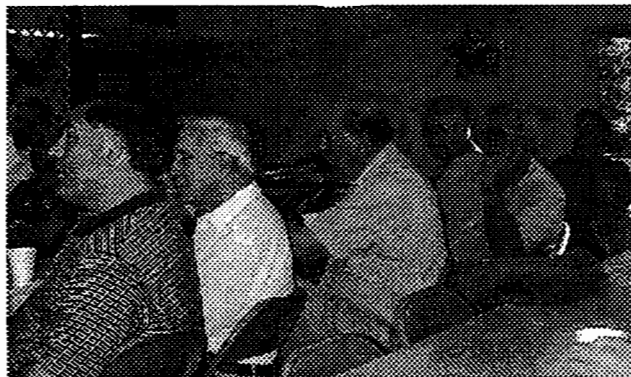
Chuck: All of above + learn theory of music

Bob: To improve the chorus, sing/fellowship

Wilbur: Unique sound+craft improvement

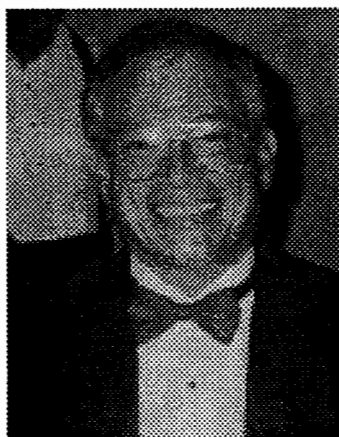
Edgar: Sing, therapy, fellowship

Clarence: Unique style of singing



Music Notes

by David Collins
Music VP



I'm so excited about the opportunity to attend International in Atlanta that I'm already packing. Other than Nashville (2001) this is the closest convention site that we have had in the thirteen or fourteen years I have been in the So-

ciety. I am going to do my best to see and hear every quartet and sing with every pickup quartet possible.

Right after Atlanta, we have Clemson weekend, and Rock City 4 will attend and receive coaching from some of the best talent in the Society. (I can hear those cracks about the need for coaching — For every one of them we will have at least one rendition of "Alexander's" in warm-up).

Then there is Raleigh for the Fall Convention and 50th "birthday" anniversary for the Dixie District. I've bought the CD of the songs sung by our Dixie Champions and I am impressed with the quality of sound of the CD and of the quartets that were champions. Most of these foursomes I had never heard but was very familiar with the names- (Brigadeers, and others).

The last two weekends in August we are holding open for the second coaching session with Mike Tipton. Those who attended the last session can testify to the remarkable change in sound by the Chorus that resulted from Mike's work. This time everyone needs to be there.

Finally, we are approaching the six-month's mark of the Chapter's year and we have a lot to be proud of in terms of accomplishments. However, we can (and will) do more in the next six months and can close out the year in a Chicago Bulls type blow-out. I'm looking forward to it.

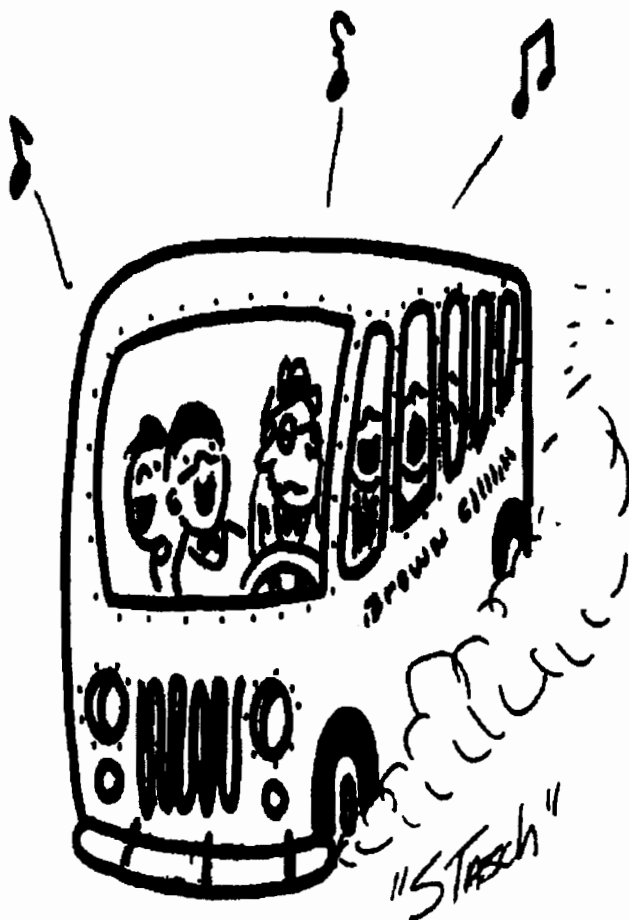
Belles' Business

by Nancy Owens
President

Major thanks to Audrey Gist for arranging the food for Guest Night. If she had not been alert, nothing would have been there. Way to go Audrey!

A bunch of you are busily preparing for the Atlanta convention. Since we didn't meet in May because our meeting day fell on Memorial Day and the guys didn't meet, we will try again on June 22. All you Atlanta-bound Belles show up. You can make plans to meet up with one another and share Atlanta expertise with each other.

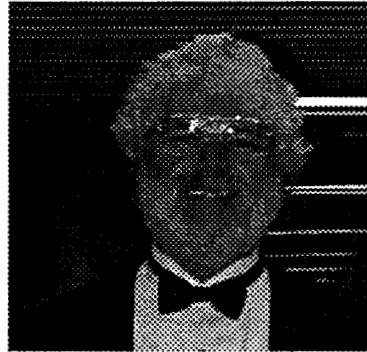
That's all for now.....hope to see you Monday!!



MYSTERY BUS RIDE

The Last Word...

by Barry Owens
editor



You talk about a receptive audience! How about that Elderfest Performance in Cohutta Springs, Georgia! Some of the participants of Elderfest said that that was

the most enjoyable thing they did all week, listening to our music. I'm not sure what that says about either us or Elderfest. Style was the word when we arrived in Sam Jones' beautiful bus with the psychedelic upholstery.

Sam has offered to donate his valuable time and skills, free of charge, (worth about \$500) to drive the bus to the fall convention in Raleigh, NC. I don't know how many of you realize the time and skill Sam has given to our chapter over the past few years. Make sure that you let him know we appreciate him!

The facilitated session about our future was interesting, albeit somewhat long and redundant. Many good feelings were expressed. Are we listening? If nothing is to be done with the good ideas, what was the evening worth?

One thing I heard was we need more members. I assume that means more men to sign up and continue as active members. Ask why are we not growing? We have a great hobby,, some great guys, etc. Why, oh, why are we losing members? Perhaps we need to do some introspection as a group and change what is not working. Perhaps a new meeting format.....Monday night meetings not rehearsals. Perhaps some fun singing (Polecat songs or just plain old woodshedding). Perhaps some joyous noise that exemplifies what our hobby is about—singing songs.

Whatever we choose to change, change we must or there will be no us!!

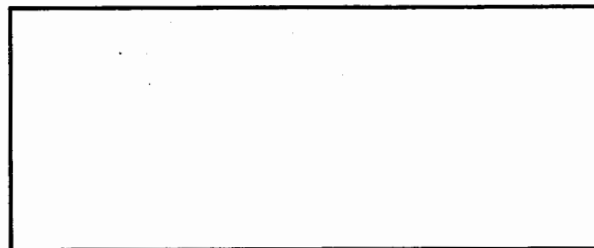
The 1998 Leadership Team Serving The Chapter

President	Bernard Wheeler	(706) 638-4013
Music & Performance VP	David Collins	(423) 658-2737
Chapter Development VP	Rick Kulp	(423) 875-9251
Program VP	Steve Grubb	(706) 861-6171
Publicity Chairman	Trey Kennedy	(706)-861-9656
Secretary	Dave Reynolds	(423) 875-2674
Assistant Secretary	Earle Fraser	(423) 892-7630
Treasurer	Lamar Owens	(423) 894-8559
Assistant Treasurer	Benny Malone	(423) 344-9211
Board Member At Large (1 year)	Benny Malone	(423) 344-9211
Board Member At Large (2 year)	Sam Jones	(706) 375-5431
Board Member At Large (3 year)	Bill Slack	(706) 638-3791
Bulletin Editor	Barry Owens	(706) 891-9501
Business Manager & Marketing	Lamar Owens	(423) 894-4638
Immediate Past President	Tom Keegan	(423) 756-5660
Heartspring Chairman	Brooks Gist	(423) 892-7191
Musical Director	Paul Blazek	(423) 622-4493
Assistant Director	C. W. Wall	(706) 820-0579
Assistant Director	David Collins	(423) 658-2737
Equipment Manager	Pete Jones	(706) 861-2113
Choo Choo Belles President	Nancy Owens	(423) 755-4526

The Blender

*The official newsletter of the Chattanooga Chapter of
The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement
of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America*

Barry Owens, Editor
Chattanooga Chapter
247 Morris Drive
Ringgold, GA 30736



The Blender

January 1999 ChattanoogaChoo Choo Chorus

Vol. 1

" IT' YOUR BUSINESS "

The year proved to be a good one in the way of bookings . Both paid and gratis engagements. listed is a summary of our activity in 1998.

Paid	Gratis	Church
Boy Scouts \$125	Brainerd UMC Dinner	Fairview \$266
Alexian \$200	Ridigeland High	Tyner \$166
Eldersfest \$300	Walk for Life	Highpoint \$160
Creekside \$150	Special Olympics	
Crossroads \$140	NHC Healthcare	
Library \$150	John Calvin Homes	
Totals \$1065		\$ 592

We exceeded our budget for performance fees and our undeclared budget for church donations to heartspring. I did feel we came short on the number of income producing engagements from churches, but managed to do great in income due to three generous congregations. Things continue to look good for paid engagements in 1999. We are already booked for three , and I have contacted some of our steady customers to sign up for this year. I am also attempting to get on the programs of the Rotary, Kiwanis and Jaycee clubs to promote our valentine program. We will need a quartet and a spokesman, during the day, for each of these to work out the details. Please let me know of any other potential paying customers.

Lamar Owens Business Manager



' IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS '

Well, here comes another year of fun and frivolity for the Chattanooga chapter of SPEBSQSA. Hope you're looking forward to this year as much as I and the board are. There is a spirit of cooperation on the board this year that hopefully every member will pick up on and join in with. The renaissance began at COTS for those who attended and we hope to spread it throughout the group . Paul is more dedicated to providing quality leadership; now all we have to do is provide quality singing. No PROBLEM-O !!!!!!!

It was discussed and encouraged at COTS that we ensure all the needed elements are provided at our meetings. This is my role, and I hope to meet with success in this endeavor but I'll need everyone's help. It is my hope to keep the meetings varied enough to keep all interested, but still provide what we all need to grow as barbershoppers. Each session will contain, in some form or shape, a 1, Warm-up; 2 Sectional Rehearsals; 3, Quartet Singing; 4 Chorus Rehearsals, 5 Business; 6, Break; and, Craft/Tag Singing. These are all the elements recommended for success and will appear somewhere in our meetings. Dr. Blazek has agreed to help meet this requirement and we will move things around enough so that you need to be at the whole meeting to enjoy all aspects. As a reminder, " THE FIRST 10 SECONDS" after we complete a song belongs to our director.!!! Finally, let me encourage all to support each other better this year than we did last year. Until next month, Keep the Whole World Singing

Your Days are Numbered

So this guy says to me.../"Your days are numbered "

I thought for a while...then wondered, which one ?
Have you ever thought about it ? How many are
you known by ?
In this impersonal world we are all numbers
A quick check of mine amazed me .
SS# 9 , drivers license 8 , passport 6 plus 2 letters ,
green card 8 plus 1 letter , three insurance policies
revealed 5 letters and 23 numbers .
How many clubs or organizations are you
associated with ? If I remembered everyone I have
20 more plus 4 letters.Credit cards 32 more. The
electric companys come along with, EPB, 10 , N.Ga.
Electric 10 , Fla. Power 10 , Then we have two
phones each with 1 , plus area code , plus 7 for a
total of 22 . But get this , GTE my Fla. phone
company also adds a customer ID No. adding 6
more
plus, would you believe..... 18 digits in the account
number !! Add my E-mail and Gateway customer
number , Cable company knows me by 16 ,Pin
numbers and passwords add 21 more . So here we
have 245 numbers and 14 letters .
I'm sure there are others like your doctor and
pharmasist and service vendors etc. who have you
listed as a number.
With all these numbers you'd think I could hit the
lottery !
So like the guy said " I got your number "
Hmmm I wonder .

BIRTHDAYS

January

Tony Duke ,Niles Fowler ,Wayne Pruett ,Bill Slack

February

Forest Bugher, Scott McKenzie , Lamar Smith ,
Dick Hagar, Brooks Gist .

HAPPY BIRTHDAY GUYS !!!!

Poets Corner

Mostly corn

Lawyers

Here lies a lawyer
Laugh if you will ,
In mercy , kind Providence
Let him lie still .
He lied for his living ,
He lived while he lied .
When he couldnt lie longer
He lied down and died .

Anonymous

----- /-----

Baritones

A baritone ,while walking on the beach found a
vase with a stopper in it . Pulling out the stopper a
Geni appeared, And granted him three wishes.
He said for my first wish I want to have more
money than Bill Gates . My second I want top of
the line Mercedes with AM / FM radio .a CD player
six speakers and plush leather interior, these wishes
were granted . The geni asked what about your
third wish. He replied I'm going to have to think
about it , With that he got in his new car and
cruised down the highway. As he was zipping along
a commercial started to play on the radio that he
liked, and he started to sing along .

" Oh I wish I were a Oscar Meyer weiner

..... /.....

NEW ADDRESS :

Chattanooga Barber Chorus
Box 21326
Chattanooga TN.
37424-- 0326

Wanted, Prof Reader Must ^{Be} Good Speler

[↑] reserved *

This Page was ~~reserved~~ for the articles that were never received.....You know what that means ?????

I'm Going to have to print the succeding pages in

Larger print in order
to get enough pages
So I ^{can} get this printed. !

I need your

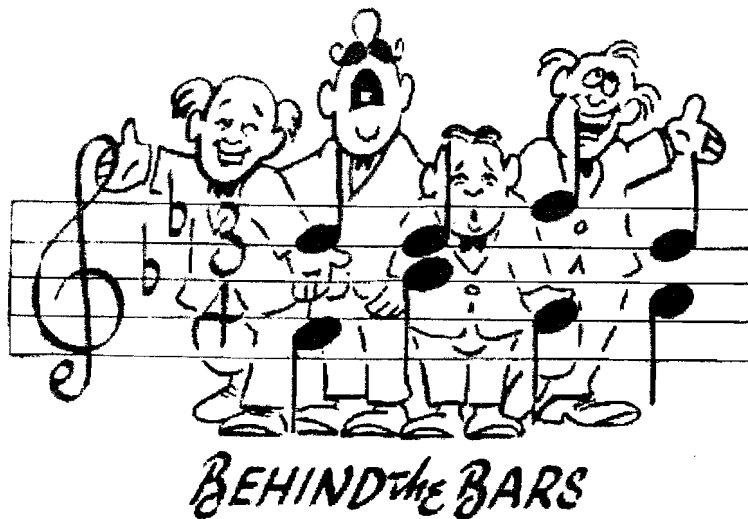
HELP !!!!!

* Barry said dont delete until you proofread and spellcheck.
Well.. maybe next time

Pat

The Blender

The Chattanooga Choo Choo Chapter March 1999 Vol.8 No 3
The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America



The chapter meets every Monday, 7:00 PM All Saints Academy 310 8 th St. Chattanooga TN.

Y 'all not Country If 'n

This was submitted by Lamar Owens to help me fill in all those empty spaces I've been saving for those members of the Chapter and the LEADERSHIP TEAM. It came from a cloumn in The Tennessee Farm Bureau News , written by their editor Pettus Read .

A guide you can use to tell if someone is not country.

They might not be country if they never,ever, have eaten fried okra or any kind of okra.

They might not be country if they never finished off their meal with a moon pie.

They might not be country if they dont see anything wrong with putting a sweater on a poodle.

They might not be country if they have no idea what a polecat is nad what it can do if irritated.

You can question their country background if they eat their fried chicken with a knife and fork . They may also be an imposter if they think barbeque is a verb meaning "to cook outside ."

Realcountry folks also refer to two or more people as "y 'all," where some non-country people will call them "guys" even if they are all women.

You might not be country if you dont have any hats in your closet that advertise herbicides or feed stores.

Yiu might not be country if dont have at least one can of WD-40 somewhere around the house.

The big item that will give a non-country person away is if they do not know anyone who has two first names like Jerry Wayne , Mary Sue , Billy Ray, or Katie Ann.

You might not be country if you've never seen a live chicked or cow. When entering a barnlot you spend all your time looking down at the ground watching where you step. Real country folks are free spirited and know as soon as they enter a barnlot they spend their time watching where they step, they will miss a lot of beautiful farm scenery .

Did'ja Wonder

Did you ever wonder what color hair they put on bald persons drivers license ?

When a Dude says , I'll be brief.

Did'ja wonder, is this brief as in; of short duration , using few words concise; succinct.

Or does he mean brief as in a long winded legal brief.

So how come it always seems to be the latter .

Did'ja wonder if a cannibal is one who gets fed up with people .

Did'ja wonder if car sickness is the feeling you get every month when the payment is due .

Famous Last Words

Lets see if its loaded .

Gimme a match ,I think the piolt light is out .

Dont worry my husband wont be home until tomorrow,

Ex Treasurer's Ledger

[Phwew] Lamar Owens

As a last ofical act as 1998 Treasurer,I am writing this article to inform the membership about our charitable contributions for the past year.

As a chorus we gave a total of \$3,896.65 for a contribution of \$79.52 per man.

The largest portion of this was to Heartspring, \$1,840.65. Signal Centers [United Cerebral Palsy] \$ 1,500.00 .

We also donated \$ 56.00 to the Cleveland chapter to be used for the purchase of music.

\$ 500.00 to Saints Peter and Paul church .

We have given about the same amount for the past two years,and will again qualify for an award.

The rules have changed re: the amount for "Gold"

At any rate it doesnt matter what bracket we fall into as long as we continue to cheerfully give.Selah !

The Blender

Pat Crowe, Editor

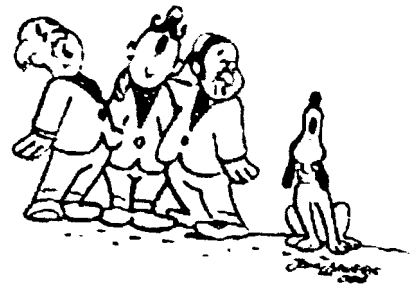
145 Green Court

Chickamauga GA 30707

[706] 375-3878

georgecrowe@mindspring.com

QUARTET CORNER



Hope we're not sticking our nose in your business.....But we need copy [thats big time newspaper talk for stories ,articles,epigrams, aphorisms,sayings and bon mots to keep the BLENDER published.



We are saving this prime location for the express purpose of edifying chapter members to the activities of quartets.

So gentlemen I'm throwing down the gauntlet . Chose your verbage !

..... /

Sign on music library door : Be back in a minuets .

Be nice to your children, they'll be choosing your nursing home .

I was stopped recently by a person who begged for five dollars to bury a rap musician.

I said to him "Heres ten bury two of them.

Another famous last word : Whats the red button for .

S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. Inc.

Chattanooga, Tennessee Chapter

Meeting of Board of Directors, February 25, 1999

<u>Present</u>				<u>Absent</u>	<u>Guest</u>
Reynolds	Slack	Jones	Kulp	L. Owens	Blazek
Kirk	Keegan	Stansbury	Grubb		
Wheeler	Collins	Strickland	Crowe		

The meeting was called to order by President Wheeler at 7:03 pm at All Saints Academy.

Secretary - By voice vote, it was decided to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting, January 21. The minutes are on file.

Treasurer - Stansbury submitted a written report, attached. A summary follows:

12/31/ 98 balance - \$ 149.45	Disbursed - \$ 256.27
Received - 2928.91*	Balance - 2822.09

***This includes \$2707.38 from a cashed CD**

Audit Committee - Per Grubb the audit has not been completed.

Bulletin Editor - Crowe reported that he has gotten only four articles from the members to date.

Music V.P. - Collins reported that half of the following Monday night meetings will be devoted to rehearsal of the competition songs

Chapter Development V.P. - Kulp reported that he had given Shannon McConnell an application blank at the last regular meeting. Rick moved, seconded by Slack that his application be approved. Passed

Program V.P. - Grubb reported that the cut-off date for the return to London for the New Year parade is March 17. He will check with the members at the next Monday night meeting. Cost will be approx. \$1600 each. The "tourist" schedule will be different from the last trip.

Singing Valentines - Stansbury reported that 150 valentines were sold in the three day period Feb. 12, 13, and 14. The money has not been collected for 32. Have collected \$4480. Spent \$720.20 for flowers, etc. leaving a net to date of \$3760.

Facilities Committee - Collins reported that the first coat of paint has been applied and a second coat is needed. Volunteers needed badly.

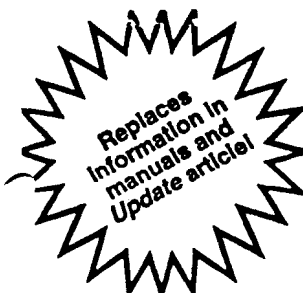
Spring Convention and Contest in Greenville, S.C. - Wheeler will send in the chorus registration form. Keegan will reserve 15 rooms at the Quality Inn in Greenville.

Chorus Director's Contract - Wheeler reported that Paul's contract for 1999 has been renewed. A copy will be placed in the Chapter file.

Budget for 1999 - Bob Stansbury submitted the preliminary lists of income and expenses for consideration by the board. There was a lengthy discussion concerning actual needs and income sources. The approved budget will probably be \$15,000 to \$16,000 with a surplus. Stansbury will rework the proposed budget and resubmit it to the board.

Adjournment at 8:50 pm

**David Reynolds
Chapter Secretary**



SPEBSQSA introduces EasyDues Plans

DIRECT BILLING OF MEMBERSHIP DUES MAKES NEW PLANS POSSIBLE

Beginning with December 1993 renewals, members of all U.S. chapters (and Canadian chapters that wish to participate) will be invoiced directly from the international office. In addition to renewing their membership for another great year of fun and fellowship in the Society, members can select from EasyDues Plans: three existing programs, plus two new methods that make subsequent renewals easier than ever.

The move to direct billing follows a two-year trial of select chapters, which showed an increase in member retention as a result of direct billing. The program also reduces paperwork for chapter secretaries and treasurers, provides marketing flexibility for special promotional pricing for membership drives, and simplifies tax-deductible gifts to programs such as the Endowment Fund, Heritage Hall Museum of Barbershop Harmony, World Harmony Fund, Youth Outreach programs or Heartspring.

EasyDues Auto-Draft: Convenient, low monthly payments. No finance charges.

WHAT IT IS

Pre-pay your dues for the next year, and avoid a large, single payment when your membership renewal comes due. Simply choose the Auto-Draft option, and you can have your dues billed direct to your VISA / MasterCard or to your checking account on a monthly basis.

WHY YOU'LL LIKE IT

Easy, automatic, free!

Never requires a large, single outlay of cash.

Prepay dues for second and subsequent years automatically.

Reduces confusion: all dues paid through Auto-Draft, and only incidental expenses (uniforms, etc.) handled directly by chapter.

HOW TO START

1. Pay the full amount on your membership dues invoice, by personal check or money order payable to SPEBSQSA, Inc., or with your VISA / MasterCard (sorry, no other cards accepted). Be sure to include the full account number, expiration date and your signature.
2. Complete the Auto-Draft enrollment form included with your dues renewal notice.
3. If you choose Auto-Draft through a checking account, enclose a voided check for processing.

EasyDues Installment: Join for as little as \$9! Take up to 6 months to pay.

WHAT THEY ARE

Beat the "sticker shock" of a lump sum when joining the Society, by taking up to 6 months to pay your dues.

Auto-Draft Installment: Join for just \$9, and enjoy all the benefits of full membership right away. We'll charge the balance to your credit card or checking account in 5 monthly payments. **Bonus!** We'll move back your renewal date an extra 6 months, giving you 18 months of membership for the price of a single year.

Standard Installment: Pay fees and 1/2 dues when you join, and the balance will be billed in 6 months.

WHY YOU'LL LIKE 'EM

Never requires a large, single outlay.

Get 6 months free with Auto-Draft Installment.

Easy to pre-pay subsequent renewals through Auto-Draft—after the sixth month of membership, your monthly payment goes down, as you pay your second-year dues.

Auto-Draft Installment offers convenience of dues automatically charged to checking or credit card account.

HOW TO START

1. Complete a membership application
2. Pay the \$9 enrollment fee, by personal check or money order payable to SPEBSQSA, Inc., or with your VISA / MasterCard (sorry, no other cards accepted). Be sure to include the account number, expiration date and signature.
3. **Auto-Draft Installment:** Complete the enrollment card. Upon full payment, you will receive your regular membership card with a new renewal date for 12 full months later.
4. **Standard Installment:** Pay 1/2 of the Society, district and chapter dues now. You will be billed for the balance of your first-year dues after 6 months.

EasyDues Annual Payment: Simple. Straightforward.

WHAT IT IS

If you prefer, you can pay your annual dues in a single payment. Your membership for the current year will be paid in full, so you can continue enjoying the many pleasures of membership in the Society.

WHY YOU'LL LIKE IT

One single, easily-tracked payment.

No additional bookkeeping in your checkbook or credit card statements.

No finance charges on outstanding credit card balance.

HOW TO START

On receipt of your membership renewal notice, pay full amount due, by personal check or money order payable to SPEBSQSA, Inc., or with your VISA / MasterCard (sorry, no other cards accepted). Be sure to include the full account number, expiration date and your signature.



Something to Crow About

Pat Crowe Editor

When I was a Boy Scout, I lived by the motto "Be Prepared". Through life I've tried to follow that credo. By preparing for projects before the deadline.

I have been requesting articles, or any tidbit from chapter officers, about their respective disciplines.

Well, as of today, after two E-mail queries. Nothing, the adage of "no news is good news", just doesn't cut it in this case.

Going into the second week of March, I should be collating and filing stories for the third issue of the Blender.

Lack of cooperation has me working only on the second issue. I have one article. Which was

submitted for the first edition.

After pleading and E-mail requests

the Gods smiled on me, lo and behold, two more items.

So with this plethora of copy and a lot of drivel I raked from my brain.

I slammed together a bulletin of which I was not too proud of.

So, you say to yourself, what is it about scouts and "Be Prepared" have to do with all this ??

What I'm saying, I need impute, not only from our leadership team, but from every member.

If the lack of cooperation or interest continues, it becomes an exercise in futility.

So I say again "Be Prepared". Or be prepared to discontinue the publication. I empathize with Barry. I'm amazed he continued as long as he did.

He has my respect for what he accomplished.

YOUR 1999 LEADERSHIP TEAM

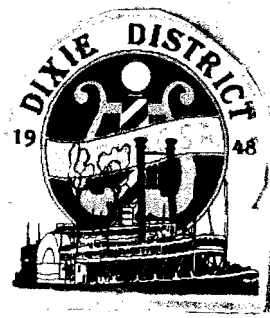
President	Bernard Wheeler	[706] 638-401
Treasurer	Bob Stansbury	[423] 894-7760
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Music VP	David Collins	[423] 658-2737
Assistant Secretary	Earle Frazer	[423] 892-7630
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Business Manager	Lamar Owens	[423] 894-8559
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Publicity	W.C.Strickland	[706] 866-2567
Past President	Tom Keegan	[423] 756-5660
Board Member	Sam Jones	[706] 375-5431
Board Member	Bill Slack	[706] 638-3791
Board Member	J.W.Kirk	[706] 861-3135
Equipment Mgr.	Pete Jones	[706] 861-2113
Choo Choo Belles	Audrey Gist	[423] 892-7191

The Blender
Chattanooga Chapter
Pat Crowe, Editor
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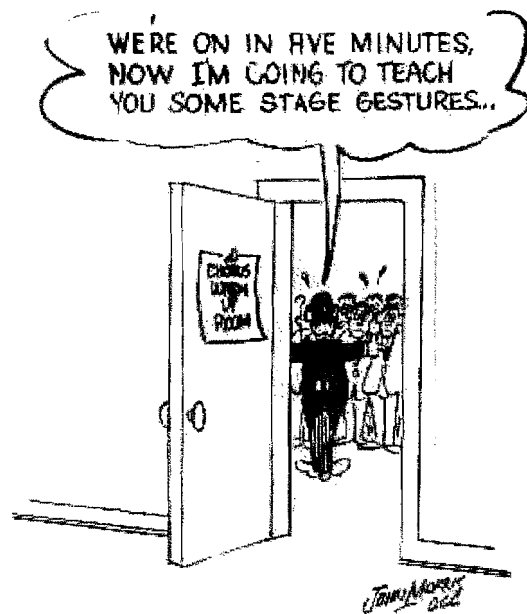




The Blender



The Official Publication of The Chattanooga Chapter Volume 8 Number 3
The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America



Everybody has an opinion....Express yours in the Blender.

Birthdays & Anniversary

Horace Brock	April 13
Jayson "Pete" Jones	April 16
Bernard Peek	April 21
Larry Huber	April 24

W.C. & Mary Strickland	4 th.
Niles & Sherry Fowler	5 th
Forrest & Anita Bugher	19 th

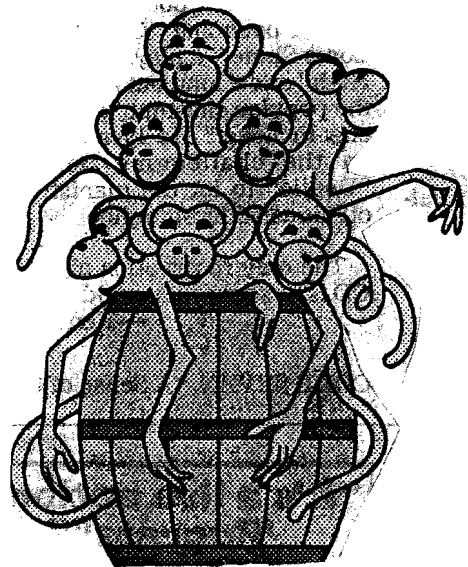


Another candle in your cake ?
Well, thats no cause to spout,
Be glad you have strength enough
To blow the darn things out .

Because I love you truly,
Because you love me,too,
My greatest happiness
Is sharing life with you.

Choo Choo Chorus Performance Package

Alexanders Ragtime / Lookout World
Welcome Back to Dixieland
I Love a Jolson Song
Old Fashion Girl
Simple Melody
God Bless America
Battle Hymn



Everybody has an opinion....Express yours in the Blender.

Spring Contest Comments and Observations :



Before they all departed for contest, I requested from board members a few lines about their views and experiences on the Greenville weekend.

Knowing the effort that is needed to get an issue published. Who else but our distinguished editor emeritus , Barry Owens ,E-mailed an article before his car had a chance to cool off from the trip. At 10:52 Sunday evening he sent the following.

Well Chattanooga and Cleveland made the cut to go to the fall contest in Birmingham . I guess thats the good news. The bad news is that I hate that theater , the Peace Center. Dont get me wrong ! It has great acoustics and is beautiful . But you cant move around !! It's like the Huntsville auditorium ; there is no center aisle.

I felt like I was acaptive audience . Without crawling over some quite old ladies and stomping on their feet. I couldn't visit and fellowship with either Chattanooga or Cleveland members .

The long day of Saturday (chorus contest , special performance by the Fun-Addicts, new chapter led by a kid , college contest , Fred Heads , quartet contest and show) was quite tiring to a captive audience . Thank goodness the Tivoli is not like that . People are still talking about the " beautiful " Tivoli Theater .

I was proud of singing at Cleveland's first time at contest . I was surprised that we finished tenth , almost unheard of for a new chorus ! Our boys* are young but talented .

We, at the Choo Choo chorus, need to find out why more members chose not to go to contest than chose to go. There must be a reason .**

* Editors Note : In one of his last editorials ,Barry mentioned his concern over the average age of the Chattanooga chapter , and our need for a younger and active membership. I dont want to be facetious , but some of our guys are so old . the only way to put a twinkle in their eyes, is to shine a flashlight in their ears !

* * Editors Note : Do I hear an Amen, Brother ?

Everybody has an opinion....Express yours in the Blender.



More Contest Observations :

The following is from first time contest participant, Wendell Hawkins of the Cleveland chapter. A recent transplant from "Yankee Land " now residing in East Tennessee.

This was an "Event to Remember" Dixie Land Challenge. I thoroughly enjoyed my very first Barbershop Contest. It was an exciting experience to walk upon the stage, and all the pre-event activities, such as the walk-on ,the photo session and the pep-talk we all received from one of the society members. A lot of good memories that will always outweigh the bad.

Our day of departure left Ron and I (Ed.Note Ron Weaver) some memorable thoughts. We left Greenville at 11:15 AM Sunday. Stopping at a Burger King for lunch at 11:45 AM. We all left together about 12:30 PM. We got separated about 1:30. Ron made a wrong turn (same place he did the last time he returned from Greenville) and ended up at the North Carolina border. I had Dustin and Chase Guyton as passengers in my car. Ron had four of the high school kids. My automobile had a blowout while driving through Hiwassee ,Georgia. I changed to my spare (Donut Tire) This tire lasted for about two miles before it blew.

The rest of the story is totally awesome. I give all of the glory and honor to God. Who brought us out of this dilemma .

About two minutes after the second tire misfortune. Dustin remarked " That looks like Ron's van coming down the road ! " I immediately turned around. As soon as I knew it was Ron's van, a warm confident feeling came upon me. I thanked the Lord for the arrangement He made, in allowing us to meet again. Here I was in the middle of N.E. Georgia . and having the responsibility of two teenagers .

When Ron showed up, we exchanged stories; collected our thoughts, and devised a plan of action. We removed the tire, loaded it on top of the van and took off for a service station located approximately five miles on route 76 West. Ron had previously stopped here on his way down to South Carolina, so he had made prior acquaintance with the lady who worked there. The lady made several phone calls to various places of business. Her efforts were beginning to look hopeless. We did not want to leave my car there and drive back the next day, So,we continued our search. (continued next page)

Everybody has an opinion....Express yours in the Blender.



Event to Remember ,Continued.

Finally, we found a man named, Scott Eller. He was the owner of Eller's tire and Service, located in Hiwassee. We made plans to meet him at his place of business. We all went to a Subway restaurant to eat, until the time arrived that we would meet. Finally, we met Mr.... Eller. He was a Christian man who loved the Lord. We greeted him with joy and adulation. Handing him the blownout tire he didn't waste any time loading it on the equipment and removing it. He walked to the rear of his shop, pulled out a brand new tire, mounted the tire, and balanced it. We were surprised he didn't pull an old tire from the pile he had in the front of his business. Both Ron and I were appreciative of the help Mr.... Eller provided, so Ron gathered up the boys and we all sang a few verses of "Nearer My God To Thee" to Mr.... Eller.

You should have seen the expression of joy on Mr.... Eller's face. Words can't express the joy we all felt after seeing Mr.... Eller touched by that song.

As soon as we finished the song, I reached in my wallet to pay Mr.... Eller for his services. I asked him how much I owed him . Mr.... Eller replied, " Nothing, go and be blessed in the Lord". He mentioned , the Lord sent us his way, so that he could help us. We are grateful for the kindness and generosity of Mr... Eller.

Ron plans to schedule a performance at Mr.Eller's church, or anywhere convenient in Hiwassee in the year 2000. This will be a combined chorus of the Cleveland and some members of Chattanooga's Choo Choo Chorus.

In closing, this entire experience will remind all of us that God still has "Good Samaritans" who He sends our way in times of trouble.

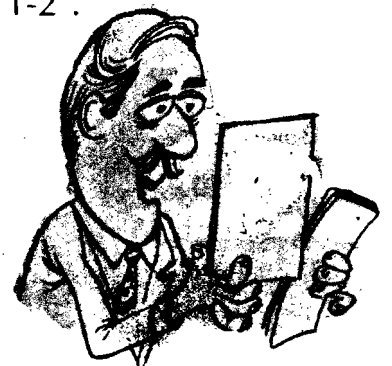
Wendell Hawkins, Bari. Highland Harmony Chorus, Cleveland TN.

..... /

Let brotherly love continue , Be not forgetful to entertain strangers; for thereby some have entertained angels unawares. Hebrews : Chapter 13, 1-2 .

..... /

Everybody has an opinion....Express yours in the Blender.



Lamar Owens has submitted another of Pettus Read's writings from *The Tennessee Farm Bureau News*. He found this in a church bulletin. It told a story of what would happen if Noah was building the ark today. It was written as a funny story, but the sad thing is a lot of the facts mentioned could really have happened. Entitled "The Great Flood of 1998" it was dedicated to a group of church Elders and a building committee who must have been having some of the same problems Noah would have if he were building an Ark under our government regulations. It seems the Lord spoke to Noah and said "I'm going to make it rain until the whole earth is covered with water and all the evil people are destroyed. But I want to save a few good people and two of every kind of living things on earth. Build ME a Ark."

Like a flash of lightning He delivered the specifications for an Ark to Noah. "Okay" said Noah, trembling and fumbling with the blueprints.

"Remember, when it starts to rain," said the Lord "the Ark is to be completed or learn how to swim for a very long time,"

After a while the skies began to cloud up and the rain began to fall. The Lord saw that Noah was sitting in his front yard weeping. There was no Ark! "Noah" said the Lord "where is my Ark?"

A lightning bolt crashed into the ground next to Noah. "Lord forgive me," begged Noah! "I did my best, but there were big problems."

Noah began to explain why the Ark had not been built, "First, I had to get a building permit for the Ark construction project, and your plans didn't meet the codes. So, I had to redraw the plans. Then I got into a big fight over whether or not the Ark needed a fire sprinkler system.

My neighbors objected, claiming I was violating zoning by the Ark being in my front yard, so I had to get a variance from the city planning commission. Then I had a big problem getting wood for the Ark because there was a ban on cutting trees to save the spotted owls. I had to convince the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service that I needed the wood to save the owls because of the flood that was coming, but they wouldn't let me catch any owls. So I have no owls.

Next the carpenters formed a union and went on strike. I had to negotiate a settlement with the National Labor Relations Board before anyone would pick up a saw or hammer. Now we have two dozen carpenters doing the work of a dozen.

Everybody has an opinion....Express yours in the Blender.



Ark continued

I still don't have any owls so I started gathering up animals and got sued by an animal rights group. They objected to me taking only two of each kind. Just when I got the suit dismissed, EPA notified me that I couldn't complete the Ark without filing an environmental impact statement on your proposed flood. They didn't take kindly to the idea they had no jurisdiction over the conduct of a supreme being.

Then the Army Corps of Engineers wanted a map of the proposed new flood plain. I sent them the globe.

I'm also running short of funds, since the IRS seized all my assets, claiming I'm trying to avoid paying taxes by leaving the country.

The Federal government has classified the Ark as a yacht thereby making it subject to an exorbitant luxury tax. I really don't think I can finish your Ark for at least another five years.

The sky began to clear, the sun began to shine, a rainbow arched across the sky, Noah looked up and smiled hopefully, "Does this mean you're not going to destroy the earth?"

God sadly answered, "No I won't. The Government already has."

TEASER

The "Teaser" column continues after a brief hiatus, much to the previous BLENDER publishers' chagrin. Sorry Barry! The answer to the last "Teaser", "To be prepared for war is one of the most effectual means of preserving peace." is George Washington in a 1790 address to congress.

Try this obscure one!

Who said, "Without music, life is a journey through a desert."

Read the next issue of the BLENDER for the answer.

Thought for the month: "The only limits in life are, as always, those of vision."

Everybody has an opinion....Express yours in the Blender.



Quartet Corner

It looks like we are Head
Lineing Stage 11. No, it's
not Stage Eleven. For the
uninformed that's a TWO !.
But enough of their problems.
Let me tell you about mine.
I've waited for news or articles
from our quartets , but as of
this date, it's been pretty lonely



just sitting here, like a bride left in the lurch at the altar .I guess I'll have
to get Daddy and the brothers to get their shotguns .Before I give birth to
this column and raise it on my own. That means ,I say what I want about
them. Ah ... Woe to them . Nothing like the scorn and wrath of a jilted
bride!!

Or bulletin Editor!!!.

So.. S 2 , RC 4 ,Harrison Bay, etc ,etc. Where or who is your spokes-
man? Surely they can fit it in their schedules to drop a line, E-Mail or
heavens to Betsy, converse with me, like a face to face.

Just a little info. Like where or when you performed. Or where you will
be performing.

Brother Slack, Whats the Poop on your Quarteting program ?Sure would
like to pass on to the membership your words of wisdom.

..... //

Optimism: Be a good teakettle. Though up to your neck in hot water,
continue to sing.

Everybody has an opinion....Express yours in the Blender.



S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. Inc.

Chattanooga, Tennessee Chapter

Meeting of Board of Directors, March 25, 1999

<u>Present</u>		<u>Absent</u>			<u>Guest</u>
Reynolds	Jones	Kulp	L. Owens	Kirk	Blazek
Collins		Keegan	Stansbury	Grubb	
Wheeler		Strickland	Crowe		

The meeting was called to order by President Wheeler at 7:35 pm at All Saints Academy. A quorum of the board was not present.

Secretary - By voice vote, it was decided to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting, February 25. The minutes are on file.

Treasurer - Stansbury submitted a written report, attached. A summary follows:

1/31/ 99 balance - \$ 2822.09	Disbursed - \$ 1375.59
Received - 4729.00	Balance - 5175.50

1999 Budget - Wheeler distributed copies of the budget which was prepared by Bob Stansbury. There was some discussion but because a quorum was not present, the vote on approval was tabled until the next meeting.

Audit Committee - Grubb had advised Wheeler that the audit is complete. The required letters will be sent.

Bulletin Editor - No report

Music V.P. - Collins reported that learning tapes for the Radio Show have been distributed. The Music Team met on March 24. They agreed to among themselves choose music for the church package. He will also get the chorus involved. The Music Team will meet the next two Tuesdays to rehearse the new show music.

Chapter Development V.P. - No report

Program V.P. - No report

Business Manager - No report

Facilities Committee - Collins reported that the painting is progressing well. Volunteers are needed. A \$1200 bid has been received for the

planned air conditioning unit. David plans for the ductwork to be done by the chapter members.

Adjournment at 8:45 pm

**David Reynolds
Chapter Secretary**

Choo Choo Belles

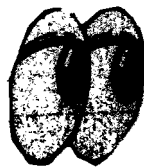
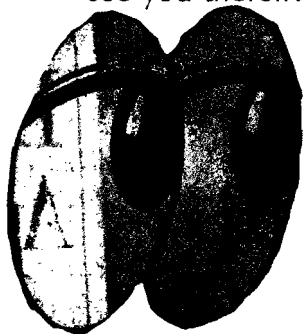
Audrey Gist , President



The news is we had a great time in Greenville missed you all.

The guys sure looked and sounded great up there on the risers.

Our meeting will be at All Saints on May 30 th. 7:00 pm. Be sure to attend ,we'll be discussing the show. Your input is needed and wanted. see you there..We'll be looking for you !!!



IT'S YOUR BUSINESS

Lamar Owens, Business Mgr.

We are well into the second quarter of the year and what started out to be a good first quarter for paid bookings did not live up to expectations.

Seems as if turning down the paid performance for Elderhostel in Dalton GA. has brought us bad luck, if you believe in such things. At any rate , we need paid bookings. I continue to call those we performed for last year and have not been able to book further paid performances. HELP ! If you have any connections you might prevail upon to book the chorus or quartet please contact me . My thanks to those who have done so already. I will give you credit for what you do! It is still early enough to make this a good performance year.

Paul has been in touch with the Chatt.symphony folks and it seems they are interested in our performing again at "POPS in the PARK " on the July 4th weekend . This will probably be held on Saturday ,July 3rd. and who knows , they might even let us sing the " Battle Hymn " with the orchestra too.

Our next performance is May 11 at National Health Care in Fort Oglethorpe. This will be a church package performance so we will be wearing our Tux with purple tie and cummerbund instead of our summer uniform. Selah

Everybody has an opinion....Express yours in the Blender.



Get With the Program

Steve Grubb PVP

Things are moving along nicely with our meeting nights. I trust the program variety is sufficient to keep everyone satisfied; if not let me know and we'll work to improve the process. there is some good work going on now that we are into learning new music for our August show. Take those learning tapes with you and play them in your car , at home , where ever you maybe and learn that music! For many of us ,it's only a review but we still to give the music it's due and be ready to go when needed. This will be a fun show, for both the chorus and our audience.

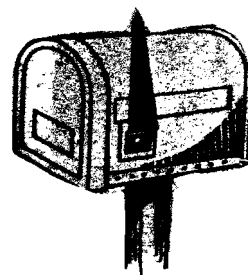
Be thinking now of who you can sell a ticket or some advertising space. We all must do our part to make the show a success; It's the only one we're doing this year.

This will be our last gentle reminder about food assignments for our break. If you want to snack at break, all the parts have to cooperate and bring in the goodies. We agreed upon the following schedule: 1st Monday, Tenors plus Crowe, Grubb and Fraser. 2nd Monday, Leads, 3rd Monday, Baritones plus Blazek, Bugher, and Collins; 4th Monday Basses; 5th Monday Pot Luck. Section Leaders should be encouraging their parts to participate. If we all do a little bit, a whole lot of food and drink will be available each week. Thanks for helping out.

Realizing we serve in a volunteer army, making demands is out of the question. However, because we all want to see the chorus succeed it is not unquestionable to make some simple requests of everyone. May I ask two favors of all members, old and new alike ? 1) Please try and help us stay on schedule each meeting night. Having to delay starting a particular exercise for lack of bodies is frustrating to all involved. Sectionals are encouraged to not only the music, but to get a feel for how we sound as a unit.continued



Everybody has an opinion....Express yours in the Blender.



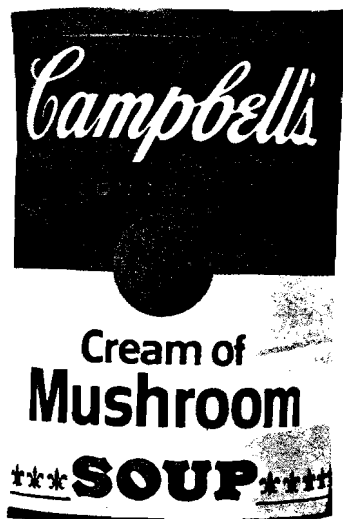
Get With the Program....Cont.

Visit before we start, at the break, or after we finish, but when the chorus is together we need EVERYBODY !! there .Quartets can sing at another time, please. 2) Give the chorus and Paul the respect deserved them. If you know the song perfectly and sang it that way , then sit quietly while Paul gives instructions to those of us who didn't get it quite right .This is especially true when we break during a rehearsal.

The first 15 seconds belong to the director, remember ?

Last week (4/4), there were untold numbers of mini-conversations going on throughout the night that Paul had to contend with. we don't pay him much, but he doesn't deserve to fight for attention that way each night. No offense intended to anyone with these requests; I'm simply interested in the chorus growing as much as possible and it takes everyone's support for that to happen.

Until next month , Keep the Whole World Singing.



Everybody has an opinion....Express yours in the Blender.





Why not get in on the deal



Just Dive in !

I need articles !!!

I need your cooperation!!





Editorial :

Pat Crowe Editor

Well contest is over; as old Satchel Paige was known to say "Dont look behind, someone may be gaining on you ". Well that someone was the "HIGHLAND HARMONY CHORUS" of Cleveland TN. Well stocked with dual members from the " CHOO CHOO CHORUS"

They not only gained on us they plumb passed us ! But as it is written in Gal.5:26 " let us not be desirous of vain glory , provoking one another , envying one another ".

Congratulations, Ron, Chad and the chorus. You have done a GREAT job of building a winner in such a short time. Good luck in the Fall contest.

What an experience Wendell Hawkins relates in this issue. When Ron Weaver recounted it to the chorus , the following Monday, the first thing that I thought of was the movie " Deliverance ".

There they were ,two flat tires in the middle of" DELIVERANCE COUNTRY " Two white boys and a blackman. One could almost hear the sound of "Dueling Banjos" playing in the background.

But the Lord works in wondrous ways. I mentioned to Ron if we cant give a performance . A love offering in Mr. Ellers name should be sent to his church.

Barry Owens brings up a good point in his contest comments article. The lack of participation the membership shows in attending competitions. How do we address this problem ?? Your comments would be of interest. Lets hear from you .

There is a lot of work still to be done on our meeting rooms. I was very proud of the appearance of our other room ,upstairs. But here we have the opportunity to have one of the best , if not the best meeting facility in the district. So.. lets get behind Dave Collins and the other dedicated members who give so unselfishly of their time.

Going through some old folders I found the "Twelve Step Program" to assist you in learning your music .Some may find this insert of interest ..

We have had visitors and new members. I would like some info on them . I'm sure the members would like to know some background on the new guys..Membership VP can you help me out !.

The 'Daytime Old-timers " VLQ had its first get together . We need Leads ! Poor old Sam Jones cant cover for my antique 40 % capacity lungs. So come on out . There were nine members in attendance. This is a great PR opportunity to perform for service clubs, senior's and nursing homes .

Everybody has an opinion....Express yours in the Blender.



Editorial ..cont .

At the House of Delegates meeting in Greenville, the Bob Oliver Award was presented to the district member who had the most Men- of- Note. We are real proud and happy to hear that Ron Weaver of the Chattanooga and Cleveland chapters was the recipient. Chad Guyton received the award on Ron's behalf. No doubt he was out there somewhere recruiting and extolling the joys of Barbershopping. Way to go Ron we're real proud of you.

A work day was scheduled for Saturday April 24th. That being the BIG DAY for me I had to decline . Hope Collins got some of you guys moving and one step closer to completing our meeting rooms . And he didn't work you too hard that you couldn't make it to my nuptials. I requested Buffet Bob to wait till everyone else got through the line before he started to fill his plate .

I see that our great thespian Tom "Haught of my Haught" Keegan is about to stride the "Boards" again. He'll be playing the Walter Mathau part of Willie in the Sunshine Boys. Do you think he can get the accent down right ? His price for autographs are quite reasonable.



Still Searching . Those Chapter Officers Articles
They Got to Be Around Here Some Where !!!

Everybody has an opinion....Express yours in the Blender.





Gee I feel so embarrassed

I couldn't get you any news from the rest
of our LEADERSHIP Team .

Everybody has an opinion....Express yours in the Blender.



TWELVE STEP PROGRAM

This is a 12-Step Program to assist you in learning your music. It's only a suggestion until you learn your own system that is best for you.

The success of this program is contingent upon the effective **listening skills** of the learner... much more than upon the musical background or ability to read music.

Any of the 12 steps may be repeated before continuing on to the next step. But remember.....EACH step is important to the overall successful results of learning ALL the right notes, words, and timing of the new song.

DO NOT eliminate any of the steps because they may appear to be insignificant to you.

Here we go.....Step #1

Listen to the music on the master tape while you close your eyes. (This will familiarize you with notes and timing and general flavor of the song.)

***2 Watch the notes** on your music while you **listen** to the tape. **DO NOT SING YET!**

***3 Again...watch the notes** on your music while you **listen** to the tape. **DO NOT SING YET!**

***4 Watch the words** on your music while you **listen** to the tape. Please...no singing yet!

***5** On a separate piece of paper (or on the back of your music) **write** down all the lyrics to the new song. Now...**watch** your own paper while you **listen to the tape**. No...not yet...don't sing, please!

***6 Watch the notes** again while you **listen** to the tape. Remember...no singing!

***7 Watch the words** on your music while you **listen** to the tape. Be careful...not a sound!

***8** Try to **write** down all the **words** again on a separate piece of paper without looking at your printed music. If you have trouble, **listen** to the tape again. **Watch the words** and then try writing it again without looking. Stay on this step until you have all the right words written without looking back at the printed music. Now proceed to Step #9.

***9 Hurray! Finally you can add YOUR voice!** Now...**watch** the notes on your music while you **hum** along with the tape. **Hum...hum...! SINGING** is next!

***10 Watch the words** on your music while you **SING** along with the tape. **CAN YOU BELIEVE THIS? YOU'RE REALLY GOING TO SING THIS SONG FOR THE VERY FIRST TIME!**

However...if you have any difficulty...circle the spot on your music as you go all the way through. Then go back and **listen** (don't sing) those parts again. **Happy singing!**

***11** Put your own practice tape in your tape recorder. Now, on your own tape, **SING** the new part all the way through without looking at your music. Bet you can hardly wait to hear this step!

***12 VERY IMPORTANT STEP...YOU'RE ABOUT TO GRADUATE!**

Watch your music and **listen to your own tape** and see if you are correct. You should be wonderful! But...should you have any doubt, go back and check your part again on the master tape.

Concentrate on **listening** to the parts you circled earlier to be sure you have made corrections.

CONGRATULATIONS!

With a little bit of luck plus all your hard work, you are now the proud possessor of one more selection of music made beautiful by your addition of...all the correct notes, words, and timing!



Hey , I Just Netted One !

Ferds Words in April

Fred Jesse ,

There is two reasons for writing this article. One, Pat needs our involvement in contributing to the newsletter, and I haven't done so since I was a chapter officer. And two ,I just received my 14 year membership card. I guess I feel a need to recollect on some good times since day one. My first night at chapter meeting in Kansas City was one I cant forget. When 90 guys sang "Your as Welcome as the FLOWERS IN MAY";and it was directed to ME. I vowed that I wanted to be part of a sound like that. Talk about "CHILLY BUMPS", That was my first experience with that "TINGLE". Thats why I love singing that song to our visitors and I'm glad we are doing that more often.

Since that memorable night ,there have been perhaps a hundred songs I have learned, contests in both the Central States and Dixie Districts, an opportunity to sing on the International stage in both a chorus and quartet, numerous performances and singouts in two choruses, a VLQ and several registered and various other impromptu quartets.

I say this not to brag, but to encourage you to get involved with barber-shopping. Maybe you would find that being in a quartet is more fun than you thought. Knowing your part and being able to sing with three other guys, is a great feeling. Try it. Need a tenor to help out, ask me. I'm

Ferds Words -cont.

ready for next Valentines day, or a sing out .Any of us on the music committee will help. Fourteen years in Barbershopping gos faster than you think.

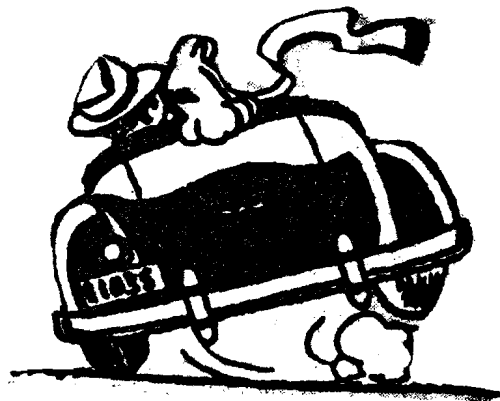
Get Involved ! Get Singing !

Fred Jesse



Thanks Fred, see if you can get some others to get involved in pumping out an article for me.

Now I can get this to the printer,
and my new bride and I can
ride off into the sunset .



1999 Show - Proposed



Radio -Chorus

Side By Side - Chorus

All Aboard for Dixieland -Chorus

Darktown Strutters Ball - Chorus

Gospel Song - Quartet

Gospel Song - Quartet

Lulu's Back in Town - Chorus

Maggie [I wandered today] Chorus

Mother McCree - Chorus

Sam - Quartet

Oh You Beautiful Doll - Chorus

Quartet Song - Rock City

Cocktails for Two - Chorus

Radio - Chorus

OFG - Chorus

I Love a Jolson Song - Chorus

As you see this the" proposed"
show package.

So pull out your music and
review.

I imagine , like you, I'm not
too sure of the second last
song. The abbreviation has
many a connotation going
through my warped mind.

Old Fuh..Fuh Fine Guy's ??
Of Food I Gorge [Buffet Bob]
Old Folks Glower
and Other Fine Goodies

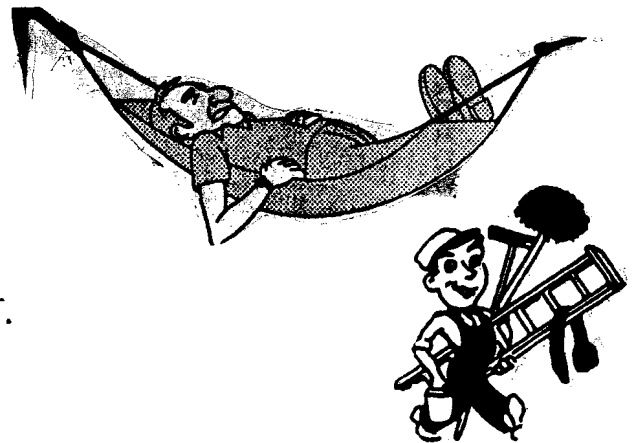


Get Outa Duh Sack !

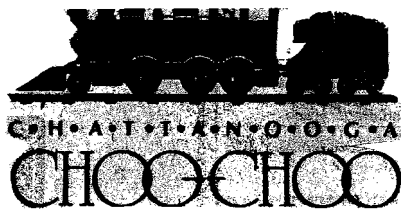
Collin's Needs Help !

The spring competition is over.

Lets get busy on the meeting
rooms



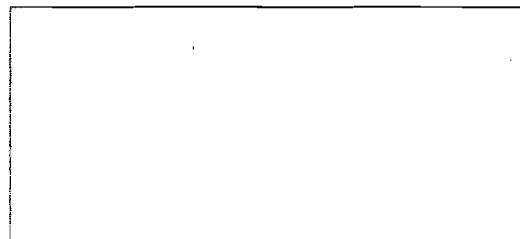
Everybody has an opinion....Express yours in the Blender.



Your 1999 Leadership Team

President	Bernard Wheeler	[706]-638-4013
Treasurer	Bob Stansbury	[423]-894-7760
Chapt Development	Rick Kulp	[423]-875-9251
Music Director	Paul Blazek	[423]-622-4493
Music VP	David Collins	[423]-658-2737
Secretary	David Reynolds	[423]-875-2674
Asst. Secretary	Earle Fraser	[423]-892-7630
Program	Steve Grubbs	[706]-861-6171
Business Manager	Lamar Owens	[423]-894-8559
Bulletin Editor	Pat Crowe	[706]-375-3878
Heartspring	Brooks Gist	[423]-892-7191
Publicity	W.C.Strickland	[706]-866-2567
Past President	Tom Keegan	[423]-756-5660
Board Member	Sam Jones	[706]-375-5431
Board Member	Bill Slack	[706]-638-3791
Board Member	J.W.Kirk	[706]-861-3135
Equipt. Manager	Pete Jones	[706]-861-2113
Choo Choo Belles	Audrey Gist	[423]-892-7191

The Blender
Pat Crowe, Editor
145 Green Ct.
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30707



Everybody has an opinion....Express yours in the Blender.

The Blender



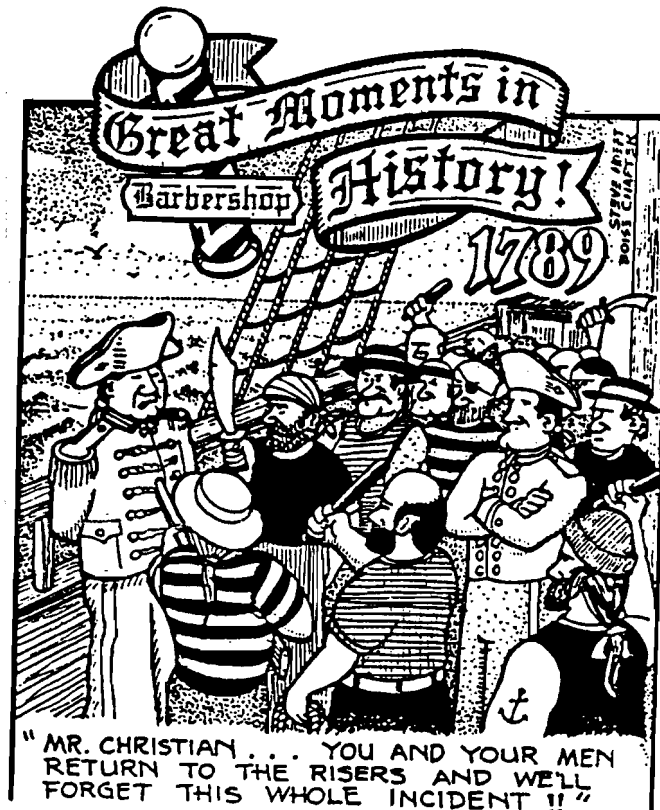
The Official Publication of the Chattanooga Chapter

Volume 8 Number 4

The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America



BEAT!



"MR. CHRISTIAN . . . YOU AND YOUR MEN
RETURN TO THE RISERS AND WE'LL
FORGET THIS WHOLE INCIDENT !!"

Read All About It !



Whats Inside

Birthdays and Anniversaries
Presidents Report
Music Director
Music V.P.
Program V.P.
Business Manager
Publicity V.P.
Secretary -Minutes Apr.Board Meeting
Chapter Development

If you cant locate the articles listed above.Could it be they're with the check ? Like man , It's in the mail.



Or Has The Cat Got Their Tongue !!

Thought for the Month

Accept that some days you are the pigeon
some days you are the statue .

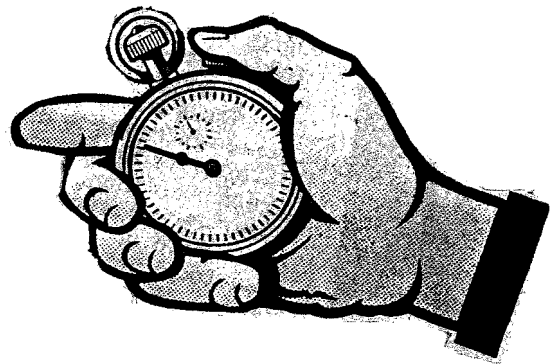
Something to Make You Think

From The Chordinator,Gary Simon ,Editor

Imagine that there is a bank that credits your account \$86,400.00 each day. That account carries over no balance,and every evening cancels whatever part of the amount you failed to use during that day. What would you do ? Most likely you would withdraw every cent before the end of each day.

Well, everyone of us has such a bank. It's called TIME. Every morning, it credits you with 86,400 seconds.Every night ,it writes off whatever remains and caries over no balance. It allows no overdrafts. Each night it burns the records of that day. If you fail to use the day's deposit ,the loss is yours.

Doesn't that make you think ?

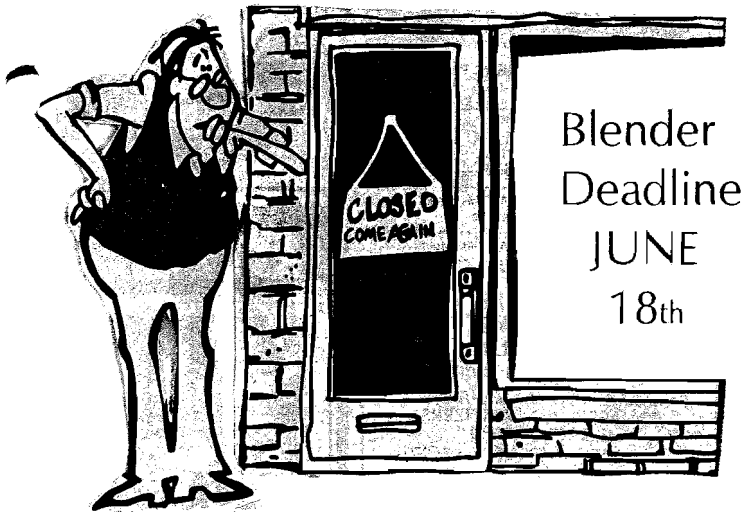


Teaser

The answer to the last teaser,"Without music,
life is a journey through a desert."
Is Pat Conroy,renowned author of "Deliverance."

Try another obscure one!

Who said,"In three words I can sum up everything I've learned about life.. It goes on.
Read the next Blender for the answer.



Change of Address

Blender correspondence address :

Pat Crowe
145 Green Ct.
Chickamauga GA.
30707

E-mail georgecrowe@mindspring.com



**It's
Time...**

Thats right . It's Time.
Time for Blender articles.
Time to know show music
Time to be performance ready.
It's....TIME, TIME, TIME !!

Anniversaries



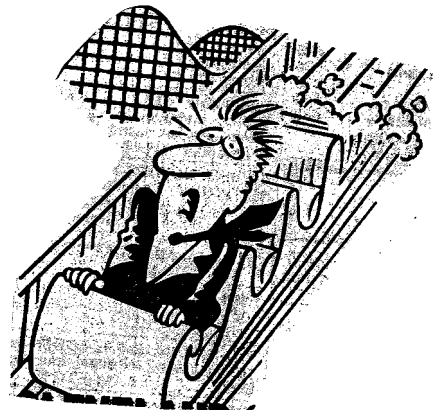
Don and Carol Hausmann	May 12th
Wayne and Lynn Pruett	May 24th
Paul and Lindy Blazek	May 25th
Ron and Mary Weaver	May 25th

And the Lord God said, "It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him." Gen.2:18

Birthdays

My records show we have only two this month.
So if I'm missing anyone ,let me know.

Chuck Wilson	May 20th
Walter Wright	May 23rd



From now on it's all downhill. Happy Birthday.

Taking the "BULL"by the Horns

VLQ'S

By Sam Jones



Well, we got started. On April Fools Day of all days.

It had been talked about for years. That there was a need to go out to schools, high schools, colleges, service clubs, etc. to promote our great hobby.

When the subject came up, I, like others would say. "That's a good idea, why don't YOU do that!"

Last year I told our president that I would try to get some thing going.

So here goes !.

I personally talked, one on one to every retired member and those with flexible schedules.

There seemed to be enough interested to set a rehearsal date. Of the sixteen who thought it was a good idea. Only nine showed for the first called meeting.

To be honest with you, my thinking was, we would have enough to have a small chorus. Just like in our regular chorus. I wouldn't have to know every note and word. But no such luck !.

Of the nine who showed there were only two leads, Pat Crowe and myself.

David Collins agreed to direct, but said. "You know, with a VLQ, everybody sings, no one is out front leading".

Well, I'll be dog !, I'm right back to a regular quartet, where I got to know my part !.

To be serious, we need everyone that can come, to be part of the VLQ or small daytime chorus..

We've been averaging eight per meeting. We need you brother.



Editors Note: I don't think there are restrictions on who can be members of this group. Why don't we recruit anyone we know who loves to sing. I'm sure we all have friends, acquaintances or church choir members who may be available for daytime performances.

Church Bulletin Bloopers

Taken from Tru-Notes Milt Weismab Editor

Don't let worry kill you-let the church help.

Thursday night-potluck supper Prayer and medication to follow.

Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our church and community.

For those who have children and don't know it we have a nursery downstairs..

The rosebud on the altar this morning is to announce the birth of David Alan Belzer, the son of Rev. and Mrs... Belzer.

This afternoon there will be a meeting in the south and north ends of the church. Children will be baptized at both ends.

Tuesday at 4:00 PM there will be an ice-cream social. Ladies giving milk will please come early. Wednesday, the ladies Liturgy Society will meet, Mrs... Jones will sing "Put Me In My Little Bed" accompanied by the pastor.

Thursday at 5:00 PM there will be a meeting of the Little Mothers Club. All wishing to become little mothers, please see the minister in his study. This Easter Sunday, we will ask Mrs... Lewis to come

forward and lay an egg on the altar.

Next Sunday a special collection will be taken to defray the cost of the new carpet. All those wishing to do something on the new carpet will come forward and do so.

The ladies of the church have cast off clothing of every kind and they may be seen in the church basement Friday.

The ladies Bible Study will be held Thursday morning at 10. All ladies are invited to lunch in the Fellowship Hall after the B.S. is done.

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be "What is Hell". Come early and listen to our choir practice.

Sounds like a Minnesota Bari.



Ole and Lena were sitting down to their usual cup of morning coffee listening to the weather report coming over the radio. "There will be 3 to 5 inches of snow today and a snow emergency has been declared. You must park your cars on the odd numbered side of the streets."

Ole got up from his coffee and replies, "Jeez, okay."

Two days later, again they are both sitting down with their cups of morning coffee and the weather forecast is "There will be 2 to 4 inches of snow today and a snow emergency has been declared. You must park your cars on the even numbered side of the streets."

Ole got up from his coffee and replies, "Jeez, okay."

Three days later, again they are both sitting down with their cups of coffee, and the weather forecast is, "There will be 6 to 8 inches of snow today and a snow emergency has been declared. You must park your cars on the..." and then the power went out and Ole didn't get the rest of the instructions.

He says, "Jeez, what am I going to do now, Lena?"

Lena replies, "Aw, Ole, Yust leave the car in the garage."

I have finally reached financial independence
- no one will lend me money.



Singing Valentines Update

Bob Stansbury, Treasurer



Well finally have something to report .Sorry for the delay,but was waiting for all the receipts to come in.

We still have some outstanding,but no response after continuing calls.

It's that old ,old story,,and the reason for collection agencies. You win some you lose some.

Another way of putting it is ."Some days your the dog,some days your the fire hydrant."

But all in all this was one of our best years. Thanks again to Ev and Earle for all the workthey did manning the phones and directing us without the Old Trailblazers maps .Great job you dynamic duo. And what can you say about Mr. Prez.,boy does Jo Ann have him organized. I think we need to let him do it again.

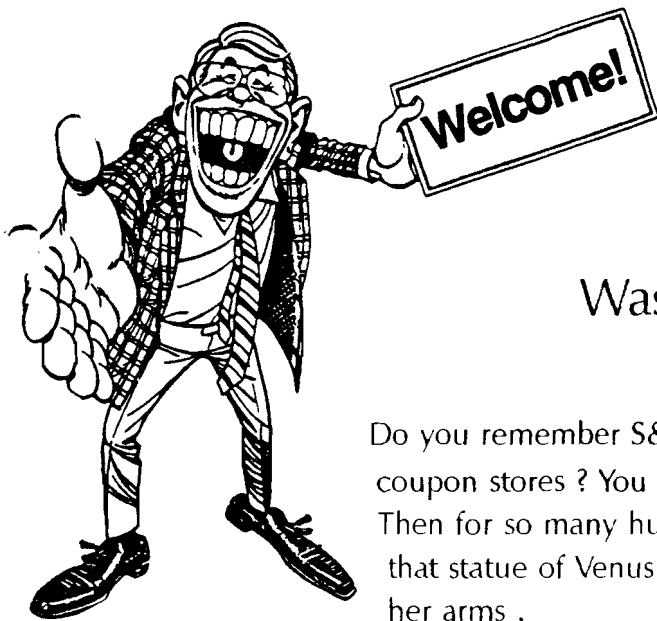
The following is a summaryof our work.

Summary	#sold	#collected	# uncollectable
	150	138	12
Description	Income		Expenses
Flowers			\$250.00
Candy,Printing			\$312.20
SalesDep.2/16	\$3120.00		
Sales Dep.2/25	\$1260.00		
Drivers Pay	\$ 40.00		\$ 40.00
Sales Dep.3/8	\$ 705.00		
Sales Dep.4/2	\$ 205.00		
Sales Dep.4/14	\$ 185.00		
Paid to Cleveland Chorus			\$240.00
Totals	\$5,515.00		\$842.20

Net Profit \$4,672.80

Thanks to everyone who made this a successful event . Bob





Was it Double Stamp Day ?

Do you remember S&H Green Stamps ? Gold Bell Stamps ? Redemption coupon stores ? You saved up all those stamps . Filled up the stamp book. Then for so many hundred or thousand stamps .You could exchange it for that statue of Venus with the clock in her belly, cause someone forgot to give her arms .

Well it sure looked like "Double Stamp Day " on Monday the 17th.

It felt good to see faces we hadn't seen in some time.

The bass section had to be giving out those double stamps. Walter Wright that Bushy Brow Bass came all the way from England. Will Rogers ,whom we haven't seen in almost a year, as he has been trying to break into the tough field of radio.Tells me he has accepted a position at a station in South Pittsburgh . And our twinkle-toed Gene Kelly of the chorus , Scott McKenzie waltzed in. And lets not forget the Bari section. It was enriched with the tones of Tony Fowler .

Newcomer John Johnston we welcomed back for his second visit .

What else can be said. Hey Guys ! "Your as Welcome as the Flowers in May ".



Lamar Owens Advises us that June is a busy month.

June 3 Creekside Assisted Living .Shallowford Rd.

6:30 PM Uniform A+ (TUX)

June 12 Shaw House . Family Day Kensington GA. Time ?

Uniform Blue shirt khaki pants.

June 25 630th Tank Destroyer Btn.Ross Landing River Barge

Time ? Uniform A + (TUX)

Looking further ahead. We have a request from Elderfest . This is at Cartersville GA. on Sept 9th. A + uniform

And way down the road . Friends of the Library are holding

Dec 12 open for us. At the downtown location.

Further details will be forth coming on these latter dates .

" I have found the best way to give advice to your children is to find out what they want and then advise them to do it " -- Harry S . Truman .

Heart of My Heart,I Love you Truly

April 24, 1999 a VLQ consisting of Barry Owens ,Sam Jones ,Earle Fraser,Lamar Smith, W.C.Strickland ,Bob Stansbury and Rick Kulp, Joined me as I sang to my bride.

What a great day , as family and friends celebrated with Margaret and I as we joined hands in the bond of love.

Once again the Chattanooga Chorus members showed to all, the cord of brotherhood and fellowship that flows through this chapter.

Margaret and I wish to extend our thanks to you for making our day one filled with love and song.



Did you know that senior citizens are the nation's leading carriers of AIDS !! Hearing AIDS, Band AIDS, RolAIDS, Walking AIDS, Medical AIDS, Goverment AIDS, and most of all Monetary AIDS to their children.

S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. Inc.

Chattanooga, Tennessee Chapter

Meeting of Board of Directors, April 22, 1999

<u>Present</u>				<u>Absent</u>	<u>Guests</u>
Reynolds	Jones	Kulp	Grubb	Crowe	Blazek
Collins	Stansbury	Kirk		Keegan	Jesse
Wheeler	Strickland	L. Owens			Malone

The meeting was called to order by President Wheeler at 7:05 pm at All Saints Academy.

Secretary - The minutes of the March 25 meeting were approved as read.

Treasurer - Stansbury submitted a written report, attached. A summary follows:

2/28/ 99 balance - \$ 6175.50	Disbursed - \$ 1248.33
Received - 831.14	Balance - 5758.31

Singing Valentines - Stansbury also submitted a recap of the Valentines program:

Money received - \$5515.00 Expenses - \$842.20 Net - \$4672.80
Total sold - 150 Total Paid - 138 Money still owed - 12

1999 Budget - Stansbury distributed copies of the budget which was presented, discussed and amended at the February meeting. The budget is balanced at \$16,106. Strickland moved, seconded by Jones that the budget be adopted as presented. Passed.

Bulletin Editor - No report

Music V.P. - Collins reported that section rehearsals will be held again starting Monday, April 26. The Music Team will meet on Wednesday April 28 at 7:00 pm at All Saints.

1999 Show - Collins reported that the show date is August 21 at Chattanooga State. The auditorium seats 300. Protocol will be the guest quartet. Ticket prices to be \$7.00 and \$10.00

Chapter Development V.P. - Kulp reported that "Hobby" Thomas had submitted an application for membership. He moved, seconded by Slack that Thomas' application be accepted. Passed.

Program V.P. - Grubb reported that he is trying to get variety in the Monday night

meeting. He will work with Slack in promoting the quartet activity program and making that a regular part of the Monday night program.

Business Manager - L. Owens reminded the members about the planned “family” outing at Frank Shaw’s farm on June 12. He also reminded members of the chorus performance scheduled for Saturday, April 24 for the Special Olympics at McCallie School. Plan to arrive at 9:30 am and sing at about 10:00 am (time may change)

Facilities Committee - Collins reported that a work session is scheduled for All Saints following the performance at McCallie. Bring a change of clothes.

VLQ - Jones reported that the VLQ has had three rehearsals. They are averaging eight per rehearsal.

Comments by the Music Director - Blazek reported that he had been approached by the Cleveland Chapter concerning a possible joint coaching session. There was some discussion, but no action was taken.

Adjournment at 8:15 pm

David Reynolds
Chapter Secretary

update➔

late breaking news from May Board meeting.

Family Day/Picnic: Time, 3:00 PM - till dark - June 12

Place: "Bug" Shaw farm, Kensington GA.

Food: B.Y.O. (more info to follow)

There will be a tour of this historical home
along with a display of antique cars
Maps will be issued.

Fun Night: A break from rehearsals, there will be
a discussion for a fun night. Be there to put
your ideas for what you would like to do.

Quartets: Bill Slack has suggested a quartet night,
or time at each meeting, to invite other
than chapter quartets to perform. We need
your input on this.

Name Badges: wear your name badge. If you
need one advise board member

This is from **Rogue Rhapsody**, Medford
OR. Rogue Valley Chapt. Alan Burt. Ed.

CRAFT

You do windows ! I do windows !

"Windows" in barbershopping are as important as the side-to-side and the front-to-back spacing maintained by a good marching band. It is the responsibility of each of you on the risers to ensure that you are in your personal "window" and that you can easily see the director. For those in the second row and back, your window is described as a small rectangle between the shoulders of the men just immediately in front of you.

If you are on the second row, you have the additional responsibility of helping place the men directly in front of you. They do not have eyes in the back of their heads and may not realize that they have drifted, or have never gotten into, their correct standing position. If the men in the front row are not in position, it can throw off the positions of every man behind them.

Similarly, it is very important that each of you stand with your toes at the front of the risers. The front row needs to step forward away from the front of the risers to leave room for the second row men to stand at the front edge of their risers. This in turn leaves room for the men behind them to stand at the front of their

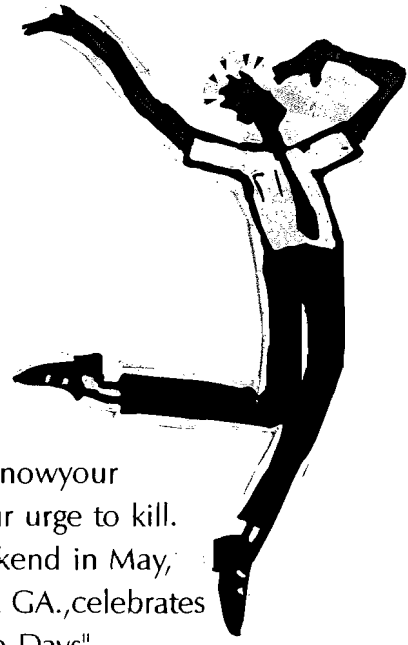
risers, and gives the chorus a more eager and we-take-no-prisoners look.



Your window



FACE'S I NEED FACE'S !!!



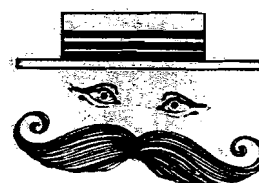
Paul, now I know your
frustration, your urge to kill.
The first weekend in May,
Chickamauga GA., celebrates
"Down Home Days".

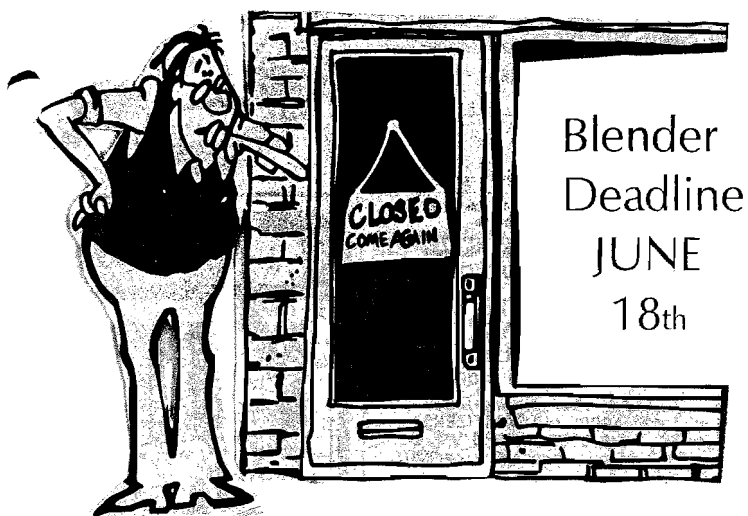
A day of fun floats, arts & crafts and parade.
This year on the Friday evening prior to the big
day. A gospel sing was held at the Walker
county civic center. Approximately fourteen local
church choirs performed.

Beautiful music, beautiful voices, over shadowed
by one thing. Lack of "FACES" I wished our
chorus had been there, to see what Paul has
been pointing out to us over and over again
"FACES". "FACES" put the song across. The
great talents of some of those choirs were
diminished by lack of "FACES".

My heart went out to the choir leaders, out
there busting their buns, and receiving nothing
back.

The spirit, joy and happiness in the song "Oh
Happy Day" just doesn't come across, when
"FACES" give the appearance, that some seem
to be suffering from severe intestinal distress.
So come on give Paul a break, relieve his
intestinal distress. Give that man "FACES"





Anniversaries



Don and Carol Hausmann	May 12th
Wayne and Lynn Pruett	May 24th
Paul and Lindy Blazek	May 25th
Ron and Mary Weaver	May 25th

And the Lord God said, "It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him." Gen.2:18

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E-mail georgecrowe@mindspring.com

Birthdays

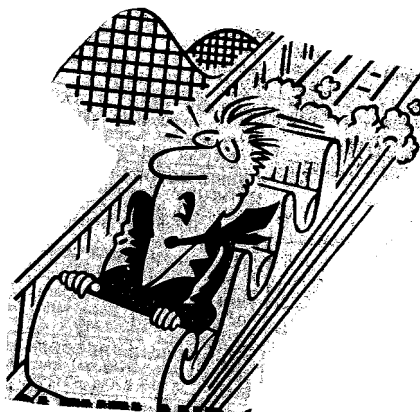
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Walter Wright	May 23rd



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Time for Blender articles.
Time to know show music
Time to be performance ready.
It's....TIME, TIME, TIME !!



From now on it's all downhill. Happy Birthday.



Something to Crow About

Pat Crowe, Editor

As you checked out the minutes of the last board meeting, I'm sure the thought went through many of your minds . Hmmm , There is no report from the bulletin editor. I wonder why ? . Now, if this really did happen to any of you, and I believe that. I've been out in the sun too long without covering my bald spot.. Just on the premise that this really happened. Let me give the reason I had nothing to crow about.

A quick perusal of ,Explanations 101, it was defined in this manner. Report : a detailed statement, an in-depth account .

Now, before an appearance before this august panel of peers . One cannot just stand there, with hat in hand, doing nothing but mopping drool off ones quivering chin. No, one must have something of reasonable intelligence to say. And how, you ask ,does one find these pearls of wisdom. Well, lesson number one . Don't ask the Bari's !, Remember the key word is Intelligent !.

The object is to inform the board of your progress and your needs.

The main need is to receive sayings , bon mots , epigrams and such, from chapter officers about their respective disciplines, or from chapter members who wish to express an opinion.

Well, dear readers , if you're still with me. That is the need . The progress , Well, thats another story.. One can not progress without the need being fulfilled . The cooperation so far is nothing but abdominal rumblings...Gas.!!

So my flatulent friends, this is why you will read in the board minutes .

Bulletin Editor : No report .

When her late husbands will was read, a widow learned he had left the bulk of his fortune to another woman. Enraged, she rushed to change the inscription on her spouse's tombstone.

"Sorry lady," said the stonecutter. "I inscribed "Rest In Peace" on your orders., I cant change it now"

" Very well " she said grimly. " Just add Until We Meet Again."

Yesterday is History, Tomorrow is Mystery, Today is a Gift That is why it is called "The Present" !

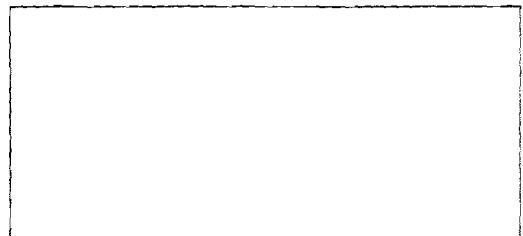
So count each day a blessing and have many good ones..



Your 1999 Leadership Team

President	Bernard Wheeler	[706]-638-4013
Treasurer	Bob Stansbury	[423]-894-7760
Chapt Development	Rick Kulp	[423]-875-9251
Music Director	Paul Blazek	[423]-622-4493
Music VP	David Collins	[423]-658-2737
Secretary	David Reynolds	[423]-875-2674
Asst. Secretary	Earle Fraser	[423]-892-7630
Program	Steve Grubbs	[706]-861-6171
Business Manager	Lamar Owens	[423]-894-8559
Bulletin Editor	Pat Crowe	[706]-375-3878
Heartspring	Brooks Gist	[423]-892-7191
Publicity	W.C.Strickland	[706]-866-2567
Past President	Tom Keegan	[423]-756-5660
Board Member	Sam Jones	[706]-375-5431
Board Member	Bill Slack	[706]-638-3791
Board Member	J.W.Kirk	[706]-861-3135
Equipt. Manager	Pete Jones	[706]-861-2113
Choo Choo Belles	Audrey Gist	[423]-892-7191

The Blender
Pat Crowe, Editor
145 Green Ct.
Chickamauga, GA.
30707



Everybody has an opinion....Express yours in the Blender.

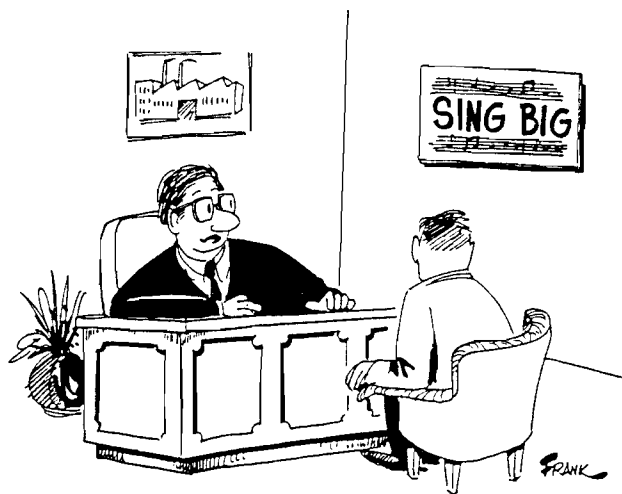
The Blender



The Official Publication of the Chattanooga Chapter

Volume 8 Number 5

The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America



"I just got tired at looking at "THINK BIG!"

The Chattanooga Choo Choo Chorus Meets Mondays 7:00 PM at All Saints Academy,
(Formerly Notre Dame High) 310 East Eighth Street ,Chattanooga , TN.37403
Phone 423-855-1947

Anniversaries



Johnny & Sally Jackson, June 4
Steve & Christi Grubb, June 5
Sam & Pat Jones, June 13
Fred & Judy Jesse, June 18
Rick & Lesley Kulp June 22
Dave & Mary Ambergrombie
June 27

Congratulations

Birthdays



Lloyd Gimber, June 10
Will McDaniel June 30



Editors Note : After an absence Paul submitted an article, but alas and alack some how I screwed up and couldn't get his or Lamar Owens pieces in to the last issue. Sorry guys.



What is Fun? By Paul Blazek



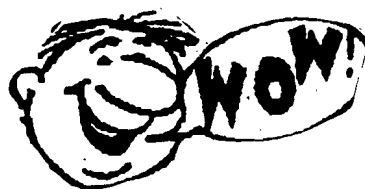
If I put this question to the members of the chapter, I will probably get a different answer from each man. We all have different definitions of fun. However, when we had the group goal-setting session, one of the things we agreed on, practically unanimously, what that we should have fun, With that in mind, let me list some things that are NOT fun, and see how many you agree with:

1. Teaching words and notes to the same songs for weeks on end.
- 2 Repeating phrases over and over to fix problems.
- 3 Going flat.
- 4 Spending all night in the chorus, with no time for other activities.
- 5 Listening to the 'watermelon' sound of forgotten words during a paid (or benefit) performance.

If we examine just these five, let's see what we can do to prevent them:

- 1 Listen to your learning tapes, and go over them at home.
- 2 Listen to your learning tapes and go over them at home.
- 3 Listen to your learning tapes and go over them at home.
- 4 Listen to your learning tapes and go over them at home.
- 5 Listen to your learning tapes and go over them at home.

I think I'm beginning to see a pattern here - how about you?





IT'S YOUR BUSINESS

Lamar Owens

Thanks to all who came out to support the last two free singouts at Fort Oglethorpe Nursing Center and the National Health Care .
We received a nice note from the folks at National Health Care saying how much the residents loved the performance and that we touched and enriched their lives. The note is posted on the bulletin board, if you would like to read it.

Coming Events:

July 3 Pops in the Park (this is tentative)
Aug. 21 Summer Show, Chattanooga State
Sept. 9 Elderfest, Paid
Dec. 12 Chattanooga-Hamilton County Library- Paid

We still need help lining up more performances. If you know of someone who would like to have the chorus or a quartet perform, please let me know.
Paid performances especially appreciated.

Selah

These newspaper Headlines actually made it into Print:
Cold Wave Linked to Temperatures: Miners Refuse to Work After Death:
Couple Slain; Police Suspect Homicide: Man Struck by Lightning Faces Battery
Charge: Red Tape Holds Up New Bridge: Stolen Paintings Found by Tree;
Plane too Close to Ground, Crash Probe Told:
On this one, I beleive I've been in this store's "Express Lane."
Two Sisters Reunited after 18 years in Checkout Counter:

Eight Gifts that Do Not Cost a Cent

E-mail Submitted by Steve Grubb

1) THE GIFT OF LISTENING...

But you REALLY listen. No interrupting, no daydreaming, no planning your response.

Just listening.

2) THE GIFT OF AFFECTION...

Be generous with appropriate hugs, kisses, pats on the back and handholds. Let these small actions demonstrate the love you have for family and friends.

3) THE GIFT OF LAUGHTER...

Clip cartoons. Share articles and funny stories. Your gift will say "I love to laugh with you."

4) THE GIFT OF A WRITTEN NOTE...

It can be a simple "Thanks for the help" note or a full sonnet. A brief, handwritten note may be remembered for a lifetime, and may even change a life.

5) THE GIFT OF A COMPLIMENT...

A simple and sincere, "YOU look great in red," "You did a super job or "That was a wonderful meal" can make someone's day.

6) THE GIFT OF A FAVOR...

Every day, go out of your way to do something kind.

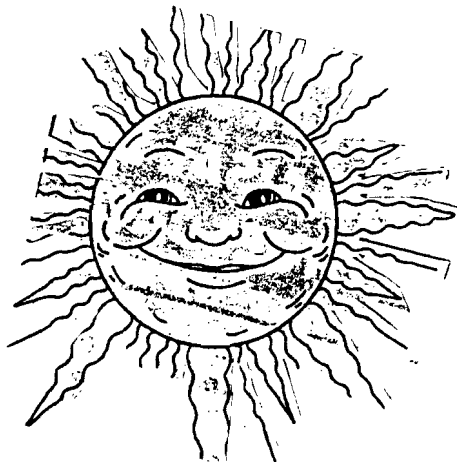
7) THE GIFT OF SOLITUDE...

There are times when we want nothing better than to be left alone. Be sensitive to those times and give the gift of solitude to others.

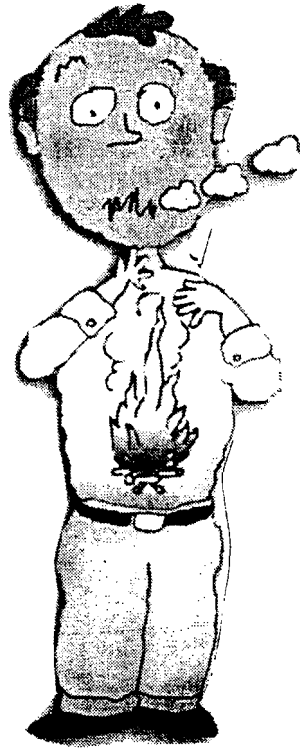
8) THE GIFT OF A CHEERFUL DISPOSITION..

The easiest way to feel good is to extend a kind word to someone, really its not that hard to say, Hello or Thank You.

Friends are a rare jewel, indeed. They make you smile and encourage you to succeed. They lend an ear, they share a word of praise, and they always want to open their hearts to us.



Heartburn?



NO.... It's Just the Stress From my Perpetual,
Endless and Un-ending Bleating.....
The same Rhetoric, Week After Week.....

" I NEED ARTICLES ! "

And I Get The Same Response.....

ZERO !!!

RAY SCROGGIN'S UNPUBLISHED LETTER

-From Casey Parker <caseypar@garlic.com> (via Email)

To the Harmonizer

April 19, 1999

To paraphrase an old proverb, all work and no play makes Jack a dull barbershopper. Sometimes I wonder where all the fun has gone in barbershopping. Not that working hard to sing better and all that isn't rewarding. It's just that we seem to have lost the ability to sing just for fun-- the whole reason this Society was started! Have we lost our way ?

If all you're doing is rehearsing on the risers for two or three hours every week, go back to our Society's history and see what the early days were like. Messrs. Cash and Hall didn't found an organization dedicated to performing and competing, although those soon became a part of the activity. Things used to be a lot less serious, however. Even the SPEBSQSA initials were a spoof on the post-depression era government programs. And, there was a lot more singing just for the fun of it. Even in the 1950s and 1960s, four guys would gather in the corner at the drop of a pitchpipe (or even without one) to ring a few chords. At conventions, the lobbies, elevators and hallways used to ring with a lot more spontaneous chords.

Lets not lose the improved quality of our singing, but we also need to bring back some of the fun. I visit a lot of chapters around the US and some in Canada when I travel on business. One I visit regularly started trying a new approach recently. After several years of focusing almost entirely on the work of singing, they are now spending two hours rehearsing and saving an hour for fun. I was encouraged to hear this, as too many chapters build their meetings strictly around a chorus rehearsal, after which most people just go home. The last time I was there, they broke into three groups for the final hour: one for people who wanted to work further on the chorus numbers, one for newer members to learn more of what barbershopping is really about, and a third for those who wanted to do some informal quarteting. I, of course, visited the last group and was pleased to hear several tag quartets that gave everyone a chance to carry his own part in a chord. One five year member told me later that when he joined his first impression was that quartets were only for the elite.

It's apparent that the lack of formal quartet activity gives our newer members (and some have been around for awhile) the idea that quartets are only for the chosen few, and that the only that exist are registered, and compete in contests and require a lot of commitment. Whatever happened to pickup quartets just singing a few songs or tags for the evening ?. We dont have to get matching socks and enter the contest. How many members seldom if ever feel the thrill of carrying their own part in a quartet, even on a tag or two ?. I'll bet there are quite a few, and even one is too many in a Society that puports to be dedicated to saving a unique American music form. That form is not the barbershop chorus-- which is something we invented. I'm not saying we should kill the choruses, but lets not let the quartets die either. We've come too close to that, and it's time to put some balance back into our barbershop lives. I belive we would find that

(Continued...)

Ray Scroggin's cont.

the fun of quartet activity would help make the work during rehearsal worthwhile.

Sing-cerely, Ray Scroggins, #105710 (Milwaukee Chapter)

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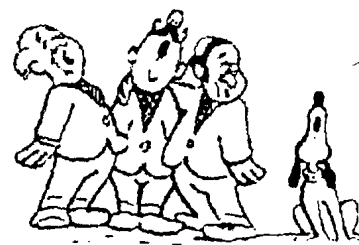
Quoting Mark Twain: "Grief can take care of itself; but to get the full value of joy' you must have somebody to share it with."

What greater joy than to share a ringing chord.



Thursday, join Sam at
VLQ Rehearsal 1:30 PM.

Monday, get in a
pickup Quartet.
Have FUN !!





Hickphonics

Paul has mentioned numerous times ,our pronunciation has not been up to his expectation.

Well Paul, it's finally happened...."HICKPHONICS"

This came to me via E-mail. So you know it's got to be the gospel truth.

Flat Woods, Kentucky educators,after learning that Oakland,California educators have started classes teaching ethnic slang, have decided that there is also a need to designate Southern Slang as a geographic language. Ergo, "Hickphonics.

Here is a sampling from the new Flat Woods Hickphonics dictionary now being compiled.

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Hickphonics, cont.

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- 22.VIEW - contraction. verb and pronoun. Usage: "I ain't never seed New York City.... view ? (view = "have you"... dummy)
- 23.GUMMENT - noun. a bureaucratic state or federal institytion. Usage: "Them gumment boys sure are ignert."
- 24.WILBAR - noun. a single wheeled vehicle for transporting loads. Usage: "Ran over sum bob war wilbars gotta did tar."



FERD'S WORDS for JUNE

By Fred Jesse

I was looking at the last issue of the Blender again and was reminded of an incident, actually a remark, I heard last Memorial Day weekend. My sister and I spent that weekend at The World Championship Old Time Piano Playing Contest in Decatur ,Illinois.

During an interview of contestants, one older fellow remarked hoe he often played for retirement homes and sing-alongs.(Thats something we should do more of, but thats another article.) He said he was tired of playing the same old songs and requests until after one of those same old sing-alongs. An older lady had requested, " Are You Lonesome Tonight". He dutifully played the number only to find her in tears at the conclusion.He inquired why the tears, and she replied,"My husband composed that song."

It shocked me to the reality that our songs and requests have a special place in someone's memory. I'll bet the songs noted in Pat Crowe's article in the Blender and sung at his wedding mean more than just "Heart of my Heart," or "I Love you Truly". "Let me call you Sweetheart" brings special memories to me,and likewise other songs to other people.

We must remember that , even though we have sung "Heart of my Heart" fifty times on Valentines Day, and a thousand times before that. We must put our heart into each song of each performance, because we dont know what kind of special memory we bring to mind, or perhaps we are creating one of those special memories.

Special memories are preserved in the Blender articles. Do you reread old Blenders ?

I do sometimes. Not only are there special memories contained therein, but lots of useful info on our barbershop harmony hobby.

Why dont you write of a special memory to be preserve in the next Blender.



IT'S YOUR BUSINESS

{No it's not de'-ja vu . The other column Submitted by Lamar ,should
been in last months issue.Thanks to Lamar,[one of our consistent
contributors] he contributes more than any of our officers.}

Our thanks to all those that showed up for the Creekside at Shallowford ,June 3 performance.
We had 21 on the risers for a thoroughly enjoyable time, and paid too.
This is still below what we were averaging last year ,but a decent crowd anyway. Wont you make
an extra effort to attend our next presentation for the 625th Tank Destroyer Battalion reunion
on Friday June 25th? We will be on the barge next to the Southern Belle at John Ross Landing.
Your support would be appreciated and you would enjoy it too. We especially need to show sup-
port for our remaining veterans and comrades in arms.

Up coming schedule:

7:15 PM June 25 : 625th Tank Destroyer Btn. Paid

6:30 PM July 1: Patten Towers

6:30 PM July 13 : NHC McFarland Ave.. Rossville,Georgia

7:30 PM Aug.. 21 : Show at Chattanooga State

6:30 PM Sept. 9 : Elderfest, Cartersville, Georgia, Paid

3:00 PM Dec 12 : Chattanooga Bicentennial Library, Paid

We had a request from First United Methodist ,Tullahoma. The chorus voted not to accept the
invitation. Rock City Four will possibly handle this. The "Pops in the Park" did not work out ,
maybe next year. Bernard Wheeler is working on an appearances) for the North Georgia
Cattlemen's Credit Associations annual meetings).

TEASER

The answer to the teaser," In three words I can sum up everything I've learned about life.
It goes on. This was said by the famous poet ,Robert Frost.

How about this one! Who said "Success is how high you bounce when you hit bottom."?

Thought for the month: Heredity is what sets the parents of a teenager wondering about each
other.

Teaser writers note:Last month I purposely gave credit to Pat Conroy for writing "DELIVERANCE" it was written by
James Dickey. I did this to see if anyone would mention the error,or if anyone actually reads the Teaser. Well no one
mentioned it.So it was too esoteric or no one reads or cares. this is the last teser you will see in the Blender.

P.S. Pat Conroy wrote " The Lords of Discipline"" and other good books.



Something to Crow About

Pat Crowe, Editor

Well it's that time again, or should I say it's past that time. Our membership directory is badly in need of updating. Forrest Bugher, who has handled this task in the past. Stated, getting information from members to update the directory ,is

akin to me trying to get articles for the BLENDER. Almost impossible.

Forrest and I promise,if we get the latest information from you, we will not sell it to telephone solicitors. Heck, we'll get Slack to notarize this promise.

Bari's To maintain a happy environment in your abode*, we do not need your wife's date of birth (D.O.B.) just the month and day. (*abode: Thats your home, and you thought it was something overseas.)

You all should have the questionnaire. So complete it and return it promptly.. Thanks for your cooperation.

When we performed at Creekside, did you notice their bulletin board. There was a very good photo of the chorus . Taken when we sang there last year. The residents were again delighted and expressed their thanks for a good performance.

Kenosha's plan for a news letter for auxiliaries has a lot of merit. A great way to network with other groups of these unsung hard working ladies.

We have had a few visitors this month. But they were not signed in .Who's our GREETER ?

We do have one ,dont we ? Like when I tried to retrieve my laundry without the receipt. I was told " No Tickee, No Washee.!" The moral? Cant tell you who our visitors are without getting the information. Now all together ,to the tune of "It Was Fascination I Know." Lets sing. " IT'S CO - OP -ER - AAA - SHUN I NEEED ."

There was a brief mention of getting together for a "Back Yard Bar-B-Que" sometime this summer. Sounds like a great Idea . We'd be glad to offer the use of our yard.It is large and in case of rain there is a covered area with picnic tables .Margaret and I would love to have you.So lets talk about it..

More scuttlebuttthe idea was brought up, to possibly join the Cleveland TN. chapter guys to perform "RADIO" in Cleveland. Sounds good to me. It would be a great time for a dress rehearsal before our opening night.But again,this has not been put before either chapter's board, just ground out by the rumor mill.

After the Creekside "GIG". J.W.Kirk invited us to sing for his friend T.J.Parker. Who just returned home from major surgery. A total of 10 responded. Parker was thrilled. He commented " those 45 minutes were the first time he was without pain in some time." Cont.....

cont. Something to Crow About

Parker, loves to sing, and the expression on his face was well worth the short time we performed.

A few days later Mrs. Parker, informed J.W., how thrilled the family were. She also wished she had more film in her camera ,and had time to invite the neighbors.

Hey,guys! this is what barbershopping is all about. The joy of fellowship, The joy of sharing the talents God has blessed us with.

I dont know about the rest of you,but I was just as thrilled as the Parker family , as he tried to sing along , "Wait till the Sun Shines Nellie."

Thanks J.W., for asking me to be part of this heart warming experience.

Just a thought... but wouldn't this be something the VLQ daytimers could do.

Bring a little smile and song to homebound patients. Visit a few on any given day, and spread the joy of barbershopping... just a thought.....

What ever happened to the doorbell? The other night there were eight to ten of us standing out there in 90 degree weather sweating our diphthong's off.

Why is it that the left door has to be propped open and used as the entry?

People coming in, automatically pull open the right-hand side. When it closes behind them both sides lock. WHY DADDY? WHY? HUH? HUH? Why cant we use the right door? Are we going to start driving on the left side too ? Is this some southpaws idea of revenge ?

Frank "Bug" Shaw's business card reads.Martin Davis House,"A Journey Back into the 1850's",Davis Cross Roads,Walker County,Georgia. Did you notice the U.S.postal address? 58 Hog Jowl Road,Kensington,GA. How appropriate,as some 50 or more of us bellied up to the trough. Like hogs at feeding time,Grunting,Gorgeing and Groaning, as we stuffed our jowls.

Those "Beautiful Belles" put on a spread that was outstanding. Did you ever see so much food? A "Plethora of Plenty!" We owe these lovely ladies so much. They put up with us ,feed us and they sit there listening to us, Like it is the first time. I wonder how many times they've heard Earle Fraser's favorite," Alexanders Ragtime".

We luv yuh!,luv yuh! ladies.

I'm hoping to get an article or two from the members ,telling us their thoughts on the tour and the unbelievable display of the artifacts and life as it was on his family homestead.From 1850,the northern occupation,the country store ,or just an observation of the days events. Lets hear from you.



Choo Choo Belles

Help for auxiliaries on the way

From Update (<http://www.SPEBSQSA.org/Update/>)

Great news ! A newsletter is in the planning stages for Chapter Auxiliaries. It will include: how to tips, news , ideas and other information that can help an existing auxiliary have more fun and improve it's productivity, or help start an auxiliary for a chapter.

We need the name and address of a contact person for your chapters auxiliary and the name of the group so we can get it on the mailing list. Send this information to: Gary Stamm, Director of External Affairs, SPEBSQSA, Inc., 6315 Third Avenue, Kenosha, WI, 53143-5199 or e-mail at gstamm@spebsqsa.org.

This effort will be headed up by Charlene Smith, who is very active in the Northbrook, Illinois , Chapter's (New Tradition Chorus) auxiliary. The newsletter will be printed and mailed from Society Headquarters.

Charlene is also planning another "Friends and Family" (auxiliary) meeting for the international convention in Anaheim. this is the fourth such gathering and has proved to be a wonderful get-together to share ideas and information first hand. This years event will be held from 8 to 9:30 a.m. on Friday, July 2, in the Huntington room at the Anaheim Hilton Towers (headquarters hotel.) Be sure to send one or more representatives.

May 30 Meeting : By Gelda Malone , Sub for Audrey Gist

Picnic on June 12 and Aug. 21st. show were discussed.

Since show is at Chattanooga State, there will be a few more duties. There will be the usual needs. Backstage food, ticket takers door prize table attendants, etc. We need everyone's assistance.

We are also looking to the future, the district convention that will be in Chattanooga.

Can we top the last one ? It was one of the best. We still receive comments on how smooth the event was handled.

PLEASE ladies we need everybody. There is something for every significant other.

The chorus has several new members and prospects, we will be contacting them.

We will be meeting again on July 12, 1999. Looking forward to seeing you.





Your 1999 Leadership Team

President	Bernard Wheeler	[706]-638-4013
Treasurer	Bob Stansbury	[423]-894-7760
Chapt Development	Rick Kulp	[423]-875-9251
Music Director	Paul Blazek	[423]-622-4493
Music VP	David Collins	[423]-658-2737
Secretary	David Reynolds	[423]-875-2674
Asst. Secretary	Earle Fraser	[423]-892-7630
Program	Steve Grubbs	[706]-861-6171
Business Manager	Lamar Owens	[423]-894-8559
Bulletin Editor	Pat Crowe	[706]-375-3878
Heartspring	Brooks Gist	[423]-892-7191
Publicity	W.C.Strickland	[706]-866-2567
Past President	Tom Keegan	[423]-756-5660
Board Member	Sam Jones	[706]-375-5431
Board Member	Bill Slack	[706]-638-3791
Board Member	J.W.Kirk	[706]-861-3135
Equipt. Manager	Pete Jones	[706]-861-2113
Choo Choo Belles	Audrey Gist	[423]-892-7191

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Chickamauga, GA.
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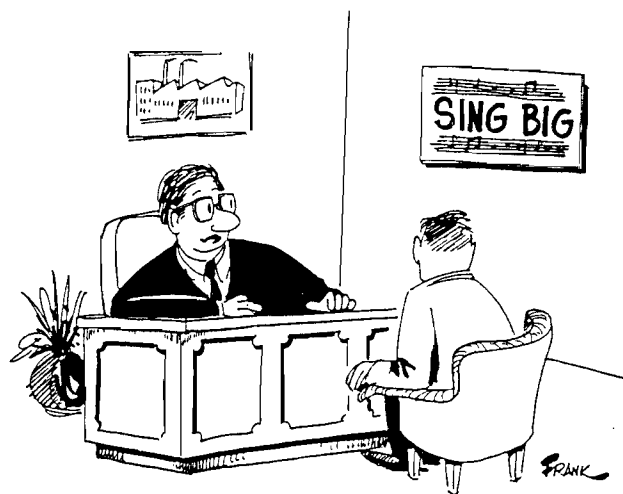
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The Official Publication of the Chattanooga Chapter

Volume 8 Number 5

The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America



*) just got tired at looking at "THINK BIG!"

The Chattanooga Choo Choo Chorus Meets Mondays 7:00 PM at All Saints Academy,
(Formerly Notre Dame High) 310 East Eighth Street ,Chattanooga , TN.37403
Phone 423-855-1947

Anniversaries



Johnny & Sally Jackson, June 4
Steve & Christi Grubb, June 5
Sam & Pat Jones, June 13
Fred & Judy Jesse, June 18
Rick & Lesley Kulp June 22
Dave & Mary Ambercrombie
June 27

Congratulations

Birthdays



Lloyd Gimber, June 10
Will McDaniel June 30



Editors Note : After an absence Paul submitted an article, but alas and alack some how I screwed up and couldn't get his or Lamar Owens pieces in to the last issue. Sorry guys.



What is Fun? By Paul Blazek



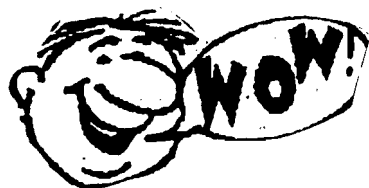
If I put this question to the members of the chapter, I will probably get a different answer from each man. We all have different definitions of fun. However, when we had the group goal-setting session, one of the things we agreed on, practically unanimously, what that we should have fun, With that in mind, let me list some things that are NOT fun, and see how many you agree with:

1. Teaching words and notes to the same songs for weeks on end.
- 2 Repeating phrases over and over to fix problems.
- 3 Going flat.
- 4 Spending all night in the chorus, with no time for other activities.
- 5 Listening to the 'watermelon' sound of forgotten words during a paid (or benefit) performance.

If we examine just these five, let's see what we can do to prevent them:

- 1 Listen to your learning tapes, and go over them at home.
- 2 Listen to your learning tapes and go over them at home.
- 3 Listen to your learning tapes and go over them at home.
- 4 Listen to your learning tapes and go over them at home.
- 5 Listen to your learning tapes and go over them at home.

I think I'm beginning to see a pattern here - how about you?





IT'S YOUR BUSINESS

Lamar Owens

Thanks to all who came out to support the last two free singouts at Fort Oglethorpe Nursing Center and the National Health Care . We received a nice note from the folks at National Health Care saying how much the residents loved the performance and that we touched and enriched their lives. The note is posted on the bulletin board, if you would like to read it.

Coming Events:

July 3 Pops in the Park (this is tentative)

Aug. 21 Summer Show, Chattanooga State

Sept. 9 Elderfest, Paid

Dec. 12 Chattanooga-Hamilton County Library- Paid

We still need help lining up more performances. If you know of someone who would like to have the chorus or a quartet perform, please let me know. Paid performances especially appreciated.

Selah

These newspaper Headlines actually made it into Print:

Cold Wave Linked to Temperatures: Miners Refuse to Work After Death:

Couple Slain; Police Suspect Homicide: Man Struck by Lightning Faces Battery

Charge: Red Tape Holds Up New Bridge: Stolen Paintings Found by Tree;

Plane too Close to Ground, Crash Probe Told:

On this one, I beleive I've been in this store's "Express Lane."

Two Sisters Reunited after 18 years in Checkout Counter:

Eight Gifts that Do Not Cost a Cent

E-mail Submitted by Steve Grubb

1) THE GIFT OF LISTENING...

But you REALLY listen. No interrupting, no daydreaming, no planning your response.

Just listening.

2) THE GIFT OF AFFECTION...

Be generous with appropriate hugs, kisses, pats on the back and handholds. Let these small actions demonstrate the love you have for family and friends.

3) THE GIFT OF LAUGHTER...

Clip cartoons. Share articles and funny stories. Your gift will say "I love to laugh with you."

4) THE GIFT OF A WRITTEN NOTE...

It can be a simple "Thanks for the help" note or a full sonnet. A brief, handwritten note may be remembered for a lifetime, and may even change a life.

5) THE GIFT OF A COMPLIMENT...

A simple and sincere, "YOU look great in red," "You did a super job or "That was a wonderful meal" can make someone's day.

6) THE GIFT OF A FAVOR...

Every day, go out of your way to do something kind.

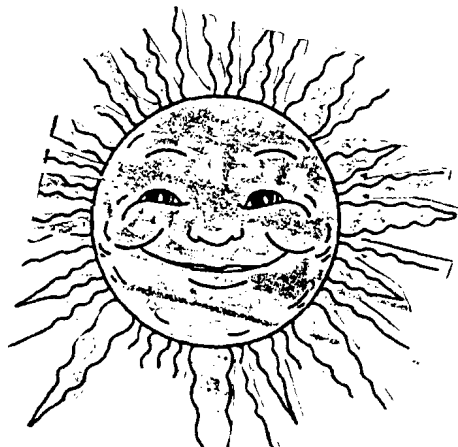
7) THE GIFT OF SOLITUDE...

There are times when we want nothing better than to be left alone. Be sensitive to those times and give the gift of solitude to others.

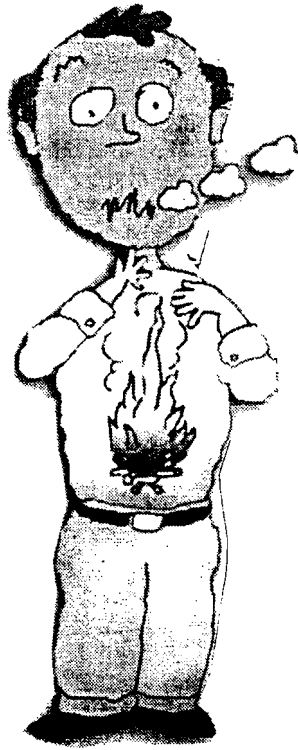
8) THE GIFT OF A CHEERFUL DISPOSITION..

The easiest way to feel good is to extend a kind word to someone, really its not that hard to say, Hello or Thank You.

Friends are a rare jewel, indeed. They make you smile and encourage you to succeed. They lend an ear, they share a word of praise, and they always want to open their hearts to us.



Heartburn?



NO.... It's Just the Stress From my Perpetual,
Endless and Un-ending Bleating.....
The same Rhetoric, Week After Week.....

" I NEED ARTICLES ! "

And I Get The Same Response.....

ZERO !!!

RAY SCROGGIN'S UNPUBLISHED LETTER

-From Casey Parker <caseypar@garlic.com> (via Email)

To the Harmonizer

April 19, 1999

To paraphrase an old proverb, all work and no play makes Jack a dull barbershopper. Sometimes I wonder where all the fun has gone in barbershopping. Not that working hard to sing better and all that isn't rewarding. It's just that we seem to have lost the ability to sing just for fun-- the whole reason this Society was started! Have we lost our way ?

If all you're doing is rehearsing on the risers for two or three hours every week, go back to our Society's history and see what the early days were like. Messrs. Cash and Hall didn't found an organization dedicated to performing and competing, although those soon became a part of the activity. Things used to be a lot less serious, however. Even the SPEBSQSA initials were a spoof on the post-depression era government programs. And, there was a lot more singing just for the fun of it. Even in the 1950s and 1960s, four guys would gather in the corner at the drop of a pitchpipe (or even without one) to ring a few chords. At conventions, the lobbies, elevators and hallways used to ring with a lot more spontaneous chords.

Lets not lose the improved quality of our singing, but we also need to bring back some of the fun. I visit a lot of chapters around the US and some in Canada when I travel on business. One I visit regularly started trying a new approach recently. After several years of focusing almost entirely on the work of singing, they are now spending two hours rehearsing and saving an hour for fun. I was encouraged to hear this, as too many chapters build their meetings strictly around a chorus rehearsal, after which most people just go home. The last time I was there, they broke into three groups for the final hour: one for people who wanted to work further on the chorus numbers, one for newer members to learn more of what barbershopping is really about, and a third for those who wanted to do some informal quarteting. I, of course, visited the last group and was pleased to hear several tag quartets that gave everyone a chance to carry his own part in a chord. One five year member told me later that when he joined his first impression was that quartets were only for the elite.

It's apparent that the lack of formal quartet activity gives our newer members (and some have been around for awhile) the idea that quartets are only for the chosen few, and that the only that exist are registered, and compete in contests and require a lot of commitment. Whatever happened to pickup quartets just singing a few songs or tags for the evening ?. We dont have to get matching socks and enter the contest. How many members seldom if ever feel the thrill of carrying their own part in a quartet, even on a tag or two ?. I'll bet there are quite a few, and even one is too many in a Society that puports to be dedicated to saving a unique American music form. That form is not the barbershop chorus-- which is something we invented. I'm not saying we should kill the choruses, but lets not let the quartets die either. We've come too close to that, and it's time to put some balance back into our barbershop lives. I belive we would find that
(Continued...)

Ray Scroggin's cont.

the fun of quartet activity would help make the work during rehearsal worthwhile.

Sing-cerely, Ray Scroggins, #105710 (Milwaukee Chapter)

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Bill has a few great ideas for future meeting nights. They should get the juices flowing and the rafters ringing .

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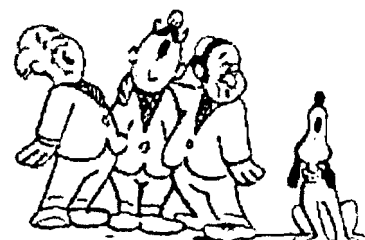
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Pickup Quartet.
Have FUN !!





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- 21.SEED - verb. past tense of see.
- 22.VIEW - contraction. verb and pronoun. Usage: "I ain't never seed New York City.... view ? (view = "have you"... dummy)
- 23.GUMMENT - noun. a bureaucratic state or federal institytion. Usage: "Them gumment boys sure are ignert."
- 24.WILBAR - noun. a single wheeled vehicle for transporting loads. Usage: "Ran over sum bob war wilbars gotta did tar."



FERD'S WORDS for JUNE

By Fred Jesse

I was looking at the last issue of the Blender again and was reminded of an incident, actually a remark, I heard last Memorial Day weekend. My sister and I spent that weekend at The World Championship Old Time Piano Playing Contest in Decatur ,Illinois.

During an interview of contestants, one older fellow remarked hoe he often played for retirement homes and sing-alongs.(Thats something we should do more of, but thats another article.) He said he was tired of playing the same old songs and requests until after one of those same old sing-alongs. An older lady had requested, " Are You Lonesome Tonight". He dutifully played the number only to find her in tears at the conclusion.He inquired why the tears, and she replied,"My husband composed that song."

It shocked me to the reality that our songs and requests have a special place in someone's memory. I'll bet the songs noted in Pat Crowe's article in the Blender and sung at his wedding mean more than just "Heart of my Heart," or "I Love you Truly." "Let me call you Sweetheart" brings special memories to me,and likewise other songs to other people.

We must remember that , even though we have sung "Heart of my Heart" fifty times on Valentines Day, and a thousand times before that. We must put our heart into each song of each performance, because we dont know what kind of special memory we bring to mind, or perhaps we are creating one of those special memories.

Special memories are preserved in the Blender articles. Do you reread old Blenders ?

I do sometimes. Not only are there special memories contained therein, but lots of useful info on our barbershop harmony hobby.

Why dont you write of a special memory to be preserve in the next Blender.



IT'S YOUR BUSINESS

{No it's not de'-ja vu . The other column Submitted by Lamar ,should
been in last months issue.Thanks to Lamar,[one of our consistent
contributors] he contributes more than any of our officers.}

Our thanks to all those that showed up for the Creekside at Shallowford ,June 3 performance.
We had 21 on the risers for a thoroughly enjoyable time, and paid too.
This is still below what we were averaging last year ,but a decent crowd anyway. Wont you make
an extra effort to attend our next presentation for the 625th Tank Destroyer Battalion reunion
on Friday June 25th? We will be on the barge next to the Southern Belle at John Ross Landing.
Your support would be appreciated and you would enjoy it too. We especially need to show sup-
port for our remaining veterans and comrades in arms.

Up coming schedule:

7:15 PM June 25 : 625th Tank Destroyer Btn. Paid

6:30 PM July 1: Patten Towers

6:30 PM July 13 : NHC McFarland Ave.. Rossville,Georgia

7:30 PM Aug.. 21 : Show at Chattanooga State

6:30 PM Sept. 9 : Elderfest, Cartersville, Georgia, Paid

3:00 PM Dec 12 : Chattanooga Bicentennial Library, Paid

We had a request from First United Methodist ,Tullahoma. The chorus voted not to accept the
invitation. Rock City Four will possibly handle this. The "Pops in the Park" did not work out ,
maybe next year. Bernard Wheeler is working on an appearances) for the North Georgia
Cattlemen's Credit Associations annual meetings).

TEASER

The answer to the teaser," In three words I can sum up everything I've learned about life.
It goes on. This was said by the famous poet ,Robert Frost.

How about this one! Who said "Success is how high you bounce when you hit bottom."?

Thought for the month: Heredity is what sets the parents of a teenager wondering about each
other.

Teaser writers note:Last month I purposely gave credit to Pat Conroy for writing "DELIVERANCE" it was written by
James Dickey. I did this to see if anyone would mention the error,or if anyone actually reads the Teaser. Well no one
mentioned it.So it was too esoteric or no one reads or cares. this is the last teser you will see in the Blender.

P.S. Pat Conroy wrote " The Lords of Discipline"" and other good books.



Something to Crow About

Pat Crowe, Editor

Well it's that time again, or should I say it's past that time. Our membership directory is badly in need of updating. Forrest Bugher, who has handled this task in the past. Stated, getting information from members to update the directory ,is

akin to me trying to get articles for the BLENDER. Almost impossible.

Forrest and I promise,if we get the latest information from you, we will not sell it to telephone solicitors. Heck, we'll get Slack to notarize this promise.

Bari's To maintain a happy environment in your abode*, we do not need your wife's date of birth (D.O.B.) just the month and day. (*abode: Thats your home, and you thought it was something overseas.)

You all should have the questionnaire. So complete it and return it promptly.. Thanks for your cooperation.

When we performed at Creekside, did you notice their bulletin board. There was a very good photo of the chorus . Taken when we sang there last year. The residents were again delighted and expressed their thanks for a good performance.

Kenosha's plan for a news letter for auxiliaries has a lot of merit. A great way to network with other groups of these unsung hard working ladies.

We have had a few visitors this month. But they were not signed in .Who's our GREETER ? We do have one ,dont we ? Like when I tried to retrieve my laundry without the receipt. I was told " No Tickee, No Washee.!" The moral? Cant tell you who our visitors are without getting the information. Now all together ,to the tune of "It Was Fascination I Know." Lets sing. " IT'S CO - OP -ER - AAA - SHUN I NEEEEEED ."

There was a brief mention of getting together for a "Back Yard Bar-B-Que" sometime this summer. Sounds like a great Idea . We'd be glad to offer the use of our yard.It is large and in case of rain there is a covered area with picnic tables .Margaret and I would love to have you.So lets talk about it..

More scuttlebuttthe idea was brought up, to possibly join the Cleveland TN. chapter guys to perform "RADIO" in Cleveland. Sounds good to me. It would be a great time for a dress rehearsal before our opening night.But again,this has not been put before either chapter's board, just ground out by the rumor mill.

After the Creekside "GIG". J.W.Kirk invited us to sing for his friend T.J.Parker. Who just returned home from major surgery. A total of 10 responded. Parker was thrilled. He commented " those 45 minutes were the first time he was without pain in some time." Cont.....

cont. Something to Crow About

Parker, loves to sing, and the expression on his face was well worth the short time we performed.

A few days later Mrs. Parker, informed J.W., how thrilled the family were. She also wished she had more film in her camera ,and had time to invite the neighbors. Hey,guys! this is what barbershopping is all about. The joy of fellowship, The joy of sharing the talents God has blessed us with.

I dont know about the rest of you,but I was just as thrilled as the Parker family , as he tried to sing along , "Wait till the Sun Shines Nellie."

Thanks J.W., for asking me to be part of this heart warming experience.

Just a thought... but wouldn't this be something the VLQ daytimers could do. Bring a little smile and song to homebound patients. Visit a few on any given day, and spread the joy of barbershopping... just a thought.,...

What ever happened to the doorbell? The other night there were eight to ten of us standing out there in 90 degree weather sweating our diphthong's off.

Why is it that the left door has to be propped open and used as the entry?

People coming in, automatically pull open the right-hand side. When it closes behind them both sides lock. WHY DADDY? WHY? HUH? HUH? Why cant we use the right door? Are we going to start driving on the left side too ? Is this some southpaws idea of revenge ?

Frank "Bug" Shaw's business card reads.Martin Davis House,"A Journey Back into the 1850's",Davis Cross Roads,Walker County,Georgia. Did you notice the U.S.postal address? 58 Hog Jowl Road,Kensington,GA. How appropriate,as some 50 or more of us bellied up to the trough. Like hogs at feeding time,Grunting,Gorgeing and Groaning, as we stuffed our jowls.

Those "Beautiful Belles" put on a spread that was outstanding. Did you ever see so much food? A "Plethora of Plenty!" We owe these lovely ladies so much. They put up with us ,feed us and they sit there listening to us, Like it is the first time. I wonder how many times they've heard Earle Fraser's favorite," Alexanders Ragtime".

We luv yuh!,luv yuh! ladies.

I'm hoping to get an article or two from the members ,telling us their thoughts on the tour and the unbelievable display of the artifacts and life as it was on his family homestead.From 1850,the northern occupation,the country store ,or just an observation of the days events. Lets hear from you.



Choo Choo Belles

Help for auxiliaries on the way

From Update (<http://www.SPEBSQSA.org/Update/>)

Great news ! A newsletter is in the planning stages for Chapter Auxiliaries. It will include: how to tips, news , ideas and other information that can help an existing auxiliary have more fun and improve it's productivity, or help start an auxiliary for a chapter.

We need the name and address of a contact person for your chapters auxiliary and the name of the group so we can get it on the mailing list. Send this information to: Gary Stamm, Director of External Affairs, SPEBSQSA, Inc., 6315 Third Avenue, Kenosha, WI, 53143-5199 or e-mail at gstamm@spebsqsa.org.

This effort will be headed up by Charlene Smith, who is very active in the Northbrook, Illinois , Chapter's (New Tradition Chorus) auxiliary. The newsletter will be printed and mailed from Society Headquarters.

Charlene is also planning another "Friends and Family" (auxiliary) meeting for the international convention in Anaheim. this is the fourth such gathering and has proved to be a wonderful get-together to share ideas and information first hand. This years event will be held from 8 to 9:30 a.m. on Friday, July 2, in the Huntington room at the Anaheim Hilton Towers (headquarters hotel.) Be sure to send one or more representatives.

May 30 Meeting : By Guelda Malone , Sub for Audrey Gist

Picnic on June 12 and Aug. 21st. show were discussed.

Since show is at Chattanooga State, there will be a few more duties. There will be the usual needs. Backstage food, ticket takers doorprize table attendants, etc. We need everyones assistance.

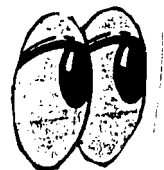
We are also looking to the future, the district convention that will be in Chattanooga.

Can we top the last one ? It was one of the best. We still receive comments on how smooth the event was handled.

PLEASE ladies we need everybody. There is something for every significant other.

The chorus has several new members and prospects, we will be contacting them.

We will be meeting again on July 12, 1999. Looking forward to seeing you.





Your 1999 Leadership Team

President	Bernard Wheeler	[706]-638-4013
Treasurer	Bob Stansbury	[423]-894-7760
Chapt Development	Rick Kulp	[423]-875-9251
Music Director	Paul Blazek	[423]-622-4493
Music VP	David Collins	[423]-658-2737
Secretary	David Reynolds	[423]-875-2674
Asst. Secretary	Earle Fraser	[423]-892-7630
Program	Steve Grubbs	[706]-861-6171
Business Manager	Lamar Owens	[423]-894-8559
Bulletin Editor	Pat Crowe	[706]-375-3878
Heartspring	Brooks Gist	[423]-892-7191
Publicity	W.C.Strickland	[706]-866-2567
Past President	Tom Keegan	[423]-756-5660
Board Member	Sam Jones	[706]-375-5431
Board Member	Bill Slack	[706]-638-3791
Board Member	J.W.Kirk	[706]-861-3135
Equipt. Manager	Pete Jones	[706]-861-2113
Choo Choo Belles	Audrey Gist	[423]-892-7191

The Blender
Pat Crowe, Editor
145 Green Ct.
Chickamauga, GA.
30707

Everybody has an opinion....Express yours in the Blender.

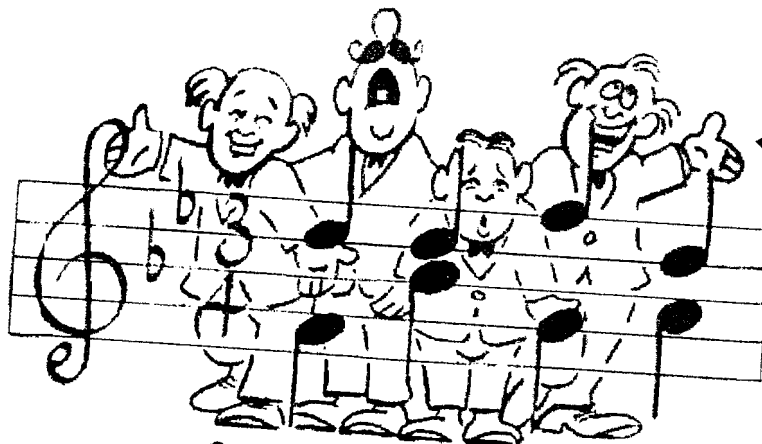
The Blender

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of the
Society For The Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in
America

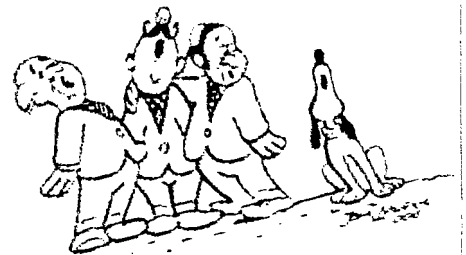
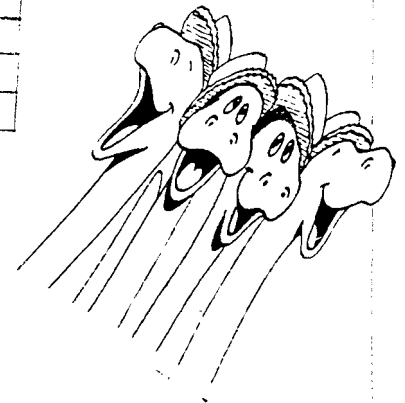
Chattanooga, Tennessee

Dixie District

Volume 8 No.6



BEHIND THE BARS



It's Quartet Night



Anniversaries



Audrey & Brooks Gist, July 21

Clara Jane & Dick Bidwell July 29

Dot & Jack Moore July 30



Birthdays

Tom Keegan July 3

Jack Moore July 5

Earle Fraser July 17

Edgar Dawson July 31



Monday's child is fair of face,
 Tuesday's child is full of grace
 Wednesday's child is full of woe,
 Thursday's child has far to go,
 Friday's child is loving and giving,
 Saturday's child works hard for a living,
 And the child that is born on the sabbath
 day,
 Is bonny and blithe and good and gay.
 - Anonymous

Editors Note :

It is obvious this poem was written when the last word in this poem had a different meaning then that of today. IE: Having or showing a joyous mood.

members to sign.

Facilities Committee - Collins reported that wiring to the A.C. supply box will be done next Saturday. Former member Jack Lane will help. Remaining painting to be done by the members.

Business Manager - Owens reported that the chorus has performed or is scheduled to produce \$725 in paid performances this year

Uniforms - Owens has found a supplier for the blue chorus shirts who will add the logo for \$5.00. The previous supplier was charging \$8.00 for the logo. There will be a \$50.00 set-up charge.

After a discussion, it was decided to ask the Belles to select two casual uniforms for the chorus and submit them to the members who would select one of these.

Cleanup Committee - Wheeler has appointed a member to oversee the cleanup of the rehearsal hall after each meeting. He will work with the section which is responsible for the refreshments that night. Wheeler will announce this procedure at the next meeting night.

Cleveland Chapter Show - Collins announced that the Cleveland Chorus would like to produce a show in the fall featuring the Choo Choo Chorus. They would cover the expenses and keep the net proceeds from the show. They would require a cash advance from Chattanooga to cover initial expenses.

Strickland moved, seconded by Collins that the Chattanooga Chapter advance no more than \$300.00 to the Cleveland Chapter at such time as the Cleveland Chapter has taken all preliminary steps required to produce a show. Passed.

Adjournment at 8:35 pm

David Reynolds
Chapter Secretary

S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. Inc.

Chattanooga Tennessee Chapter

Meeting of Board of Directors, June 17, 1999

<u>Present</u>			<u>Absent</u>		<u>Guest</u>
Reynolds	Grubb	L. Owens	Kirk	Slack	Jesse
Collins	Stansbury		Keegan		
Wheeler	Strickland	Crowe	Jones		

The meeting Meeting was called to order by President Wheeler at 7:00 pm at All Saints Academy

Secretary - The minutes of the May 20 meeting were approved as read.

Treasurer - Stansbury submitted a written report, attached. A summary follows:

4/30/99 balance - \$ 5811.20	Disbursed - \$ 379.45
Received - 242.00	Balance - 5673.75

Bulletin Editor - No report

**Music V.P. - Collins submitted a written report, attached. The highlights are:
Quartet Night set for June 21. He will attend Director's College in August**

**1999 Show - Collins reported he will sign the contract with Chatt. St. next week
Protocol will be housed at the Holiday Inn Express. The Afterglow
will be held at Shoney's on Hwy 153. Cost Approx. \$6.00 each**

Chapter Development V.P. - Crowe submitted the pending applications of John Johnston, Ronnie and Lonnie Satterfield for membership. Seconded. Passed. Wheeler will appoint an official Greeter who will be responsible for making guests feel "at home". The Greeter will be familiar with chapter policies regarding uniforms, membership dues, chorus requirements, etc. The Greeter will introduce the guest to officers and members and see to it that the guest is not left alone. Wheeler also reminded the officers to wear their name badges.

Quartet Promotion Chairman - See the Program V.P. report

Program V.P. - Plans for Quartet Night, June 21 are being finalized. Fifty- one members and guests attended the outing at Frank Shaw's farm on June 12. Grubb will draft a letter of "thanks" to Shaw for the

WARNING

E-mail forwarded by Steve Grubb

This e-mail was forwarded to Steve from a reliable source.

Warning: Received a call today from an individual identifying himself as an AT&T Service Technician. Who was conducting a test on our telephone lines. He stated that to complete the test I should touch nine (9) zero (0) the pound sign (#) then hang up. Fortunately, I was suspicious and refused. Upon contacting the telephone company I was informed that by pushing 90# you give the requesting individual full access to your telephone line, which allows them to place long distance telephone calls billed to your home phone number.

I was further informed that this scam has been originating from local jails/prisons. I have also verified this information with UCB telecom; Pacific Bell, MCI, Bell Atlantic, GTE and NYNEX please beware.

DO NOT press 90# for any one. The GTE security department requested that I share this information with Everyone I know. Please pass this on to everyone YOU know.

.....

Year 2000 Checklist

While we are warning you. This bit of information came from a financial institution I deal with.

Educate Yourself About Y2K: Find out what your financial institutions are doing to prepare for the year 2000.

Keep Copies of Your Financial Records: As always, you should keep good records of your financial transactions, especially for the last few months of 1999 and until you get several statements in 2000.

Pay Attention to Your Finances: Balance your checkbook regularly. When you receive a transaction receipt, check it for accuracy and save it to compare against your statement. It's also smart to review your credit report to make sure it doesn't contain inaccurate information.

Make Prudent Preparations: Remember all your payments options (checks, credit cards, etc.) in the event that one doesn't work as planned. The Federal Reserve has plans to ensure that there will be sufficient cash available for consumers. If you decide to withdraw money, make reasonable decisions based on solid information; don't put yourself at risk of being robbed or losing valuable dividend payments. You may also wish to consider traveler's checks as an alternative to cash.

BE ON GUARD AGAINST Y2K SCAMS: Be skeptical if someone asks for your account information or tries to sell you a product, service or investment that's supposedly Y2K "safe". Protect your personal information, including bank/credit union account, credit card and social security numbers.

DISTRICT CALENDAR OF EVENTS

1999

- June 12 Spartanburg, SC — Show
June 19 Wilmington, NC — Show
October 1 - 3 Dixie Fall Convention — Birmingham, AL
Nov. 6 Charlotte, NC (B28) — Show
Nov. 6 Pinehurst, NC — Show

2000

- March 17 - 19 Dixie Spring Convention — International Prelims — Greenville, SC
October 6 - 8 Dixie Fall Convention — Knoxville, TN

2001

- March 16 - 18 Dixie Spring Convention — International Prelims — Greenville, SC
July 1 - 8 SPEBSQSA International Convention — Nashville, TN
October 5 - 7 Dixie Fall Convention — Chattanooga, TN

It's Your Business Lamar Owens

Pitiful! That is the only word in the dictionary to describe the attendance at our last engagement, Patten Towers. Sixteen of us showed up to sing for the folks at the Towers. When we decided to take this engagement there were at least twenty hands that went up to say they would be there. What happened? It was very disappointing to see such a dismal turnout. Maybe we need to pass around a sign up sheet to decide if we want to commit ourselves to these engagements. What do you think?



On a more joyous note, wasn't the performance for the 625th Tank Destroyer Battalion a hoot. Come on, I know it was hot, it was humid and we were crowded, but, didn't they enjoy the show and weren't they a good audience. It makes all the discomfort irrelevant when your audience appreciates your efforts. What made it even better was to have James Coulter visit and sing with us.

Our next performance is for NHC-Rossville, Georgia. They are located on McFarland Avenue. We voted and agreed to perform for them at 7:00 P. M. on Tuesday, July 13. If you raised your hand to say you would be there we hope you will make every effort to keep your commitment.

The folks at Creekside at Shallowford would like for us to perform a Christmas show for them December 16. We voted at our June 29 meeting to accept this engagement. This is a paid performance.

Coming events

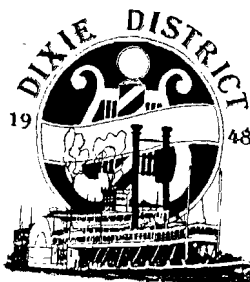
6:30 P. M. July 13-NHC McFarland Avenue, Rossville, Georgia

7:30 P. M. August-21 Summer show-Chattanooga State

7:00 P. M. Sept. 9-Elderfest, Cartersville, Georgia, Paid

3:00 P. M. Dec. 12-Chattanooga Bicentennial Library, Paid

6:30 P. M. Dec. 16-Creekside at Shallowford, Paid



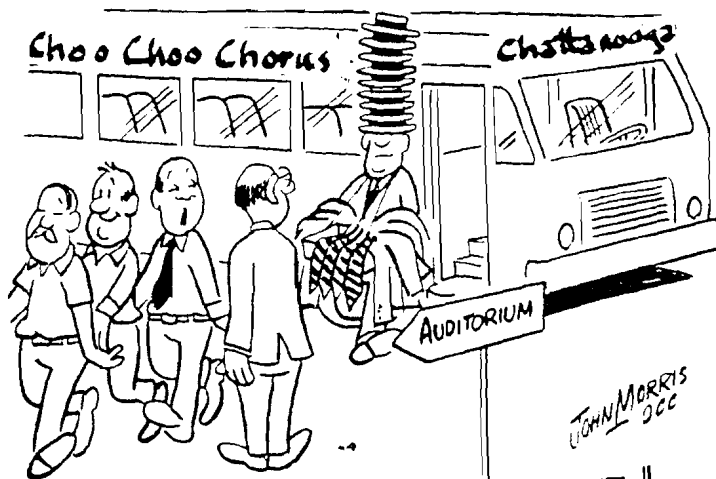
Choo Choo Haberdasher's Shop

Lamar Owens, Wardrobe Manager

Since I have been associated with the chorus I have never seen an official listing of the uniforms of the chorus. Listed is my feeble effort to correct that oversight.

Remember that uniform "C" is the one being considered for change at the present time.

As stated at the last chorus practice, the Belles Have been asked to help us come up with a suitable Ensemble to replace this uniform. In the meantime This will give you and our newer members an official List to work with.



Chattanooga Choo Choo Chorus Official Uniforms

A# Black tuxedo, wing collar white tux shirt with black studs, purple bow tie and cummerbund black Patent leather shoes with black socks.

Tuxedo with expansion pants \$117.00

Wing collar white tux shirt \$15.75

Purple tie and cummerbund \$10.00

(All of the above are ordered from Tuxedo Wholesalers by the chapter and your cost is approx. \$75.00.)

Black patent shoes \$35.00 (Mitchel's Formal Wear)

Bb Red Blazer, black tux pants, lay down collar white tux shirt, black bow tie, black patent shoes with black socks

Red polyester blazer \$94.75 (We order you pay, Hardwick Clothes.)

Lay down collar white tux shirt \$16.95. (available locally or order from Tuxedo Wholesalers)

Black bow tie \$6.00. (Same as above)

C# Dark blue chorus shirt with logo, khaki pants with brown belt, dark socks and a brown shade of shoes.

Blue chorus shirt. We supply

Khaki pants \$18.00 (Wal-Mart, Farrah)

(* Editors Note: This uniform "C" is the one considered for change, due to the many shades and hues of the khaki color)

Frequently used but not official uniforms

D Colored sweat shirt with Christmas design, with white collared shirt under, white pants, white shoes and socks, white web belt and brass buckle.

We order the sweatshirt and your cost approximately \$17.00.

E Dark blue chorus shirt with logo, white pants, white web belt with brass buckle, white shoes and blue socks.

Dark blue chorus shirt with logo, same as C#.

White pants (Life Uniform, \$28.00)

White web belt and buckle (Brainerd Army Store, approx. \$10.00)

White shoes (Tennis or running shoes)

Quartets

Quartets, quartets, Quartets. What an array of every size shape and form. I'm not talking vowels I'm talking bodies. I'm talking smiles, I'm talking "FUN".

Bill Slack, what a great job, what performances. Have you ever seen the likes of it? Congratulations, Bill it was one of the best! What a coincidence that on that night, the Blender delivered an article by Ray Scroggins. His unpublished letter to the Harmonizer, that I found in Stone Mountain's bulletin, "Rock Tock".

BANG! Ray hit the nail right on the head, when he stated, "we seem to have lost the ability to sing just for fun—the whole reason this society was started! have we lost our way?"

Well brother Slack sure brought the "FUN" back the other night. Even the ones, who usually slip out after the refreshment break, stayed to enjoy the evening.

Wouldn't this be a great way to introduce barbershopping on visitor's night?

In my ten years of membership, some visitors' nights (to put it mildly) have been... BORING!!

Excruciating, as one droned on and on about the fundamentals. Completely forgetting the first three letters of that word... F.U.N.

The "FUN" of singing. The "FUN" of fellowship. The "FUN" of hearing a ringing chord. The "FUN" of barbershopping.

There are a lot of great voices hiding in the shelter of the risers. Singing note for note technically. Missing the "FUN" of expressing themselves vocally. Missing the "FUN" of hamming it up. Missing the "FUN" of expressing yourself in song.

As Roy says "We don't have to get matching socks and enter the contest."

The number of quartets Bill put together was amazing. Just think how many we can use this coming February.

Now that you have stuck your toe in and tested the waters it's not so bad after all, is it?

If you think it was "FUN" performing before the chorus, You ought to try quarteting on Valentines Day! Hey, there is no feeling like it. The reaction of the recipient is out of this world. Some get so carried away they want to lay a fat juicy one on you. And that's just the guys!! But I digress, give it a try come February.

I sure would like it if some of you would write a few words on your impressions of "FUN" night. The membership would love to hear how you reacted to your few minutes of fame.

What more can I say about Bill Slack. His titillating comments as he introduced (and named) each foursome makes him a prime candidate for M.C. at the next International Competition. This guy should go far....and we hope it's soon!...but not before he puts together another night like the one we just experienced. Thanks Bill, it was outstanding.



It's Show Time



Are You Ready ?

Quartet Night Big Success

By Bill Slack



On June 21, 1999 the chapter meeting was devoted entirely to quarteting. The initial "warm-up" quartets were randomly composed as four members walked in, and each quartet was required to sing a polecat song or show tune.

The "serious" competition was then held following the business meeting. There were seven quartets, which competed for real prizes. First place went to "Hobby Harmonies", composed of Hobby Thomas, lead, Fred Jesse, tenor, Benny Malone, baritone and David Cawlfeld, bass. The second place quartet was "Chuck Sings Bari", composed of Chuck Wilson, baritone, Barry Owens, bass, Rick Kulp, tenor, Will?, lead. [editors note: when Slack filed this brief he omitted surnames. Hope he does better when he's in court. So it may have been Will McDaniels or Will Rogers] The third place quarter was "4 Feet in the Grave", featuring the talents of Wheeler, Weaver, Abercrombie and Jesse.

The evening demonstrated that there was a lot of talent in the Chattanooga Choo Choo chapter, and that quarteting is a lot of fun.



Your as Welcome as the flowers in May

It may have been in May, but in June we really bloomed
What a welcome as we saw Larry Huber walking into the
rehearsal room.
It's been over two years since he left our regular rehearsal
And had that terrible accident at the I-24 / US-27 intersection.
The massive injuries, the coma, all hope given up.
But, through the many prayers and his tenacity. There he stood.
Joining us in that song of welcome.
His speech a bit labored, his gait slow. Needing the assistance
of a walker.
The look of pure enjoyment, as he sang and felt those words.
"Come along and sing your cares away".
"Where good fellowship and song holds sway".
That was more than just lyrics. That was a statement!
A statement of his perserverence!
A statement of his stamina!
A statement of his desire!
The poet Robert W. Service said this about perserverence.
It's easy to cry that you're beaten and die;
It's easy to crawlfish and crawl;
But to fight and to fight
When hopes out of sight
Why, that's the best game of all
And though you come out each grueling bout
All broken and beaten and scarred—
Just have one more try. It's dead easy to die;
It's keeping on living that's hard.

Robert W. Service



You Cant Keep A Good Man Down !

Patton Towers

The Patton Hotel, a once prestigious hostelry. No longer the stopping off place for visiting celebrities. Where Chattanooga debutantes were introduced into society The residence of James R. Hoffa, when they held one of his trials. Now a shop worn old lady. A government subsidized housing for seniors. Our sing-out was dissapointing. We warmed-up in the craft room NO A/C! Then someone locked us in, I guess we didn't meet their expectations. After a few bars of "Open the Door Richard" and some pounding, we were released. Arriving in, what was once a ballroom on the mezzanine floor. We found four people sitting there and three fans used to cool the area. The crowd soon swelled to seventeen, (that's counting the three sitting out side the room) The temperature equaled the 90 degrees or more of the outdoors. Could be the reason we had only seventeen from this five story housing tower. They either staid in their air-conditioned rooms, or they were out looking for Jimmy Hoffa. We still were well received and thanked by all Whats that old showbiz saying? "There are no small parts." Just small audiences I Guess. We had an abundance of leads, seven. What happened to all those others? Dave Collins did a great Job of Directing. Lets hope we get everybody out for the NHC gig.

ALL ABOARD!!



N.H.C. Rossville, Singout

The singout was pretty well attended, I would liked to have seen a few more faces on the risers.

Earle Fraser's absence I can understand. At his age he probably was afraid they'd keep there.

As a regular visitor to nursing homes. I would again like to point out to the music committee or who makes the decision on our performance package. How much thought is given to the type of audience we will be performing to? The package should not be a "One Size Fits All" product.

We should have a different program when we visit Nursing Homes or residences for the elderly.

If you noticed, they do not show a lot of interest in some of our repertoire and none what so ever in the history or the reason for the SPEBSQSA lettering. Some of these poor souls are lost in a different time warp and the only thing that gets through is a familiar tune or lyric.

Take notice next time we sing at these places. The only time these residents perk up and come to some sense of reality, are when religious music is presented and they can sing along.

After all at their ages how much "Nearer My God To Thee" can one get.

In this issue "FERD'S WORDS" hit's the nail right on the head. "to keep the whole world singing, we must keep the whole world singing."

When we sang "The Battle Hymn" and "God Bless America" had you checked out the audience, you would have seen lips moving and feet tapping. What does that tell you!

I ran into Lamar Green today and we discussed the performance. Now as you all know, Ol' Digger has visited many, many homes of this type, both in his profession and because he's the type of guy he is. Filled with compassion and respect for the elderly. He agreed with me, how residents love religious music, and how they react to it.

So lets review our package and give the audience what they would love to hear and want.



J.W. Kirk's Eager Helpers

What Happened to Them

Submitted by Steve Grubbs

Have you ever wondered what happened to the 56 men who signed the Declaration of Independence? Five signers were captured by the British as traitors and tortured before they died. Twelve had their homes ransacked and burned. Two lost their sons serving in the Revolutionary Army; another had two sons captured.

Nine of the 56 fought and died of wounds or hardships of the Revolutionary War.

They signed and pledged their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor. What kind of men were they?

Twenty-four were lawyers and jurists, eleven were merchants, and nine were farmers and large plantation owners. Men of means, well educated. But they signed the Declaration of Independence knowing full well that the penalty would be death if they were captured.

Carter Baxton of Virginia, a wealthy planter and trader had his ships swept from the seas by the British Navy. He sold his home and properties to pay his debts and died in rags. Thomas McKean was so hounded by the British he was forced to leave his family almost constantly, he served in Congress without pay, and his family was kept in hiding. His property was taken from him and poverty was his reward.

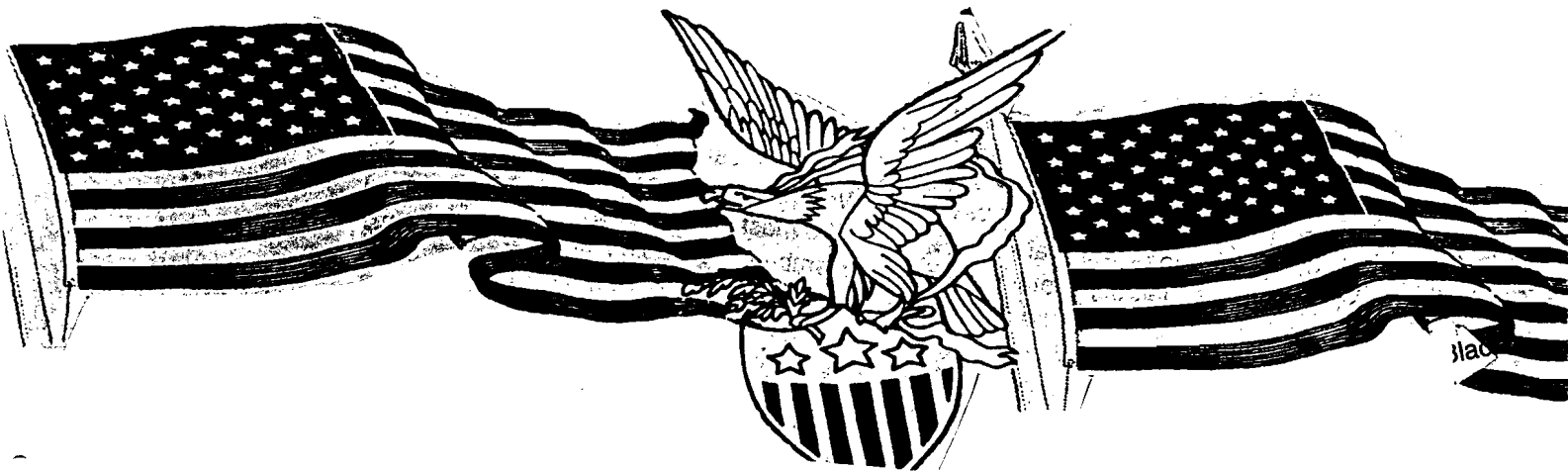
Vandals or soldiers looted the properties of Dillery, Hall, Clymer, Walton, Gwinnett, Heyward, Rutledge and Middletown.

At the battle of Yorktown, Thomas Nelson Jr. noted that British General Cornwallis had taken over the Nelson home for his headquarters. He quietly urged General George Washington to open fire. The home was destroyed and Nelson died bankrupt. Francis Lewis had his home and properties destroyed. The enemy jailed his wife and she died within a few months. John Hart was driven from his wife's bedside as she was dying. Their thirteen children fled for their lives. His fields and gristmill were laid to waste. For more than a year he lived in forests and caves, returning home to find his wife dead his children vanished, a few weeks later he died from exhaustion and a broken heart. Norris and Livingston suffered similar fates.

Such were the stories and sacrifices of the American Revolution. They were not wild-eyed, rabble rousing ruffians. They were men of means and education. They had security but valued liberty more. Standing tall straight and unwavering they pledged "For the support of this Declaration with firm reliance the protection of the divine providence we mutually pledge to each other our lives our fortunes and sacred honor"

They gave you and me a free and independent America. The history books never told you a lot of what happened in the Revolutionary War. We didn't just fight the British. We were British subjects at that time and we fought for our own government!

Some of us take those liberties so much for granted. We shouldn't. So take a couple of minutes while enjoying your Fourth of July holiday and silently thank those patriots. It's not much to ask for the price they paid.



Get With the Program

Steve Grubb Program VP

Hope this article finds everyone working on their music for our big show in August. It's only a month away and we have miles to go before we sleep. RADIO is a great show, but only if we present it as such. We need the cash this year to pay for all our meeting room improvements. So lets be selling tickets and ads. Ads are a North vs. South encounter this year, and I plan to be on the winning team this time around and hear those "Damn Yankees" sing Dixie to us at the afterglow. Come on Johnny Reb sell those ads.

If you haven't already, thank Mr. Slack for an excellent night of Quartet Fun in June. What a good turn out and everybody really enjoyed themselves. We'll try this again in the fall/winter should Bill be willing, so be planning your quartet strategy now.

Are you missing a member you haven't seen for a while? Maybe they're not coming because we haven't told them we miss them. Look around and see who's not there and give them a call.

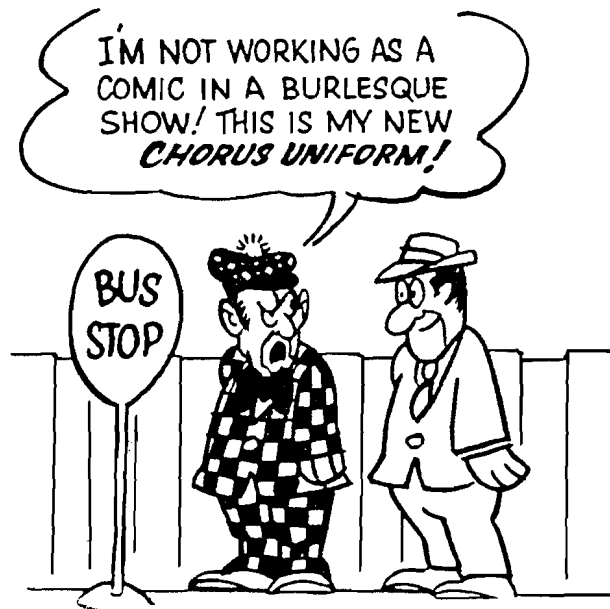
Our new member growth is going well with our latest additions; Hobby, Lonnie and Ronnie, but we need to retain what we already have. Attrition is taking its toll on our ranks, and we need to bring'em back. In addition if you know a bass singer who would enjoy our hobby, invite him and lets grow this section (in number not size) We are missing that foundation as a chorus to produce a quality sound at times because we have an embarrassment of riches (numbers anyway) in the lead section.

We should have a new casual uniform soon for your consideration. Please voice your preferences and let's actually get a "uniform" decision on this issue. We all need to wear the same thing at the same time to look like a professional amateur group. The Belles have been asked to help us with this so we know we'll look better than we do now.

What a great outing we had at the Davis House in Kensington. Thanks to Sam and Bernard for getting us in touch with Frank and making it possible for us to enjoy the day there. As always, the Belles did a great job coordinating the food. Our host was gracious and did enjoy our company. Maybe we'll get to go back someday.

At the other end of the spectrum was the singout at Patton Towers. More of us than them for most of the performance. For a song and a half there were 17 in the audience to the 16 men singing. This speaks to both questionable booking and poor commitment to singouts. If we don't want to do these gigs lets decide before we go out in such weak numbers. Let's be consistent in taking gigs also, how big a difference is Tullahoma to Cartersville in miles anyway? Both of these were paid performances that we need to be doing. Forget the bus and carpool to our destination. This should make "away" gigs easier to commit to. Whether paid or free we owe our audiences (and ourselves) a better showing than what we did that day. If you know of some better way to boost outings and get commitments share this with Lamar.

That's probably more than you ever wanted to read, so till next time. Keep the Whole World Singing.



FERDS WORDS FOR JULY

In a previous article I noted that my sister and I attended the World Championship Old Time Piano Playing contest last Memorial Day. Other than the contest, one of the highlights of the weekend is the evening Sing Along program. Song sheets with words to many of the old songs are passed out, and all are encouraged to join in the singing. A pianist will play the song, often in ragtime style, and the audience will sing along.

My sister sings baritone with the Gem City Chorus in the Dayton Ohio Sweet Adeline chapter. She also sings in a quartet that often does performances in the daytime in the Dayton area. She described the songs and performance package of her quartet. Part of the package is a sing along with the audience, which is especially enjoyed by folks in retirement and nursing homes. It is often these folks who know and have sung these songs in the past and enjoy singing them again.

Last weekend, the Rock City 4 sang for a church group in Tullahoma. We were asked before we started if they could sing too. We said that they could join in on one song. It was God Bless America that we sang at the end of the program, and they spontaneously stood to sing with us.

I relate the incidents to say this. If we want to keep the whole world singing, then we must keep the whole world singing! We must encourage our audience to sing some of the songs with us. We are doing this with God Bless America, but it is just one song. How many times have you watched audience members mouth the words as we sing? Maybe they are humming the tune too. Last Friday on the barge, did you notice the lady who was saying the words to the verse of God Bless America as we sang it? I mentioned it to her later.

I admit that not everyone in the audience likes to or wants to sing. But perhaps we could put together a program for just such an audience that wants to sing. Maybe we could note that we have such a program and advise the requester if that sort of a program is desired. We would not necessarily need a barbershop arrangement of all these songs, but we would just sing the melody and woodshed some harmony.

What do you think? Let me know if this is something we could or would like to do. The Music Committee could then work on it.



Is There A Need?

It has been concluded that members of the "leadership team" do not suffer from, or afflicted with circumstantiation. Far from it, when a request for articles arise, the hebetudinous demeanor exhibited would make the worlds champion procrastinator envious.

Another conclusion. They are environmentalists who wish to reduce pulp-cutting operations in an effort to save the "Rain Forests"

One ponders. Is there a need for a chapter bulletin?

If it was published with only articles submitted by officers reporting on their disciplines, it could be printed on a Zig-Zag cigarette paper. Aha. You say, more rodomontading by our senescent redactor.

Nay,nay I say. Let us review the year's previous publications. You will note contributions from officers reporting on their specific discipline have been lame. Lame?... Hey! They have been almost non-existent.

Only four have graced these pages. One has been consistent and caring in passing on news regarding his department obligations. Three others have submitted one article each pertaining to their disciplines.

When one sees eighteen leadership names listed on the last page, the conclusion tells us the average is malodorous. Again the question. Do we need a chapter bulletin?

How about..... To Inform!

To Record!

To Reflect!

To Recognize!

To Promote!

To Recruit!

To Retain!

To Educate!

To Encourage!

Well, there are nine reasons that come to mind.

Now, you tell me what is the need.

Editors Note: This vituperation comes on "D" day and only two officers have submitted articles on their respective office.





Something to Crow About

Pat Crowe , Editor

June was a month that brought on some great times and some actions that brought questions from a few of the members.

Question : Why do we wear our tuxes in this hot weather?

Question : What guarantee do we have on the reimbursement of the cash advance to Cleveland?

Have their internal problems been resolved ?

If their expenses are not met, as sponsor, what are our liabilities?

Will they have their own sets, riser's etc.?

Should this have been brought before the membership for discussion?

A member approached me at our last rehearsal who's question was. What is the real problem with our association with Cleveland? Rumors abound, whether barbershop ethics were disregarded in the handling of their internal strife and power struggle.

Editors note: If someone will give me the answer to these, I'll print them and get it all behind us

: Therefore, putting away lying. "Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor," for we are members of one another. Ephesians 4: 25

The great time was the get together we had at Frank Shaw's, Martin Davis House. Now I have a question . Why oh why don't we have more of these social functions? It is so nice to have a fun time with the ladies of our life. Plus, they sure know how to feed us!

What about quartet night? Was that GREAT ? I've never seen so many smiling faces.

This month's front page is dedicated to all those quartets who performed at Slack's quartet night. Lets not wait too long before we do it again.

Now I know why there is the question regarding the wearing of tuxes in the this heat.

Friday June 25 we were sweating to the oldies . Not only was our repitore old, our audience was up there too. The 630th. Tank Destroyer Battalion Reunion.

The barge on the river is a very nice setting but those risers were awfully close to the rail, (Too darn close for me!) and the top step of the riser was "HIGHER" than the rail! One miss step during "Keep it Simple", would have sent me to the deep six to meet the "Many Brave Souls Asleep in the Deep".

What a nice surprise to see James Coulter all the way from Omaha, so glad Paul invited him up on the risers to join us. I wonder if he still is a Vol fan? Or is he out there shucking corn with all those parolees on the Cornhuskers.

It was a shock to read in the June issue of Nashville's Music City News, George Luken, the tall terrific bass of Yesterday Today, suffered a stroke after their June 7th rehearsal. The word is it was a slight stroke and he is improving.

I'm sure if you sent a card to him C/O Ron Hesketh, chapter bulletin editor. 7122 Waynes Lane NW, Fairview, TN 37062 it will be passed on to him.

Ferds Words in this issue has brought up a good point. Let the music committee know your opinion. I believe it is one more way to get our audiences interested in and talking about our great hobby. Word of mouth advertising. What greater PR is there? And it doesn't cost us a penny!!

Speaking of pennies. While trying to keep printing costs down is the reason we ran out of copies of issue #5. The # 4 issue had many copies left over. I've had requests for that issue. We will re-print a limited number. "OY VEH!" there goes my budget.



Your 1999 Leadership Team

President	Bernard Wheeler	[706]-638-4013
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Chapt Developement	Rick Kulp	[423]-875-9251
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Heartspring	Brooks Gist	[423]-892-7191
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Equipt. Manager	Pete Jones	[706]-861-2113
Choo Choo Belles	Audrey Gist	[423]-892-7191

The Blender
Pat Crowe, Editor
145 Green Ct.
Chickamauga, GA.
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Everybody has an opinion....Express yours in the Blender.

The Blender

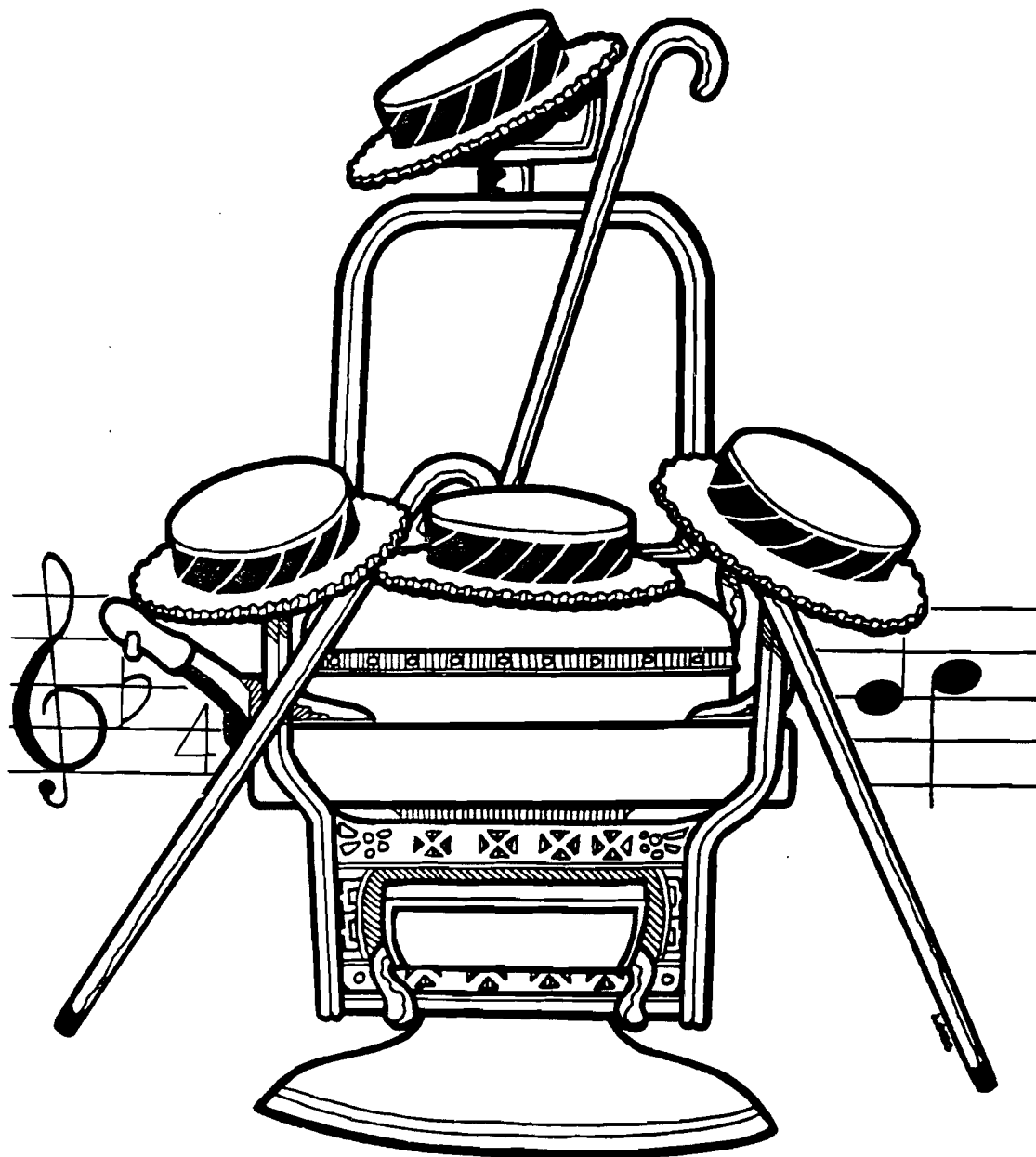
The Official Publication of the Chattanooga Chapter
of the
Society For The Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in
America

~~Chattanooga, Tennessee~~

Dixie District

Volume 8 No.7

The chapter meets every Monday, 7:00 p.m. All Saints Academy 310 E. 8th Street Chattanooga





HEARTSPRING

Campbell's Labels for Education

What to Save and Bring to Chapter Meetings

<u>PRODUCT</u>	<u>PACKAGE</u>	<u>WHAT TO SAVE</u>
Campbell's Beans Products	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Chunky Soups	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Condensed Soups	Can	Front Label Panel
BONUS BRAND! Campbell's Condensed Soups (26 oz.)	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Soups in 24oz. Glass Jars or Simply Home Soups	Glass Jar	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Healthy Request Soups	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Home Cookin' Soups	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Low Sodium Soups	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Microwave Soups	Tub	Plastic Lid /Cap
Campbell's Soup & Recipe Mixes	Carton	Bottom Pane with UPC Symbol
Campbell's Tomato Juices	Aluminum Can	Cash Register tape w/product name circled
Campbell's Tomato Juices	Bottle	Lid
Campbell's Tomato Juices	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Healthy Request Tomato Juices	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Healthy Request Tomato Juices	Bottle	Lid
Franco-American Gravies	Can	Front Label Panel
Franco-American SpaghettiO's and Pastas	Can	Front Label Panel
Pace Picante Sauces, Queso, and Thick & Chunky Salsa Jar		Lid
Pace Squeezable Picante	Bottle	Lid
Pepperidge Farm Breads, Croutons, Rolls, Stuffing	Bag/Carton	UPC Symbol
Pepperidge Farm Cookies, Crackers, Goldfish and Snack Mixes.	Bag/Carton	UPC Symbol
Pepperidge Farm Frozen Garlic Breads, Cakes, Turnovers, Dumplings, and Puff Pastry	Carton	UPC Symbol
Pepperidge Farm Soups	Can	Front Label Panel
BONUS BRAND! Prego (48 oz.) Spaghetti Sauces	Jar/bottle	Front Label Panel
Prego Spaghetti Sauces	Jjar/bottle	Front Label Panel
Swanson Broths	Can	Front Label Panel
Swanson Broths	Carton	UPC symbol
Swanson Poultry	Can (Paper Label)	Front Label Panel
Swanson Poultry	Can (Litho Label)	Cash Register tape w/ product name circled
V8 100% Vegetable Juices	32 oz. Glass Bottle	Lid
V8 100% Vegetable Juices	10 oz. Glass Bottle	Front Label Panel
V8 100% Vegetable Juices	Can	Front Label Panel
V8 Healthy Request 100% Vegetable Juices	Bottle	Front Label Panel
V8 Healthy Request 100% Vegetable Juices	Can	Front Label Panel
V8 Splash	Bottle	Front Label Panel
V8 Splash	Aluminum Can	Cash Register tape w/ product name circled



CAMPBELL'S FOOD SERVICE PRODUCTS

Campbell's Foodservice Soups (50 oz.)	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Chef's Kettle Soups (50 oz.)	Can	Front Label Panel
Swanson Foodservice Broths (49.5 oz)	Can	Front Label Panel
V8 Splash (Full cases only —24 cans/case)	Aluminum Can	2-code numbers from Outer Case

Campbell's, Chef's Kettle, Franco-American, Goldfish, Healthy Request, Home Cookin', Pace, Pepperidge Farm, Prego, Simply Home, SpaghettiOs, Swanson, V8, and V8 Splash are all registered trademarks of Campbell Soup Co.

Birthdays

Audrey Gist August 10 Lindy Blazek August 20
Clarence Wall August 20 J.W. Kink August 28

Congratulations

Anniversaries

David & Carol Collins August 7
J.W. & Joy Kink August 10
Dan & Kathleen Bruns August 19
Bernard & Glenda Peek August 21

Another candle in your cake?
Well, that's no cause to spout,
Be glad that you have the strength enough
To blow the darn thing out.



Rejected Hallmark Cards

From Steve Grubb's E-Mail

My tire was thumping,
I thought it was a flat...
When I looked at the tire,
I noticed your cat, (Sorry)

You had your bladder removed,
And now you're on the mends...
Here's a bouquet of flowers,
And a box of Depends.

Your computer is dead
It was once so alive..
Don't you regret installing
Windows 95?

You totaled your car
and can't remember why.
Could it have been
That case of Bud Dry?

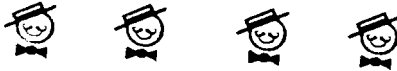
Heard your wife left you
How upset you must be
But don't fret about it
She moved in with me!

You've announced that you're gay,
Won't that be a laugh..
When they find out you're one of
The Joint Chiefs of Staff.



We Get Letters

Editors Note : I've started the practice of sending copies of the BLENDER to members who have relocated out of the area. This is a response from James Coulter, thought you'd find it of interest.



August 3, 1999

Pat Crowe
145 Green Court
Chickamauga, Ga. 30707

Dear Pat,

What a pleasure to hear from you through the "Blender" each month here in Omaha. I appreciate very much the time you take in putting these articles together.

I am involved in the Omaha Chapter somewhat :

- (1) Board member
- (2) Senior Class Qt.
- (3) Valentine Chairman
- (4) Uniform Committee
- (5) Convention Chairman

It never seems to stop, Pat, but I enjoy this great hobby still like I did when I was in Chattanooga.

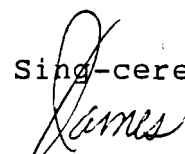
It was a real pleasure to drop in on you at your sing-out on the river especially to get the opportunity to sing the 2 closing numbers with the chorus. What timing! Also to get to sing with my old quartet, Rock City 4. It is great to see them doing so well.

I hope to see several of you next summer in Kansas City at International here in the mid-west. It is only a 3 hour drive from Omaha.

I plan on being through Chattanooga this November 3-6 on the way to the UT-Notre Dame football game. I still have my season tickets. My colors are still Big Orange. Last year it was a pleasure to rub it in on the Cornhuskers with UT winning the national crown.

I still miss you guys on Monday nights, what memories!!

Sincerely,


James Coulter

A cartoon drawing of a man's head with a wide, happy smile. A speech bubble coming from his mouth contains the word "WOW!" in bold, capital letters.

What a thrill to be present when barbershop history is made. Never before has a strictly comedy quartet won the Gold Medal as the best quartet in the world.

And for a quartet from Dixie District, well that was the icing on the cake. Not since the 1956 Confederates has a Dixie quartet won the contest. The judges in the pit finally agreed with the crowd and chose FRED as number one. FRED wasn't afraid to push the envelope as it was with a parody of the judges on the last night of the contest. BOY! That takes guts.

Riptide and Jeff Selano*, one of our past coaches, came in eleventh. They were the mic testers on Saturday night. They sang all six of their prepared songs. Last year they finished in the 22nd slot.

The Saturday night show was outstanding. Performing was the 4th place BSQ, FRED. Riptide and a small chorus of schoolboys. The boys were talented and diverse with about half the guys African-American; something this society needs for future growth. As usual, I had to make sure I didn't eat myself to death.

Dean Eric King and Dixie President Thom Hine were a little disappointed with the turnout. When I first became a member of the Chattanooga chorus years ago, many of the members went to Clemson. I remember driving down with Don Bruce and Scott McKenzie. Even at 90 plus years Jesse Stiencipher also attended. At \$90.00 it's a bargain. Next year make a note to mark the third weekend of July and go to this "Fabulous" school.

Editors Note: * Jeff is a another fine Canadian. his Daddy is from my hometown. And knows which side is Up on the Canadian flag.

****** Enjoyed is Barry's term. After the first night of Barry's snoring, David said the only way he got to sleep on the second night was to kiss Barry goodnight. Barry stayed awake all night just watching.



Why Be in a Quartet ?

By Bill Slack



A very common question asked by members is " why should I be in a quartet?" For those of us who have participated in a formal or informal quartet, the answers are many and varied. However , all participants would agree first, quarteting is great fun. As a quartet member you alone are responsible for your part, your words, your notes , and your vowels, and there is great pride and satisfaction when you , not just your section of your chorus,did a good job.

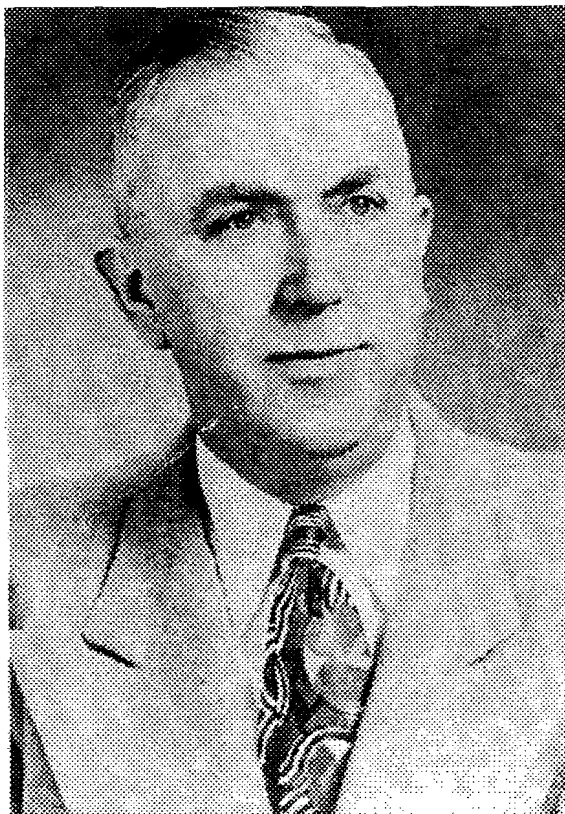
Secondly, quarteteing makes you a better singer, because you can not lean upon your neighbor for your notes. Gentle and sometimes not so gentle reminders from the other quartet members about our bad habits or deficiencies can carry through to chorus singing and/or solo performances.

Thirdly, quartets sing the songs they want to, not what the music vice president, or the music committee, or the director tells them to sing. Quartets can chose to be funny or serious, sing fast or slow, as they desire.

Try singing in a quartet, either before or after chapter meetings. Invite three other chapter members to your house. or meet them at All Saints just for a fun night of singing your songs. you will find it fun, very rewarding, and even habit forming.



Be A Singer-Bringer!



Owen C. Cash, an attorney from Tulsa, Oklahoma, founded the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc. in 1938. He was not an authority on the subject of four-part harmony, but was a public relations genius who loved singing and good fellowship.

A person of uncommon talents was needed to awaken quartetting in America. Owen C. Cash was that man. A public relations genius, organizer and inspirer of men, it was his dream in 1938 to revive and perpetuate the singing of old familiar songs in the Barbershop style. He, and the early pioneers of S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A., succeeded so well that 50 years later some 40,000 members of "The Society" meet regularly in the United States and Canada in more than 800 locations. Beyond that, Barbershop singing, in greater or lesser degree, has spread to the British Isles, Scandinavia, Holland, New Zealand and Australia. What began as the Society's theme song, "Keep America Singing," has now become "Keep the Whole World Singing."

The story of the genesis of S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. goes like this: In the beginning there were two Tulsa businessmen - Owen Cash and Rupert Hall. In the lobby of the Muehlebach Hotel in Kansas City these two men had a chance meeting - both grounded overnight by bad weather that had closed the airport. Here is how CoFounder Hall later described it in a taped oral history interview.

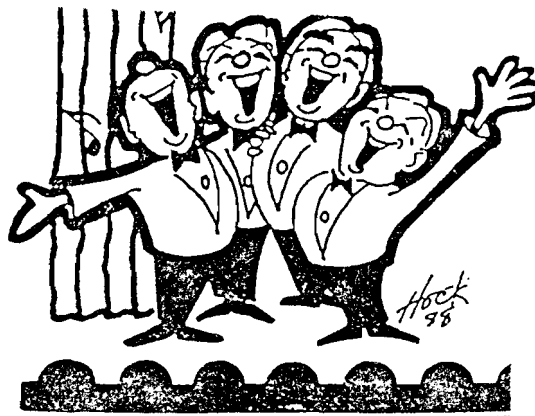
"We were sitting there just passing the time of day. And Owen suggested that he liked Barbershop quartet singing. And I said I knew a bit about it and loved it

he liked Barbershop quartet singing. And I said I knew a bit about it and loved it myself. And he said, 'Let's you and I repose to the bar and hit one'...and we harmonized a couple of soft ones very quietly and Owen said, 'It's just too bad that we can't invite a couple of other fellows so that we could have a quartet.'" And so they did. Legend has it that Cash tipped the bellboy a quarter to round up two other singers in the lobby to make up that first foursome. The Rupert Hall interview now continues with a question. "Was that your original thought - as you sat there talking and harmonizing - to get a society started, or even a local club in Tulsa...?" To this, Hall replied; "Cash's original idea was to have a directory of men in Tulsa who like quartet singing. So I suggested that (back in Tulsa) we'd get together and invite five or ten other men... just for our own fun," The Society's beginning was as simple as that. Owen Cash's dream was a modest one.

Where do dreams come from? Do they relate the past or foretell the future? In biblical times they were regarded as prophetic pronouncements. Surely Owen Cash had no such prophecy in mind - surely not the "explosion" of public interest and acceptance which followed news accounts of those first few Tulsa meetings. Rather it can be assumed that he looked back in fond remembrance to his youth and wished to recapture some of it, for he was the product of small town life in a frontier setting. His sister relates that, "the Cash family arrived in the Cherokee Indian Territory, of what later became Oklahoma, by covered wagon in 1897 when Owen was five years old." Cash often referred back to those early years. Writing in *The Harmonizer* of December 1943, he pointed out that Barbershop quartet singing was "in vogue" when he was a boy. In another issue he speaks of his own quartet in 1910 (he was then age 18) consisting of four players on the local baseball team who would gather 'round the home plate and sing.

In addition to quartet singing, young Cash played in his hometown band, known as the Blue Jacket (Oklahoma) "Silver Cornet Band." His wife reported that he also played the violin in younger years - a fact never mentioned in earlier biographical accounts of the founder.

Thus the earlier environment of O. C. Cash was both neighborly and musical. He was at heart a country boy, believing in the simple virtues and pleasures of life so typical of the American of his day. At one point he wrote in *The Harmonizer*, "There is nothing wrong with our form of government that the good old-fashioned Gay '90s idea of thrift, pride, honesty, energy and neighborliness will not cure."



GO! GO!
Go Man GO!!

Blender Deadline

Sept 20th

N'yah!
N'yah!

HOW ABOUT
SHOWING A LITTLE
MORE ACTION!



Something to Crow About

Pat Crowe, Editor

In the hope of receiving late breaking news on the show, this month's deadline was held an extra week, due to the extra rehearsals eating in to your busy time schedules.

To paraphrase an old restroom graffiti. "here I sit broken hearted. Waiting for articles you've never started."

Now if you were prepared like that handsome and debonair lead of *Rock City Four*, there would be no problem. I'm sure it must be that in his early years he was a *Boy Scout*. And we all know their motto "**Be Prepared**", or maybe his skills as an attorney when he presented me with articles for the August, September and October issues. OH, WADDA GUY! to emulate. I was so excited and appreciative I didn't take umbrage to his epithet, "Now, get off my back!" Those lawyers are so eloquent when they elucidate. So take a hint from him, it sure will make my job easier.

As it is written in Proverbs 6:9. "How long will you slumber O sluggard. When will you rise from your sleep,"

I recently received a copy of **Showcase**, the Whittier California, **Choralaires**, chapter bulletin. Managing editor is Dave Gunther... Hey, this guys gotta be in seventh heaven!.. or maybe a blackmailer! Why? Well it lists a Showcase production "TEAM" which consists of afore said managing editor, plus two copy editors, two proofing editors, a data entry editor, seven reporters, and various other positions totaling "SIXTEEN" people. MAN-OH-MAN !! how lucky can one guy get!! Like I said: "Here I sit broken hearted, Without any help to get started."

Well lets talk show. Forty-three!, thats right, forty-three smiling faces up on the risers, Well ... maybe forty were smiling, but we put on a great show anyway.

The KROD Jingle quartet, the chapter quartets, the ever beautiful, sexless Fifi, the Bart Holiday players kudos to you all. And what words are there to describe the outstanding performance by "Mr. Coordination" the sound effects man "JOHNNY JACKSON"

Our guest quartet, **PROTOCOL**. I dont need to say a thing. The response from the audience said it all. WOW!! when you hear voices like that it makes you want to go and hide under a rock, afraid that if you open mouth you'll be arrested for impersonating a singer.

Next big event coming up is the contest in Birmingham. Are you ready? Sure would be great if we could get forty-three up on those risers too. Give us a chance to get off the porch and run with the BIG DOGS!

Have a great Labor Day Weekend, and lets get serious about contest.





S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A., together with Campbell's Soup, is a major contributor to Heartspring, formerly the Institute of Logopedics. It is a private, not-for-profit residential school in Wichita, Kansas, serving children ages 5 through 21 who have multiple disabilities. Unique in its emphasis on communication development, Heartspring's programs integrate the education and behavioral sciences to help children with disabilities improve their communication and lifeskills.



"I have a lawyer but he is busy today, singing in a Barbershop Chorus!"

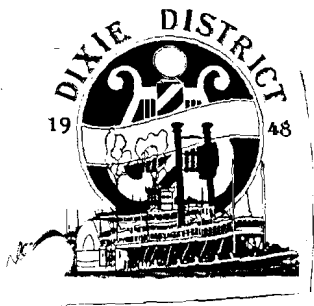


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The Blender
Pat Crowe, Editor
145 Green Ct.
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Everybody has an opinion....Express yours in the Blender.



The Blender

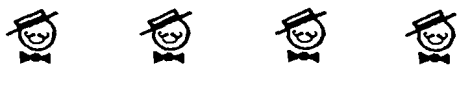
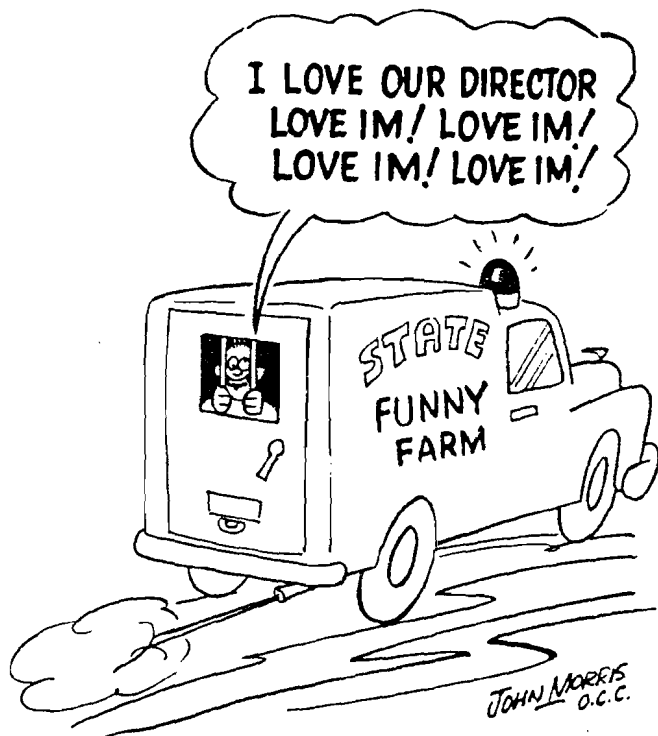
The Official Publication of the Chattanooga Chapter of the
Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America

Chattanooga, Tennessee

Dixie District

Volume 8 No. 9

The chapter meets every Monday, 7:00 PM, All Saints Academy 310 E. 8th St. Chattanooga



**HEARTSPRING**

Campbell's Labels for Education

What to Save and Bring to Chapter Meetings

<u>PRODUCT</u>	<u>PACKAGE</u>	<u>WHAT TO SAVE</u>
Campbell's Beans Products	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Chunky Soups	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Condensed Soups	Can	Front Label Panel
BONUS BRAND! Campbell's Condensed Soups (26 oz.)	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Soups in 24oz. Glass Jars or Simply Home Soups	Glass Jar	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Healthy Request Soups	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Home Cookin' Soups	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Low Sodium Soups	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Microwave Soups	Tub	Plastic Lid /Cap
Campbell's Soup & Recipe Mixes	Carton	Bottom Pane with UPC Symbol
Campbell's Tomato Juices	Aluminum Can	Cash Register tape w/product name circled
Campbell's Tomato Juices	Bottle	Lid
Campbell's Tomato Juices	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Healthy Request Tomato Juices	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Healthy Request Tomato Juices	Bottle	Lid
Franco-American Gravies	Can	Front Label Panel
Franco-American SpaghettiO's and Pastas	Can	Front Label Panel
Pace Picante Sauces, Queso, and Thick & Chunky Salsa	Jar	Lid
Pace Squeezable Picante	Bottle	Lid
Pepperidge Farm Breads, Croutons, Rolls, Stuffing	Bag/Carton	UPC Symbol
Pepperidge Farm Cookies, Crackers, Goldfish and Snack Mixes.	Bag/Carton	UPC Symbol
Pepperidge Farm Frozen Garlic Breads, Cakes, Turnovers, Dumplings, and Puff Pastry	Carton	UPC Symbol
Pepperidge Farm Soups	Can	Front Label Panel
BONUS BRAND! Prego (48 oz.) Spaghetti Sauces	Jar/bottle	Front Label Panel
Prego Spaghetti Sauces	Jjar/bottle	Front Label Panel
Swanson Broths	Can	Front Label Panel
Swanson Broths	Carton	UPC symbol
Swanson Poultry	Can (Paper Label)	Front Label Panel
Swanson Poultry	Can (Litho Label)	Cash Register tape w/ product name circled
V8 100% Vegetable Juices	32 oz. Glass Bottle	Lid
V8 100% Vegetable Juices	10 oz. Glass Bottle	Front Label Panel
V8 100% Vegetable Juices	Can	Front Label Panel
V8 Healthy Request 100% Vegetable Juices	Bottle	Front Label Panel
V8 Healthy Request 100% Vegetable Juices	Can	Front Label Panel
V8 Splash	Bottle	Front Label Panel
V8 Splash	Aluminum Can	Cash Register tape w/ product name circled



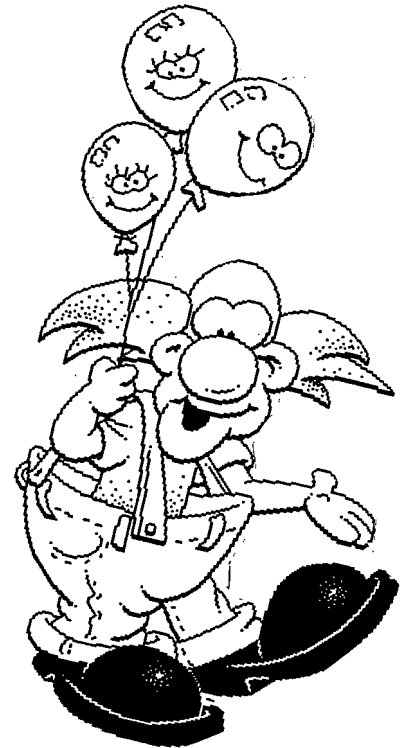
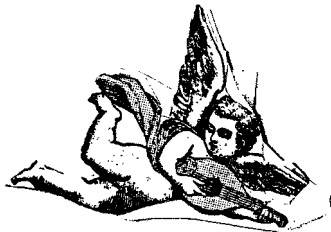
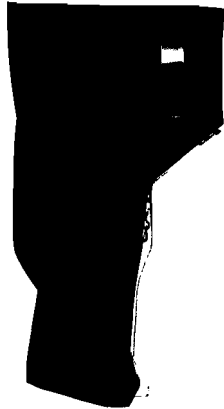
CAMPBELL'S FOOD SERVICE PRODUCTS

Campbell's Foodservice Soups (50 oz.)	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Chef's Kettle Soups (50 oz.)	Can	Front Label Panel
Swanson Foodservice Broths (49.5 oz)	Can	Front Label Panel
V8 Splash (Full cases only —24 cans/case)	Aluminum Can	2-code numbers from Outer Case

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Birthdays

<i>Rick Kulp</i>	<i>Sept 2</i>
<i>Brenda Saterfield</i>	<i>Sept 4</i>
<i>Benny Malone</i>	<i>Sept 5</i>
<i>Anita Bugher</i>	<i>Sept 6</i>
<i>Dick Bidwell</i>	<i>Sept 8</i>
<i>Sam Jones</i>	<i>Sept 9</i>
<i>Guelda Malone</i>	<i>Sept 9</i>
<i>David Cawlfild</i>	<i>Sept 12</i>
<i>Kathy Cawlfild</i>	<i>Sept 12</i>
<i>David Collins</i>	<i>Sept 16</i>
<i>Sally Jackson</i>	<i>Sept 16</i>
<i>Barry Owens</i>	<i>Sept 30</i>



Anniversaries

<i>Nancy & Barry Owens</i>	<i>Sept 5</i>
<i>Pat & Bill Slack</i>	<i>Sept 5</i>
<i>To Ann & Bernard Wheeler</i>	<i>Sept 5</i>
<i>Cheri & Bud Moore</i>	<i>Sept 8</i>

- Birthday or Anniversary missing?
- Give information or corrections to Blender editor.

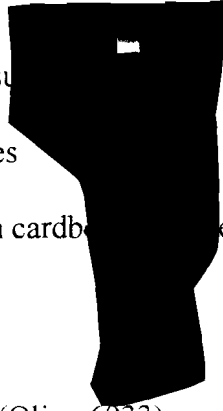
A mother of twelve was asked, "What is the worst thing you could get on your twenty-fifth wedding anniversary?" "Morning sickness," she replied.



Age Barometer

Submitted by Steve Grubb

- 1 Blackjack chewing gum
- 2 Wax Coke-shaped bottles with colored su
- 3 Candy cigarettes
- 4 Soda pop machines that dispensed bottles
- 5 Coffeeshops with tableside jukeboxes
- 6 Home milk delivery in glass bottles with cardboard carriers
- 7 Partylines
- 8 Newsreels before the movies
- 9 P.F.Flyers
- 10 Butch Wax
- 11 Telephone numbers with a word prefix (Olive-6933)
- 12 Peashooters
- 13 Hody Doody
- 14 45 RPPM records
- 15 S&H Green Stamps
- 16 Hi-Fi's
- 17 Metal ice trays with levers
- 18 Mimeograph paper
- 19 Blue flashbulbs
- 20 Beanie and Cecil
- 21 Roller skate keys
- 22 Cork popguns
- 23 Drive-ins
- 24 Studebakers
- 25 Wash tub wringers



There's a line in a piece of music that is fitting, that reads: "if you remember, if you remember, then honey you're much older than I"

If you remembered 0-5 = You're still young
If you remembered 6-10 = You are getting older
If you remembered 11-15 = Don't tell your age
If you remembered 16-25 = You're older than dirt

It is not by the gray of the hair that one knows the age of the heart. - Edward R. Bulwer-Lytton

To be 70 years young is sometimes far more cheerful and hopeful than to be 40 years old. - Oliver Wendell Holmes

If you carry your childhood with you, you never become older. - Abraham Sutzkeuer



Octobers Comming Events

Convention Birmingham AL. Oct 1st - 3rd

Cedar Hill Baptist Church Oct, 17
Warm-up 6:30 Sing 7:00 Dress A#

Church of God Oct.23
2201 Hickory Valley, Chattanooga
Time ? Dress A#

Tyner United Methodist Church Oct.31
Hickory Valley @ Standfer Gap Rd.
Warm-up 6:30 Sing 7:00 A#

And On The Horizon Is,

Fairview Untited Methodist Church Nov. 7
Return performances for Chattanooga
Public Library on Dec 12th 3:00pm
and for Creekside Manor on Dec 16th
so keep your date books open for
these and others that pop-up.

Looking for family entertainment ?
The **Shrine Circus** will be in town,
October 7-8-9 and 10th
See me or other chapter members who
are **Shriners** for tickets.

*"A man is never as tall
as when he stoops to help
a crippled child"*



At the barber shop

A man enters a barber shop for a shave. While the barber is foaming him up, he mentions the problems he has getting a close shave around the cheeks.

"I have just the thing," says the barber taking a small wooden ball from a nearby drawer. "Just place this between your cheek and gum."

The client places the ball in his mouth and the barber proceeds with the closest shave the man has ever experienced. After a few strokes the client asks in garbled speech.

"And what if I swallow it?"

"No problem," says the barber. "Just bring it back tomorrow like everyone else does."

The Shape I'm In

E Mail

Submitted by Steve Grubb

There's nothing the matter with me,
I'm just as healthy as can be,
Ans when I talk, I talk with a wheeze.
My pulse is weak, my blood is thin,
But I'm awfully well for the shape I'm in.

All my teeth have had to come out,
And my diet I hate to think about.
I'm overweight and I can't get thin,
But I'm awfully well for the shape I'm in.

And arch supports I need for my feet,
Or I wouldn't be able to go out on the
street,
Sleep is denied me night after niggth,
But every morning I find I'm all right,
My memory's failing, my heads in a spin.
But I'm awfully well for the shape I'm in.

Old age is golden I've heard it said,
But sometimes I wonder, as I go to bed,
With my ears in a drawer, my teeth in a
cup.
And my glasses on a shelf, until I get up.
And when sleep dims my eyes, I say to
myself,
Is there anything else I should lay on the
shelf?

The reason I know my youth has been
spent,
Is my get-up-and-go has got-up-and-went!
But really I dont mind, when I think with
a grin,

Of all the places my get-up has been.

I get up each morning and dust off my
wits,
Pick up the paper and read the obits.
If my name is missing, I'm therefore not
dead,
So I eat agood breakfast and jump back
into bed.

The moral of this tale unfolds,
Is that for you and me, who are growing
old.
It is better to say "I'm fine" with a grin.
Then let people know the shape we are
in.

On this Day

Mend a quarrel,
Search out a forgotten friend
Dismiss a suspocion and replace it with
trust
Write a letter to someone who misses you
Encourage a youth who has lost faith.
Keep a promise.
Forget an old grudge.
Examine your demands on others and
vow to reduce them.
Fight for a principle.
Express your gratitude.
Overcome old fear.
Take two minutes to appreciate the beauty
of nature
Tell someone you love them.
Tell them again.



Why Four Part Harmony?

By Bill Slack

Why is barbershop singing sung by a quartet? Why not a trio? Or why not six part harmony?

Duet singing can be pretty but seemingly shallow sounding. The harmony possibilities are extremely limited since there is only one harmony part either above or below the melody. Trio singing has more possibilities for harmony, and becomes versatile, but it lacks the fullness. Quartet singing, because it has a melody and three harmony parts, has many more vocal possibilities than a trio.

A skillful arranger can use different harmonies to create a mood or a different sound only possible in a quartet. Have you ever considered in a given song, each part may sing the root, the third, the fifth, or the seventh of a chord and depending on which vocalist is singing which part of the chord, a different sound, mood, and emotion may be produced.

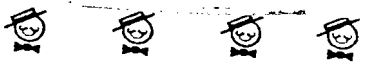


Lead: Why do you say your uncle is such an unlucky man.

BARI: Once when he was digging around in his attic, he uncovered what looked like a magic lamp. He picked it up and rubbed it, and lo and behold, a genie came out of the lamp, and bestowed on Uncle Bob a Midas touch.

Lead: How was that unlucky?

Bari: For the rest of his life, everything my uncle touched turned into a muffler.



Hers to the return of prohibition days -- it will at least reduce the number of people who think they can sing.

ALL ABOARD!!



Is This Trip Necessary ?

Quote: "Fortunate are those who have learned the best way to get is to give through useful service".

Date: August 28, 1999

Place: Chattanooga Elks Club, East Brainerd and Graysville Rd.

Event: Orange Grove Center, Benefit performance

Well, it's another hot Saturday afternoon. The kind of day when one would prefer to sit in the comfort of an air conditioned room, relaxing in front of the TV. The urge, to find an excuse not to show up.

The thought, do I really want to perform to an audience where a large percent are mentally challenged.

The posted warm-up time is 1:30. At 1:40, just nine guys standing out in the parking lot. the conversation is.

"Hey, where is everybody". "If this is all that's showing, I'm out of here!" "If this is the kind of response we get from members, count me out on future ones." "What do you mean there's no director!" "Who's going to direct us?" "Where's the risers?"

One notes, Uh huh, not what you would call a group of happy campers, is it?

Then they start to trickle in as Ron Weaver (our Director du jour) the ever perpetual cheer leader, flits from group to group giving encouragement and boosting egos, all the while he is directing traffic, trying to hold parking spots for all those "Tardy Troubadours".

Entering the building the noise level is unbelievable!

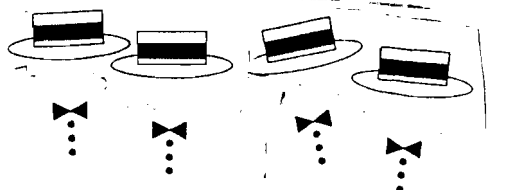
As Webster defines it: "Bedlam": a noun, 1 : scene of wild uproar and confusion.. 2: popular name for the Hospital of St. Mary of Bethlehem, formerly an insane asylum in S.E. London, England.

Undaunted we piled into a tiny ante room to warm-up, then onto the area where the risers were set-up, turned off the large screen TV that was producing a sound level of 90 plus decibels of MTV cacophony. One wondered, how do we follow that! Well the effervescent personality of Ron Weaver took over giving a brief "intro" and as Jackie Gleason was wont to say "And away we go!" Ron had them moving, participating and enjoying, as we received applause and accolades from the Orange Grove staff and volunteers.

Like the original few standing out in the parking lot prior to the performance, one of the Orange Grove volunteers informed me, "I was looking for a reason not to come today, but I'm so glad I came, otherwise I'd have missed a great time."

"Fortunate are those who have learned the best way to get is to give through useful service."

Is This Trip Necessary?.... Sure beats sitting in front of the Boob Tube !



As published in *Tru-Notes*, Cherry Hill, NJ.

Milt Weisman, Editor

CRAFT

Vowel matching

Tom Raburn, *Big D Bulletin*, as found on the
PROBE website

Question: When does $2 + 2 = 5$? Answer: When barbershop harmony is sung correctly, creating harmonic overtones and "expanded sound".

One of the most important factors in the achievement of choral blend and expanded sound is unity of vowel sounds. Vowels are what we sing and sustain, separated by consonant to make words. When we match vowel sounds, we create like harmonics and the sound expands in intensity through reinforcement. In singing, vowels are created through the natural resonance of the human vocal tract. The tongue, lips and jaw are used to fashion the resonators into their vowel shapes. Some basic rules to follow when forming vowel sounds are:

1. When producing all vowel sounds, the tip of the tongue should be placed gently on the lower gum ridge, with the tip barely touching the base of the lower teeth. This helps keep the throat open so the vocal chords can vibrate naturally through the resonators (mouth, throat, and sinus cavities).
2. The jaw should be allowed to relax naturally with a swinging down and back motion.
3. The lips should leave the teeth uncovered.
4. Although the mouth must be open wide, it is not how wide it is open but the shape that is most important.

Every vowel can be sung with one of three mouth shapes: round (example — "oh"), square (example — "ih" as in sit) and oblong (example — "ah" as in pop). Refinements to form each specific vowel sound are made by the degree to which the tongue is arched in the mouth, and the degree to which the jaw is dropped. For instance, both the "oh" sound and the "oo" sound (as in moon) are made with the round mouth shape, but the "oh" sound is made with the mouth as open as possible while the "oo" sound is made with the smallest, most rounded shape.

As we sing the songs in our repertoire, keep in mind the basic mechanics of producing vowel sounds and think about the target vowel sound for each word in the song. Properly matched vowels can enable our chorus of 20-something men to "fill the hall" and create the expanded sound that makes barbershop harmony so much fun to sing and hear.



Getting the most from rehearsals

Dr. René Torres, *Masters of Harmony*, taken
from Tooner, Harold Johnson, Editor

IT IS CERTAINLY NO SECRET THAT TO BE GOOD AT ANYTHING, YOU HAVE TO PRACTICE. It is also no secret that the more you practice, the better you should get. However, to get the most benefit from rehearsals, YOU need a plan. While the director has a plan and a responsibility to steer the chorus towards a set of predetermined objectives, the individual singer has a responsibility too. Just arriving at the rehearsal and striving to do what the director says is not enough. Sure, it will help you get better, but are you really getting the most out of the

experience? Are you personally absorbing as much as you can from each session? Do you leave the rehearsal feeling that you are better than when you started? What does it take to glean the maximum benefit from each rehearsal?

While it is true that the best way to learn something and do it well is to true that pre-just as im- prepared to sing voice is thor- before you ar- hearsal site.



Let's say als are three week. That is life! Little time such a demanding hobby if you want to be your best. Your director already has plans for that 2%, and there simply isn't enough rehearsal time available for long warm-ups. You have to be ready beforehand.

Remember also that preparing the voice box and related vocal apartments is not enough. Mental preparation is just as important. You should come to rehearsal with the following 12 affirmations in mind as a minimum:

- ♪ I will prepare myself to the best of my ability to make the most out of the rehearsal.
- ♪ I will be mentally and physically willing and able to give my all throughout the entire rehearsal.
- ♪ I will not let anyone in the chorus outdo me as to concentration, attention and demeanor.
- ♪ I will always keep in mind that a chorus is an entity unto its own, and I am prepared to subordinate myself to the common good.
- ♪ I will consider my individual performance on the risers as the most important contribution to the chorus over which I have control, therefore worthy of my undivided effort.
- ♪ I will not subordinate singing to the exercise of the proper moves, but neither will I subordinate the moves to the singing.
- ♪ I will believe that my face is the most important part of my body to convey the song to an audience, and it will be animated and appropriate all the time.
- ♪ I will strive to understand every instruction the director is conveying, and to execute it properly the first time and forever thereafter.
- ♪ I will be helpful to those who are not learning as fast as I am, but only during the breaks.
- ♪ I will remain focused at all times, as only in that manner can I obtain the most out of the experience.
- ♪ I will recapitulate upon completion of the rehearsal what I have learned and consider it just a starting point from which to get better at the next rehearsal.
- ♪ I will recognize that two percent of my life is not enough to devote to this hobby if I really want to be the best, and will use every other opportunity to further my knowledge and focus.

Overall, the emphasis needs to be on focus of the mind, body and spirit. Only when every member of the chorus commits to this philosophy will improvement come rapidly and successfully. Consider this. If you are going to devote some of your valuable free time to singing, there is really no excuse for not giving it your all, is there?

Throw old habits out the window

René Torres, as seen in *The Masters Voice*,
Frank Ortega, Editor

The formation of habits is a natural process. You start something, it feels good, does you no harm, so you keep doing it. Pretty soon it becomes the only way to do something, and a habit is born.

We acquire habits as children, keep learning them as we grow older, and they seem to set in more and more as we age. In fact, some people become nothing but a collection of habits, and woe betide the person that tries to change them!

Singing, too, can be a habit. In fact, some people argue that it is nothing more than a habit since it involves the repetition of learned responses in a set pattern. But wait! There's another point of view which we should explore.

The "habit" of singing.

It would be easy to think of singing as an acquired habit if we apply the definition expressed above. The subtle difference is that, when the *scientific* side of singing (words and music only, singing by rote) becomes a habit, the *artistic* side suffers greatly due to lack of interpretation.

A truly professional singer never lets interpretation become routine. You can be the best singer in terms of pitch, volume, sound and timbre, yet still be less musical than one who feels the music and lets the feeling color his or her vocal production. Even the most perfect singer never sings a musical piece the same way twice. Each time it sounds fresh, as if it were his or her first time.

As choral singers we must continuously strive to cultivate good singing habits and look for ways to color our interpretations.

Although the overall interpretation may be observable during the performance, the mood, feeling, and ambience are different each time the song is sung as the conscientious singer makes adjustments. The result is then a seemingly spontaneous performance – an outpouring of energy that is contagious.

Cultivate good habits.

As choral singers we must continuously strive to cultivate good singing habits and look for ways to color our interpretations. In barbershop we see that "feeling the interpretation" is stressed more and more. This welcome approach to singing allows more freedom of individual expression within the framework of the interpretive plan. It's the "freedom" that fosters resonant singing and, ultimately, a better chorus sound. When it becomes second nature (a good habit), you no longer have to worry about sound production.

Break the old habits.

Old habits are not just limited to singing. Many factors that affect performance, as well as our attitude toward being a participating chorus member, are rooted in things we do every week at rehearsal or on stage at the performance. How many of these can you identify with? Better yet, how many of these can you correct?

- ♪ Rehearsals are once a week, so that's the only time you need to worry about interpretation.

- ♪ There are usually three rehearsals past the one when you were told to have the music "off the paper".
- ♪ Never mind warming up before you arrive. Warm-ups are for others to waste time until everyone arrives. Besides, warm-ups have nothing to do with learning to sing.
- ♪ Let somebody else help with setting up and tearing down the risers. It's not your problem.
- ♪ Don't bother to sign in. It doesn't matter anyway. Someone else will check you in.
- ♪ You know every move cold. Why bother with stage presence rehearsals?
- ♪ Learning tapes? What for?
- ♪ It's not that important to be at the rehearsal on time.
- ♪ It's OK to talk on the risers – nothing important is going on unless you're singing.
- ♪ It's OK for your focus to wander from that of the others while you sing. After all, who will notice?
- ♪ Forget about smiling. Nobody notices that either.
- ♪ Don't listen to the announcements. They don't concern you.
- ♪ Try to stretch the break as long as possible. It will make the evening end faster.
- ♪ Don't emphasize makeup too much. Nobody can see you anyway.
- ♪ At the performance, give your ALL only while you have an audience. The rest of the time you can pace yourself.
- ♪ When the curtain opens, nobody can see you in the crowd, so move around. Adjust your glasses, too.

Are you beginning to see the absurdity of it all? Yet, look around and you'll probably see these traits everywhere. It's important to recognize and then let go of these habits. They have no place in a disciplined chorus. Show your fellow chorus members and your director that you are "dedicated to excellence".

Think about it. Here's a wonderful opportunity to reach another level of performance excellence. Don't let old habits keep you from taking full advantage of it.

Rules for attending a District convention

From the Pitchpiper, Dick Teeters, Editor, as
found in *Inky Notes*, Cardinal District

- ♪ You are required to SING at least one tag with someone from another chapter.
- ♪ You must LAUGH politely at the MC's attempts to entertain.
- ♪ You must ensure that you and your family take advantage of every opportunity to MEET other barbershoppers and their families.
- ♪ You must stay up past midnight on Saturday to ENJOY barbershop harmonies in an up-close-and-personal way.
- ♪ You must BE COURTEOUS to the hotel staff. They aim to make this a great weekend for everyone.
- ♪ You must APPLAUD loudly for each of the contestants. It is not an easy thing to prepare for and compete in one of these events. And if you are not already, you may be up there one day yourself.
- ♪ You must make sure that you tell the Host Chapter members and their wives and sweethearts that you APPRECIATE all their hard work.
- ♪ You must SMILE at those persons you meet in the hallways.
- ♪ You must HAVE FUN, no matter what happens.

Quartet Activity

By Bill Slack

Hey! Hey! Hey! This is to announce our second, semi-occasional quartet competition within the **CHOO-CHOO CHORUS**.

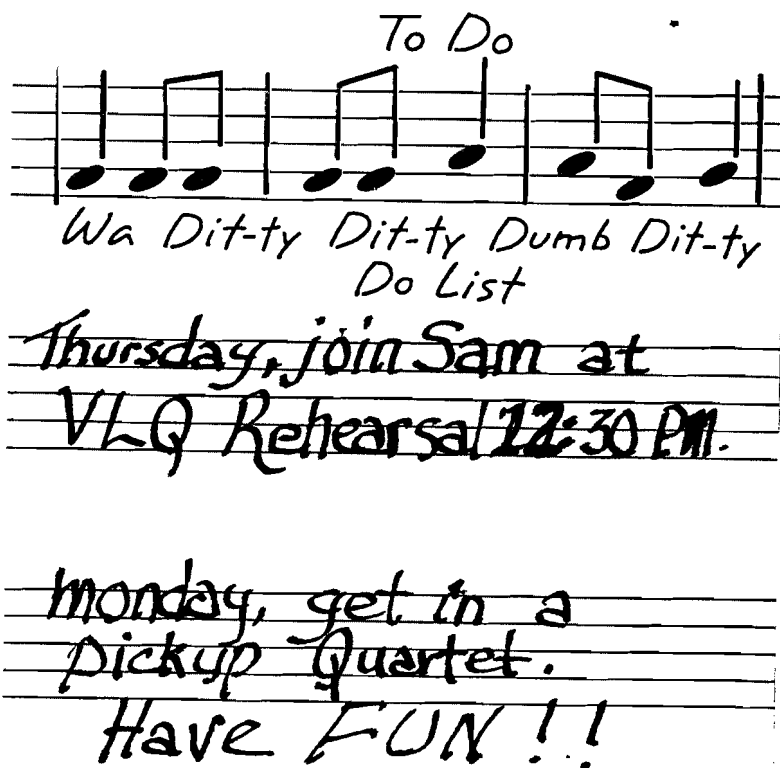
It will be monday, October 18th. This time, we plan more fun chorus singing, doing the polecats and other old favorites.

Quartet competition will be between newly formed, non-registered quartets. Only two members of each quartet can belong to a registered or regular performing quartet. Quartets will sing two songs apiece. Once again our highly qualified panel of judges will rate the quartets on a variety of categories and prizes will be awarded accordingly.

Our registered or regularly performing quartets will be asked to perform some of their favorite or newest numbers throughout the evening.

So begin organizing a fun quartet for quartet night. It's an occasion for people to sing a different part to familiar songs, or sing with someone you have always wanted to, or just listen to quartets all night.

Invite guests or family members for what I regard as one of our most enjoyable evenings every year.





The Confederates, George Evans, tenor; Dave LaBonte, lead; Bill Busby, bari; and Wally Singleton, bass were international champions in 1956. With their accumulated involvement in Society activities, the quartet represented a past district president, a past district secretary, three past chapter presidents, a past chapter vice-president, a past chapter secretary and two chorus directors.

The Confederates, our 1956 champions, were organized in Memphis, Tennessee, in September 1953. Composed of George Evans, tenor; Dave La Bonte, lead; Bill Busby, bari, and Wally Singleton, bass, none was a trained musician, Busby was the most knowledgeable, and acted as arranger for the quartet and chorus director for the chapter. From the beginning, the quartet went "all out" on the show circuit and in competition. Many of their arrangements came from well-known Society arrangers, such as S. K. Grundy, Ozzie Westley, "Skeet" Bolds, and a Sweet Adeline whose fame was starting to spread, Renee Limberg, later Craig. Bill Busby also furnished some of their best arrangements.

In 1954 the Confederates qualified for the international contest in Washington, D.C., and finished 31st. By the following year, in Miami, they had come up to second place, and in 1956 they took home the whole bag of marbles - the international championship.

The quartet's songs became known all over the Society. Examples are "Chloe," "Down Where the South Begins," "Red Head," "South Rampart Street Parade," and "A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square," which were copied and imitated by many other quartets at every level. Whether this quartet was on the show stage or

many other quartets at every level. Whether this quartet was on the show stage or the competition stage, their Southern costumes caught the fancy and chuckles of the crowds. They presented themselves either as authentic gray soldiers, complete with dress swords, or as Southern gentlemen of the old school, white-haired, and attired in black frock coats. Coupled with many Southern songs, they always made a hit.

Many veterans still think that it was this quartet, the Confederates, who first truly applied these volume and tempo changes - called shading in the old Voice Expression Category - to such songs as "The Sunshine of Your Smile," "To Think You've Chosen Me," and "A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square" in a manner that raised the neck-hairs and created what Interpretation judges now call mood. The Harmonizer spoke of the "excitement of (their) sincere mood." They used lauds and softs, changes of tempo within phrases, and effective diction in a manner seldom matched by earlier quartets. This is what made the Confederates a memorable quartet.



from the **Chorister** the **Traverse City , Michigan** bulletin



Mouthing Off

Author unknown

I find it very difficult
to form my mouth so square.
And it seems impossible
to raise my lip up there.
I'll try to show my upper teeth
So proper tones rebound.
I'll try to shape my mouth just so,
to form those dulcit tones.
I'm then advised to drop my jaw
and open up real wide.
Additionally, I try to smile
As the notes take shape inside.
I will, of course, try these vocal tricks
Bad habits to thus remove.
Strange enough, I now have found. . .
My singing is much improved!

It's Your Business

Lamar Owens



If you have been attending practices you know that we have not installed a sign up sheet system for our performances. These sheets are posted on the board by the entrance to our practice facilities. Please indicate your intentions by marking yes or no on the appropriate sheet. If your plans change please make the necessary corrections so we have an accurate record of what attendance to expect at each performance. This will not work unless you follow through on your commitments! Please be sure to check the board on meeting nights for any new performances that you may not know about and indicate your intentions. The board thanks you for your cooperation.

Our thanks to all those who supported the singouts these past thirty or so days. We had 22 to at the Orange Grove Benefit and 31 for the National Anthem the Lookouts last regular season game. There were 23 for the bus ride to perform for the Elderhostel at the Elderfest in Cartersville GA. and 22 for the performance at National Healthcare in Fort Oglethorpe, GA. We have been asked to the National Anthem for the Lookouts first home game in the new stadium next year. will be firmed up at a later date.

Our thanks to Pete Jones for lining us up with the Wilson Funeral Home in Fort Oglethorpe for the use of their bus for the trip to Cartersville. It worked out great and was a real deal. I only hope they continue this service and we can take advantage of it in the future. For those who don't know, they provided the bus free of charge. We all tipped the driver. Too bad we didn't know about it when the Tullahoma request was discussed.

UP Coming Events:

Oct 1-3 Contest Birmingham Alabama

Oct 9 Cookout, "Bug" Shaws Farm

Oct 17 Cedar Hill Baptist Church (Lamar Green's church)

Oct 23 World Wide Church of God (Lloyd Gimber's church)

Nov 7 Fairview United Methodist Church(W.C.Strickland and Pete Jones' church)

Dec 4 Chickamauga GA. downtown Merchants Assoc.(details not firm)

Dec 12 Bicentennial Library

Dec 16 Creekside @ Shallowford

Tyner United Methodist Church (Earle Fraser's church, date to be determined)

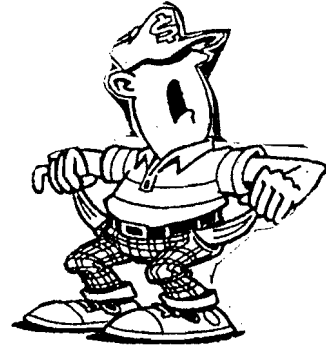


Haberdasher's Shop:

Since we are considering new uniforms, it seems a good time to standardize our logo. We have at least five logos of various colors and designs on different apparel. I have taken photos of four of these and will post them on the board for you to express your opinion. We need to standardize these as we have done our uniforms. You will also have the opportunity to express your desire for an entirely new logo.

Fund Raising Sales

Lamar Owens



As most of you know, we have been given the opportunity to purchase 70 cases of peanut crunch at the owners' cost of \$15.00 per case. Actually we buy 68 and he will give us 70. There are 12 eight-ounce cans per case, which brings our cost to \$1.25 each. Selling at \$3.00 our profit would be \$1428.00. On the trip to Cartersville we voted to buy this product in an to make this profit for the chorus. It would pay two-thirds of the cost of the installation of the air conditioning system in our meeting rooms. The board at their last meeting voted to support this endeavor. By the time this article is printed we will have started distribution of the merchandise. The person providing the product has given us till mid October to pay the invoice. We have time to cover the cost and not dip into our reserve funds. All we have to do is sell enough (260 cans) to cover our cost before that time. When selling remember to stress we are a non profit organization and these funds go to support our charities. Please do your part and take at least one case. If all the active members did so we could move about 45 cases on our fist effort. Be creative, I am sure we can come up with novel ways to move this merchandise and in the process help replenish our coffers.



Choo Choo Belles

The September 20th meeting of the Belles had dissapointing attendance, however those attending worked on the plans for the cookout at "Bug" Shaw's historic 1860's farm. (Those who were at the last visit were thrilled by the displays of life at that time in history.) Committees were appointed for the food, beverages, etc. If you are contacted or would like to assist in any way, contact Audrey Gist.



Birmingham October Contest:

The uniform of the day for our trip and contest day will be. Friday, navy blue polo shirt with khaki pants. Saturday, cranberry polo shirt and navy pants. It is our understanding most of us are have reservations in the Best Western motel on Civic Center Blvd., so if there are any changes in the plans or decide to find eating places there wont be any problems of communicating to the group. Hope to see y'all there.





The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc.

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Kenosha, WI 53143-5199
(262) 653-8440
(800) 876-SING
fax (262) 654-4048
update@spebsqsa.org
www.spebsqsa.org/update

Coming events



July 30–August 6, 2000
Missouri Western
State College
St. Joseph, Mo.
(800) 876-SING x 8551
HCDC@spebsqsa.org



January 24–30, 2000
Midwinter Convention
Tucson, Arizona
(800) 876-SING x 8462
convention@spebsqsa.org



July 2–9, 2000
International Convention
Kansas City, Missouri
(800) 876-SING x 8462
convention@spebsqsa.org

414 changes to 262

Area code evolution strikes Kenosha this month. Effective September 25, the area code for all direct lines to the headquarters office changes from 414 to 262, although local exchanges and numbers remain the same. The toll-free 800 number also remains unchanged.

During a six-month switchover period, both the new 262 and the old 414 area code will work, but you can start good dialing habits now. A number of Society publications may continue to show the old number, until existing stocks are consumed and regularly scheduled reprints replace them.

For your convenience, the direct numbers you should know are:

Main switchboard
(800) 876-7464
(262) 653-8440
Harmony Hall fax
(Music, Marketing, Executive departments)
(262) 654-4048
Sheridan building fax
(Membership, Conventions, Finance, Computer services)
(262) 654-5552
Harmony Marketplace fax
(262) 654-5552

Register for KC convention online!

The site for the Music Man 2000 convention is now online at <http://www.spebsqsa.org/KansasCity>, with the first draft of the convention schedule and information on special activities.

With our secure server, you can use your VISA or MasterCard to order convention registrations online. Tours and other special events will come online later in the year.

Save money—save time—and get your confirmation via email.

Keep the Whole World Singing

How important is singing to our culture? How important is it to each of us? You know the answers to these questions. Barbershoppers, perhaps above all others, understand the rewards of recreational singing.

SingAmerica and SingCanada were created by our Society to promote choral music education in our schools and recreational singing in our communities. We are desperately in danger of losing this important aspect of our North American culture. Of course, the contributions Barbershoppers provide to the Harmony Foundation General Fund and to SingAmerica and SingCanada directly fund important projects that will help accomplish our mission.

But another way we can keep the flame of recreational singing alive is to promote community singing when and wherever we perform. We can also encourage community singing in other organizations we as individuals belong to.

Attached to this issue is a two page "Community Song Leading Guide." It contains advice and ideas from Joe Liles, Burt Szabo, Val Hicks and Bill Biffle. Please use it to help keep singing alive in our communities.

Convention countdown

At the end of August, registration totals for upcoming conventions were:

Tucson	540
Kansas City	2,868

Enroll now in Music Premiere

Six new arrangements are being printed for the November Music Premiere release. But there's still time to enroll and it's easy to do. Just call the Harmony Marketplace at (800) 876-7464 to enroll.

For the low, low cost of \$11.95, you'll receive 12 arrangements—six in November and six in May. A cassette with each song performed by a champion, medalist or other top quartet is also included.

The November Music Premiere release includes the following titles:

"Lost In The Stars," as sung by the **Four Renegades**

"Up A Lazy River," as sung by **Marquis**

"Little Pal," as sung by the **Four Rascals**

"I'm Sitting On Top Of The World," as sung by **Second Edition**

"Ain't Misbehavin'," as sung by **Gotcha!**

"This Little Light Of Mine/Do Lord

Medley," as sung by **Uptown Sound**

There's a bonus for *newly registered* quartets only: enroll in Music Premiere for one year at the regular price, and get the second year free!

College Quartet Contest? Didn't we just have that?

That's one perspective regarding the MBNA America Collegiate Barbershop Quartet Contest. The truth of the matter is that it's time for chapters and districts to identify a quartet or quartets to sponsor for the upcoming contest. Collegiate foursomes are allowed to sing at fall district contests for evaluation, a real bonus in preparation for the spring qualifying rounds.

Point number two: A list of 83 contestable songs, suitable for collegiate quartets, is available to all participants and sponsoring chapters, or on the web at www.spebsqsa.org/college/songlist.htm.

Unfortunately, there have been instances in which quartets were disqualified because of their song selection. If there is any question concerning the suitability or contestability of a song or an arrangement, call Jim DeBusman at (800) 876-7464, ext. 8566, or write college@spebsqsa.org.

Transferring securities—a charitable idea

With the current successes of the stock market, this may be a perfect time to transfer some capital assets to the charities you love. When a donor directly transfers an appreciated security (such as stocks or bonds) to a charity, the capital gains tax can be avoided and the donor may become entitled to a charitable tax deduction for the full market value of the asset.

This is an easy way for many donors to provide gifts for the charities they love and obtain a tax deduction that may benefit them for several years. Depending on your individual circumstances, certain restrictions may apply and we suggest that you obtain professional counsel before making such a transaction.

Harmony Foundation, Inc. was incorporated in 1959 as the charitable "arm" of the SPEBSQSA, Inc. The Foundation has been the conduit for all of the Society's charitable activity ever since. The Foundation also manages the SPEBSQSA Endowment Program which provides a pool of funds that can help to keep the Society alive for future generations. The Foundation accepts direct transfers of capital assets such as stocks and bonds and can assist with these transfers.

If you would like information about making a direct transfer of securities to benefit SPEBSQSA, please contact Development Director Larry Gilhousen at (800) 876-SING extension 8448. Working—and giving—together, we can help future generations to Sing ... for life.

Computer technician sought at headquarters

Incredible opportunities for a junior-level technician can be yours at Harmony Hall. We're looking for a bright, enthusiastic developer and PC maintenance specialist—kind of a "geek of all trades!" Experience in web development, Microsoft Access, and some PC hardware and software maintenance could be your hot ticket to a cool job at Society headquarters in Kenosha, Wisconsin.

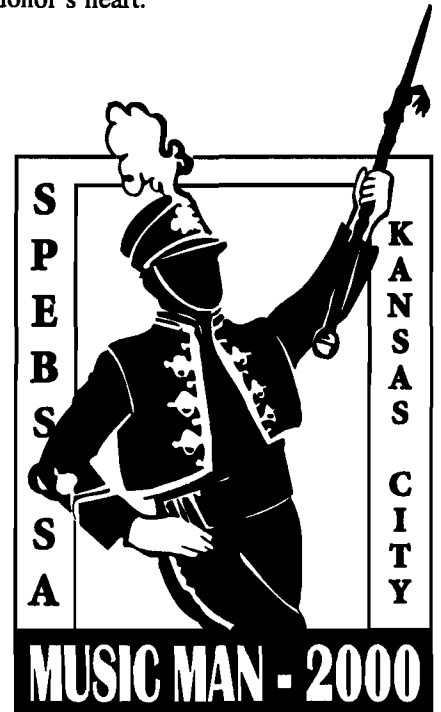
If you think you fit the bill, send your resume to CoolJobs@spebsqsa.org. Great benefits and one of the best places to work in the country can be yours. Don't miss out on this rare opportunity!

We can change lives

What a powerful force. Through our love of barbershop harmony and SPEBSQSA we have the opportunity to make a positive impact on young lives through our Service Projects: SingAmerica and SingCanada and Heartspring, as well as through the Heritage Hall Museum. The dollars that we contribute to these causes through the Harmony Foundation General Fund will change lives by using the power of vocal music, care and love.

In November, every Society member will receive in the mail an opportunity to make a personal commitment to improving lives. Please encourage your members to begin their holiday season in the most beautiful way possible. Make a contribution to the Harmony Foundation General Fund Campaign. Each member who donates \$25 or more will be sent an attractive Harmony Foundation 1999 lapel pin.

Each member's contribution will be credited to his chapter's charitable total for determining the annual Harmony Foundation Awards. But, more importantly, the joy of changing young lives and giving a gift of a lifetime will be credited to each donor's heart.



More next time.

Dan
Dan Daily
Publications Editor

Something To Crow About

Pat Crowe Editor



In this issue you will notice articles I've copied unabridged from the Cherry Hill, NJ. bulletin **Tru-Notes**, Milt Weisman, editor. In our bulletin exchange program, I have found his publication to be one of the best, so who but to plagiarize?....the best

I'm not known to be a good speller and find the spell checker a wonderful blessing..but in my article *Is This Trip Necessary* it red flagged the word, *cacophony*, stated it wasn't in the dictionary. Well now I've got an excuse for flubs in future issues. My Webster's defines *cacophony*: **Harsh discordance of sound**. And believe me, it certain describes what they call or try to pass off as music on MTV. My advice to all is to invest in hearing aids. thats were the big money will be, cause down the road they are all going to need em'. I **LOUD** is not music!

I was out of town for our performance at the **Lookouts** ballgame. Heard it went very well....but I also was told. Prior to the chorus singing the national anthem, some camels were walked around the field...now I have it on good authority a comment overheard from one of our loving spouse's "Look at that, the camels are being followed by **Jackass's**!" Oh, they can be cruel at times!

I also missed the **VLQ's** first performance, but really enjoyed their second outing at Memorial Hospital, along with the quick side trip we made to serenade Sam's wife at her office.

It's seven days to the **Blender** deadline and I'm hoping I hear from some of the guys about our busy September schedule and their comments on the Elderhost trip to Cartersville GA. I was sure wishing there had of been more **BARI'S**. Thanks to the 23 members who showed. We stopped and had a great time at the Cracker Barrel on the trip home.

The guest book had a couple of entries this month, sure wish you guys would remind your guests to sign in. It would also help if you would date it also. The September 13th visitors were **Doug Parker** of Chattanooga and **David Lovless** of Mansfield Texas. From the **Arlington TX. Good Times Chorus**. This is David's second time here, he visits Chattanooga on job related matters. On the September 20th, we had the pleasure of meeting some cast members of the Chattanooga theaters **Fiddler on the Roof**, who were guests o our own calvous **Bari**, Chuck Wilson. Chuck is also in the cast. Visiting were Ruth and Dale McCoy, Mark Oglesby, Randy Page, Adam Smith and Matt Hendrick. They sounded great. Make sure they find their way back, Chuck!

Mrs McCoy, I understand teaches music in one of the local schools, and is introducing her students to a cappelo singing. What a great opportunity for the VLQ to offer her a performance for her class or for school assembly. I wish I had of thought of it before she left. But Chuck stated he would contact her, and get her and Sam together to discuss the possiblities.

I think the reason for the poor attendance at the Belles meeting is that the wives do not care to sit around for an extra couple of hours waiting for our rehearsals to end. They should give some thought to meeting in a centerally located spot where they can hold their meeting and get back home or where ever after their short get together.

Well the big day is here again. Birmingham here we come! Paul has worked hard to get us in tip top shape. So remember those **VOWELS, BREATHING, FACES !!!!** We have a chance to improve our standing. **LET'S DO IT !!** Remember it's not the judges, **IT'S YOU !!**



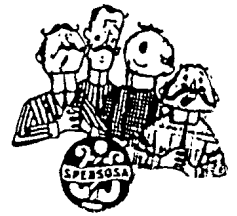
Your 1999 Leadership Team

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Chapt. Development	Rick Kulp	[423-875-9251]
Music Director	Paul Blazek	[423-622-4493]
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Pat Crowe, Editor
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TO:





The Blender

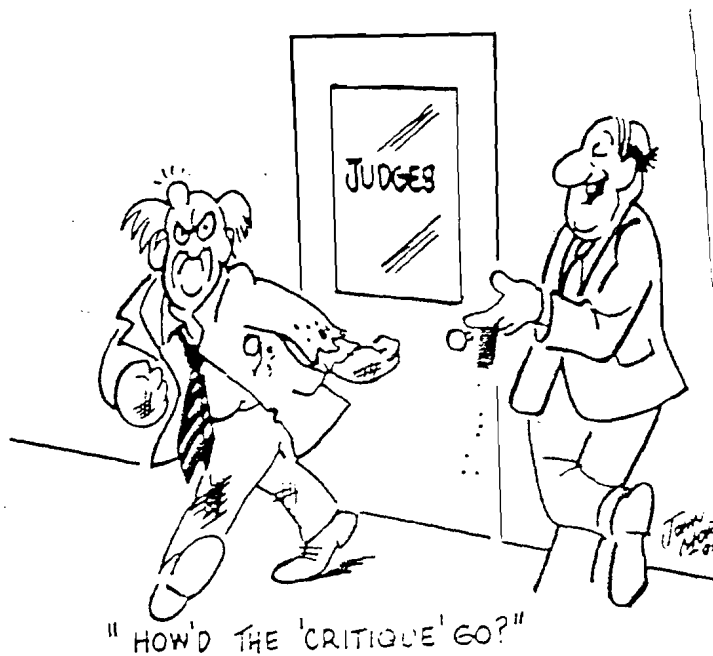
The Official Publication of the Chattanooga Chapter of the
Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America

Chattanooga, Tennessee

Dixie District

Volume 8 No.10

The chapter meets every Monday, 7:00 PM, All Saints Academy 310 E. 8th St. Chattanooga





Campbell's Labels for Education

What to Save and Bring to Chapter Meetings

<u>PRODUCT</u>	<u>PACKAGE</u>	<u>WHAT TO SAVE</u>
Campbell's Beans Products	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Chunky Soups	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Condensed Soups	Can	Front Label Panel
BONUS BRAND! Campbell's Condensed Soups (26 oz.)	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Soups in 24oz. Glass Jars or Simply Home Soups	Glass Jar	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Healthy Request Soups	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Home Cookin' Soups	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Low Sodium Soups	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Microwave Soups	Tub	Plastic Lid /Cap
Campbell's Soup & Recipe Mixes	Carton	Bottom Pane with UPC Symbol
Campbell's Tomato Juices	Aluminum Can	Cash Register tape w/product name circled
Campbell's Tomato Juices	Bottle	Lid
Campbell's Tomato Juices	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Healthy Request Tomato Juices	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Healthy Request Tomato Juices	Bottle	Lid
Franco-American Gravies	Can	Front Label Panel
Franco-American SpaghettiO's and Pastas	Can	Front Label Panel
Pace Picante Sauces, Queso, and Thick & Chunky Salsa Jar		Lid
Pace Squeezable Picante	Bottle	Lid
Pepperidge Farm Breads, Croutons, Rolls, Stuffing	Bag/Carton	UPC Symbol
Pepperidge Farm Cookies, Crackers, Goldfish and Snack Mixes.	Bag/Carton	UPC Symbol
Pepperidge Farm Frozen Garlic Breads, Cakes, Turnovers, Dumplings, and Puff Pastry	Carton	UPC Symbol
Pepperidge Farm Soups	Can	Front Label Panel
BONUS BRAND! Prego (48 oz.) Spaghetti Sauces	Jar/bottle	Front Label Panel
Prego Spaghetti Sauces	Jjar/bottle	Front Label Panel
Swanson Broths	Can	Front Label Panel
Swanson Broths	Carton	UPC symbol
Swanson Poultry	Can (Paper Label)	Front Label Panel
Swanson Poultry	Can (Litho Label)	Cash Register tape w/ product name circled
V8 100% Vegetable Juices	32 oz. Glass Bottle	Lid
V8 100% Vegetable Juices	10 oz. Glass Bottle	Front Label Panel
V8 100% Vegetable Juices	Can	Front Label Panel
V8 Healthy Request 100% Vegetable Juices	Bottle	Front Label Panel
V8 Healthy Request 100% Vegetable Juices	Can	Front Label Panel
V8 Splash	Bottle	Front Label Panel
V8 Splash	Aluminum Can	Cash Register tape w/ product name circled



CAMPBELL'S FOOD SERVICE PRODUCTS

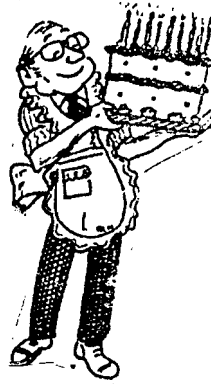
Campbell's Foodservice Soups (50 oz.)	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Chef's Kettle Soups (50 oz.)	Can	Front Label Panel
Swanson Foodservice Broths (49.5 oz)	Can	Front Label Panel
V8 Splash (Full cases only —24 cans/case)	Aluminum Can	2-code numbers from Outer Case

Campbell's, Chef's Kettle, Franco-American, Goldfish, Healthy Request, Home Cookin', Pace, Pepperidge Farm, Prego, Simply Home, SpaghettiOs, Swanson, V8, and V8 Splash are all registered trademarks of Campbell Soup Co.

Birthdays

Melissa Wilson	Oct. 8
Ron Weaver	8
Lindy Blazek	11
Paul Blazek	11
David Reynolds	18
Ron Massingale	30
Cyndi McConnell	30

Joy Kirk	Nov. 2
Shannon McConnell	5
Lamar Owens	6
Hobby Thomas	10
Janice Owens	13
W.C.Strickland	19
Fred Jesse	23
Bob Stansbury	29
Pat Jones	29



Anniversaries

Scott & Susan McKenzie	Oct 1
Larry & Gloria Huber	17
Dick & Jeanne Hagar	19
Ron & Reba Massingale	19
Benny & Gelda Malone	21
Bob & Sandra Stansbury	21
Chuck & Melissa Wilson	21



Lamar & Louise Smith Nov. 25

A small town pastor was being honored for forty years of service. Following a banquet, the minister was asked to recall the most memorable moment in his career.

"The most memorable," he began, "was a wedding service conducted in a roadside chapel. I asked those wishing to be wed in holy matrimony to please come forward. To my surprise, three single women, one widow, and two single men came forward."

An English soldier in a French village, seeing a wedding in process at a church, asked a Frenchman whose wedding it was.

"*Je ne sais pas, M'sieu,*" answered the Frenchman.

A few hours later the same soldier saw a coffin going into the same church, and curiosity getting the better of him, he again asked the identify of the individual.

"*Je ne sais pas,*" was the response.

"Blimey!" ejaculated the Tommy, "he didn't last long."

light Savings Time



**ITS
Time...**

Today October 31st, daylight savings time ends and we revert back to Standard time. Did you ever wonder when this all started?

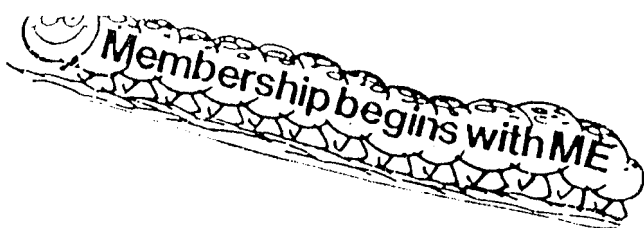
On March 31, 1918, daylight saving time went into effect throughout the United States for the first time. It lasted only two years. The violent protests of farmers, who said their cows were giving milk after the milk trains passed by, brought repeal of the law over President Wilson's veto. Daylight saving time did not return to the nation as a whole until World War II.

So, that's for all those Early Birds and all those who adhere to the old adage "The Early Bird gets the Worm."

Did you ever wonder, what if the worm was a late riser. What would the Early Bird get!



Here's to the return of prohibition days-- it will at least reduce the number of people who think they can sing



Be A Singer-Bringer!

How woodshedding can aid your chapter

Toban Dvoretzky <TBone@JETSON.UH.

EDU>, as seen on The Harmonet

What exactly is WOODSHEDDING? (And why do it?) Woodshedding is three individual voices (Tenor, Bari & Bass) harmonizing to a Lead's melody without reference to any written or familiar arrangement. An intensely pleasurable experience for the four singers involved, woodshedding is meant for their ears only rather than for passive enjoyment by general audiences. The idea of woodshedding is to ring chords rather than "sing songs," so the best "woodshed" melodies strongly imply many Barbershop-7th chords and are readily harmonized by those with a fair sense of our style's chord progressions and the production of overtones. Woodsheddors are free to pitch songs where the singing is comfortable. Woodshedding ISN'T done by more than four singers at a time, except during a group-learning process or when a novice needs to hear barbershop chords. Woodshedding ISN'T "faking" a fourth part along with three singers who are replicating an existing written Barbershop arrangement. Woodshedding ISN'T singing Polecat songs, tags, or other music that is highly stylized.

For years and years after SPEBSQSA was founded, every song was woodshedded. Written arrangements were not used. In fact, there was quite an uproar around the Society when the first printed arrangements and songbooks were published. Today, the existence of written arrangements is accepted without question. That's good news, as singing written arrangements is one of the fun, valuable things that Barbershoppers can choose to do. The really good news is that Barbershoppers continue to have the opportunity to participate in the part of our art that got everything started -- woodshedding. The best part of this really good news is that proper woodshedding is completely central to everything that interested, concerned, active, growing, forward-looking, improvement-minded Barbershoppers could possibly wish to accomplish as they enjoy the totality of their hobby.

With all the demands on your chorus and registered quartet (contests, shows, making money, etc.), what possible good can come to your chapter from instituting a regular program of properly undertaken woodshedding? Here are just a few examples of how any Barbershopper can benefit, keep involved, and have his full talents recognized:

- ♪ *Chorus Directors* can identify "guys with an ear" - men with a heightened awareness of balance and tuning.
- ♪ *Chorus Directors* will have greater flexibility when switching a man from one section of the chorus to another. The conscientious, regular woodshedder, with his enhanced knowledge of what his new voice-part requires, is more likely to "hit the ground running" and be better sooner in his new role.
- ♪ *Chorus Directors* and *Chapter Officers* may trust that conscientious, regular woodsheddors will be those chapter members who have higher general

interest in what Barbershopping has to offer.

- ♪ *Chorus Directors* and *Chapter Officers* can readily identify a fired-up "mover and shaker" in the chapter -- a promoter of an activity.
- ♪ *Quartet Performers* can switch voice-parts with more ease and become comfortable in their new voice-part sooner.
- ♪ *Newer Barbershoppers* will have the chance to "make musical mistakes" without formal correction or censure.
- ♪ *Newer Barbershoppers* who are exposed to authentic woodshedding may become more motivated to form or join a quartet sooner than otherwise.
- ♪ *Newer Barbershoppers* will believe that "woodshedding is something I can learn and do." This early confidence will carry over into other learning, other singing, and other areas of general involvement.
- ♪ Since woodshedding is properly done at softer volumes, *Weaker or Untrained Singers* can participate as readily as men who are more vocally robust.
- ♪ *All Singers* get the regular chance to sing and hear melodies and lyrics beyond the average repertoire.
- ♪ *All Singers* get the regular chance to sing other voice-parts, and to hear how they work.
- ♪ *All Singers* not only get to sing their own voice-part, but they also get to hear how their part works.
- ♪ *All Singers* gain the fulfillment of having created "an arrangement of their own" -- totally by ear.
- ♪ *All Singers* gain exposure to forming harmony "by instinct" vs. "singing it off paper." Using their harmonic intuition will help them grow through discovery.
- ♪ *All Singers* get the opportunity to ring chords, and to work on chords until they do ring. Members who understand that "ringing chords" prefaces "the singing of songs" may rehearse themselves more diligently for public performances.
- ♪ *All Singers* can gain experience in blending vocally with others who have different vocal timbres.
- ♪ *All Chapter Members* will come to identify melodies that "Barbershop" well vs. melodies that are less compatible.
- ♪ At Barbershop conventions, *All Singers* will possess the capability to harmonize with a wider circle of men, without limitation to "Polecat" repertoire or recorded quartet-champ arrangements.
- ♪ In an AHSOW environment, *All Members* will have the chance to sing with (and learn from) some genuine Society experts who grew up woodshedding - and who know dozens of beautiful, highly appealing melodies.
- ♪ *All Singers* will experience the eye-opening, magical thrill of discovering alternate chord-harmonies that work equally as well as those harmonies normally implied or "expected."





The eyes have it

*Taken from Chord Courier, Dave Arnold, Editor,
who saw it in Suburban By-Lines. It apparently
originated in Scuttlebutt, Ted Fijak, Editor.*

Someone once said that the eyes are the window to the soul. In our daily lives, we demonstrate our belief in that idea with our sayings, attitudes, and actions. Have you ever heard of someone's inability to look you straight in the eyes? Or, have you ever remarked that someone is shifty-eyed or has a twinkle in his eye? What chorus director has not said, "Don't tell me you can't smile when you're singing an 'oo' vowel. Smile with your eyes". Somehow our eyes reflect what is in our hearts and reveal the depth of our sincerity.

An audience looks to a performer's eyes when seeking out that element of honesty and believability that will permit them to become totally captivated by the song. Our eyes can convey a very intense message that can convince an audience of our sincerity. Conversely, it is also possible for our eyes to disclose our insincerity. The most detrimental eye mannerism, one that exposes insincerity and lack of involvement, is *roving eyes*.

...the performer who snatches a quick glance away from the chorus focal point might as well wave a red flag at the judges.

Several highly respected presentation judges have remarked that while they may miss a flawed gesture on stage from time to time, it is almost impossible not to notice roving eyes. One even noted that the performer who snatches a quick glance away from the chorus focal point might as well wave a red flag at the judges. Roving eyes illustrate a performer's lack of involvement and unwillingness to accept the obligation to the audience to overcome the distractions that are always present on stage. Excessively roving eyes may actually insult the listener, because the performer's lack of commitment to the performance may be interpreted as a lack of respect for the audience.

Think about eye discipline often and practice it constantly during every rehearsal until it becomes second nature. Be aware of the fact that distractions on stage can be sudden, overwhelming, and almost hypnotic. Anticipate the occurrence of unexpected distractions and work to develop the concentration and personal eye discipline necessary to ignore them and remain involved in the performance.

Did you know?

Did you know that the Harmony Foundation General Fund supports SingAmerica, our movement to support vocal music education and recreational singing through grants to worthwhile projects?

Did you know that the Harmony Foundation General Fund supports Heartspring, the residential school for severely physically and mentally impaired youngsters through partial scholarships?

Did you know that the Harmony Foundation General Fund supports the Heritage Hall Museum, the world's largest archival display and resource center for barbershop harmony?

Did you know that you can support all these life giving causes through your individual, quartet or chapter donation to the Harmony Foundation General Fund?

Did you know that any individual who makes a \$25 or greater contribution will receive a 1999 Harmony Foundation pin? (See following article.)

Did you know what a good feeling you can get when you make a donation and Sing... *for life*?

The bung-bung system has a place in history

*From Sharptalk, Fred Hinesley, Editor
As seen on the PROBE web page*

Those of us who have been in the chapter for a few years remember when the guy directing craft sessions or warm-ups would sometimes say, "Sing that phrase saying 'bung, bung, bung'". I figured that somebody, somewhere, who taught vocal techniques had recently decided that use of this syllable would expedite musical learning. Personally, I didn't think winging the word "bung" would help me to sing better, or hear the chords better, or do whatever else better that it was supposed to do. While reviewing some material I picked up at Harmony College last summer, however, I ran across the following story from the life of our founding father, O. C. Cash.

Cash, who was born in 1892, was raised in a part of Oklahoma described as a rather wild area. His father was a leading citizen in the community and was president of the school board. One day two hoboes who had been kicked off a train by a railroad detective wandered into the general store and overheard Mr. Cash remark that the community needed a schoolmaster.

One of the hoboes, a man named Jim Wiley, said, "I can teach".

Mr. Cash, who was understandably skeptical, asked him if the world was flat or round. The hobo replied, "I can teach it either way".

"You've got a job," said Mr. Cash.

Wiley became the local schoolmaster and also organized a night school in which he taught mathematics one evening and music another. Young O. C. Cash attended the music classes and later recalled that Wiley taught his pupils to harmonize by arpeggiating familiar chords on the syllable "bung". Wiley called this the "bung-bung" system, and it made a permanent impression on Cash.

One day some law enforcement officers appeared at the school and told all of the children to go home. Mr. Wiley, they explained, had to go away for awhile. He never returned.

Forty years later, after Cash had become a lawyer, he decided to try to find out what had happened to this man. He discovered that Jim Wiley had died in an Illinois penitentiary, after being convicted of forgery. Cash always believed that Wiley was framed.

Despite my original impression, singing "bung, bung, bung" has a place in barbershop history. I guess that it wasn't as dumb as I thought.

Source: Notes provided by Dr. David Wright to his barbershop harmony history class at Harmony College, August 1998.

New donor recognition pin available

A special pin has been prepared to recognize individuals who donate \$25 or more to Harmony Foundation. The pin carries the Foundation logo and name as well as the current year, 1999. This attractive pin is gold with blue printing.

When the Foundation receives an individual's donation of \$25 or more, the pin will be sent with a thank-you letter. The donor can then wear the pin with pride and remind others about the Society's important charitable mission.

For more information about Harmony Foundation or gift planning, call (800) 876-SING, extension 8447.

It's Your Business

Lamar Owens



We have had interest expressed by Hamilton Place Mall and Cleveland Mall for appearances during the Christmas season. Both of these would be free appearances but are yet to be confirmed. I have also approached the Chattanooga Choo Choo and the Chattanooga Convention and Trade Center about making their customers aware of our services. I sent each of these organizations chorus press releases and business cards to be given to potential clients. We will have to wait to see if anything comes from these contacts. We will make our performance budget for the year but it would certainly be nice to exceed it. If you know of any potential chorus or quartet request for performance please let me know. My thanks to all those who have already done so.

Upcoming events

- October 23 World Wide Church of God (Lloyd Gimber's church)
- November 7 Fairview United Methodist Church (Wilbur Strickland's and Pete Jones' church)
- November 14 Tyner United Methodist (Earle Fraser's church)
- November 21 Parkway Baptist (Niles Fowler, J. W. Kirk and the Satterfields' church)
- December 4 Chickamauga, Georgia downtown Merchants' Association (details not firm)
- December 12 Bicentennial Library
- December 16 Creekside @ Shallowford

Reasons to change

From COTS

If you always do
What you've always done
You'll always get
What you've always got.

Think about it and then do what's needed to raise
your level of performance at least one notch.



International quartet and chorus champs

Depending on when you joined the Society, your list of past International quartet champions may be very short or very long. Here is a complete list of the quartet champions. May it bring back fond memories, and add to your knowledge of our quartet history.

Many of these quartets have left a lasting impression on our Society far beyond their contribution as quartetters. Some became judges, or served as International officers. Other became arrangers, teachers, directors, and mentors.

Year QUARTET

1999	FRED
1998	Revival
1997	Yesteryear
1996	Nightlife
1995	Marquis
1994	Joker's Wild
1993	The Gas House Gang
1992	Keepsake
1991	The Ritz
1990	Acoustix
1989	Second Edition
1988	Chiefs of Staff
1987	Interstate Rivals
1986	Rural Route 4
1985	The New Tradition
1984	The Rapsallions
1983	Side Street Ramblers
1982	Classic Collection
1981	Chicago News
1980	Boston Common
1979	Grandma's Boys
1978	Bluegrass Student Union
1977	Most Happy Fellows
1976	Insiders
1975	Happiness Emporium
1974	Regents
1973	Dealer's Choice
1972	Golden Staters
1971	Gentlemen's Agreement
1970	Oriole Four
1969	Mark IV
1968	Western Continentals
1967	Four Statesmen
1966	Auto Towners
1965	Four Renegades
1964	Sidewinders Fairchild
1963	Town And Country Four
1962	Gala Lads
1961	Suntones
1960	Evans Quartet
1959	Four Pitchikers



1958	Gay Notes
1957	Lads of Enchantment
1956	Confederates
1955	Four Hearsemen
1954	Orphans
1953	Vikings
1952	Four Teens
1951	Schmitt Brothers
1950	Buffalo Bills
1949	Mid States Four
1948	Pittsburghers
1947	Doctors of Harmony
1946	Garden State Quartet
1945	Misfits
1944	Harmony Halls
1943	Four Harmonizers
1942	Elastic Four
1941	Chord Busters
1940	Flat Foot Four
1939	Bartlesville Barflies

Minneapolis Commodores	4
Arlingtones	3
Big Apple Chorus	3
Border Chorders	3
Californians	3
Men of Accord	3
Peninsulaires	3
Big Chicken Chorus	3
Cascade Chorus	2
Chorus of the Chesapeake	2
Citrus Belters	2
Dixie Cotton Boll Chorus	2
Harmony Hawks	2
Kountry Kernels	2
Smokeyland Chorus	2
Miamians	2
Montclair Chorus	2
Port City Chorus	2
"Q" Suburban Chorus	2
Razor's Edge	2
Revelaires	2

In search of chorus history

Let's learn a little about international level chorus history. Who won the most medals in International chorus competition? Southern Gateway leads with 22 medals. Here is the complete list. This gives you an idea of who medaled and how many times. A second list is include that shows who won the most gold, silver, and bronze medals. The data are grouped by the total number of medals won by each chorus.

Choruses that won 2 or more

Southern Gateway Chorus	22
Thoroughbreds	18
Phoenicians	14
New Tradition (The)	12
Alexandria Harmonizers	11
Vocal Majority	10
Dukes of Harmony	9
Tidelanders	8
Chordsmen	7
Chorus of the Dunes	7
East York Barbershoppers	7
West Towns	7
Dapper Dans of Harmony	6
Pekin Chorus	6
Ambassadors of Harmony	6
Sun Harbor Chorus	5
Great Northern Union	5
Masters of Harmony	5

Most gold medals

Vocal Majority	8
Thoroughbreds	7
Alexandria Harmonizers	4
Masters of Harmony	4
Pekin Chorus	3
Phoenicians	3
Chorus of the Chesapeake	2
Dapper Dans of Harmony	2
Dukes of Harmony	2
Southern Gateway Chorus	2

Most silver medals

Thoroughbreds	7
New Tradition (The)	7
Southern Gateway Chorus	4
Alexandria Harmonizers	3
Chorus of the Dunes	3
West Towns Chorus	3

Most bronze medals

Southern Gateway Chorus	6
East York Barbershoppers	5
Ambassadors of Harmony	4
Alexandria Harmonizers	3
Phoenicians	3
Thoroughbreds	3

The above information was provided on the Internet at www.spebsqsa.org.

Hang Out To Dry !

(Hotel "Reservations", Per Webster, noun: the record or assurance of such.)



Accommodations

The source of my aggravation,
Was the handling of my reservation!
I'm charging housing with manipulation.
If one had a large chorus qualification,
The small and little were cut loose.
To fend and find a new caboose.
Up the Interstate the Choo Choo went,
Billeted miles and miles from the event.
So it looks like spring Convention is in doubt,
As our bilked members stated, "Count me Out !!"





NUFF TO GIVE YUH HEARTBURN !

Questions asked , rumors and observations: as seen and heard by, Chad Newgaugh

QUESTION: #1 What right has the housing honcho have to cancel your confirmed reservation?

Observation: #1 As in the golden rule, them that has the gold rules! Or, Cuz We Be in Charge ! Thats why!!!

Question #2 HOW CUM! Me and bruder were confirmed at the Best Western.

\$58.00 per room night. Then we're notified that Best Western was canceled and we were going to be at the Sheraton. (T'weren't us'n who done it!) Sheraton's confirming letter said room charges would be \$85.00 per "PERSON" per night!! SHOOOT MAN ! Thats a \$112.00 a night increase! Are we _ISSED OFF? You can bet your SWEET BOOTY we be!

Observation #2 What would Dale Carnegie say ? Definitely not a way to "Win Friends and Influence People"

Rumor #1 I heard, due to a church women's convention , Sheraton frowned on BBSHop singing and beverage consumption in the public areas.

Rumor Observation # 1: Shouldn't this have been established and clarified before we booked the facilities? (Hmmm.. Can this be construed as a form of discrimination?)

Rumor # 2: Heard Stone Mountain wasn't allowed to hang their banner or have a hospitality room at the Sheraton.

Rumor Observation # 2: Refer to Rumor Observation # 1.

Rumor # 3: Because Stone Mountain wanted to stay together as a chorus, smaller choruses were bumped out of their "CONFIRMED" rooms.

Rumor Observation # 3: BOY, I Sure hope this is false. If you give in to WBs (Whine BAGS) We're heading in the wrong direction. The WBs should be given application to the Sweet Adelines.... No disrespect meant, ladies.

Editors Note: Haven't heard from Chad for sometime. If someone can confirm or correct his observations I would be happy to print a rebuttal





Get with the Program

by STEVE GRUBB

What a great weekend in Birmingham!! The weather was perfect; I played golf with my brother and some fellow singers Friday morning. It was a little nippy, but the time spent was great fun for everyone. Changing into my shorts after the first nine, I shot a four on the second nine with two birdies; not bad for an occasional hacker like myself. Most of the golfers were from the **Big Chicken** and all the fellas were nice. The guy who won was a ringer from the Birmingham chapter. We played with the Lead and Bass from the **Older, Not Wiser**, the quartet that won the seniors competition on Saturday. The bass can really sing, but golf is not his forte.

I have been going to these events for ten years now and for the first time, I agreed with the judges' order for the top three quartets. **Ultrasounds** were good, but **Four Voices** were clearly the class of the competition. Way to go guys! I was proud to know they had their start here in Chattanooga. The Guyton brothers were two of the Jingle quartet from our first endeavor with the **RADIO** show. Brandon is also a newlywed. Hopefully, we can get these guys to perform at our show next year. It would be great to see Three quartets from Chattanooga competing next year, wouldn't it?

Big Chicken reminded everyone why they are the class of Dixie. I expect them to win the International very soon. Hearing **FRED** perform Saturday was worth the whole weekend. Their blend of harmony and comedy is just right; I'm proud to have Dixie with the reigning quartet champs. If you missed them shame on you!! The facilities were great for the competition, but I felt the hotel accommodations left something to be desired, again. Of course I stayed with my brother in Leeds, AL, and the price was just right for me. Mitch really enjoyed the weekend as well. Wish he could sing with a chorus, but time won't allow it for now.

It is rewarding to be a top ten chorus again, even if only thirteen choruses competed. We had nothing to be ashamed of from our effort. Over thirty guys on stage, and we had fun! What more could you ask? A little polish and commitment and we're a top six, if that's what we want. Let your board know your feelings. **Paul** is working hard to make us better, and it's showing in our sound and in the numbers we're bringing in on Monday nights. Let's keep up the hard work.

We will soon be working with a new Board, and I know we'll give our new officers the same support we have this present group. Thanks to **David Collins** for all he does for the chapter. **Bernard** is stepping down as President and his leadership will be missed. Great job "**NOSTRIL MAN**" Other VP's will be coming in and **Chattanooga** will continue to progress and improve. Our new members will contribute to our success also; great to have these new faces. John Johnston is moving to Baritone and both section's IQ's will increase.

Until next time, Keep the Whole World Singing!





Having attended many conventions over the years related to my work, my first convention as a card-carrying barbershopper was, in contrast, fun and refreshing. To have the privilege of seeing and hearing so many good quartets and choruses was wonderful. Many of the performances were so outstanding I experienced the "hair standing-up on your arms" feeling Paul had been alluding to over the past months of rehearsal. From the pure clean sound of four part harmony, embodied by a group of young men from Cleveland, to the sight of a quartet composed of three generations from the same family, my soul stirred and my heart welled-up.

I felt privileged to witness the gathering of so many men in one place (the million man march notwithstanding), doing what so many of us love—to add each of our voices to the greater "chorus"—singing songs passed down from years ago, linking us all together, even with those of us no longer here.

To be sure, I was impressed with the visual spectacle of the various barbershop outfits on display (can we rethink the olive/army outfit?) and the level of singing of certain quartets and choruses. It will no doubt inspire me to work harder at this craft and strive to do better with each performance.

My lasting memories, however, will be the pride I felt when our 4 guys were up there doing their best, the butterflies leading up to our Saturday performance, and the adrenaline rush of the curtain opening and the flood of bright lights. I will remember all the fathers and brothers and sons there, and how many of our songs speak to what is important to us all—our families, friends, and loved ones. I will remember sharing this with the Chattanooga Choo-Choo Chorus one autumn weekend at the close of this century, in which "barbershop" music came of age. I look forward to many more such gatherings, at gigs before smaller audiences around town and performances before larger ones elsewhere.

Editors Note: I asked First time convention attendees to submit their thoughts and views, this is from John Johnson, one of our great leads.



Choo Choo Belles

Our Christmas dinner is planned for Monday December 6th at 6:00PM. Eidsons Resaurant 5308 Ringgold Rd. East Ridge. To reserve a room we need from each, a \$5.00 deposit. For information call me 892-7191 or see you at our next schedule meeting,



By Audrey Gist



Singing in the Rain



"Singing in the rain, just singing in the rain. What a glorious feeling singing in the rain." Not just because the dry spell has been broken, but also another time of chapter sharing as we gathered at Frank Shaw's, Martin Davis Historical Home.

"Bug" Shaw what a captivating man. A true southern gentleman, gracious and unassuming. He again opened his ancestral home to us for a day of fellowship and song.

Tell me, wasn't it a great day? As usual the food was bountiful. To our "Master Grill Cooks", Sam Jones and Paul Blazek a big vote of thanks. Maybe it was all those years Sam spent as a firefighter made him immune to the height of those flames. I overheard one leery lead mention to a wary bari. "Cheez! someone ought to call nine eleven." and the bari was heard to reply "I'll do it, what's their number."

When I was in the food service industry, it would have been said of our kookie...oops I mean our cooking songmates, Their skills appeared to be like they had apprenticed under the "Greasy Spoon" style of cooking. That being **"If it's smoking it's cooking, if it's burnt it's done!"** Lets not forget the Choo Choo Belles, Audrey, Kudos are again in order to you and the Belles for another wonderful job. Thanks from all of us.

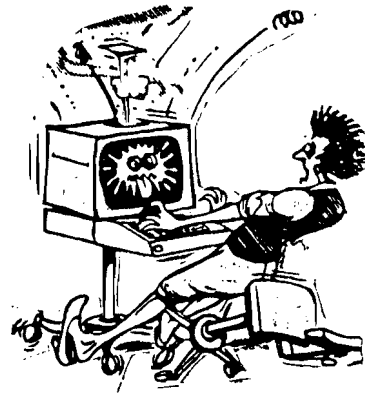
Congratulations and a lot of respect are also in order for another fine gentleman of the old school, Bill McKeehan. The portrait he painted of "Bug" Shaw was outstanding. The unmistakable likeness and the quality were superb, Bill, what more can we say about you, your the greatest.

It was great that we could present "Bug" with our old style Dixie district lapel pin. The Confederate soldier waving the Bars and Stars brought a gleam to his Dixiephile eyes. Yuh, know, is it just my imagination, or what? I thought we sounded darn good. Maybe we should have those guys to cook for us before the next competition.



Bill McKeehan presents portrait to Frank Shaw.

From the Internet



Submitted by Steve Grubb

What He Says / What He Means

"I'm going fishing."

Really means: "I'm going to stand by a stream with a stick in my hand all day, while the fish swim by in complete safety."

"It's a guy thing."

Really means: "There is no rational thought pattern connected with it, and you have no chance at all of making it logical."

"Can I help with dinner?"

Really means: "Why isn't it already on the table?"

"Uh-huh." "Sure honey." "Yes, dear."

Really means: "Absolutely nothing. It's a conditioned response."

"It will take too long to explain."

Really means: "I have no idea how it works."

"We're going to be late."

Really means: "I have a legitimate excuse to drive like a maniac."

"Take a break, honey, you're working too hard."

Really means: "I can't hear the game over the vacuum cleaner."

"Thetas interesting dear."

Really means: "Are still talking?"

"Hey, I've got my reasons for what I'm doing."

Really means: "And I sure hope I think of some pretty soon."

"I can't find it."

Really means: "It didn't fall into my outstretched hands, so I'm completely culls."

"You know I could never love anyone else."

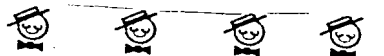
Really means: "I am used to the way you yell at me and realize it could be worse."

"You look terrific."

Really means: "Please don't try on one more outfit, I'm starving."

"I'm not lost. I know exactly where we are."

Really means: "No one will ever see us alive again."



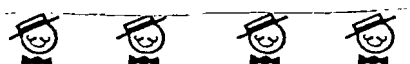
She was so Blonde:

She sent me a fax with a stamp on it.....

She tried to put M&Ms in alphabetical order.....

She tripped over a cordless phone.....

At the bottom of the job application where it says "sign" she wrote "Sagittarius"





Quartet Night

How do you spell fun? Where do you find fun? Who has fun? To answer these in reverse order.

WHO: The Chattanooga Choo Choo Chorus!

WHERE: The chorus meeting rooms at 310 East Eighth St. Chattanooga TN.

HOW: Quartet night.

Bill Slack has done it again, with the assistance of a great bunch of guys. These nights should be taped. It would make a wonderful "How To" tape for chapters. And a source of quartet names for those who want to make it big time. Where does he come up with them? The kind of names that one would find hard to forget, no matter how hard they tried.

In order of appearance. "The Good the Bad and the Fuzzy" and who could forget "Private Parts" or "Pair au Daux", and Velvet Frogs" also these other singing sensations such as "Full Monty", "Leg a See", Young and the Restless", "Hot Metal", "Mumbo Jumbo", "Dolly Lamas", Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever", and "Old Dogs, No Tricks".

Not in the competition, but brave enough to stand up and be counted, were our four young gentlemen, back for their fourth visit. Slack bestowed the name of "Slow Children at Play". They did an admirable job. Loved that Tenor. Somebody sign him up.

Also gracing our presence was the original "Choo City Chord Committee". Namely David Reynolds, David Collins, Claude Walker and "Radio" Keegan. Slack renamed them, which apply fit. "My Wild Oats are Shredded Wheat". They were great.

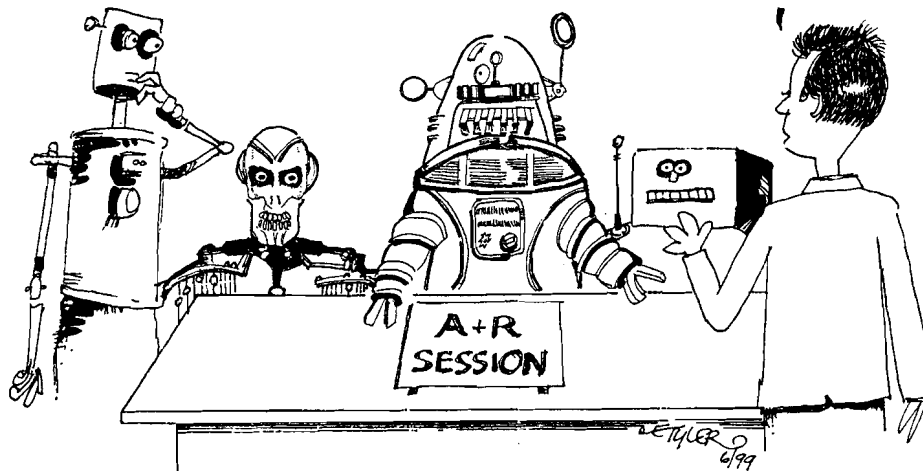
Where did Slack get all those (I hesitate to call them jokes) concise and elegant expressions. Next time Bill, bring Flash Cards, Buffet Bob is still trying to figure where the hearing aid is. Your Bon Mot's and the "Polecats" made for an enjoyable evening.

So lets hear it for Bill Slack! Wadda Guy. We'll even let up on the lawyer jokes. Thanks for a fun filled evening Bill.

Seriously, there is the makings of pretty darn good quartets. So you guys get together and lets hear more from you.



YOU SING GREAT-YOUR JUST TOO DARN MECHANICAL!



A Child's View of Retirement

From Parkway Baptist Temple's Golden Agers Bulletin

When school resumed after the Christmas break, the teacher asked her small pupils how they spent the holiday. One small boy's reply went like this.

My granpa and granma used to live up in a brick house, but my granpa got retarded and they moved to Florida. So we went to see them. They live in a big park made especially for retarded people. Their park has a guard at the gate so people can't run away. They all wear their name tags pinned on their coats so they can remember who they are.

They live in houses made out of tin, but they look like homes on the inside. They ride great big old tricycles (like the one I used to ride when I was 2 years old.) to the building that they call "the wrecked hall." But if it was wrecked they got it fixed because it is alright now.

The people that live in the park don't work like regular people do. They just play a lot of card games like bridge, cabbage, pig knuckle, poker and gin run. You should see them playing games, but they don't do them very good because some of them have very close veins, arthritis, dumb bago and poor eyes.

There is a swimming pool there and they all go in and just stand in the water with their hats on. I guess they don't know how to swim. Most of them just walk around and they drive their cars real slow. At the grocery store I heard a young man say he was late for work because of the traffic--the snowbirds were all walking their cars down the main street.

My granma used to make cookies and stuff. I guess she forgot how. Nobody cooks, they eat out at restaurants. Some of the people go to exercise in the morning then they rest all day. Granma said the women were busy going back and forth to the wrecked hall, classes, laundry and things, but mostly the men stayed home and read the papers and looked at each others cars. She thinks the men are all lazy and the women are all crazy. But granma says granpa worked all his life and earned his "retardment" but I wish they would come back up here. (Author Unknown)



SPEBSQSA COMMUNITY SONG LEADING GUIDE

HERE'S WHY

We don't need anyone to tell us about the joys of singing. In fact, Barbershoppers should be constant salesmen of the positive effect it has on us every day of our lives. Let's sell the joys of singing everywhere we go. We owe it to the world, and to ourselves. We can do so by including a sing-a-long in every performance our chorus and quartet does. Get the audience involved. They'll be surprised at how much they enjoy being participants rather than observers. This is a spectator world. We can change that. You'll enjoy it and so will they.

Community singing will enhance every performance you do: your annual show, senior citizen's centers, service clubs, birthday parties, anniversaries, opening the new shopping center, every performance you do! You'll demonstrate the joy of singing and recruit new members.

The Society's Service Project SingAmerica and SingCanada has as one of its goals to renew singing throughout our communities. And, we are not alone. The Music Educators National Conference have joined with us and Sweet Adelines International, the American Choral Directors Association and Chorus America to "Get America Singing ... Again!"

The ultimate objective is to encourage audience singing at concerts, recitals, opening and closing public gatherings with a song, singing at clubs and private meetings, and in homes. Talk to service clubs and volunteer to do an entire program on barbershop singing. Include some audience singing of old, familiar songs.

To help you on the road to encouraging community singing the Harmony Marketplace offers, "Sing Along Songs"—a collection of over 100 public domain song lyrics which you may reprint. (stock #6044; \$3.00) and the "Get America Singing . . . Again!" songbook—a collection of words and music of over 40 songs which represent America's vast and varied music heritage (Singer's edition, stock # 6030; \$3.95)

HERE'S HOW

Determine your best song leader(s). He or she should have these traits:

- Ability to communicate verbally with the audience
- Ability to elicit response and encourage involvement
- Ability to communicate physically, that is, use good body language and gestures that encourage and coordinate participation
- A desire to bring joy to each participant

Choose songs your audience has a good chance to know. Don't try your chorus contest ballad on them. Try "My Bonnie Lies Over the Ocean", "I've Been Working On The Railroad", "Take Me Out to the Ball Game", "Let Me Call You Sweetheart" or similar songs. Although some
(over)

songs more easily invite natural harmonizing, don't let that be the final determining factor in choosing a song. Unison can be amazingly powerful. However, natural harmony should always be encouraged. *Community singing is not a time, however to teach songs and tags or even to correct words and notes.*

Pitch the song in a moderate key. This is vital because an incorrectly pitched song can be a real hindrance to the sense of musical community. People avoid singing if it is not vocally comfortable for them. It is important that the song leader know in advance the key in which each song will be sung. General audience voices lie a little lower than those of trained singers and it's easier for mixed audiences to find the notes when the key feels a little low to us. A whole step or minor third down from a barbershop arrangement quite often is sufficient.

Although not necessary, you may wish to use instrumental accompaniment. There are ragtime piano players who also lead audience singing as they play. Have a Dixieland band as a special guest to open the second half of your show and provide an audience sing-a-long. Transition that with a number combining your chorus and the band, or bring the band back for a finale with the chorus, guest quartet(s) and maybe include the audience in the big finish.

Above all, the community song leader should have fun with his role. The song leader cajoles, praises and helps to propel the songs along. The leader sings out to give others courage. Don't worry about fancy conducting gestures. The idea is to keep the song moving, to stimulate participation and to share the fun of music. You don't have to be a chorus director to do well at this. You're participating with them in the activity. Practice leading the songs in front of a mirror. Learn to demonstrate enthusiasm, exude positive energy, and generate excitement. Show your love of singing on your face and with your body. Encourage participation. Thank them when it's over.

Here are some more ideas:

- Use a round, such as "Row, Row, Row Your Boat," and "Frère Jacques,"
- Use songs that can be sung simultaneously by dividing the audience (and chorus), such as "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot/When The Saints Go Marching In" (put "Swing" on the pickup beat). Also, "Delta Dawn" can be sung with "When The Saints" Try "Play A Simple Melody/Me Father & Mother Were Irish."
- You may wish to use a leader for each song.
- Use action songs that require physical response, such as clapping, swaying, sitting/standing, arms raised/lowered, etc.
- Leave out the personal pronouns in "Let Me Call You Sweetheart."

**HAVE FUN AND YOUR AUDIENCE WILL HAVE FUN
LET'S KEEP THE WHOLE WORLD SINGING**



Something To Crow About

Pat Crowe Editor

Well one more convention under our belts. Mostly a great time and fellowship...but some glaring glitches,

In my experience, BJCC (Birmingham Jefferson Convention Center) was one of the finest complexes we have ever performed in.

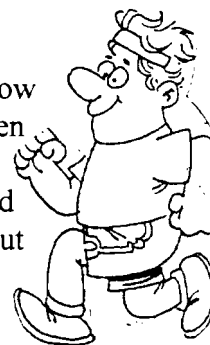
In my experience, the housing was the most screwed up.

The cavalier and dictatorial manner in which confirmed rooms were canceled from beneath you was beyond conception... And smacked of favoritism!

Enough to warm the hearts of ambulance chasing attorneys, as visions of sugar plum litigation danced through their heads. Word has it this was the reason one of the choruses canceled. Can anyone give us an explanation ?

The community song leader guide I received from Kenosha and enclosed a copy for all to see, brought to mind past conventions where community singing was ongoing from the moment we arrived. Yet it was lacking this time. It brought this response from a member. "Are we getting so sophisticated and competition oriented we are losing the spirit of O.C.Cash's concept, singing is fun!" Do I hear an amen brother?

Heard Lamar Green publicizing our Cedar Hills Baptist church singout on the morning talk show "Hey Earl" on 1310 AM. Earl's Wednesday morning co-host "Goatman" mentioned he has seen "Ol' Digger" jogging up the hill at Lanes Funeral Home. I don't know about you, but the only time I've seen him jog, is trying to beat "Buffet Bob" Stansbury to the buffet table. Well my old rotund buddy this is just payback for all those "crow calls" every time you see me in public. But hey guys, we owe "Digger" thanks as he has promoted us many a time to the media.



I had requested a few lines from first time competition attendees..... looks like they'll fit right in with the rest of the members. Why?... Well only one carried through and contributed an article. My thanks are **LARGE** John.



Is it writers cramp? How about arthritis, maybe I didn't twist your arm enough. Just think, your chance to see your name in print.

You haven't blown it yet. I'll give you another opportunity. Be the first in your block to get in on this fabulous offer. More thrilling than, and a greater chance than, winning the offer from the Ed McMahon and Dick Clark sweepstakes. So get your pencils sharpened and poised before this offer is withdrawn.



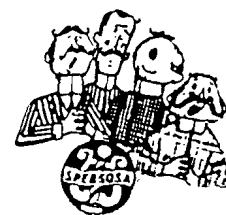
Your 1999 Leadership Team

President	Bernard Wheeler	[706-638-4013]
Treasurer	Bob Stansbury	[423-894-7760]
Chapt. Development	Rick Kulp	[423-875-9251]
Music Director	Paul Blazek	[423-622-4493]
Music VP	David Collins	[423-658-2737]
Secretary	David Reynolds	[423-875-2674]
Asst.Secretary	Earle Fraser	[423-892-7630]
Program	Steve Grubbs	[706-861-6171]
Business Manager	Lamar Owens	[423-894-8559]
Bulletin Editor	Pat Crowe	[706-375-3878]
Heartspring	Brooks Gist	[423-892-7191]
Publicity	W.C.Strickland	[706-866-2567]
Past President	Tom Keegan	[423-756-5660]
Board Member	Sam Jones	[706-375-5431]
Board Member	Bill Slack	[706-638-3791]
Board Member	J.W.Kirk	[706-861-3135]
Equipt.Manager	Pete Jones	[706-861-2113]
Choo Choo Belles	Audrey Gist	[423-892-7191]

The Blender
Pat Crowe, Editor
145 Green Court
Chickamauga, GA.
30707

TO:





The Blender

The Official Publication of the Chattanooga Chapter of the
Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America

Chattanooga, Tennessee

Dixie District

Volume 8 No.11


The chapter meets every Monday, 7:00 PM, All Saints Academy 310 E. 8th St. Chattanooga



WANTED!!

MEN WHO LIKE TO SING!





**Don't Get
Lost in the
Crowd**

Did you know we miss YUH!!

HEY ! WE'RE Saving a spot for you on the risers.

The Price is Right !!

COME

Onnnnnn

DOWWNN!

**All Saints Academy (the Old Notre Dame High school)
310 east Eighth Street, Chattanooga.**



Something to Crow About Pat Crowe, Editor

On October 28th. after VLQ rehearsal , Sam Jones, David Collins, Brooks Gist, Bill McKeenan, Niles Fowler, Benny Malone and I; ventured to the metropolis of greater Chickamauga. Our goal being to surprise the father-in-law of one of our program advertisers. Plunket's Auto Supply and Appliances.

Mrs. Plunket's father, step-mother and two sisters were visiting from the Netherlands. She had asked Sam if we would sing birthday greetings to her father. Well, who could turn down an offer like that. So off we went. Trying to look like customers as we wandered into the store. Surprise! He wasn't there. So we hung around till he showed. We got him to sit down as he eyed us suspiciously; probably wondering, is this some kind of inquisition?

But he settled down as we rendered our musical greetings to a very surprised "Papa" and a very proud family.

I am so glad Sam got us involved in VLQ's. Every engagement we have had has been as enjoyable to us as it has been to the recipients... Thanks Sam.

There's room for more voices. So why sit there and watch "Mama" watching her favorite "Soaps"....

Come on and join us.

Paul has returned from his business trip to Dallas. I received an e-mail from Grant Carson, editor of the "Big D Bulletin." it's an article about Paul getting the "clap" from their members. Give it a look,

I dont know why Im metioning it ,because very few ever submitt anything, but the **Blender** deadline has been kicked up to December 13th. It would be nice if some of you comment on our Christmas singouts for that issue or the January issue. I sure hope **Santa** puts the bug in your ear and a pen in your hand.

In my home town there stands a stautue of a soldier, his hands resting on the butt of his rifle, muzzle in the ground and his head bent in sorrow, a memorial... First erected to the memory of those who had fallen in the first world war 1914 - 1918. It now also honors all who have since paid that great sacrifice . On it is the inscription " Lest We Forget"..... Too many have I fear.... Steve Grubb's e-mail "Twas the Night Before Christmas" arrived just as I was pondering the lack of respect we owe to those valiant "BOYS" robbed of their manhood.....who gave their all.

Thanks, Steve.

What goes around, comes around. So the old saying goes. At the Tyner UMC singout, Lloyd Gimber reported that at the performance we gave at his church. Some dastardly villian walked off wih his music. We mentioned ; could it be revenge by someone who lost their shoes? ...Hmmm??? He said he'd bring the shoes back if they'd bring back the music.



*Have a Happy
Thanksgiving*

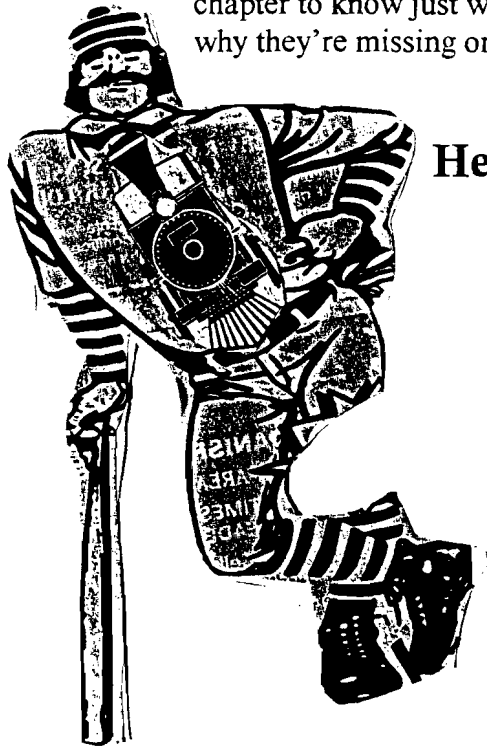




Editorial continued"

The church performances continue to be well received. Thanks to all those members who showed. We had I believe 24 at W.C's Fairview UMC. I was out of town for the performance at Lloyd Gimbels Church but he tells me he is still receiving glowing comments. And at our "Old Map Makers" house of worship; Tyner UMC there were 29 in attendance. We were such a great hit that after the non-secular performance in the fellowship hall: someone gave us a \$25.00 check for **Heartspring**. You know I don't want to sound like a braggadocio, but we've been sounding pretty good lately. Could we be more focused? Maybe even trying a little bit harder? Anyway, let's keep it up! I had hoped to converse with map maker Earle about the performance to see what if any comments were made. But alas and alack, he didn't attend Mondays rehearsal. Forrest, when asked about Earle. Said he didn't pick him up. Seems Earle had a dental problem. Probably had them stuck in the glass. I guess he didn't want to gum the vowels.

I once more (even after I promised myself not to)... placed my self on the altar of supplication. And debased myself by asking quartets for news of their performances. Why you may ask, or who cares you may proclaim. Well it would be informative for the chapter to know just what and where they are or have been performing. Could also tell us why they're missing on Mondays. So for those who missed my plea; lets hear from you.



Heres the Lineup of Coming Events

December 9th: VLQ, Country Place Restaurant

14th VLQ there is some confusion over this one no complete details as of press time.

Chorus Events

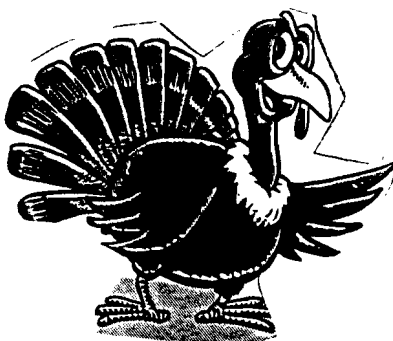
December 12th, 2:30 PM, Chattanooga, Hamilton County Library
Uniform Bb (Red coats) \$\$\$ Paid performance

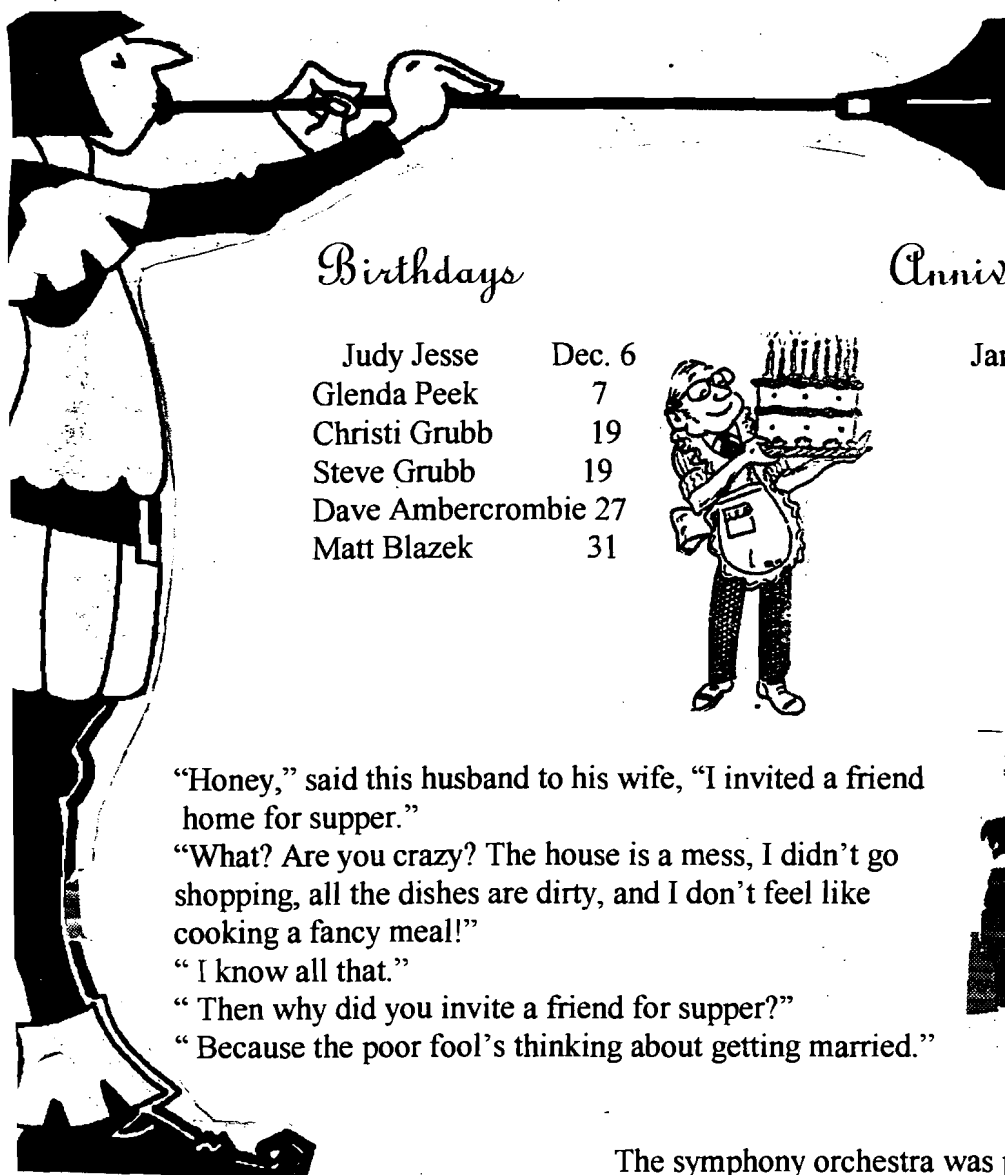
13th, 6:30 PM, Salvation Army, 800 McCallie St.
Uniform Bb. We will reconvene at All Saints afterwards for regular rehearsal & business

16th, Creekside at Shallowford, 6:30 Uniform Bb,
\$\$\$\$ Paid performance

19th, 1:30 Hamilton Place Mall, Uniform Bb.
This is a Freebee, but an excellent opportunity for publicity and a chance to perform before thousands of shoppers.

20th. Annual Holiday Party: Park Place Restaurant
Fort Oglethorpe, GA. on US Highway 27
south of GA. Highway 2 (Battlefield Parkway)
and north of the Chickamauga Battlefield Park.





Birthdays

Judy Jesse	Dec. 6
Glenda Peek	7
Christi Grubb	19
Steve Grubb	19
Dave Ambercrombie	27
Matt Blazek	31



Anniversaries

Janice & Lamar Owens Dec.23



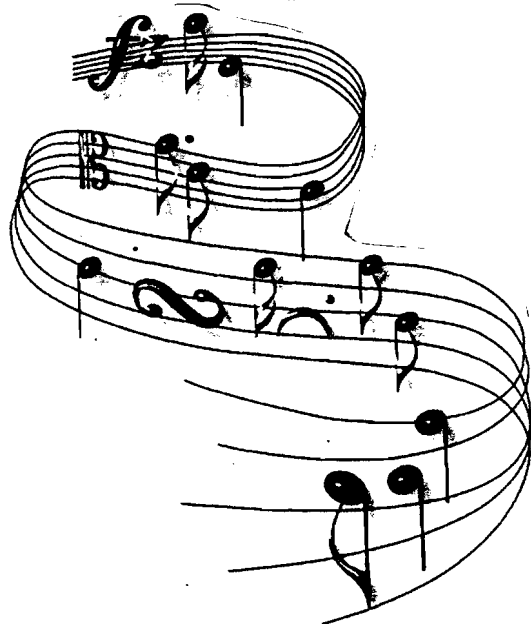
"Honey," said this husband to his wife, "I invited a friend home for supper."

"What? Are you crazy? The house is a mess, I didn't go shopping, all the dishes are dirty, and I don't feel like cooking a fancy meal!"

"I know all that."

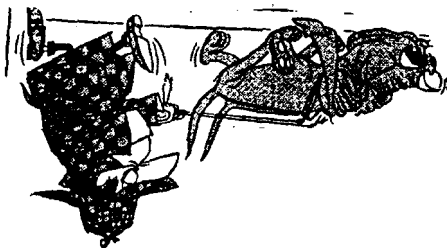
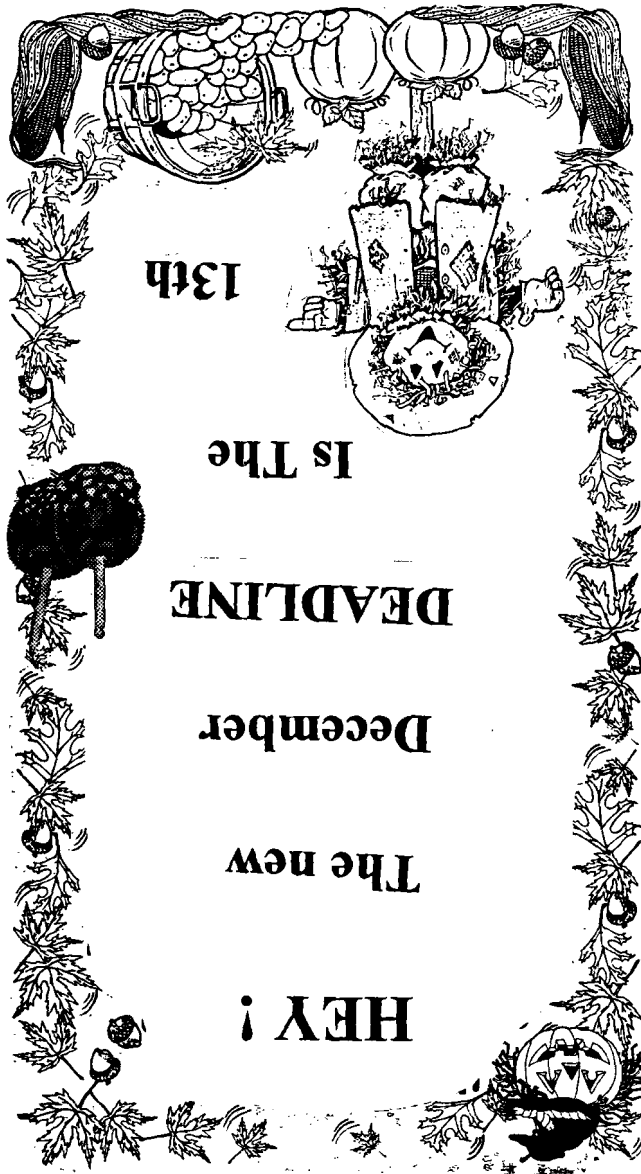
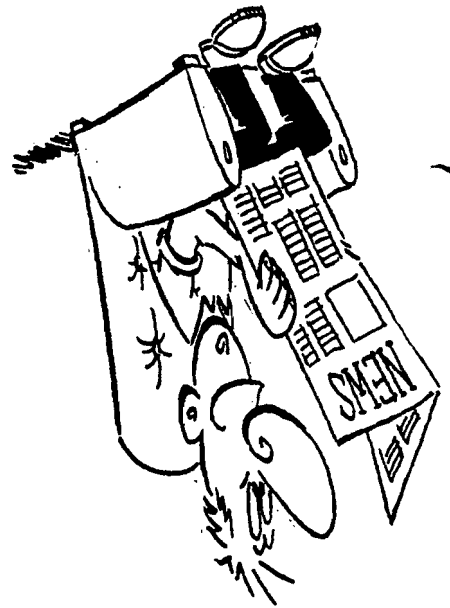
"Then why did you invite a friend for supper?"

"Because the poor fool's thinking about getting married."



The symphony orchestra was performing Beethoven's Ninth. the piece, has a long passage, about 20 minutes,during which the bass violinists have nothing to do. Rather than sit around they sneak offstage and go to the tavern next door for a quick one After slamming several beers in quick succession, one of looked at his watch and said "Hey! We need to get back!" "No need to panic," said a fellow bassist. " I thought we might need some extra time, so I tied the last few pages of the conductor's score together with a string. It'll take him a few to get it untangled." A few minutes later they staggered back to the concert hall and took their places in the orchestra. About this time, a member of the audience noticed the conductor seemed a bit edgy and said as much to her companion.

" Of course," said her companion. " Dont you see ? It's the bottom of the Ninth, the score is tied and the bassists are loaded."





No Tickee No Washee

{ The tribulations of a Treasurer }

At the October board meeting our treasurer (Buffet) Bob Stansbury brought before the board the enigma members present to him. That being the request of reimbursements without the proper paperwork. i.e.: Expense Vouchers, Non-existent!

When Bob is audited he must have this document, plus the necessary receipts to show the reason the check was issued.

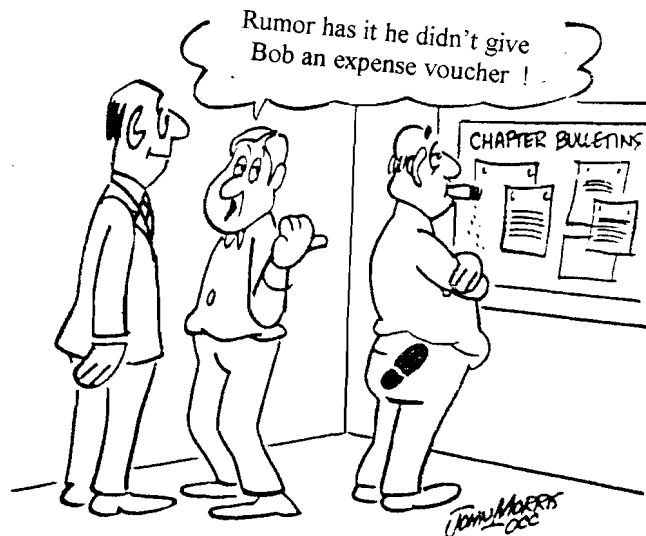
The board has ordered Bob not to cut any checks without the proper paperwork.

The audit of the treasurers reports are sent to Kenosha. When the forms are incorrect, Kenosha's first thought is that ; Chattanooga is depriving some poor village of it's IDIOT!

Remember, as they used to say in those old "Chinese Hand Laundry". The proprietor would admonish you with "**So Sollee, No Tickee No Washee!**" So let's get with the program. Bob needs all the help he can get. Remember it's compareable to going to the "Loo". "The job isn't over till the paperwork's done!"



EDITORS NOTE: See the Expense Voucher printed on the following page for those who haven't known of it's existence. Additional forms can be distributed upon request.



PARTY TIME

Chapter Christmas Party

Time 6:30 Place: Park Place Restaraunt

Fort Oglethorpe,GA. US Highway 27

Between GA 2 (Battlefield Parkway)

Chickamauga Military Park



EXPENSE VOUCHER

CHATTANOOGA CHAPTER - SPEBSQSA

Check # _____

Invoice #: _____

Date: _____

FOR ACCOUNTING USE ONLY

Charge to Acct # _____

Check # _____
Date of check _____

Purchased from: _____

REQUESTED BY

APPROVED BY

STATE TAX ID

4-331929395-000-8

Make check payable to: _____

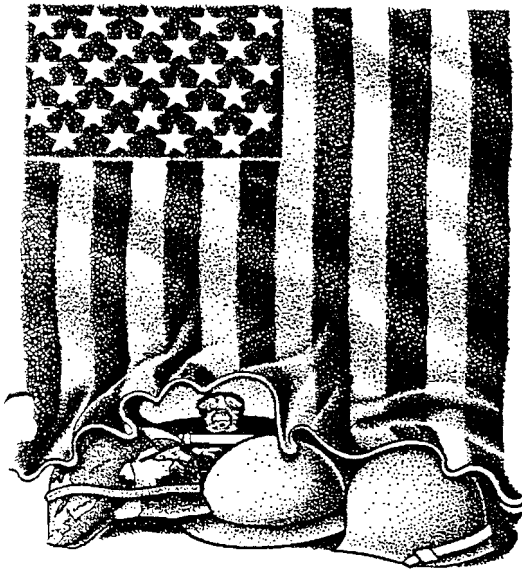
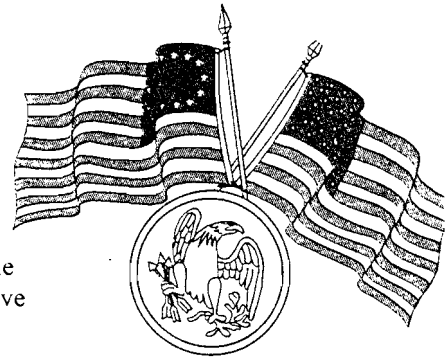
QTY	DESCRIPTION	TOTAL

SUBTOTAL

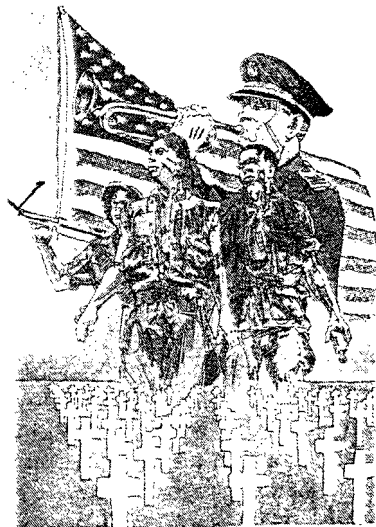
BAL DUE

Armistice Day, the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month 1918. So ended what was called the war to end all wars. Now eighty-one years have passed, and we have named them conflicts, police actions, interventions etc. But it's still war. Young men are sent, many never to return. Many with no one to mourn them. Today the eleventh day of the eleventh month is called Veterans Day. As I sat here I thought of my father and how his health was ruined in what was also named "The Great World War" and "WW 1" and of my three brothers who served in "WW2" and of each, unknown to me, who made that great sacrifice. Just kids, some neighbors, some schoolmates. How well do we remember them as we sit in our little cocoons free from many wants. Steve Grubb e-mailed me the following that I'd like to pass on to you.

Twas the Night Before Christmas



Twas the night before Christmas
 He lived all alone
 In a one bedroom house made of plaster and stone
 I had come down the chimney with presents to give
 And to see who in this home did live
 I looked all about, a strange sight to see
 No tinsel, no presents not even a tree
 No stocking by mantel, just boots filled with sand
 On the wall hung pictures of far distant land
 With medals and badges, awards of all kinds
 A sober thought came through my mind
 For this house was different, it was dark and dreary
 A home of a soldier, once I could see clearly
 The soldier lay sleeping, silent, alone, curled up on the floor
 In this one bedroom home. The face was so gentle
 The room in such disorder
 Not how I pictured a United States soldier
 Was this the hero of whom I just read?
 Curled up on a poncho, the floor for a bed?
 I realized the families that I saw this night
 Owed their lives to these soldiers who were willing to fight
 Soon around the world, the children would play
 And grownups would celebrate a bright Christmas day
 They all enjoyed freedom each month of the year
 Because of the soldiers, like the one lying here
 I couldn't help wonder how many lay alone
 On a cold Christmas Eve in a land far from home
 The very thought brought a tear to my eye
 I dropped to my knees and started to cry
 The soldier awakened and I heard a rough voice
 Santa don't cry this life is my choice
 I fight for freedom, I don't ask for more
 My life is my God, my country, my Corps
 The soldier rolled over and drifted to sleep
 I couldn't control it I continued to weep
 I kept watch for hours, so silent and still
 And we both shivered from the cold nights chill
 I didn't want to leave on that cold dark night
 This guardian of honor so willing to fight
 Then the soldier rolled over, with a voice soft and pure
 And whispered "carry on Santa, it's Christmas Day. All is secure."
 One look at my watch, and I knew he was right
 "Merry Christmas my friend and to all a Good Night."



This poem was written by a marine in Okinawa Japan. The following is his request. I think it is reasonable... PLEASE. Would you do me the kind favor of sending this to as many people as you can? Christmas will be coming soon and some credit is due to our service men and women for our being able to celebrate these festivities. Let's try in this small way to pay a tiny bit of what we owe. Make people stop and think of our heroes, living and dead, who sacrificed themselves for us. Do your part to plant this small seed.

News from the Big Easy

(to you, thats New Orleans)

The following is from **The Doubloon**
Bulletin of the **MARDI GRAS CHORUS**
Greater New Orleans Chapter.

The Southwestern Districts Fall Convention
at Tulsa Oklahoma coencide with their 50th
anniversary.



John Manion, Editor



SWD HISTORY

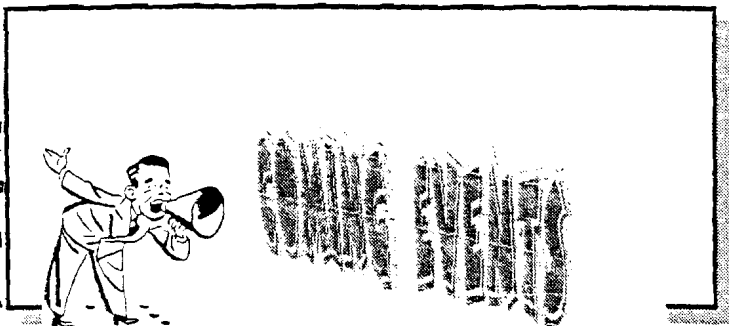


New Orleans...Land of Dreams



One of the hardest workers for the SWD convention was Grady Kerr of Dallas, who has served for a number of years as the SWD historian. He is also the editor of the *SWD Roundup*. During the 50th anniversary weekend, Grady set up a special SWD history exhibit at the hotel. The room was filled with magazines, newspaper articles, photographs, costumes, and memorabilia of SWD and its champion quartets and choruses. There were even two historic plaques honoring the beginnings of the Society in Tulsa and articles about the Alvin Plaza Hotel in which Tulsa's first barbershop chapter met and performed. One article from the *Tulsa World* in 1938 described one of the first meetings in which traffic was stopped in the streets outside to hear the singing. Grady also performed as emcee during the weekend as he introduced SWD quartet champions.

On Sunday morning, a fairly small group went with Grady for a historic tour of Tulsa. We went to the site of the Alvin Plaza Hotel, which was the first regular meeting place. The hotel has been gone for many years, but a plaque remains to honor the hotel and its place in barbershop history. We also went to the Tulsa Club, which still stands but has not been used for many years. Along the way, Grady told us many things about O.C. Cash, his promotional abilities and his unique characteristics. During barbershop conventions, many SPEBSQSA officers would rent suites in the upper floors of hotels to enjoy some luxury. Mr. Cash would remain in the hotel lobby long into the night and sing with any pick-up quartet he could encounter. Our last stop on the tour was the cemetery where O.C. Cash is buried with his wife and daughter, Betty Ann Cash Oathout, who would have been present for the convention except for her death in August 1999. We sang an emotional rendition of "Wild Irish Rose" over his grave, as a traditional ending to this extraordinary



Choo Choo Belles



Remember!! Our Christmas dinner, December 6th. It's a Monday, same night as the guy's meet.

TIME: 6:00 pm

PLACE: Eidsons Restaurant, 5308 Ringgold Road, East Ridge

To reserve the room we need your deposit.

For information call me, 892-7191 or see you at the next meeting.

Audrey Gist

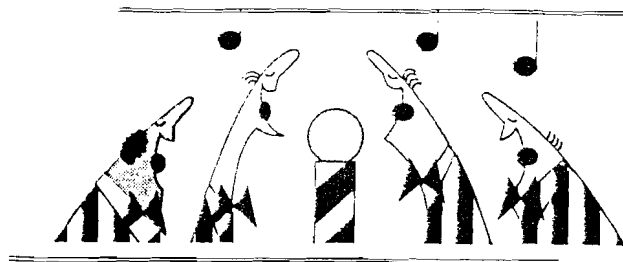


I'm busy so get
that article in by
December 13th.



Quartet Corner

By Bill Slack



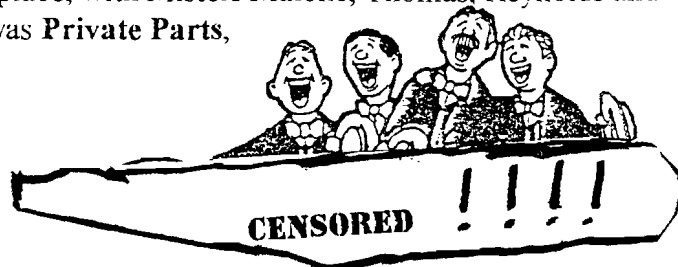
The semi-occasional **Quartet Night** was well recieved by members of the Chattanooga Choo Choo chorus on monda, October 18, 1999.

Over eighteen different members "competed" in thirteen quartets for the honor of being named the best. The top five quartets were selected, and they then performed a second song for top prizes. The fith place quartet was **Full Monty**, which was Misters Brun, Kulp, Reynolds and L. Satterfield. The fourth place quartet, **Hot Metal**, was made of Misrers Malone, Peek, Johnston and Collins. Next the **Velvet Frogs**



Dang! young'uns.
No respect!!

captured third place, with Misters Malone, Thomas, Reynolds and Kulp. The second place quartet was **Private Parts**,



which was Mr, Kulp, Mr.Thomas, Mr. P. Blazek and Mr. P. Jones. The top place finishing quartet was **Old Dog/No Tricks**, composed of Misters Brun, Ambercrombie, Wilson and P. Blazek.



Much praise and thanks should be given to our three judges, Mr. Sam Jones, Mr, Lamar Owens, and our guest for the night Mr. Ken Hewlet.

Hopefully, this experience as a member of a quartet has stimulated some membership intrest in forming new foursomes for competen, or general enjoyment. Any quarteting makes for better singing techniques and a better performing chorus.



The following is an e-mail I received from Grant Carson, editor of the "Big D Bulletin"
Maybe more of our officers should go out town. It seems to be the only way they are going to get in print. I dont want to point fingers... But the articles from them is non existent. But I must be fair. Here it is at the waning edge of the century; Paul did submit **ONE** article. No wonder a prophet is never recognized in his home town. But I digress.... On with his story.



Choo Choo Chorus Director Is A Big Hit at Big D Chapter Exclusive to "The Blender" Dallas, Texas, November 2

Paul Blazek was in town for a computer course, visited the little Big D Chapter and won the hearts of the members.

The usual Big D warm-up is Barberpole Cat songs. We did that, and then Paul was invited to lead a real warm-up, which he did, both physically and vocally. He was a task master, but he was so adept at what he was doing we enjoyed getting better. For this he received warm applause. His reward for the work was leading us in "Irish Blessing," another round of applause.

After the break, Paul was invited to teach a tag. He taught a new (to Big D) tag to "Nellie." More applause. At this point Big D Director Jim Devenport was enjoying just singing instead of directing that he invited Paul to continue to lead the chorus through our repertoire of Christmas songs for several scheduled Christmas sings. Paul knew them all, except that we sing the first and third verses of "Silent Night." He not only learned the third verse very quickly, but added some dynamics. More applause.

Of course he was invited to direct "Keep the Whole World Singing." He was a task master at this one too, and the chorus sang the song better than it's usually sung. More applause.

And of course Paul joined us at afterglow, with several more members than we usually have attending because all wished Paul a good time. More applause, this time from the patrons of the Midway Point. They bought us several pitchers of beer, and some regulars remarked that we were singing better than usual. If Paul returns with a swelled head, well, just remind him he had a lot of raw material to work with. But y'all should appreciate what a talented director you have. Why don't you occasionally give him a round of applause?

Grant Carson, Editor, "Big D Bulletin"



Blender Editors Note:

I noticed this was sent at 1:17 AM Nov. 3rd. After their visit to the "Midway Point" Hmmmm....Did the "Hops" play a part of this articulation?? Hmmmmmm...I wonder.

Paul this doesn't get you off the hook. I still want an article from you!



Grant added a PS: I reminded Paul of his obligation to write about his Dallas visit for the bulletin. He visited Dallas Town North Chapter on Monday, Big D on Tuesday, and plans to visit Dallas Metropolitan (Vocal Majority) on Thursday. A dual Big D member will pick him up to take him to the VM meeting, since the rehearsal hall is tricky to get to.



Chapter Operations Training Seminar '99
By Shannon McConnell



Each year, the various districts in the society hold a Chapter Operations Training Seminar (C.O.T.S.), organized and taught by the leadership from the home office in Kenosha, WI. The purpose of the training is three-fold: First, the training serves to teach new officers in the chapters their responsibilities with regard to their specific jobs. Second, the training serves to teach some of the "old dogs" in the society the newest tricks of the hobby through various brainstorming sessions and conferences. Finally, the seminar serves as a great net working tool that allows the members to meet face to face with the highest leadership in the society and the district to learn how those leaders can best serve the chapters.

Over the weekend of November 6-7, the Dixie District held its annual C.O.T.S. training in Jonesboro, Georgia. For those of you like me who have never attended C.O.T.S. and don't know too much about the training in general, I thought, through the eyes of a new barber shopper, I'd spend a few minutes relaying my impression of the training and how I thought the weekend went. My hope is to inspire both old and new members to attend, in the future, what I thought was an extremely worthwhile, inspiring event.

First, I was immediately impressed with how well the leaders organized this year's training. I don't mind telling you that I've attended my fair share of uninteresting, boring seminars over the years, and prior to attending, I had my reservations about the quality of this training. But I'm pleased to announce that I was wrong – dead wrong! Without exception, all of the classes were well organized and interesting. Additionally, the organizers made great use of their time, keeping the attendees busy from the moment we arrived until the moment we left on Sunday. With classes ranging from Marketing to Directing, the seminar had something of interest for every attendee!

Second, I was even more impressed by the quality of our leadership and their teaching ability. All were well prepared for their classes. Guys like Ev Nau, VP of Chapter Development, and Gary Dieringer, VP of Marketing and Public Relations, proved to me that we have absolute top-of-the-line leadership at the home office. You should be proud to know that the society is well prepared with its leadership as we head into the 21st century!

Finally, I was most impressed by the attendees. We've got a great society with a lot of great minds and caring people who care a great deal about barber shopping and it's importance to the continued development of both young and old men alike. We've got members who'll, at the drop of a hat, travel great distances to ensure that chapters are absolutely as successful as they want to be. We've got members who work 60-hour weeks at their normal job, and put another 40 hours of time into their hobby each week, free of charge.

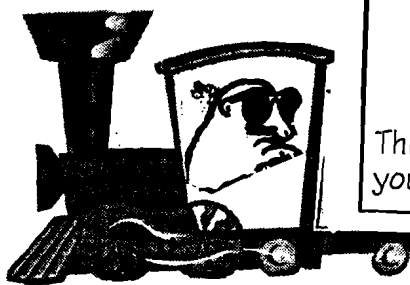
One final note. While all of the attendees agree that competitions, singing Valentines, shows and our other events are important, perhaps my greatest take-away from this weekend is that we all agree that what's most important is our common bond of enjoyment and love for singing. As we head into the next century, our society has to do everything in its power, as a group, to continue the tradition! So let's get to work!

Reasons to change

From COTS

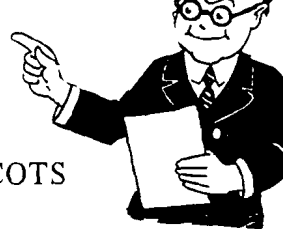
If you always do
What you've always done
You'll always get
What you've always got.

Think about it and then do what's needed to raise
your level of performance at least one notch.





From the new Chief, B.S.
Bull... ah ..Bill Slack



REPORT FROM COTS

On November 5th, 6th and 7th Chattanooga Choo Choo Barbershoppers Bill Slack, Shannon McConnell, Fred Jesse and director Paul Blazek went to Atlanta to the Dixie District COTS, or Chapter Operations Training Sessions. We attended different classes to diversify the information which we could collectively bring back to the Chapter.

Overall, I was tremendously impressed with the caliber of the instructors. They were very informed about the Society, how it works, how a chapter should be run, and the resources available from Kenosha. I also learned that all of the chapters in the Society essentially have the same problems that we do, such as balancing having fun with the quality of singing; how to handle difficult or different members, (such as Pat Crowe); and administering a chorus with members with different goals. I also learned that directors take courses such as How to Dominate Groups; Pet Peeves and Pitching Fits; and How to Pretend Competency, or Using The Word "Overtones" As Many Times As Possible. And of course that other word "Ellision" *



On a serious note, Kenosha has announced that our National dues will be raised \$6.00 per year for 2000 and more than likely that will be increased again in the year 2001. This is due to the increased cost of membership services, and a decrease in membership. They also have a plan for prepayment of the national dues for three, five or eight year terms so you may pay dues at the present rate, rather than have to pay future increases.

The instructors highly recommended that each chapter conduct a written survey each year in order to get a statistically picture of the Chapter membership, and to poll them on what they think the Chapter goals should be for the next year. Look for this in January or February.

Finally, the Nashville officers and I discussed having an inter-Chapter Quartet Competition some evening or Saturday. The Quartets would be novice or non-registered Quartets, with prizes and awards to be given. There would be different competition categories, such as parodies, or mixed Quartets composed of members from different Chapters. Perhaps Cleveland and Knoxville Chapters could be invited as well. Please think about this and give me your input.



Editors Note: I dont know what to say..... I got an article. Without cadjology,pleading or praying!!!!

All officers present and future please note . Maybe its just some tricky lawyer plot. But.. thank you,thank you Bill,what ever your I ever said about you....it still goes!!

* OOPS ! it's "ELISION" (n): ommissionof a vowel,consonant or syllable in prounciation.



*Happy
Thanksgiving*

Contract Negotiation

A new contract for Santa has finally been negotiated, please read the following carefully. I regret to inform you that, effective immediately, I will no longer be able to serve southern United States on Christmas Eve. Due to the overwhelming current population of the earth, my contract was renegotiated by North American Fairies and Elves Local 209. I now serve certain areas of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin and Michigan.

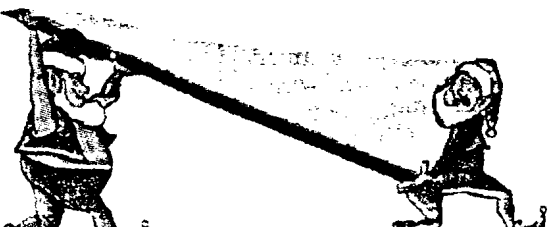
As part of the new and better contract I also get longer breaks for milk and cookies so keep that in mind. However, I'm certain that your children will be in good hands with your local replacement who happens to be my third cousin, Bubba Claus.

His side of the family is from the South Pole. He shares my goal of delivering toys to all good girls and boys; however there are a few differences between us. Such as :

1. There is no danger of the Grinch stealing your presents from Bubba Claus. He has a gun rack on his sleigh and a bumper sticker that reads "These toys are insured by Smith & Wesson"
2. Instead of milk and cookies, Bubba Claus prefers that children leave a RC cola and pork rinds [or a Moon Pie] on the fireplace. And Bubba doesn't smoke a pipe. He dips a little snuff though, so please have a empty spit can handy.
3. Bubba Claus' sleigh is pulled by floppy-eared, flyin' coon dogs instead of reindeer. I made the mistake of loaning him a couple of my reindeer one time, and Blitzen's head now overlooks Bubba's fireplace.
4. You won't hear "On Comet, on Cupid, on Donner and Blitzen" when Bubba Claus arrives. Instead, you'll hear "On Earnhardt, on Wallace, on Martin and Labonte. On Rudd, on Jarret, on Elliot and Petty."
5. "Ho ho, ho!" has been replaced by "Yee Haw!" And you are also likely to hear Bubba's elves respond "I her'd dat!"
6. As required by Southern highway laws, Bubba Claus' sleigh does have a Yosemite Sam safety triangle on the back with the words "Back Off"
7. The usual Christmas movies classics such as "Miracle on 34th Street" and "It's a Wonderful Life" will not be shown in your negotiated area. Instead, you'll see "Boss Hogg Saves Christmas" and "Smokey and the Bandit IV" featuring Burt Reynolds as Bubba Claus and dozens of state patrol cars crashing into each other.
8. Bubba Claus doesn't wear a belt. If I were you, I'd make sure you, the wife, and the kids turn the other way when he bends over to put the presents under the tree.
9. And finally, lovely Christmas songs have been sung about me like "Rudolph the Red-nosed Reindeer" and Bing Crosby's "Santa Claus is Coming to Town." This year songs about Bubba Claus will be played on all the AM radio stations in the South. Those song titles will be Mark Chestnut's "Bubba Claus Shot the Jukebox", Cletus T. Judd's "All I want for Christmas Is My Woman and a Six Pack."

Sincerely Yours,

Santa Claus
Member of North American Fairies and Elves Local 209.





**DON'T
BE A
TURKEY**



Come On Down!!

IT'S PARTY TIME

DECEMBER 20th

AT

PARK PLACE

RESTAURANT



Ferd's Words

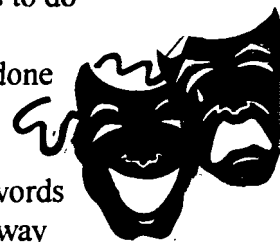
Fred Jesse, Music and Performance VP



As the new VP for Music and Performance, I will be writing more columns for the **Blender**. But, I need some feedback from you guys if you agree or not with what I say, or if you have comments or suggestions. In the past, I did not get any comments, so I sort of had to do what I thought was needed. Please help me make this job easier, and to then make singing more interesting to you.

Do you like the chance to woodshed during the meeting? I hope so, because it is part of the heritage of baebbershop. It is good training for your ear and brain to work together without the benefit of sheet music, It is a chance to create harmony, and is for leads to do more than sing the melody. We need more volunteers to sing the melody when we woodshed, especiallylly basses. I enjoyed the time I did it. Ask anyone else who has done it.

Got any ideas for a show theme? Get them to me soon. Need some help with your words or music? Ask me or your section leader. Do you sing your part in the car? A great way for baritones to not make fools of themselves. Do you want to sing in a quartet? We need Valentine quartets. Want to learn some new songs? We need some for our new show. Got any other suggestions? lets talk. Lets also sing. Need a tenor, ask me.



Martha Stewarts Guide for Living in Alabama

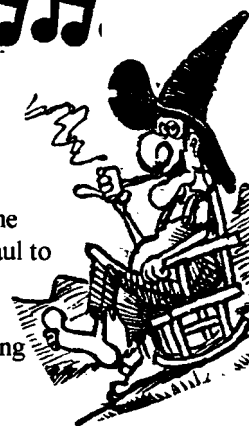
1 Never take a beer to a job interview. 2 Alwaya identify people in your yard before shooting at them. 3 It's considered tacky to take a cooler to church. 4 If you have to vaccum the bed it's time to change the sheets. 5 Even if your certain that you are included in the will, it still is considered tacky to drive a U-Haul to the funeral.

DINING OUT: When decanting wine, make sure you tilt the paper cup, and pour slowly so as not to "bruise" the fruit of the wine. If drinking directly from the bottle, always hold it with your fingers covering the label.

ENTERTAINING AT HOME: A centerpiece for the table should never be anything prepared by a taxidermist. Do not allow the dog to eat at the table....no matter how good his manners are.

PERSONAL HYGENE: While ears need to be cleaned regulary, this is a job that should be done in private using ones OWN truck keys. Proper use of toiletries can forestall bathing for several days. However, if you live alone, deodorant is a waste of good money. Dirt and grease under the fingernails is a social no-no, as they tend to detract from a woman's jewelery and alter the taste of finger foods.

DATING (Outside the Family) Always offer to bait your date's hook, especially on the first date. Be aggressive. Let her know you're interested: "I've been wanting to go out with you since I read that stuff about you on the bathroom wall two years ago." Establish with her parents what time she is expected back. Some will say 10:00 PM; Others might say "Monday." If the latter is the answer, it is the mans responsibility to get her to school on time.





Church Performances

Is it my imagination, or have we not performed as many church presentations as we have in the past?

It is written in Psalm 100 verse 2 "Serve the Lord with gladness; come before His presence singing." and in chapter 66 verse 2; "Sing out the honor of His name."

I have commented on this in the past. I feel there should be some good old handclapping, foot stomping "Southern Gospel" songs. I'm sure many of you noticed when "Classic Harmony" gave their rendition of "I'll Fly Away" the congregation perked up and their faces broke into smiles. With many of them mouthing the words along with the guys and clapping their hands.

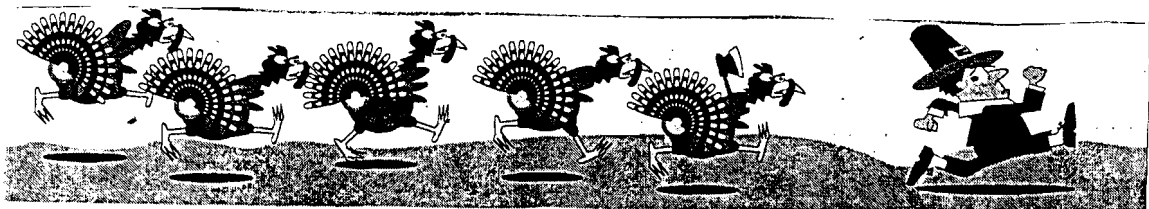
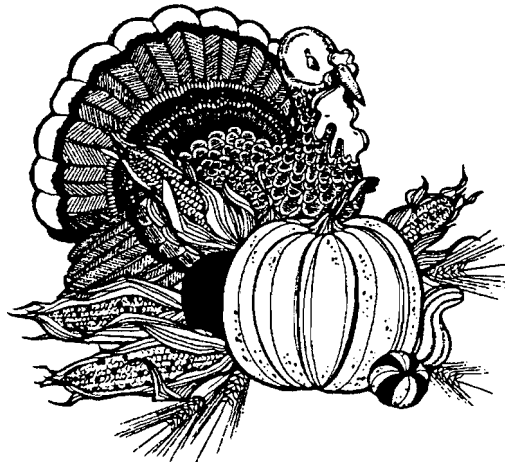
"Make a joyful shout to the Lord, all you lands!" is the word in Psalm 100.

I know some feel there should be solemnity in our presentation, but again it is written in Psalm 150, to let all things praise the Lord, trumpets, lute, harp, timbrel and dance, with stringed instruments, flutes and loud cymbals, clashing cymbals. Some how I don't see Him frowning on clapping and smiling.

So, Fred as our new Music and Performance VP, I'm challenging you to let us "Make a Joyful Sound!" Dig into that vast repertoire of music you have, find us songs of joy.

We are told in Psalm 149 "Sing the Lord a new song."

Happy Thanksgiving





Get with the Program

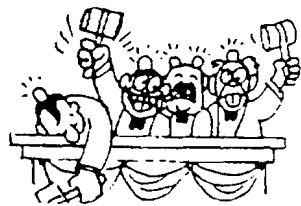
Steve Grubb, Program VP

Almost through with another year of harmonizing! Hard to imagine, huh? We've had a very successful year and should only expand on our accomplishments next year. If you haven't already, thank Mr. Wheeler and his fine cast of characters for all the work they did this year on behalf of the chapter. We should all thank Mr. Collins every time we enter the meeting room and have a cool/warm place to ring some chords. Thanks, David, for all you do for this chapter.

A new slate of officers will be coming on board (No Pun intended) soon. Let's all volunteer to help when asked. Doubtless Mr. Slack will do a great job as our Prez, and his VP's are all top-level fellas (especially that PVP returning for another year of involvement.) We need men to take over as Quartet Chairman, Show Chairman, and Valentines Chairman. Don't make us beg for help.... VOLUNTEER for one of those posts and let's get to work. As we all work together, the limits of this chapter are without bounds. Especially if we keep getting that fine Director's effort out of Dr. Blazek. We kid Paul constantly (and he definitely is deserving), but we are fortunate to have his expertise here in Choo Choo town. Thank him as well for his efforts if you haven't.

Our Holiday party is Monday, December 20th, at 6:30 PM at the *Park Place Restaurant* in Fort Oglethorpe, GA. on Highway 27. Cost is \$12.50 per person, for meat, two veggies, beverage and dessert. I will take early payments between now and then if you'd like to pay in advance. Make your checks (no cash, please) out to the chapter if you'd like to do this ahead of time. Please plan to come, bring your Significant Other and enjoy the evening. Hope to see everyone.

Until next year, Keep the Whole World Singing!



BOARD BRIEFS

Our motto: We knock ourselves out for you!

This e-mail's original source is from the offices of Berger, Stepp and Gorman, Attorneys at Law, 216 Concorde St., Vienna, VA. Thought it would be of interest to all e-mail users.

>>

>> Please read the following carefully if you intend to stay on-line and

>> continue using email:

>>

>> The last few months have revealed an alarming

>> trend in the Government of the United States attempting to quietly push

>> through legislation that will affect your use of the Internet. Under

>> proposed legislation, the US Postal Service will be attempting to bill

>email

>> users out of alternate postage fees, Bill 602P will permit the Federal

>Govt.

>> to charge a 5 cent surcharge on every email delivered, by billing Internet

>> Service Providers at the source. The consumer would then be billed in turn

>> by the ISP. Washington DC lawyer Richard Stepp is working without pay to

>> prevent this legislation from becoming law. The US Postal Service is

>> claiming

>> that lost revenue due to the proliferation of email is costing

>> nearly \$250,000,000 in revenue per year. You may have noticed their recent

>> ad campaign -There is nothing like a letter.

>>

>> Since the average citizen received about 10 pieces of email per day in

>> 1998, the cost to the typical individual would be an additional 50

>> cents per day or over 180 dollars per year, above and beyond their

>> regular Internet costs.

>>

>> Note that this would be money paid directly to the US Postal Service

>> for a service they do not even provide. The whole point of the Internet

>is

>> democracy and noninterference.

>>

>> If the federal government is permitted to tamper

>> with our liberties by adding a surcharge to email, who knows where it

>> will end. You are already paying an exorbitant price for snail mail

>> because of bureaucratic efficiency. It currently takes up to 6

>> days for a letter to be delivered from New York to Buffalo. If the

>> US Postal Service is allowed to tinker with email, it will mark

>> the end of the free Internet in the United States.

>>

>> One congressman, Tony Schnell (r) has even suggested a twenty to forty

>> dollar per month surcharge on all Internet service above and beyond the

>> government's proposed email charges. Note that most of the major

>newspapers

>> have ignored the story, the only exception being the Washingtonian which

>> called the idea of email surcharge a "useful concept whose time has

>> come"(March 6th 1999 Editorial.) Don't sit

>> by and watch your freedom erode away.

>>

>> Send this email to all Americans on your list and tell your friends and

>> relatives to write to their congressman and say No to Bill 602P.

>>

JUST A REMINDER !!

For those who missed page 6



SONG TITLE

List of this years
Christmas music

Jingle Bells

White Christmas

Angels we Have Heard

O Come all Ye Faithful

Silent Night

Jingle Bell Rock

Christmas Song

Twelve Days of
Christmas

Winter Wonderland

Let it Snow

I saw Mommy Kissing
Santa Claus

While by My Sheep



They were called the
three wisemen because
they didn't invite a
"Baritone!"

LEAD'S TITLE

JingleJingleJingle

The sun is shining

Angels we Have Heard

O Come all Ye

Silent Night

Jing, Jinga, Jinga

Ooooooooo Chestnuts

On the fist day of
Christmas

Over the ground

Doo doo doo doo doo

When Santa came to
our house

While by My Sheep I
Watched





Your 1999 Leadership Team

President	Bernard Wheeler	[706-638-4013]
Treasurer	Bob Stansbury	[423-894-7760]
Chapt. Development	Rick Kulp	[423-875-9251]
Music Director	Paul Blazek	[423-622-4493]
Music VP	David Collins	[423-658-2737]
Secretary	David Reynolds	[423-875-2674]
Asst. Secretary	Earle Fraser	[423-892-7630]
Program	Steve Grubbs	[706-861-6171]
Business Manager	Lamar Owens	[423-894-8559]
Bulletin Editor	Pat Crowe	[706-375-3878]
Heartspring	Brooks Gist	[423-892-7191]
Publicity	W.C. Strickland	[706-866-2567]
Past President	Tom Keegan	[423-756-5660]
Board Member	Sam Jones	[706-375-5431]
Board Member	Bill Slack	[706-638-3791]
Board Member	J.W. Kirk	[706-861-3135]
Equipt. Manager	Pete Jones	[706-861-2113]
Choo Choo Belles	Audrey Gist	[423-892-7191]

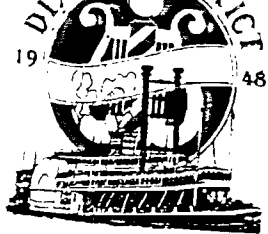
*Happy Holiday
Because You
Care Enough,
Others Will Feel
The Spirit Too*



The Blender
Pat Crowe, Editor
145 Green Court
Chickamauga, GA.
30707

TO:





The Blender

The Official Publication of the Chattanooga Chapter of the
Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America

Chattanooga, Tennessee

Dixie District

Volume 8 No.12

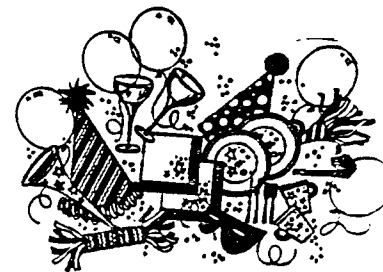
The chapter meets every Monday, 7:00 PM, All Saints Academy 310 E.8th St. Chattanooga

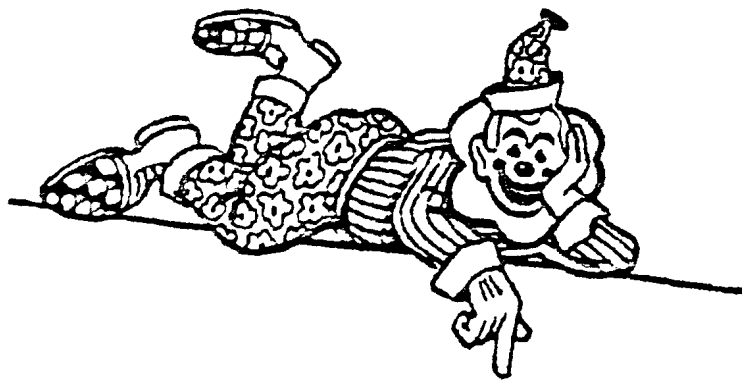


Move it man !!
We're comin' in !



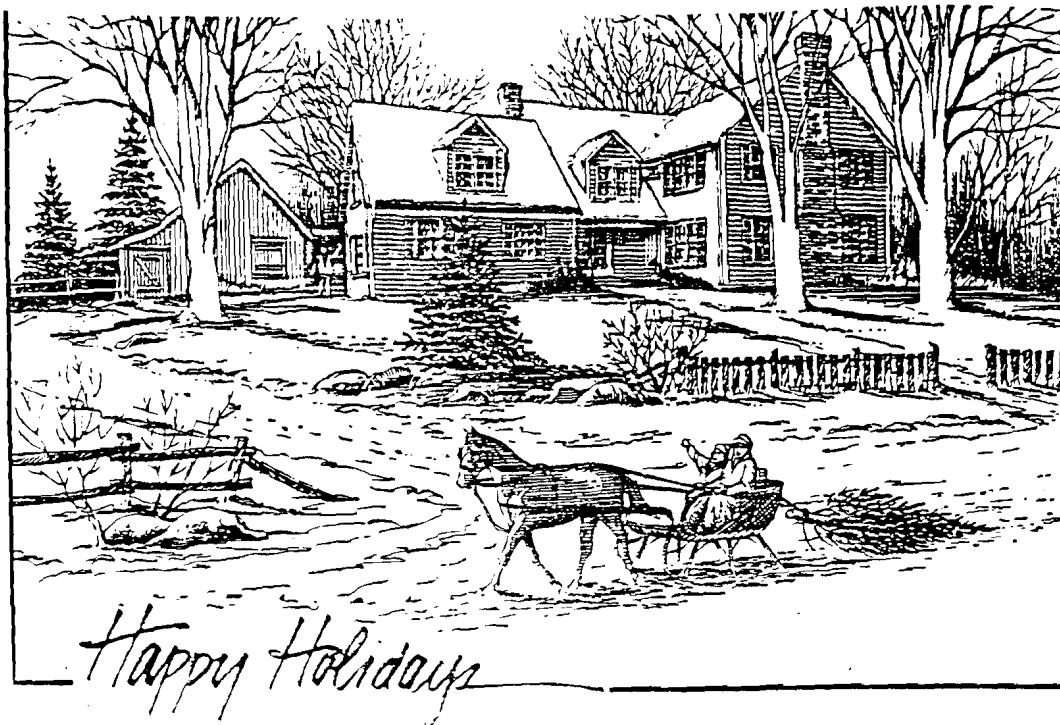
I've got goodies!
But only for
Article writers





Name That Christmas Carol!"

1. Bleached Yule
2. Castaneous-colored Seed Vesicated in a Conflagration
3. Singular Yearning for the Twin Anterior Incisors
4. Righteous Darkness
5. Arrival Time: 2400 hrs - Weather: Cloudless
6. Loyal Followers Advance
7. Far Off in a Feeder
8. Array the Corridor
9. Bantam Male Percussionist
10. Monarchial Triad
11. Nocturnal Noiselessness
12. Jehovah Deactivate Blithe Chevaliers
13. Red Man En Route to Borough
14. Frozen Precipitation Commence
15. Proceed and Enlighten on the Pinnacle
16. The Quadruped with the Vermilion Proboscis
17. Query Regarding Identity of Descendant
18. Delight for this Planet
19. Give Attention to the Melodious Celestial Beings
20. The Dozen Festive 24 Hour Intervals



Happy Holidays



Something to Crow About

Pat Crowe, Editor



Well it's official; by unanimous approval the membership approved the new slate of officers. Congratulations to all. I know they will serve their respective disciplines with diligence, and the respect it requires.

Likewise my hope is the membership will support them the with same diligence and respect. We are all looking forward to the coming year, with growth in all areas. This can only be accomplished by everyone's assistance. So, be there when help is needed.

While we are on the subject of participation. On that theme, let me once more cry in my beer. "Commitment and Participation." I have not asked for total commitment; just a little participation. (And thats what I got. Very Little !)

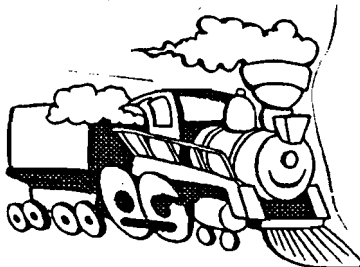
That often repeated story of what is commitment and what is participation. It's like an order of bacon and eggs. The chicken participates, the pig is totally committed. Looking back over the past year of participation in the Blender. It is sadly lacking. It looks like the majority of members and officers are too chicken to participate..... They've laid an egg!

What have we got ? The last page of the Blender lists eighteen members on the "LEADERSHIP" team and I believe we have a membership which totals fifty. The track record of news from officers on their respective disciplines is lame. Only three, thats right, THREE! have contributed items pertaining to their office. From the membership four have submitted articles. What more is there to say? Sure doesn't give much to crow about !!



Wishing you
a very
Merry Christmas

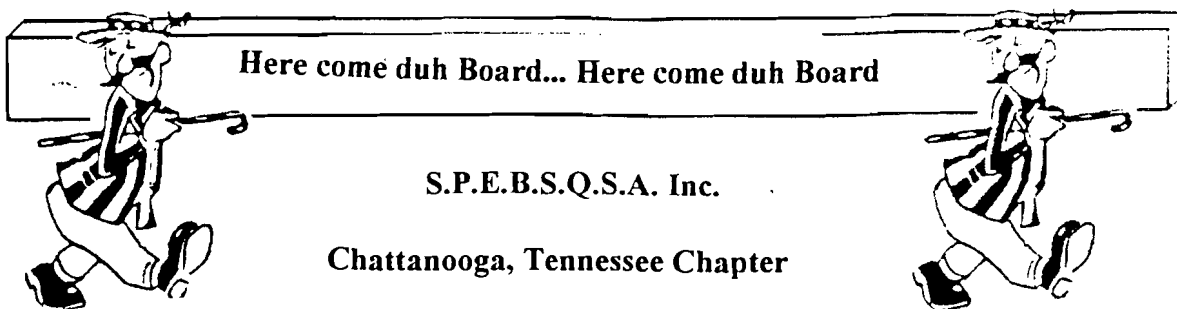
ALL ABOARD!!



It's time to start thinking...

"Singing Valentines"





Here come duh Board... Here come duh Board

S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. Inc.

Chattanooga, Tennessee Chapter

Chapter Officer Elections, Monday, October 25, 1999

Immediate Past President and Chairman of the Nominating Committee Tom Keegan called the meeting to order at the All Saints Academy. Secretary David Reynolds declared that a quorum of the membership was present. Keegan announced the proposed slate of officers for 2000 as follows:



President
VP Chapter Development
VP Music
VP Program
Treasurer
Secretary
Business Manager
Publicity
New board member

Bill Slack
Shannon McConnell
Fred Jesse
Steve Grubb
Bob Stansbury
David Reynolds
Lamar Owens
W.C. Strickland
Ronnie Satterfield



There being no nominations from the floor, Paul Blazek moved that the nominations be closed, seconded by Edgar Dawson. Keegan called for the vote by a show of hands all in favor of the slate. Passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted - David Reynolds, Chapter Secretary





Open letter to the year 2000 leadership Team

Welcome and congratulations on being selected by your peers to lead us in the millennium. We look forward to another year of song, fellowship and hopefully, an informative year. Song and fellowship are self explanatory. Information ? That's where you and I come in. What is INFORMATION, 1: knowledge communicated or received concerning a particular fact or circumstance; NEWS !

My little handy dandy synonym finder Sez, 1: data, facts, knowledge, intelligence, input. 2 : (now this is the meat of it) telling, advising, apprising, notification, teaching, schooling, enlightening.

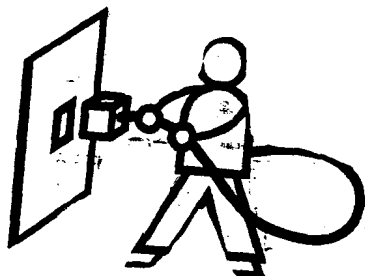
So as you venture into the roll as a leader, it behooves one to keep their respective disciplines INFORMED! (see synonym's number 2).

Since becoming bulletin editor, I don't know what it is? I've bathed daily, changed deodorants, gargled, brushed my teeth, etc. (didn't floss though, at my age we just rinse after every meal) all this and I'm still shunned like a poor red-headed step child.

So gentlemen, this is my plea. I need your cooperation. I'm not asking for much. Just a few lines to inform the membership what's happening with or in your respective office. We're not looking for the next great American novel or the Nobel prize in literature.... just a few lines... please?



Pullin' the Plug !!



The following is a sad occurrence, but at times when the deadline is staring me in the face and nothing received from the officers about or for their disciplines I find that I'm ready to pull the plug on the **BLENDER**. As we start a new year.... A new millennium! Your help is needed!!

Cleaner Polishes Off Patients

As seen on the internet

For several months, nurses have been baffled to find a patient dead in the same bed every Friday morning at the Pelonomi Hospital in Free State, South Africa. There was no apparent cause for any of the deaths, and extensive checks on the air conditioning system, and a search for possible bacterial infection, failed to reveal any clues. However, further inquiries have now revealed the cause of these deaths.

It seems that every Friday morning a cleaning lady would enter the ward, remove the plug that powered the patient's life support system, plug her floor polisher into the vacant socket, then go about her business. When she had finished her chores, she would plug the life support machine back in and leave, unaware that the patient was now dead. She could not, after all, hear the screams and eventual death rattle over the whirring of her polisher.

A spokesman has stated "We are sorry, and have sent a strong letter to the cleaner in question. Further, the Free State Health and Welfare Department is arranging for an electrician to fit an extra socket, so there should be no repetition of this incident. The inquiry is now closed." (Cape Times).

Year end thoughts

What, another donation?

By Robb Ollett, Society Marketing/ PR chair

This time of year we're bombarded with requests for contributions – university, church, hospital, high school football team, fire and police retirement funds, kids clubs. The methods are familiar – telephone calls, magazine subscriptions, pizzas, candy, cheese, raffles, car washes, coupon books, pancake breakfast, dinner dances, golf tournaments, to name a few.

Even at the chapter meeting – buying tickets. Heartspring, SingAmerica and SingCanada, school music scholarships, Keep America Singing Fund. dues.... where does it end?

I'm a fund raising consultant and I'm telling you – it doesn't end. The reason so many charities are soliciting is because the NEEDS are bigger than the FUNDING. Nobody said you had to contribute, but you want to feel good and participate. It makes you a better neighbor.

But let's focus on how your chapter can allocate money and benefit from community awareness:

- Local high school music scholarship or choral music
- Company holiday party as their sponsored group
- National anthem singing at football games
- Work a concession stand at basketball or football games
- Local PBS station has membership drives, offer a pledge incentive
- Symphony joint concert for holidays (Christmas or next July 4th)
- Informal restaurant setting as evening talent, or strolling quartet
- See if Convention and Visitors Bureau needs talent
- Service group breakfast or luncheon program (Lions, Kiwanis, etc.)

Take a moment and turn these into opportunities for more joint performances. Here's what will happen – you'll sing more, you'll perform better, you'll be in the community more, you'll expand local contacts, you'll attract more men, you'll become comfortable in front of various audiences, you'll be more visible. And think of the fun in singing!

OOPS, sorry. I forgot. Rather than take the initiative, it's easier to sit back and complain about how much you're hit for donations, right?

Hmmmmmm, something to think about.

The 12 days of X-mas

Dearest John:

I went to the door today and the postman delivered a partridge in a pear tree. What a thoroughly delightful gift. I couldn't have been more surprised.

With deepest love and devotion,

Agnes

Miss Agnes McHolstein
69 Cash Avenue
Beaver Valley, Colorado

Dearest John:

Today the postman brought your very sweet gift. Just imagine... two turtle doves. I'm just delighted at your very thoughtful gift. They are just adorable.

All my love,

Agnes

Miss Agnes McHolstein
69 Cash Avenue
Beaver Valley, Colorado
December 16, 1979

Dearest John:

Oh! Aren't you the extravagant one. Now I really must protest. I don't deserve such generosity, three French hens. They are just darling but I must insist, you've been too kind.

Love,

Agnes

Miss Agnes McHolstein
69 Cash Avenue
Beaver Valley, Colorado
December 17, 1979

Dear John,

Today the postman delivered 4 calling birds. They are beautiful, but don't you think enough is enough. You're being a little overly romantic.

Affectionately,

Agnes

Miss Agnes McHolstein
69 Cash Avenue
Beaver Valley, Colorado
December 18, 1979

Dearest John:

What a surprise. Today the postman delivered 5 golden rings; one for every finger. You're just impossible, but I love it. Frankly, all those birds squawking were beginning to get on my nerves. Glad you stopped with the birds.

All my love,

Agnes

Dear John:

When I opened the door there were actually 6 geese a-laying on my front steps. So, you're back to the birds again, huh? Those geese are huge. Where will I ever keep them? The neighbors are complaining and I can't sleep through the racket.

Please stop.

Respectfully,

Agnes

Miss Agnes McHolstein
69 Cash Avenue
Beaver Valley, Colorado
December 20, 1979

John:

What's with you and those damn birds? 7 swans a-swimming. What kind of joke is this? There's bird crap all over the house, and they never stop with the racket. I can't sleep at night and I'm a nervous wreck. It's not funny anymore, so stop with those birds.

Agnes

Miss Agnes McHolstein
69 Cash Avenue
Beaver Valley, Colorado
December 21, 1979

O.K. Buster:

I think I prefer the birds. What the am I supposed to do with 8 maids a-milking? It's not enough with all those birds and 8 maids a-milking, but they had to bring those cows. Cowpies are all over the lawn and I can't move in my own house. Just lay off me, jerk.

Agnes

Miss Agnes McHolstein
69 Cash Avenue
Beaver Valley, Colorado
December 22, 1979

Hey! Butthead,

What are you? Some kind of sadist? Now there's 9 pipers playing, they won't stop. They have been chasing those maids since they got here yesterday morning. They cows get upset and step all over those screeching birds. What am I going to do? The neighbors have started a petition to evict me.

You'll get yours,

Agnes

You Rotten dirtbag,

Now there's 10 ladies dancing. I don't know why they're called ladies? They have been up with those pipers all night long. The cows can't sleep so now they've got diarrhea. My living room is a river of cowpoop. The Commissioner of Buildings has subpoenaed me to give cause why this building shouldn't be condemned.

I'm calling the police on you.

One who means it.

Miss Agnes McHolstein
69 Cash Avenue
Beaver Valley, Colorado
December 24, 1979

Listen! ###!head,

What's with the 11 lords a-leaping? All 23 of the birds are dead. They've been trampled to death by the cows. I hope you're satisfied, you rotten, vicious swine.

Your sworn enemy,

Agnes

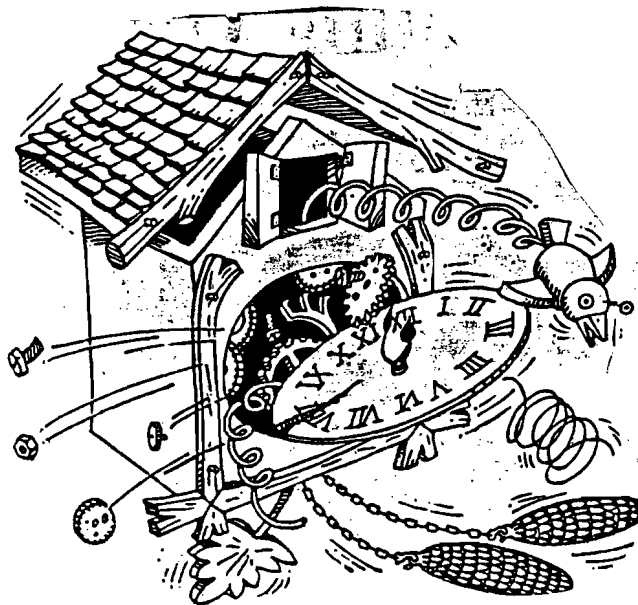
Law Offices
Badger, Bender and Cahole
303 Knave Street
Chicago, Illinois
December 25, 1979

Dear Sir:

This is to acknowledge your latest gift of 12 fiddlers fiddling which you have seen fit to inflict on our client, Miss Agnes McHolstein. The destruction, of course, was total. You shall refrain from all correspondence with our client and direct any inquiries to our attention. If you should attempt to reach Miss McHolstein at Happy Dale Sanitarium, the attendants have instructions to forcibly restrain you and call the police. With this letter please find attached warrant for your arrest.

Cordially,

Badger, Bender and Cahole



1999 was a good one for performances for the chorus. Listed below is a summary of our activity for the year.

Paid Free Engagements

Alexian Village \$150 Ft. Ogelthorpe Nursing Center
630th Tank Destroyer 150 NHC-Ft. Ogelthorpe, Spring
Creekside-Spring 175 Patten Towers
Elderfest 175 NHC-Rossville
Chattanooga Library 150 Orange Grove-Elks Club
Salvation Army 150 NHC-Ft. Ogelthorpe, Fall
Creekside-Winter 175 Lookouts
TVA 200 Hamilton Place Mall
Alexian Assisted Living
Total \$1325

Churches

Cedar Hill Baptist \$ 65
Alliance Church
Tyner United Methodist 174
Fairview United Methodist 145

Total \$384

We exceeded our budget for performance fees and were a little short of our undeclared budget of \$500 for church performances. We fulfilled nine (9) free engagement requests. Things continue to look well for paid engagements for 2000 with two performances already set. I will contact our steady customers to get their request for this next year. We will again participate in the upcoming Kiwanis Auction and have gotten on board soon enough to obtain a little advertising for our donation. We need to start working now to prepare for our Valentines Day program in order to meet or exceed our results of 1999. This is our biggest money raising activity and key to our chapter's financial health. Please let me know of any potential paid performance opportunities for this coming year and let's work together to make 2000 a great year.

Selah





Birthdays

Tony Duke	Jan. 1
Niles Fowler	1
Louise Smith	4
Bill Slack	23
Wayne Pruett	23
Cheri Moore	26



Anniversaries

Pat & Edgar Dawson	Jan 20
Sally & Clarence Wall	24



Blond GUY Joke

An Irishman, a Mexican and a blond guy were doing construction work on scaffolding on the 20th floor of a building. They were eating lunch and the Irishman said "Corned beef & cabbage one more time for lunch and I'm going to jump off this building." The Mexican opened his lunch box and exclaimed "Burritos again! If I get burritos one more time I'm going to jump off, too." The blond guy opened his lunch and said "Bologna again. If I get one more bologna sandwich one more time I'm jumping too."

The next day the Irishman opens his lunch box, sees corned beef & cabbage and jumps to his death. The Mexican opens his lunch, sees a burrito and jumps too. The blond opens his lunch, sees the bologna and jumps to his death also.

At the funeral the Irishman's wife is weeping. She says, "If I had known how tired he was of corned beef & cabbage I never would have given it to him again!" The Mexican's wife also weeps and says "I could have given him tacos or enchiladas! I didn't realize he hated burritos so much." Everyone turned and stared at the blond's wife, "Don't look at me" she said "He made his own lunches."



Keep it barbershop

Submitted by Lloyd Davis, PROBE, G&S
judge, bulletin exchange list
Written by Dave Stevens, circa 1979

Recently a fellow Barbershopper asked me to explain the difference between contest and show barbershop. I told him I'd try.

Actually, how it started was when he accused the Society of publishing non-barbershop because some of our arrangements carry the legend, "This arrangement was not written with the intention of its being used in our contests." In his opinion, this meant we subscribe to a double standard in our publishing program by printing non-barbershop music.

In several bulletins to district directors of music education, I've been discussing principles of barbershop so my attempt to explain contest vs. show music was based on these very same principles (melody, lyric, embellishments, mechanics and

chord voicing) and applying these not only to the song but also to the arrangement gives us a logical approach to the question.

In a contest, quartets attempt to use songs and arrangements that rate as high as possible in all barbershop principles—whether they are aware of it or not. In other words, coaches, judges and directors are constantly advising our singing units on the best material to present on the stage in a contest.

Some songs (and arrangements) may not rate quite as high as others in the various principles. Let's say "Hey, Look Me Over" rates high on barbershop chords and chord progressions (which it does), but there's some doubt about the lyric being all that barbershop. So we may knock the rating down a bit on that principle in our own minds when we're considering contest. Another principle the song falls down in is the area of embellishments. The opportunity for our beloved tiddleys is lacking. One further point on analysis of the melody line is that there are two spots of nothing but chromatic moves which are tough to harmonize smoothly. All in all, I, for one, would probably decide not to use it in a contest.

We need to *rate* the song and arrangement as best we can on *all* barbershop principles and only then can we start to get a feel as to its worthiness as a barbershop vehicle. ☐

We're Entertainers
(From "Notable Notes",
Dick Stoeltzing, Editor)

"I thought we were singers." We are, and so are choirs. But would you call choirs entertainers?

"I thought we were performers." We are, and so are symphony orchestras. But are they entertainers?

We're entertainers. It's another step up.

Everyone can be entertained at a click on the TV remote. The top entertainers in the country are right there. Free. That's some of our competition. Our audiences pay good money for us to entertain them, and we had better deliver.

Would you pay to watch yourself at a singout? Would someone else pay to watch you for 20 minutes or so at one of our jobs? It's a frightening challenge.

Like many things, it takes practice, dedication, and knowing what you should be doing.

In the last issue there was an article that said one of the best voice teachers is a tape recorder. Well, one of the best teachers of stage presence is a large mirror.

At a rehearsal of a quartet I was in, we were at the barbershop owned by the lead. We decided to sing looking into the large mirror on the wall. It took at least 15 minutes to get all the way through the first song; we were laughing so hard at ourselves. We had no stage presence at all.

You can do a similar thing at home. Practice your music in front of a mirror. Here are some check points:

*Look at yourself, not around the room. In public, watch the director.

*Check for a smile. Smile with the eyes, too.

*Watch your stance. It should be full of energy. Some weight on the balls of the foot.

*Check for movement. You should make small body moves frequently in response to the song.

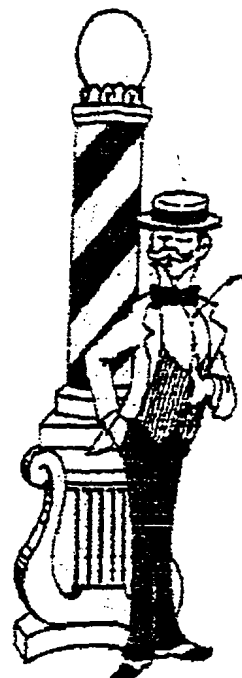
*Check your hands. They be expressive. For example,



"shake hands" in a ballad
"point" in an up-tempo song

Remember that "practice makes permanent". Each time you practice a song without working on the stage presence makes it all the more likely you will be lifeless in a public singout.

Be an entertainer.



This space was reserved for

You know Who !

So quit piddlin' around !!



Get busy and write!

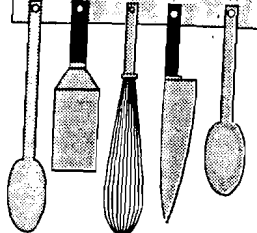


Do The Write Thing.

HELP YOUR EDITOR WITH A
NEWS ITEM FOR THE
NEXT ISSUE



Another year of the bulletin is over.
Now I can relax — maybe for 3 or 4 days.



Recipe Of The Month



Ingredients:

1 cup butter
1 cup sugar
4 large eggs
1 cup dried fruit
1 teaspoon baking powder
1 teaspoon baking soda
1 tablespoon lemon juice
1 cup brown sugar
1 cup nuts
1 or two quarts of aged whiskey
Before you start, sample the whiskey to check for quality.
Good isn't it.
Now go ahead
Select a large mixing bowl, measuring cup, etc.
Check the whiskey again as it must be just right.
to be the whiskey is of the highest quality, pour one
level cup into a glass and drink it as fast as you can.

Repeat.

With an electric mixer, beat 1 cup butter in a large
fluffy bowl.
Add 1 teaspoon of sugar and beat the hell out of it again.

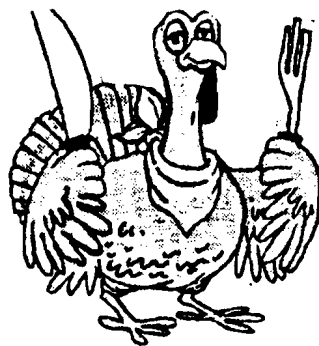
Meanwhile at this parsnicular point in time, wake sure that
the whixey hasn't gone bad while you weren't lookin'
Open second quart if nest es sary.

Add 2 large leggs, 2 cups fried druit an beat till high.
If druit getsstuck in peaters, just pry the monsters loosh
with a drewscriver. Example the whikstey again, shecking
confistancy, then shift 2 cups of salt or destergent or
whatever, like anyone gives a fuh-fuh- lip .Chample the whitchey shum more.
Shift in shum lemon shoosh. Fold in chopped sputter and shrained nuts.

Add 100 babblespoons of brown booger or whushever's closhest and mix well
Greash ubben and turn the cakey pan to 350 decrees.

Now pour the whole stingin' mesh into the washin' machine and set on sinsh shytle.

Check dat whixney wunsh more and pash out.



FOUR IN A QUARTET

From *Noteworthy*,
Peoria, Ill. Bulletin

Although there may be a few in SPEBSQSA who have not yet learned that four's a quartet, scientific proof exists that four, and no more, constitutes a quartet within the Society. Outside, any number is permissible. Below is a clinical analysis of each approved part.

The Lead

Somebody has to carry the tune, so this job is tossed to the lead, because generally he can't sing anything else; otherwise, he would be called "the load", which he sometimes is anyway.

Some leads are broken-down tenors. The main requirements of a lead are a

good set of bellows, and a memory for words. He should hit the melody right on the schnozzola, but this point does not seem to bother him much. Lead singing is rather dull, since the line of duty usually follows a well-established channel.

There are usually more leads in the Society than there are pimples on a plucked goose. The lead considers himself the key person in a quartet, except, of course, by the tenor, baritone and bass.

The Tenor

The tenor is frequently referred to as the "top tenor", since he often blows his top on the high notes. Tenors add lightness, and counteract the course rumbling of the other three voices. Good tenors are as hard to locate as a quart of Old Crow at a church social.

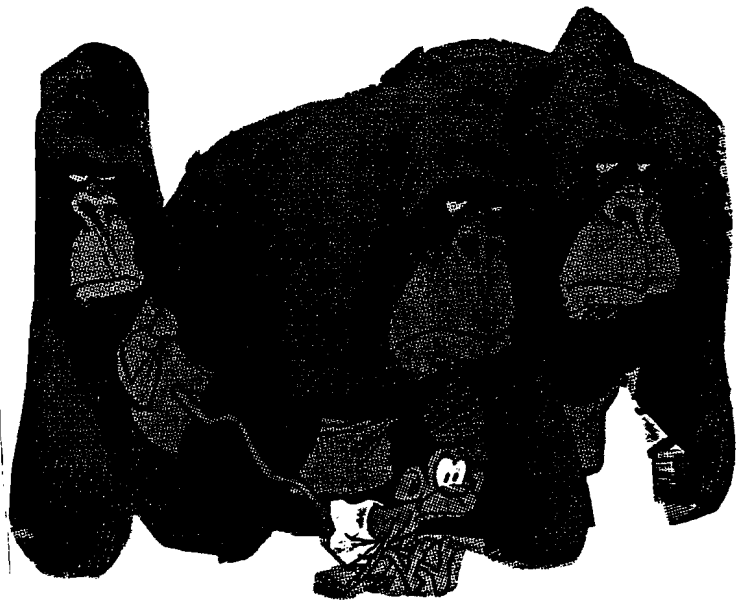
They must be handled with silk gloves, but a stout two-by-four will also do. To sing tenor, you have to emit short wave lengths to produce the high sounds.

Tenors come in two sizes. Either they are very fat, or very skinny, but they can't be developed from common stock. To sing tenor, you've got to be born a tenor.

The Bass

Every quartet needs a bass, to give a deep mellow body to the brew. Many basses are mugs who are too old to sing baritone, or too smart to try. Some basses sing awfully low, and others just sing awful, but you've got to have one for the boom-boom parts in some songs. You can generally spot a bass by his roving Adam's Apple.

The main requirement of a bass is to be down in the tonal cellar, and still come up with a true note. Bass singing



should not be encouraged; the trouble is that it doesn't have to be. Flocks of basses rival the 747 in intensity and the ability to chase migrating birds away.

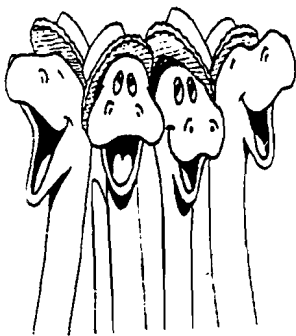
The Baritone

When some character discovered that a fully-packed chord contained four notes, the baritone entered the picture. This missing note could lie somewhere between a low gurgle and a high-pitched tortured screech, causing the poor bloke to acquire a voice equipped with a hydromatic

shift.

Science has never been able to know why anyone starts singing baritone; but some believe that it must be because the baritone fell out of his cradle head first upon a concrete floor. The word *baritone* is derived from the Latin phrase *baritonum*, meaning "bats in the belfry". You don't have to be a crackpot to sing bari, but it helps.

(As seen in *The King's Clarion*, publication of the Sea Tac (WA) Harmony Kings; the article purportedly authored by the Jackson (MI) Chapter)

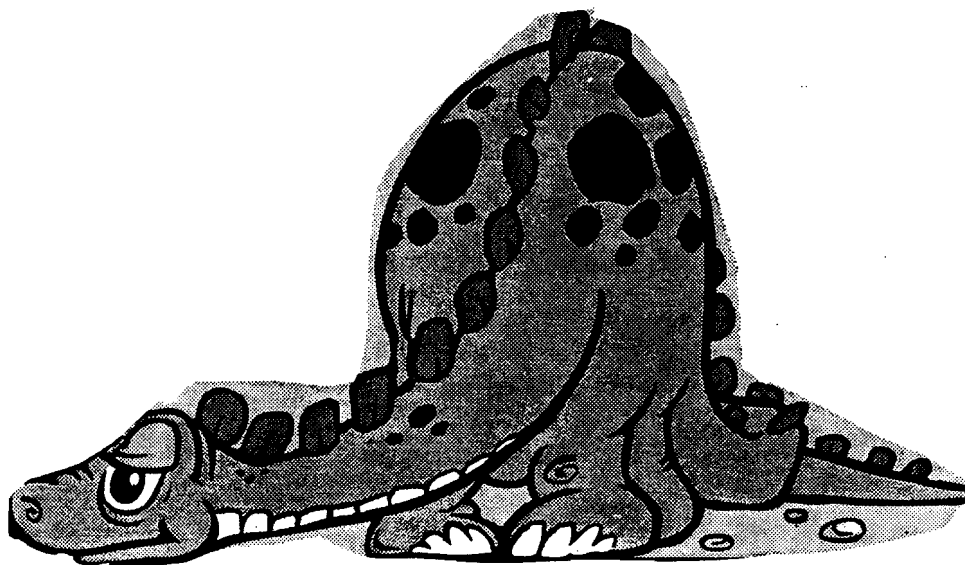




An Ode to our Old Mapmaker

As the semi-proficient, semi-official mapmaker our S.O.B ("sweet old buddy") Earle, That's Earl with an "E", has rolled with the slings and arrows of rebuke, heaped upon him by ones who couldn't find their own backside with both hands. But do not despair my old (and I mean really old!) friend. This poem by some unknown poet fits to a "T" the nincompoops you have had to suffer.

When telling me how I can get there
 Leave nothing to gamble or guess
 I won't be upset if directions I get
 Assume I'm a moron or less
 So give me some street names to cling to
 And draw me a map I can scan
 And please be explicit; you maybe can't miss it
 But brother, believe me, I can.



Earle's childhood pet

YOU'RE NOT OLD UNLESS YOU REMEMBER -

*Being sent to the drug-store to test vacuum tubes for the TV

*When Kool-Aid was the only drink for kids, other than milk and sodas

*When there were only two types of sneakers for boys, and girls wouldn't wear them.

*When boys couldn't wear anything but leather shoes to school.

*When it took five minutes for the TV to warm up.

*When nearly everyone's parents smoked

*When all your friends got their hair cut at the kitchen table

*When nearly everyone's mom was home when the kids got there

*When nobody owned a pure-bred dog

*When a dime was a decent allowance, and a quarter a huge bonus

*When you'd reach into a muddy gutter for a penny

*When girls neither dated nor kissed until late high school, if then.

*When your mom wore nylons that came in two pieces

*When all your teachers wore either neckties or had their hair done every day

*When you got your windshield cleaned, oil checked and gas pumped, without asking for free, every time

*When any parent could discipline any kid, or feed him, or use him to carry groceries, and nobody, not even the kid, thought a thing of it

*When it was considered a great privilege to be taken out to dinner at a real restaurant with your parents

*When schools threatened to keep kids back a grade if they failed - and actually did it!

(From the Internet)



HO ! HO! HO!

TIS THE SEASON TO BE JOLLY

(Or.. Turn left at the baritone, it's the second door on the right)



VLQ does not mean Very Large Quarters. The VLQ found out that fact the other night as we sang for a local service club's Christmas party.

Challenging is one way of putting it. The event was held at a restaurant , whos credo is ,” it may be the holiday season for some, but tis the season to make hay while while you can for us!”

Start with a VMSR (very medium size room) and by using an accordion fold room divider you can make two VSR's (very small rooms). As we squeezed in, the only way to enter or exit the adjoining room was to walk behind us. So as we performed the restaurant personnel sauntered behind us serving the other room . Then it was “ move in closer guys!” either that or get brushed with dirty dishes,as they wheeled an over loaded cart through .

And there was the other traffic,consistining of those that suffered the pangs of TB,(tiny bladder) Scooting behind us on their tippy-toes, looking like overweight ballerinas with sore feet. Then returning via the same route, after they had competed their appointed duty. Pirouetteing and chatting as they rushed back for their desserts.

But trying to find the pitch as we competed against their piano! That was the real challenge!! Did that discourage us ??.... NO WAY!!! All that fun, and they fed us too!



- >
- >
- > "Name That Christmas Carol, the Answers"
- >
- > 1. White Christmas
- > 2. Chestnuts Roasting on an Open Fire
- > 3. All I Want for Christmas is My Two Front Teeth
- > 4. O Holy Night
- > 5. It Came Upon a Midnight Clear
- > 6. O Come, All Ye Faithful
- > 7. Away in a Manger
- > 8. Deck the Hall
- > 9. Little Drummer Boy
- > 10. We Three Kings
- > 11. Silent Night
- > 12. God Rest Ye, Merry Gentlemen
- > 13. Santa Claus is Coming to Town
- > 14. Let it Snow
- > 15. Go, Tell It on the Mountain
- > 16. Rudolph, the Red-nosed Reindeer
- > 17. What Child is This?
- > 18. Joy to the World
- > 19. Hark! The Herald Angels Sing
- > 20. The Twelve Days of Christmas
- >



Should Auld Acquaintance be Forgot From the Internet

WHY OUR AULD SONG WORDS ARE FOREVER BEING FORGOT

Even Scots stumble their way through Burns' famous song



IT'S as inevitable as a New Year's Day hangover.

As clocks chime out the last seconds of the Millennium, millions will belt out Auld Lang Syne.

And once they've got out a version of the first verse and chorus, most of them will stutter into silence.

The truth is even Scots don't have much of an auld acquaintance with the words - and they're rarely brought to mind.

Burns lovers and choristers apart, we just don't know one of the most often-sung songs in the world.

The Scottish bard Robert Burns is credited with the version we almost sing these days - but he himself said it was "the old song of olden times which had never been in print nor even in manuscript until I took it down from an old man's singing".

It is possible that Burns reworked the ballad into the recognised version today.

But a survey by malt whisky distillers Glenfiddich found 95 per cent of people don't know the words.

Words are missed out and fractured verses sung out of place - even by the sober.

Camilla Brinton, of Glenfiddich, said: "We've all heard it. The first verse and the chorus are sung with gusto and then the volume dies with people only sounding confident at each chorus.

"Then they get in their stride for the last verse but most likely they've broken with etiquette and have crossed arms and been holding hands for a few verses.

"We thought it would be nice if people actually knew the words."

So Glenfiddich have set up the song's own website - www.glenfiddich.com/auldlangsyne - which gives the definitive version.

Camilla said: "This is a song that literally straddles the world and so does the web. Through it, people all over the world can have the right words in plenty of time to practise for Hogmanay."

A quick check on the streets of Edinburgh backed up the survey's findings.

Computer science student Graham Henderson, 23, who has tickets for the Edinburgh Hogmanay street party, said:

"The first verse and chorus are OK and so is the last but the rest is a mystery."

And it's not just the ordinary man and woman in the street who stumble over the Bard's words.

Alan Reid, a founder member of the folk group, the Battlefield Band, said: "I had to learn the words myself about three years ago."

THE FIVE VERSES OF AULD LANG SYNE

First verse:

"Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
And never brought to mind?
Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
And auld lang syne!" (Old long ago)

Chorus

"For auld lang syne, my dear,
For auld lang syne,
We'll tak a cup o kindness yet,
For auld lang syne?"

Second verse:

"And surely ye'll be your pint stowp (Pay for)
And surely I'll be mine,
and we'll tak a cup o kindness yet,
For auld lang syne!"

Third verse:

"We twa hae run about the braes, (hillsides)
And pou'd the gowans fine, (pulled daises)
But we've wander'd monie a weary fit,
Sin auld lang syne."

Fourth verse:

"We twa hae paidl'd in the burn (paddled strear
Frae morning sun till dine, (noon, dinner-time)
But seas between us braid hae roar'd, (broad)
Sin auld lang syne."

Fifth verse:

"And there's a hand my trusty fiere,
And gie's a hand o thine,
And we'll take a tight guid-willie waught (goodwill drir
For auld lang syne."



Choo Choo Belles



It was ladies night out on December the 6th., as the ladies gathered at Eidsons restaurant in East Ridge for their Christmas party. It was a great one. The food excellent, the service top notch. The chicken cordon bleau was topped with a tasty sauce, accompanied with broccoli casserole and a baked potato, followed by apple pie for dessert.

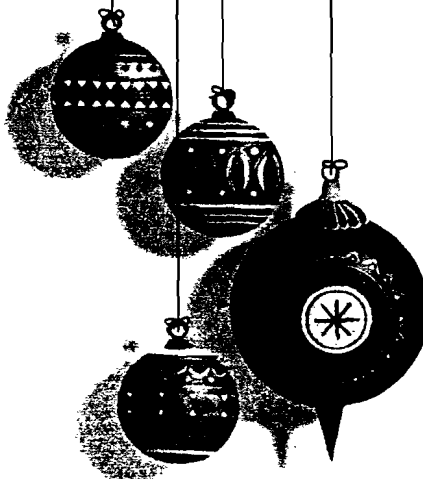
Sandra Stansbury gave an account of Bob's surprise to her; and to her sisters family also, by taking her on a one day round trip to Clearwater, Florida for Thanksgiving . I think I know why her sister was surprised. Not only that Sandra and Bob snuck into their home and sat in the Florida room waiting to surprise her. But she was also surprised there was enough food for Bob. Sandra just happened to also have a few!!! pictures of her grandchild to show to us.

Joanne Wheeler looked great having survived her broken ankle, but she's still not doing any high kicks. Speaking of high kicks, Anita Bugher was absent due to a fall that left her bruised up. Come on Anita!... at our age you cant lift your leg that high ! Next time make Forrest stoop down before you kick him.

The ladies were reminded to send Sam Jones a card or E-mail as he is home bound with a Physical Therapist torturing him as he recovers from a knee replacement. Audrey also reminded everyone that there would not be a January meeting. The February date will be in the January Blender and the spouse's will be given notes to bring home to momma.



Season's Greetings





The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc.

6315 Third Ave.
Kenosha, WI 53143-5199

(262) 653-8440
(800) 876-SING

fax (262) 654-4048
(Music, Marketing, Executive offices)
fax (262) 654-5552
(Membership, Conventions, Merchandise,
Harmony Foundation offices)

update@spebsqsa.org
www.spebsqsa.org/update

Coming events

January 24-30, 2000
Midwinter Convention
Tucson, Arizona
(800) 876-SING x 8462
convention@spebsqsa.org



July 2-9, 2000
International Convention
Kansas City, Missouri
(800) 876-SING x 8462
convention@spebsqsa.org



July 30-August 6, 2000
Missouri Western
State College
St. Joseph, Mo.
(800) 876-SING x 8551
HCDC@spebsqsa.org

Make the holidays "sing" for others -- it's easy

There are four simple things to do before the end of 1999 to ensure that your chapter will Sing...for life in 1999 and 2000.

- Remind your members to make individual contributions to the Harmony Foundation General Fund Drive—everyone will receive an invitation in the mail to "Come Hear the Voice of the Next Generation." (Individual contributions will count toward Chapter Awards.)
- Send in your chapter contribution to the Harmony Foundation General Fund.
- Encourage your chapter quartets to make a contribution.
- Make sure your chapter has a Chapter Service Chairman appointed for 2000 and inform Harmony Foundation who it is.

Can Barbershoppers make a difference in this world? Absolutely. We do so with our singing and fellowship. We can also change lives through our contributions. It's a great feeling. Let's work together to help others Sing...for life.

Society unveils new Y2K chapter extension plan

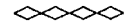
The Society has launched a major effort to establish and charter 100 new chapters by December 31, 2001. All districts will research at least 36 potential communities as possible chapter sites in both 2000 and 2001. To get these new chapters off the ground, the Society will fund staff travel for membership development in Y2K. These particular weeks are solely devoted to setting up new chapters in the researched communities. Staff will visit at least three sites per week of travel. If you know of a community that should/could/would have a chapter, call your district vice president of member services, or Harmony Hall: Ev Nau, 800-876-7464, x 8478, emailenau@spebsqsa.org, or Pat Kelly, x 8459, pkelly@spebsqsa.org

Conventions promise great fun & great singing

Tucson registrations stand at 738 at the end of October. The Tucson chapter will have a show Thursday night, January 27, 2000, during the week of the Mid-Winter convention, which will feature Revival, 1998 quartet champion. Information is available when the packets are sent to people after their registration is received.

Convention registrations are \$50 per person and include the Friday and Saturday night shows, Seniors Quartet Contest, and Saturday Afterglow.

To register, call 800-876-7464, x 8462, or log on to convention@spebsqsa.org.

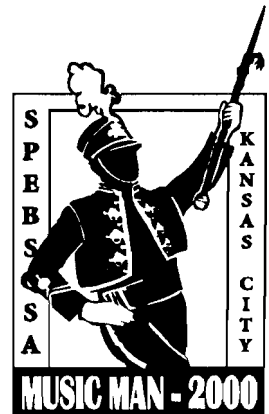


Kansas City registrations stand at 3,344 as of October 31. Lots of interest is being shown in the Father/Son/Grandson chorus for K.C.

Many great activities will be included in the "Music Man 2000" convention. One very special performance will be a reprise of the Music Man set by the Bluegrass Student Union, 1978 champion quartet.

Additionally, we will honor the 50th anniversary of the Buffalo Bills' championship, and Bills' baritone Dick Grapes is expected to be in Kansas City to emcee one of the contest sessions.

Register: 800-876-7464, x 8462, or convention@spebsqsa.org/KansasCity.



Multi-year renewals begin with fourth-quarter

Starting with fourth-quarter renewals, members will have the option to renew for one, three-, five- or eight-year terms. Society dues rates for each of these categories are:

Term	Reg Dues	Disc	Dues Owed	Save
One year	\$ 65	None	\$ 65	\$ 0
Three year	\$195	5%	\$186	\$ 9
Five year	\$325	10%	\$295	\$30
Eight year	\$520	15%	\$440	\$80

The Life Membership renewal option is still available for a one-time payment of 20 times the Society dues (\$1300). Senior and student members should pay one-half of the amounts shown above.

Transfer securities to help change lives

This may be a perfect time to transfer some of your appreciated stocks to Harmony Foundation for the General Fund (to benefit the SPEBSQSA service projects), or for the SPEBSQSA Endowment Program. A donor who directly transfers appreciated securities such as stocks or bonds to a charity, may be entitled to a charitable tax deduction for the full market value of the securities, and may avoid capital gains tax on the securities. A direct transfer of securities can be an easy way for you to provide a generous gift to Harmony Foundation and to obtain a nice tax deduction for 1999. Certain restrictions may apply and we suggest that you obtain professional counsel before making such a transaction.

Harmony Foundation, Inc. was incorporated in 1959 as the charitable arm of the SPEBSQSA, and is the conduit for all of the Society's charitable activity. The Foundation also manages the SPEBSQSA Endowment Program, which provides a pool of funds that help to keep the Society alive for future generations.

Harmony Foundation accepts direct transfers of capital assets such as stocks and bonds to any of its funds, and can assist with these transfers. If you would like information about making a direct transfer of securities to benefit the SPEBSQSA, contact Development Director Larry Gilhousen at 800-876-7464, x 8448.

Working together, we can help future generations Sing ... for life.

Find it fast on the Society web site

Information abounds on the Society web site www.spebsqsa.org. Here are some recent additions to the site, and additional information is added each week.

- **Harmonizer advertising rates**
</Harmonizer/ratecard.htm>
- **Unpublished arrangements for 2000**
</arrangements/99additions.htm>
- **Society faculty roster**
</docs/faculty.pdf>
- **Tips for writing a great Harmonizer article**
</harmonizer/howtowrite.htm>
- **Feedback form -- we welcome your suggestions**
</feedback.htm>
- **Register for Kansas City Music Man 2000 convention on line**
</KansasCity>
- **July 1999 State of the Society Report**
</Music/Operations/SocietyBoard/99midyearstateofsociety.htm>
- **Music & Performance Resource Information for the Chapter Coach**
A list of materials that are available for barbershop singers through the Harmony Marketplace catalog
</Music/Coaching/resourceinfo.htm>
- **Successful Singing Valentines Manual**
</Docs/svmanual.pdf>
- **Shop on line at Harmony Marketplace**
www.HarmonyMarketplace.com
We're here to make your life easier, and whether it's CDs or cassettes, songbooks, apparel, or gifts you're looking for, you'll be able to shop around the clock -- at your convenience. Our secure site enables you to use your Visa or MasterCard to order -- no phone calls necessary.

- **Super deal from Harmony Marketplace**
Give your audience a great buy on a great cassette -- and make a bundle for your chapter or quartet.
</Operations/PR/Tools/cassettedeal.htm>
- **MBNA America's page for the SPEBSQSA credit card**
www.webapply.com/spebsqsa

It's roundup time!

The Grand Tradition -- The third annual Western Pioneers Roundup will be held January 13-15, 2000, at Fallbrook, Calif. Contact 760-728-6466, fax 760-728-6861, on the web at: www.grandtradition.com, or email to: grandt@thegrid.net

TUCSON

January 24-30, 2000

Don't miss the excitement
of the first
mid-winter convention of
the year 2000

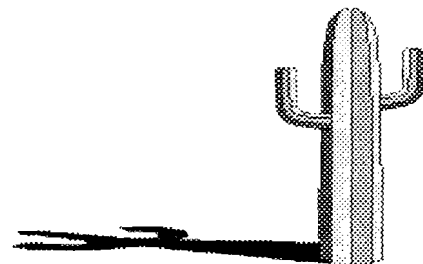
**Tucson Chapter
Show**

<><><>

AISQC Show

<><><>

**Seniors Quartet
Contest**



convention@spebsqsa.org

Christmas Songs Sung 'Barbershop Style'



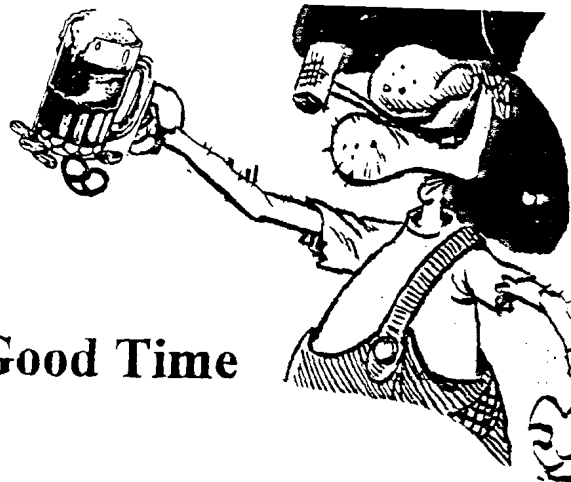
Staff Photo by Chad McCl

The Chattanooga Choo-Choo Chorus, directed by Paul Blazek, performs Christmas songs in "barbershop chorus style" Sunday at the Chattanooga-Hamilton County Bicentennial Library downtown.



Good Bye to 99

We've Sure Had a Real Good Time



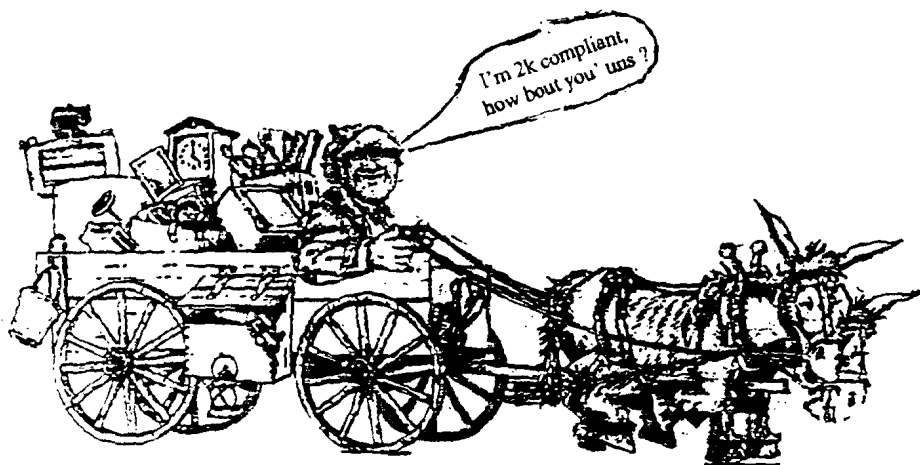
So Gooood Bye

So Loooong

Farewell Forever

Good bye Ole 99, Good bye Ole 99

You've Sure Been Good to Me !!



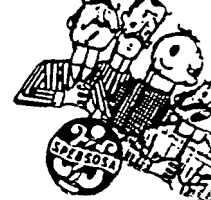
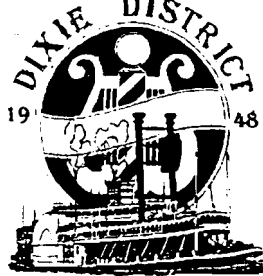


Your 1999 Leadership Team

President	Bernard Wheeler	[706]-638-4013
Treasurer	Bob Stansbury	[423]-894-7760
Chapt Development	Rick Kulp	[423]-875-9251
Music Director	Paul Blazek	[423]-622-4493
Music VP	David Collins	[423]-658-1737
Secretary	David Reynolds	[423]-875-2674
Asst. Secretary	Earle Fraser	[423]-892-7630
Program	Steve Grubbs	[706]-861-6171
Business Manager	Lamar Owens	[423]-894-8559
Bulletin Editor	Pat Crowe	[706]-375-3878
Heartspring	Brooks Gist	[423]-892-7191
Publicity	W.C.Strickland	[706]-866-2567
Past President	Tom Keegan	[423]-756-5660
Board Member	Sam Jones	[706]-375-5431
Board Member	Bill Slack	[706]-638-3791
Board Member	J.W.Kirk	[706]-861-3135
Equipt. Manager	Pete Jones	[706]-861-2113
Choo Choo Belles	Audrey Gist	[423]-892-7191

The Blender
Pat Crowe, Editor
45 Green Ct.
Chickamauga, GA.
30707

Everybody has an opinion....Express yours in the Blender.



The Blender

The Official Publication of the Chattanooga Chapter of the
Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America

Chattanooga, Tennessee

Dixie District

Volume 9 No. 1

The Chapter meets every Monday, 7:00 PM, All Saints Academy, 310 8th. St. Chattanooga, TN.

“OO”

Zero Zero: Having or characterized by having zero visibility
in both horizontal and vertical directions.



Get on Track With



“Keep the Whole World Singing”





HAVE YOU HEARD THE NEWS?



President



Treasurer

No Report



Blender Deadline

February 21st.



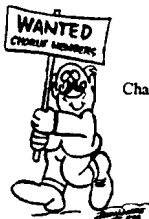
Music Director



Publicity V.P.



Music V.P.



Chapter Development

No Report



Quartet Activities

No Report



Program V.P.



Secretary

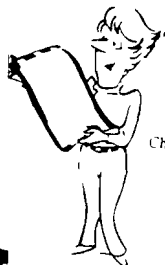
No Report



Business Manager



: No Report



Choo Choo Bell



A Note From the Risers

Chattanooga
Choo Choo Chorus
Box 21326
Chattanooga, TN.
37421-0326

Something to Crow About

Pat Crowe, Editor



We all waved goodbye, as "Ole 99" headed down the track. There she goes chugging into the past. Making way for the new kid on the block, whos pulling into the station. What are we going to call him? "Double Ought?" Cause we aught to double our efforts in the commitment to better singing and performance? Definitely not "Zero Zero" it denotes zero visibility... and we can see on the horizon, a bright future. Just plain old "Oh Oh" doesn't seem to fit either. It gives the connotation of committing a error. Well, what ever they name him, it's time to get on board. Time to let harmony ring in song and in chapter participation.

New members have joined the board. They have set their sights down the tracks and committed themselves to chapter growth.

Our new president is raring to go. He's diving right in, and challenging us to get in the swim with him. His goals are clear and attainable. Lets get behind him, we can accomplish much by everyone doing a little and not leaving the few to do a lot.

Time is long past in getting the Storage area in some semblance of order, Our "Wall of Fame" has to be restored to it's place of honor. I've mentioned this in the past and never did receive an answer. If it is feasible, the glasssed in bulletin cases in the entry would be an excellent place to put the posters picturing scenes of the district convention when we were the hosts ,our England trip and of other highlights of chapter activities. I believe some are still in the stairwell going to our old meeting rooms. PR also is effective internally not just externally. (So I heard at a COTS class a few years back) Maybe this should be one of our goals also!

Bill McKeehans letter gives us something to think about . Maybe another attainable goal? His comments on Ron Weaver are long overdue. Ron bleeds Barbershopping. Through his efforts we have claim to fostering the Four Voices. He truly is the "Explosion" in the youth outreach. Add my thanks too, Ron.

Well there were some pretty long faces after the Fiesta Bowl, and a lot of those " VOL" fans had a funny gait to their walk.

So I've E-mailed that former chapter member (" I BLEED ORANGE " James Coulter, now residing in the heart of Cornhusker territory.) to see if he has a remedy to relieve the pain from were those "Huskers" stuck that cob. But then, I'm sure he has a skip-to -my - Lou in his step also. And to all those Sand Mountain boys..... " GO BLUE ! " and I'm not talking about your hound dog.

A big welcome to visitors January 17th, Chase Guyton, John Hale and Richard Poole.



Georgia 5 Tennessee 3

That wasn't the score, that was who showed when our president called for volunteers to work on one of his goals as our new leader. I don't want to claim that when it comes to volunteering, the Volunteer State is a few fries short of a happy meal..... but... what does the record show?

A few TN. guys you can always count on are Bill McKeehan and Ron Weaver coming all the way in from the Cleveland and Georgetown areas. And of course that bashful bari Benny Malone.

The Georgia contingent consisted of Bill Slack, Fred Jesse, W.C. Strickland, Pete Jones and Pat Crowe.

Haven't heard all the comments, Pro or Con, but the guys did a whale of a job. I think the new set up in rehearsal room number one is great. The comments from the top row was that they could hear a better sound.

Lets not break an arm patting ourselves on the back. There still is work to be done. When all is complete we will have one of the best chapter rooms in the district.

Something to Crowe About

(Continued)

Congratulations to Niles Fowler, on January 10th our new MVP Shannon OConnell presented him with his "FIFTH "man of note. Way to go Niles!

How about that fancy case that came along with it, to hold all those "Man of Note" pins.

It was quite refreshing to see our new MVP at work. A real take charge guy. He had those facts, figures and quotas broken down by section and charged each section to meet that quota to fill our commitment of eight new members. He broke it down for the bari's. That means two from your section, guys.



Getting Enough ?

by Barry Owens

For those of you going to contest, and I hope that includes everyone of you, consider coming to Cleveland's Thursday night rehearsals and sing in both choruses. Cleveland has two killer songs, just like Chattanooga, and they have a great director, just like Chattanooga. If you need more barbershop in your musical diet, come check us out. We are singing Lori Belle Lee and Chase the rain away!



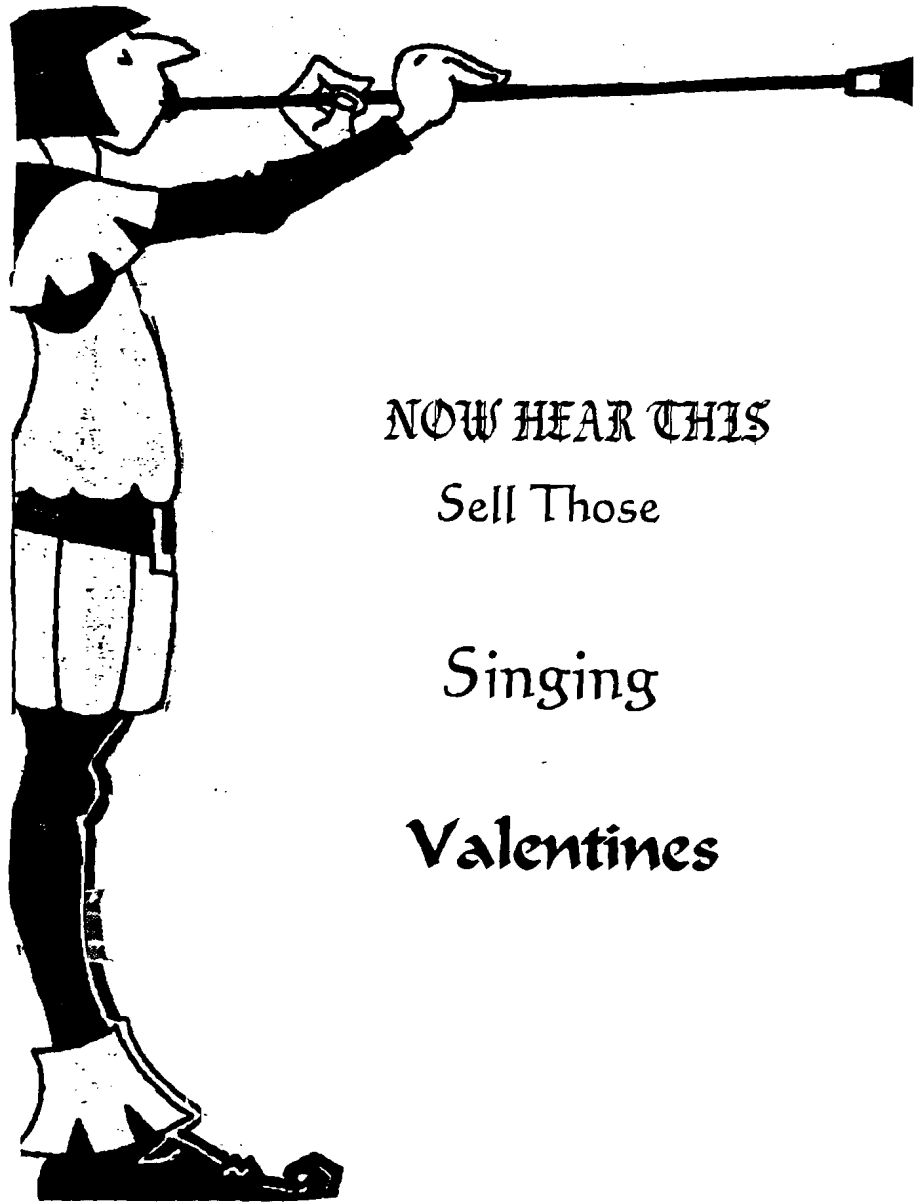


Birthdays

Forrest Bugher	Feb. 1
Scott McKenzie	3
James Coulter	6
Bill Slack	7
Dick Hagar	8
Brooks Gist	12
Greg Harris	27

Anniversaries

Thomas & Barbara Keegan	Feb. 10
Earle & Evelyn Fraser	13



NOW HEAR THIS
Sell Those
Singing
Valentines

I can't believe it !! Evelyn has put up with that old curmudgeon
for....56 years !!



Lovebirds



As of press time the coming events are as follows.

We have been asked again by the Elderfest people to perform for them. They must like us or we got to keep going back till we get it right.

This time we will be at Amicalola Falls State Park. East of Eljay.

Some of the members tell me "it's a fur piece down the road." We'll be in "DELIVERANCE" country!

Well, isn't that enough to make you squeal like a pig!

The question of the bus has not been confirmed. Pete Jones is following up on that matter. We should have the results by publication time. It's a paid gig so lets all get with the program.

The other event is also a "Fur piece down the road " not in miles but in time. So you will all have time to lock in the date for this paid performance.

It will be the 86th. Infantry Division reunion, the Choo Choo is the location the date is September 9,2000. At 10:30 AM It's a Saturday morning , giving us time to still enjoy the long weekend.

One other performance in the hopper, though not finalized is a church package down near Calhoun. Georgia.. I believe W.C. Strickland is the contact on that one.



Attention

All Board Members

If you have an E-mail Address

please advise the editor.

We will be able to keep you advised on any matters pertaining to your discipline, and bulletin deadlines.

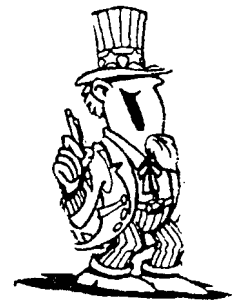
Address Correction



Been having a problem with E-Mail. A DOT has been showing up in the wrong place. The only . (dot) should be between mind-spring and com ,otherwise it won't go through. That's, mindspring.com

The Prez Sez

Bill Slack President



When President Bernard Wheeler began his term in office two years ago, the chapter addressed two important questions: Who are we? Where are we going? It was found that the chapter's main focus was having fun. Secondary goals were to sing better and to be more entertaining for civic or other public performances. Since that meeting two years ago, we have acquired over ten new members, and it would be appropriate to review and re-evaluate those goals. The national leadership at COTS recommended that we use a written survey as a method of getting membership opinions, so be looking for a written questionnaire which must be filled out and returned. This survey will also be helpful in getting a profile on membership characteristics, experiences, likes and dislikes. This compiled information will provide guidance for the Board of Directors and make the time all of us spend on chapter activities more enjoyable.

For the next two years my goals for the chapter are as follows:

A. Improve physical facilities.

1. Clean and organize the back room so it can be better utilized.
2. Install permanent risers so we don't move our portable ones except for performances.

B. Increase and/or retain membership.

1. Place regular, effective publicity through local print, radio and t.v. media.
2. Prepare and/or update visitor's music books.
3. Print orientation materials for new members, and provide them with current music.

C. More “fun” singing experiences.

1. Develop “polecat” learning sessions so we can learn all parts to all songs.
2. Hold “fun” quartet competitions for non-registered quartets with Nashville, Cleveland, and Knoxville chapters, with entertaining and parody songs rather than competitive singing.

D. Raise funds to pay for new music, new uniforms, new risers, learning tapes, future overseas trip.

1. Valentines
2. Mother’s Day
3. Christmas Tree deliveries
4. Paid chorus performances

Some of my goals are very short term and easily performed, and some will require regular and substantial amounts of time. I trust that each of us will support the chapter by completing the survey, and participating as fully as they can in activities for the good of the Chapter.



Lets Get in the Swim





No Room at the Inn

or did anyone bring fishes and loaves?

Maybe they thought reservations was a place of dwelling for Native Americans?

Maybe they thought the proprietor was Merlin the Magician ?

Maybe they thought with a wave of his wand, tables, chairs and food would appear.

Well... Abra-K-Dabra.. my uninformed It just don't happen that a way!!

Maybe they thought that was a toothy smile he was giving us?

Truth is he was gritting his teeth. And those were not visions of sugar plum fairies dancing through his head. He was thinking of where he would love to stuff those chairs

Ah.. the joy of dealing with the public. One wonders if it helps to be masochistic or a flagellant. I know it's hard to believe... but the customer is not always right!!

My sympathy went out to Jack Goodlet, the owner of Park Place, as he struggled to place extra tables and chairs in an already over crowded room.

Johnny Jackson was not the only one giving blessing. The thought of the kitchen staff in fury and frenetic frenzy, as they blessed us, while trying to prepare an extra twenty-four portions. I know the experience only too well. This is why I'm so happy to be retired and no longer in the food service industry. If this wasn't a family read publication, I would express my (and most hospitality and food service workers) opinion on the vacuous, inconsiderate disregard shown to the hard working people in the food business.

But then there is more than one place to lay the blame. When I was just a young'un, the gang of guys I hung out with, would frequent and hang around a corner confectionery store. I guess some would also call it the corner candy store. Well. . . old Tom the Greek, who owned it did not always welcome us. Considered us to be loafers, as we loitered on the corner doing what the "Four Lads" sang about in one of their hit recordings. "Standing on the Corner Watching all the Girls Go By" His usual elucidation to us, as we entered his establishment was, " Money first !! Or get the Hell Out!" Obviously meaning, don't just wander in here I want to know your intentions.

So we should have informed all, the importance of knowing the actual count of those attending. This can be done by collecting monies before the function. The importance of this is a double-edged sword. How so? ... If we had reserved for say the sixty- nine that attended, and only forty-five showed (forty-five is what we booked) we would have been liable for those twenty-four other meals.

My suggestion to the program VP is, be like Old Tom, or as they said in the movie Jerry McGuire, **"SHOW ME THE MONEY!"**





ALLEGIANCE: Loyalty or devotion to some person, "GROUP," cause or the like kind.

PRIORITY: the right to take precedence in obtaining certain services, etc..

It's like that age old question, which comes first, the egg or the chicken? The question heard December the 15th., the paid performance at Creekside Retirement Home, was which comes first, the chorus or the quartet?

Time and again it has been stated at board and at chapter meetings, "If we want to meet our budget, our priorities are to have more "Paid" performances." Again and again it has been stressed, "We need full participation by members on singouts. Particularly at paid events."

So the question is, Egg? Chicken? Chorus? Quartet? Allegiance? Priorities?

On June the 29th. Lamar Owens presented to the membership the request from Creekside. By a show of hands, it was agreed that we would accept the December 15th. date and committed to it.

There is an old homily regarding allegiance, which says: loyalty means "Yuh dance with the one that brung yuh!"

Loyalty is a trait of one of our members, a real gem of a gentleman. Though running a few minutes late, he still made it in time to get on the risers. Bill McKeean drove in from Atlanta because his priorities were set back in June.

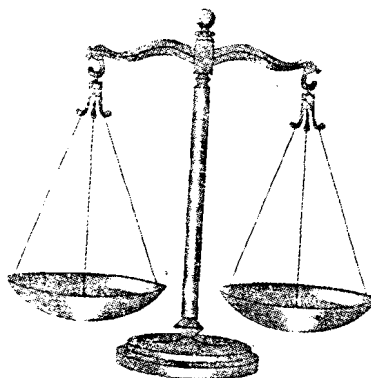
Paul, who has that flair of communication with the audience, was under the weather. Too hoarse to talk above a rasp his priority was established. And likened to the postal motto "Through rain, sleet, snow...etc...etc." (But, without the fully loaded Uzi!), he showed. Our thanks to Tom Keegan. He did a great job as MC, Those cornball jokes helped stretch the time we usually blocked out for quartet numbers.

At the close of our performance a lady approached and mentioned how she enjoyed the show but thought it was too short. Is that how we are going to be thought of?? Good show....but didn't get our money's worth! Yes, we were very well received by the Creekside residents, but come the following day as we gathered at the Chattanooga Trade and Convention Center, singing for 500 of TVA's material procurement employees. The criticism from some of our fellow members, about our vocal abilities at Creekside, was pretty harsh.

I don't know how you feel, but I think six months lead time gives us all time to mark our calendars to lock in that date.

Time to set their priorities, time to show whom their allegiance is bound to. Time to show Leadership qualities.

Romans 13.5 : Therefore you must be subject, not only because of wrath, but also for conscience sake.





Steve Grubb

GET WITH THE PROGRAM

The fact that everyone is reading this month's Blender means we must have survived the millennium's arrival. The fact that you're reading articles means we all took our chastisement from last month's issue to heart and sent Pat an article. Hope you and yours had a joyful Holiday Season and will enjoy a prosperous New Year. Did you eat your Hog Jowl, Turnip Greens and Black-Eyed Peas on 01/01/00? If not, you're in for a not-so-successful year, according to all the Old Wives' Tales.

This should be a banner year for us here at Chattanooga. We look forward to working with Mr. Slack and his new slate of officers as they lead us into the new millennium. Show your support however you can whenever you are asked. Spring Convention is in Greenville, SC, again this year and that's just a few months away. Please plan to make the trip; we need 30 to 40 guys on the risers to create a fuller sound and qualify for Fall. I believe we travel to Knoxville, TN, in October for that event so we should have a great turn out at that time. International is a Music Man theme in Kansas City, MO, this year. It should be quite a blow-out. You new guys who have a 2 for 1 deal should try and make that trip, or sell your options to the highest bidder. Doubtless Ron, Dave, Fred or Barry might be willing to negotiate. It's not too early to be planning on Nashville, TN, in July, 2001, and Chattanooga, TN, in October, 2001. We will need everyone's help to pull off another great convention.

Speaking of not too early, it will be Valentine's Day quicker than we might think. Have you marked the day off to sing? Have you got your Quartet together yet? Do you know the songs? Do you have your outfit ready for wear? We ALL need to participate in some way. This is the chapter's main money-maker for the year. Mr. Pete Jones has volunteered to chair this year's event, so let's plan on helping make this our best year yet for Singing Valentine's. A chance to sing all day with four friends, bring smiles to folks' faces and make a profit for the chapter--What a Deal!!

Let me close with a brief editorial. It appears to me that each man's primary responsibility should be to the chapter. Not in any way meaning to discount the pleasure or profit of singing in a quartet, we are still here first and foremost for the chapter and each other. When a group books the chorus, that's who they should get each time. Scheduling conflicts are at times unavoidable, but the first booking should always be for the chorus. We ask \$300 dollars for a performance, and folks who pay that should get each and everyone of us on the risers entertaining them, warts and all!!

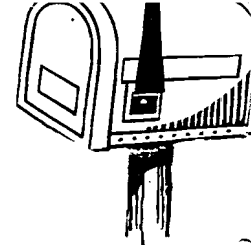
Don't forget David Collins in your thoughts and prayers as he recovers from bypass surgery. We miss you, Dave.

Until next month, Keep the Whole World Singing!

Earle's Pearls



We Get Letters



It's a real education to converse with our old Map Maker. Pearls of wisdom drop from his lip's. One would liken them to drops of morning dew gently falling to the ground.

He related when back during the Big War (WW2) meat was not too easy to find, due to rationing. He went on to tell me about a traveling salesman. (he didn't identify the person,) I'm assuming it wasn't Sir Earle. But I digress, this salesman while on his sales route was hungry, hadn't had a real hardy meal. He noticed a sign in a cafe window advertising "We Have Meat !" To-days Special Hasenpfeffer!!

He explained hasenpfeffer is a German dish consisting of rabbit. Well our stalwart traveler thought . "This is great, I love rabbit. So he enters the establishment, orders the special and attacks it with gusto. After a few bites he finds it stringy. Calling over the waiter he says. "This is pretty stringy, more like horsemeat." the waiter replies " Well sir, during this time of meat shortages we are allowed to serve horsemeat. Yes, this hasenpfeffer has some horsemeat included." Our weary traveler states "Yeh well I think its all horesmeat !" "Oh no " cry's the waiter. " our recipe calls for equal parts. There is one rabbit and one horse"Thanks Earle.

There was an article in the last publication of **The Harmonizer** concerning our young people in schools.

The society is encouraging chapters to include a program to include these young men in the **Barbershop** style of singing.

The society is late in recommending this to the local chapters. It should have been recommended years ago.

We have one barbershopper that has been doing this for many years. That is Ron Weaver.

If you will notice, that when we have new recruits attend the meetings he is the first to get them to sing, especially the young fellows who are attending now.

This brings up another subject. We have the opportunity to get those proposed ten new members this year.

A program to start a fund (separate from chapter funds) for those individuals who cannot afford to join because of lack of funds.

I believe our barbershoppers would contribute each week to this fund.

At least we should consider it.

Thanks Ron for the work you have already done towards this goal.

Bill McKeehan

Editors Note:Great idea Bill.Maybe some of the quartets or VLQ could also give a percentage of some their income they receive from performances .



Artistry is an inner candle that burns brightly from the moment a performer takes the stage until it is extinguished in an ash as he takes his final bow.

Al Jolson

Contest Preparation - A Year Long Commitment

-By Dede Nibler, Sweet Adelines International Music Staff
(from: http://www.harmonize.com/probe/aids/Craft/Contest_Prep.htm)

Each member must have a personal commitment to vocal improvement and a positive attitude toward the chorus/quartet for musical gains to be made. Your chorus deserves your very best efforts. What will make you the very best member? Commitment, positive participation and the desire to improve. Consider the following:

- A. Do you know your voice? Its strengths and weaknesses? Do you have a personal plan for vocal improvement? (To know your voice is to love it):
- Sing something everyday. Rehearse chorus music several times each week using current chorus tapes (learning tapes are not necessarily the current interp).
 - Sing tension free with as much accuracy as possible. Observe good singers and their habits and try to emulate them.
 - Find vocalizers that will help improve vocal problems. Ask for assistance in this area.
 - Check posture and breathing frequently. Also check your tongue position (down), jaw position (relaxed), soft palate (pre yawn position).
 - Find chorus members who like to sing tags or chorus songs and join in the fun.
 - Form a Sunday night bunch - get together and rehearse chorus songs.
- B. How well do you respond to your director?
- Watch carefully at critical times: prep beats, down beats, breaths, cutoffs, tempo changes, dynamic changes, etc.
 - ALWAYS be polite. Allow all members the right to enjoy the rehearsal by allowing it to proceed unimpeded. You may think you're funny but others...
 - Ask most questions when off the risers. Interruptions break the director's concentration. She/he may be on a roll!
 - Give your director the chance to try and try again. Music rarely is totally in cement as music must breathe to live.
 - SMILE at the director frequently, for no reason. She/he needs your constant support.
- C. How well do you know your music?
- Mark your music (pencil). Things like breathing places, Pythagorean notes, coning, dynamics, accents, off-beats, etc.
 - Memorize as quickly and as accurately as possible. Test yourself by taping at chorus and checking at home. Review repertoire songs regularly.
 - Learn to read music. It really is not a mystery and will aid you in your pursuit of musical excellence. Ask for a craft class at the regional or chorus level.

- D. Do you love and embrace the tape evaluation/quality control process?
- Tape yourself frequently for self-evaluation. Remember, you love your voice, you love your voice. When evaluating, note the good as well as the stuff that needs improving.
 - Be the first one to give your section leader or her designee your tape for evaluation. Don't make her/him have to ask you for it. Remember, taping for evaluation will be easier if you have taped for self-evaluation.
 - Support your section leader and the tape evaluators. They spend their extra time helping all of us look and sound great.
 - If your chorus has not instituted this program, encourage them to consider it. Get assistance from regional music leaders if your chorus is unfamiliar with the tape evaluating program. Another point, some choruses use direct one on one singing instead of taping to pass songs for performance. Whichever you use, realize this is an important step for chorus level improvement.
- E. Are you attempting to be all that you can be physically?
- Maintain good physical and mental health. Start a walking and stretching program. Get enough sleep.
 - Hydrate. Drink lots of water.
 - Eat smart. Keep away from foods that make you feel tired, full and bloated. Limit alcohol intake and keep away from cigarettes.
 - Learn to relax. Tension affects vocal production and causes all sorts of other problems.
 - Give up the guilts. Get past mistakes, arguments and misunderstandings and get on with life.
- F. Do you have a barbershop dream/goal?
- Pick a dream/goal that is really important to you, one that will benefit the chorus and go about getting it done. Have a plan and do it.
 - Hang around with players, not critics.
 - Support other's dreams and goals. Acceptance of others brings serenity.
- G. Are you willing to take risks?
- Volunteer for something you have never done before...
 - Take your performance ability to a new level through discipline, concentration, patience and faith.
 - Keep other's impute in perspective. You are the final say on your actions. Don't worry about failure - just try to stick to your plan and believe in yourself.
 - Visualize your plan over and over again. Seeing the desired results in your mind will build your confidence.
 - Stay positive and keep going.



Recruiting Tip #12

Ev Nau, Manager, Membership Development

SPEBSQSA

Recruiting tip #12 comes to us from a source identified only as "Ed", who says that he is "sure there is nothing new in his ideas, but if nothing else, maybe they will reinforce all of the other ideas and, who knows, we may just find the next International President out there." (If anyone reading this knows the full name and chapter affiliation of the author of this recruiting tip, I would appreciate the opportunity to give credit to both the source of the information and the recruiting tip.)

From day one I always wore my SPEBSQSA pin - even in my younger days when I was a Jaycee. I wore my Jaycee pin on one lapel and my SPEBSQSA pin on the other. I was always being asked about the SPEBSQSA pin, even by Jaycees, and this gave me the opening I needed to talk about Barbershopping.

When I was working, I attended many business receptions, meetings, conventions, etc., where the inevitable question was, upon meeting someone or being introduced to someone: "What do you do (for a living)?, or What line are you in?, or words to that effect. Whenever I was asked what I do, I always said "I sing". Then they would say: "You mean you sing for a living?" or "What do you mean, you sing?" Now that I am retired, I still get a variation on "What do you do?", only now it's "What are you doing now?" My answer is the same: "I sing". The conditioned response is the same: "What do you mean, you sing?", etc., and then I tell them about Barbershopping.

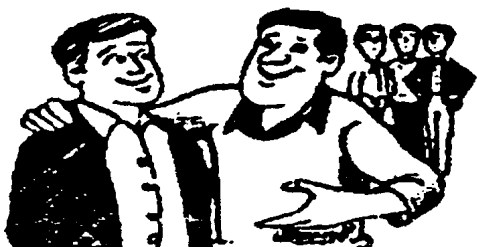
Lately I just keep my eyes and ears open. When my quartet or chorus is performing, I can usually spot a guy who is mouthing the words as we sing, or is just standing in the crowd with a big grin on his face. That's the guy I head for the minute we take a break.

On the assumption that one has already recruited everyone possible from his church choir, I listen for voices in the general congregation. There is always someone with a good voice, an in-tune voice, or a very deep voice, who is singing an octave below everyone else. Whatever the 'hook', I usually compliment them on their voice and ask them why they are not in the church choir, etc. If they say the choir practices on Wednesday and they are not free that night, I ask them about Tuesday (our practice night) and away we go.

Taking the same 'hooks' out of the church and onto the streets and into the malls, etc., if I hear someone with a good voice humming a tune, or someone whistling in-tune, or someone with an exceptionally low (or high) speaking voice, I go right up to them, always complimenting them first, and then I get down to business.

I remember publishing my own "Who Do You Know" list when I was Membership VP. It was basically the same as all the others we've seen - the only difference is I live by that list! I actually talk Barbershop to the grocery clerk, my dentist, the waiter, the gas station attendant, etc.

Welcome To Barbershopping



Whacky State Laws

- ♪ In Florida, it is illegal for a man to be seen in public in any kind of strapless gown.
- ♪ In Helena, Montana, a woman cannot dance on a table in a bar unless she is wearing at least 3 lbs., 2 oz. of clothing.
- ♪ In Mass., goatees are illegal unless a special license fee is paid for the privilege of wearing one in public.
- ♪ In Kansas, it's against the law to catch fish with your bare hands.
- ♪ In Michigan, a woman isn't allowed to cut her own hair without her husband's permission.
- ♪ In the state of Washington, it is mandatory for a motorist with criminal intentions to stop at the city limits and call the Chief of Police as he is entering town.
- ♪ In Norfolk, Virginia, it is illegal for hens to lay eggs before 8:00 a.m. and after 4:00 p.m.
- ♪ In Brooklyn, New York, donkeys are not allowed to sleep in bathtubs.
- ♪ In the state of Florida, it is illegal for single, divorced, or widowed women to parachute on Sunday afternoons.
- ♪ In Massachusetts, it is illegal to duel with water pistols.
- ♪ In the state of Indiana, one is not allowed to attend a movie house nor ride in a public streetcar within at least 4 hours after eating garlic.
- ♪ Dueling is legal in Paraguay as long as both parties are registered blood donors.
- ♪ In the state of Oklahoma, it is illegal to make faces at a dog.
- ♪ In Arkansas, when two trains approach a crossing, each shall stop and neither shall proceed until the other has stopped.
- ♪ In Clinton, Oklahoma, molesting an automobile is illegal.
- ♪ In Urbana, Illinois, a monster is not allowed within the city limits.
- ♪ In Augusta, Georgia, a city code makes it against the law to steal garbage.
- ♪ In Florida, it is illegal to have sexual relations with a porcupine.
- ♪ In Spartansburg, South Carolina, eating watermelons in the Magnolia Street Cemetery is forbidden.
- ♪ In Kentucky, a man may not purchase a hat unless his wife is with him.
- ♪ In Santa Ana, California, two or more persons may not congregate on the sidewalk for the purpose of discussion.
- ♪ In Arkansas, a law provides that school teachers who bob their hair will not get a raise.
- ♪ A North Andover, Massachusetts law prohibits the use of space guns.
- ♪ In Portland, Oregon, it is illegal to wear roller skates in public restrooms.
- ♪ In Iowa, one-armed piano players must perform for free.
- ♪ In Arizona, it is unlawful to hunt camels within the state borders.
- ♪ In Austin Texas, shooting Indians from a streetcar or Congress Avenue is illegal.
- ♪ In Augusta, Maine, to stroll down the street playing a violin is against the law.
- ♪ Women in Cleveland, Ohio, are not allowed to wear patent leather shoes.
- ♪ In Milford, Massachusetts, peeping in the windows of automobiles is prohibited.
- ♪ In Tylertown, Mississippi, it is unlawful to shave in the center of Main Street.

Larry Huber

It's been two and a half years since Larry Huber was an active and growing force on the chapter board. Two and a half years since that night in June when their world came crashing down, and that auto accident all but took Larry from us. In a recent Christmas letter Gloria and Larry made note of his continuing progress, here are excerpts from that letter.

We are writing this letter together this year.

Larry has made tremendous progress since last year. The address was loaded into database, affixed to the envelope along with the return address and stamp by Larry.

Larry continues to receive out patient therapy at Siskin Rehab Hospital in Chattanooga. He goes twice a week. On days he stays at home a caregiver is with him while Gloria is at work. One of our most difficult tasks is filling the 9.5 hours with meaningful activities Larry can do. Larry is not yet able to think of things to do on his own, so Gloria is left the task of thinking what to do. Most of the activities consist of exercise, speech therapy, home work,, music or piano.

Unfortunately, the insurance requires that we use an agency for home health care, and the agencies do not allow their employees to take patients on outings. So all activities have to be done in the home. Once the insurance stops covering this service, which will be sometime in the new year, we'll be able to hire a private individual who can include outings in the daily activities. Larry is getting better and feeling better. His limitations are significant, but he is well aware of them. He is trying to improve and is very cooperative in his ef-

had two surgeries in the fall to reconstruct the surrounding his left eye.

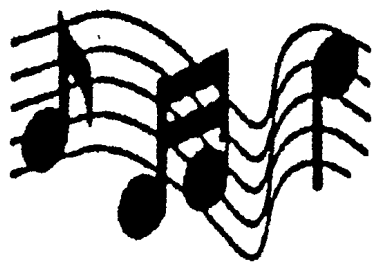
We won't know until the spring whether surgery is needed.

We are active members of the Greater Chattanooga Area Brain Injury Support Group. Members have been so helpful and are a great source. This year they awarded Gloria the Caregiver of the Year Award. Larry made the nomination!

Last July, Schering-Plough, (Gloria's employer) sent her to a three-day meeting in Orlando. We decided to take a friend along so that Larry could go too! Our friend stayed with him during the meetings, and on the weekend we visited the Wild Animal Kingdom Park. We had a real nice time. It was the first time we'd left behind the rehab routine since Larry's accident. Unfortunately our return flight was canceled and we had to spend the night in Atlanta. That sort of ended the wonderful spell rather abruptly. All that great rest was wiped out in one long day and night! We certainly got an education in how one airline handles passengers with disabilities. We wrote a letter to the airline upon our return giving them a few suggestions.....

Editors Note: It is heart warming to hear and see the progress Larry has made. As always our daily thoughts and continued prayers are with he and Gloria.

As it is written Matthew 17:20 "I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you."



VLQ

There still is room in this group for you.
So come on out we need your help.
We meet on thursdays, rotating our re-
hearsals at Parkway Baptist Church on
Battlefield Parkway in Fort
Oglethorpe, and in our regular chapter
rooms in Chattanooga, if enough
Tennessee guys show up.

Our December performances were well
received, and it was very rewarding, both
spiritually and financially.

Sure would like to see more of our
Tennessee members. I thought you were
the ' Volunteer State " Seems the Georgia
boys don't brag about it, they just show
up and do what's called for.

Maybe we should change our name. Just
rename them and drop the VLQ.

We could call them " The North West
Georgia Clambake, Marching Minstrel
and Singing Society."

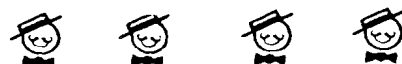
We have a couple of up coming perform-
ances.

The first for this year is still not con-
firmed. It's on January 26th. In February
they are scheduled for Wednesday the 3rd
(This is a repeat for this gig, I guess they
liked us.) Then a performance for a sen-
ior church group on the 10th.



At a recent meeting J.W. Kirk was se-
lected to be our Chancellor of the
Exchequer. (For you'uns that aint as
Ed- ja- ma-kated as us'uns, that means
Treasurer) He being a chapter board
member, it was our thought he could
lobby to the board, any issues that we
might have. Besides he didn't have much
choice in our democratic process. Another
term for it is like in the English Navy of
the 1700's. When they were short handed
and they needed to fill out the the ships
crew, out went the " Press Gangs" and
conscripted the the first guy they could
lay their hands on... Would you believe....
" Shanghia'd "

Thanks J.W. for excepting this lofty posi-
tion.





It's Your Business
Lamar Owens, Business Manager

In last months Blender I listed all of the engagements we fulfilled as a chorus and the income we received but failed to thank you for your participation. Well, I am going to correct that right now.

Starting on November 7, at Fairview United Methodist church where we had 29 members to sing, our attendance for the holiday season was tremendous. We had 30 members for Tyner United Methodist, 30 for the Chattanooga Bicentennial Library, 31 for the Salvation Army, 22 for Creekside @ Shallowford with two quartets performing elsewhere, 29 for TVA Materials Management at noon on a Friday (yes, we can sing during the week), 31 for Hamilton Place Mall and 20 at Alexian Assisted Living and a quartet singing at Alexian Village for a total of 24.

This expression of enthusiasm for your chosen hobby is very gratifying and encouraging for the new year. With this kind of participation and enthusiasm we cannot help but prosper and grow during the rest of the year 2000. I thank you for your support (reminds me of a commercial, Bartles & James)! WELL DONE!



A big Barbershop welcome to Wayne Welch.
Wayne was the guest of another Wayne, our "Maytag Man" Wayne Pruitt.
Welch is the pastor of a small country church.
The New Liberty Baptist Church in Birchwood, Tennessee.
He also works in the construction industry, but that's only because he likes to eat.
Come on back, Wayne. You sure raised the intelligence level of the baritone section.

Track'n Down New Members

We have a varied amount of catch phrases and ideas on this subject. On the International level Ev Nau, manager of membership development issues many tips to help chapter membership VP's. Recruitment is based on salesmanship. No matter how interested the prospective member may be, there still is that selling point or "hook" you have to have to get him into that first meeting.

Have you ever thought it would help you live longer or make you healthier?

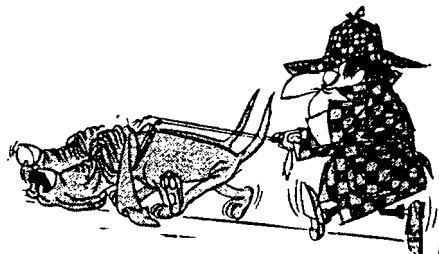
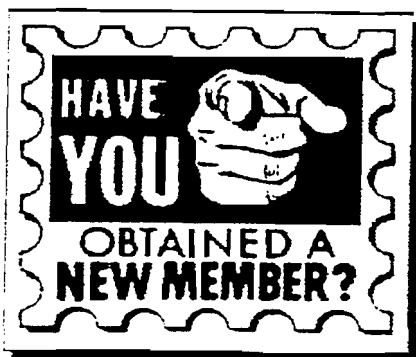
There is an article in an issue of the Mayo Clinic Health Letter which said. Studies indicate that people who enjoy "social support" (good relationship with family, friends and partners) tend to live longer ,healthier lives. Some suggested tips were.

1: Be a " joiner." Join a community organization or a special - interest group(**BARBERSHOP HARMONY ?**)

2 : Share your knowledge or talent. Teach what you know (financial planning, cooking, sewing , MUSIC.

(**BARBERSHOP HARMONY ?**)

This was just two of the suggestions. But it hit home with me because the following Sunday our Pastor was speaking on stress. He was quoting from a research performed by a California University , which basicly reaffirmed the Mayo study . So gentlemen, there is your " Selling Point ! ".... There is your " Hook ! "



Recruiting tip # 14

Ev Nau, Manager, Membership Development

SPEBSQSA

Recruiting tip #14 comes to us from Bob Cearnal, from Mascoutah, ILL.

I. Set a goal. I am very oriented. If we have a membership drive, my personal "assignment" is to bring at least one guest.

II. Where do I look for members?

A. At work (school, in my case).

1. Fellow teachers.

2. students in my Harmony Singers after-school chorus

B. At performances – during a chorus or quartet sing-out I look for the most "involved" males in the audience. After the performance, I find them and ask (a) do you enjoy singing? (b) do you like the barbershop style (c) do you have Mondays free? If the answer is yes to all three, I take their names and numbers and follow up. I also keep a file of these prospects. If they're not available now, perhaps they will be later.

C. In ads – occasionally, I'll write a blurb for our local newspaper, and I always put my name and number in it for reference.

D. By accident – I've had people leave their names and phone numbers on my windshield after they see my Society bumper sticker is HARMONY 4 license plate.

E. In public – if I hear a person singing, anywhere, I tell him about my chapter.

III. Once he attends, the work begins.

A. Introduce him to the members, the MVP, and a "buddy" in his section.

B. Be a "big brother" at the break.

C. Sing a tag after the meeting.

IV. Follow-up

A. MVP writes a letter.

B. I call.

V. There are numerous extra opportunities for recruitment.

A. Flyers – at parades, performances, in Welcome Wagon baskets, etc.

B. Displays – barbershops, bank lobbies, libraries, stores.

C. Society emblem on organizational board at city limits.

D. Chamber of Commerce and/or newspaper directory of organizations.

Plublicity VP W. C. Strickland



Valentine Time Again

As I'm sure you know, it is Valentine singout time again. This is the only fundraiser for our chorus and everyone's help is needed. Let all your friends, family, church, clubs, etc. know that this wonderful Valentine gift is available. Have you signed up to sing in a quartet? If so, practice with your quartet so that you can do the best possible job. Remember, you will be representing the chorus to the people who paid you to sing and also to those who are receiving your gift. If you do not want to sing in a quartet, you could serve as a driver for a quartet, you could help Pete Jones with scheduling, or many other tasks that have to be done.

Even though I am your publicity chairman, each of you is on my committee. Everytime you sing you are spreading publicity for your chorus, either very good or not so good.

Thanks, Strick



Knock Knock ?

Here's a few knock knocks, can you figure it out? They are lines from songs.

KK(knock knock) WT(who's there?)

KK..WT, aardvark. aardvark who?: aarvark a million miles for one of your smiles....

Got the idea ? OK, Here goes. No. 1, KK..WT..Sam and Janet.. No.2, KK..WT..gorilla..

No.3, KK..WT..Orson..No.4, Annie..No.5, Akron..No.6, Donna..No.7 Mary Lee..

I Need More Bass !



How many times have we heard, "I need more bass !"

Well the call came , Jack answered, and is now part of that heavenly chorus.

It was with sadness we heard the news, yet a feeling of joy for Jack, to be released from those bonds of that debilitating illness.

The obituary read, Jack A. Moore died Friday January 14, 2000 at a local Health Care Facility. Very straight forward and impersonal. As often repeated on that old TV show " Just the facts ma'am " The facts didn't tell of Jack the outdoors man and his love of camping and hiking. Of Jack the singer. A charter member of the Choo Choo Chorus and his love of four part harmony.

It has been told, that even when he was not too responsive in his last days, a few chords of "The Old Songs" he would stir and smile.

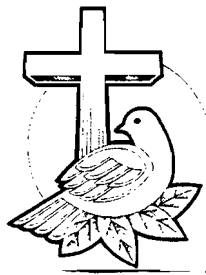
Jack was a stalwart supporter of the chapter and served as an officer , a board member and in many volunteer capacities.

As a charter member of thirty-eight continuous years, he also served as President, Administration VP, Program VP, Secretary, Bulletin Editor and a few terms as Board Member.

He also was a member of various quartets, 1963 -68 "The Four J's", 1972-74 "The Unnamed Four", 1978-80 " The Random Sample".

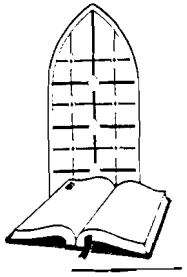
His last quartet was the "Mellotones", with Sam Jones, Bill McKeehan and the late Randall Stulce. Their name they said came from the melon that was just a little past ripe but not yet rotten, just "Mellow".

As you take your place on the risers in the bass section, next to Glenn Dabbs, get together Randall Stulce, John Lumpkin, Jesse Steincpher, Sid Kiser and the rest of the guys and make a joyful sound.





Remembering Jack Moore
by Barry Owens



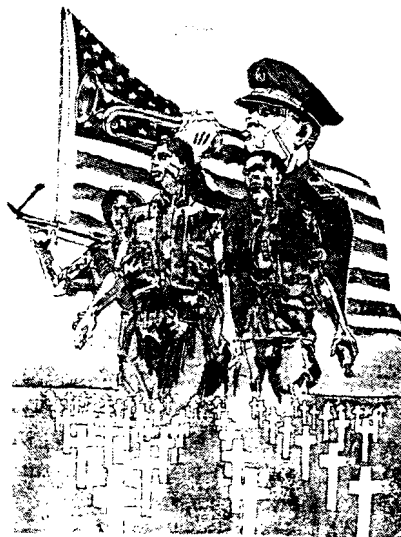
Monday, January 17, 2000, Jack Moore, a charter member of our Chattanooga Chapter of SPEBSQSA, was laid to rest. There was a small crowd at the funeral. Both of Jack's wives, Evelyn and Dot had preceded him in death. Probably because Jack has been "out of circulation" for quite a while with his many maladies, was the reason for the small crowd.

Our only other charter member, Lloyd Gimber was in attendance, along with Classic Harmony. Classic Harmony sang "Let There Be Peace On Earth" and "Amazing Grace". With David Collins out with his surgery, the call matrix was not used to inform the membership of the funeral. Many did not see the obituary in the weekend paper.

I enjoyed singing with Jack when I first joined the chorus. We sang with Ed Raulston, Bob Wright, Jack Layne, and many others. We all cherish the memory of Jack as "Frosty the Snowman" in his last public performance on our Christmas show.

Nobody loved that good old barbershop sound like Jack. He was always at our meetings, performances, and rehearsals. His preacher, who delivered the message at the funeral, said he had the same enthusiasm with the church choir. He simply loved music!

Jack was also a veteran of World War II. We are slowly losing our World War II heroes. Jack was 77 years old. Jack, Rest in Peace!





FERDS WERDS for January

Fred Jesse, Music VP

Those of you who have been with the chorus for a while may remember that when I was Music VP, I had a phrase to mark the year. You may remember "AWE". It was an acronym for "Associated With Excellence."

We improved as a chorus as we worked toward excellence. We learned some great songs, put on some great shows and I think, felt much better as a chorus.

We have continued to improve under our able leadership of our director **Paul Blazek** and prior Music VP, **David Collins**. Now we need to continue our upward trend to place in the solid "B" range in contest scoring.

Have you noticed that other choruses and quartets are improving too? That means we have to get better just to stay even. Is that your goal?

We have had surveys of the chorus in the past. What always comes up is - we want to improve and we want to have fun. These are not incompatible. I think improvement leads to more fun. Fun in anything is increased as you improve. So let's continue to improve and see how much more fun it is.

Now, here's the schedule for this year - Valentines Day, Spring Contest, Show, Fall Contest, and perhaps a Christmas Show..... Have any ideas? I need them now while plans are being made. We would like to learn some new songs for show and fall contest, but that means commitment to learn, practice, improve and perform.... Are you with me on this. Talk to me. Tell me how you feel. I'm willing to listen.

By the way, do you like the woodshedding portion of the meeting? Will you take the lead some evening? I'll help you with the music, It has been fun when I did it, Try it. It is a learning experience, and it is good barbershop... Let's talk,.... Let's Sing!

Be A Singer-Bringer!



Knock Knock

Well, how many did you get?

No. 1: sam and janet evening, you will see a stranger..

No 2 : gorilla of my dreams, I love you...

No. 3: orson was a song of tomorrow, our hearts were as high as the sky..

No. 4: Annie thing you can do, I can do better..

No. 5: Akron give you anything but love, baby...

No. 6: Donna sit under the appletree....

No. 7: Mary lee we roll along...

The Director Speaks!

Or, more accurately, writes. I know I've been terribly lax in providing articles for the Blender lately, and I really have no excuse. The three or four of you that actually read these articles may receive some benefit, so here goes...

Our Music program is not really set in stone for this year, but here are some highlights:

Singing Valentines - Feb 13/14

Spring Convention/Contest - Greenville, SC - Mar 17-19

Annual Show - Theme/Date TBA

Pops in the Park - July 1 (probably)

Fall Convention/Contest - Knoxville, TN - Oct 6-8

Christmas Show - TBA

Christmas Show with the Chattanooga Symphony (I hope) - TBA

As you can see, we have about 6 or 7 major events this year, along with the various church/nursing home/private party engagements, so we are going to be pretty busy.

One of my goals for this year is for each of us to become a better singer. I've listened to each of you sing, and I can say without fear of contradiction that every one of us (including me) has room for improvement. I'm going to use this space for the next few issues to talk about a concept and technique called "Speech Level Singing". The first installment will be a quick overview.

Speech Level Singing, A Quick Overview:

Basically, if the larynx stays down and the vocal folds stay together from the very bottom of the vocal range to the very top, everything is fine. This also applies to all vowel and consonant combinations throughout any phrase. If at any point the larynx jumps up or down or the tone becomes breathy then there is something wrong with the vocal process.

The larynx is the big bump in the middle of the neck just below the chin. This houses the vocal folds and controls the process of swallowing. When the larynx moves up, the muscles around the folds act as a sphincter and close so as to prevent swallowing down the windpipe and into the lungs. This is a very important process when you need to swallow, but it is a very poor process when you are trying to sing. If you place your hand on your larynx and yawn, you will find that you can bring your larynx down. This is a good way to learn what it feels like to have the larynx stay down. The end goal here is to be able to keep the larynx from moving down or up as you change tones. It should stay completely still as you ascend and descend.

Next time, Vocal Folds.

Good to be back in the Blender. Let's have a great year and get better.



Equipment Manager

By "Pete" Jones, alias the "Riser Man"



After having to listen to our "esteemed" bulletin editor complain about the lack of articles from the so called , eighteen listed on the back page, of which I am one. I've decided to write an article.... So here it is.

There is not a lot to report when all you do is transport risers back and forth or, so it seems. [editors note: with the lack of promised help, on most occasions.] Actually handling the risers is an important part of the chapters operation, and necessary for most performances.

A big part of the job os to see that the risers are stored and kept in good working order.

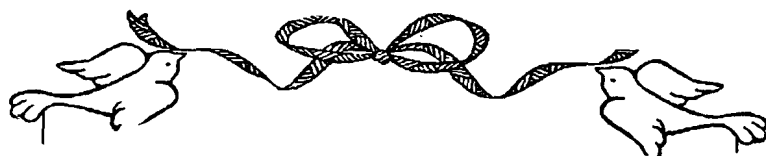
The first step in this recently, was the purchase of our new riser trailer, which has really been utilized this past year.

Another step, if you have noticed, is the setup of of the platform risers in our practice room which now gives is the luxury of both chairs and standing room on the riser. Enabling us guys in the back row to see our director much better.

As we grow and need more riser space in the rehearsal room and for performances, this new setup enables us to leave one set of risers in the trailer for singouts, thereby minimizeing the handling of the portable risers . The result of this will be less wear and tear, and will extend their life. They are not too cheap to replace, todays pricing is averaging \$900.00 per set.

I'm open to any comments ... or complaints. If someone would like to take my place, I'm replaceable.

Respectfully, "Riser Man"



Valentines 2000

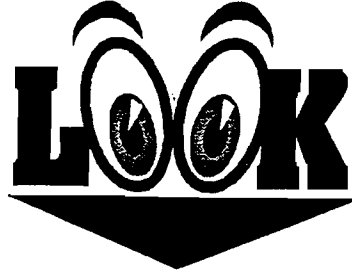
Quartets are forming and practicing. Sales are trickling in. Advertising and publicity is being lined up.

Remember to do your three "S's"

SELL SMILE SING

Valentine Chairman
Pete Jones

Choo Choo Belles

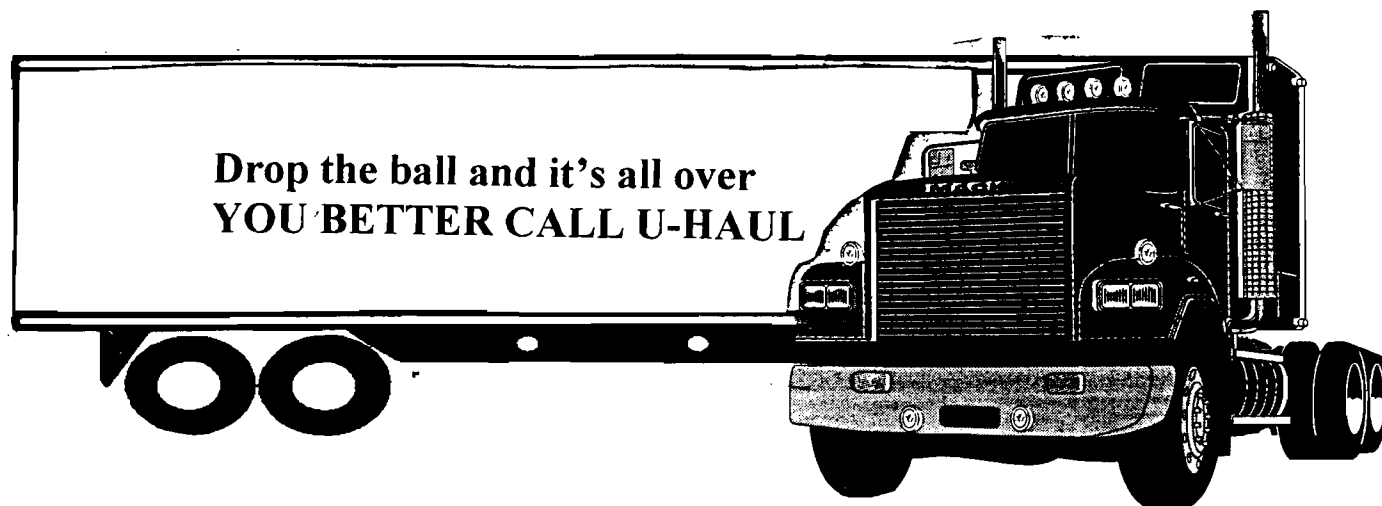


Theres gonna be some butt kick'n if you don't get this message
home to your **Belle**. You shorter guys...Look out!
They've been practicing high kicks.

FEBRUARY 7th. 7:00 PM

310 E Eighth Street Chapter Meeting Rooms

**Help Keep The Home Fires Burning
And The Love Light In Her Eyes**





Ah Bin A Wuder'n

By Uncle Billy-Bob Buhmkin

The Sage of Possum Cross'n, TN.

If'n you throw a cat out a car winder, does it become kitty litter ?

If'n you choke a Smurf, what color does it turn ?

Is it okay to use the AM radio after noon ?

What do chickens think we taste like ?

What do them folks in China call their good dishes

What do you call a male ladybug ?

What hair color do they do they put on the drivers license of a baldheaded feller ?

When dog food is new and improved tasting, who tests it ?

When they first invented the clock, how did they all know what time to set to ?

Which is the other side of the street ?

Why didn't Noah swat those two moskeeters ?

Why do they sterilize the needle for lethal injection?

Why doesn't glue stick to the inside of the bottle ?

Why don't they call mustaches "mouthbrows "

THE RAVING

by Leo Cowles

(As seen in Penn-Ohio Bulletin)

Once upon a Tuesday dreary,

While I pondered weak and weary

Over many a quaint and curious barbershop music score:

As I sat there lightly burping, browsing SP and "interping",

Came the thought to me disturbing,

"What is all this effort for?

Tis a hobby, nothing more."

Thus I sat there, half-dejected

While I silently reflected

On the often futile effort that I had made o'er and o'er.

Working to stir up the masses,

Taking many trips and classes.

Holding hands and kissing (*****),

So the night won't be a bore -

"For a hobby, nothing more!"

Then I thought about the lovin'

While my head was in the oven,

With the razor at my wrist and shotgun lying on the floor

Picturing the smiling faces On the risers, in their places.

Gladly I picked up my music

And I headed out the door.

"Tis my hobby, evermore!"

(Leo is the former director of the Youngstown Chapter Chorus - Ed)

Bulletin – a definition

By Bruce Anderson, VP-BE



Bulletin – Webster defines bulletin as: “1. a brief public notice. issuing information from an authoritative source, a brief news item intended for immediate publication or broadcast. 2. Periodical: the organ of an institution or association.

In looking in the thesaurus under bulletin – summary, journal, record, digest, abstract, prospectus, announcement, release, flash, tiding and dispatch. A chapter bulletin is all of the above and more. The bulletin serves as the voice of the chapter. Not only does it give information to its members but it also should tell the community what the chapter is doing and give information to the community about our hobby of barbershopping. If we look at several of the synonyms of the word bulletin we can begin to define just what a bulletin should look like.

Summary – A bulletin is a summary of what has happened to the chapter in the past. A bulletin has articles of history of the chapter or the Society. It has articles about a past chapter show. It may have articles about a past local board meeting, a district board meeting or perhaps a recap of the doings of the International Board.

It may contain articles of quartets and their past performances or history. It may have summaries of articles written by the chapter officers or summaries of a member and how he joined the chapter. It may have articles about the craft of singing barber-shop music. It may summarize new regulations affecting barbershop either the membership or our performance. A bulletin is a summary of the chapter and our Society.

Record – A bulletin of a chapter serves to provide a record of history of the chapter. A collection of the bulletins of the chapter provides a look at the past of the chapter and provides a chance to look ahead at what may need to be done in the chapter.

It provides a record of the past chapter shows, a record of the past chapter officers and perhaps a record of the past performances of the chapter. It

also may serve as a record of what has transpired in the administration or the chapter. It also may serve as a record of some of the members of the chorus.

Digest – Abstract – A bulletin serves as a digest or an abstract of what has happened in a chapter. An editor could report word for word what happens in a chapter and be a very complete and concise record of the happenings. It would make for a very long article and probably be very boring to most readers. The editor instead takes an article and condenses it into a digest format and thus highlights the important points and gets the information to the reader in a readable format.

Announcement – Flash – A bulletin serves as an announcement of chapter activities. The announcement may be about upcoming performances, which the chapter members need to know about. It may be an announcement of new administrative officers or changes in the make up of the chapter.

It may be the announcement of performance of the chapter or quartet in a competition and just how well they did perform. The announcement or flash is not only for members of the chapter, but may also serve to announce the doings of the chapter to the general public or to those who need to know just what the chapter is doing.

Many chapters send their bulletin to people on a mailing list who are not members of the chapter. This serves to keep the general public informed as to the doing of the chapter and keeps the public aware that there is a strong and viable barbershop chapter in their community. Some chapters publish a special edition for the general public to announce a special event in the chapter – their annual show, installation of officers or an anniversary of the chapter.

A bulletin can be a publication that only the members see and can contain very little information or it can be a publication that tells the story of the chapter and binds the chapter together by telling the story of the chapter and what is coming up in the life of the chapter.

As an editor you make the decision as to which way you want your bulletin to go. It takes no more effort to add the articles, notes and lists to make a bulletin one that tells the complete story of the chapter. ☐



President	Bill Slack	706-638-3791
Past President	Bernard Wheeler	706-638-4013
Music Director	Paul Blazek	423-622-4493
Music V.P.	Fred Jesse	706-375-5935
Program V.P.	Steve Grubb	706-861-6171
Treasurer	Bob Stansbury	423-894-7760
Secretary	David Reynolds	423-875-2674
Assistant Secretary	Earle Fraser	423-892-7630
Business Manager	Lamar Owens	423-894-8559
Bulletin Editor	Pat Crowe	706-375-3878
Chapter Development	Shannon McConnell	706-638-8828
Publicity V.P.	W.C.Strickland	706-866-2567
Heartspring	Brooks Gist	423-892-7191
Board Member	Sam Jones	706-375-5431
Board Member	J.W.Kirk	706-861-3135
Board Member	Ron Satterfield	706-861-1351
Equipment Manager	Pete Jones	706-861-2113
Choo Choo Belles	Audrey Gist	423-892-7191



e-mail: georgecrowe@mindspring.com

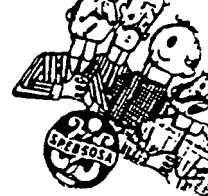
The Blender
Pat Crowe, Editor
145 Green Court
Chickamauga, GA.
30707



TO:

Forwarding and address correction requested





The Blender

The Official Publication of the Chattanooga Chapter of the
Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America

Chattanooga, Tennessee

Dixie District

Volume 9 No. 2, Feb. 2000

The Chapter meets every Monday, 7:00 PM, All Saints Academy, 310 8th. St. Chattanooga, TN.

Well now me Buckos !!



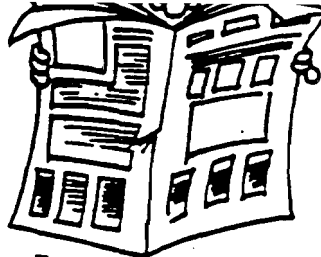
Sure and it's a tip oh me hat as you go for the "Gold"

In Greenville on Saint Paddy's Day.



"Keep the Whole World Singing"





**HAVE YOU HEARD
THE NEWS?**



President



Treasurer



Blender Deadline



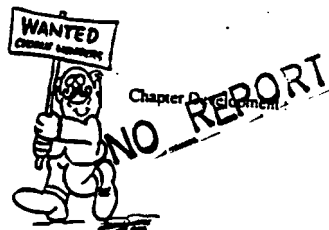
Music Director



Publicity



Music V.P.



Chapter Development



Quartet Activities



Program V.P.



Secretary



Business Manager



HEARTS PRINCE

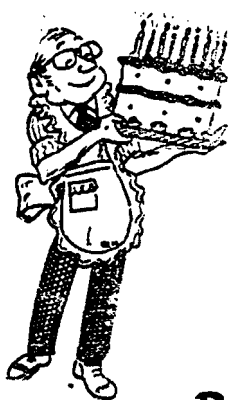


Choo Choo Bell



A Note From the Risers

**Chattanooga
Choo Choo Chorus
Box 21326
Chattanooga, TN.
37424-0326**



Birthdays

Don Hausmann	March 3
Bill McKeehan	4
Karin Harris	15
Bernard Wheeler	16
Pat Crowe	17
Johnny Jackson	18
Lonnie Satterfield	23
Ronnie Satterfield	23
Sandra Stansbury	27
Cynthia Johnston	28



This time, no surprises !
Make a reservation.



Appreciation Dinner

Wallys Restaurant East Ridge
I-75 and Ringgold Road
6:30 PM \$9.50 per person
March 20

Anniversaries

My records do not show any anniversaries for the month of March.

If we missed you or your ladies big day let us know.

I'm missing a few of the wives birthday dates also, so check out your membership list and get the information on those not listed to me. Thanks

Show her how much you care





Something to Crow About

Pat Crowe, Editor

Greenville,... are you ready, are you prepared, are you confident?

There is an aura of trepidation, not that we lack confidence in our abilities. It's that thought of that old adage "Once bitten, twice shy."

There has been some reluctance by members, who still recant their Birmingham Contest experience. Doubt prevails, as we complete the housing application for Greenville.

The question at rehearsal is "Are we going to be shafted by "Housing" again? "CONFIRMED ROOMS! (within walking distance) CANCELED!" without our prior knowledge. Given to a larger chapter. Resulting we and others being shuffled miles away from the contest sight.

The Birmingham fiasco still rankles many. We still have not received any plausible explanation. Other than what can be surmised as "FAVORITISM" or an attitude of " SCREW EM ! " They 're a small chapter!

Betcha didn't realize are great hobby can be a tax deduction! Our bastion of financial responsibility, " Buffet Bob" Stansbury. That connoisseur That mavin of all "you can eat" food bars, ...has passed along information on the subject.

Ron Weaver's article should bring comments "Pro and Con". The Blender is looking forward to print your opinion. So don't just flap your lips on the subject... Take the wraps off... Let's hear what your thoughts are ...Express it in the medium where all can hear...The Blender!

Red Foxx's great line when surprised was " I' m coming Elizabeth !! This is the big one! "

The other night as we waited for the meeting room door to be unlocked, we were taken aback, Shocked , we looked at each other with amazement. Checking our watches, can they be right?

Were we hallucinating? Was it that extra helping of corn drippin's, crowder peas and fat back causing visions? It was 6:50 PM and who was standing there waiting to get in....PETE JONES!!

Please forewarn us Pete, us old guys can't take shocks like that, your usual arrival time to us, means its a few minutes to break time.

It's that time again! Forrest Bugher is requesting that you complete the "**Chapter Membership Update**" form..... WHY? Because we still have old addresses. I'm sure there is some E-mail changes also.

I see one on there that is the temporary abode of one who's house got blown away by that tornado a few years ago. Plus some who have moved from the area. So lets fill it out and return it to Forrest or place it in his mail box.

Blender Deadline has been extended for next months issue due to convention and appreciation dinner. This will give all time to get their stories or views together for publication in the March issue. So write, e-mail, phone or talk to me.

The board minutes and the **Belles** column differ on the uniform..I personally prefer the shirt with a collar.

In my opinion the collarless shirt is a fad like the liesure suit and the Nehru suit.

The wearers always remind me of Jed Clampett of Beverly Hillbilly fame. Or a photo of immigrants debarking from steerage at Ellis Island at the turn of the century.

And that broach worn by some, looks like they had their laymrx removed or in the very least a tra-cheostomy.



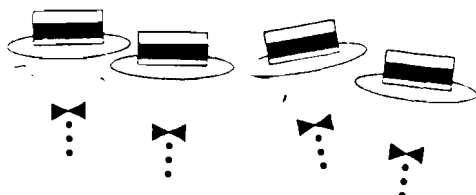
March 17th is upon us. As my old friend Veachel Flowers, from the Kentucky backwoods was wont to say, "It's time to grab the bull by the tail and look him in the eye!" It was his way of letting us know it was time to get off the pot.

I say this because as of this printing, not a word has been said or an inkling given about Stage Presence! I know it's been a running joke as in the above cartoon. But isn't time we knew about these things from the beginning. Our present "Seat of the pants" strategy, just aint hacking it!

Congratulations are in order to our old buddy and former Chattanooga "Barbershopper of the Year" James Coulter. The Papillion Nebraska chapter has presented him with the honor also. Way to go James!

No Bull!.. Miles Fowler's story on the "Three Musketeers" is quite humorous. Should have been titled "The Three Musty Steers"

Gonna have to send those guys to the "Bari" section.



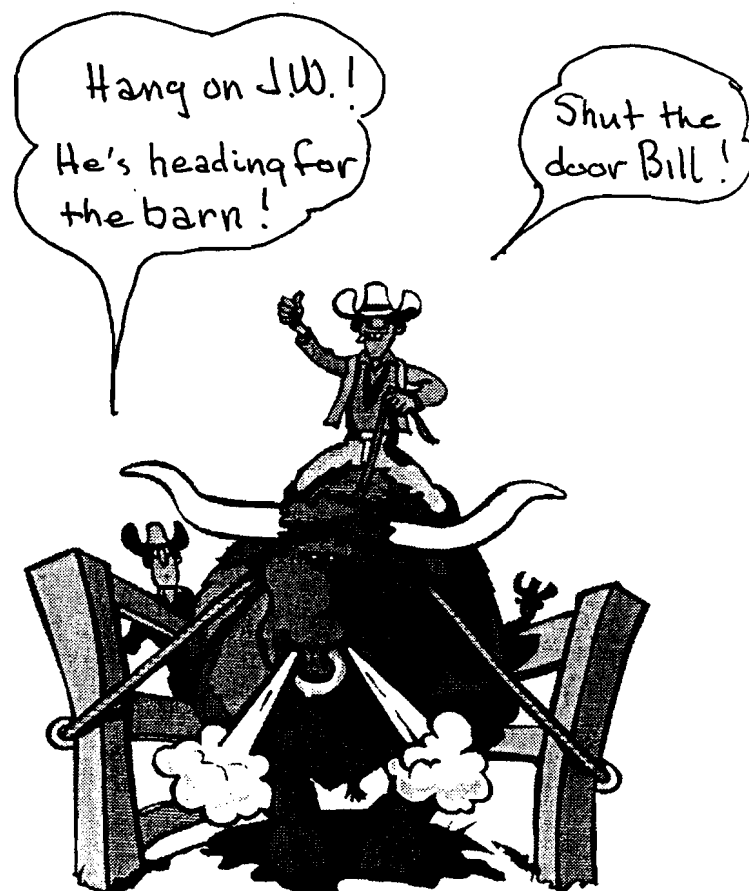
VLQ WANDERINGS

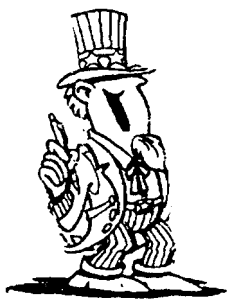
By Ron Weaver

Congratulations to the "sing-for-your-lunch-bunch" on their Valentine activities. All of you did a BANG-UP job. Thanks for your dedication to each performance, and all your hard work. There has been some good things happening lately, and lets keep up the good work. Some things we need to be concentrating on are:

- 1) Adding new men to the group. One more tenor, and a couple bass.
- 2) Improving singing skills of each member.
- 3) Adding good music to our repertoire.

Be a Singer Bringer Guest Night April 10th





THE PREZ SEZ

Having been in the chapter only four years, and still a relative "new guy", it has been interesting to observe how the membership goes about doing what has to be done for performances, shows, competitions or meetings. For instance, have you ever noticed how Pete Jones always handles the risers and sound system? Which came first, his official title as "equipment manager", or Pete just doing it? And Ron Weaver is always our elfin cheerleader and optimist, but without a title. Was he appointed, elected, or is that just what Ron does? And David Collins has done everything from sweeping the floor to directing the chorus, whether he was asked to or not. And the list goes on. Bill McKeehan, Clarence, Don Hausmann, Fred, Strick, and on and on, all share energies, talents, and knowledge unselfishly with the chapter, and I have just take them for granted.

One of my many shortcomings is consistently failing to acknowledge and thank people who help me in my job, family or hobbies. So to all of the above, and including Grubb and Dan and Niles and Sam and Rick and Barry and Bernard and Earle and Lamar and Bob and Keegan, and everyone who works for the good of the chapter. Thank you for myself individually, from the chapter as a whole and from the community that we serve.

Bill Slack



21 Reasons why the English Language is Hard to Learn

Submitted by Bill Slack

The bandage was wound around the wound.

The farm was used to produce produce.

The dump was so full that it had to refuse more refuse.

We must polish the Polish furniture.

He could lead if he would get the lead out.

The soldier decided to desert his dessert in the desert
Since there is no time like the present, he thought he would present the present.

A bass was painted on the head of a bass drum.

When shot at, the dove dove into the bushes

I do not object to the object.

The insurance was invalid for the invalid.

There was a row among the oarsmen about how to row.

They were too close to the door to close it.

A seamstress and a sewer fell down into a sewer line
To help with his planting the farmer taught his sow to sow.

The wind was too strong to wind the sail.

After a number of injections my jaw got number.

Upon seeing the tear in the painting I shed a tear.

I had to subject the subject to a test

How can I intimate this to my most intimate friend.

Editors note: Now we poor laymen understand why we need attorney's to read and clarify those documents for us.

YOU SHOULD'VE HAD ME READ
IT BEFORE YOU SIGNED!
THEY'RE SENDING YOU TO
THE BARI SECTION.





S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. Inc.

Chattanooga, Tennessee Chapter

Meeting of Board of Directors, January 20, 2000

Present			Absent
B. Slack	B. Stansbury	J.W. Kirk	D. Reynolds
P. Crowe	S. Grubb	L. Owens	
R. Satterfield	S. McConnell	F. Jesse	B. Wheeler
P. Jones	B. Malone	W.C. Strickland	

The regular board meeting was called to Order by President Slack at 7:00 p.m. at All Saints Academy.

Secretary - The secretary not being present there were no minutes of the last meeting read.

Treasurer - Stansbury submitted a written report, a copy of which is attached and approved unanimously. He requested that budget requests be submitted by February 21st. He reminded the President that the yearly treasurers report must be audited.

Bulletin Editor - Crowe reported that he had many articles for the next bulletin which would be large.

Music V.P. - Jesse reported that he has met with Director Blazek, discussed the composition of music committee, the repertoire to be established.

Chapter Development V.P. - McConnell reported that he has spent \$175.00 with Harmony House on Membership publications and materials. He has a goal of eight new members each year, or two per section. He is looking into getting new, large name tags for each member. He suggested that we contact former members about renewing their membership. Discussion was held on the possibility of taking pictures of members and having an album published.

Quartet Promotion Chairman - No report

Program V.P. - Grubb reports no drastic changes, but there will be no more thirty minute breaks like last week.

Business Manger - Owens reports that there are three paid gigs already scheduled for the year.

Publicity - Strickland reported that tapes are being made for radio and television use to promote the Valentine sales.

Old Business -

1. Strickland reported that the uniform committee is considering a new casual

uniform of blue pants and white collarless shirts.

2. Slack brought up that the contract with the director needs to be renewed. Since the director nor the secretary were present, that action was deferred.
3. Uniformly, the membership seemed to like the risers in the meeting room.
4. Jones reports that he has records of only three Valentines being sold to date. He brought to the chapters attention the problem of quartets who want to retain proceeds of Valentines they sell themselves. Motion was made by McConnell, amended by Grubb, seconded by Jesse, that it is expected that all quartets will relinquish all proceeds from sales of Valentines which were assigned to them by the chapter or which came to the Quartet as a result of chapter advertising, and not through the Quartet promotion themselves. The Motion was unanimously passed.

New Business -

1. Slack mentioned that he would like to institute a polecat program, so that membership becomes more familiar the with old polecat songs. It was suggested that this be instituted as part of the warm ups, so that two goals can be met at once.
2. Slack brought up that there are no orientation materials being used at present for potential or new members, and he and McConnell were directed to find the previous materials and modify or make new orientation materials.
3. Guest night was set for April 10, 2000.
4. Pete Jones requested that he be allowed to use the chapter's sound system for the boy scouts once a year. Motion was made that he be allowed to do so, as long as he physically cares for and monitors its use. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.
5. Slack announced that he and Barry Owens were working on chapter surveys to canvas the membership on their characteristics and expectations of their chapter.
6. Slack reported that some members had requested standard information on possible performances. It was suggested that the business manager and Blender editor publish a six week calendar in each Blender showing all performances, the date, the uniform and the time.
7. Stansbury inquired about the potential for putting the carpet or refinishing the floors of the meeting area, and for painting the riser room. Discussion was held, and was concluded that it was prohibitively expensive to carpet or refinish the floors at this time.

8. Crowe pointed out that the district competition will be in Chattanooga in the fall of 2001. Slack stated that he would determine the chapter's responsibility with district leadership at the March district meeting.
9. Kirk wondered whether it would be possible to obtain coveralls for Pete Jones and his riser crew to be used over their uniforms when moving risers.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:30.

Reasons to change

From COTS

If you always do
What you've always done
You'll always get
What you've always got.

Think about it and then do what's needed to raise
your level of performance at least one notch.





GET WITH THE PROGRAM!

Steve Grubb

Doubtless we're going to get tired of reading articles about our Valentine's efforts, but this year was a smashing success according to early reports. We delivered over 200 greetings and should clear better than \$7,000 for the chapter coffers. Quite a good weekend's work! Please send your thanks and words of encouragement to Pete Jones for the job he did with this monstrous task. He's already got ideas for next year to make it better and has agreed to serve as chairman. Thanks, Pete!!

I had the pleasure of singing with Johnny (The Face) Jackson, Ron Satterfield and Dr. Paul Blazek on Saturday as we delivered 14 Valentines. Mr. Satterfield decided our name would be Phrase Four, and that's the moniker we carried. On Saturday, the Quartet saw Lonnie Satterfield replace Mr. Blazek and we were on our way. With Lamar Owens' navigational skills, we delivered 26 Valentines to some very appreciative folks from Rossville to Ringgold to Dalton to Cleveland to Chattanooga to East Brainerd. Over 225 miles of travel and a quick Subway sandwich at Johnny's house thrown in. Our highlight came after a lengthy drive from Dalton to Cleveland to deliver a Valentine for Lonnie's girlfriend. We had to get her Mom to keep her at work, but it was worth the wait. Lonnie scored major points as we sang our two tunes. She never even realized Ron, Johnny or I was there as she never took her dazed eyes off of Lonnie. It was what singing these songs is really all about--totally devoted love.

Plan now to attend our competition in Greenville, SC. We need 40 guys on the risers as we qualify for Fall in Knoxville. Come on and go with us! Also, our annual recognition banquet is the Monday after Spring competition, March 20th. It's at Wally's in East Ridge and will be a private buffet for \$9.50 per person. We will recognize our BOTY for '99 at this gig and thank our significant others for their support. Come be with us.

Sectionals are going to become a staple for our chapter as we strive to develop unit sound throughout the chorus. One chorus sounding like only four voices is our goal as we look to become that solid "B" chorus I know we are. Let's blend that sound and make our old Director happy!

Until next time, Keep the Whole World Singing.

Editors Comment :

Without the network of bulletin editors, who utilize the "Bulletin Exchange" program, the publishing of bulletins would be at times, a chore.

I'm sure many a chapter bulletin has fallen at the wayside due to lack of impute and participation from chapter members.

The use of the exchange programs is a valuable source.

My thanks to all of the editors in this program.

Their contributions have guided me through my first year.

The following articles are from "Rogue Rhapsody" Rouge Valley Chapter, Medford, Oregon. Alan Burt editor. "Tru-Notes", Cherry Hill, NJ. Milt Weisman, editor. "Music City News" Nashville, TN.. Ron Hesketh, editor. "The Serenader", Papillion Nebraska, Bill Crowell, editor

The Responsibility of Singing Ensembles

By TRENTON FERRO, lead/tenor of Steel City Harmonizers



It is a truism that performance--from singing at the nursing home to the annual show to the contest stage--reflects practice. How we sing in public--whatever the

venue--is an accurate barometer of how we sing at rehearsals and chapter meetings. Therefore, we must design practice to foster improvement in performance. It is not practice that makes perfect; as Vince Lombardi supposedly said, "Perfect practice makes perfect." What are the elements of perfect practice that lead to outstanding performance? This is Ferro's Primer.

The Basics

1. Always sing with proper posture (whether standing or sitting). Everything begins with proper physical balance and support.

2. Always breathe properly. Practice proper breathing and breath support constantly--every day, everywhere.

3. Practice vowel and intonation matching. Strive for unit sound within the section; work on vowel matching and note placement among sections.

Comment: Yes, warmups are essential. This is the time to concentrate on the basics. Invariably the difference between champions and their challengers, on the one hand, and also-rans and has-beens on the other, lies right here. The best always pay attention to the basics. They don't denigrate or avoid the warmups, the work on the basics. Check with (better, visit) the Vocal Majority, Masters of Harmony, New Tradition, the Alexandria Harmonizers, Ambassadors of Harmony, Heart of America, HOT, Second City Chorus (Rockford, IL the first time out of the chute!), or Steel City Harmonizers (Who? Check the SIG below!)--add your favorite top-notch chorus--and you will find great attention given to the basics. It works in sports, it works in business, it works in professional entertainment, it works in barbershop singing!

Singing/Performing

4. Do your homework. Once the music, with its interpretation and performance plan (you do plan these things, don't you?) have been presented to the ensemble, learn the notes and the words. Rehearsal time taken up with repetition caused by not knowing notes and words inhibits improvement. Furthermore, wrong notes and words frequently get repeated and imbedded. A top-notch performance is defeated before it has a chance to get started!

5. Practice the way you intend to sing in public (see discussion under basics). If the ensemble demonstrates lack of enthusiasm and lack of energy, if members sit slouched in their chairs, if they plod, with wrong notes and words, if they always fail to put on their performance faces, if they resist learning and using the "moves," then they perform in public and on the contest stage the same way. Singing ensembles are not chameleons; they do not change their spots.

6. Get quality coaching. Any group worth its salt wants to improve, whether or not it intends to compete. The members deserve the opportunity to

improve; an audience pays good money to be entertained and deserves to hear an ensemble dedicated to improvement. Further, outside eyes and ears can quickly detect serious problems which may escape the home folks, and members often listen to the visiting "expert" much more readily than the local prophet, even if that prophet has been saying the same thing for years.

Comment: Two-song syndromes are the result of singing ensembles attempting to sing differently in the contest venue than they do the rest of the time. The good choruses and quartets (i.e., those who attend to the basics and practice constantly as if they are performing) are not victims of this malady; everything they sing they sing well. It is not a matter of better talent (although good singing attracts good talent); it is a matter of dedication, planning, commitment, and proper practice. [Make that "attitude."]

Singing in competition

7. Study the C & J Handbook (Contest and Judging). Know the categories; understand the Common Ground. Build your performance plan "according to the rules." (Most coaches have told me that most people who attend the evaluation sessions are not acquainted with the Handbook. If you don't know the framework within which the judges are working and you should be singing, you have no room to complain about the judges!)

8. From the very beginning, perform in practice as if you are on stage. Follow rules 1-6 above.

9. Attend the evaluation/coaching sessions. (Again, judges have told me that there is a high incidence of absenteeism at these sessions. I have to wonder if it is usually someone who doesn't attend these sessions, rather than one who does, who complains about the judging overall or about the judging at a particular contest.) Take notes and/or record the session. Listen to the audiotape and view the videotape with notes in hand. Hear and see what the judges and audience heard and saw. Make the necessary adjustments. Repeat steps 1-8.



Comments: The way an ensemble sings in competition is a reflection of how it sings in rehearsals and in other public venues. "The apple doesn't fall far from the tree." Groups that sing well in competition sing well everywhere else; groups that don't sing well elsewhere are highly unlikely to sing well in competition. Groups who sing well attend to the items listed above. Groups that don't sing well. . . . Well, you finish the story.

Trenton R. Ferro, Lead/Tenor, Steel City Harmonizers

Tips for new members

We invite you to ask your section leader, or administrative section leader, questions when something is new to you. Terms that we take for granted may be strange to you. That is quite understandable.

This section of the *Rogue Rhapsody* explores some barbershop terms that may be unfamiliar to you.

- What is "ensemble singing?"
- What is "unit sound?"
- What are "overtones?"
- What is the "singer's posture?"

In ensemble singing, we strive to sing together so that no one voice stands out. This is in contrast to a solo that features just one voice. While we have solo-quality singers, they rein in their voices to fit perfectly with those around them.

We strive for what is called a unit sound. Our goal is to sing as though there is only one voice in each section, and the four sections sing like a well-tuned quartet.

Our music is composed and performed to emphasize overtones, tones that are produced above (or below) where we are singing but that are not directly sung. The overtones result from the types of chords we sing **if** we are in tune, our vowels are matched, and we are singing correctly as an ensemble, we produce overtones. You have no doubt encountered many overtones while singing with us. Some people describe

continued

CRAFT

The following material was submitted by Bud Miller. When Bud gave this to me, he included the following notes which are important for each of us to read.

By the way, the article on Vocal Production was given to me, as well as all new members of the Vocal Majority, immediately after I qualified. In fact, I was required to spend about 6 hours at someone's house going over this type of training as well as learning stage presence moves. They mean business in "Big D".

I feel very strongly that mastering these techniques will make each of us a much better singer and the chorus a much better chorus. This is what the "big boys" do in Dallas. As in any sport, we must concentrate on the basics to become winners. One of the basics for good singing is matching vowels and consonants and singing them correctly, which can lead to great a cappella singing.

VOCAL PRODUCTION OF WORD SOUNDS IN NON-SOLO A CAPPELLA SINGING

Gary W. Parker

Dealers Choice; Vocal Majority

The proper approach to the group singing of word sounds is based on the fact that since a cappella singing is without accompaniment, the voice is producing all the sound heard by the listener. It is therefore imperative that the singer produces as consistent a sound as possible. Any drop in the level of sound reaching the listener must be avoided or at least minimized. In accompanied music, when the sound produced by the voice diminishes or stops, the accompaniment is still there, maintaining a consistent level in the overall sound. In a cappella music, the voice is the only musical instrument. When it stops, the music stops.

These drops in the level of sound are caused in several ways. Obviously, the most noticeable reduction of sound results from breaths. The number of "dead spots" due to breaths in a song can be minimized by carrying over one or more voice parts by using pickups or by staggered breathing. Of course, in some cases, breaths are desirable. They may be used to establish rhythm, to emphasize a word or phrase or to set a mood. The handling of breath spots is therefore essential in the interpretation of a song, as well as in making the song more musical and more pleasing to the listener.

The drops in the level of sound are also caused by non-singable consonants, singable consonants and by secondary vowel sounds. In producing each of these sounds, something is blocking or limiting the sound coming out. On secondary vowels, the mouth is usually less open than it is on the primary vowel or target sound. On consonants, either the tongue or the lips are blocking the sound.

These sound level inconsistencies can be minimized in three ways: by reducing the length of non-singable consonants, by leaning non-singable consonants toward related singable consonants and by energizing- i.e., increasing the support and volume through singable consonants and secondary vowel sounds.

The word "late" illustrates the drop in sound resulting from secondary vowels and consonants. There are four sounds in the word "late": l-eh-ee-t. The first sound "l", is a singable consonant. The second, "eh", is the primary vowel or target sound of this word. The third sound, "ee", is a secondary vowel sound and the fourth, "t", is a non-singable consonant. The related singable consonant to "t" is "d", so the singer should lean toward "d" when singing "t" and

minimize the length as much as possible. The singer should energize through the "l" sound because the tongue is raised, blocking the sound, and through the "ee" sound, because the mouth is less open than it is on the "eh" sound. The result is a word, which is understood better by, and of more consistent volume to, the listener.

CONSONANT SOUNDS

Singable consonants are distinguished from non-singable consonants by the fact that they can be sung with pitch. The following table includes all of the singable and non-singable consonant sounds:

SINGABLE CONSONANT SOUNDS

	<u>SOUND</u>	<u>EXAMPLES</u>
1.	b	boy, sob
2.	d	done, land
3.	Hard g	go, bag
4.	Soft g, j	joy, rage
5.	l	love, all
6.	m	my, dream
7.	n	now, noon
8.	r	rain, near
9.	v	view, love
10.	Hard z	zeal, gaze
11.	Soft z	leisure
12.	-ng	ring
13.	Hard th	there, clothe

NON-SINGABLE CONSONANT SOUNDS

	<u>SOUND</u>	<u>EXAMPLES</u>	<u>RELATED SINGABLE</u>
1.	Hard c, k, q	case, take	Hard g
2.	Soft c, s	sun, race	Hard z
3.	f (ph, -gh)	fun, loaf	v
4.	h	heart	No related sound
5.	p	pain, deep	b
6.	t	tear, hat	d
7.	x (ks)	dixie, box	Hard g, Hard z
8.	ch	chin, much	Soft g
9.	sh	shout, rush	Soft z
10.	Soft th	thin, cloth	Hard th

In using this table to analyze the sounds in words, it is important to consider the sound each letter in the word makes rather than the letter itself. For example, the "s" in "sure" is an "sh" sound, the non-singable consonant No. 9 above, represented by the word "shout" rather than an "s" sound, as in non-singable consonant No. 2, represented by "sun". Therefore, the related singable consonant is the "soft z" rather than the "hard z". Another example is the "ch" in "chorus". The sound produced is a "hard c" as in non-singable consonant No. 1, "case", rather than a "ch" sound which is non-singable

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

consonant No. 8, "chin", so the "hard g" is the related singable consonant.

The word "spot" illustrates how the table can be used to reduce the holes produced by non-singable consonants. There are four sound in the word "spot": s-p-ah-t. The "s", "p" and "t" are all non-singable consonants (Nos. 2, 5 and 6 respectively). Their related singable consonants are "hard z", "b" and "d" respectively. By leaning toward these singable consonant sounds and reducing the length of each consonant sound as much as possible, the drops in sound that might result from this word can virtually be eliminated. The word "spot" becomes s(hardz)-p(b)-ah-t(d).

The sound "h", non-singable consonant No. 4 in the table, is a unique consonant sound in that there is no related singable consonant. Reducing its stress and length as much as possible can still minimize the effect of this sound.

When using related singable consonant, never lean more than half way. If the sound you produce for an "s" sounds more like a "hard z", e.g., "sun" sounds more like "zun", you've gone too far. It's better to ignore related singable consonants altogether than to overuse them.

Furthermore, when a non-singable consonant falls at the beginning of a phrase or immediately following a breath, the technique of leaning toward singable consonants doesn't apply. The true sound of the consonant must be produced in these cases.

Vowel Sounds

There are 10 "pure" vowel sounds in singing word syllable, as represented in the following list:

SOUND	EXAMPLE	SOUND	EXAMPLE
ee	deer	uh	love
i	bid	oo	moon
eh	there	oo	good
a	rang	oh	more
ah	job	aw	law

These sounds may be used in a syllable either alone or in combination, i.e., up to four may be used together in one syllable. It is when they are used in combination that the concept of secondary vowel sounds arises. The proportionate length of the target or primary vowel sound is directly proportional to the amount of time the syllable is held. For example, if the word "late" is to be held one beat, the target sound "eh" should be approximately 50% of the beat in length, the secondary vowel sound "ee" and the singable consonant "l" about 20% and the non-singable consonant "t" about 10%. If "late" is to be held eight beats, the target sound "eh" should be held about 80% of the time, the secondary vowel sound "ee" about 10%, the singable consonant "l" about 8% and the non-singable consonant "t" about 2%.

Once the target sound is identified, all other vowel sounds in a syllable, if there are any, are secondary vowel sounds. The word "mine" illustrates target sounds and secondary vowel sounds. There are five different sounds in the word "mine": m-ah-eh-ee-n. Of course the "m" and "n" are singable consonant sounds. The "ah" is the target sound and the "eh" and "ee" are secondary vowel sounds.

The target sound is always the first vowel sound in the syllable, except when a "w" or "y" pronunciation precedes it. A "w" always results in an "oo" sound as in "well": oo-eh-l. A "y" always results in an "ee" sound, as in "your": ee-oo-r. The target sounds, the "eh" in "well" and the "oo" in "your", are the second vowel sounds only in these types of cases.

The following list illustrates how "pure" vowel sounds may be combined within one syllable. The target sound of each is underlined.

we	oo-ee
mute	ee-oo
lane	eh-ee
go	oh-oo
my	ah-eh-ee
now	ah-oh-oo
wine	oo-ah-eh-ee
yeow	ee-ah-oh-oo

In the last four examples, the penultimate vowel sound could be deleted. It is included in order to smooth the transition between a very open vowel sound and a very closed vowel sound.

As stated before, because the mouth is usually less open on secondary vowel sounds, the sound actually coming out is diminished. The singer must therefore energize through secondary vowel sounds, as on singable consonants, to maintain a sound level consistent with that produced on the target sound.

These techniques should be practiced until they are no longer mechanical, i.e., until they are **DONE AUTOMATICALLY WITHOUT THINKING**. As long as they seem mechanical to the singer, they will sound contrived to the listener. *Special thanks to: Jim Clancy, Don Clause, Mac Huff, and Fred Waring.*

Rogue Rhapsody continued

overtones as "ringing chords" or "expanded sound." The sound that we produce is much more than the sum of the individuals singing at one time.

We can make exceptional music only if we are fully prepared to sing. This entails, among other things, standing in what we know as a "singer's posture." That is, standing erect in a natural and comfortable position. In this position we are relaxed, so that there is no tension in our body or in our voice.

According to the *Basic Barbershop Craft Manual*, there are three fundamental steps to a proper singing position. 1) Position each foot directly below each shoulder, respectively, and balance the weight of the body forward on the balls of the feet, being careful not to rise on the toes. 2) Place both arms to the side and raise them forward to an over-the-head position (we do this in warmups as a reminder). Then lower the arms outward from each side and downward to the thighs, leaving the shoulders up and back. The chest should protrude normally, leaving the diaphragm free to operate efficiently. When this is completed the shoulders and back will be straight (not stiff) and the chest will be in a lifted position. 3) The head should always be in a normal, relaxed, and straight position. Do not tilt the head backward or forward unless the body is also bent in that direction.

HARMONY FOUNDATION MUCH MORE THAN HEARTSPRING

By Charlie McCann

7 Or some reason, it takes a long time for the word to filter down to the troops. It may come as a surprise to some that **Harmony Foundation**, the charitable arm of the Society, is far more than a conduit for funds to Heartspring. In 1997, when Harmony Foundation was reorganized and became the sole proprietor of all the Society's altruistic and charitable efforts, the scope and thrust of the Society's interests broadened considerably.

As a matter of fact, the Society's vision statement doesn't even mention Heartspring. It says we are to "lead the cause of encouraging vocal music in our schools and our communities". This isn't to say that Heartspring is not a noble cause, although it has also morphed from what it was as the Institute of Logopedics. The focus then was on teaching handicapped children to communicate. The song "We Sing That They Shall Speak" is no longer the anthem for this institution. Because the public school system took over much of the work the institute was doing, they saw a broader need not addressed by the public schools.

**"WE SING
THAT
THEY
SHALL
SPEAK" IS
NO
LONGER
THE
ANTHEM**

severely handicapped to get along in society, some with severe behavioral problems. The objective is to provide treatment which will teach these children basic life skills to include bathing, dressing, feeding themselves and to be able to function well enough to return to society at some point. And so, we really don't "Sing That They Shall Speak" any more, however, Heartspring continues to be one of the three major Society causes.

Let's return to our vision statement. As barbershoppers, each of us knows the joy and fulfillment afforded by vocal music. Even though we reap the benefit of participating in the world's largest singing fraternity, the art of singing continues to diminish in the broad population. Few families gather around the piano to sing the songs of **Mitch Miller**. When budget problems require reduction in school music programs, the first thing cut is vocal music. Since families don't sing any more and schools are cutting back on vocal music due to budgetary restrictions, where will support for singing as a life-long activity come from?

Who better than the Society to take on this cause? We can provide the resources through Harmony Foundation to make a huge difference, not just promoting barbershop harmony, but all vocal music to the betterment and enrichment of the lives of future generations. Without us, it's possible that the joy of singing could be greatly diminished, if not lost. I would like to see our Board support the music team in teaching the son "Teach the Children to Sing" and give it at least equal time to "We Sing That They Shall Speak". It would help us stay focused on the work of **Sing America/Sing Canada**.

The third major cause is **Harmony Heritage**, a museum that chronicles the history of the Society. While it does not require the same level of financial resources as Heartspring and Sing America/Sing Canada, our support is still vital.

When we, as a chapter, a quartet or an individual, contribute to HF's general fund, we benefit all three groups. Let us remember that Harmony Foundation is for all our good works as a Society. We could start by recognizing our chapter Heartspring Chairman as the **Harmony Foundation Chairman** instead. I believe this would be more in keeping with our purpose.

Thanks guys, for all your help.



The shift was toward children too

"GO WEST YOUNG MAN"



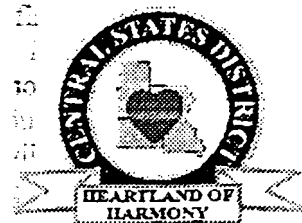
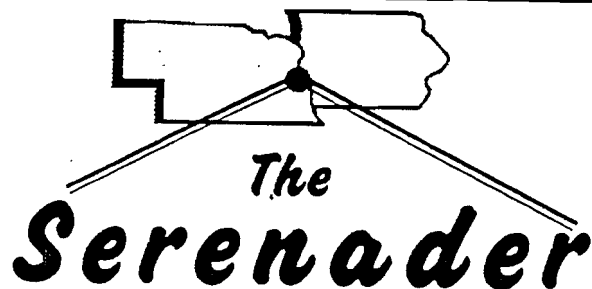
Horace Greeley, usually is credited with this expression, However this remark was made by John L. Soule of the *Terre Haute (Indiana) Express*, sometime in the year 1851.

Well James Coulter took it to heart. Pulled up stakes, sold the homestead, leaving behind the foothills of the Smokies and the scenic trails along the beautiful Appalachian chain. Forsaking them for "Corn Husker" country, and the flatlands of Nebraska.

Well I'm here to report. That "Rebel Tennessean Carpetbagger" has done made we'uns real proud!

Can y' all believe it? They done made him **"BARBERSHOPPER OF THE YEAR"** Well GOLLEEE !!

Aint that enough to make yuh wanna slap your momma!



Newsletter of The Papillion Nebraska Chapter of SPEBSQSA, Home of The Sarpy Serenader Barbershop Chorus.

BARBERSHOPPER OF THE YEAR!

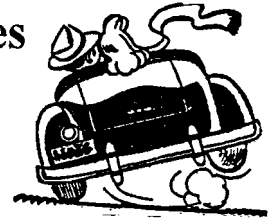
One of the highlights of the Installation Dinner is the naming of our Barbershopper Of The Year. **James Coulter**, who's Father and Grandfather were real barbers, was designated as the Papillion Chapter Barbershopper Of The Year. James came to the Papillion chapter from Tennessee where he was an active barbershopper too. James is shown at left thanking the crowd.



James headed a very successful joint Singing Valentines program for the Papillion and Omaha chapters in 1999. He is again head of the 2000 Singing Valentines program and looking to set a record for number of Singing Valentines delivered. James is responsible for the chorus' new Summer uniform, soon to be introduced, including the logo to be sewn on the shirt pocket. He introduced and set up the new 'tub file' communications system for the chapter. This system makes it much easier for the members and chapter leaders to disburse information to one another, including new music. James is also the Chairman of the chapter Convention Committee. He has been the driving force behind the chapter's first bid for a district convention. That bid is complete and will be submitted for Central States District board acceptance at the April meeting. Congratulations and a hearty well done to James Coulter.



Advice for Yankees Moving South



Ah Bin Wunder'n

By Uncle Billy-Bob Buhmkin

The Sage of Possum Crossn' TN.

How come wrong numbers are never busy?

Do people in Australia call the rest of the world,
"up over?"

Does that screw driver belong to Phillip?

Does killing time damage eterinity?

Why doesn't Tarzan have a beard?

Why is it called lipstick if you can still move your
lips?

Why is it that night falls and day breaks?

Why is the third hand on a watch called the second
hand?

Why is it that when you're drining and looking for
an address, you turn down the volume on the radio?

Why is lemon juice made with artificial flavor, and
dishwashing liquid made with real lemons?

Are part-time band leaders semi-conductors?

Can you buy an entire chess set in a pawn-shop?

Day light savings time why are saving it and where
do they keep it?

- 1: Save all manner of bacon grease. You will be
instructed layer how to use it.
- 2: Just cause you can drive on snow and ice not
mean we can. Stay home the two days a year
it snows.
- 3: If you run your car into a ditch, don't panic. Four
men in the cab of a four-wheel drive with a 12
pack of beer and a tow chain will be along shortly
Don't try to help them. Just stay out of their way.
This is what tey live for.
- 4: Don't be surprised to find movie rentals and bait
in the same store.
- 5: Remember; "Y'all" is singular. "All y'all" is plural.
"All y'alls" is plural possessive.
- 6: Get used to hearing, "Y'all ain't from around here,
are you?"
- 7: Don't be worried that you don't understand anyone
They don't understand you either.
- 8: Northerners can be identified by the spit on the
inside of their cars winshields, which comes
from yelling at other drivers.
- 9: If you are yelling at the person driving 15 mph
in a 55 mph zone, directly in the middle of the
road, remember, many folks learned to drive on
a John Deere, and this is the proper speed and
lane position for that vehicle.
- 10: If you hear a Southerner exclaim "Hey y' all,
watch this!" stay out of his way. These are very
likely the last words he will ever say.



VLQ

What's in a Name ?

February started out with a repeat performance for "Senior Friends". At the Piccadilly Restaurant at Hamilton Place.

We've all heard that old nursery rhyme

"Little Tommy Tucker Singing for his Supper"

Well Tommy wasn't there, and it's a sure bet none of us is what you would call little. So we sang for our breakfast. As this was their monthly breakfast meeting, we got to eat too!

The sub headline of this column is "Whats in a Name", reason being, when we are introduced as the " Choo Choo Chorus" VLQ, the look of " Say Wha? " comes over the faces of our audiences.

At the "senior Friends", Sam Jones passed out cards asking them for a selection of names they thought was appropriate for our group.....I'm still looking for the critic who suggested " Vocally Challenged" ! Obviously someone with an inner ear problem. I think it was the guy whose hearing aid was beeping.

he was looking at Pete, and probably meant to write "Focally Challenged"

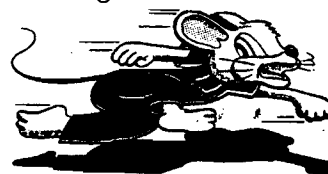
Well the gist of this is, we need a name, any suggestions?



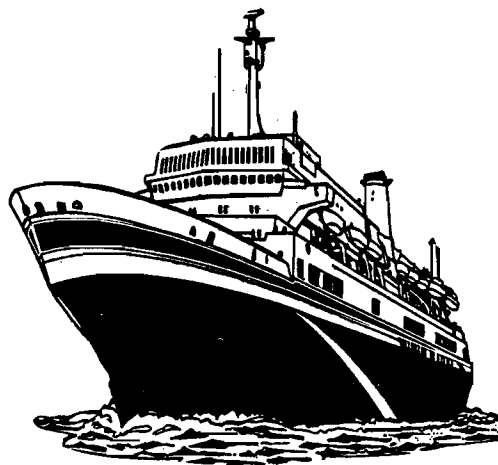
The performance was enjoyed by all of the seniors. Our rendition of "Simple Melody" had the joint rocking. They went wild over our choreography. We went ten minutes over our allotted time and they still wanted more.

(just a little note to you guys that are sitting at home watching the soaps on the boob tube and getting under momma's feet, Get off your asset's and come and find out how much fun we're having.)

A great big thanks to Ron Weaver, he really knows how to keep the audience involved and our program moving. Sam Jones had them all helping the farmers wife chasing those "Three Blind Mice"



Heard through the grapevine ..." What is the VLQ doing with the money they have received !" Well Bubba! If you had attended the last board meeting you would have found out!! Even better, join the VLQ. Then you'll have a say in how we disburse it ! I don't think there is any truth to the rumor of them booking the Queen E 2 for a cruise up Suck Creek then flying on to Soddy-Daisy.



Is this same person requesting an audit from the quartets??? I'm sure their answer would be "N.Y.E.B.!"

February the tenth was another morning performance This time closer to lunch. The call was for 11AM, Lakeview Baptist Churches seniors was the group.

Warm-up at 10:30... sounded pretty good to me. Just one slight problem as I rode up and down the road . I passed a number of signs directing me to Baptist churches..... No Lakeview Baptist!!

Where in H - - - ! is it ! No, it wouldn't be there! Ah HAH ! Finally figured it out... It's the "FIRST" Baptist Church of Lakeview !!! Heck, everybody knows that we call it " Lakeview Baptist"

Don't you just love it when people assume you know.

Remember that old homily, never "ASSUME". Because that could make an ASS out of U or ME ! Object Lesson for today. Never assume! Get Earle " the map maker" out of retirement to show us the way!

We started a little late, but once the show got going they didn't want us to leave. Talk about food ! Man it would have made "Buffet Bob" think he had died and gone to heaven. I told you Bob, you don't know what your missing. We need that bass voice of yours.

Saturday the 12th , it was a valentine performance for a Sunday school class of Westside Church, Fort Ogelethorpe. Held at Eidsons in East Ridge.

The usual Thursday rehearsal on February 17th was called off. Had to give those old pipes a rest after all those singing Valentines.

The only thing on the horizon as of press time is a performance on March 9th . My day planner doesn't show time or place.



Did you hear about the redneck who passed away and left his entire estate in trust for his beloved widow ?

She can't touch it till she's fourteen.

Choo Choo Belles



The **Belles** meeting of February 7th was held at the chapter meeting rooms. The attendance was somewhat disappointing.

Items discussed: Greenville trip.

Men's new uniforms.

Election of officers.

Dixie District Convention, 2001

It was decided on Friday March 17th, the belles would wear Green turtle neck with white sweat shirt and khaki pants.

Saturday March 18th. Cranberry shirt and blue pants.

Men's uniform: Glenda Peek and Guelda Malone are working on this and will get back to the chorus with suggestions. A long sleeve,button down collar is preferred opinion of the chorus.

Sizes will be needed for shirt and pants. Cost will be forth coming as soon as details are finalized.

Audrey Gist, having served two years as president is stepping down . An election of officers will be held.

District Convention 2001: A brief discussion was held. It is not too early to lay ground work for this event.It was noted there has been changes by the district regarding the handling of the convention. But local impute is needed.

The **Belles** meet approximately every two months we would like to see better attendance. Your opinions and ideas are important and valued.

See you in Greenville. Lets give our guys all the support we can, bring your "Choo Choo Horns" Show 'em we give a "TOOT!!"

ALL ABOARD!!



Just Getting Started

by Ron Weaver

Chapter Meeting vs. Chorus Rehearsal Which are We ?

Disclaimer: The following article are the beliefs of the writer, only the writer and not the editor of this Newsletter or Members of the chapter leadership. Be forewarned, some comments may be offensive to certain members.

Think about each Monday nights program. What are we trying to achieve? What are our goals? Where have we been, and where are we wanting to go? I find myself asking myself these questions more and more. How about you? We all have different experiences in this hobby which we make judgements to likes and dislikes, but there are common denominators to all successful chapters.

Lets look at the initial question and define each. In it's basic definition a "Chorus Rehearsal" is just that a "CHORUS" learning, growing practicing. A "Chapter Meeting" is a different ball of wax. It can be where activities revolve around the needs of each MEMBER of the chapter. Whether it be social, musical, educational, administrative, all the needs of the general membership are attempted to be met.

Which are we? At what level are we? Are we "comfortable" with where we are? How can this impact our future? Let's look at a few of these kinds of questions. I don't think we are in a complete "Chorus Rehearsal" group. If we were, our Contest scores would improve each year. Since I joined in 1988 we have gone from not making district, to reaching only as high as 8th. Some of this can be attributed to who is actually in the competition that year.

The musical leadership has not changed much as has our level of singing. Some of the membership has, but not much. A member dies or quits, a new one takes his place. No real growth, or improvements.

This is not all bad. Maybe the musical leadership has reached a plateau. Everything has its limits.

If we preferred the "Chapter Meeting" mode, I'm sure our Chorus would not be as strong as it currently is. We would have a larger turnover in membership. Less musical education and training. Maybe a little more fun... but mostly for the quartet guys. So with these definitions, it looks like a combination of both. The chapter program has variety. When the program is followed, I notice more visits from guests when we keep the program set. It's when we have to "sacrifice" the program for something musical I feel uncomfortable. So, why should any of us feel this way?

Why change the mode of meeting time if we aren't going to really get any better? Why take the chance of losing members for the sake of a Contest, or Show. Or better yet, is there a better way?



Ecclesiastes 7: 5

It is better to hear the rebuke of the wise
Than for a man to hear the song of fools.



TAX DEDUCTIONS

By Bob Stansbury, Treas.



The following was received from the International headquarters.

Personal Income Tax Deduction:

Yes, somethings you do as a Barbershopper are tax deductible. If you itemize you deductions, you may be entitled to include some expenses for Barbershop activity.

If you had verifiable out-of-pocket expense in connection with a chapter duty as an elected or appointed officer or board member, or, if you sang in one or more local shows, such expense as travel (14 per mile, or actual cost) telephone, postage, parking, etc. for which you were not reimbursed are deductible

Expense of travel to chapter meetings is not deductible unless you hold an office directly involved in conduct of the meeting, such as Chapter Development VP.

A different rule applies to travel away-from-home.

Transportation, meals and lodging may only be deducted if there is no significant element of personal pleasure, recreation or vacation in the trip. If golf games, sightseeing, and similar activities heavily overbalance singing and participation in meetings as a duty for the away-from-home expenses, these expenses would not be deductible.

The cost of tuition at schools is specifically barred as a deduction.

If you use these deductions, here is the procedure. With Form 1040, use schedule A, under "gifts to charity, contributions by cash or check," enter the total of your out-of-pocket expense. (Remember the words "non-reimbursed" and "verifiable") Attach a separate sheet listing the expense by groups (lodging, transportation, etc.), captioned "Expenses incurred in connection with contributions of services to an organization classed as exempt under Section 501 (C) (3)" Then state the name and location of your chapter and full name of the Society.

Your chapter should have a list of events which are applicable to this expense tabulation.

Your cash contributions to the chapter or the Society or to Heartspring (formerly known as the Institute of Logopedics) are directly and fully deductible.

Included this figure in the schedule figure and show this contribution on the same attached sheet, but separated from the out-of-pocket expense figure. Be sure to retain verifying records as appointment books, calendars with notes, etc.

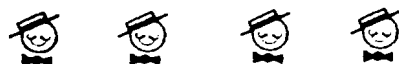
Good Luck

INTERNATIONAL OFFICE.. 6315 THIRD AVE.

KENOSHA, WISCONSIN. 53143-5199

414-653-8440.... FAX 414-654-4048

"KEEP THE WHOLE WORLD SINGING "





Ferd's Words

The music committee has some plans and ideas for this year. Our spring contest numbers are being worked on. We have our annual show in progress. We had a great Valentine's weekend, we plan on having a Christmas show, and we plan for a coaching session before the fall contest.

We need to establish both a performance and a church performance repertoire. I have distributed a song list. I need you to check the songs you like to sing and some you would like to sing. Then return it to me and we will use the results to organize our performances.

Our annual show will be a redo and update of the 1989 "What a Country" show. There will be lots of new music, especially for the new guys. The four medleys include two we did in the 1997 show plus two more. Medleys are fine because you don't need to learn complete songs, but just pieces of several. There will be opportunities for solos, quartet, and chorus numbers.

This will be a great chance for our Valentine quartets to continue their singing. Maybe some other combinations of four guys can be used too. This is a neat way of getting some stage experience with a newly formed quartet. We will be asking for your help with quartet portions of the show. We will have a song list for you to choose from.

Valentines Day ! A fun day. Lots of memories. One lady said her husband told her that his Valentine gift would knock her socks off. Bill said " He was hoping it would be more than her socks<" biggest laugh of the day.

We sang to ladies ages seven to seventy. We were supposed to sing for a couple at the Choo Choo. They weren't there, seems they were at the hospital with their little boy and his broken arm. We owe them sometime.
Next year we will need at least two more quartets. Will you be in one of them?



Alexian Village April 17, 7:00 PM Sing
Tuxedo A#

NHC McFarland Ave Rossville 6:30 PM
Tuxedo A#

Fort Oglethorpe Nursing Home 6:30 PM
Tuxedo A#

Located behind Theater. Take road between theater and Ace Hardware.

Pop's in the Park July 1st. Details to follow

Elderfest , Cohutta Springs May 9th. 7:00pm
Tuxedo A#

86th Infantry Div. Choo Choo Sept. 9, 10:30 am
Tuxedo A#

This is a Saturday morning performance.



By Paul Blazek

Well folks the numbers are in, and it's been a great year for Singing Valentines.!

31 men from our chapter (and 3 from outside) formed 15 different quartets over 6 days to perform 204 valentines. The award for most in one day goes to Rock City 4, with 31. The top ten singers are:

Paul Blazek-60

Benny Malone-48

Pete Jones-42

Ronnie Satterfield- 41

Johnny Jackson- 40

Steve Grubb - 40

Dan Bruns -32

W.C. Strickland - 32

Bill Slack - 3 Fred Jesse - 31

In terms of different quartets:

Paul sang in 5.

Pete, Benny, and Brooks Gist sang in 4.

Ronnie Satterfield, Niles Fowler, Sam Jones and Dan Bruns sang in 3.

Dave Ambercrombie, Hobby Thomas, John Jonhston, Dave Reynolds, Dick Hagar, Tom Keegan Johnny, Steve Ron Weaver, and W.C. Strickland sang in 2.

Rounding out our quartets were Barry Owens, Chuck Wilson, Clarence Wall., Rick Kulp, Lamar Owens, J.W. Kirk, Lamar Green, Pat Crowe, Lloyd Gimber, Lamar Smith, Lonnie Satterfield, Bill, and Fred. Singers from outside the chapter were Jack Lane, former member, and Chase Guyton and Brad Reed from Cleveland.

Congratulations and thanks to all who participated.

Eight thousand dollars is nothing to sneeze at.

Considering each member singing a single valentine brought about \$10.00 to the chapter, some of you guys have made sizable contributions this year.

Also, ultimate congratulations and unlimited thanks

to Pete Jones for ramrodding this years effort.

In other news, our contest songs are coming along fine. If you don't know what they are, WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN ?

This months installment in the continuing saga of SPEECH LEVEL SINGING concerns The Vocal Folds.

The vocal folds, or vocal chords are a pair of soft tissue cords that are joined at the front of the larynx and extend back. When they close, the back end of the folds come together (connect), and the flow of air is temporarily stopped. When the pressure of the air from the diaphragm overcomes the pressure of the muscles holding the folds together, they are blown apart and sound is made when they close again due to the resonation created. Then once again the air pressure overcomes the muscle pressure and the process begins again. If a singer is singing an A above middle C, this process happens 440 times every second. That is very fast and is somewhat difficult to see this process happen even if you can see this process happen even if you can see down the singer's throat. Since the invention of stroboscope it has become easier to view the vocal fold resonation process. If the vocal folds begin to come apart, the tone becomes breathy and the muscles around the outside of the larynx begin to tense. This becomes what is called a constricted phonation and is quite harmful for the voice.

This is the very brief and condensed version of what when you sing; there is obviously a lot more going on. But to give you an idea of what is correct, take these and while you are singing, monitor them. See if you can keep your larynx still and your folds together.

You will probably find that there is a certain area of your voice that is easy for you to accomplish this, and certain points of your voice that are more difficult. These harder areas are called bridges, and we will speak more of this next time.



You've heard stories about
The Three Musketeers?

Well, I have a better one for you.
It's more in line with a skit involving
The Three Stooges. It's called

The Three Matadors

Once upon a time there was a man named Sam Jones who loaned a bull to a man named J. W. Kirk. After several weeks, it came time for Sam to collect his bull to take to the stockyard. Since Samuel was a little under the weather, he sent his brother, Bill, to J. W.'s farm to get the bull. J. W., knowing the two of them were no match for a 1500 lb. bull, called upon his ole buddy, Niles Fowler, to help out.

J. W. backed the trailer up to the loading gate. They coaxed the bull up into the trailer. Feeling satisfied, their job was accomplished, they were quite surprised when they looked out into the pasture and saw the bull looking back at them. Scratching their heads, they looked at each other and said, "Is that the same bull we just put in this trailer?" (Didn't I tell you this story resembled one from The Three Stooges?)

So here they go again and got the bull back into the pen and back into the shoot and coaxed him back into the trailer a second time shutting the door behind him. Suddenly, all seemed too quiet inside the trailer. They looked through the slats and, guess what! No bull!!! You got it, brother, the bull was back in the pasture playing with a smaller bull, head to head, pushing him backward.

Realizing they forgot there was a side door on the trailer which had to have been open, they said, "Reckon we should have closed that door too?"

This time the bull was wise to the whole thing. They had to use an electric prod to urge him into the shoot and up into the trailer. Mr. Bull was mad by this time and as they shut the door behind him, he had that trailer rockin'.

This bull not only added insult to the Three Matadors, he added injury too. Bill got a laceration on his hand and Niles received an injury to his finger. The Matadors won the victory but it took all three of them three times to do it.

They had no trouble getting the bull out of the trailer at the stockyard because, yes, you guessed it, he had plenty of experience!

p.s. If you ever need a bull transported,
the guys said they think they have
the hang of it now.



A REPORT FROM SAM'S QUARTET ON VALENTINE'S DAY

When each quartet goes out, they never know what awaits them. Every gig is different in its own special way.

As they drove by Wayne Pruett's Maytag store on Lee Highway, J. W. suggested they stop by and sing to Wayne's wife, Lynn. Fortunately, Wayne happened to be there (that's where fate stepped in because he's usually all over town making deliveries and service calls).

They lined up like they had been hired by Wayne to sing to her. As they were singing "Let Me Call You Sweetheart," Lynn's eyes were solely on the "Man of Her Life" but Wayne was wondering, "What's going on?"

Wayne was invited to help them sing the next song, and as they were singing "Heart of My Heart," to her, it was almost more than Lynn could handle. You could just feel the love radiating between them and it was a very special time for all of them.

Another special time happened to be another "freebie." They were paid to sing at the Chop House to Doris Hooper, a special friend of Bill Jennings. Both of them go to Parkway Baptist Temple with the North Georgia Boys. After that was over, Sam happened to notice a couple in their thirties in the next room and both of them were in wheelchairs.

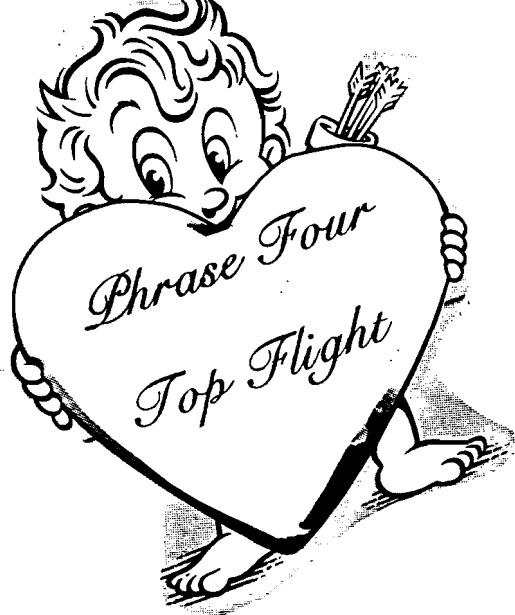
Sam did the appropriate thing and asked Bill if he minded if they sang for that couple. Bill, of course, said that would be fine, so they did just that.

It doesn't take material things like a rose, candy and a card to make people happy...these were, of course, not given in either freebie case. What made their day or evening were some guys who had some extra time and a great big heart who were sharing their talent to make someone happy. Way to go, fellows!

While in the Birchwood area, they stopped by to visit Bill McKeehan and sang a song for him. Bill is usually a part of this quartet, but was unable to participate this year due to knee surgery. The guys knew Bill's heart was with them. He sure was glad to see them since he had not been able to be at the practice sessions since his surgery.

This quartet consisted of Sam Jones, Niles Fowler, Brooks Gist, Lamar Smith and J. W. Kirk

p.s. The quartet very much appreciated J. W.'s son and daughter-in-law (Kevin & Caroline) loaning them their van for the day. That made their day go a lot smoother and their many miles more comfortable.



Singing Valentine Quartets



I don't know what great minds or how much thought was put in to these names. I've heard some of the stories, but you'll have to ask the members of those quartets to get the real reason behind it.

Our thanks to all who participated to make this years a great success. **"WOW!! 204!!!"**

We hope we haven't missed any , our apologies if we have.

Covenant Four: Benny Malone, Pete Jones, Brooks Gist, Ron Weaver

Top Flight: Paul Blazek, Lamar Owens, Benny Malone, Jack Lane

Mellow Sams: Sam Jones, Brooks Gist, Niles Fowler, Lamar Smith, J.W. Kirk

Harrison Bay 50/50: Tom Keegan, Dick Hagar, Chase Guyton, Brad Reed

Harrison Bay Harmonizers: Tom Keegan, Dick Hagar, Benny Malone, Dave Reynolds

Phrase Four: Ron Satterfield, Steve Grubb, Johnny Jackson, Paul Blazek

Four on the Floor: Hobby Thomas, John Johnston, Pete Jones, Rick Kulp

Random Four: Paul Blazek, Dan Bruns, John Johnston, Hobby Thomas

Classic Harmony: Dave Ambercrombie, Barry Owens, Clarence Wall, Chuck Wilson

Four Guys: Ron Weaver, Paul Blazek, Dan Bruns, Dave Reynolds

Rock City Four: Bill Slack, W.C. Strickland, Benny Malone, Fred Jesse

Costume Party: Paul Blazek, Dave Ambercrombie, Dan Bruns, Pete Jones

VLQ : Brooks Gist, Ron Weaver, Lamar Smith, W.C. Strickland, Sam Jones, Pat Crowe, Benny Malone, Niles Fowler, J.W. Kirk and Lamar Green.

Thanks to Pete Jones for the gargantuan job he performed, and to all who made this one of our best !
Again, if I have not listed you among the quartets or other ways you have assisted to bring this project to such a resounding and profitable conclusion, my apologies.





Harmony Explosion

As many of you are aware, I was asked to help a local High School raise funds. I have been successful developing a barbershop program at this school for many years, and the singing valentine program seemed the best option. The Teacher wanted a 60's theme for their music program this year and asked if I can maintain this theme in the Valentine songlist. I started by teaching the young men a song I arranged for a mixed group earlier in the year, then added a girls arrangement to fit their tastes.

I wasn't sure of the participation, so I estimated an amount of \$600 to be made by 3 foursomes. After selection of groups, there ended up to be 5 quartets, 2 male, 3 female. Each group worked together, en masse, to learn their words and notes. Within a week, each singer was able to mix and match with any other combination of three.

As Valentines Day approached, one young lady developed a medical condition causing one quartet to drop. Newspaper and Radio ran their promotions late in the week, calls started coming in. By Monday morning, two members of the cancelled quartet were answering incoming calls just minutes apart. The four remaining quartets started Valentines Day as early as 4:30 in the morning. The total days work netted the Music Department a whopping \$1200 in "Val-O-Gram" deliveries. I'm sure if you ask the kids what they think of the day, they'd say how great it was to see the hugs, kisses, and tears from the folks they were able to share their "gift" with. I guess there's more than one way to get an education. I know, because they teach me something everytime I meet with them.



Ron Weaver

Harmony Explosion ?.... Yes!!

Harmony Explosion? Some may argue the point, The concept is there. In the November / December issue of the **Harmonizer**, the article lead with this: "Students and teachers actually agree about music? How can this be? The answer simple - it's **Barbershop Harmony**."

When it comes to **Barbershop Harmony**, Ron Weaver has never stood, like a shy bit player in the background carrying a spear. Ron has never been shy about "Preaching the Word !" (and notes) He raises that banner high, promoting the Society and four part harmony in the Bradley and Cleveland school systems. (There are some that use it for the promotion of themselves ahead of the chapter, ignoring code of ethics number 7 " We shall not use our membership in the Society for personal gain.")

I believe that on the valentine weekend, more people in Cleveland and Bradley county are now aware of Barbershop Harmony than ever before.

Don't worry about whose coffers were financially enriched. Through Ron's actions the Society as a whole has profited.

Chapter Membership Update:

Please fill out and return so we will have a current correct list of members.

Last name: _____

First name: _____

Nickname: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip Code: _____

Voice Part: _____

Home phone: _____

Work phone: _____

Fax phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Wife's name: _____

Wife's Birthday: _____ Note: month & day NOT D.O.B.

Your Birthday: _____

Anniversary Date: _____

Note: If you sing more than one part, please list both . ie: tenor/bass: Bari/bass.

Dont Leave Us HANGING !



FILL IT OUT NOW !!



Campbell's Labels for Education

What to Save and Bring to Chapter Meetings

<u>PRODUCT</u>	<u>PACKAGE</u>	<u>WHAT TO SAVE</u>
Campbell's Beans Products	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Chunky Soups	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Condensed Soups	Can	Front Label Panel
BONUS BRAND! Campbell's Condensed Soups (26 oz.)	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Soups in 24oz. Glass Jars or Simply Home Soups	Glass Jar	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Healthy Request Soups	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Home Cookin' Soups	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Low Sodium Soups	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Microwave Soups	Tub	Plastic Lid /Cap
Campbell's Soup & Recipe Mixes	Carton	Bottom Pane with UPC Symbol
Campbell's Tomato Juices	Aluminum Can	Cash Register tape w/product name circled
Campbell's Tomato Juices	Bottle	Lid
Campbell's Tomato Juices	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Healthy Request Tomato Juices	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Healthy Request Tomato Juices	Bottle	Lid
Franco-American Gravies	Can	Front Label Panel
Franco-American SpaghettiO's and Pastas	Can	Front Label Panel
Pace Picante Sauces, Queso, and Thick & Chunky Salsa	Jar	Lid
Pace Squeezable Picante	Bottle	Lid
Pepperidge Farm Breads, Croutons, Rolls, Stuffing	Bag/Carton	UPC Symbol
Pepperidge Farm Cookies, Crackers, Goldfish and Snack Mixes.	Bag/Carton	UPC Symbol
Pepperidge Farm Frozen Garlic Breads, Cakes, Turnovers, Dumplings, and Puff Pastry	Carton	UPC Symbol
Pepperidge Farm Soups	Can	Front Label Panel
BONUS BRAND! Prego (48 oz.) Spaghetti Sauces	Jar/bottle	Front Label Panel
Prego Spaghetti Sauces	Jjar/bottle	Front Label Panel
Swanson Broths	Can	Front Label Panel
Swanson Broths	Carton	UPC symbol
Swanson Poultry	Can (Paper Label)	Front Label Panel
Swanson Poultry	Can (Litho Label)	Cash Register tape w/ product name circled
V8 100% Vegetable Juices	32 oz. Glass Bottle	Lid
V8 100% Vegetable Juices	10 oz. Glass Bottle	Front Label Panel
V8 100% Vegetable Juices	Can	Front Label Panel
V8 Healthy Request 100% Vegetable Juices	Bottle	Front Label Panel
V8 Healthy Request 100% Vegetable Juices	Can	Front Label Panel
V8 Splash	Bottle	Front Label Panel
V8 Splash	Aluminum Can	Cash Register tape w/ product name circled



CAMPBELL'S FOOD SERVICE PRODUCTS

Campbell's Foodservice Soups (50 oz.)	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Chef's Kettle Soups (50 oz.)	Can	Front Label Panel
Swanson Foodservice Broths (49.5 oz)	Can	Front Label Panel
V8 Splash (Full cases only —24 cans/case)	Aluminum Can	2-code numbers from Outer Case

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Heartspring	Brooks Gist	423-892-7191
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Equipment Manager	Pete Jones	706-861-2113
Choo Choo Belles	Audrey Gist	423-892-7191



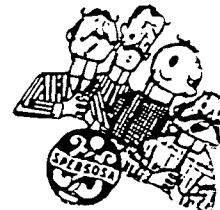
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Chattanooga, Tennessee

Dixie District

Volume 9 No. 3, Mar. 2000

The Chapter meets every Monday, 7:00 PM, All Saints Academy, 310 8th. St. Chattanooga, TN.



DIXIE DISTRICT

SCORING RESULTS



"Keep the Whole World Singing"





**HAVE YOU HEARD
THE NEWS?**



President



NO REPORT



Blender Deadline



NO REPORT.
Music Director



Publicity V.P.

April 17



Music V.P.



Chapter Development

NO REPORT



Quartet Activities



Program V.P.



Secretary

NO REPORT



Business Manager

HEARTSPRING NO REPORT



Choo Choo Bell



A Note From the Risers

Chattanooga
Choo Choo Chorus
Box 21326
Chattanooga, TN.
37424-0326



Birthdays

Pete Jones	April 16
Bernard Peek	21
Dan Bruns	23
Gloria Huber	24
Larry Huber	24



Anniversaries

Niles and Sherry Fowler	APRIL 5
W.C. and Mary Syrickland	14
John and Cynthia Johnston	17
Forrest and Anita Bugher	19
Pat and Margaret Crowe	24

**Be a Singer Bringer
Guest Night April 10th**

HIKERS ADVISORY

In light of the rising frequency of human - grizzly bear conflicts, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game is advising hikers, hunters and fishermen to take extra precautions and keep alert of bears while in the field.

"We advise that outdoors men wear nosy little bells on their clothing so as not to startle bears that aren't expecting them. We also advise outdoorsmen to carry pepper spray in case they encounter a bear."

"We also advise them to watch for fresh signs of bear activity. Outdoorsmen should recognize the differences between black bear and grizzly bear droppings. Black bear droppings are smaller and contain berries and squirrel fur. Grizzly bear droppings contain little bells and smell like pepper.

WARNING

This Could be Habit Forming

While we were in Greenville, W.C. Strickland told us of this observation, and story.

He and Mary were driving north up the Interstate. Like any time you spend a few hours on the road, it gets pretty boring.

Mary was dozing, and nothing but road straight ahead of him. He said he noticed something.

Waking Mary, he mentioned "did you ever notice the number of plastic bags hanging in the trees along the road/" Well I'm sure she has always admired Strick and his observational qualities, but this time she was starting to question it. But before you knew it she was checking trees along their route.

While visiting their son, Strick again mentioned this phenomenon Sometime later when their son came home for a visit, he said "Dad you never should have mentioned it, I'm counting bags every time I'm on the interstate. The same thing happened to his brother-in-law, Charley and his Sunday school class also...HOOKED!!

And you know what ? On the way home from Margaret and I counted twenty-eight.

OH, LORD HELP US!! where will it end!

Greenville, South Carolina

By Pat Crowe

On the road, singing "Over the River and Through the Woods" but this time it wasn't to grandmas house we go, no this time "**2000 Dixie District Chorus Championship**" Convention was the destination. The rallying point was the "Crackerbarrel" in Dalton, Georgia.

W.C. and Mary Strickland, Earle and Ev Fraser, Forrest and Anita Bugher, Lamar and Louise Smith, Bob and Sandra Stansbury along with Margaret and I loaded up on eggs, sausage, bacon, biscuit N' gravy, pecan pancakes, etc., etc. (Oh, Waitress. Separate checks please, we can't afford to split "Buffet Bob's" tab.)

We decided to forgo the hassle of Atlanta traffic on I-75 and I-85. Instead we'd meander through and around the mountains on US76.

W.C. was elected to be our "Wagon Master" The expected rain had held off, giving us grand views of the hills and valleys turning green, with splashes of Redbud and Bradford pear blooms bursting through. It didn't take long... Pit Stop!!! 30 miles down the road! Georgia's "Apple Capitol", Ellijay beckoned to relieve those pangs of TB (tiny bladder) of those seekers of song four part harmony and rest rooms. As we pulled into Hardees parking lot, a prayer of thanks went on high, from those that lacked the confidence in their "Depends"

As we stood waiting their return, out they came. "Ye Gawds!! They've got more coffee! Does this mean another stop every 30 miles!!"

"Saddle up, Buckaroos" was the Wagon masters call. It's onward up the highway, through, "**Cherry Log**", "**Blue Ridge**", "**Hemp**", "**Brasstown**", "**Young Harris**", "**Blairsville**", "**Hiawassee**", ever forward we cross over the "**Appalachian Trail**" into "**Rabun County**" (the site of the filming of "**Deliverance**")... Whats that sound? Oh, it's only Earles bladder squealing like a pig. So it's a stop at McDonalds in Clayton, the county seat.

Then it's on to S.C., only about 30 or so miles to the stateline. The land is starting to level out, could almost call the natives "**Flatlanders**" compared to the northern Georgia landscape.

Time to start thinking of lunch.... Problem ?.. where to find something other than a McD's, Burger King, Wendy's, Hardees or Grease and Grits joints!

As we passed these dens of "Capillary Condemnation" These waiting rooms for Morticians aftercare. I start to ponder... We could resolve the fuel shortage, if we side tracked a large portion of the oil sold to "Fast Food" establishments, and diverted it to oil refineries for the production of automobile gas, and not for our "Flatulence Factories", speaking of gas, it was just a few short weeks ago we were paying .98 to \$1.04. Now we're looking at \$1.39 to \$ 1.499 in S.C.! And I was bemoaning the \$1.34 I paid when I filled up.

AH, HAH ! our wagon master ever alert, has pulled into the lot of "Pixie's and Bill's"... Another meeting of great minds. "Yes or no?" The exterior is sort of weathered, like an old barn. The parking area is well kept up. "What the Heck!, Bob's belly rumbling is starting to sound like distant thunder, Lets eat!!"

Well, as Gomer Pyle was wont to say, " Well Gollee! Surprise, Surprise!!" The ambiance is great! It's an establishment for "Dining!" not eating! A place to enjoy, food, friends and conversation... Linen napkins and table cloths, a diverse menu, and wait persons knowledgeable of the menu, friendly and attentive. The food was excellent and moderately priced, for a cheapskate like me. I thought I was in Heaven.

We lingered longer than we should, so decided to cut over to I-85 for the last 30 or 40 miles.... BIG MISTAKE!!! Due to an accident involving both east and west bound lanes, it was stop and go at 5 miles an hour. More stop, than go! Once it was opened up it was like the " Oklahoma Land Rush" With W.C (Jeff Gordon) Strickland in the pole position. Losing Bob and Lamar, who got left behind by those S.C. Winston Cup entrants chasing Strick. They took the first exit. Wrong move, which Bob blamed Lamar, even though Bob was leading. continued

Greenville: cont.

At last we arrived at the Ameri-Suites, accommodations are excellent. Sleeping area with 2 beds, living room had a pullout sofa, coffee table, across from the kitchen area, consisting of a fridge, microwave, coffee pot (with coffee replenished daily,) sink, table and four chairs, as one entered the room there was also an L shaped desk and large office chair. Well worth the charge.

Greenville is a growing vibrant community,(Our bus driver, a local, complained, too many yankee's moving in, telling us how things should be done! There like hemorrhoids a real pain !!) It is home to Furman and Bob Jones Universities. Which probably was the reason downtown restaurants and clubs were packed and the streets full. That , and it being St. Paddies Day. There is an abundance of shops downtown Friday night was quartet competition... I love four part harmony ... but... Twenty-four quartets in a row numbs the mind as well as the seat!

Saturday morning the wind brought the temperature down to 15 degrees F. , as well as whitecaps on the fountain pool ..Quite a shock to our systems after all the 70's and plus weather we have been experiencing at home.

Many of us were disappointed in the slot we were allotted on the program. All we got to see of the other choruses were the last couple.

But all changed to smiles when the judges results were published

A quick supper at the Outback, not one that is high on my list of preferred eateries. As usual crowded with people in line staring... and silently willing you to eat faster and leave... and the music?? at a decibel making conversation a virtual shouting match .

The quartet finals were great, Saturday Evening Post of Denver/Colorado Springs and Turning Point from Ohio are going to be tough competition in Kansas City, come July.

The Four Voices, WOW !! I've never heard better Tenor or Bass than Lester and Jayson. I'm not taking anything away from Chad or Brandon ... But the registers of the those two are unbelievable Also gives you a good feeling that our own Ron Weaver started these guys on the path to barbershop-ping... Thanks Ron!

After the show we returned to our room for an "Ice Cream Social"

Prior to going to the auditorium, our ladies got the hotel to hold in their freezer, five quarts of ice cream, to go along with the whipped cream, bananas, cherries, hot fudge, caramel, nuts, etc. that they had procured.. It was banana split time!

IT'S GREAT TO BE A BARBERSHOPPER !

Does Anybody Read the Blender ??

On the Monday prior to our departure for Greenville, part of Blazek's info was what are we wearing as travel and nonperformance attire. He and the rest were advised " **It's In The Blender**" If you read it you'll know!

Thursday a few of us got calls from a certain guy. He left this message.

" Patrick....and Margaret.....heres a quick note of what we are supposed to wear (he pronounced it HURS and WAR) Friday or St Patricks Day..... this is straight from Evelyn..... (NOTE THE DOTS ARE LONG PAUSES) it's our what...uh. uh.. green..uh...what uh.. uh.. what sweatshirts with a green shirt underneath and khaki pants. any questions give me a call.

Now this guy denies that he called us. PLUS! he showed up wearing a raspberry shirt and blue pants!!

Again the question..

Does Anybody Read the Blender ??

2000 Dixie District Leadership Team

Thom Hine	President
Al Carter	Secretary
Jim Sams	Treasurer
Eric King	VP Music & Performance
Jim Nappier	Chapt. Support & Leadership
Don Lang	VP Contest and Judging
Jack Donaldson	VP Events
Bob Dickson	Youth Outreach
Fred Hinesley	VP Member Services
Gene Fegely	VP Marketing & PR
Larry Deters	VP Chorus Director Dev.
Noah Funderburg	Immediate Past Pres.
Charlie Rose	Society Board Member
Bill Sawtelle	Rebel Rouser Editor
Bill Lester	Historian
Dick Belote	Dist. Services & Heartspring

Convention Team

Jack Donaldson	Housing & Transportation
Gene Fegely	Publicity
David Griffin	Stage Manager
Don Lang	Judges
Neil Redkevitch	House Manager
John Smith	Competitors
George Treusch	Awards
John Whalen	Registration

Support Staff

Tim Brooks	Audio Taping & Technical
George Joslyn	Technical Support
Rusty Kirkpatrick	Dixie Marketplace
Ken Maes	Host Chapt. Coordinator
Barry Owens	Program
Rick Ramsey	Video Taping

Panel of Judges

Bill Hafley - DIX	Contest Administrator
Dick Belote - DIX	Associate Contest Adm.
Gary Bolles - FWD	Music
Mark Hale - CAR	Music
Rob Hopkins - SLD	Music
Lou Benedict - FWD	Presentation
Saul Schneider - SWD	Presentation
Dale Thomas - MAD	Presentation
Rik Johnson - CSD	Singing
Chuck Lower - MAD	Singing
Jeff Selano - DIX	Singing

The Judging System

Contestants are evaluated by the three judging categories: **Music, Presentation and Singing** as set forth by the Society through its International Contest and Judging Committee. Each judge evaluates the overall performance from the perspective of his respective category, as summarized below. However, there is a common ground shared by all categories that the judges use to evaluate the singing and performance skills. The total score should consistently reflect the overall presentation. Each judge awards a score from 0 to 100 for each song. As you evaluate the contestants, keep in mind the following points:

Music

The song and arrangement are evaluated as performed, looking for artistic use of the melody, harmony, lyrics, rhythm/meter and form to generate good barbershop music. It rewards performances that fit the abilities of the performers. The major elements in the Music Category are consonance, theme, embellishment, execution, delivery and musicality, while preserving the barbershop style.

Presentation

The focus is on how the performers bring a song to life and offer it to the audience. This category is designed to measure the degree of entertainment value in terms of effect and believability, including both vocal and visual elements. Techniques that enhance various moments in the song can be used to add value to a phrase, to provide physical motion at a given time, or to use costumes or props to make a point. The best performers are consistent in their believability, visual and vocal artistry, unit presentation and control of the moments on stage.

Singing

The evaluation of three overall singing skills: singing in tune, vocal quality and ensemble unity, plus the related effects of expanded sound and artistry. Artistic singing glorifies the song, always supporting and never detracting from its message. The singing category evaluates a performance much the same way an audience does. The judges listen, then decide how much they like what they hear.



SOMETHING TO CROW ABOUT

Greenville, if you didn't have a good time I extend my sympathy. But everyone I spoke to had nothing but good remarks. Sure there may have been the little things that could have tweaked your level of satisfaction. Like our allotted slot in the schedule.... But again, the key word is "little". And as the old saying goes "Don't sweat the little things!"

The article on "Does anybody Read the Blender" hit home last night at our appreciation dinner. It was asked when was the deadline for articles. In my usual smart-a-- way I answered "If you read the Blender you'd know ! it's today..". OOPS!I should have read the blender! Too!

I had forgotten in my editorial I had extended the deadline one extra week from it's usual closing hoping for impute from the members. Sorry about that. You know that's only the second mistake ever made in our family.... the first was when daddy made me!



I told you to bring home the Blender!



Choo Choo Belles

We all had a good time in Greenville. Weather cool but fellowship warm.

A weekend of laughs and eat, eat, eat! From when we first met in Dalton at the Crackerbarrel to ending with our Ice Cream Social at Midnight Saturday in Pat and Margarets room.

We found time to have a business meeting.

Due to medical reasons Audrey Gist was not able to make the trip. She sent word expressing thanks to all those ladies, who have faithfully attended the Belles meetings. To all who helped in anyway during her past two years of her office term.

It had been her desire to have had better attendance to support our guys. She thought part of the problem was the guys! By their not communicating with their ladies or taking the the Blender home for them to read.

Elections were held to elect a new " Team Leader" with Sandra Stansbury excepting the position.

Her acceptance comments to the group was that she would not take over the reigns as "President" but only as part of the "TEAM" with the assistance of all the other ladies. This was agreed to.

Discussion was held on the following:

- 1: New blouses for the Belles.
- 2: A new more central meeting place, to enable members ladies to attend and not have to wait around for their guys.

Chorus members will be advised to inform you of the next meeting date and/or location.



Ferd's Words

By Fred Jesse



Congratulations to the Chattanooga Choo Choo Chorus for the 8th place finish in the spring contest! You guys were great. I think there are several good reasons for the improvement over the 10th place finish with 986 points last October. "Maggie" got 558 points this time compared to 485 points last time. That's a whopping 15% improvement!

In addition to the regular practice sessions, I feel the improvement is due to:

1: An improved attitude by the chorus and a feeling for the two songs.

2: Sectionals - Most guys seem not to care for sectionals, but, see how it helps.

3: The new VLQ and the dedication of those guys and the special reason they have to improve.

4: Especially, I think the Valentine quartets, and the involvement of most members singing in a quartet, made the biggest improvement. Quarteting improves words, notes, and the ear for harmony. A guy has to know his stuff there.

5: I hope the woodshedding we have done has helped improve our ear for harmony and good overall singing, and I hope you like it.

When music arrives for our annual show, I hope to put out a list of songs for quartets to sing as part of the medleys. Get your Valentine quartet together and try out for them. If you have other songs we can work into the show, let me know.

This means both Valentine and regular organized quartets, and also the VLQ should get involved. All of the stuff we do is to have fun at this hobby. Improving ourselves increases the fun and enjoyment. Have you noticed? Got some other ideas? Come see me, or bring your ideas to the chapter board meeting or music committee meeting. Don't sit there and grumble. Let us know. Lets sing. Need a tenor? Ask me.

Something to Crow About : continued

Our favorite "Munchkin" Dave Collins has done it again. **"Barbershopper of the Year"**

It's been quite a year for Dave. His by-pass surgery looks like the new I-75 -Highway 153 Interchange. And that hair cut! Ask him about Slack's comment on it. ...Sick Bill, really sick!!

I believe the main reason he built that new Pine-log house along the banks of Suck Creek(don't you love the name?) is to hang all those awards. What's it now Dave? Five BOTY'S! James Coulter is going to have to move to catch up to you. I guess the rumor is true that after winning the BOTY in Nebraska this year, he's relocating to Virginia. I guess he couldn't bear the thought of living in the same state as those Corn Husking, work release" amateur athletes" who stuffed the cob to his beloved Tennessee Volunteers.

It has been over heard, if five of our Choo Choo chorus members had not sung with the Cleveland guys, What would have been our position in the ranking?... Or there's ?

...Okay?...Lets all review #5 in our code of ethics. And number 10 covers it too!

A Big Barbershop Welcome to Robert Dunkin. Bob lives in Dunlap TN. Hopefully we'll get a bit more information on him for next months Issue of theBlender.

Also looking forward for something on the Sweet Adelines. Ron, Pete, Sam and J.W. chauffeured some of the groups around when they were in town for their convention this past weekend. I understand the two top finishers used our rehearsal rooms. So lets hear from you guys.

CONTESTANT SCORING SUMMARY

Dixie District Chorus Contest
 SPEBSQSA, Inc. Greenville, South Carolina
 March 18, 2000
 Final Round
 OA - 17 MEN - 32 Choo Choo Chorus

RANK: 

CONTESTANT	MUS			PRE			SNG			TOTALS
Chattanooga, TN	M1	M2	M3	P4	P5	P6	S7	S8	S9	
I Love A Joison Song	62	63	57	63	66	59	64	66	64	564
When You And Were Young, Maggie	58	65	61	62	64	60	59	65	64	558
CATEGORY/SESSION TOTALS	366			374			382			1122
PREVIOUS POINTS										0
TOTAL										1122

M1 - G. Bolles M2 - M. Hale M3 - R. Hopkins P4 - L. Benedict
 P5 - S. Schneider P6 - D. Thomas S7 - R. Johnson S8 - C. Lower
 S9 - J. Selano

COMMON GROUND

Each of the three categories—Music, Presentation, and Singing—is a particular orientation or perspective from which a judge views the total performance. To some extent, then, all judges will judge the total performance and certain elements of a barbershop performance will be evaluated by judges in two, or even all three, categories. Those aspects of a barbershop performance that are evaluated by judges in all three categories are the five elements of the common ground. Those five elements are listed at the bottom of every judging form as questions about the performance: 1) In the barbershop style?; 2) Ringing, in-tune sound?; 3) In good quality?; 4) Suitable to the performer?; and 5) From the heart?

Each category judge will determine a single quality rating or score, on a scale of 1 to 100. The judge will determine whether the level of the performance is excellent (A-level, from 81-100), good (B-level, from 61-80), fair (C-level, from 41-60), or poor (D-level, from 1-40), and award an exact score based upon an evaluation of all the elements in the performance that have an impact on his category. If no quality rating is appropriate owing to an unequivocal and definite violation of the rules, the judge will forfeit his score by awarding a 0.

MUSIC CATEGORY

Music is defined as the song and arrangement, as performed. The Music judge is responsible for adjudicating the musical elements in the performance. He judges the extent to which the musical performance displays the hallmarks of the barbershop style, and the degree to which the musical performance demonstrates an artistic sensitivity to the music's primary theme.

The primary hallmark of barbershop music is its consonant harmony. Thus, the quality of any barbershop performance depends largely on the presence, accurate execution, and artistic delivery of the consonant harmony traditionally identified with the barbershop style.

Indirectly, the Music judge evaluates the work of the composer and arranger. A basic prerequisite for a successful barbershop performance is that the song be appropriate to the barbershop style. Beyond this, the various musical elements should work together to establish a theme. The sensitive handling of musical elements—melody, lyrics, harmony, range and tessitura, embellishments, tempo, rhythm, and meter, musical construction and form—demonstrates musicality in a performance. A strong musical performance is one in which everything provided by the composer and arranger is skillfully delivered and effectively integrated in support of the musical theme. This requires that the music be suited to the performer, and that the performer understand the music. The music judge is prepared to accept any treatment that is musically plausible. The theme may also change from one part of the song to another. Often, the theme will be the song's lyrics, while at other times the theme may be one of the musical elements themselves, such as rhythm. Whatever the theme, the Music judge evaluates how the musical elements of the song and arrangement support the theme.

PRESENTATION

Presentation is a “giving,” a “bringing forth,” and a “sharing,” including the thrill of transforming a printed song into an emotional experience and sharing it with an audience. Words, notes, and other symbols on the printed page are the composer’s and, subsequently, the arranger’s gift to the performer. The presentation of the song is the performer’s gift to the audience. Within that presentation, the performer has the freedom to explore individual style as part of a unified performing group provided the individual expression does not override the bounds of good taste or contemporary standards of barbershop performance.

The Presentation judge evaluates everything about the performance that contributes to emotional impact upon the audience. Effect and believability are the benchmarks used to evaluate a performance and its impact. In this context *impact* means the transference of an emotional experience to the audience; it may be gentle and barely perceptible or it may be enormously powerful ... but, to be measured favorably, it must be believable and appropriate.

The Presentation judge is principally responsible for evaluating the entertainment value in a barbershop performance. Visual and vocal interpretation serve to explain the emotional content of the song as it is understood by the performer and to stimulate the audience’s participation in the experience. The Presentation judge evaluates how effectively a performer brings the song to life—that is, how believable is the illusion of the story/message/theme in its visual and vocal setting. He will, of necessity, respond to both the visual and vocal aspects of the presentation, but he will principally evaluate the interaction of these aspects as they work together to create the image of the song.

SINGING

One ingredient that clearly identifies barbershop music is its unique sound. The best barbershop singing combines elements of technique and emotion to create an artistic result: the transformation of a song into an emotional experience for the performer and audience.

Primarily, the Singing judge listens for the pleasing effect of in-tune singing from voices that are free and resonant and exhibit no signs of difficulties. He expects to hear the ensemble as a unit, free from distractions by individual differences of quality or delivery. Furthermore, enhanced by the choice of harmonies, voicings, and voice relationships characteristic to barbershop, the ensemble sound can achieve a sound that feels greater than the sum of the parts: a “lock” or “ring,” or the feeling of “expanded sound.” The ring of a barbershop chord will always be the hallmark of the style. Any listener to a barbershop performance expects to be thrilled by the sound of a ringing climax, or awed by the purity and beauty of a soft and elegant expression of a song. Great barbershop singing demands mastery of vocal and ensemble skills to create the breathtaking effects of barbershop musical artistry.

The Singing judge evaluates the degree to which the performer achieves artistic singing in the barbershop style. This is accomplished through precise intonation, a high degree of vocal skill, good vocal quality, and a high level of unity and consistency within the ensemble. Mastering these elements also creates a feeling of fullness, ring, and expansion of sound throughout the performance. When artistry is present, these elements are natural, unmanufactured, and free from apparent effort, allowing the performer to fully communicate the theme of the song.

OFFICIAL SCORING SUMMARY, Dixie District International Preliminary Quartet Contest
SPEBSQSA, Inc., Greenville, South Carolina, March 18, 2000

FINALS	SONGS	MUS	PRE	SNG	SUB	PREV	TOTAL
					TOTAL	PTS.	SCORE
1 Saturday Evening Post (a)	<i>I Thought About You</i>	250	253	242	1489	1487	2976
	<i>It Don't Mean A Thing</i>	243	258	243			
2 Four Voices	<i>Ain't Misbehavin'</i>	241	239	234	1440	1469	2909
	<i>After You've Gone</i>	245	247	234			
3 Turning Point (a)	<i>Mother's Boy</i>	245	248	225	1441	1455	2896
	<i>I Want To Be With You Tonight</i>	244	254	225			
4 Overture	<i>There's A Rose On Your Cheek</i>	234	242	231	1416	1380	2796
	<i>I Love Y'All</i>	233	245	231			
5 Split Decision	<i>Moonlight Becomes You</i>	233	234	223	1377	1385	2762
	<i>Down Where The Swanee River Flows</i>	229	231	227			
6 CRESCENDO	<i>My Old Kentucky Home</i>	205	223	227	1321	1306	2627
	<i>Wedding Bells Are Breaking Up Old Gang</i>	219	227	220			
7 Pinnacle	<i>Who Told You</i>	215	209	205	1260	1248	2508
	<i>Bright Was The Night</i>	213	216	202			
8 Tag Team	<i>Ain't Misbehavin'</i>	198	207	205	1237	1224	2461
	<i>Three Girl Medley Parody</i>	204	217	206			
9 Loose Change	<i>Midnight Rose</i>	210	200	207	1209	1180	2389
	<i>At Last</i>	198	200	194			
10 Voiceterous	<i>Wonderful Day Medley</i>	188	200	200	1163	1199	2362
	<i>Oh, You Beautiful Doll</i>	184	198	193			
11 Yesterday/Today	<i>Memories</i>	192	201	196	1174	1120	2294
	<i>Sam, The Old Accordion Man</i>	187	206	192			
12 Four Guys	<i>Mary's The One For Me</i>	183	189	192	1128	1124	2252
	<i>Dear Hearts And Gentle People</i>	188	189	187			

SEMI-FINALS

1 Saturday Evening Post (a)	<i>Basin Street Blues</i>	239	253	241	1487	0	1487
	<i>Tin Roof Blues</i>	246	261	247			
2 Four Voices	<i>I Didn't Want To Fall</i>	245	241	242	1469	0	1469
	<i>Bright Was The Night</i>	242	254	245			
3 Turning Point (a)	<i>I've Got The World On A String</i>	249	249	238	1455	0	1455
	<i>You've Broke Only Heart That Loved You</i>	241	239	239			
4 Split Decision	<i>There, I've Said It Again</i>	230	228	233	1385	0	1385
	<i>I've Got The World On A String</i>	229	231	234			
5 Overture	<i>I've Got Something To Write Folks About</i>	226	236	231	1380	0	1380
	<i>Goodbye, Rose</i>	220	235	232			
6 CRESCENDO	<i>Love Me And The World Is Mine</i>	215	218	220	1306	0	1306
	<i>You're Nobody 'Til Somebody Loves You</i>	215	221	217			
7 Pinnacle	<i>You Tell Me Your Dream</i>	216	203	208	1248	0	1248
	<i>Put Me To Sleep With Old Fashioned Melody</i>	214	203	204			
8 Tag Team	<i>It Must Be That Look In Eyes / Them Ther Eye</i>	201	202	200	1224	0	1224
	<i>So Long Sally</i>	209	209	203			
9 Voiceterous	<i>Let's Get Away From It All</i>	182	213	205	1199	0	1199
	<i>Three Girl Medley</i>	182	211	206			
10 Loose Change	<i>Down Where The Swanee River Flows</i>	202	192	194	1180	0	1180
	<i>Love Me, And The World Is Mine</i>	202	197	193			
11 Four Guys	<i>Sam, The Old Accordion Man</i>	178	200	187	1124	0	1124
	<i>I Wish I Had My Old Gal Back Again</i>	172	203	184			
12 Yesterday/Today	<i>I Love To Hear That Old Barbershop Style</i>	175	191	196	1120	0	1120
	<i>Jeanie With The Light Brown Hair</i>	170	196	192			

(a) Out of District quartet competing for score only.

PANEL: ADMINISTRATOR

B. Hafley-DIX

D. Belote-DIX

MUSIC

G. Bolles-FWD

M. Hale-CAR

R. Hopkins-SLD

PRESENTATION

L. Benedict-FWD

S. Schneider-SWD

D. Thomas-MAD

SINGING

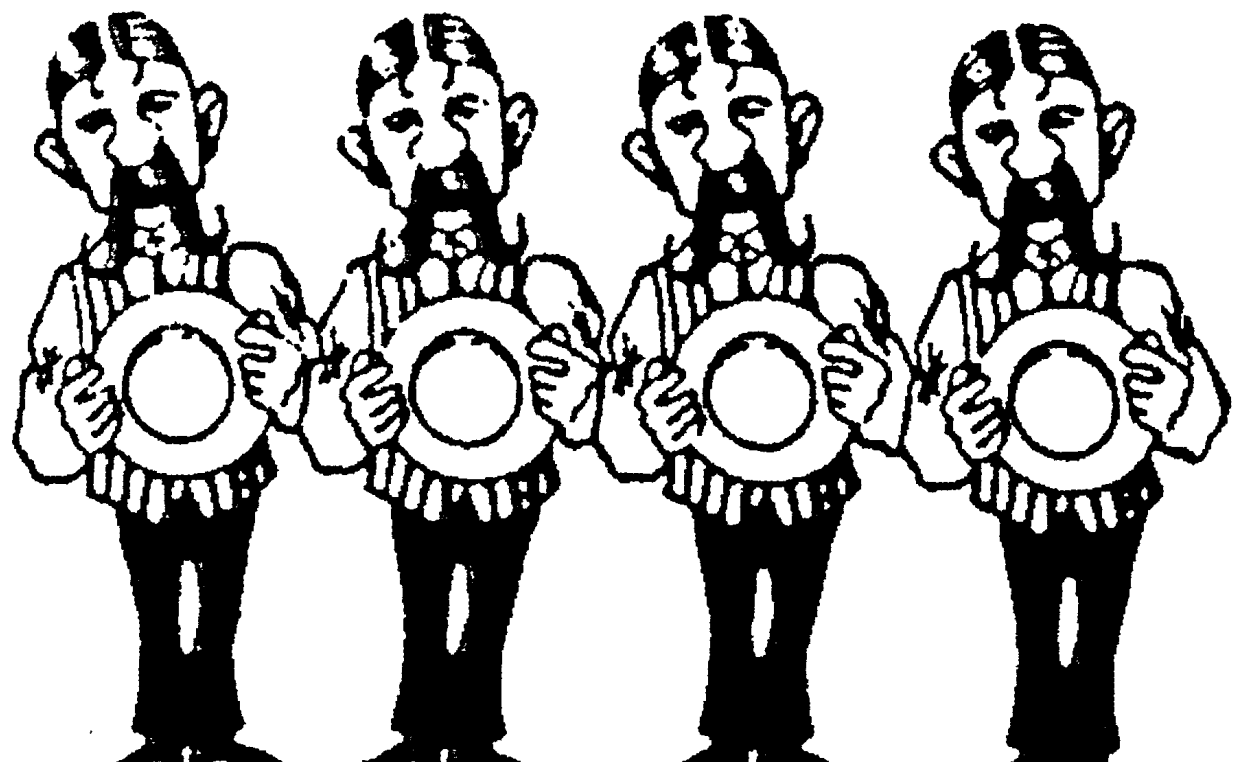
R. Johnson-CSD

C. Lower-MAD

J. Selano-DIX

LS	SONGS	MUS	PRE	SNG	TOTAL SCO
ious Treble	<i>I Found A Million Dollar Baby</i>	176	188	189	1111
Sion	<i>Let's Get Away From It All</i>	177	192	189	
lece	<i>Let's Get Away From It All</i>	166	186	194	1091
ern Comfort	<i>Ain't Misbehavin'</i>	167	189	189	
Row Center	<i>NoOneLovesYouBetterThanM-A Dbl M-Y</i>	174	178	180	1061
	<i>IfYouWereTheOnly Girl In The World</i>	172	179	178	
	<i>Hard Hearted Hannah</i>	164	187	179	1048
	<i>I Found A Million Dollar Baby</i>	157	189	172	
	<i>OldFashionedGirl In A Gingham Gown</i>	180	177	173	1043
	<i>Rock-A-ByeYourBabyWithADixieMelody</i>	170	175	168	
Market	<i>Ten Feet Off The Ground</i>	169	171	178	1040
nd Nature	<i>That's An Irish Lullaby</i>	176	167	179	
less Reflections	<i>Sunny Side Up</i>	161	165	182	1028
lage	<i>Ten Feet Off The Ground</i>	166	172	182	
pella Fellas	<i>Ma!</i>	167	171	174	1004
	<i>The Little Boy</i>	154	172	166	
	<i>Pal Of My Cradle Days</i>	152	162	183	998
	<i>I Want A Girl</i>	154	167	180	
	<i>Georgia On My Mind</i>	152	166	178	995
	<i>Let The Rest Of The World Go By</i>	158	167	174	
assic Harmony	<i>Toot, Toot, Tootsie</i>	150	172	182	992
com	<i>Danny Boy</i>	140	172	176	
	<i>Let The Rest Of The World Go By</i>	143	153	167	906
	<i>WhenTheRedRedRobinComesBobbinAlong</i>	132	153	158	

VEL: ADMINISTRATOR	MUSIC	PRESENTATION	SINGING
B. Hafley-DIX	G. Bolles-FWD	L. Benedict-FWD	R. Johnson-CSD
D. Belote-DIX	M. Hale-CAR	S. Schneider-SWD	C. Lower-MAD
	R. Hopkins-SLD	D. Thomas-MAD	J. Selano-DIX





Four Voices
by Barry Owens

When was the last time we sent a quartet to the International contest from our area? Probably never. Four Voices, the darlings of the Dixie District, will do just that. How could anyone not love these guys! Did you hear the ooohs and aaaaahs when Jason hit those low bass notes? How about Lester's high posts?

They will receive much great coaching and offers of musical arrangements from the society's best arrangers. They are committed to representing our district to the best of their ability.

What they need most however, is your and my support. There is an opportunity for each of you to not only help them financially, but to obtain a first edition release of their first CD. They are taking orders now, using the money to finance the CD production. They hope to have the CD out in time for the Kansas City international convention.

They will need new costumes for the international stage, their travel and living expenses in Kansas City must also be paid. As you know they are not that far from being in college, and money is at a premium. Classic Harmony will donate the proceeds from one of their performances to the quartet and challenge other quartets to do likewise.

I encourage you to call or email Chad and pass along your best wishes!





Some Thoughts on Competing by Barry Owens

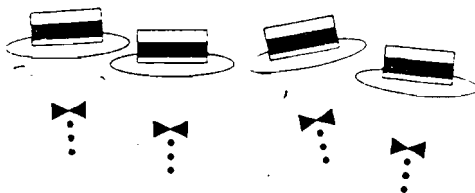
Sometimes competing can, indeed, be a humbling experience. These are words of wisdom from one who knows. It's been a few years since Classic Harmony quartet last competed, and I had forgotten how bad it made me feel when we don't win. Sometimes I need a touch of reality to bring me back to earth. My billiard game is much like this. If I start to feel too cocky about my game, one tournament, and I find out there is always someone better...or in my quartet's case, twenty-two better.

However, our experience was not for naught. We learned many things that should make our entertainment package better for our audiences. I recommend any quartet wanting to improve their sound and presentation compete with other quartets. The quartet evaluations are worth the price of my feelings. Some of the society's best singers not only judge the contest, but they offer a lot of advise and coaching.

I would like to express my congratulations to Four Guys quartet for making the Saturday night cut. I was very proud of them. I was also thrilled to sing bass once again with our chorus in contest. I thought it was the best we have ever sung in contest, since I have been a member.

I also would like to congratulate my other chorus in Cleveland for their fine seventh place showing. We were not able to put many on stage, but I think the sound was there. Cleveland has come a long way this past year. We have been relatively active in the Cleveland community, never turning down a gig. We were also asked to help bail out an overbooked Valentine's Day for Chattanooga. We put together an extra quartet, helped both chapters, and enjoyed doing it! We are not like some choruses who do nothing but prepare for competition. We are constantly learning new and challenging songs.

I hope my next humbling experience, however, will bring my quartet a little closer to the top!





Get with the Program Steve Grubb

It's great to be back in the Top Ten, huh??? Congratulations to all of us for this accomplishment. Our wives told us we sounded good, and this time some of the Judges agreed. We scored highest in the Singing category, which reflects the hard work we've done on that aspect of the total package we aim to deliver. Paul didn't push us too hard leading up to Greenville, as we were hoping I'm sure to simply qualify. But doubtless we'll take an eighth place finish in the bargain. Thanks to Paul for his efforts and to all of us for the work we've put into sounding better. Also, a big thanks to having almost 40 on the risers this past weekend. **SIZE DOES MATTER!**

Before we leave G'ville behind, let's give Kudos to Classic Harmony and Four Guys for the jobs they did. Both quartets represented Chattanooga proudly. Four Guys sang on Saturday evening and, fortunately, knew two other songs to perform. Way to go, gentlemen!

Let's plan now to make our upcoming Guest Night a big success. Mark the 10th of April down and ask a man to come with you that night. We need to grow our membership and this is a great way to get friends involved in our wonderful hobby. We'll also be celebrating the Society's birthday on that night as well; we will be 62 years young this year. Come out and ring a chord with us, and make a guest feel welcome.

I'm already excited at having Four Voices, our Dixie District Quartet champs, lined up to sing on the show in August. At the rate those young men are going, they may be the whole society's champs by that date. What a great sound they produce! And to think, they got their start here in Chattanooga. Congratulations to these four fine young men on this accomplishment. Keep up the great work, fellas.

How about Dave Collins getting back-to-back MVP awards from the chapter? He is a very deserving BOTY winner. We wouldn't have such a nice meeting room were it not for Dave's efforts. Even a heart operation couldn't slow down his drive for this award in 1999. Way to go, Dave!

Our cupboards are running thin, so let's get everyone back on track with food assignments. Check the board in the main room and contribute your part when designated. Everyone's help is needed to feed this crowd.

Until next month, Keep the Whole World Singing.

The following is copy of Barry Owens comments to Jack Donaldson and Tom Hine's reply. Barry's comments and views were shared by others. Mine was a feeling of being trapped. Thoughts of, "How do you get out of here in an emergency?" Our retired Fire Captain, Sam, had the same observation.!



>
> In a message dated 03/21/2000 8:54:37 PM Eastern Standard Time,
> writes:
>
>
><< Subj: Greenville
> Date: 03/21/2000 8:54:37 PM Eastern Standard Time
> From: (Barry & Nancy Owens)
> To: (Jack Donaldson)
> CC: (Thom Hine)
>
> Dear Jack,
>
> Just a little feedback on the contest. I know it's easier to criticize
> than to offer solutions. Maybe we can come up with some solutions to
> several problems.
>
> The auditorium is very beautiful; the sound is great. But I hate the
> place. It is near impossible to get in and out of your seat. While many
> theaters have no middle aisle, most have more space between the rows. It
> severely limits any possible visits among barbershoppers during stretch
> breaks.
>
> Another problem is the lack of free parking for anyone interested in
> visiting the barbershopper shop from other motels. I never visited the
> marketplace because of the hassle of parking at the headquarters hotel, far
> from the other hotels. I am sure the district lost some money by the
> marketplace not being available to everyone.
>
> An answer to the parking problem at the headquarters hotel while picking up
> badges would have been to have the registration at the Peace Center
> instead. There is plenty of free parking available there for the people to
> pick up their registration badges.
>
> Overall, I really liked the convention. You and your staff did an
> excellent job!
>
> But mostly I wanted to congratulate you and your quartet for being able to
> represent us in Kansas City. I'll see you there!
> Barry
>

From: Barry & Nancy Owens <bowens@cdc.net>
To: Pat Crowe <georgecrowe@mindspring.com>
Date: Wednesday, March 22, 2000 7:37 PM
Subject: Fwd: Re: Greenville

>Delivered-To:
>From:
>Date: Wed, 22 Mar 2000 17:51:47 EST
>Subject: Re: Greenville
>To:
>MIME-Version: 1.0
>Status: U
>
>Hi Barry:
>
>I sincerely appreciate your comments and I know Jack does as well....because
>he cares what other folks think.
>
>Having held contests in terrible high school auditoriums and that "barn" in
>Gatlinburg, the DIX Board decided that our #1 objective was to book future
>conventions in venues which where we could best present our product...which
>is "four part sound". While the Peace Center in Greenville certainly fills
>that bill, we're aware of the problems in busing, parking (free parking) and
>list of items which I won't broach at this time.
>
>It's almost impossible to find a venue with all of the desired qualities of
>an ideal site...so we have to give a little here and there from city to city.
> For instance, I feel Gatlinburg would be ideal if they only had an
>auditorium in which we could place 1,000 or 1,200 people where you could
>truly hear the quality of the quartets....and, of course, that's important to
>the judges as well...that's why the quartets are there. Add to that the
>logistics for the majority of members in the district and the fact that we
>have identified a "swath" that extends from western NC down through western
>SC, through eastern TN and down to the Atlanta area as the highest barbershop
>populated area of the DIX District. Our task is to find a suitable venue
>within that "swath" that will give us all of what we're looking for and that
>we can afford. Tough assignment.
>
>I will state that the pricing of the Peace Center is getting to the point
>that we will probably not book in Greenville beyond spring of 2001.
>
>Again, thanks for your comments. If you come up with any ideas for future
>convention sites within the above scenario, Jack and I would love to hear
>from you.
>
>T. Hine
>



Barbershopper Of The Year

DAVID COLLINS

When I announced the BOTY award, I said that I thought David had received the award at least four times. Wrong, this was the fifth award of the BOTY to Mr. David Collins. There have only been two members who have received multiple awards and the second person is Mr. James Coulter. There truly are people who love this hobby of ours and David Collins is one of the them. He gives unselfishly of his time, effort and money to his hobby and our chapter. There is no doubt that without his efforts we would not be in our new, centrally air conditioned, meeting room and it certainly would not look as presentable as it now does. It was his vision, work, drive and effort which made this possible and we are enjoying the fruits of his labors at very little monetary and physical costs to ourselves. We owe you David and at least this writers hat is off to you. Thanks for your unselfish work!

Several people have asked how we determine who receives the BOTY honor and this is my attempt to explain the process. As David Collins said at our valentines/awards dinner, a Board of Directors set up the process several years ago and determined that the only fair method to determine a recipient was to award points based on several categories. Each member would be eligible to receive points for each category. In order to be eligible for BOTY, potential recipients must accumulate at least 300 points. It was determined that points would be given for:

Attendance Possible 100
Chapter officer President 100
Other officers 75
Quartet activity Registered 50
Non registered, show participation 25
Committees Each committee 50
Never been BOTY 25
Bringing in new members Each new member 50 Outstanding achievement.
At discretion of the BOTY committee 50

Lamar Owens
BOTY Committee



THE PREZ SEZ

Bill Slack

On March 17th. yours truly had the privilege of attending my first House of Delegates meeting, representing the Chattanooga Chapter. All of the various vice district presidents and officers made reports for about three hours, which I will summarize in this short article. If any member ever wishes to attend a convention meeting as delegates for the Chattanooga Chapter I will relinquish my seat for a small consideration. The positive news from the District is that the current Gold Medal Quartet and the Bronze Medal Chorus are from our district, for which we can be rightly proud. Dixie has established several new chapters, notably in St. Simons Island, Eatonton, and Columbus, all in Georgia. There are more chapters planned in other states. The district is sponsoring high caliber coaching, calling it a Top Gun School, for quartets who will likely represent us at International competition.

On the negative side, the district lost over \$31,000.00 last year, primarily through poor attendance at COTS, Lake Side Harmony Weekend, and the Birmingham convention. The immediate solutions were to raise district dues from \$13.00 to \$20.00 a year per member, and to urge the district membership to attend these functions, and to add in new members to our chapters.

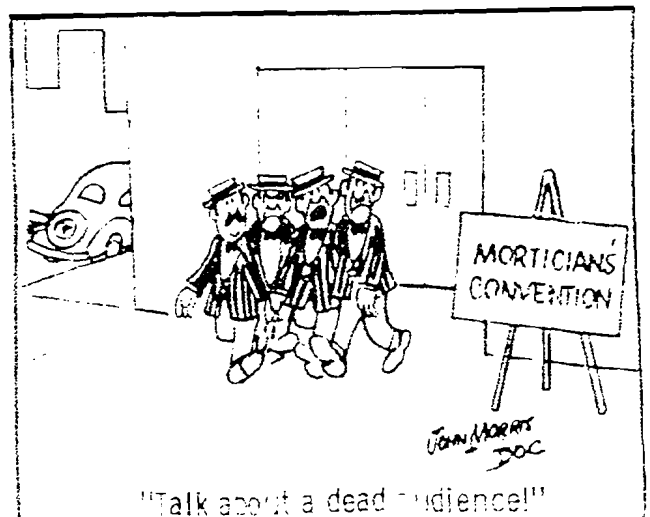
On the national scene, the midwinter conventions are scheduled for River City, California in 2002, Albuquerque in 2003 and Biloxi Mississippi in 2004.

The proposal that competing quartets be allowed to do up to a fourteen minute "show package" for their final competition presentation in place of the normal two songs has apparently been abandoned by the national board of directors because of lack of support within the districts.

All members are urged to join the Founder's Club, who have made a donation or a pledge of \$1,000.00 to the society. This can be paid at the rate of \$200.00 per year for five years, or a direct \$1000.00 donation. The money is placed in an endowment which yields income for providing scholarships for quartets, youth and other efforts to develop the hobby in a younger population.

The upcoming Lake Side Harmony Weekend at Clemson should be very good, as the **Acoustix** will be the headliner quartet and the great **Joe Liles** will be there as a teacher.

Finally, on a local note, the president of the Huntsville chapter approached me about doing a joint show with Nashville in 2002. I think joint shows are a lot of fun for everyone, but do not know why we would have to wait two years. Perhaps Chattanooga, Cleveland, Huntsville and/or Knoxville could do a joint show in the spring of 2001, in preparation for the International Convention in Nashville in July. I would appreciate input from the membership about this project.



It's Your Business
Lamar Owens, Business Manager



It certainly is starting off to be a good year for our chapter. We performed 204 valentines, came in 8th in Greeneville with 1122 points and qualified for fall contest. As a comparison, we were 10th and received 986 points at fall contest in Birmingham. Not too shabby an improvement huh! We already have ten chorus engagements lined up for this "last year of the century" and are working on more. We need to continue our efforts to keep things rolling. If you hear of anyone who would like to book us for an engagement or are just now looking into possible entertainment, put them in touch with us at our chapter number, 855-1947 or have them call me direct at 894-4638. I will appreciate your help.

The 21 of us able to perform for NHC in Rossville, Georgia this past Tuesday the 21st certainly enjoyed the effort. The audience, though not loud, was very appreciative. 21 of us attending was pretty good considering we have been together for 5 straight days. Thanks guys! Listed below are our currently scheduled coming events.

Ft. Ogelthorpe Nursing Center Tuesday, March 28 6:30
Creekside @ Shallowford-Paid Thursday, April 6 6:30
Walk for Life-Gordon Lee High Friday, April 14 6:30
Alexian Village-Paid Tuesday, April 18 7:00
Elderfest-Cohutta Springs-Paid Tuesday, May 9 6:30
NAPFEE Apartments June TBD
Pops in the Park Saturday, July 1 TBD
Summer show-Chattanooga State Saturday, Aug. 19 TBD
86th Infantry Div.-Paid Saturday, Sept. 9 10:00 AM

Paul Blazek is making contact with the symphony orchestra about doing a joint Christmas show but nothing has been worked out yet. If this does not work out, we will try to schedule our own Christmas show. Our public, mostly our families, missed us putting on a Christmas show last year and let some of us know about it. I think we all enjoy a Christmas show and missed it last year!

Selah!



Just Getting Started

By Ron Weaver



What If ...

What if our Chapter President doesn't show up at the next Board meeting? Chances are others will dictate his activities and proceed. Odds are that he would have filled someone else in on his agenda, and life would go on.

What if the Chapter Treasurer isn't able to handle his regular duties along with the next shows ticket sales? You can bet someone would step forward and take some of the load off. A volunteer is not hard to find when the need is there. Ask Pete Jones...Earle Fraser...or let's face it...our entire B.O.D..

What if our Program VP takes the night off? Our Director? Or the Assistant Director? What if it is a sing-out? How are these things handled? Well, it has happened...and we've got thru it. But was it handled the best way possible? Was it the proper procedure? Was it fair to all parties?

We all have our ways to handle this type of situation. Personally, it doesn't matter who is in front, I'm gonna do my best to blend and match. But not everyone is like me. Some fellas need to be directed on every move and cut-off. That's O.K., they deserve that luxury. Some men want to know EXACTLY what we will be singing during a performance. Hey...me too! Some of us don't want to sit in chairs or on risers and rehearse Chorus numbers for some two hours.

Sometimes we seem to be "flying by the seat of our pants" on these issues. I'm sure if you ask some of the leadership they'd say it's not an issue. Paul and others have been "handling" these type of situations, it almost seems like part of the "job". But it's not. There is protocol to follow on all these situations. And it does reflect on the Chapter image.

I know it's easier to let nature take its course, but sometimes it's not in the best interest of the members to do so. Each person with a planned activity should have a back-up plan for someone to help fill in. There should never come a time for the program to become uncomfortable for any member. If Steve misses a rehearsal? Things should go on without a hitch. If Paul wants to skip a performance to see his child play soccer? The audience shouldn't know the difference, and neither should a member.

It's these type of decisions which make for a strong and successful Chapter. It's these type of actions which will make us better. It's the right thing to do. It's the best thing to do. Ever heard the old saying...If you build a nice house, friends will come to visit. If you keep the roof from leaking...they'll want to stay.



Brick Upside Your Head

From the Internet

A young and successful executive was traveling down a neighborhood street, going a bit too fast in his new Jaguar. He was watching for kids darting out from between parked cars and slowed down when he thought he saw something. As his car passed no children appeared, instead, a brick smashed into the Jag's side door! He slammed on the brakes and spun the Jag back to the spot from where the brick had been thrown. He jumped out of the car, grabbed some kid and pushed him up against a parked car, shouting, "What was that all about and who are you? Just what the heck are you doing?" Building up a head of steam, he went on, "That's a new car and that brick you threw is gonna cost a lot of money. Why did you do it?" "Please, mister, please, I'm sorry... I didn't know what else to do!" pleaded the youngster. "I threw the brick because no one else would stop...." Tears were dripping down the boy's chin as he pointed around the parked car. "It's my brother," he said. "He's rolled off the curb and fell out of his wheelchair and I can't lift him up." Sobbing, the boy asked the executive, "Would you please help me get him back into his wheelchair? He's hurt and he's too heavy for me." Moved beyond words, the driver tried to swallow the rapidly swelling lump in his throat. He lifted the young man back into the wheelchair and took out his handkerchief and wiped the scrapes and cuts, checking to see that everything was going to be okay. "Thank you, sir. And God bless you," the grateful said to him. The man watched the little boy push his brother down the sidewalk toward their home. It was along walk back to his Jaguar... a long, slow walk. He never did repair the side door. He kept the dent to remind him not to go through life so fast that someone has to throw a brick at you to get your attention. Life whispers in your soul and speaks to your heart. Sometimes, when you don't have time to listen.... Life throws a brick at your head. It's your choice.

Listen to the whispers of your soul or wait for the brick....

Be A Singer-Bringer!

What are You Leaving Behind ?

Code of Ethics

- # 5: We shall exhibit a spirit of good fellowship toward all members.
- # 7: We shall not use our membership in the Society for personal gain.
- # 10: We shall render all possible altruistic*service through the medium of barbershop harmony.
- * (Altruistic: devoted to the welfare of others..opposed to egotistic,)

The famous French criminologist, Emile Locard, developed what he called the "exchange principle." It stated that any person passing through a room will unknowingly deposit something there and take something away. This has been proved true by modern science. Robert Fulghram extends the "Lucard principle" by stating. Every person passing through this life will unknowingly leave something and take something away. Most of the "something" cannot be seen, heard or numbered. It does not show up in a census. But nothing counts without it." What ever talents we bring as we pass through the "Chattanooga Chapter" will not count unless we strive to live up to, and carry out in our daily lives, the values and ideals we lay claim to.

What are you leaving behind ?

Portions of this text are from an address delivered by James Morgan 111, 33rd Degree

Workday

By Bill Slack

The second workday of the New Millennium for the Chattanooga Choo Choo Chorus was conducted on Saturday, March 4th. Six persons painted the " riser room" entirely white, which is a great idea of decorating. The painters included Benny Malone, Barry Owens, Fred Jesse, Pete Jones, Ronnie Saterfield and Bill Slack. Steve Grubb and Pat Crowe worked diligently at re-erecting the " Wall of Fame " which will greatly improve the looks of our rehearsal facilities. Much thanks to these individuals in getting our home away from home more presentable for visitors and the Belles when they visit.

From COTS

If you always do
 What you've always done
 You'll always get
 What you've always got.

Think about it and then do what's needed to raise
 your level of performance at least one notch.

How Woodshedding can aid your Chapter.....

by Ron Weaver

What exactly is WOODSHEDDING? (And why do it?)

Woodshedding is three individual voices (Tenor, Bari & Bass) harmonizing to a Lead's melody without reference to any written or familiar arrangement. An intensely pleasurable experience for the four singers involved, woodshedding is meant for their ears only rather than for passive enjoyment by general audiences.

The idea of woodshedding is to ring chords rather than "sing songs," so the best "woodshed" melodies strongly imply many Barbershop-7th chords and are readily harmonized by those with a fair sense of our style's chord progressions and the production of overtones. Woodshedders are free to pitch songs where the singing is comfortable.

Woodshedding ISN'T done by more than four singers at a time, except during a group-learning process or when a novice needs to hear Barbershop chords. Woodshedding ISN'T "faking" a fourth part along with three singers who are replicating an existing written Barbershop arrangement. Woodshedding ISN'T singing Polecat songs, tags, or other music that is highly stylized.

For years and years after SPEBSQSA was founded, every song was woodshedded. Written arrangements were not used. In fact, there was quite an uproar around the Society when the first printed arrangements and songbooks were published. Today, the existence of written arrangements is accepted without question. That's good news, as singing written arrangements is one of the fun, valuable things that Barbershoppers can choose to do.

The really good news is that Barbershoppers continue to have the opportunity to participate in the part of our art that got everything started -- woodshedding. The best PART of this really good news is that proper woodshedding is completely central to everything that interested, concerned, active, growing, forward-looking, improvement-minded Barbershoppers could possibly wish to accomplish as they enjoy the totality of their hobby.

With all the demands on your chorus and registered quartet (contests, shows, making money, etc.), what possible good can come to your chapter from instituting a regular program of properly undertaken woodshedding? Here are just a few examples of how any Barbershopper can benefit, keep

involved, and have his full talents recognized:

CHORUS DIRECTORS can identify "guys with an ear" -- men with a heightened awareness of balance and tuning.

CHORUS DIRECTORS will have greater flexibility when switching a man from one section of the chorus to another. The conscientious, regular woodshedder, with his enhanced knowledge of what his new voice-part requires, is more likely to "hit the ground running" and be better sooner in his new role.

CHORUS DIRECTORS and CHAPTER OFFICERS may trust that conscientious, regular woodshedders will be those chapter members who have higher general interest in what Barbershopping has to offer.

CHORUS DIRECTORS and CHAPTER OFFICERS can readily identify a fired-up "mover and shaker" in the chapter -- a promoter of an activity.

QUARTET PERFORMERS can switch voice-parts with more ease and become comfortable in their new voice-part sooner.

NEWER BARBERSHOPPERS will have the chance to "make musical mistakes" without formal correction or censure.

NEWER BARBERSHOPPERS who are exposed to authentic woodshedding may become more motivated to form or join a quartet sooner than otherwise.

NEWER BARBERSHOPPERS will believe that "woodshedding is something I can learn and do." This early confidence will carry over into other learning, other singing, and other areas of general involvement.

Since woodshedding is properly done at softer volumes, WEAKER OR UNTRAINED SINGERS can participate as readily as men who are more vocally robust.

ALL SINGERS get the regular chance to sing and hear melodies and lyrics beyond the average repertoire.

ALL SINGERS get the regular chance to sing other voice-parts, and to hear how they work.

ALL SINGERS not only get to sing their own voice-part, but they also get to hear how their part works.

ALL SINGERS gain the fulfillment of having created "an arrangement of their own" -- totally by ear.

ALL SINGERS gain exposure to forming harmony "by instinct" vs. "singing it off paper." Using their harmonic intuition will help them grow through discovery.

ALL SINGERS get the opportunity to ring chords, and to work on chords until

they do ring. Members who understand that "ringing chords" prefaces "the singing of songs" may rehearse themselves more diligently for public performances.

ALL SINGERS can gain experience in blending vocally with others who have different vocal timbres.

ALL CHAPTER MEMBERS will come to identify melodies that "Barbershop" well vs. melodies that are less compatible.

At Barbershop conventions, ALL SINGERS will possess the capability to harmonize with a wider circle of men, without limitation to "Polecat" repertoire or recorded quartet-champ arrangements.

In an AHSOW environment, ALL MEMBERS will have the chance to sing with (and learn from) some genuine Society experts who grew up woodshedding -- and who know dozens of beautiful, highly appealing melodies.

ALL SINGERS will experience the eye-opening, magical thrill of discovering alternate chord-harmonies that work equally as well as those harmonies normally implied or "expected."



Guest Quartets

DIXIE District is pleased to welcome Saturday Evening Post and Turning Point to our International Preliminary Quartet Contest!

They are competing here because their schedules prevented them from participating in their own district prelims. A quartet who attains a score of 2736 (76 points per judge, per song) in any district prelim will qualify to compete in the International Quartet Contest.

The presence of our guest, out-of-district quartets in this district prelim contest will have no effect on the opportunity of the DIX quartets to qualify. We sincerely hope both guest quartets qualify for our Saturday evening final contest. In any event, the 10 DIX quartets who earn the most points in the Friday night contest will sing in the Saturday evening finals.

It is noteworthy that two of our DIX quartets, "Riptide" and "UltraSounds" also had scheduling conflicts on this weekend and will be competing in the Sunshine District prelims, under these same rules, hoping to score at least 2736 points.

The highest scoring DIX quartet (in this contest or the SUN prelim contest) will automatically qualify to represent DIX at the Kansas City International in July of 2000. In addition, any quartet scoring at least 2736 (76 points per song, per judge) will also qualify for Kansas City.

GOOD LUCK TO ALL! We expect DIX, JAD, and RMD to be well represented in Kansas City!

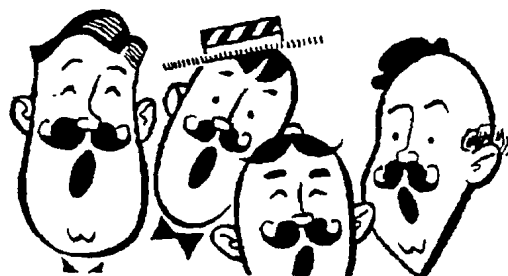


Your Dixie District is leading the way with several innovative programs. We have our own web page at www.ddspebs.org; the District officers use email to discuss business; our Directory is maintained in a database, soon with quarterly updates available on disk; credit card processing is used for registration and barber-shop shop; and our CSLT Coaches program is highly successful.

Gene Fegely

DIXIE DISTRICT HALL OF FAME

- 1994 The Confederates
(George Evans, Dave LaBonte, Bill "Buzz" Busby, Wally Singleton)
- 1994 The Dignitaries
(John Ribble, Gil Oxendine, Tom Prince Jack Henley)
- 1994 Don Hawkins
- 1995 Sam Breedon
- 1995 Melvin "Skinny" Harris
- 1995 R.H. "Sev" Severance
- 1996 Sam Haney
- 1997 Dick deMontmollin
- 1997 Charlie McCann
- 1997 Jim Warner
- 1998 Bill Hafley
- 1998 Tom Schlinkert
- 1999 John Dawson
- 1999 Charlie Rose
- 1999 FRED
(Jared Carlson, Rick LaRosa, Clay Hine Joe Clay)



Do The Write Thing

HELP YOUR EDITOR WITH A
NEWS ITEM FOR THE
NEXT ISSUE

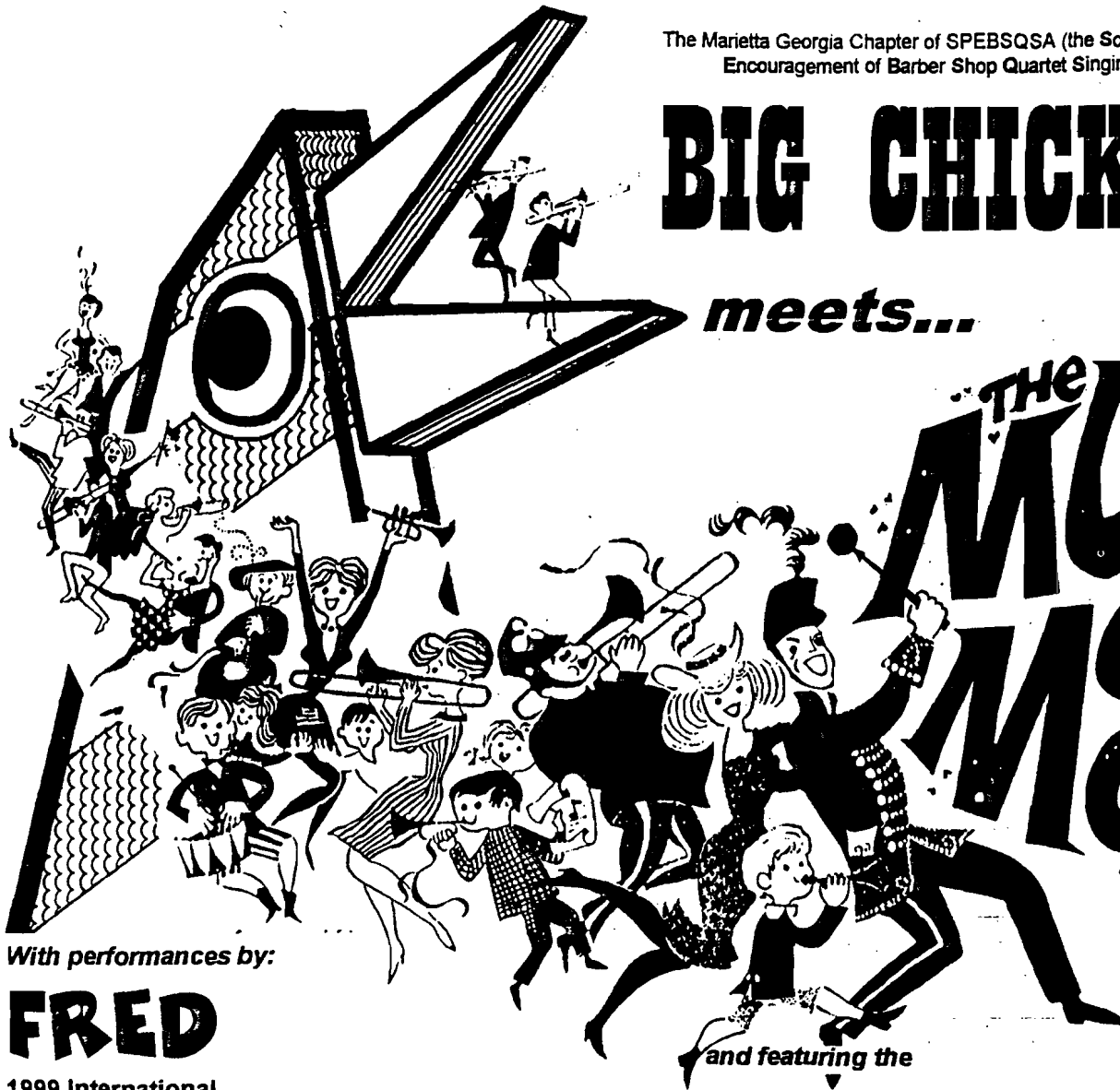
Like to Go ? Earle Fraser is getting up a group if you are interested. Gotta be a great show!
Two International Quartet Champions plus the 3rd place medalist Chorus.

The Marietta Georgia Chapter of SPEBSQSA (the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc.) presents

BIG CHICKEN

meets...

THE MUSIC MAN



With performances by:

FRED

1999 International
Quartet Champions

and special guest quartet:

Gas House Gang

1993 International
Quartet Champions

and featuring the

Big Chicken Chorus

Dixie District Chorus Champions

and International Competitors since 1989

3rd Place Medalist Chorus in 1999 International Competition

Rialto Center for the Performing Arts - Atlanta

Intersection of Forsyth and Luckie Streets (A few blocks south of the Westin Peachtree Plaza Hotel - see map). Convenient parking available

Friday, May 5
8:00 PM

Saturday, May 6
3:00 PM Matinee

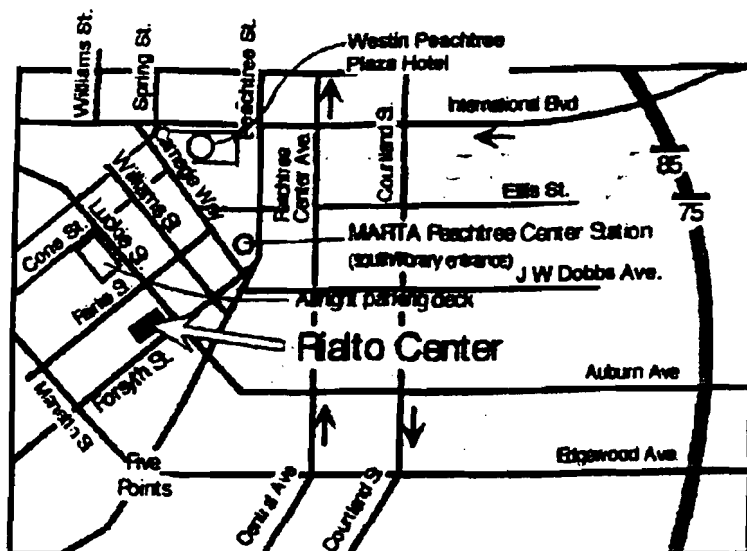
Saturday, May 6
8:00 PM

The Rialto Center for the Performing Arts is located at the corner of Forsyth and Luckie streets in downtown Atlanta. The Allright Parking Deck at 108 Luckie Street is the official parking lot for the Rialto.

DIRECTIONS:

If you are traveling northbound on the 75/85 connector, exit at Central Ave. and follow to Auburn Ave. Turn left onto Auburn Ave. and as you cross Peachtree St., it becomes Luckie St. When you cross Forsyth St., the Rialto is on your left. Go one block further and make a left into the Allright Parking Deck.

If you are traveling southbound on the 75/85 connector, exit at Courtland St. and follow to Auburn Ave. Turn right onto Auburn Ave. and as you cross Peachtree St., it becomes Luckie Street. When you cross Forsyth Street, the Rialto is on your left. Go one block further and make a left into the Allright Parking Deck.



FRED

As you can tell by the name, FRED is anything but your typical Barbershop Quartet. In fact, from their distinctive sound and unique sense of humor to the speed in which they have risen to the top of the craft, very little about FRED is normal. FRED was less than one year old when they won the 1991 Dixie District Quartet Championship. In 1999, FRED won the Barbershop Quartet Gold Medal at the International Convention of the SPEBSQSA, Inc.

In addition to these milestones, what FRED is proudest of is their tradition of entertaining. The Quartet has performed extensively across the United States and around the entire world for a wide variety of corporate and public audiences. They combine a fine-tuned mix of traditional and comic songs that touches everyone, even those who don't like to be touched! FRED has also completed two unique recordings of their now popular comedic and traditional songs (tapes and CD's are available).

The Gas House Gang

In the 1930's The St. Louis Cardinals baseball team was nicknamed "The Gas House Gang" to describe the players' fiery attitude toward the game and their fun-loving style of play. In 1987 a quartet from the St. Louis area chose the name to match its own personality. Since that time, the foursome's energetic singing style and diverse repertoire have proven the appropriateness of the title to people across North America and Europe. After winning the 1988 Central States District Competition in their first attempt, they began a steady climb up the International Competition ladder which culminated in Calgary, Alberta, Canada, where they were awarded the 1993 International Quartet Championship with the highest point total ever scored on the International stage.

The Gas House Gang has performed in 42 states and has sung in such diverse locales as Hawaii, England, Ireland, Sweden, Holland, Australia, New Zealand, Germany and New York City's Carnegie Hall. They have been seen nation-wide on the PBS special, "Voices in Harmony," on NBC's Today Show, and have been heard world-wide on BBC radio.

The BIG CHICKEN CHORUS

The Big Chicken Chorus, under the direction of Clay Hine, has entertained audiences throughout the Southeast and has performed in San Francisco, Louisville, Miami, Pittsburgh, New Orleans, Salt Lake City, Calgary (Canada), Indianapolis, Atlanta and Anaheim. It has also performed in Harrogate, England as special guests for the British Association's of Barbershop Singers national convention.

The chapter and chorus was formed in 1986 and has adopted an enthusiastic program that includes music education, participation in Society competitions, youth outreach, and service to community, in addition to staging two annual shows and the pleasure of performing. As Dixie District Champions for 11 consecutive years (from 1989 to 1999) they have competed at the international level from 1990 to 1999. They currently rank #3 internationally, and will be competing for the gold medal in Kansas City in July.

Performers with whom they have shared the stage include such distinguished musicians as The Four Freshmen, The Swingle Singers, Rockapella, The Persuasions, The Chordettes, The King's Singers, The St. Louis Symphony Orchestra and Victor Borge. The Gang made its theatrical debut in front of over 70,000 people as the barbershop quartet in "The Music Man" at The Muny, one of the world's largest outdoor theaters. They have produced three recordings which have consistently been top sellers in the Primarily A Cappella catalog, and were recently awarded three nominations by the Contemporary A Cappella Society of America, including Best Barbershop Song, Studio Album of the Year, and Artist of the Year.

The coming months will find them in the recording studio working on their 4th and 5th recordings and next August (2000) they are doing a 10 day tour in Russia! Kipp Buckner - tenor, Rich Knight - lead, Rob Henry - baritone, and Jim Henry - bass, hope that you too will enjoy their brand of A Cappella Harmony at its "Rough-and-Tumble" Best"



Campbell's Labels for Education

What to Save and Bring to Chapter Meetings

<u>PRODUCT</u>	<u>PACKAGE</u>	<u>WHAT TO SAVE</u>
Campbell's Beans Products	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Chunky Soups	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Condensed Soups	Can	Front Label Panel
BONUS BRAND! Campbell's Condensed Soups (26 oz.)	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Soups in 24oz. Glass Jars or Simply Home Soups	Glass Jar	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Healthy Request Soups	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Home Cookin' Soups	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Low Sodium Soups	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Microwave Soups	Tub	Plastic Lid /Cap
Campbell's Soup & Recipe Mixes	Carton	Bottom Pane with UPC Symbol
Campbell's Tomato Juices	Aluminum Can	Cash Register tape w/product name circled
Campbell's Tomato Juices	Bottle	Lid
Campbell's Tomato Juices	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Healthy Request Tomato Juices	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Healthy Request Tomato Juices	Bottle	Lid
Franco-American Gravies	Can	Front Label Panel
Franco-American SpaghettiO's and Pastas	Can	Front Label Panel
Pace Picante Sauces, Queso, and Thick & Chunky Salsa Jar		Lid
Pace Squeezable Picante	Bottle	Lid
Pepperidge Farm Breads, Croutons, Rolls, Stuffing	Bag/Carton	UPC Symbol
Pepperidge Farm Cookies, Crackers, Goldfish and Snack Mixes.	Bag/Carton	UPC Symbol
Pepperidge Farm Frozen Garlic Breads, Cakes, Turnovers, Dumplings, and Puff Pastry	Carton	UPC Symbol
Pepperidge Farm Soups	Can	Front Label Panel
BONUS BRAND! Prego (48 oz.) Spaghetti Sauces	Jar/bottle	Front Label Panel
Prego Spaghetti Sauces	Jjar/bottle	Front Label Panel
Swanson Broths	Can	Front Label Panel
Swanson Broths	Carton	UPC symbol
Swanson Poultry	Can (Paper Label)	Front Label Panel
Swanson Poultry	Can (Litho Label)	Cash Register tape w/ product name circled
V8 100% Vegetable Juices	32 oz. Glass Bottle	Lid
V8 100% Vegetable Juices	10 oz. Glass Bottle	Front Label Panel
V8 100% Vegetable Juices	Can	Front Label Panel
V8 Healthy Request 100% Vegetable Juices	Bottle	Front Label Panel
V8 Healthy Request 100% Vegetable Juices	Can	Front Label Panel
V8 Splash	Bottle	Front Label Panel
V8 Splash	Aluminum Can	Cash Register tape w/ product name circled



CAMPBELL'S FOOD SERVICE PRODUCTS

Campbell's Foodservice Soups (50 oz.)	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Chef's Kettle Soups (50 oz.)	Can	Front Label Panel
Swanson Foodservice Broths (49.5 oz)	Can	Front Label Panel
V8 Splash (Full cases only —24 cans/case)	Aluminum Can	2-code numbers from Outer Case

Campbell's, Chef's Kettle, Franco-American, Goldfish, Healthy Request, Home Cookin', Pace, Pepperidge Farm, Prego, Simply Home, SpaghettiOs, Swanson, V8, and V8 Splash are all registered trademarks of Campbell Soup Co.



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Past President	Bernard Wheeler	706-638-4013
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Music V.P.	Fred Jesse	706-375-5935
Program V.P.	Steve Grubb	423-894-1833
Treasurer	Bob Stansbury	423-894-7760
Secretary	David Reynolds	423-875-2674
Assistant Secretary	Earle Fraser	423-892-7630
Business Manager	Lamar Owens	423-894-8559
Bulletin Editor	Pat Crowe	706-375-3878
Chapter Development	Shannon McConnell	706-638-8828
Publicity V.P.	W.C.Strickland	706-866-2567
Heartspring	Brooks Gist	423-892-7191
Librarian	Barry Owens	423-893-8347
Board Member	J.W.Kirk	706-861-3135
Board Member	Ron Satterfield	706-861-1351
Equipment Manager	Pete Jones	706-861-2113
Choo Choo Belles	Audrey Gist	423-892-7191



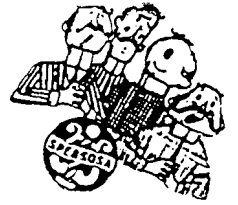
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Forwarding and address correction requested

TO:





The Blender

The Official Publication of the Chattanooga Chapter of the
Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America

Chattanooga, Tennessee

Dixie District

Volume 9 No. 4, Apr. 2000

The Chapter meets every Monday, 7:00 PM, All Saints Academy, 310 8th. St. Chattanooga, TN.

Happy Easter



"Keep the Whole World Singing"





**HAVE YOU HEARD
THE NEWS?**



Blender Deadline



President

NO REPORT



Treasurer

NO REPORT



Music Director

NO REPORT



Publicity V.P.

NO REPORT

May 22



Music V.P.



Chapter Development

NO REPORT



Quartet Activities

NO REPORT



Program V.P.

NO REPORT



Secretary



Business Manager

NO REPORT



HEARTSPRING

REPORT



Choo Choo Bell

NO REPORT



A Note From the Risers

Chattanooga
Choo Choo Chorus
Box 21326
Chattanooga, TN.
37424-0326



Birthdays

Margaret Green/Crowe	May 3
Chuck Wilson	May 20
Nancy Owens	May 22

Anniversaries

Don and Carol Hausmann	May 12
Ron and Mary Weaver	May 21
Shannon and Cyndi McConnell	May 23
Wayne and Lynn Pruett	May 24
Paul and Lindy Blazek	May 25



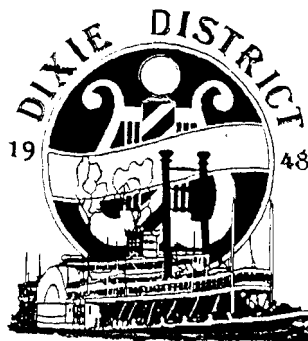
Universal Fishermans Lingo

Submitted by Pete Jones

"Hiyamac"
 "Lobuddy"
 "Binearlong?"
 "Coplours"
 "Catchanne?"
 "Goddafew"
 "Kindarthey?"
 "Basencarp"
 "Ennysizetoom?"
 "Cuplapon"
 "Hittinhard?"
 "Sordalike"
 "Wahchoozin?"
 "Gobbawurms"
 "Fishinonaboddum?"
 "Rydonaboddum"
 "Whatchadrinkin?"
 "Jugajimbeam"
 "Igoddago"
 "Tubad"
 "Seeyaroun"
 "Yeahtakideezy"
 "Gudluk"

Dealing with Stress

Picture yourself near a stream. Birds are softly chirp-
 ing in the crisp cool mountain air.
 You are in total seclusion from the hectic place
 called "The World" The soothing sound of a gentle
 waterfall fills the air with a cascading serenity.
 The water is clear.
 You can easily make out the face of the the person
 you are holding under water.
 Feeling better ?



DISTRICT CALENDAR OF EVENTS

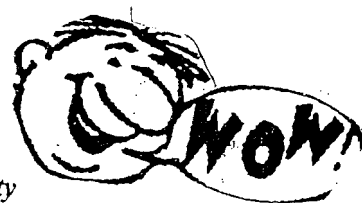
2000

May	6	Knox County Metro, TN – Show
	20	Hickory NC – Show
	20	Fayetteville, GA – Show
	20	Memphis TN – Show
	20	Jackson MS – Show
June	10	Stone Mountain, GA – Show
	10	Wilmington, NC – Show
July	2 - 9	International Convention – Kansas City
July 30 – August 6		Harmony College / Directors College – St. Joseph, Mo.
October	6 - 8	Dixie Fall Convention – Knoxville, TN
November	4	Charlotte NC – Show

2001

March	16-18	Dixie Spring Convention — International Prelims — Greenville, SC
July	1 - 8	SPEBSQSA International Convention — Nashville, TN
October	5 - 7	Dixie Fall Convention — Chattanooga, TN

Most Improved !



Congratulations are in order for the "*Scenic City Chorus*". The Chattanooga chapter of the "*Sweet Adelines International*"

At their recent Region 23 convention and competition, held at the Tivoli Theatre. The group competed along with 15 quartets and 14 choruses. The 35 ladies picked up the "Most Improved Chorus Award"..... **WAY TO GO LADIES!**

In addition the group's new director, **Rebecca Randolph**, won the Novice Directors Award.

Two of the visiting choruses used our meeting rooms for rehearsals *

I was hoping for an article from one of our guys who chauffeured them around town, but no luck.

**Editors note: Which one of them got my water bottle??*





Something to Crowe About

By Pat Crowe, Editor

Midnight, Monday April 17: Just back from a couple of weeks in sunny Florida.

Came back to cool weather. By the time we hit Atlanta, I was ready to pull over and shed the shorts for long pants.

Turning on the computer there were 124 e-mail's waiting. Great I thought. The Blender deadline was Monday the 17th and the guys hadn't forgotten me. What a bloody dreamer! Not one iota of news!

Thursday April 20 Board meeting: I informed all present that I would extend the deadline till the 24th.

Well it's official James Coulter has moved out of the land of "Corn Huskers". He is now gracing the risers of the **Alexandria Harmonizers**. You can expect to see him with that group in Nashville at next years International.

Too late for publication: Got a note from Barry Owens extending an invitation to the Cleveland Chapters guest night on Thursday April 27th.

As of this date I haven't received any feedback on our guest night of April 10th. My understanding is there were 12 guests. Sure would be nice if I could get results of the evening. (Or of the singouts performed during my absence.) Checking the visitors sign-in book, I don't see the dates posted, so am hesitant to list the names.

Please have your guest post the date in guest book!

HEY! Chapter officers and board members, Is this a good time to bring up the previously discussed subject of an official "GREETER" HMMMM??

The committee assigned to procure our new casual attire for summer performances, met at Lamar Owens on the 25th. The group consisted of Stansbury, Strickland, JW Kirk, Crowe and Owens. Much effort and time was put in by Lamar getting the information together.

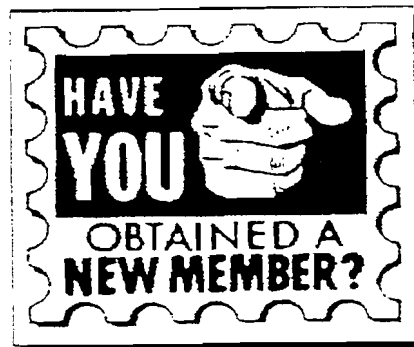
A presentation will be made at the next chapter meeting. This will not be a discussion period. This is what has been decided by the committee.



A vote of thanks is owed Earle Fraser for his getting the group together for the Marietta Show. He has put his money out. So don't back out on him!

Special Olympics was held on Saturday May 29th. Thanks to all those who showed.

This months BLENDER is a week late due to the editor being out of town. Thanks to the two who submitted articles this past week.



The Old Goat Meets the Big Chicken When.....

Big Chicken Meets The Music Man

Our "OLD MAPMAKER" has got it togrther!
Saturday May 6th. The Earle Frasers Follies will hit
the road for the big city. Twenty-three, plus some
probables, have committed to let the world know
they'll follow Earle the Pearl any where.
The group leaves around 11:30 AM.



Lost a part of my Life:

By A Parched Pat Crowe

Oh where oh where has my water bottle gone?
Oh where oh where can it be!
Part of my life for seven or more year.
Has it been stolen?... is a fear.
Before leaving for Greenville, it was left by my chair
With hope on my return it would still be there.
Between then and now the room was used
I do hope our generosity was not abused.
I point not a finger, or utter a curse...
When the culprit is caught, I'll do much worse!
But where oh where has my water bottle gone?



**Praise Him with loud cymbals;
Praise Him with clashing cymbals!
Let everything that has breath praise
the Lord.** Psalm 150: 5-6

Music committee take note. It's not just me !
The following article is from "*The Chorister*"
Traverse City, Michigan chapter bulletin. Elbert Ford,
editor.

We have brought this same view up on more than
one occasion.

As VP Neil Nugent states: "The joy we give is the
joy we get."

Insomnia Speaks

By VP Music and Program Neil Nugent

I'm sitting here at 3:15 in the morning because I
woke up thinking about singing. I know we're
supposed to be excited about this hobby, but losing
sleep over it is something else!

The **FOUR MAN FISHING TACKLE CHOIR** participated
in a gospel sing last Sunday evening. What an
uplifting time! The excitement of everyone there
was evident in the way they were singing. We were
all proud to be a part of the program, but we came
away feeling like we were the ones who had been
entertained.

When you think of this hobby of barbershop singing,
what do you think of as its parameters? Perhaps we
all let our definitions confine our scope. There is so
much wonderful music that we can do well. Let's go
beyond traditional barbershop. How about the
music of the Mills Brothers? Modern harmonies
such as Java Jive and many more, sure ring well in
the ears of those who recall Nat King Cole and
Count Basie.

We have lots of arrangements from the world of
Dixieland and they sound darn good. How about all
the Irish music set to our style, such as Beer Barrel
Polka? In recent years many of the popular folk
songs of the 60's have turned up in barbershop
arrangements. The **GAS HOUSE GANG** even does
some pretty nifty modern jazz arrangements.

It's all four-part a cappella music that lifts the spirit
of the listener, just as surely as the gospel songs we
were doing last Sunday. And isn't that what we
need to do? I don't have to tell you about the feeling
we get when we really connect with our audience.
The joy we give is the joy we get.

I know, I know, there are some who insist we should
keep it barbershop. I agree, let's not forget who
brought us to this dance, but let's show the world
that this joy of singing comes to us all from many
directions. We have the unique opportunity to touch
the hearts of the young and old alike. Let's give them
that *good old gospel feeling*, no matter what kind of
music we sing. It's all a blessing.



JUMPIN' TO CONCLUSIONS ?

Overheard: " How come the Fort Oglethorpe nursing home gig of March 28th was canceled? We had a show of 19 hands! "

Overheard : "Seems strange.. there were 16 from a group on stage in Greenville... and they placed 7th ! I guess there was a lack of confidence in our 8th place finish to handle this one."

Overheard : " Thats nothing.. two other choruses performed with only 12 and 13 on the risers. "

" Could be someone didn't want to? "

Conclusion: The patients were not the only losers!

VLQ

March showed the VLQ in there usual mode. Singing and eating

On the 9th it was at St.Elmo United Methodist in Chattanooga and on the 28th. Up I-75 to the 1st Baptist Church in Ooltewah TN.

The food was outstanding. Buffet Bob would have be in seventh heaven. We got to get his bass voice to join us.

There was a good audience at both. They really don't loosen up till we break into "Keep it Simple" and Niles gives us those fancy dance steps. This is when you see those smiles and hear the laughter. Some of them don't get a chance to laugh too much. But when you see those grins come over their faces thats what it's all about.

When Sam approached the membership to get the VLQ project rolling. He stressed, fun and entertainment was to be our goal..

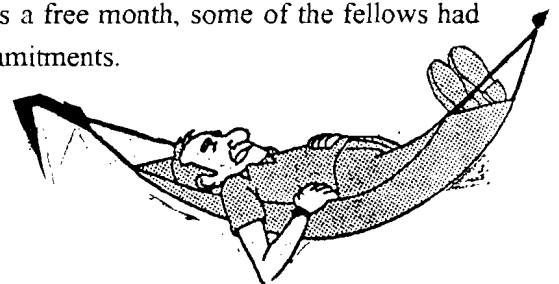
To me that meant, NOT getting out there and performing like an automaton. (Which our friend Webster defines as "a person who acts in a monotonous, routine manner, without active intelligence." To me it meant, getting out of the box, getting animated, as one would before family and friends. It meant to entertain, not just mouth a few songs take a bow and leave... Man thats boring!! Shouldn't there be a little patter? audience participation? or skits? ...

Like ah.. to "ENTERTAIN ? "

I brought this up as I have heard these thoughts expressed by more than one. But they seem reticent to to bring them forth.

At present we have two upcoming performances. That is on May 16th at Hutcheson Hospitals Parkside and the 18th at 1st Baptist Church of Rossville GA. It's in the evening , 7:00pm.

April was a free month, some of the fellows had other commitments.



Tower Bridge Pictures for your Computer

From Sherry Fowler

You can download two beautiful pictures of Tower Bridge in London at www.webshots.com

On the left of the screen, you can see a list of groups of pictures to use as screensavers and wallpaper. Click on one of them. If you want to download the entire collection for that group, click on "Download this entire photo collection>" If you want certain ones, click on one of them then you can select "Click to download photo." It only takes a few seconds.

The only difference in the two Tower Bridges is the angle: one looking left and one from the right. They can be found by selecting "Travel" from the list on the left the "Cultral Icons." The other one is in "World Bridges " group.



which we will do.

Do you have any comments ? Thoughts about the music program ? Want some help with your quartet? Want to sing ? Need a Tenor ? Ask me.

FRED JESSE

Ferd's Words

Have you heard of the expression " The Devil is in the Details? "

I was listening to a music discussion. It noted that the performer must pay attention to the details.

Without that, the audience may not know why, but they feel uneasy about the performer and the performance. And they may not know why.

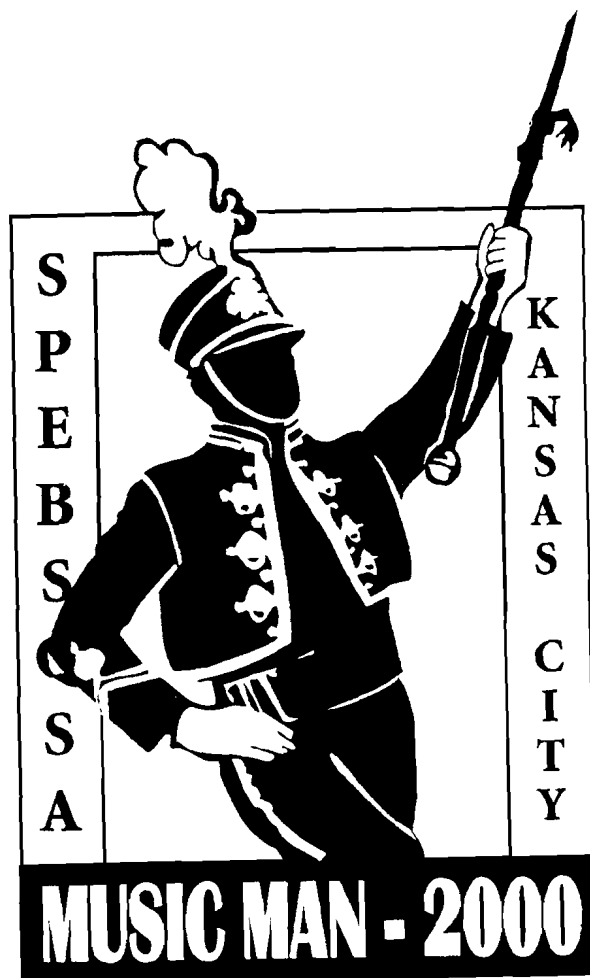
We are performers. We want our audience to feel comfortable with our performance. We do not intend to, but a poor performance is detected by the listener, even though they may speak to you later about how they enjoyed it.

We have a show to do in August. Can I count on your help ? We need quartets for the medleys. There is a sign-up sheet posted. Put your name on a song you want to sing. We will get quartets with a lot of guys that way. Did you enjoy singing Valentines ? Get your quartet signed up for a song.

Most of these quartet songs are short, and only a few lines, and easy to learn. I don't want chapter quartets to take the place of your group, so sign-up now.

If you would like to sing a complete song, apart from the medleys, let me know what the song is, so we can find a place for it.

Interested in the results of the song survey? Only 16 of nearly 40 active members responded. The results printed in this issue of the Blender.. I am sorry so few wanted their opinion known, even though it was (or could be) anonymous. Some signed the survey. Over 60% of the repertoire list received at least 14 of the possible 16 votes, and 10 got all 16 votes. The church package got fewer votes, only 3 of 10 got all 16 votes, none more. We do need to energize the church package and select some new songs,



SONG LIST

The following is a list of songs we have sung in the past both as show songs and part of our performance package. Please look over this list and mark the songs you like to sing and keep, and there is a place to add others. We also need to establish a church package that is new and will contribute to the worship services in churches where we sing. Please add songs to this list too. Here is your chance to express your likes, and possible additions to our chorus repertoire. The show for this year will include songs in the special list below, and others that are new or added to the lists.

REPERTOIRE SONGS

16 RESPONDENTS
AS OF 4/17/00

CHURCH PACKAGE

KEEP?	TITLE
<u>15</u>	WHEN YOU AND I WERE YOUNG MAGGIE
<u>16</u>	SIMPLE MELODY
<u>12</u>	I LOVE A JOLSON SONG
<u>15</u>	ALWAYS
<u>15</u>	GOD BLESS AMERICA
<u>13</u>	CHATTANOOGA CHOO CHOO
<u>16</u>	BATTLE HYMN OF THE REPUBLIC
<u>12</u>	OLD FASHIONED GIRL
<u>16</u>	DIXIE
<u>10</u>	OH! YOU BEAUTIFUL DOLL
<u>14</u>	DARKNESS ON THE DELTA
<u>14</u>	LULU'S BACK IN TOWN
<u>14</u>	RADIO
<u>16</u>	MY WILD IRISH ROSE
<u>10</u>	LOOKOUT WORLD
<u>16</u>	MOTHER MACHREE
<u>12</u>	WELCOME BACK TO DIXIE LAND
<u>9</u>	SIDE BY SIDE
<u>11</u>	DARKTOWN STRUTTER'S BALL
<u>9</u>	ALEXANDER'S RAGTIME BAND
<u>11</u>	ALL ABOARD FOR DIXIE LAND
<u>13</u>	STAR SPANGLED BANNER
<u>16</u>	HEART OF MY HEART
<u>16</u>	OLD FOLKS AT HOME
<u>16</u>	SWEET AND LOVELY
<u>16</u>	I LOVE YOU TRULY
<u>16</u>	LET ME CALL YOU SWEETHEART
<u>15</u>	DOWN OUR WAY
<u>13</u>	SWEET, SWEET ROSES OF MORN
<u>15</u>	KEEP THE WHOLE WORLD SINGING
<u>14</u>	YOU'RE AS WELCOME AS THE FLOWERS IN MAY

19 31 TOTAL
14+ VOTES OTHERS TO ADD (AT LEAST 2 VOTES)

KEEP?	TITLE
<u>14</u>	AMAZING GRACE
<u>9</u>	ALL HAIL THE POWER OF JESUS NAME
<u>14</u>	NEARER MY GOD TO THEE
<u>14</u>	IRISH BLESSING
<u>12</u>	I BELIEVE
<u>7</u>	LEANING ON THE EVERLASTING ARMS
<u>9</u>	THERE'S A MEETING HERE TONIGHT
<u>10</u>	WHEN THERE'S LOVE AT HOME
<u>6</u>	STAND UP, STAND UP FOR JESUS
<u>7</u>	DADDY SANG BASS
<u>3</u>	10
14+ VOTES	OTHERS TO ADD (OVER 1 VOTE)

GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS
How GREAT THOU ART

NEW SHOW SONGS

EARLY AMERICAN MEDLEY
AMERICAN REVOLUTION MEDLEY
MINSTREL MONTAGE
CIVIL WAR MEDLEY

BACK IN THE OLD ROUTINE, (WHATEVER HAPPENED TO THE OLD SONGS,
WAIT TILL THE SUN SHINES NELLIE, WHEN YOU WISH UPON A STAR,
MY MAMMY, TEN FEET OFF THE GROUND, FROM THE FIRST HELLO,
FORGIVE ME, BRING BACK THOSE VAUDEVILLE DAYS

THANKS, FRED JESSE

update

news from spebsqsa headquarters

April 2000



The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc.

6315 Harmony Lane
Kenosha, WI 53143-5199
(262) 653-8440
(800) 876-SING

fax (262) 654-4048
(Music, Marketing, Executive offices)
fax (262) 654-5552
(Membership, Conventions, Merchandise,
Harmony Foundation offices)

update@spebsqsa.org
www.spebsqsa.org/update

Coming events



July 2-9, 2000
International Convention
Kansas City, Missouri
(800) 876-SING x 8462
convention@spebsqsa.org
www.spebsqsa.org/
kansascity



July 30-August 6, 2000
Missouri Western
State College
St. Joseph, Mo.
(800) 876-SING x 8551
HCDC@spebsqsa.org
www.spebsqsa.org/hcdc

January 21-28, 2001
Midwinter Convention
Jacksonville, Florida
(800) 876-SING x 8462
convention@spebsqsa.org

Convention housing reservations online

The housing reservation forms are now available from the SPEBSQSA web site at spebsqsa.org, and from the convention site at spebsqsa.org/kansascity.

Users may now download the housing forms that will appear in the forthcoming March/April issue of *The Harmonizer* in Acrobat PDF format.

-OR-

Reserve hotel rooms now online using the Passkey.com service, which manages convention housing for SPEBSQSA.

You may send fax orders to 312-705-2562, or phone questions to 800-667-9142. These are the official contacts for all housing orders. Please do not call Harmony Hall with housing questions.

Get off the dime

How is your chapter using the Harmony Foundation General Fund 2000 campaign slogan, "Brother, can you spare a dime?" Have your members made a commitment to support our important service projects by contributing a dime a day to the Harmony Foundation General Fund?

SingAmerica and SingCanada grants have encouraged thousands of children across North America to sing. Dozens of kids receive partial scholarships at Heartspring. The story of barbershop harmony is carried far and wide through the Heritage Hall Museum. All of this is possible because of Barbershoppers' contributions to the Harmony Foundation General Fund.

Every chapter donation, every quartet donation and every member's donation will make a difference. A Harmony Foundation pin is sent to every individual who makes a \$25 or greater donation. Each chapter can win a Harmony Foundation award if its total annual giving equals \$25 or greater per member. But the real prize is the difference Barbershoppers are making in the world. So, "Brother, can you spare a dime?"

Father/Son/Grandson Chorus reaches capacity

The Father/Son/Grandson chorus is now filled with 300 singers. We'll not be accepting additional singers to this chorus. The current listing of singers is as follows: 49 tenors, 104 leads, 60 baritones, and 87 basses. Ought to be an awesome sound!

A rehearsal is scheduled Friday from 8 to 10 a.m., location TBA.

Order music and learning tapes (Stock no. KC2000) from the Harmony Marketplace, 800-876-7464 x8410.

Sing4Mom.com is now available for chapter use

Because YOU demanded it, the Society is pleased to offer a referral service for Mother's Day and Father's Day on its web site.

Sing4Mom.com and Sing4Dad.com debut in 2000 with a familiar registration and referral process that will make it easy for chapters and quartets to build on their Singing Valentines successes for additional revenue, image-building and quartet development opportunities in no time flat. More than 500 units participated in Singing Valentines 2000, with thousands of referrals generated from the SingingValentines.com service.

New to the Sing4Mom.com service is a specific notation for groups making deliveries via telephone. With Mother's Day falling on a Sunday, it's not easy for quartets to spend an entire day racing around town on deliveries. A few hours spent at a telephone could readily yield some handsome rewards, though.

Singing Valentines favorites "I Love You Truly" and "Story of The Rose (Heart of My Heart)" work well for Mother's / Father's Day serenades. Additionally, many performers have appropriate "mother" songs in their repertoires, such as "M-OT-H-E-R."

The Society will provide advertising support for Sing4Mom.com through web banners and press releases to major media, and will also rely on participants to drive traffic through ad banners on their own sites. See the Sing4Mom.com web site for details.

Thinking about a tax deduction?

One of the wisest ways to gain a charitable tax deduction is to transfer a capital asset to a charity. The direct transfer of appreciated securities such as stocks or bonds can provide you with a sizable tax deduction and avoid the capital gains tax otherwise assessed on the security. It is also a way to make a charitable gift with no "out-of-pocket" expense. With the success of the current markets, a stock transfer may be a wonderful way for you to provide a generous gift to a charity that you love, and gain a deduction on your 2000 federal income tax. Certain restrictions may apply and we suggest that you obtain professional counsel before making such a gift.

Harmony Foundation can assist you with security transfers to benefit SPEBSQSA. For more information, please contact Foundation Endowment Development Director Larry Gilhousen at 800-876-7464 x 8448.

Working together, we can help future generations Sing ... *for life!*

Great song has many roles and uses

Does your chorus know the wonderful song, "Teach The Children To Sing"? Not only is it the motto song for our Society's service project, SingAmerica and SingCanada, it is also a wonderful song to use when performing with a youth chorus or choir.

Many chapters are now inviting a local high school or civic, children's or young adults' group to perform on their annual show. This is not only a way to support youth music in the community, it also helps build a new audience for the chapter. "Teach The Children To Sing" is a natural finale for the combined groups. There is even a mixed voice arrangement available for the number. Contact the song's composer Joe Liles at Society Headquarters for details.

Part of the Society's vision is to, "... lead the cause of encouraging vocal music in our schools and communities." Nothing captures the heart of this vision like "Teach The Children To Sing." You owe it to yourself to make it part of your repertoire.

L&R opinion: Don't mix politics and barbershop

In response to a member inquiry, the SPEBSQSA Laws & Regulations Committee recently published this opinion regarding barbershop units relationship to political advertising, campaigns and activities.

Chapters may not accept political advertisements in their show programs or other publications. Organizations (such as the Society) which are tax exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code are specifically prohibited by IRS laws, rules and regulations from engaging, in any substantial manner, in activities for carrying on propaganda, or attempting to influence legislation, or participating in any political campaign. (The Society's chapters, districts and other officially recognized subordinate units are included under the Society's exemption by virtue of a "blanket exemption" ruling issued by the IRS to the Society.) Many state laws applicable to non-profit organizations have similar - and in some cases more restrictive - provisions.

Paragraph 7e of the Society Statements of Policy specifically prohibits paid or unpaid appearances (performances) at political functions in support of a candidate. It is our opinion that including political advertising in a show program is a similar activity, in that it may give the appearance of an endorsement of the candidate, and (even if it is identified as a paid political advertisement) it may be deemed to be "participating" in a political campaign. L&R is of the opinion, however, that a chapter may accept an ad from someone who happens to be a political candidate, using his/her name, but with no reference to any political contest - just like an ad (or "best wishes", "compliments of..." etc.) from any non-candidate.

In addition, Canon 8 of the Society Code of Ethics prohibits "the introduction of political, religious or other similar controversial issues into the affairs of the Society." It might be argued that the mere inclusion of a political ad in a show program does not "introduce political issues into the affairs of the Society" - particularly if the opportunity was open to all candidates - but L&R believes that Canon 8 also supports its position on show program ads - particularly in light of the tax exemption limitations.

By contrast (and for your information), L&R has given its opinion that a chapter chorus (or quartet) may make an appearance at the opening ceremony for a political

convention to sing the National Anthem (as a paid or unpaid civic activity), and/or to provide entertainment as paid performers (being careful not to include any material which could be considered to be partisan). We cautioned the chapter that its members (in uniform or otherwise identified as chapter/chorus members) should also enter and leave the hall as a unit, avoiding any appearance of being participants in the official convention activity - other than as performers/entertainers. In this case, L&R believes the activity is permitted, so long as there is no suggestion of "endorsement" of candidate(s), party, or issue(s), and no favoritism is shown.

One final related caution: As previously noted, organizations (such as the Society, its chapters, districts and other subordinate units) holding an exemption under Section 501(c)(3) of the IRS Code are also generally prohibited from engaging, in any substantial manner, in activities for carrying on propaganda, or attempting to influence legislation. For that reason, great care should be taken to avoid any activities such as participating as an identifiable group in letter writing campaigns, circulation of petitions, or other activities which might be considered to be lobbying in favor of, or in opposition to legislation, or otherwise to fall within that prohibition.

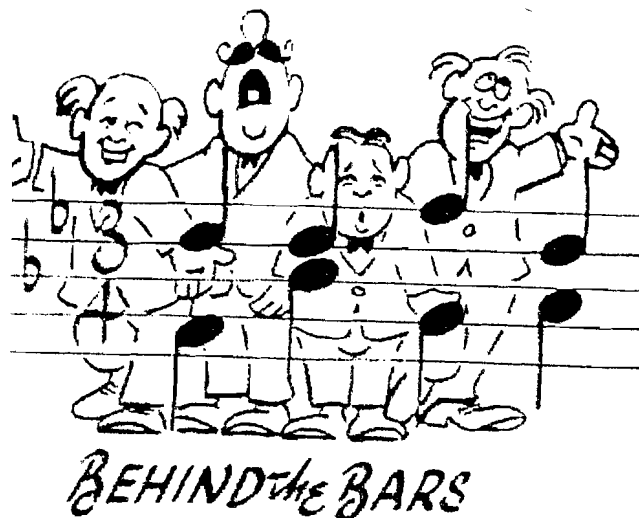
Registrations for Kansas City convention climbing

As of March 31, registration for the 2000 international convention in Kansas city stood at 7,926. There's still plenty of time for you to register to attend the Society's first-ever themed convention. As we salute the 50th anniversary of The Buffalo Bills championship, the convention theme is "The Music Man."

Register for the convention on line at spebsqsa.org/KansasCity/registration.htm.

Tips on Woodshedding....

Submitted by Ron Weaver



Barbershoppers have asked:

>Is woodshedding an art one has to be born with, or can it be learned?

As with most other skills, effective woodshedding is -- and can indeed be -- learned. A basic ability to hear Barbershop chord progressions is necessary. Barbershoppers can gain this sense in several ways. Folks with jazz or piano backgrounds have a beginning advantage, as should anyone with a year or two of college-level Music Theory. Barbershoppers who have sung more than one voice part in their chorus or quartet also have an initial advantage.

Barbershoppers who don't read music, or those whose first or only musical experience began when they entered Barbershopping, can also most definitely learn to woodshed. The prerequisite is an understanding of scales and intervals (the space between one note and the next). AHSOW strongly recommends that prospective woodshedders invest in the voice-part-predominant Polecat tapes produced by SPEBSQSA. The Polecat songs are especially strong, pure Barbershop, and listening to them intently and repeatedly will impart a strong sense of the *patterns* typical of each of the Barbershop voice-parts.

Here are some realizations and hints about woodshedding:

- The Barbershop Bass part is not always as low as someone new to the part might be tempted to sing it, and the Barbershop Tenor part is not always as high as one might be tempted to sing it. Barbershop is "close harmony." When the melody is on a lower note, the Bass usually has the right to the highest note below the melody that makes the most sense. When the melody is riding high, the Tenor generally has the right to the lowest note above the melody that makes the most sense. There are infrequent exceptions. Trust your ear.

- The Tenor and Bari rarely have to make LARGE jumps from one note to the next. Depending on what the melody does, the Bass will be obliged to move in intervals as small as a half- or whole-step (either up or down) or in intervals as large as 4, 4.5, or 5 notes (either up or down) or by 6 or 7 notes (usually up). Trust your ear.

- The Bass can do the most for any chord, and for the Tenor & Bari, when he can sense when to sing a root or fifth (a "strong-feeling" note) of a chord and adjust to sing whichever one of those that the Lead isn't singing, when the Lead is on one or the other. The Bass is entitled to the highest possible Bass note that will not create an incomplete chord (per whatever note the Lead is on) and which will not lock the Bari out of a note that the Bari should be singing. Trust your ear.

- Very generally speaking, the Tenor will usually have success when harmonizing in thirds above the melody. (If only one other singer were harmonizing along with a melody, this would be what would naturally happen.) The Tenor will generally be singing a preponderance of thirds and sevenths of chords -- and whichever of these the Bari is not singing, in most of these cases. Trust your ear.

- The Bari will sing either below or above the melody. Many brand-new Bari woodshedders tend to sing too high, or almost always above the melody, which obliges the Tenor to shoot for a note considerably higher than the note the Tenor might naturally opt to sing. When otherwise in doubt, the Bari's salvation can be to sing the seventh of a chord. The Bari should seek to sing an internal note in the chord that neither "doubles" the melody-note nor doubles the Tenor note an octave down. The Bari should listen to the direction of the melody-line -- if the melody is going upward, and especially if it SKIPS upward, the Bari is most likely going to go DOWN, and vice-versa. Trust your ear.

- Harmony-part singers: A good general guideline is to stay on the note you're on until your ear strongly suggests that you must move to another. Especially if you have little formal musical experience, and when you're newer to woodshedding, this sense will be more "intuitive" than anything else. That's fine! Resist the temptation to "get fancy" for its own sake, and try to avoid unduly second-guessing yourself. Just relax, listen, and move when required -- either when you sense that the chord must change (has changed) from the one you were on, or when someone else is taking your most recent note, or when you sense otherwise that the chord being sung is somehow "incomplete," or it's not fulfilling or "ringing." Trust your ear!

- The Woodshed Lead needs a certain set of skills beyond what he may have learned in chorus rehearsal or for quartet performance. The purpose of woodshedding is to ring chords rather than to sing songs. Thus, the Woodshed Lead who wishes to find himself most in demand will sing more slowly than he might opt to sing in a performance environment. He will be aware of where harmony-part swipes may or should occur, especially at phrase-endings or where the harmony of the song is changing. He will realize that chords falling on "weak beats" in a measure of music (beats #2 and #4 in 4/4 "foxtrot" meter, beat #3 in 3/4 "waltz" meter) are equally as important to tune/lock/ring as are chords falling on stronger beats. He will be constantly alert to melody-notes he should "hold" for as long as it takes for one or more harmony-voices to locate a good note. He should ensure that songs are pitched wherever the singing is most comfortable for

the participants, especially if someone is off his natural voice-part (e.g., a Bass 'shedding the Bari part).

- The Woodshed Lead gains credibility and authority when he refrains from singing until the first four-part chord of the song to be woodshedded is locked and rung, with everyone sure of his starting note. This keeps one or more 'shedders from being lost for several notes or measures before finally getting a harmonic bearing. The Woodshed Lead needs to listen, too.

- The savvy Woodshed Lead will choose melodies to which written or familiar Barbershop arrangements do not commonly exist. This lessens the risk of replicating existing repertoire and enhances the experience and value of truer woodshedding. Especially when one or more harmonizers is new to this art, the Woodshed Lead will ideally sing a melody through, solo, at least once, before the harmonizers join in. This helps everybody's ears.

- There is never a need to woodshed "in a hurry." Thus, it's valuable for all four singers to sing the melody in unison until they are familiar with it. As there should absolutely never be any pressure to "finish a song and move to the next one," it is also highly advisable to spend plenty of relaxed time harmonizing just the first phrase or two of the selected melody. Go over and over each phrase until all participants are satisfied and comfortable. Enjoy the absence of time-limits. It's far better to sing one phrase perfectly than it is to sing an entire song poorly.

- Woodshedding is best done at moderate or soft volumes. For one thing, this allows the singers to hear themselves and what's going on.

- Every woodshedder should be able to sing melodies when called upon. When we remember that melodies are pitched where they're comfortable to sing, more woodshedders with natural Bass range can have the chance to sing melodies. This permits more fellows to swap voice-parts with each other.

- For beginning woodshedders especially, the best melodies to undertake are those originally written in B-flat, A-flat, or C. Beginning woodshedders are advised to initially avoid melodies written in E-flat.

- The serious woodshedder (or anyone who merely wants more chances to sing with a wider range of harmonizers) will seek and learn as many melodies and lyrics as possible. With several notable exceptions, the best melodies for woodshedding were written between approx. 1895 and 1925, with the optimal ones written largely between 1905 and 1919. In the U.S. at least, one can find compatible old songs at garage sales, antique-shops or auctions (don't pay more than about \$5 per song, even for a gem!), in the piano benches of grandparents or similarly seasoned citizens, and especially in the heads of long-time SPEBSQSA members! The latter should be exceptionally pleased to oblige. Too often, we overlook the incredible knowledge and experience of our longest-tenured Society mates, and that many such guys have a largely untapped musical wealth that can be ours if we only ask.

Woodshedders should be able to create, hear, and recognize these primary chords:

1. Major Triad: "My *WILD* I-rish *ROSE*" (as in Polecat version)
2. Barbershop 7th: "**MY* wild I-*RISH* ro-*OSE**"
3. Diminished 7th: "The swee-test flow'r that gro-*O*-ows; *YOU MAY**"
4. Minor Triad: "Shine *ON* me, in the eev-ning" (= the 2nd time through).

These chords make up the vast percentage of the chords employed during woodshedding. And avoid sweating the chord names or types; they're mentioned here only so you can consciously inform your ear about the chords you ought to listen for. Inform yourself consciously once, then trust your ear to handle the rest.

- If authentic woodshedding is to be its most rewarding and fulfilling, it must be the BEST SINGING THAT WE EVER DO. Continuous sound, matched/sustained vowel targets, supported breathing, great intonation, and taking proper tune-up/initial chords are all crucial to the ringing of chords and the natural satisfaction that we get from it. If we don't bother to do what it takes to make the chords ring, then why bother to woodshed at all? If one or more woodshedders fails to apply any of these fundamentals to his efforts, the likelihood increases that one or more others in his woodshed quartet will excuse himself "to go to the restroom" after a song or two. After all, one of the true joys of woodshedding is to stand with the same three other guys from midnight till 4 a.m., switching parts and extemporaneously arranging an inexhaustible supply of melodies -- with no one getting tired of any of it!

Barbershoppers have also asked about publications on woodshedding. An excellent resource is the "Discovery Singing" folio of melodies, produced in 1998 by the Ancient Harmonious Society of Woodshedders, Inc. This pocket-sized folio contains 41 highly woodsheddable melodies, including several original compositions graciously donated by Joe Liles himself. AHSOW members (and we know who you are!) can order folios for \$3 apiece; everyone else (introduce yourself!) can get folios at the regular price of \$5 each.

To order, send the appropriate amount per folio (U.S. funds, payable to AHSOW), along with your complete, LEGIBLE name/address and a note explaining what the funds are for, to:

Ed Hartley, AHSOW Manager/Treasurer
246 Payne Road
Quilcene, WA 98376-9658, U.S.A.

The "Discovery Singing" folio and the part-predominant Polecat tapes (for these, call the SPEBSQSA Harmony Marketplace at 800-876-7464) are excellent investments for anyone wishing to prepare himself or his chapter for the fulfillment of woodshedding activity. Lady Barbershoppers can benefit from these products, too.



HEARTSPRING

Campbell's Labels for Education

What to Save and Bring to Chapter Meetings

PRODUCT

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Campbell's Tomato Juices	Aluminum Can	Cash Register tape w/product name circled
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Campbell's Tomato Juices	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Healthy Request Tomato Juices	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Healthy Request Tomato Juices	Bottle	Lid
Franco-American Gravies	Can	Front Label Panel
Franco-American SpaghettiO's and Pastas	Can	Front Label Panel
Pace Picante Sauces, Queso, and Thick & Chunky Salsa	Jar	Lid
Pace Squeezable Picante	Bottle	Lid
Pepperidge Farm Breads, Croutons, Rolls, Stuffing	Bag/Carton	UPC Symbol
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Prego Spaghetti Sauces	Jjar/bottle	Front Label Panel
Swanson Broths	Can	Front Label Panel
Swanson Broths	Carton	UPC symbol
Swanson Poultry	Can (Paper Label)	Front Label Panel
Swanson Poultry	Can (Litho Label)	Cash Register tape w/ product name circled
V8 100% Vegetable Juices	32 oz. Glass Bottle	Lid
V8 100% Vegetable Juices	10 oz. Glass Bottle	Front Label Panel
V8 100% Vegetable Juices	Can	Front Label Panel
V8 Healthy Request 100% Vegetable Juices	Bottle	Front Label Panel
V8 Healthy Request 100% Vegetable Juices	Can	Front Label Panel
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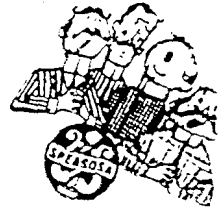


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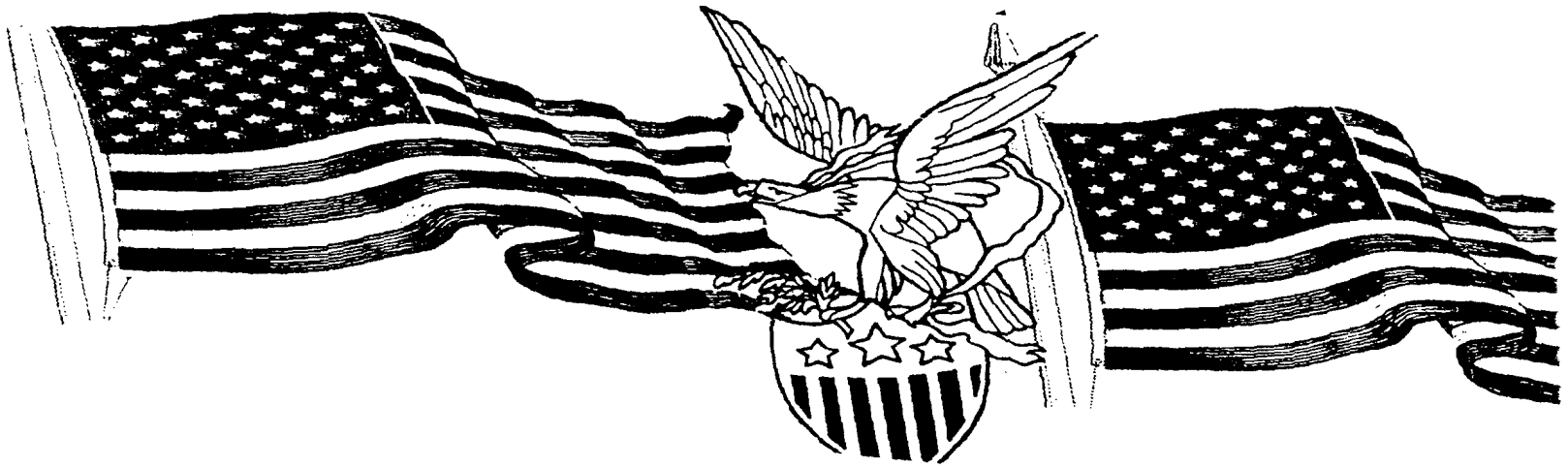
The Official Publication of the Chattanooga Chapter of the
Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America

Volume 9 No. 5, May, 2000

Chattanooga, Tennessee

Dixie District

The Chapter meets every Monday, 7:00 PM, All Saints Academy, 310 8th. St. Chattanooga, TN.



"Keep the Whole World Singing"





HAVE YOU HEARD THE NEWS?



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Blender Deadline



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NO REPORT



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REPORT



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REPORT



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NO REPORT



A Note From the Risers

Chattanooga
Choo Choo Chorus
Box 21326
Chattanooga, TN.
37424-0326

Something to Crowe About

Pat Crowe, Editor

The May 9th performance for Elderhost, at the Cohutta Springs Conferenace Center, was well received. The bass section was awesome. I've never heard it better.

Once again thanks to W.L. Wilson and Sons Funeral Home of Fort Oglethorpe for the use of their bus and driver, made for a trip full of song and fellowship. There generosity in supplying free transportation to the many church groups in the Walker county area, and extending it to us leaves us in their debt. There must be some way we can return the favor. (No Earle, you dont have to sign a pre-arrangement plan, but it's a thought at your age.) Maybe we can perform for them at one of their open houses or other functions. They have transported us at least four or five times, if not more.

Well, we finally got measured for our new summer apperal, on May 14th. Though we were scheduled for the 8th., nobody from the vendor showed! Well it seems the person Lamar was dealing with quit and didn't tell anyone about our scheduled fitting.. Boy, I guess he showed them didn't he.

Barry Owens comment on riser disciple hit the nail right on the head. It also extends to our regular rehearsals and meetings The consant chatter by the same few is very distracting and downright bad mannered.

With the visitors and new members attending we should make an extra effort to wear our name badges. I noticed only about three or four that were wearing them. I must confess I was one of the guilty ones.

If you have missplaced or lost your badge, see Earle Fraser for replacement.

If I have missed mentioning new members or visitors I'm sorry . the personal history portion of the membership application has not been completed by some. My thanks to new member Bob Dunkin. When asked for some background he e-mailed me a complete article. Thanks Bob.

Our newest tenor is Albert J Green, call him " Jay". He and wife Janice reside in Crandall GA., and is employed with Shaw Industries. Welcome aboard men!



Rock City Four performed at the Walker County Civic Center before an audience of 450 at the ninth annual Senior Citizen Day

So, you think your having a bad day ?

A womam came home to find her husband in the kitchen, shaking frantically with what looked like a wirerunning from his waist towards the electric kettle. Intending to jolt him away from the deadly current. sshe whacked him with a plank of wood that had been by the back door; breaking his arm in two places. Till that moment he had been happoly listening to his Walkman.



Birthdays

Lloyd Gimber

June 10



Anniversaries

Ron and Brenda Satterfield	June	1
Johnny and Sally Jackson	June	4
Sam and Pat Jones	June	13
Fred and Judy Jesse	June	18
Rick and Lesley Kulp	June	22
Dave and Mary Ambercrombie	June	27
Greg and Karin Harris	June	27



Deep Thoughts

Never raise your hand to your kids. It leaves your groin unprotected.

I'm desperately trying to figure out why kamikaze pilots wore helmets.

Ever wonder if illiterate people get the full effect of alphabet soup?

I always wanted to be somebody, but I should have been more specific

Did you ever notice when you blow in a dog's face he gets mad at you? But when you take him in a car he sticks his head out the window.

Have you ever noticed? Anybody going slower than you is an idiot, and anyone going faster than you is a maniac.

I have six locks on my door all in a row. When I go out, I lock every other one. I figure no matter how long somebody stands there picking the locks, they are always locking three.

The statistics on sanity are that one out of every four Americans is suffering from some form of mental illness. Think of your three best friends. If they are okay, then it's you.

Now they show you how detergents take out blood stains, a pretty violent image there. I think if you've got a T-shirt with a blood stain all over it, maybe laundry isn't your biggest problem. Maybe you should get rid of the body before you do the wash.

A lady came up to me and pointed to my suede jacket. "You know a cow was murdered for that jacket?" she sneered. I replied in a psychotic tone, "I didn't know there were any witnesses. Now I'll have to kill you too."



I'll Have the Chicken, Please

It wasn't KFC, Churches or Chick-fil-A, it was **"The Big Chicken"**

Twenty-five chicken aficionados boarded Wilson's bus for Atlanta's Rialto Theater, where the Marietta chapter presented **"The Big Chicken Meets The Music Man"**.

There is little left to say about the **Marietta Big Chicken Chorus**. Twelve time **Dixie District** champions. They will again represent the district at Kansas City.

Last years third place medalists, they have a good shot at bringing home the gold.

The Saturday matinee opening had a "Mic" problem, but that was quickly resolved. (someone turned it on or increased the volume) In the "Ya Got Trouble" number. Prof. Hill's annunciation was at times jumbled. This was soon forgotten as those 116 voices blended and their precise choreography sparkled, on the some what squeaky risers.

The second act's coordinated line dancing while clinking beer steins **WOW !!**

The very moving closing number " American Trilogy" What is left to say...**WOW! WOW! WOW! FRED** and the **GAS HOUSE GANG**..more **WOW!**

On The Road Again



The meeting place was US-27 and Cloud Springs Road, Fort Oglethorpe. The time 11:30 AM. Transportation courtesy of W.L.Wilson and Son's bus So there the punctual sat. As we waited for the tardy ones, Earle's dentures rattled as he muttered under his breath. Decision time! 11:45 will be departure time! no further waiting ! 11:44 three show up. YEAH !! Doors are sealed and HI HO HI HO it's off to Atlanta we go at 11:50.

As we settle back the in-flight snack is served. Ham and cheese, ham with mustard or mayo on dinner rolls, pimento cheese sandwich's, chips,cupcakes and cokes, courtesy of Margaret and Pat.

Traffic was surprisingly light, though a slight back up at the Georgia Tech exit. (due to graduation ceremonies)

Wilson's driver, Jim Peters, with his wife as hostess skillfully guided us to our destination and a parking lot half a block from the theater, with plenty of time before the curtain went up.

We leisurely strolled the area but retreated to the theater lobby to get out of the hot sun. (it's tough on us thin haired guys)

I wouldn't say our society is aging and in the need of younger blood, but... looking around the lobby it looked like " God's waiting room".

Our return trip included a stop at BJ's restaurant in Calhoun, GA. What a spread ! and linen napkins too! After a request to sing we reloaded and arrived back in Fort Oglethorpe at 8:45.

What fun... what fellowship.....you know ?

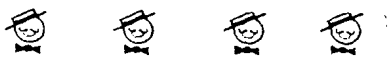
IT'S GREAT TO BE A BARBERSHOPPER !!

Big Chicken Show

By Barry Owens

I had a great time at the **Big Chicken's** annual show. I was able to support the **Big Chicken Chorus** pay their way to Kansas City, and I saw a super show. They didn't have fancy scenery, just their logo. What they had was first class singing. That's what the audience came to hear, and they got it !

I've decided that the bus is the way to go. We were served food on the way down to Atlanta, thanks to Margaret (and Pat) Crowe. My mother and aunt was Nancy and my guest, and they really enjoyed the day. Earle Fraser took it on himself to reserve seats for our group and pay in advance. He sure is trustworthy! Thanks to all who made the trip possible.



Elderfest 2000

By Barry Owens

Once again our chorus presented an extremely entertaining show to one of our favorite audiences. It's always nice to get the feedback we always receive when we go to Cohutta Springs. I thought the quartets did a great job. The "gotcha" worked with "What'll I Do?". I almost fell off the risers! It was also nice to have my old quartet " Mixed Blend" singing again.

I have only one concern. During a presentation I think we need a little better riser discipline. There was too much talking and joking from the men on the risers. If everyone has something to say or a comment, chaos will reign. I now know why Clarence doesn't let the rest of us talk when Classic Harmony is performing. Believe me, it can get out of hand and look too amateurish". **

** Editorial comment: " Amen brother !"

How Sweet It Was !

By Pete Jones

Sweet as in "**Sweet Adelines**" that is. Back in March of this year the "**Ad's**" had their district competition in Chattanooga. A couple of the chouses asked if they could use our practice rooms prior to competing. I volunteered to open up the room and stay till they finished and then lock up. To say the least , it was a privelege. The word sweet covers it all. Sweet sounds, sweet moves, sweet personalities and talk about entusiasim ! Most of us guys need to take a few lessons from them. Their hard work and effort payed off ! They placed a Sweet first and second place in the southeast competition.

Four of us had the priveledge of shuttling the quartets to and from the competition. Same descriptive word covers that too, you guessed it..."**Sweet**". Talk about close scores, the top four quartets were only one point apart. I think the "**Sweet Adelines**" deserve more respect and attention. Let's support them at their shows and competitions every chance we get.. and remember, Be Sweet !



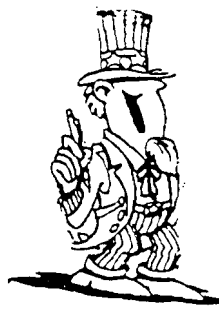
Lamar Owens Business Manager

The schedule is light so far this summer, if you have any prospects please contact me.

June 3, Parkway Baptist Temple, Fort Oglethorpe, 6:30

June 9, N A P F E Senior Apts. 6:30 Blue & Khaki

Sept. 9 86th Inf. at Choo Choo 10:30 AM



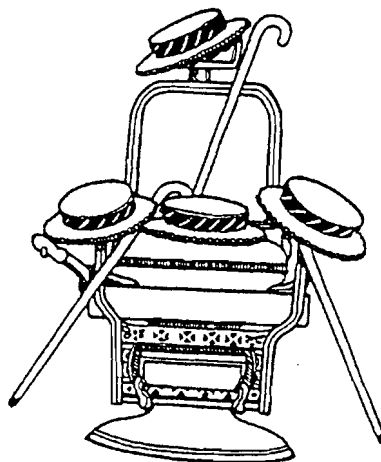
WHY AND HOW TO QUARTET

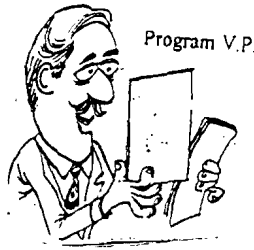
It seems to me that there is a direct correlation between the better performing choruses and the number of quartets which compete in district competition. That is, the more competing quartets a given chorus sponsors, the better the chorus is ranked and the better they sing. Therefore, I conclude that when chorus members are in a quartet, the chorus benefits as well.

Why is this? I believe it is because singing in a quartet instills confidence makes you learn your part better, and promotes a better stage presence. Of course, quarteting is also an awful lot of fun. For all of these reasons, I urge each chorus member to actively participate in a quartet and to sing in any quartet opportunity they get.

How do you form a quartet? I believe this is one of the hardest tasks within our society and our chapter. It involves finding four men with similar commitment and schedules, each willing to invest the time to improve their vocal abilities. Chorus activities which have helped in forming quartets in the past have been participating in the singing valentine program, forming an ad hoc quartet for a show, advertising or publicizing within the chorus that you are hoping to be in a quartet, and committing an extra 15 minutes or so either before or after chorus rehearsals to "mess around" with three other guys. Lastly, I think a willingness to switch to another part increases your chances of being in a quartet. Look in our chorus and our quartets and you can see which parts are hardest to fill.

Of course, all communications about forming a quartet should be routed through Ron Weaver, our quartet development vice president. He can schedule auditions, provide arrangements, and do some serious coaching as part of his chapter duties.





Get With the Program

It's hard to believe almost half of this year is gone already. We've been busy with sing-outs and learning new music for our show in August. Hope the programs are going to please the majority. That's all we can shoot for is a simple (And I use this phrase cautiously around these great minds we're blessed with!) majority, because keeping everyone happy all the time we know is impossible! If things are becoming too mundane, let me know and we'll try to spice it up a bit. Are you enjoying the Woodshedding exercises? If not, let me or Fred know; I think they're fun diversions that may actually be teaching us a thing or two about finding notes and harmonizing with each other. Chuck Wilson is trying to get some fellas to sing Pole Cats after our meetings are ended. Why not stay one night and sing with this group?

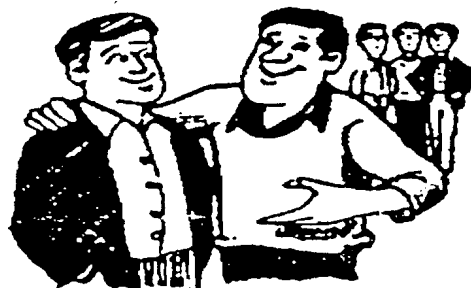
While we all enjoy being worked over by Mr. Blazek, it has been good to see other men step up when asked. Ron Weaver and Clarence Wall have filled in lately and done a good job. CW is going to direct our "church" package presentation this year, I understand. It seems to me that we would benefit from having a permanent # 2 man, if we can find one to take the job. Something for the Music Committee to think about, I guess.

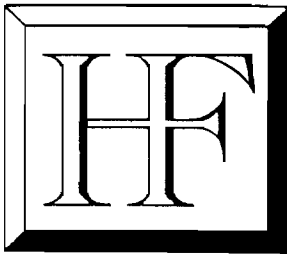
Isn't it great to see all these new faces singing with us? We've added new members (Bob and Richard) lately and will be adding more soon (Hiram, Jay and Chris). That's because you guys are sharing your hobby with gentlemen you know would enjoy singing with us. Keep on inviting and let's grow this chorus like never before! Kudos to Shannon for whatever's he's doing to make this happen.

Please make our Music VP happy and sign up to sing in a quartet number for our upcoming show. We want to get as many guys as possible out front quartetting on this next show. Let's show off our several abilities and use a different quartet for every number; sign up for Fred!

Until next time, Keep the Whole World Singing.

Welcome To Barbershopping





Harmony Foundation, Inc.

6315 Third Avenue

Kenosha, WI 53143-5199

800-876-SING x-8447

FAX 414-654-5552

www.spebsqsa.org

April 14, 2000

Mr. Robert W. Stansbury
Chattanooga, TN Chapter
310 E. 8th Street
Chattanooga, TN 37403

Dear Bob,

Thank you for Chattanooga, TN Chapter's contribution of \$324.00 to Harmony Foundation. As requested, your gift has been designated for the Heartspring Fund. Harmony Foundation, Inc. is a 501 (c)(3) charitable organization. We acknowledge that no goods or services were provided in consideration of your donation. Your gift will be used to support the goals and mission of Harmony Foundation "nurturing vocal music in our schools and communities, as well as other special educational causes" and keeping the ideals of SPEBSQSA alive.

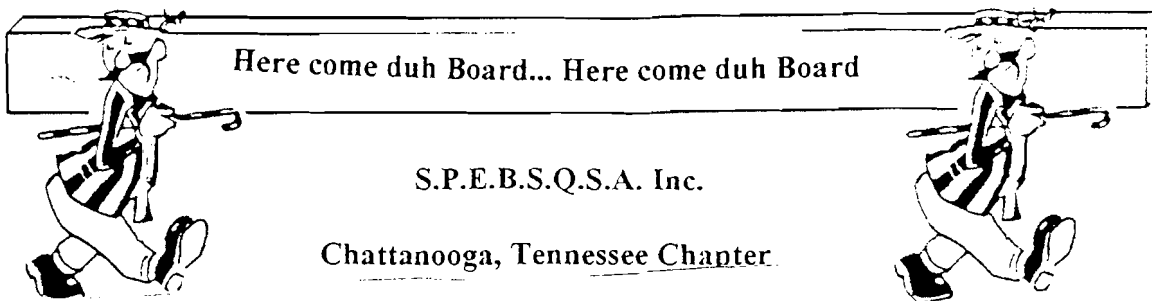
1999 was a wonderful year at Harmony Foundation, thanks to the generosity of all those who participated in our General Fund Campaign. The contributions to the campaign, combined with the additional gifts to the Service Projects exceeded our goal by eight percent!

Our theme for 2000 is "*Brother, can you spare a dime?*" One thin dime can have a lot of power. Combined with others they can help thousands of voices speak, sing and tell a story. Dozens of voices have a chance to speak at Heartspring, hundreds of voices can repeat the story of barbershop harmony they learned from the Heritage Hall Museum and thousands of voices can sing because of grants from SingAmerica and SingCanada.

Thank you again for your generosity. We hope you will continue to support the Harmony Foundation in achieving its goals by making future contributions to the Harmony Foundation General Fund and the SPEBSQSA Endowment Program. This will help to ensure that future generations will be able to . . .

Sing . . . *for life*

Gary M. Stamm, CAE
Executive Director



Meeting of Board of Directors, April 20, 2000

Present			Absent		Guest
Reynolds	Stansbury	Kirk	L. Owens	Grubb	P. Jones
Jesse	Slack	S. Jones	McConnell	Wheeler	Malone
Strickland	Crowe		R. Satterfield		Collins

The meeting Meeting was called to order by President Slack at 7:05 pm at All Saints Academy

Secretary - The minutes of the February 17 meeting were approved as read.

There was no board meeting in March.

Treasurer - Stansbury submitted a written report, attached, covering the months of February and March. A summary follows:

1/31/00 Balance - \$1378.86 Disbursed - \$3002.37
Received - 8164.38 Balance - 6540.87

He presented the 2000 budget for approval (attached). After some discussion, Jesse moved to approve. Seconded by Jones. Passed.

Bulletin Editor -Crowe reported that he had received several Emails during his vacation but not one Blender article. He needs to receive information on new members also.

Music V.P. - Fred Jesse reported the chorus is working on show music. Paul will introduce two more new songs. Fred would like to get the Valentine type quartets and well as the registered quartets involved. Tom Keegan has booked "Four Voices" for the August 19 show. Fred would like to have a weekend coaching session before fall contest. A location has to be reserved. Slack will ask for suggestions from the membership at the next meeting. Clarence Wall has agreed to handle the church concerts. Some new music will be added.

Chapter Development V.P. - No report

Quartet Promotion Chairman - No report

Program V.P. - No report.

Business Manager - No report

Old Business

New Informal Uniforms - Stansbury and Strickland submitted samples of the proposed uniform –white shirt and black pants, both Van Heusen brand. The pants are washable, 36% wool, 64% polyester. Cost would approx. \$50 per set including the logo. The board agreed that the chapter would pay part of the cost of the uniform agreed upon.

Treasury Audit - The treasury audit was completed and the forms have been forwarded to the Society Office by Brooks Gist and Johnny Jackson. Copies are in the chapter file. Thanks from the board to Brooks and Johnny for a job well done.

Valentine Sales - Pete Jones will give a final report at the next meeting.

Polecat Program - Slack will get together with Chuck Wilson and Steve Grubb and assign some time on Monday nights for Polecat songs.

New Business -

Valentine Payments to Cleveland Chapter - One of the valentine quartets was composed of 3 Cleveland Chapter members and Tom Keegan. They delivered 20 valentines. The Cleveland Chapter has informally requested the \$800 collected for these (@ \$40 each). Sam Jones moved to pay, Strickland seconded, passed by a 6 to 2 vote.

Assistant Directors - The Music Committee will consider potential candidates for this post at the next meeting of the Committee.

Adjournment at 8:40 pm.

David Reynolds
Chapter Secretary





Harmony hauler

How do you get your fill of barbershopping when you're a thousand miles away from your chapter on its meeting night? Well, in my case, you call Kenosha and have them send you a directory that lists every chapter in the U.S.A. and Canada, along with meeting night and contact man.

Seems easy enough. I just have one slight problem: I drive an 18-wheeler — yeah, one of those big semis that you see barreling down the interstate. (For the record, that is not me one foot from your rear bumper ... honest!)

Most guys in chapters I visit are amused by the fact that I would drive this tractor trailer to their rehearsal hall. And believe me, some of the locations that I have had to maneuver into are not what I would call "truck friendly."

In the past few months, I've visited chapters in Altoona, Pa., Alexandria,



CHORD WHEEL — Hope you have parking spaces to spare at your meeting hall. A SPEBSQSA emblem adorns the back of the cab.

Va., Canton, Ohio, Charlotte, N.C., Houston, Texas, Kingston, Ontario, Lansdale, Pa., Louisville, Ky., Plattsburg, N.Y. and Spartanburg, S.C. In one case the contact man actually came to the truck stop I was at and drove me to their meeting hall. (Thanks, Mac.)

My only suggestion is to make sure that the person who is listed as the contact man is in fact the right name, and has an answering machine, which should be checked prior to leaving for chorus for anybody requesting directions. I have called a couple of contact men and have gotten no answer and I had to resign myself to not singing that night.

So in your travels, keep an eye out for a tanker truck with a big QC on the tank and a large SPEBSQSA decal on the back of the cab. I just might be looking for your rehearsal hall. Hmm ... if I can just figure out how to drive to the Aloha Chapter!

—by— Floyd Clifford

A big Choo Choo welcome to Floyd Clifford. As I pulled into the parking lot and saw that big blue "Kenny", I wondered is the guy we've read about in the Jan./Feb. Harmonizer? Well Gollee!! If'n it haint, I'll be roadkill... Sure nuff, as I walked in the room, there be a dude a sittin' thar with a name tag on, and by gollee, on is writ the name Floyd. He didn't look like that barber fella on the Andy Griffin show, so I just knew it had to be him. Here it's May, and Floyd you sure are welcome as the flowers we sing about. Hope you had a pleasant visit. I loved the enthusiastic direction as you led us though a few of the songs. Y'all come back... yuh here!

The welcome mat was also out Dominic Lamberti From the Miami chapter. Hiram Altman, guest of our own "Maytag man," Wayne Pruett. Boy, by the look on his face I know this guys a keeper.. Welcome back to Robby Dunn, guest of J.W. Kirk.

Harmony Hauler article is a reprint from the January/February 2000 issue of The Harmonizer.

So who's the new guy?

Hi, I'm Bob Dunkin, an introduction that usually has to be followed by the spelling of the last name! Yup, just like the doughnut chain! If you can stay with me and bear out the mistakes, I'll tell you a little about myself.

Originally from Knoxville Tennessee, my family has called Bristol, Virginia our home since 1956. My singing career started in Bristol as a member of the First Baptist Church Youth Choir. We toured annually from Canada to Miami and even the Bahamas. I later attended King College, Bristol, Tennessee where I sang with the Symphonic and Chapel Choirs. These were accapela groups where I formulated some of those cherished lifetime friendships. As well these were the favorite times of my college career.

I am a graduate of East Tennessee State University. My major was Metals and Mechanical Technology. I am a career Industrial Engineer with the last ten years in plant management. My last position was as manager of C & D Technologies in Dunlap, Tennessee. I also had responsibilities for a plant in Seattle, Washington. In 1995, I gave up the corporate world for private business, owning a hardware and building supply business.

In 1997 my business and personal retirement were cast when I was hospitalized for Congestive Heart Failure. Now "retired" I turn my attention to God, family, church and yes, Barbershop.

My hobbies include emergency medicine and firefighting. I have been an EMT and fireman for nearly 30 years as a volunteer. It is a passion that I feel very strongly about. I participate in the education of K-5 grades annually during Fire Safety Week. I have been with the Dunlap Volunteer Fire Department for 15 years. My interests include hunting and fishing as well as building furniture and remodeling.

My wife Barbara is from Oak Ridge Tennessee. Her parents were part of the group of people that set up the Oak Ridge National Laboratory and the Y-12 Weapons Plant. Barbara is employed by March-Adams Consulting Engineers as their receptionist. Her other full time job is looking after two teenage boys and me.

Richard, 16, is the starting guard for the Sequatchie County Indians Football Team. He is a health nut and lifts weights regularly. He is exceptional academically and wants to go the U S Naval Academy as a Marine. Richard wants to follow a singing career as well with a group like the Choo

Patrick, 18, graduates with honors from Sequatchie County High School this year. He has won not only academic honors but also awards for Citizenship, Volunteerism, and Drama. Pat wants to attend East Tennessee State University majoring in Graphic Arts and Digital Animation.

I came to this illustrious group through an invitation by Scott McKenzie. Barbara found out about the chorus through Scott and told him I had always wanted to sing Barbershop! The rest is history. I was smitten by the first, "The Old Songs," and I marvel at the talent that exists in this group. I thank you for the invitation to participate in some small part. Excuse the "Rookie Jitters", I hope I can live up to the standards and expectations of the Choo Choo Barbershop Chorus. Thanks again for welcoming me into your fold.

STUFF

Every spring I start stirring in my stuff. There is a closet full of stuff, drawer full of stuff, attic full of stuff and basement full of stuff. I separate the good stuff from the bad stuff, then I stuff the good stuff back in the drawers and closets and basement, then I stuff the bad stuff anywhere the stuff is not too crowded until I decide if I will need the bad stuff. When the Lord calls me home, my children will both want the good stuff but the bad stuff, stuffed where ever there is room among all the other stuff, will be stuffed in bags and taken to the dump where all the other peoples' stuff has been taken.

Whenever we have company, they always bring bags and bags of stuff. When I visit my son, he always moves his stuff so I will have room for my stuff. My daughter-in-law always clears a drawer of her stuff so I will have room for my stuff. Their stuff and my stuff.... it would be so much easier to use their stuff and leave my stuff at home with the rest of my stuff.

This spring I had an extra closet built so I would have a place for all the stuff too good to throw away and too bad to keep with my good stuff. You may not have this problem, but I seem to spend alot of time with stuff... food stuff, cleaning stuff, medicine stuff, clothes stuff and outside stuff. What ever would life be like if we didn't have all this stuff ?

Now there is all that stuff we use to make us smell better than we do. There is the stuff to make our hair look good. the stuff to cover a bad complexion. Stuff to make us look younger. Stuff to make us look healthier. Stuff to hold us in and stuff to fill us out. there is stuff to read, stuff to playwith, stuff to entertain us and stuff to eat.. we stuff ourselves with all that food stuff.

When our pastor said something about finding some of his daughters stuff when he moved, I thought, oh, how I would hate to move all my stuff. There is stuff in the house, attic stuff basement stuff, garage stuff and patio stuff. STUFF. STUFF. STUFF !

Well our lives are filled with stuff.. good stuff, bad stuff, little stuff, big stuff, useful stuff, junky stuff and everyone's stuff. Now when ever we leave our stuff and go to heaven, whatever happens to our stuff won't matter. We still will have all the good stuff God has prepared for us in heaven....

Submitted by a member of the Choo Choo Belles:
author unknown

VLQ

May was kind of a dead month for performances, We met at the Park Place Restaurant for lunch, prior to performing at the Parkside Nursing Home, on the 16th. I guess we looked very somber in our black trousers, white shirts. A few of us had on black bow ties. The remainder had left their jackets and ties in our vehicles. A woman approached us as we left and asked if we were undertakers.... Like I sad kinda' dead month! But the performance at Parkside was lively, and enjoyed by the residents.

May 18 was a evening performance at First Baptist Church of Rossville. A bit of confusion regarding starting time. the contact person called Sam to move the starting time to 7:30 . Then when we arrived at 7:00 for warm-up he wanted us to perform at 7:00. Rock City four graced us with their presence and performed to an appreciative audience... Thanks guys.

The summer looks like some of the fellows are going to be busy with other commitments, so we will be very selective in taking bookings. The rehearsals will remain the same, with no change in time or place.

Valentines By Pete Jones

Yes, I know that Valentines is over but, to answer a few roaming questions I thought I would write this. Seems That we will have to settle for a 99 and 9/10ths% collection. Just couldn't get that last one to come through.

You've heard the other figures Like 7 quartets, 204 Valentines, \$8000.00 plus dollars, but the newest one to surface is that of \$800.00 to paid to the Cleveland chapter for the Valentines they handled . Now some may think this is a little much,, but they did cover what we were going to lose due to overwelling orders and the lack of quartets . The board voted to pay Cleveland for getting us out of what could have been an embarrassing and bad PR situation. I will be reporting to the board the final figures..

Enough said for now, but we will start planning and organizing for next year before the first of the year. We might not exceed our totals of this year, but we can fine tune our scheduling so that it is not so hectic. Thanks for all your hard work and be ready to sing next year.

Barbershop Coaching Method

A Prioritized List of Coaching Tasks as used by Don Gray

submitted by Ron Weaver

1 Discuss "How to Retain Changes" with the group (quartet or chorus)

Options:

1. Coach makes written notes, gives to group at end of session. (Don Gray used this system)
2. Another person (resident coach or teacher) makes notes
3. Record full session (audio or video)
4. Record selected parts of the session.
- 5 Each coached person, take full responsibility for remembering everything. (This method is generally ineffective.)

2. Ask the group to sing a very simple, basic song, to which they know all the words and notes. Then, coach them on how the basic Barbershop sound should be produced: full-voiced; rich; resonant; placed at the point of maximum resonance for each voice; and totally free of tension in the head, jaw, mouth or neck.

3 Discuss the concept of " balance " of the parts: of the total volume of the group, 35% should come from the Lead, 30% from the Bass, 20% from the Baritone, and 15% from the Tenor. Note that when the melody shifts to another part (as in tags), the percentages are exchanged with that part.

4 Now ask the group to perform a song that they want to work on. Discuss the concept of "theme." What is the main musical element that should be emphasized ? (Generally, the lyrics or the rhythm, but occasionally the melody line or the harmony.)

5. Make adjustments needed in tailoring the arrangement to fit the chosen theme. For instance, if the song is rhythm-thinned, make adjustments to the tempo, and eliminate excessive tempo or rhythm changes or pauses. If the key is out of the quality range of any of the singers, change the key or chords as necessary. If there is a difficult key change, modify or eliminate it. If there isn't enough "metrical room" for a particular breath, modify the arrangement

at that point (eliminate a swipe, or use a syncopated attack in the next measure). If, in a lyric-themed song, an embellishment is getting in the way of the message, simplify it or eliminate it.

6. Fix the details: breaths, attacks, releases, wrong notes, singable consonants not performed well, vowel sounds not matched, forward motion (ad lib or rubato interpretation) not maintained, rhythm errors (rhythm songs). Discuss the overall volume plan.

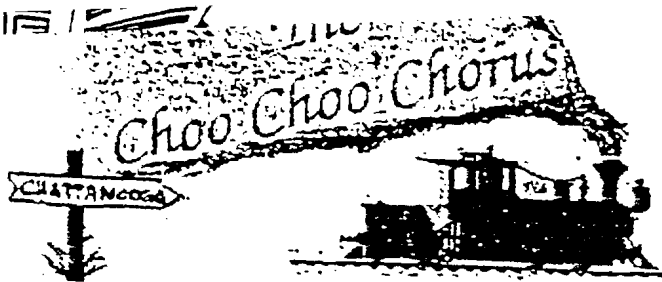
7. Discuss and modify basic stage presence: faces, eye contact, body posture, use of hands, angle stance, necessity of Lead visual dominance, etc.

8. Discuss, modify if necessary, and coach execution of any choreography plan (that is, planned synchronized movements by one or more singers).

9. Discuss modify if necessary, and coach execution of the " performance routine " : tuning up off-stage, walking on, greeting the audience, blowing the pitch pipe, taking the tune-up chord, coordinating the vocal and visual start of the first song. recovering to singing position, blowing the pitchpipe, taking the tune up chord, starting the second song, accepting the applause, walking off.

In the next **Blender** we will continue with Miscellaneous Coaching Ideas.



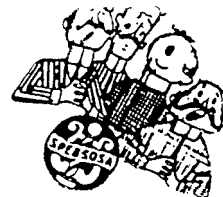


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Equipment Manager	Pete Jones	706-861-2113
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TO:



The Blender

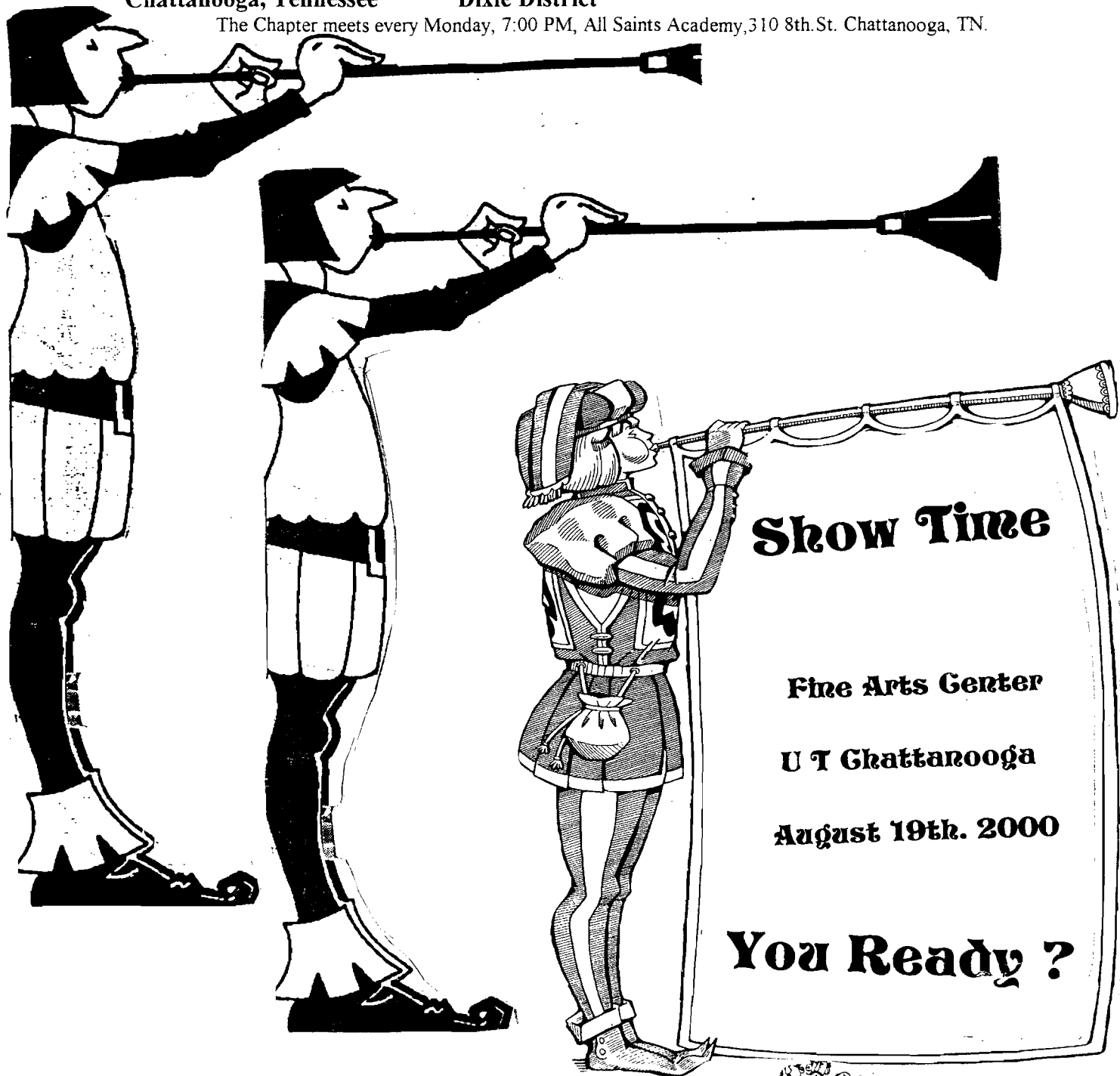
The Official Publication of the Chattanooga Chapter of the
Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America

Chattanooga, Tennessee

Dixie District

Volume 9 No. 6, June, 2000

The Chapter meets every Monday, 7:00 PM, All Saints Academy, 310 8th. St. Chattanooga, TN.



Show Time

Fine Arts Center

U T Chattanooga

August 19th. 2000

You Ready ?



"Keep the Whole World Singing"



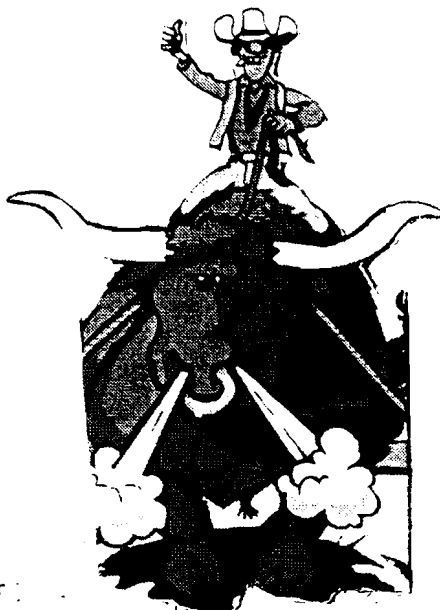


Something to Crowe About

Pat Crowe, Editor

How many noticed the errors in last months issue ? I throw them in there to see if there is anyone reading the **Blender** . Along with the spelling errors, did anyone even notice there was no deadline date? There is another thought, maybe your spelling isn't that hot! July beckons, and it's a busy month. Beginning with **International** the first week, and **Dixie Lakeside Harmony Weekend** following it on the 21st. through the 23rd. Time sure flies! Twelve months from now the action will be up the road in Nashville.

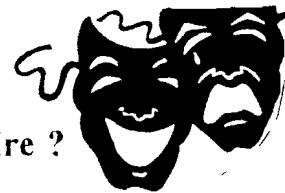
With October the district competitions will be held in the home city of the **Choo Choo Chorus**. Now's the time to start planning. Thanks to the great work by the **Belles**, everyone raved about the great time they had here in 1994. So..let's do it again ! Great to see our resident curmudgeon back from his visit to Switzerland. He called me before I had a chance to bug him. When I asked if he saw Hiedi, he said she was in hiding. Then before I could ask him the question that has been known to irritate him, he moaned " I've been gone three weeks! and I've had calls asking me what the uniform was for the Battlefield Parkway gig! CHEEZ !! don't they ever read the board! " (or the **Blender** Ed. note)
There sure was a good turn out of the chorus wives. Must of been all that food. What a perfect time for Sandra to call a " **Belle's** " meeting.



Sam Jones had a disagreement with one of his bulls the other day. He missed the **VLQ** rehearsal, but limped in for the Parkway performance. Like the **Belles**, it must have been for the food. You'll have to ask Sam about the disagreement he and his bull had. It wasn't bad enough the bull had him down for the ten count, it had the nerve to stand on him like a Roman Gladiator claiming victory. Sam this kinda reminds me of the bull-fighter story I sent you. " Si Senor, some days the Matador wins... some days the bull wins" This time you fared better, only ten stitches! and a black and blue body!
We've got about six weeks to show time. Lot of work to be done in the area of "Ad" sales. And need I add ticket sales . We have got a good package to present. and the participation by all the Guys is great. That bass section is sounding better every time. Way to go guys. I hear there is a problem about the appearance of the Four Voices. a conflicting date with one of their members OY VEH I'm sure we'll find out more by our next meeting.



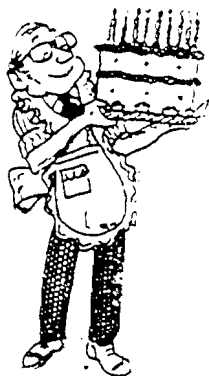
Show Repertoire ?



I wouldn't say we had a lack of communication in our chapter..... but at this writing, and trying to get a head start of the **Blender** before I take off for a quick trip. I dont know what the title is of our up coming show! Talked to six guys today and they also were at a loss. I will share what I do have and who will be performing. They are subject to verification.

What a Country : Chorus
Early American Medley: Chorus, VLQ and Dan Bruns
American Revolution Medley :
Classic Harmony
Minstrel Montage: Chorus, Hobby Thomas , Rick Kulp, Pete Jones, John Johnston
Civil War Medley:
Chorus, Harrison Bay Harmonizers, Ambercrombie and Grubb.
Cohan Medley: Rock City Four
Give Me Your Tired: Four Guys
Taps , Long :Long Trail, Till We Meet Again : Hobby"s Quartet
Yes Sir That's My Baby: Harrison Bay
God Bless America: Rock City Four
My Missouri Home: Four Guys
Chattanooga Choo Choo: Classic Harmony
Nearer My God: VLQ, Brooks Gist
What a Country : Chorus
Intermission:
Four Voices
This is My Country: Chorus
Star Spangled Banner All
Finale





update

news from spebsqsa headquarters

Birthdays

Tom keegan	July 3
Bud Moore	July 7
Jo Ann Wheeler	July 7
Pat Slack	July 16
Earle Fraser	July 17
Edgar Dawson	July 31

Anniversaries

Audrey & Brooks Gist July 21



Revised quartet singing order for Kansas City quarter-final round

- 1 Wabash Avenue, CAR
- 2 Reveille, MAD
- 3 Wise Guys, SUN
- 4 Stardust, FWD
- 5 Flipside, EVG
- 6 Breakpoint, LOL
- 7 Metropolis, FWD
- 8 Overture, DIX
- 9 Split Decision, DIX
- 10 Counterpoint, EVG
- 11 Power Play, PIO
- 12 Rumors, JAD
- 13 Excalibur, LOL
- 14 Northeast Connection, NED
- 15 Sibling Rivalry, CSD
- 16 The Tulsa Tradition, SWD
- 17 Checkmate, LOL
- 18 BSQ, MAD
- 19 Jambalaya, SNOBS
- 20 Uptown Sound, JAD
- 21 Desperado, JAD
- 22 Jackpot!, LOL
- 23 Countdown, FWD
- 24 Sharper Image, ILL
- 25 Bank Street, RMD
- 26 Liberty Street, SLD
- 27 12th Street Rag, CSD
- 28 Turning Point, JAD
- 29 PLATINUM, SUN
- 30 Intrigue, ONT
- 31 Trademark, LOL
- 32 Runaway Sound, MAD
- 33 By Popular Demand, ILL
- 34 Michigan Jake, CAR
- 35 Four Voices, DIX
- 36 Applause!, FWD
- 37 Rolling Tones, SNOBS
- 38 Riptide, DIX
- 39 By Appointment, BABS
- 40 HEYDAY, SWD
- 41 Gotcha!, FWD
- 42 Saturday Evening Post, RMD
- 43 Freestyle, FWD
- 44 Premiere, MAD

Premier requested to sing last in the quarter finals because of a conflict.

Revised chorus singing order for Kansas City

- 1 Shannon Express, BABS
- 2 Whale City Sound, DABS
- 3 Big Chicken, DIX
- 4 New Tradition, ILL
- 5 Saltaires, RMD
- 6 Senate-aire, EVG
- 7 Thoroughbreds, CAR
- 8 Ambassadors of Harmony, CSD
- 9 Vocal Majority, SWD
- 10 Heart of Texas, SWD
- 11 The Alliance, JAD
- 12 Pot O' Gold Chorus, FWD
- 13 Vocal Vikings, SNOBS
- 14 Great Lakes Chorus, PIO
- 15 Toronto Northern Lights, ONT
- 16 Men of Accord, SLD
- 17 Heralds of Harmony, SUN
- 18 Great Northern Union, LOL
- 19 Virginians, MAD
- 20 Granite Statesmen, NED
- 21 Singing Buckeyes, JAD
- 22 Midwest Vocal Express, LOL
- 23 Great American Chorus, ILL

Shannon Express and Whale City Sound exercised their right to request to sing first. A draw was held to determine the order.

Now your browser can Sing... for life

You read a story in *The Harmonizer*, or a testimonial on the Harmonet, about the way music has changed a life. You think to yourself, "That Harmony Foundation sure makes a difference in the world. I oughtta help."

Then you move on to other parts of your life, your good intention nerve scratched, but no donation sent.

Save stamps, checks and time: simply point your web browser to www.harmonyfoundation.org and use your MasterCard or Visa over our secure connection to make donations to the General Fund and the Unrestricted Endowment.

It's a quick, easy way to help others Sing...for life.

Interesting Test

The following is something to make us stop and think. so take a few moments to take the quiz: (Don't worry.... there are no points to keep. no wish to make, nothing to do but think)

Name the five wealthiest people in the world.

Name the last five winners of the Miss America contest.

Name the ten people who have won the Nobel or Pulitzer prize.

Name the last half dozen Academy Award winners.

Name the last decade's worth of World Series winners.

How did you do?

The point is, none of us remember the headliners of yesterday. These are no second-rate achievers. they are the best in their fields.

Applause dies.

Awards tarnish. Achievements are forgotten. Accolades and certificates are buried with the owners.

Now, here is another quiz. Try this one and notice the difference in your answers: List a few teachers who aided your journey through school.

Name three friends who have helped you through a difficult time.

Name five people who have taught you something worthwhile.

Think of five people you enjoy spending time with.

Name half a dozen heroes whose stories have inspired you.

Easier, wasn't it? The lesson?

The people who make a difference in your life are not the ones with the most credentials, the most money, or the most awards. They are the ones who truly care.



Choo Choo Belles

Belles will meet **July 10th**. We are looking forward to all attending. So come on along with the guys. While they rehearse for the show, we will discuss what we can do to make **July 10th**. an evening to remember.

So ladies we need all of you, and the wives of the new chorus members, we extend an invitation to come on down and join us. We need your assistance and look forward to meeting you.

NAPFE ????

How many of you looked at that on the performance board and thought....

What the heck is NAPFE ??..and who would name a retirement home that?

A larger quandary was trying to find it! Who would have thought to look for the sign that read Chattanooga housing Authority? And even that was partially hidden. But like good scouts we prevailed and we conquered the situation. Ah hah, as I cruised around the lobby, I found the answer! NAPFE ! It's the National Alliance of Postal and Federal Employees.

How come there wasn't a logo of a postal employee and crossed Uzi's. And a motto " Sorry this Window is Closed" The audience loved us. How about that very attractive eighty-four year old trying to hit on Bill McKeehan when she found out his age. She was disappointed we didn't stay longer, stating " Is that all the songs you know!" "Why cant you come every Friday?"

Hobby Thomas did a great job singing to his mother (a resident of the home) She was real proud of her boy.

Too bad we didn't have our new summer outfits. I was disappointed in the foot wear some were wearing. Some how dirty sneakers never has fit in..

Required Reading....

Read this aloud to yourself...

One sentence after another...



This is this cat.

This is cat.

This is how cat.

This is to cat.

This is keep cat.

This is a cat.

This is fool cat.

This is busy cat.

This is for cat.

This forty cat.

This is seconds cat.

Now go back and read only the third word of each sentence one after the other.

Pops in the Park



The news was received with feelings of disappointment. The annual appearance with the Chattanooga Symphony at the Chickamauga National Battlefield Park, had been canceled due to lack of funds from sponsors. The amount quoted was \$25,000.00. Which seems to me a reasonable price to reach the estimated twenty to thirty thousand who usually attend the event. That equates to \$1.00 per person.

A real "Bang for their Buck" advertising wise, and thats not counting the many reached by the TV.

The question now is.. did we make an effort to appear in Coolidge Park with the symphony

The Battle of Bull Run :

Southern rights leader
Sam Jones' forces are
again bull dozed by
Yankee Bull, as the
Union's chief Bull
Shooter, Earle Fraser
cheers on the
northern cause.



**DANG IT
YOU FOOL
CRITTER!
THIS AINT
NO TEXAS
TWO-STEP**

Get With the Program

As most of you know by now, we have been invited "across the pond" again by YMOTW. This time our destination is Maastricht, the Netherlands, a town of about 110,000 people who for the most part speak English (or so I'm told). We would leave around April 11th or 12th and return the 18th or 19th, 2001. The cost will probably be \$1800 per person, worst case scenario. The package includes 6 nights hotel stay in Maastricht, round-trip air fare and transfers, continental b'fast each day and dinner 5 of 6 nights, 1/2 day tour of Maastricht, 1/2 day tour of Margaten (only site in Netherlands with a military cemetery for war casualties), 1 day in Brussels, Belgium, and 1 day in Amsterdam, Holland. We would also be singing at least two times while there; once in a music concert hall and on Monday during the street show celebration the town enjoys. Also, we would be able to enjoy the "Night of Jazz" they celebrate each year during this festivity. There are of course other amenities, but this should wet your appetite.



This sounds like a good deal, and the initial response has been positive. If we decide early on to do this, we can push our paid gigs and dedicate funds, especially from Singing Valentines, to support our travel costs this time. Please let me know what you're thinking and if any friends might be traveling with you. As last time, any and all are welcome to go with us and enjoy the week. I'll be hearing back from YMOTW late in July and need to let them know something shortly thereafter. Let's go if we can!

Until next time, Keep the Whole World Singing.

Steve Grubb

Barbershop Coaching Methods as used by Don Gray

submitted by Ron Weaver

Miscellaneous Coaching Ideas

The coaches job is **INSTRUCTION**, not **REPETITION**: the performer's job is **EXECUTION** of the coach's instructions and **REMEMBERING** them well enough for later repetition.

To hear better: have the quartet sing in a corner.

Rehearse 3-on-1: have harmony parts face, and watch, the Lead, in order to improve precision (attacks and releases). Lead should give physical signals, as if he were on stage.

There are three kinds of breaths:

1. Quick (but full) breaths. Used in ad lib phrasing; should occupy "no" musical space; used to provide forward motion; should seem "invisible" to audience; last syllable before breath should be exceptionally well-supported, and new phrase should begin at the same volume.
2. Breaths in tempo. Used in rhythm or ad lib phrasing, take up the musical space of a quarter or an eighth rest; forward motion is maintained, but a clear lyrical break is evident; used for normal punctuation.
3. Full-stop breaths (caesura, indicated by "parallel slashes") : Used to provide great dramatic impact and a complete lyrical re-start; no more than one per song.

Melodic dominance: Barbershop Harmony is **NOT** four part-part harmony, but three-part harmony around a predominant melody line. The melody must always be heard clearly.

Melody transfers: Leads need to be especially careful about where, exactly, the melody transfers to another part, so that they can instantly reduce their melodic dominance" (balance and projection). The "receiving" part must take over the Lead role on the first note after the transfer, so the audience perceives a continuous melody line.

Echoes should be either louder or softer than the original statement of the lyrics echoed. The performer should decide which statement is more important to the theme. Echoes at the same volume are just "filler and don't perform any interpretive function.

To eliminate unwanted white spots" (that is, places where no sound is produced in the middle of a phrase), which are generally caused by singing a word's final consonant too soon, attach the final consonant to the beginning of the next word.

Quartets and choruses should produce "continuous sound" like an organ, not "percussive sound" like a piano.

To produce "good music" the breaths are as important as the notes. All breaths must be planned and should always allow for all parts being able to finish a phrase in full resonance. Be very careful to give extra support to the final syllable before a breath. If you control the breaths, you control the song, otherwise, the song controls you.

"Phonate" all singable consonants to produce a smooth sound.

Hints for new, small choruses:

1. Sing **LOUDER!** Barbershop is best enjoyed with a full, rich voice.
2. Stand in a circle, so that all parts can be heard.
3. The director is in charge of all attacks and cutoffs: he/she must be emphatic and clear in his gestures. Each chorus member must watch the director intently, all the time.

Each singer must sing loud enough so that the coach can hear and fix any problem. If a singer doesn't sing loud to produce audible mistakes, then he's not singing loud enough to contribute to the ensemble sound.

Miscellaneous coaching, continued

All held notes should change in volume while they are held. Usually, they rise in volume, unless there is a specific plan to get softer.

Learn the tune-up chord as part of the song, and sing it **FIRMLY** every time.

There are two methods for stressing a word: duration (hold it longer) and volume (hit it harder). In ad lib interpretation, find the important words and stress them.

You only get one chance to make a great start. Remember that the song starts with the first breath (before the first note), which should be taken with the mouth in the vowel shape for the first vowel sound.

The precision releases, the Lead controls / directs all four part cut-offs. If the Lead holds, then the lowest moving part controls the timing of the swipes.

In chorus singing, it is each singer's responsibility to maintain the smooth, well-supported ensemble sound of the section; therefore, each singer **MUST** breathe where he needs to, except in places where there is a planned no-breath point. If necessary, the singer can leave out an entire word (or two) in order to take a full breath. Note that is a different breathing philosophy than used by a quartet singer, who cannot leave out words.

More on chorus breathing-each singer

- . **MUST** breathe at planned spots,
- . **MUST NOT** breathe at designated carry-overs,
- . **Must** give extra support to syllables just before breaths,
- . **MUST** give extra support to syllables just before planned carry-overs.

Fix arrangements to suit the performer, and the performer's interpretation. Simplify or eliminate key changes.

Use **ALL** parts of the language, especially the diphthongs and singable consonants.

Each singer must concentrate on putting the target vowel on the **DOWNBEAT**. Any consonant before the first vowel sound must come **BEFORE** the beat.

Responsibility for tuning:

The Lead **ALONE** is responsible for the horizontal tuning (maintaining the tonal center). He does **NOT** tune to the harmony parts.

. Harmony parts are responsible for vertical tuning (making sure each chord is in tune). They make any needed adjustments to the Lead's definition of the tonal center.

Tenor melody in tags:

- . The Tenor must sing with melodic quality (generally bigger, fuller) and melodic volume (louder).
- . The Tenor is now responsible for maintaining the tonal center (horizontal tuning).
- . The Tenor is responsible for the final cut-off.

For smoothness, focus on keeping the vocal folds moving at all times, rather than stopping them for consonants.

Within each major section of a song/arrangement (e.g., verse or chorus), there should be some planned volume change.



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TO:



The Blender

The Official Publication of the Chattanooga Chapter of the
Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America

Chattanooga, Tennessee

Dixie District

Volume 9 No. 7, July, 2000

The Chapter meets every Monday, 7:00 PM, All Saints Academy, 310 8th. St. Chattanooga, TN.

Chattanooga Choo-Choo Barbershop Chorus Presents

What A Country!



A musical tour of America's History....



"Keep the Whole World Singing"





**HAVE YOU HEARD
THE NEWS?**



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Choo Choo Bell



A Note From the Risers



Blender Deadline

August 28th

September 25th.

October 23rd.

November 27th.

December 18th.

**Chattanooga
Choo Choo Chorus
Box 21326
Chattanooga, TN.
37424-0326**



Something to Crowe About

I've taken the liberty of reprinting a couple of articles from the quarterly newsletter for Public Relations Officers and Bulletin Editors, The **PROBEmotor**.

Dennis Woodson's **Lets Stop Singing** is in time for our district competition, and a must for all to read.

Leo Schubert struck close to home, and is the lament of bulletin editors through out the society. Frustrating ? You bet ! The continual plea to members, for comments or views, and chapter officers re: their respective disciplines.

The lack of response is very disappointing. One can see why bulletins fail, as dejected editors fold their tents and ride off into the sunset. Never to volunteer again.

So Quartets and dual membership people , whats happening with your groups? The rest of the guys would love to know.

Missed the last issue... but a copy of the letter of thanks from Family Violence Services Shelter is included for your review..

Signed in as visitors in June were Erby Erwin, Howard Alexander and Scott Walker.

As the man said to the stripper , "Hope we see more of you."

Lamar Owens has been working hard beating the bushes for paid gigs. But he can't do it all. How about some help.?

While we are on the subject. Our requests for church performances have not been as strong as we would desire..

These are usually comp. gigs. but the love offerings have helped our treasury and our Heartspring commitment So lets get out there and see if we give back, by using the talent the Lord has given us.

Welcome to choochoo.intrnets.com Have you logged on to our Internet? The site administrators are Paul Blazek and Lamar Owens.

Great for all updates and chapter news.

Getting started instructions are posted on the board.

Forrest Bugher has compiled new membership lists. Listen up!

Before you besiege him or me as to why you are receiving four sheets .

If you pay attention we shall clarify it for you.

One: there is a chapter communication list. This will supply you with Home phone , Work phone, Fax phone and E-mail addresses.

Two: Is the chapter Mail list giving mail address and Zip codes and other dates ie: MBD (members birthday) WBD (wife's birthday)

A'DAY (wedding anniversary)

Three: Chapter Membership list.

The report from the lakeside at Clemson was interesting.

What raised a few eyebrows was the comment that the Cleveland show was advertised by flyers, yet the dual members said naught about our show.

Seems the Choo Choo has always lent assistance in many ways including financial. the question is, is it a one-way street? The canceling by the Four Voices, and now this.

Doesn't dual membership mean dual loyalty?

In this issue I've started a feature. A biography of members. Why? Well as new guys come in the chapter I'm sure the thought goes through their minds as they look about, how long the guy sitting next to me been a member? How did he start? Hope you enjoy it . I would like to hear your comments.

Check out the report from Lamar Owens. If enough are interested, it looks like a hassle free way to get to Knoxville.

By the time you receive this issue the new uniforms should be in and ready to have pants hemmed and logos applied to the shirts.

Give the old haberdasher a vote of thanks for all his work dealing with the vendors.





Birthdays

Barbara Dunkin Aug 1

Audrey Gist Aug. 10

Lindy Blazek Aug. 20

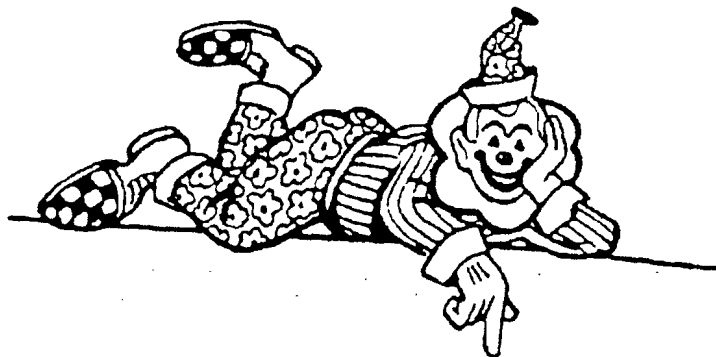
J.W. Kirk Aug. 28

Anniversaries

Carol & Dave Collins Aug. 7

Joy & J.W. Kiirk Aug. 10

Glenda & Bernard Peek Aug 21



Lawyer vs. Rancher

A big-city lawyer was representing the railroad in a lawsuit filed by an old rancher. The rancher's prize bull was missing from the section through which the railroad passed. The rancher only wanted to be paid the fair value of the bull.

The case was scheduled to be tried before the justice of peace in the back room of the general store. The city-slicker attorney for the railroad immediately cornered the rancher and tried to get him to settle out of court.

He did his best selling job, and finally the rancher agreed to take half of what he was asking.

After the rancher had signed the release and took the check, the young lawyer couldn't resist gloating a little over his success, telling the rancher, "You are really a country hick, old man, but I put one over on you in there. I couldn't have won the case. The engineer was asleep and the fireman was in the caboose when the train went through your ranch that morning. I didn't have one witness to put on the stand. I bluffed you!"

The old rancher replied, "Well, I'll tell you young feller, I was a little worried about winning that case myself, because that darned bull came home this morning."

Doctors Orders

A 92 year old man went to the doctor to get a physical. A few days later, the doctor saw the man walking down the street with a gorgeous young lady on his arm.

At his follow up visit, the doctor talked to the man and said. "You're really doing great, aren't you?" The man replied " Just doing what you said Doctor : 'Get a hot mamma and be cheerful' . "

The Doctor said, " I didn't say that. I said you got a heart murmur. Be careful."

Words

As you consider the import of words on your life and the world, consider this:

Pythagorean theorem: 24 words

The Lords prayer: 66 words

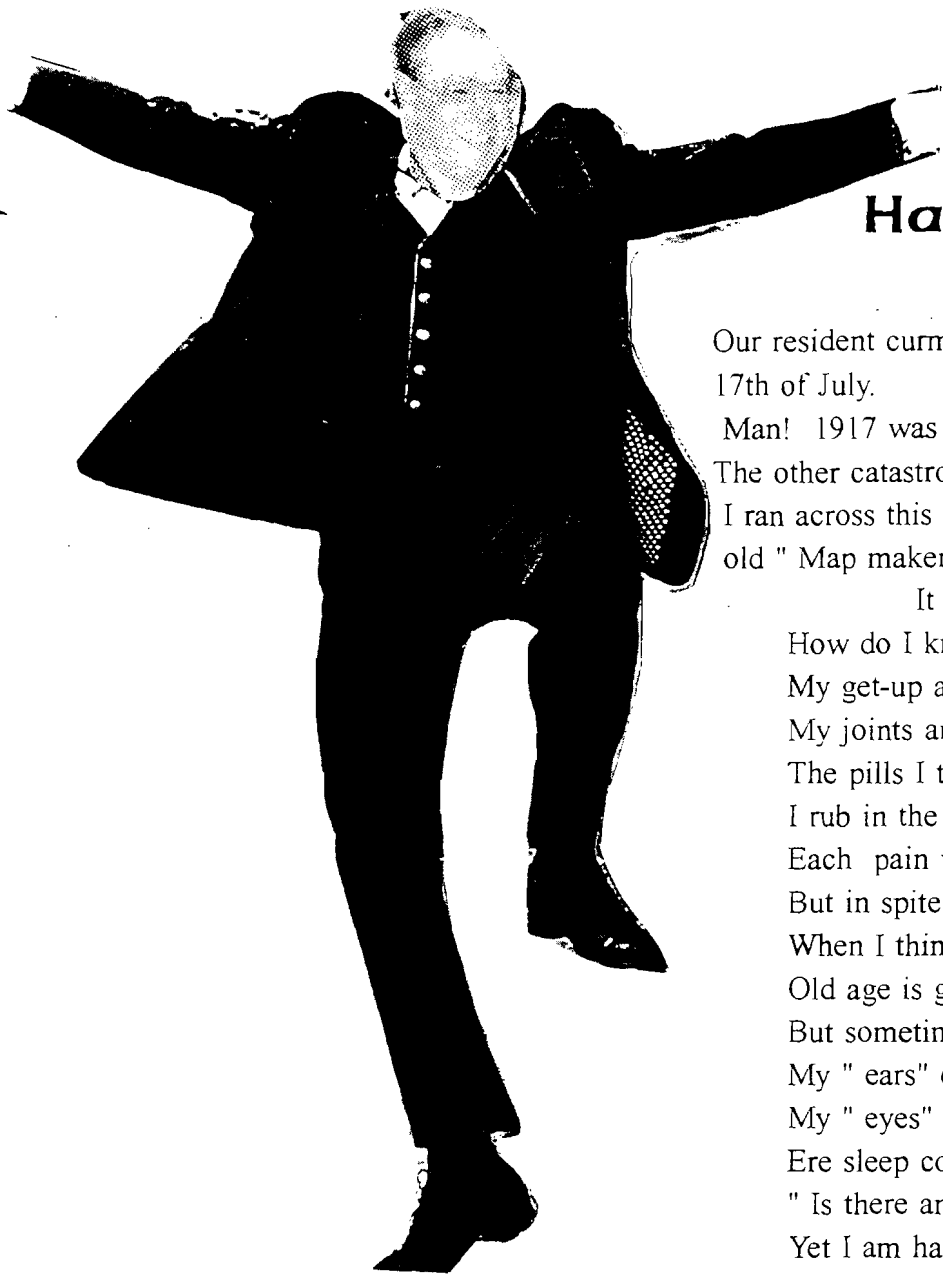
Archimedes' Principle: 67 words

The Ten Comandments: 179 words

The Gettysburg Address: 286 words

The Declaration of Independence
1,300 words

The US Goverment regulations on
the sale of cabbage: 26,911 words.



Happy Birthday

Our resident curmudgeon celebrated his 83rd on the 17th of July.

Man! 1917 was a real bad year.

The other catastrophe was the start of world war one.

I ran across this poem (Author unknown) which fits our old "Map maker" " to a "T"

It Got Up and Went

How do I know my youth is all spent ?
My get-up and go has got up and went.
My joints are still and filled with pain.
The pills I take, they give me no gain.
I rub in the ointment, like fury I do,
Each pain when it leaves comes back with two.
But in spite of it all I am able to grin
When I think of the places my get-up has been.
Old age is golden, I have heard said,
But sometimes I wonder as I get into bed
My " ears" on the dresser, my "teeth" in a cup,
My " eyes" on the table until I wake up.
Ere sleep comes each night I say to myself,
" Is there anything else I should lay on the shelf?"
Yet I am happy to know as I close the door,
My friends are the same as in days of yore.
Since I have retired from life's competition
Each day is filled with complete repetition.
I get up every morning and dust off my wits,
If my name isn't there I know I'm not dead;
I get a good breakfast and go back to bed.
The reason I know my youth is all spent
My get-up-and-go has got up and went.

Words of Wisdom from Earle

"Never play leapfrog with a Unicorn."

"If people from Poland are called Poles

Why aren't people from Holland called Holes?"

We love yuh, you old far...uh...uh....friend!

To quote William Shakespeare " He wears the rose of youth upon him."

Bulletin? What bulletin?

By Leo Schubert, EDITOR, *THE NOTE DISPENSER*
DAVENPORT, IOWA, CHAPTER

Sam Tweedy, newly appointed as the International Bulletin Contest Chairman, had an interesting quote published in the January-March issue of *PROBEmoter*. He said, "For years I've asked that old question, 'Which came first—a good chapter bulletin, or a good chapter?' I still don't know the answer, but I think it might be, 'yes'." Food for thought for those of you who are interested in improving the Chordbuster Chapter.

I volunteered for this bulletin editor position some years ago. I liked doing it then, and I like doing it now. What I don't like is having to write most of the articles. This is to be a chapter bulletin. That means written by and for the members of the chapter. But that is happening less and less.

Here is the April edition of *The Note Dispenser*. The deadline for articles passed weeks ago. Yet nothing has been forthcoming from the principals of the chapter's leadership team. So once again it's the middle of the month, and your bulletin editor is creating copy in order to meet his (foolish?) goal of a monthly bulletin.

The Society publishes guidelines, or job descriptions, for chapter officers. One obligation is that they submit articles to be published in the chapter bulletin. At last month's board meeting I handed out reminders that included questions and other suggestions for the officers to use in writing their articles. Result? Nothing!

We have three major quartets that are performing regularly in our community. Our members want to know about that. Couldn't a quartet man take the time to share their success with the chapter in the form of an article?

We have members who have dual membership in the Rock Island (Ill.) Chapter. Knowing what our fellow Barbershoppers and friends across the river are doing would be of interest to us all.

We just completed our 44th annual Holiday in Harmony. I would have thought that the emotionally charged event would have inspired several Chordbusters and/or their wives to jot down memories. But nothing came to the editor's desk about the show except from audience members.

So what's an editor to do? More than one editor of our Society's chapters has quit. I'm not really

ready to do that. But I do think about it seriously rather frequently these days. I can **create** a bulletin, but I could be an even better **editor** of a bulletin. I don't like mediocrity. Perhaps someone else in the chapter could do a better job than I'm able to do at getting articles submitted.

I believe very strongly that this chapter needs a bulletin; even the mediocre ones I create are better than none at all. I know, as Sam Tweedy knows, that a good chapter and a good bulletin are part of the same package. I also know that without help from chapter members, especially the elected officers, that the **Chordbusters** can't have a good bulletin. I just hope that's not indicative of the overall quality of our chapter. ☹

Whass... Up ??



Sept., 7, 2000. Elderfest

Cartersville, GA. 7:30 PM

Sept., 9, 2000. 86th. Infantry Div.

Choo Choo Hotel, 10:30 AM

Sept., 21, 2000. U.S. Marine Corp. Reunion

Raddison Read House 7:30 PM

October 6--7, 2000. Dixie District Convention

Hyatt Regency, Knoxville

Dec., 14, 2000 Alexian Village 7:00 PM

Dec., 19, 2000. Creekside @ Shallowford
6:30 PM

Let's stop singing!

By Dennis Woodson, ASS'T. DIRECTOR AND QUARTET DEVELOPMENT CHAIRMAN, Fullerton, Calif., *Barbershop Clippin's*, Dick Cote, EDITOR

That's right, stop singing! "But what shall we do on meeting nights?" you ask. Rehearse as usual, of course. The main change would be to replace singing with *PERFORMING*. You probably want to know what the difference is. Well, lucky you, I'm going to tell you.

Singing is a one-dimensional activity. It only involves the vocal apparatus. Performing involves the vocal apparatus plus the body, the face, the energy that you put into singing, everything. You probably think that you are already doing these things when you sing. Trust me. You aren't. Try singing a couple of the repertoire songs while looking in a mirror. (Go into the bathroom and close the door if you are afraid of someone hearing you.) Most of the members of our chorus, and even of the Society, are wooden Indians when they sing. Some of this is from being a little (or even a lot) self-conscious. But each of us has a little *ham* in us (some more than others) or we would not have joined an organization that sings in front of friends and strangers.

Okay, how do we transition from being *singers* to being *performers*? In a word, it is *ATTITUDE!* You approach each opportunity to perform with pride and the attitude that the audience is in for a treat. Then, all the time you are on stage, you sell, sell, sell. You involve your entire body in what you are doing. Move your eyebrows, nod your head now and then, constantly change your facial expressions, move your body. If this sounds like a lot to do while you're singing, just look at somebody who is talking. They are doing all of these things and so do you when you talk. So why do you *stop* doing them when you sing?

You don't need to be a professional to be a performer. You just have to take pride in what you are doing. If you approach a performance with an apologetic attitude, you shouldn't go on stage. There is no reason to feel self-conscious about performing. Remember, each person in the audience is there because they cannot or will not do what you can. All the more reason to go on stage and show what you can do.

Now what you have to do is put yourself into a performing attitude every time we get on the risers. If you don't, you will never do it in public. You will perform the way you practice, guaranteed. If you become a "performer every time you get on the risers, you will be a performer" every time that you go on stage.

Being a performer is a full-time effort. You are constantly listening to what is happening around you and what you are doing. All the while getting your whole self involved. And you know what? It is FUN! You will be amazed at how much you will enjoy a performance that you *performed* much more than the one where you just *sang*. And so will the audience. Your wife will wonder what has happened. She'll say that you and the chorus are singing so much better. (She won't even know to use the right adjective.)

Tell you what: Try it for three months. For the next **three months** constantly (and consciously) force yourself to be a performer at rehearsals and singouts. If the results are not as I said, you can go back to being a wooden Indian singer, but you have to give being a performer an honest effort. After the trial period is over let me know which mode of behavior you think is best. ☐

Take a corde, make a cord, and strike a chord

This originally appeared in the *Pal-Pac Chorusponent*, Palomar-Pacific (Calif.) Chapter, and was reprinted in *PROBE^{em}oter* in 1993. It was written by Lloyd Davis.

The word "chord" has an interesting origin. In Middle English, the word was spelled "corde" and referred to animal intestines. Since twine was made from them, the word was also closely related to "cord," referring to a piece of string or rope.

These "guts" were used to form the strings for musical instruments. When two or more were struck simultaneously, the player was striking or playing cordes. Later the spelling was changed to "chord," and a legitimate one had to contain at least three different tones.

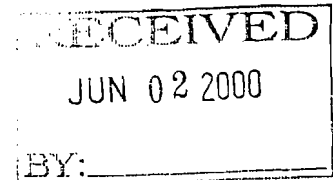
Oddly, the crude barbershop term for a well-rung chord, a "gut buster," refers back to the Middle English. ☐



FAMILY VIOLENCE SERVICES SHELTER

Empowering Survivors of Domestic Violence

May 20, 2000



Chattanooga Choo-Choo Chrous
310 E. 8th Street
Chattanooga, TN 37403

Dear Friends:

The board and staff of Family and Children's Services express genuine appreciation for your donation of the twenty seven cases of peanut crunch candy to the Family Violence Services Shelter Center. We are delighted to receive these items, as your donations assist us in providing for special events and the personal needs of our clients.

Thank you for your continued support of our efforts to assist victims of domestic violence in our community.

Sincerely,

Regina J. McDevitt, MED
Program Coordinator

Farrell Cooper, ACSW, LCSW
Executive Director

/vkf

In accordance with IRS regulations, Family and Children's Services attests that the donor has received no goods or services in exchange for this contribution.

A Program of Family & Children's Services of Chattanooga, Inc.

P.O. Box 6234 • Chattanooga, TN 37401-6234

Hot Line (423) 755-2700



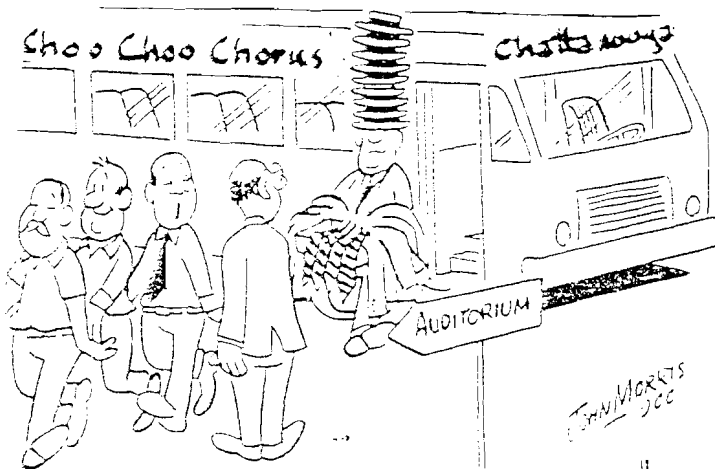
It's Your Business
Lamar Owens, Business Manager

It continues to be a good paid performance year for us with \$800 income so far this year with another \$925 remaining in scheduled dates. Our budget for the year was \$1100 and we are over that with an anticipated \$1,725 in income. The more income we can get from performances, the easier it will be to cover the costs of our new clothing. If you know of anyone who would like for us to entertain them please put them in touch with us at the chorus number, 855-1947 or my number, 894-4638. We can only handle a couple more Christmas engagements so you should contact anyone who might be interested now. As you can see, we can easily handle additional engagements in November.

Thanks to all those who made it the YMCA for the Memorial Heart Rehab engagement. We had 26 members present and put on a good show with the able leadership of Mr. David Collins. Thanks for a job well done David.

Listed below are scheduled coming events.

Elderfest-Cartersville	Sept. 7	\$175
86 th Infantry Div.	Sept. 9	200
U. S. Marine Corp.	Sept. 21	200
Fall contest	Oct. 6-8	Knoxville
Sweet Adelines Fall Show	Oct. 21	Tentative
Alexian Village	Dec. 14	175
Creekside @ Shallowford	Dec. 19	175



" HE'S OUR WARDROBE DEPARTMENT "

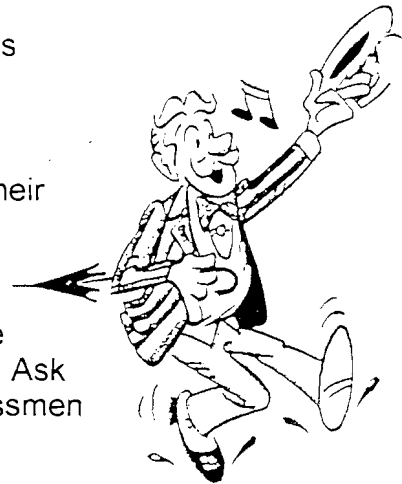
The Haberdasher's Shop
Lamar Owens

All of our new shirts have arrived and are at the shop being embroidered with our logo. They should be available in a week to ten days. Our new pants will arrive the middle of this week, July 23-29. We have found a source for the belts and the cost will be \$12 per member. Each of you need to get with me and pay for your belt so that we can place the order. Our next project will be to order our new shoes and we will start that project in the near future. We will not be able to order till September, when the price will be approximately \$15 per pair. Our shirts and pants will be ready for the August show. It also would be possible to get the belts in by that time. If you have any questions just let me know.

Get With The Program

Hope everyone is working on their music for our upcoming show. It will be here before we know it! It's a shame we couldn't book Four Voices to perform with us, especially with them finishing in the top twenty in Kansas City. I'm sure {guest quartet} will do a fine job, but it would have been great to have our old friends from Cleveland on stage wowing our guests. Maybe next year, huh? That will give them time to improve on their position in Nashville, 2001. They may make Numero Uno some day.

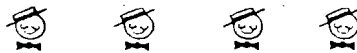
With the show comes the need to peddle tickets and Ad's. Hope we all are planning on doing our part to sell this show to our community. We have a great commodity that simply needs to be presented and enjoyed. Ask your friends to come and enjoy our hobby with us, and ask those businessmen you know to part with some Ad money to pay for all of this. It's not hard if you'll just try. It'll sell itself for the most part!



Have you and your spouse thought about our chance to travel overseas next year? The Bells have been asking me about it, so I know some wives are excited about going. Hope the chorus is as well. We need to commit around September to let YMOTW know our intentions. That date will also allow us to work on dedicating some funds to pay everyone's way over. I'll discuss this possibility at our next Board meeting (whenever that might be) if we decide to try and make the trip. What better place to spend April 15th than in The Netherlands singing Barbershop and entertaining folks! Let me know what you're thinking.

Until next time, Keep the Whole World Singing.

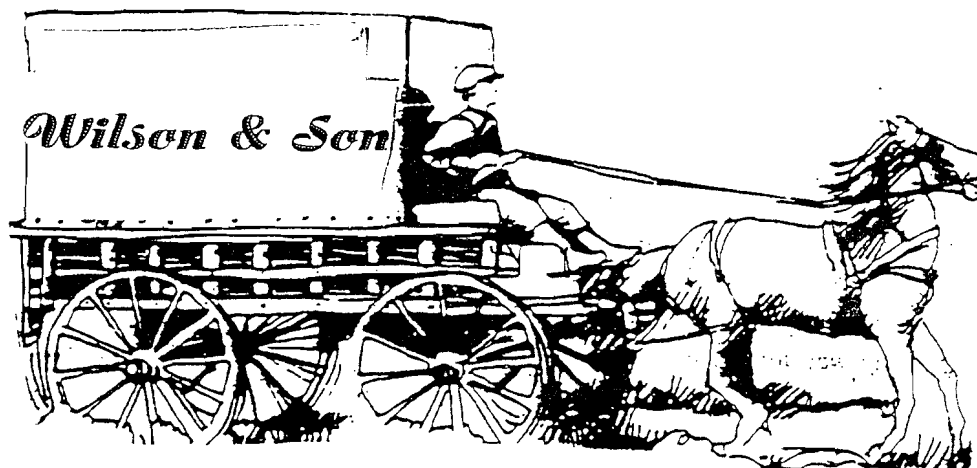
Steve Grubb



Leave the Driving to Us

Lamar Owens, has come up with a offer from Wilson's were they will provide transportation for Forty-four of us, to the fall convention.

Cost? We provide lodging and meals for the driver. The cost would be Ten bucks, more or less per person. Sounds like a good deal. At last Mondays meeting there was a show of eleven hands. That's a possible twenty-two if they are bringing their spouses along. Get with Lamar for further details.



CHOO CHOO

BELLES

By Audrey Gist



The Belles met July 10 at the chorus's meeting rooms. The main topic of conversation was, "how come the chorus area is air conditioned, and we're in this hot airless storeroom?"

We were pleased to welcome two new members. Ann Poole and Linda Alton

We are looking forward to the "Show" on Aug. 19. As the show theme is a musical tour of American history, we will be wearing "Red, White and Blue".

A reminder, send finger food and beverages with the guys on the day of the show.

For those who want or need to replace their blue Belles shirt, the price is \$18.00, and we will need the shirt size.

With the guys getting their new uniform, we will also follow suit. So pickup a White Oxford cloth shirt at J.C. Penneys and send it along with your guy, with \$5.00 for the logo. This has to be in by August 21st. Any Questions ??? Give me a call.

We should look great at Knoxville.

Our next meeting will be on Sept. 11 at 7:00 PM at the Town and Country.

It should be a lot cooler than the storage room we met in, and I'm sure the ambiance will be a step above the props etc... that surrounded us.

Items to be reviewed are the Knoxville Convention, the change of officers.

Bring your yearly dues (\$12.00) with you.

Checks for the blue shirt should be made out to Chattanooga Chapter SPEBQSA. Belles dues Made out to: Glenda Peek, Secretary Choo Choo Belles. See you at the show... Audrey



Ferd's Words for July

by Fred Jesse Music VP

Are you ready for our annual show? Lots of activity and planning is happening. If you are not part of this, you may be asked to help. Better yet, why not volunteer?

The music package is quite extensive with new music to learn. By the time you read this, you should be off the music, except perhaps the last music we distributed. This is a great show for our audience. Everyone will leave the auditorium feeling proud of our country -- What a Country! It is our job to give them this feeling of pride. Our pride in our music will spread to the audience if we feel it first.

Member surveys indicate a desire to learn new music. This show package can be continued afterward as part of our performance package, so we are not learning new music to perform it just once. The Medley Quartets and the VLQ have more music to learn, so lets support them as they do. We may have another chapter quartet formed as a result of this show. We have some enthusiastic new members who will add to our total on stage. Can us old timers (me included) be as high on performing? We have a loyal following in our audience members. We can't disappoint them. The show and our other performances are recruitment means too, and so we have to show how much fun it is to sing in the chorus.

The International convention has come and gone in Kansas City. We will be asked to help in Nashville next year. This is a great way to enjoy our hobby by helping others enjoy it too I spent some time with James and June Coulter who wanted me to pass on their greetings. They recently moved to Washington DC and he is singing with the Alexandria Harmonizers. That's the way to get to the top.. if you cant beat them, join them.

Do The Write Thing.

HELP YOUR EDITOR WITH A NEWS ITEM FOR THE NEXT ISSUE





"The Memory Laners"

He's a charter member, been barbershopping and ringing those bass notes for forty-eight years.

Do you know him? He's been known to be a ballroom dancer, a portrait sketcher, an absconder of shoes and a "HITMAN" for a local pest control company.

Still don't recognize him? The shoes and the "HITMAN" are a dead give away.

That's him on the right, That handsome devil, when he was in his thirties. Singing bass with the "MEMORY LANERS", in Cincinnati, Ohio

In a recent chat, telling him there is a few of the new members who don't know our backgrounds and what got us into barbershopping. He gave me a brief history of his barbershopping life.

He was born, Lloyd Joseph Gimber in Worthington Indiana eighty-two years ago. In 1952 a real estate friend in Cincinnati got him interested in our craft. The chorus was not too strong and quartets was the way to go, so with two others they formed the Memory Laners Their bari. Harry Goderwis had perfect pitch. The rest of the group was Dick Garland,

tenor and Cliff Mueller sang lead.

When he started out in Cincinnati there was a table, 4 chairs 4 guys and 4 beers. Cincinnati was a beer drinking town in those days

Their performance was mainly "Woodshedding"

They would head downtown to the better restaurants, hotel and motel lounges and sing the night away.

These were not paid gigs, but led to appearances at the Cincinnati Club, a business mens club. It had bars on every floor. When they would start performing, that particular bar would fill with people in no time.

Cincinnati is the home of Proctor and Gamble and they were invited to sing many a time at P&G's 50/50 club.

Many a time they were kept there till three in the morning by Yale and Harvard grads wanting to hear it one more time... "To the tables down at Moreys, to the place where Louie dwells..." Some times we'd get paid \$10.00 a piece! That was a pretty good amount in the "Fifties".

In his personal life, Lloyd has three sons and a daughter. He started out in Food Service Managing donut shops in Indianapolis, Cincinnati, Columbus and Detroit.

He was a Machinist for a year or so in Cleveland, Ohio Came to Chattanooga in 1958. Met some others interested in Barbershopping and four years later a chapter was formed. It was called the Rock City Chapter.

These days when he's not up there on the risers, you'll find him still working for Cook's Pest Control, in his off time he and his dance partner give Ballroom dance shows at local nursing homes, retirement and senior centers. Weekends if you head out to the East Ridge Flea Market you'll see him sketching portraits.

I asked him if he was ever going to retire. "No Way!" was the answer. "You got to keep moving to stay one step ahead of the undertaker!"

Well, with that kind of attitude, Lamar Green might as well put away his tape measure, cause Ol' Lloyd just "ain't gonna go!"

It was a real pleasure talking to Lloyd, and I hope to interview other members in the near future.

If you've never heard it, ask about the shoe theft story.



LASTNAME	NICKNAME	VOICE	HOMEPHONE	WORKPHONE	FAXPHONE	EMAIL
ABERCROMBIE	DAVE	LEAD	423-886-1588	423-855-0522	423-855-0525	
ALTMAN	HIRAM	BASS	706-937-2832	CELL 423-580-7303		
BLAZEK	MATT	LEAD	423-622-4969			matthsoccer@hotmail.com
BLAZEK	PAUL	BASS/DIR	423-622-4493	423-510-0585x317	423-893-5374	pjblazek@bigfoot.com
BRUNS	DAN	TENOR	423-493-1880	423-751-6430	493-1896CALL	debruns@tva.gov
BUGHER	FORREST	BASS	423-899-1496		423-899-6639	F.BUGHER@worldnet.att.net
COLLINS	DAVE	BASS	423-658-2737		423-658-6842	dbc4@bellsouth.net
CROWE	PAT	LEAD	706-375-3878			georgecrowe@mindspring.com
DAWSON	EDGAR	BASS	706-398-2479			
DUNKIN III	BOB	BASS	423-949-3853			robertdunkins@gateway.net
DUNKIN	RICHARD					
ERBY	ERWIN	BASS	706-866-5407			
FOWLER	TONY	LEAD	706-861-9564	423-490-7588		
FOWLER	NILES	TENOR	706-861-1348		423-493-7450	sherryfow@usa.com
FRASER	EARLE	LEAD	423-892-7630		423-499-4438	earlev@worldnet.att.net
GIMBER	JOE	BASS	423-894-3900	423-629-2563		
GIST	BROOKS	BARI	423-892-7191			
GREEN	ALBERT	TENOR	706-695-9704			
GREEN	DIGGER	BASS	706-866-1240	706-866-5151		
GRUBB	STEVE	LEAD	423-894-1833	706-858-2484	706-858-2758	sgrubbe@hutcheson.org
HAGAR	DICK	BASS	423-472-2977	860-447-1791x0822		
HARRIS	GREG	LEAD	706-861-1255	423-752-6502		blade_blackdog@yahoo.com
HAUSMANN	DON	BASS/BARI	423-837-8991	423-698-6675	423-698-3638	
HUBER	LARRY	BASS	423-339-1697	423-476-2100	423-739-3012	huber,huber@juno.com
JACKSON	JOHNNY	BARI	423-892-8317	800-553-4125	423-892-8237	johnbari1@worldnet.att.net
JESSE	FRED	TENOR	706-375-5935	706-638-5100X543	706-638-6688	FRED.JESSE@APPL.GE.COM
JOHNSTON	JOHN	BARI	423-886-3444	423-778-6738	423-886-5526	johjoh@mindspring.com
JONES	PETE	BASS	706-861-2113	423-802-1047		
JONES	SAM	LEAD	706-375-5431	706-375-4738		shjpdj@msn.com
KEEGAN	TOM	LEAD	423-756-5660	800-788-1408		THOMASBartoms@aol.com
KIRK	J.W.	LEAD	706-861-3135	875-7945		
KULP	RICK	BARI	423-875-0940	423-755-2587		rlkulp@gateway.net
LIENDECKER	EDGAR		423-842-1102			
MALONE	BEN	BARI/T	423-344-9211		209-8738	bmsing1@excite.com
MC CONNELL	LOVER BOY	TEN/LEAD	706-638-8828	706-638-5100X230	706-638-6688	shannon.McConnell@appl.ge.com
MC KEEHAN	BILL	BARI	423-339-2786			popmak@aol.com
MC KENZIE	SCOTT	BASS	423-629-2073	423-698-6675	423-698-3638	
MOORE	BUD	BARI	935-6121	861-7229	706-861-7229	
OWENS	BARRY	BASS/TENOR	423-893-8347	423-755-4526	423-899-3601	bowens@cdc.net
OWENS	LAMAR	LEAD	423-894-8559	423-894-4638	423-894-4638*51	LAMAR OWENS@JUNO.COM
PEEK	BERNARD	LEAD	706-398-3104			
POOLE	RICHARD		706-93707485	706-965-3977		
PRUETT	WAYNE	BASS	423-344-0210	423-510-8988	423-510-8972	tagman3@aol.com
REYNOLDS	DAVE	BARI	423-875-2674	423-751-6543	423-751-6238	DNREYNOLDS@tva.gov
SATTERFIELD	LONNIE	BASS	706-866-6965	706-866-5175		
SATTERFIELD	RON	TENOR	706-861-1351	706-861-6500		
SLACK	BILL	LEAD	706-638-3791	706-638-5848	706-638-5849	plslack@worldnet.att.net
SMITH	LAMAR	LEAD	706-866-2481			LSMITH2737@AOL.COM
STANSBURY	BOB	BASS	423-894-7760		423-894-8911	bshopbob@vol.com
STRICKLAND	STRICK	BASS	706-866-2567		706-858-8605	strick@vol.com
THOMAS	HOBBY	LEAD	423-622-5276	423-698-1286		
WALKER	SCOTT	TENOR	423-344-3307	423-751-7841		sdwalker@mindspring.com
WALL	CLARENCE	BASS	706-820-0579		706-820-9995	cwall55244@aol.com
WEAVER	RON	LEAD	423-476-3200	423-479-8611		rw4pt@aol.com
WHEELER	BERNARD	BASS	706-638-4013			JWHEELER@CDC.NET
WILSON	CHUCK	BARI	423-624-8635	706-226-4834		chukmisa@voy.net
WRIGHT	WALT	BASS	423-265-4772	423-756-4501		

LASTNAME	FIRSTNAME	ADDRESS1	CITY	ST	ZIP	MBD	WIFENAME	WBD	A'DAY
ABERCROMBIE	GEORGE	1505 EAST BROW RD.	SIGNAL MOUNTAIN	TN	37377	27-Dec	MARY		27-Jun
ALTMAN	HIRAM	338 CHAPMAN RD.	RINGGOLD	GA	30736	9-Feb	LINDA	8-Mar	15-Feb
BLAZEK	MATTHEW	4106 CHERRYTON DR	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37411	31-Dec		31-Dec	
BLAZEK	PAUL	4106 CHERRYTON DR	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37411	11-Oct	LINDY	20-Aug	25-May
BRUNS	DANIEL	205 GILLESPIE TERRACE	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37411	23-Apr	KATHLEEN	22-Sep	19-Aug
BUGHER	FORREST	2824 NILE ROAD	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37421	1-Feb	ANITA	8-Sep	19-Apr
COLLINS	DAVID	5124 HWY 27W	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37405	16-Sep	CAROL	16-Sep	8-Aug
CROWE	GEORGE	145 GREEN CT.	CHICKAMAUGA	GA	30707-1877	17-Mar	MARGARET	3-May	24-Apr
DAWSON	EDGAR	193 CO. ROAD 722	BRYANT	AL	35958	31-Jul	PAT		20-Jan
DUNKIN III	ROBERT S.	526 OLD HWY 8	DUNLAP	TN	37327	19-Sep	BARBARA	1-Aug	5-Mar
DUNKIN	RICHARD								
ERBY	ERWIN	945 NEAL DR.	ROSSVILLE	GA	30741	18-Jun	GLENDA	24-Mar	25-Jul
FOWLER	ANTHONY	201 LAURELWOOD CIRCLE	ROSSVILLE	GA	330741	13-Jan			
FOWLER	NILES	525 CONE DRIVE	FORT OGLETHORPE	GA	30742	1-Jan	SHERRY	15-Aug	5-Apr
FRASER	EARLE	204 STILLWOOD LANE	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37421	17-Jul	EVELYN	26-Mar	13-Feb
GIMBER	LLOYD	719 PYRON LANE	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37412	10-Jun			
GIST	BROOKS	6805 BALLARD DR.	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37421	12-Feb	AUDREY	10-Aug	21-Jul
GREEN	ALBERT J.	1682 HWY 2 WEST	CRANDALL	GA	30711	16-Nov	JANICE	6-Nov	27-Sep
GREEN	LAMAR	1257 BURNING BUSH RD.	RINGGOLD	GA	30738		MARTHA		6-Jun
GRUBB	STEVEN	1600 SO. SMITH ST.	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37412	19-Dec			
HAGAR	RICHARD	245 HIWASSEE AVENUE N.E.	CLEVELAND	TN	37312	8-Feb	JEANNE		19-Oct
HARRIS	JAMES	116 GATEWAY LN	ROSSVILLE	GA	30741	27-Feb	KARIN	15-Mar	27-Jun
HAUSMANN	DONALD	2222 FISHTRAP ROAD	SOUTH PITTSBURG	TN	37380	3-Mar	CAROL		12-May
HUBER	LAURENCE E.	1201 CROWN ST, N, W,	CLEVELAND	TN	37312	24-Apr	GLORIA	24-Apr	17-Oct
JACKSON	JOHNNY	714 HAVEN HILL DRIVE	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37412	18-Mar	SALLY	26-Sep	4-Jun
JESSE	FRED	123 THREE NOTCH ROAD	RINGGOLD	GA	30738	23-Nov	JUDY	6-Dec	18-Jun
JOHNSTON	JOHN	2 NORTHFIELD RD.	SIGNAL MTN	TN	37377	23-Nov	CYNTHIA	29-Mar	18-Apr
JONES	JAYSON	316 SIGNAL DRIVE	ROSSVILLE	GA	30741	16-Apr			
JONES	SAMUEL	6031 S. HIGHWAY 341	CHICKAMAUGA	GA	30707	9-Sep	PAT	29-Nov	13-Jun
KEEGAN	F. THOMAS	1727 CRESTWOOD DRIVE	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37405	3-Jul	BARBARA		10-Feb
KIRK	JOHN	35 JACKSON WAY	FT OGLETHORPE	GA	30742	28-Aug	JOY	2-Nov	10-Aug
KULP	RICHARD W	600 TIMBER RIDGE DR.	HIXSON	TN	37343-3853	2-Sep	LESLEY	10-May	22-Jun
LIENDECKER	EDGAR	7925 HALE RD.	HIXSON	TN	37343				
MALONE	BENNY	9811 LAKESIDE ROAD	HARRISON	TN	37341	5-Sep	GUELDA	9-Sep	21-Oct
MC CONNELL	SHANNON M.	135 WILLOW LANE	LAFAYETTE	GA	30728	5-Nov	CYNDI	30-Oct	23-May
MC KEEHAN	WILLIAM	ROUTE 3, BOX 496	GEORGETOWN	TN	37336-9737	4-Mar			
MC KENZIE	SCOTT	107 TALLEY ROAD	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37411	3-Feb	SUSAN		1-Oct
MOORE	BURRELL	2005 DAVIS RIDGE RD.	RINGGOLD	GA	30736	7-Jul	CHERI	25-Jan	8-Sep
OWENS	BARRY	8918 VILLA RICA CIRCLE	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37421	30-Sep	NANCY	22-May	5-Sep
OWENS	JACK	2617 REID DR.	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37421	6-Nov	JANICE	13-Nov	23-Dec
PEEK	BERNARD L.	5428 SCENIC HWY	RISING FAWN	GA	30738	21-Apr	GLENDA	7-Dec	21-Aug
POOLE	RICHARD L.	413 THOMPSON HILL RD	RINGGOLD	GA	30738	30-Mar	ANN	1-Dec	26-Feb
PRUETT	ROBERT W.	6749 CEDAR RIDGE LANE	HARRISON	TN	37341	23-Jan	LYNN	19-Oct	24-May

<u>LASTNAME</u>	<u>FIRSTNAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS1</u>	<u>CITY</u>	<u>ST</u>	<u>ZIP</u>	<u>MBD</u>	<u>WIFENAME</u>	<u>WBD</u>	<u>A'DAY</u>
REYNOLDS	DAVID	3879 AZALEAN DRIVE	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37415	18-Oct	MP667-0333		
SATTERFIELD	LONNIE	33 DELORIS DRIVE	FT OGLETHORPE	GA	30742-3801	23-Mar			
SATTERFIELD	RONNIE	17 BATTLEFIELD CT	RINGGOLD	GA	30736	23-Mar	BRENDA	4-Sep	1-Jun
SLACK	WILLIAM P.	614 SLEEPY HOLLOW	LAFAYETTE	GA	30728	23-Jan	PAT	16-Jul	5-Sep
SMITH	LAMAR	120 BENTLEY DRIVE	ROSSVILLE	GA	30741	7-Feb	LOUISE	4-Jan	25-Nov
STANSBURY	BOB	141 ROLLING RIDGE DRIVE	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37421	29-Nov	SANDRA	27-Mar	21-Oct
STRICKLAND	WILBUR	11 EDGEWOOD CIRCLE	FORT OGLETHORPE	GA	30742	19-Nov	MARY	22-Nov	4-Apr
THOMAS	STANLEY H.	3811 COUNTRYSIDE DR.	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37408	10-Nov			
WALKER	SCOTT	6127 CALEB PLACE	OOLTEWAH	TN	37363	24-Aug	TISHA	11-Jun	5-Apr
WALL	CLARENCE	1115 LULA LAKE ROAD	LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN	GA	30750	20-Aug	SALLY	19-Feb	24-Jan
WEAVER	RONALD	1287 NEW MURRAYTOWN RD	CLEVELAND	TN	37311	8-Oct	MARY JANE	18-Feb	24-Feb
WHEELER	BERNARD	5907 STRAIGHT CUT ROAD	LAFAYETTE	GA	30728	16-Mar	JO ANN	7-Jul	5-Sep
WILSON	CHARLES	107 GILLISPIE TERRACE	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37411	20-May	MELISSA	8-Oct	21-Oct
WRIGHT	WALTER	1342 SALMOUTH RD	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37405	23-May	LINDA		

LASTNAME	FIRSTNAME	NICKNAME	ADDRESS1	CITY	ST	ZIP	VOICE	MBD	HOMEPHONE	WORKPHONE	FAXPHONE	EMAIL
ALERCROMBIE	GEORGE	DAVE	1808 EAST BROW RD.	SIGNAL MOUNTAIN	TN	37377	LEAD	27-Dec	423-888-1888	423-888-0522	423-888-0525	
ALTMAN	HIRAM		338 CHAPMAN RD.	RINGGOLD	GA	30738	BASS	9-Feb	706-937-2832	CELL423-580-7303		
BLAZEK	MATTHEW	MATT	4108 CHERRYTON DR	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37411	LEAD	31-Dec	423-622-4969			mathsoccer@hotmail.com
BLAZEK	PAUL	PAUL	4108 CHERRYTON DR	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37411	BASS/DIR	11-Oct	423-622-4493	423-610-0586x317	423-893-5374	pjbblazek@bigfoot.com
BRUNS	DANIEL	DAN	205 GILLESPIE TERRACE	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37411	TENOR	23-Apr	423-493-1880	423-751-6430	493-1898CALL	debruns@tva.gov
BUGHER	FORREST	FORREST	2824 NILE ROAD	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37421	BASS	1-Feb	423-899-1496		423-899-6639	F.BUGHER@worldnet.att.net
COLLINS	DAVID	DAVE	5124 HWY 27W	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37406	BASS	16-Sep	423-658-2737		423-658-6842	dbc4@bellsouth.net
CROWE	GEORGE	PAT	146 GREEN CT.	CHICKAMAUGA	GA	30707-1877	LEAD	17-Mar	706-376-3878			georgecrowe@mindspring.com
DAWSON	EDGAR	EDGAR	193 CO. ROAD 722	BRYANT	AL	36968	BASS	31-Jul	706-398-2479			
DUNKIN III	ROBERT S.	BOB	828 OLD HWY 8	DUNLAP	TN	37327	BASS	19-Sep	423-949-3863			robertdunkins@gateway.net
DUNKIN	RICHARD											
ERBY	ERWIN	ERWIN	946 NEAL DR.	ROSSVILLE	GA	30741	BASS	18-Jun	706-868-5407			
FOWLER	ANTHONY	TONY	201 LAURELWOOD CIRCLE	ROSSVILLE	GA	330741	LEAD	13-Jan	706-861-9564	423-490-7688		
FOWLER	NILES	NILES	826 CONE DRIVE	FORT OGLETHORPE	GA	30742	TENOR	1-Jan	706-861-1348		423-493-7450	sherryfow@usa.com
FRASER	EARLE	EARLE	204 STILLWOOD LANE	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37421	LEAD	17-Jul	423-892-7830		423-499-4438	earlev@worldnet.att.net
GIMBER	LLOYD	JOE	719 PYRON LANE	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37412	BASS	10-Jun	423-894-3900	423-629-2563		
GIST	BROOKS	BROOKS	8608 BALLARD DR.	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37421	BARI	12-Feb	423-892-7191			
GREEN	ALBERT J.	ALBERT	1682 HWY 2 WEST	CRANDALL	GA	30711	TENOR	16-Nov	706-868-8704			
GREEN	LAMAR	DIGGER	1267 BURNING BUSH RD.	RINGGOLD	GA	30738	BASS		706-868-1240	706-868-6161		
GRUBB	STEVEN	STEVE	1600 SO. SMITH ST.	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37412	LEAD	19-Dec	423-894-1833	706-858-2494	706-858-2758	sgrubb@hutcheson.org
HAGAR	RICHARD	DICK	246 HIWASSEE AVENUE N.E.	CLEVELAND	TN	37312	BASS	8-Feb	423-472-2977	860-447-1791x0822		
HARRIS	JAMES	GREG	116 GATEWAY LN	ROSSVILLE	GA	30741	LEAD	27-Feb	706-861-1255	423-752-6502		blade_blackdog@yahoo.com
HAUSMANN	DONALD	DON	2222 FISHTRAP ROAD	SOUTH PITTSBURG	TN	37380	BASS/BARI	3-Mar	423-837-8991	423-898-6875	423-898-3638	
HUBER	LAURENCE E.	LARRY	1201 CROWN ST, N, W.	CLEVELAND	TN	37312	BASS	24-Apr	423-339-1897	423-476-2100	423-739-3012	huber.lubert@juno.com
JACKSON	JOHNNY	JOHNNY	714 HAVEN HILL DRIVE	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37412	BARI	18-Mar	423-892-8317	800-553-4125	423-892-8237	johnbari1@worldnet.att.net
JESSE	FRED	FRED	123 THREE NOTCH ROAD	RINGGOLD	GA	30738	TENOR	23-Nov	706-376-6936	706-638-5100X543	706-638-6688	FRED.JESSE@APPL.GE.COM
JOHNSTON	JOHN	JOHN	2 NORTHFIELD RD.	SIGNAL MTN	TN	37377	BARI	23-Nov	423-886-3444	423-778-6738	423-886-5626	johnjohn@mindspring.com
JONES	JAYSON	PETE	316 SIGNAL DRIVE	ROSSVILLE	GA	30741	BASS	16-Apr	706-861-2113	423-802-1047		
JONES	SAMUEL	SAM	6031 S. HIGHWAY 341	CHICKAMAUGA	GA	30707	LEAD	9-Sep	706-376-6431	706-376-4738		shjpdj@msn.com
KEEGAN	F.THOMAS	TOM	1727 CRESTWOOD DRIVE	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37406	LEAD	3-Jul	423-756-6660	800-788-1408		THOMASBartons@aol.com
KIRK	JOHN	J.W.	35 JACKSON WAY	FT OGLETHORPE	GA	30742	LEAD	28-Aug	706-861-3136	876-7946		
KULP	RICHARD W	RICK	600 TIMBER RIDGE DR.	HIXSON	TN	37343-3863	BARI	2-Sep	423-876-0940	423-756-2687		rikulp@gateway.net
LIENDECKER	EDGAR	EDGAR	7928 HALE RD.	HIXSON	TN	37343			423-842-1102			
MALONE	BENNY	BEN	9811 LAKESIDE ROAD	HARRISON	TN	37341	BARI/T	5-Sep	423-344-9211		209-8738	bmsing1@excite.com
MC CONNELL	SHANNON M.	LOVER BOY	136 WILLOW LANE	LAFAYETTE	GA	30728	TEN/LEAD	5-Nov	706-638-8828	706-638-5100X230	706-638-6688	shannon.McConnell@appl.ge.com
MC KEEHAN	WILLIAM	BILL	ROUTE 3, BOX 496	GEORGETOWN	TN	37338-9737	BARI	4-Mar	423-339-2786			popmak@aol.com
MC KENZIE	SCOTT	SCOTT	107 TALLEY ROAD	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37411	BASS	3-Feb	423-629-2073	423-698-6675	423-698-3638	
MOORE	BURRELL	BUD	2006 DAVIS RIDGE RD.	RINGGOLD	GA	30738	BARI	7-Jul	936-6121	861-7229	706-861-7229	
OWENS	BARRY	BARRY	8918 VILLA RICA CIRCLE	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37421	BASS/TENOR	30-Sep	423-893-8347	423-756-4526	423-899-3801	bowens@cdc.net
OWENS	JACK	LAMAR	2617 REID DR.	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37421	LEAD	6-Nov	423-894-8569	423-894-4638	423-894-4638*51	LAMAR OWENS@JUNO.COM
PEEK	BERNARD L.	BERNARD	6428 SCENIC HWY	RISEING FAWN	GA	30738	LEAD	21-Apr	706-398-3104			
POOLE	RICHARD L.	RICHARD	413 THOMPSON HILL RD	RINGGOLD	GA	30738		30-Mar	706-93707485	706-966-3977		
PRUETT	ROBERT W.	WAYNE	6749 CEDAR RIDGE LANE	HARRISON	TN	37341	BASS	23-Jan	423-344-0210	423-610-8988	423-610-8972	tagman3@aol.com
REYNOLDS	DAVID	DAVE	3879 AZALEAN DRIVE	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37416	BARI	18-Oct	423-876-2874	423-751-6543	423-751-6238	DNREYNOLDS@tva.gov
SATTERFIELD	LONNIE	LONNIE	33 DELORIS DRIVE	FT OGLETHORPE	GA	30742-3801	BASS	23-Mar	706-866-6966	706-866-5176		
SATTERFIELD	RONNIE	RON	17 BATTLEFIELD CT	RINGGOLD	GA	30738	TENOR	23-Mar	706-861-1381	706-861-6600		
SLACK	WILLIAM P.	BILL	614 SLEEPY HOLLOW	LAFAYETTE	GA	30728	LEAD	23-Jan	706-638-3791	706-638-5848	706-638-5848	plslack@worldnet.att.net
SMITH	LAMAR	LAMAR	120 BENTLEY DRIVE	ROSSVILLE	GA	30741	LEAD	7-Feb	706-866-2481			LSMITH2737@AOL.COM
STANSBURY	BOB	BOB	141 ROLLING RIDGE DRIVE	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37421	BASS	29-Nov	423-894-7760		423-894-8911	bshopbob@vol.com
STRICKLAND	WILBUR	STRICK	11 EDGEWOOD CIRCLE	FORT OGLETHORPE	GA	30742	BASS	19-Nov	706-866-2667		706-858-8606	strick@vol.com
THOMAS	STANLEY H.	HOBBY	3811 COUNTRYSIDE DR.	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37406	LEAD	16-Nov	423-622-6276	423-698-1286		
WALKER	SCOTT	SCOTT	8127 CALEB PLACE	OOLTEWAH	TN	37363	TENOR	24-Aug	423-344-3307	423-751-7841		sdwalker@mindspring.com
WALL	CLARENCE	CLARENCE	1116 LULA LAKE ROAD	LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN	GA	30760	BASS	20-Aug	706-820-0579		706-820-9995	cwall55244@aol.com
WEAVER	RONALD	RON	1287 NEW MURRAYTOWN RD	CLEVELAND	TN	37311	LEAD	8-Oct	423-476-3200	423-479-8611		rw4pt@aol.com
WHEELER	BERNARD	BERNARD	6907 STRAIGHT CUT ROAD	LAFAYETTE	GA	30728	BASS	16-Mar	706-638-4013			JWHEELER@CDC.NET
WILSON	CHARLES	CHUCK	107 GILLISPIE TERRACE	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37411	BARI	20-May	423-624-8636	706-228-4834		chukmisa@vov.net
WRIGHT	WALTER	WALT	1342 SALMOUTH RD	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37406	BASS	23-May	423-268-4772	423-756-4601		



HEARTSPRING

Campbell's Labels for Education

What to Save and Bring to Chapter Meetings

PRODUCT

PACKAGE

WHAT TO SAVE

Campbell's Beans Products	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Chunky Soups	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Condensed Soups	Can	Front Label Panel
BONUS BRAND! Campbell's Condensed Soups (26 oz.)	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Soups in 24oz. Glass Jars or Simply Home Soups	Glass Jar	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Healthy Request Soups	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Home Cookin' Soups	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Low Sodium Soups	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Microwave Soups	Tub	Plastic Lid /Cap
Campbell's Soup & Recipe Mixes	Carton	Bottom Pane with UPC Symbol
Campbell's Tomato Juices	Aluminum Can	Cash Register tape w/product name circled
Campbell's Tomato Juices	Bottle	Lid
Campbell's Tomato Juices	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Healthy Request Tomato Juices	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Healthy Request Tomato Juices	Bottle	Lid
Franco-American Gravies	Can	Front Label Panel
Franco-American SpaghettiO's and Pastas	Can	Front Label Panel
Pace Picante Sauces, Queso, and Thick & Chunky Salsa Jar		Lid
Pace Squeezable Picante	Bottle	Lid
Pepperidge Farm Breads, Croutons, Rolls, Stuffing	Bag/Carton	UPC Symbol
Pepperidge Farm Cookies, Crackers, Goldfish and Snack Mixes.	Bag/Carton	UPC Symbol
Pepperidge Farm Frozen Garlic Breads, Cakes, Turnovers, Dumplings, and Puff Pastry	Carton	UPC Symbol
Pepperidge Farm Soups	Can	Front Label Panel
BONUS BRAND! Prego (48 oz.) Spaghetti Sauces	Jar/bottle	Front Label Panel
Prego Spaghetti Sauces	Jjar/bottle	Front Label Panel
Swanson Broths	Can	Front Label Panel
Swanson Broths	Carton	UPC symbol
Swanson Poultry	Can (Paper Label)	Front Label Panel
Swanson Poultry	Can (Litho Label)	Cash Register tape w/ product name circled
V8 100% Vegetable Juices	32 oz. Glass Bottle	Lid
V8 100% Vegetable Juices	10 oz. Glass Bottle	Front Label Panel
V8 100% Vegetable Juices	Can	Front Label Panel
V8 Healthy Request 100% Vegetable Juices	Bottle	Front Label Panel
V8 Healthy Request 100% Vegetable Juices	Can	Front Label Panel
V8 Splash	Bottle	Front Label Panel
V8 Splash	Aluminum Can	Cash Register tape w/ product name circled



CAMPBELL'S FOOD SERVICE PRODUCTS

Campbell's Foodservice Soups (50 oz.)	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Chef's Kettle Soups (50 oz.)	Can	Front Label Panel
Swanson Foodservice Broths (49.5 oz)	Can	Front Label Panel
V8 Splash (Full cases only —24 cans/case)	Aluminum Can	2-code numbers from Outer Case

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Music V.P.	Fred Jesse	706-375-5935
Program V.P.	Steve Grubb	706-861-6171
Treasurer	Bob Stansbury	423-894-7760
Secretary	David Reynolds	423-875-2674
Assistant Secretary	Earle Fraser	423-892-7630
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Publicity V.P.	W.C.Strickland	706-866-2567
Heartspring	Brooks Gist	423-892-7191
Board Member	Sam Jones	706-375-5431
Board Member	J.W.Kirk	706-861-3135
Board Member	Ron Satterfield	706-861-1351
Equipment Manager	Pete Jones	706-861-2113
Choo Choo Belles	Audrey Gist	423-892-7191

The Blender
Pat Crowe, Editor
145 Green Court
Chickamauga, GA.
30707



TO:

A musical tour of America's History...



What A Country!

Chattanooga Choo-Choo
Barbershop Chorus
Presents

The Chattanooga Choo Choo Chorus
204 Stillwood Lane
Chattanooga TN 37421



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Chattanooga Choo-Choo
Barbershop Chorus
Presents

What A Country!

**Chattanooga Choo-Choo
Barbershop Chorus
Presents**

What A Country!



A musical tour of America's History....



Featuring from Knoxville, Tennessee..... *Overture*



Saturday, August 19, 2000 8:00 P.M.

UTC Fine Arts Center

Corner of Palmetto and Vine Streets

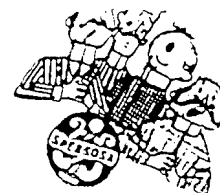


Ticket Information and Prices:

~~\$10.00~~ General Admission

~~\$5.00~~ Seniors and Students

Tickets are available from any Choo-Choo Chorus member or
Lamar Owens, Ticket Chairman 423-894-4638 or
UTC Fine Arts Center Ticket Office 755-4269



The Blender

The Official Publication of the Chattanooga Chapter of the
Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America

Chattanooga, Tennessee

Dixie District

Volume 9 No. 8, Aug. 2000

The Chapter meets every Monday, 7:00 PM, All Saints Academy, 310 8th. St. Chattanooga, TN.



"DON'T BLAME ME FOR MAKING A MISTAKE...AFTER
ALL, NONE OF US ARE HUMAN!"



"Keep the Whole World Singing"





**HAVE YOU HEARD
THE NEWS?**



President



Treasurer



Music Director



Publicity V.P.



Music V.P.



Chapter Development



Program V.P.



Secretary



Business Manager



Choo Choo Bell



A Note From the Risers



Blender Deadline

September 25th.

October 23rd.

November 27th

December 18th.

Chattanooga
Choo Choo Chorus
Box 21326
Chattanooga, TN.
37424-0326



Something to Crowe About

Y' all have heard of writers block, well I also have writers cramp! That's a very large cramp in my butt. Sitting here staring at this screen, trying to find another way of saying the same old thing. A new way of enticing an article or comments from you. The lack of cooperation from the membership in contributing to the Blender is very disheartening. I would have thought there would have been some kind of feed back after the show, But what little I got was by button holing a few of you at our last meeting, and asked their comments. Maybe we should make our selves clear on my job description... I am the editor..... Not an investigative reporter. I edit what is submitted to me. It is not in the parameters of my job to hunt down stories. Or to write the activities of the chapter officers disciplines.

Got a late call from one of our regular contributors, Steve Grubb, requesting an add on to his article . That being a huge thanks to Bill McKeehan for the work he had done on the sets.

He and Niles Fowler are one of a kind. They are greatly appreciated and we all owe them a vote of thanks. Tell them when next you see them. Niles has also changed the locks and secured the entry ways at our rooms, after the recent break-in and theft. You will also notice Father Schmidt has had an alarm system installed through out the building.

The Cleveland Chapter is having there show the first week after the fall contest. You will find those dual members pushing show tickets. It seems they have a big nut to crack to break even. As they are wont to say in those old WW 2 movies "ROTS A RUCK !"

Paul announced Monday, in our up coming performances, we will be doing numbers from "What a Country"... Mainly the greater part of the first act "What a Country", "Early American Medley", "American Revolution Medley", "Civil War Medley", "Minstrel Montage" This is My Country" and "God Bless America"

Though these are great, I hope we have some up tunes also ie: Keep It Simple, Darkness on The Delta, etc...

We owe a vote of thanks to Sam Jones for the job he is doing by picking up duties for our Membership VP in his prolonged absence... Thanks Sam.

Board needs to clarify with Father Schmidt our parking privileges.

VLQ members meeting on Thursday mornings are getting notes on their cars, stating they will be towed.

So I ask... **WHASS ... UP ?**

Planning ahead has never been one of this chapters strong suits. And I might add communication.

How so ? The last minute appearance of civil war enactors on the show. Everyone questioning ... Who Dat ! Why are they here? What's with that display in the lobby ?? **WHASS... UP ??**

In the bulletin editors exchange program. I see where other chapters have already put in to motion, show plans and related activities one and two years down the road.!! **WHASS ... UP ???**

There should be a vehicle of some sort to keep the members informed of happenings that are in effect or in the proposal stages.

One wonders ... would the Blender fit in to that categorie? ?



" HMMM..
THE BLENDER,
I WONDER ? "

Comments and Observations

Salute to America 2000

After the show on August 19, I requested the membership to express their comments or observations, to share with us, so we could critique our performance and gain from it.

As expected the men came to meet the challenge, and what a nice member turnout. **Chord Encounters** were a pleasant touch. They worked very hard to do such a good job. Watching them over the past few weeks has been a real treat. My, how they've improved. I hope they can top this by the Christmas show. I have a couple of arrangements I hope they'll look at. Bill did a wonderful job on the scenery. He never ceases to amaze me. The MC was very good. Fine speaking voice. The re-enactors, Scouts were a special treats too. Opportunity for acting by several members would be a varied touch, and the audience would have been receptive. I wish there would have been more attention given to dialog within the songs. A packed house would have been a big plus. An opportunity to donate tickets to local High schools would help. But the time table was before the school year started, and we couldn't take advantage of that venue. There was very little public advertising. No planned performances, radio or television spots' I don't think "Flares" ** can do it all.

Congratulations on a good show and on to contest and Christmas..... Ron Weaver

** *Editors Note: "Flares" Yankee translation "Flyers"*

"The most members I've ever seen on the risers, and the audience also the largest..... Had my doubts after one of the worst rehearsals we've ever had..." Bill McKeehan



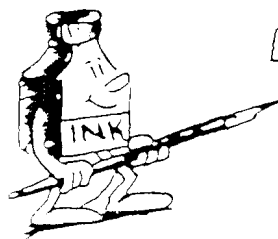
"Got to find a way to help relieve the long periods of standing on the risers. Guys with leg and back problems were really hurting" Sam Jones and Bill McKeehan

"Lights shining in our eyes made it difficult to follow director ." ...Lamar Smith

"Was it possible to have a soft light spotted on the director, to help kill his back lighting... Would have been a help to see his facial directions, and hand movements when they were held in front of his body..... reviewing the tape, showed a lack of riser discipline... too much movement while other groups performing..... as VLQ and quartets came down, it looked like a crowd scene... they milled around seeming unable to find their spots... amazed me that quartets who have performed together for years, still pushed and shoved each other into position.... need to work on staging, entering and exiting in future shows"...Pat Crowe

"I loved the show...I found it very tiring, I was beat...didn't give it all I had cause I was so tired" Niles Fowler

"Thought it was a great show...really enjoyed it.. I loved it".... Bud Moore



Do The Write Thing.

HELP YOUR EDITOR WITH A
NEWS ITEM FOR THE
NEXT ISSUE

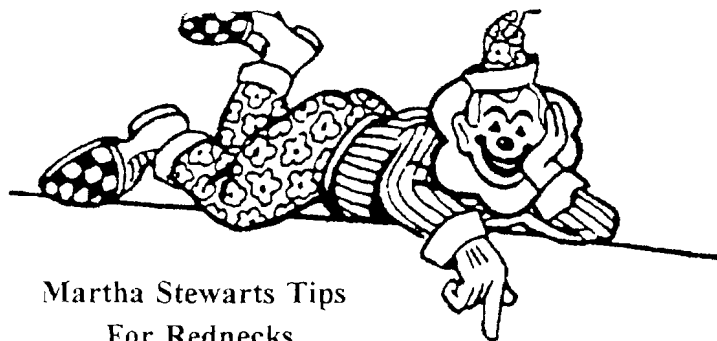


Birthdays

Rick Kulp	Sept. 2
Brenda Satterfield	Sept. 4
Benny Malone	Sept. 5
Anita Bugher	Sept. 6
Sam Jones	Sept. 9
Guelda Malone	Sept. 9
Dave Collins	Sept. 16
Bob Dunkin	Sept. 19
Kathleen Bruns	Sept. 22
Sally Jackson	Sept. 26
Barry Owens	Sept. 30

Anniversaries

Barry & Nancy Owens	Sept. 5
Bill & Pat Slack	Sept. 5
Bernard & Joann Wheeler	Sept. 5
Bud & Cheri Moore	Sept. 8
Albert & Janice Green	Sept. 27



Martha Stewarts Tips For Rednecks

Never take a beer to a job interview.

Always identify people in your yard before shooting at them.

It is considered tacky to take a cooler to church.

If you have to vacuum the bed it's time to change the sheets.

Even if you're certain that you are included in the will, it is still rude to drive the U-Haul to the funeral home.

When decanting wine from the box, make sure that you tilt the paper cup and pour slowly so as not to "bruise" the fruit of the wine.

A centerpiece for the table should never be anything prepared by a taxidermist.

Do not allow the dog to eat at the table, no matter how good his manners are.

While ears need to be cleaned regularly, this is a job that should be done in private using one's OWN truck keys.

Even if you live alone, deodorant is not a waste of good money.

Use of proper toiletries can only delay bathing for a few days.

Dirt and grease under the fingernails is a social no-no, as they tend to detract from a women's jewelry and alter the taste of food.

Dating (Outside the Family)

Always offer to bait your date's hook, especially on the first date. Be assertive. Let her know you're interested: " I've been wanting to go out with you since I read that stuff on the bathroom wall two years ago."

Establish with her parents what time she is expected back. Some will say 10:00 PM. Others might say "Monday" If the latter is the answer, it is the man's responsibility to get her to school on time

Weddings

Live stock, usually, is a poor choice for a wedding gift.

Kissing the bride for more than five seconds may get you shot.

For the groom, at least, rent a tux. A leisure suit with a cummerbund and a clean bowling shirt can create a tacky appearance/

Though uncomfortable, say "yes" to socks and shoes for this special occasion.

Driving Etiquette

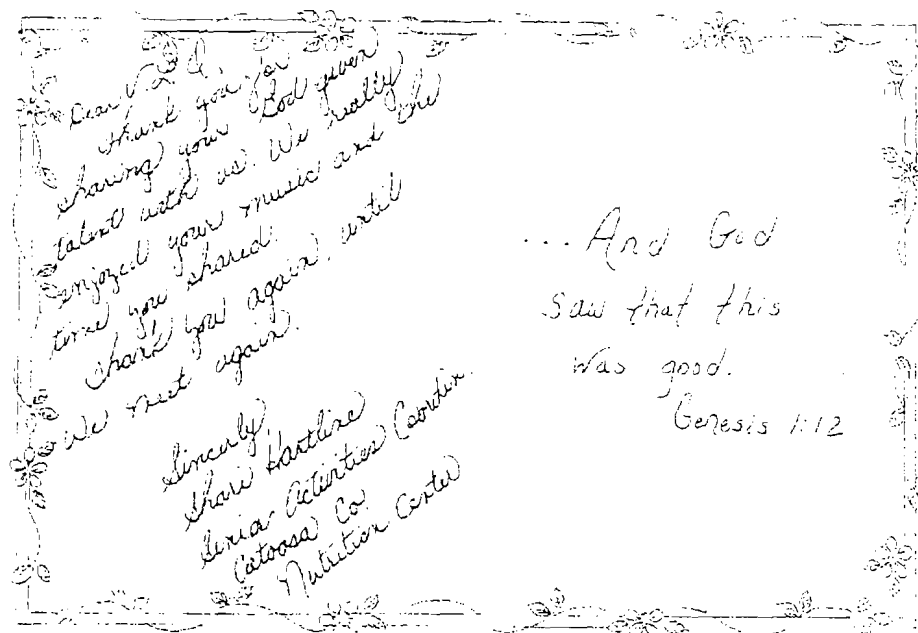
Dim your lights for approaching vehicles, even if the gun is loaded and a deer is in sight.

Never tow another car using panty hose and duct tape.

When sending your wife down the road with a gas can, it is impolite to ask her to bring back beer too.

VLQ

As we swell with pride, from the two pieces of correspondence we recently received, I sure hope the swelling doesn't go to our heads. The "inmate" of Parkside Nursing Home, Danny Turner, sure made our day. One wonders as we perform, are we reaching them, do they appreciate, or are we just one more "Do Gooder" stroking their own egos? Like so many visitors, talking down to them. Figuring they're old so they can't be too bright. Mr. Turner's query regarding gospel and spirituals is one I've been pushing for in our church package. Music committee please note.



Catoosa County News 7/26/00



SINGIN' THAT OL' TIME RAG—The Very Large Quartet (VLQ), a branch of the Chattanooga Choo Choo Barbershop Chorus, entertained folks at the Senior Center at Benton Place Campus last Thursday. The entire Chorus' Summer Show for 2000 will be Aug. 19 at the UTC Fine Arts Center. The Chorus practices every Monday night at 7 p.m. at the All Saints Academy building located 310 E. 8th St. in Chattanooga. They invite anyone to come and listen or participate.

May 16, 2000

The Choo Choo Senior Quartet
Lamar Owens
PO Box 21326
Chattanooga TN 37424

Dear Fellows,

On behalf of myself and all the "inmates" of Parkside Nursing Home I want to say a big sincere thank you for your fine performance we so thoroughly enjoyed today. As an old music critic from way back, I give you an A-1 rating for the performance. Your presentation was by far the most enjoyable musical performance I have seen here in the four and two-thirds years of my residency here.

Most of what we hear here is along the line of "country/hick, or pure "corn." For example, tomorrow we will have the "Frog Town Jug Band," a real down-home can of corn that sports no dignity nor finesse like your group so easily presented. The philosophy that I taught to my music students is that Y O U R appearance and ability to relate to the listener are all important to a successful performance.

Your appearance must not detract from your message nor from the song you are trying to convey.

Again, let me say, it was a distinct honor and pleasure to have you perform for us, and please do come back again soon. I would like to have met and gotten to know each of you personally, but as time would not allow, maybe another time will present itself.

Do you ever sing sacred songs, gospel songs, spirituals or hymns? I, along with many others would have enjoyed hearing some of these.

I am a student of how music affects people, and my impression is that your performance had an intensely positive affect on us as listeners.

Thank you from someone who loves you for what you do.

Joyfully Serving Jesus,

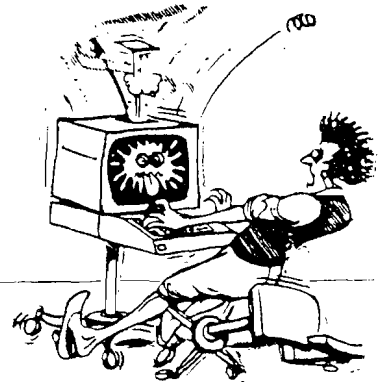
Danny Turner

Danny Turner
110 Park City Road
Rossville GA 30741

From: Barry & Nancy Owens <bowens@cdc.net>

Date: Friday, August 04, 2000 10:41 PM

Subject: Cleveland Show



Fellow Barbershoppers,

On Saturday, Oct. 14, the week after our fall competition in Knoxville, the Cleveland Highland Harmony Chorus will present its first ever show, "An Evening of Barbershop Harmony".

While I'm very proud of the chorus (we are singing great), the main reason I am inviting you is to see PLATINUM, this year's international quartet winner (by over 100 points!). Also on the show will be the thirteenth place quartet in the world, Four Voices. Both quartets will have a significant portion of the show.

This show will be remembered for years. Barbershoppers from all over Dixie are expected (maybe a sellout). The venue is the Conn Center on the campus of Lee University in Cleveland. Showtime will be 7:00 PM/

Tickets are only \$10 and \$8 for 55 or over and students (a bargain). I have plenty of tickets right now. Don't miss this show. Support your brother chapter in Cleveland.

Yours in harmony,
Barry

Editors Note:

Our editorial in the last issue of the Blender made comment on dual membership and loyalty to both chapters. With dismay. I felt their actions at the Clemson Lakeside event was one sided, we at this chapter will turn the other cheek one more time. I hope they do well in their efforts and we will continue to support Barbershop "Harmony" not only in the musical sense, but also in the synonym, "pull together." As the old adage on loyalty Sez " You should dance with the one THAT BRUNG YUH !"

ALL ABOARD!!





GET WITH THE PROGRAM

Well, another show behind us and again I heard folks rave about this being our best show ever! Many of our "regulars" told me this, and I graciously thanked them for the praise. Not knowing what we did about our goofs made it easy for Joe Public to love the show. While it was exciting to have almost 50 men on stage entertaining, the show did leave somewhat to be desired in several areas.

I felt personally that we all (myself included) left undone some tasks that we could have done to really make this show a smash—little things like selling ads and tickets, learning words and music, and knowing the order of the program. Until we all get behind selling this chorus to the Chattanooga area, we're going to remain that nice little group only a handful have heard of. Think about a little better commitment to our next show in December.

Now, the above ramblings in no way are meant to take away from a GREAT SHOW!! Kudos to our having 47 men on stage in those nice, new uniforms. Many thanks to Paul for getting us through another show; to Tom for taking the reins and pulling everything together; to Lamar for getting our uniforms and belts, and for spearheading the ticket and ad sales; and, to Don Hausmann for another great job behind the scenes. Also, a big thanks to *Overture* for stepping in and giving the folks a great show. Many people commented on how good those guys were. What a mess we made of What a Country! Maybe that "A" falling was prophetic concerning that tune. Still, when you pull the patriotic heartstrings just right folks will respond. And, make no mistake, we accomplished that in spades!

To date we have approximately 20 guys committed to the trip in April, 2001. **Easter in Maastricht** should be a great trip for this chorus. If you're undecided, please consider going with us. The more, the merrier! Invite any friends you know who have \$1800.00 dollars lying around to go with us. They'll not regret the decision. Tentatively, we'll leave April 12 and return April 19. I'll have much more information soon. Someone from YMOTW will come and show us slides and discuss the trip if we'd like. Let me know if this would help persuade some of you on the fence.

Until next time, Keep the Whole World Singing.

CHOO CHOO

BELLES

By Audrey Gist



Looking forward to seeing all the **Belles** at our meeting.....Where and When ?

The where is: The Town and Country restaurant. The when is: 7:00 PM Monday September 11. Hopefully our blouses should be in. There are still items to discuss.

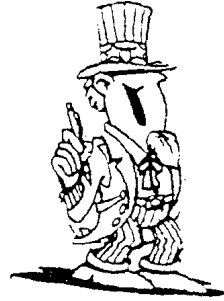
Would like to hear your thoughts on the recent show. What did or didn't meet with your expectations. We can pass them along to the show committee.

Remember to bring your dues.

Murphy's Law For Barbershop Chapters

From the *Harmonizer* via The Minnetonka Clipper

Garry Garrison, Editor



The Prez Sez

Bill Slack, President

- 1 No announcement will ever be completed without at least one smart remark.
- 2 Twenty minutes after an announcement, no one will remember what was said.
- 3 Five-minute breaks are always longer, the same is true of one-minute announcements.
- 4 The music for **We Sing That They Shall Speak and Keep The Whole World Singing** will not be found until the guest hears the last chord.
- 5 At no pre-performance rehearsal will every one be present.
- 6 No one in the chorus knows, (a) all the notes, (b) all the words or (c) all the moves.
- 7 By dress rehearsal, all the stage presence moves will have been changed or omitted.
- 8 At any given performance, there will be one more member than there are ties.
- 9 Our annual show and district contest is always held one week too soon.
- 10 There is always one uniform that appears to have been slept in. *Ed. Note: Boy this one strikes close to home. Hmmm?*

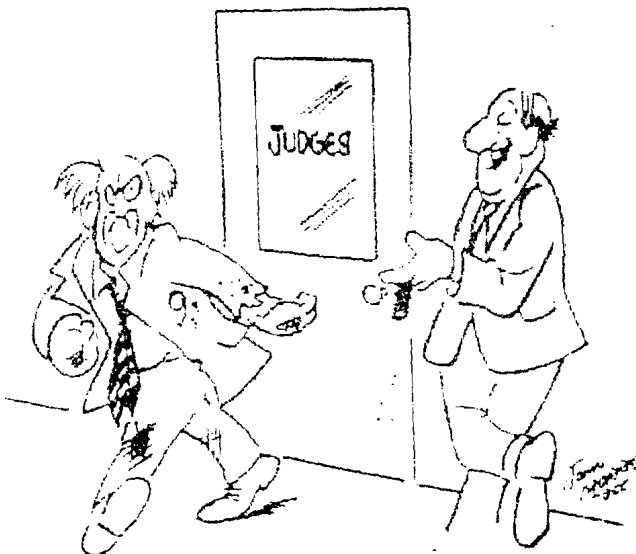
I feel it is appropriate to call attention to two individuals and one group whose efforts have greatly benefited our chorus.

First, Mr. Tom Keegan served as our Show Chairman and did a great job. Among other things he coordinated with UTC about the auditorium, the lights, and the tickets, worked with a script committee, arranged for the props and back grounds; printing of the flyers and programs; arranged our afterglow, and coordinated all of the above with our director and the music committee.

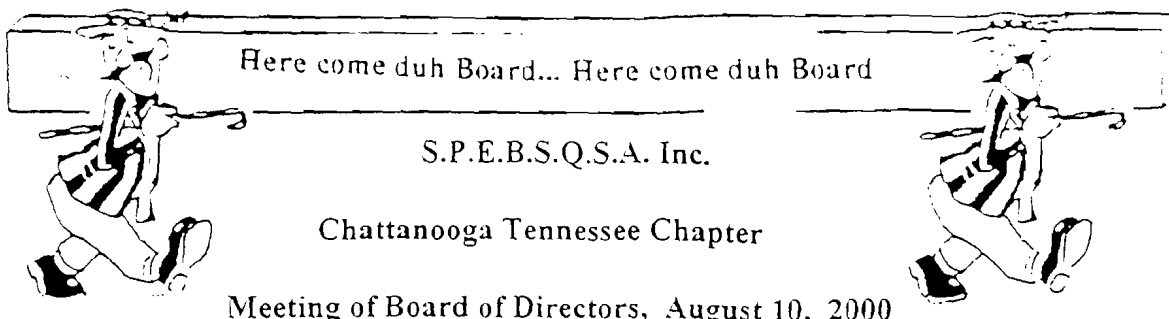
This takes a lot of time for a "hobby", and Tom should be personally thanked by everyone of us and commended for such a fine job.

Second, The VLQ has worked very hard at producing a better sound. These men have an extra practice most every week and are drilled relentlessly on the fundamentals of singing. They also perform extra public service gigs at times when quartets or the chorus as a whole can not appear. Individually and as a group the VLQ have made great improvements in their sound, and I appreciate their hard work.

Lastly, I want to thank Chuck Wilson for attending directors college. I know that he had a great time and learned a lot about our hobby. But to do so he took a week of his vacation, away from his home and family, and used his own money for tuition and transportation. Not many of us have made such a commitment. Thank you Chuck, and I hope that you will continue to work on becoming a chorus director.



DO THEY MENTION NEATNESS COUNTS?



Present			Absent	
Reynolds	Stansbury	Grubb	Wheeler	Kirk
Jesse	Slack	S. Jones	McConnell	
Strickland	R. Satterfield	L. Owens	Crowe	

The meeting was called to order by President Slack at 7:35 pm at All Saints Academy

Secretary - Minutes of the May 25 meeting were approved as read.
The board of directors did not meet in June or July

Treasurer - Stansbury submitted a written report, attached, a summary follows:

Balance April 30-	\$7386.21	Disbursed -	\$5470.39
Received	- 2783.91	Balance	- 4699.73

Officer Reports - Music VP - Jesse reported that the show rehearsals are going well. Fall competition songs will probably be the same as spring, "Maggie" and "Jolson"

Program V.P. - Need more effort on quartet activity and youth development.
The chapter must make a decision concerning the proposed trip to the Netherlands by the end of this month.

Membership V.P. - For McConnell, Reynolds reported that there are two new member applications for approval: Richard Duncan and Erby Erwin. Reynolds moved to approve, seconded by Jones. Passed.

Bulletin Editor - No report

Business Manager - Lamar Owens reported the chorus will receive approx. \$2000 in performance fees this year.

Old Business -

Assistant chorus director - Per Jesse search is still on for persons qualified and willing to serve. The board suggested a couple of possibilities

Fred will check these out and report back to the board.

Uniforms - Per Lamar Owens the pants have been received and the shirts are ready. The logo on the shirt is the wrong color and the vendor is giving the chapter a discount of \$165. (one-half the original cost).

Chorus fee - Discussed the minimum fee. Tabled for future consideration.

New Business -

Joint Show - Slack will check with the presidents of the Nashville, Knoxville, and Huntsville chapters concerning a possible future show given by the joint chorus at the three locations.

Christmas Show Chairman - Lamar Owens moved, seconded by Stansbury that Tom Keegan be asked to do this. Passed

Learning Tapes - Strickland suggested that the members make their own tapes on the night of the first full run-through of the new song. The board agreed.

Guest Night - Slack asked the board members to be considering a time and plan for the next guest night.

Ajourned at 9:15 pm

David N. Reynolds
Chapter Secretary



Dumb Criminals

Louisiana: A man walked in to a Circle-K, put a \$20 bill on the counter and asked for change. When the clerk opened the cash drawer, the man pulled a gun and asked for all the cash, which the clerk promptly provided. The man took all the cash and fled leaving the \$20. bill on the counter. The amount of cash he got from the drawer? Fifteen dollars.

(If some one points a gun at you and gives you money, was a crime committed ?)

Seattle; When a man attempted to siphon gasoline from a motorhome parked on a Seattle street, he got much more than he bargained for. Police arrived at the scene to find an ill man curled up next to the motorhome near spilled sewage. A police spokesperson said that the man admitted to trying to steal gasoline and plugged his hose into the motorhome's sewage tank by mistake. The owner of the vehicle declined to press charges, saying it was the best laugh he'd ever had.

Newark : A woman was reporting her car was stolen, and mentioned that there was a car phone in it. The policeman taking the report called the phone, and told the guy that answered that he had read the ad in the newspaper and wanted to buy the car. They arranged to meet, and the thief was arrested.

Your bulletin *is* PR

By Bob Green, EDITOR, AUGUSTA, GA., CHAPTER

Too often chapters overlook the fact that their chapter bulletin is one of their most valuable PR tools. A clearly written and conscientiously edited bulletin can speak volumes—not only to your members (your internal customers), but also to your other district chapters, your district officers and to your community (your external customers).

If your bulletin is informing and motivating your own members (why else do you have a bulletin?), then it will also inform and motivate your customers to want to come to your performances—and it might even recruit a new member or two! And that, my friends, is PR.

How can you reach these external customers? By building an effective mailing list. Almost every bulletin editor I've talked to mails his bulletin to his chapter members, and a few extras to other editors who want to exchange bulletins. But to get more PR *bang for your bucks*, you must think about whom else needs to see and read your bulletin.

My mailing list includes (in my own order of importance):

- The local newspapers' arts and entertainment editors (two daily and four weekly papers).
- All of the local periodical publications (six local trade/business publications, and two monthly magazines).
- Twelve local radio stations.
- Three area arts councils.
- Five local TV stations.
- Seven area branch libraries.
- Three area chambers of commerce.
- The local convention and visitor's bureau.
- Eight area high school libraries.
- Two local college performing arts departments.
- All the chapter bulletin editors in my district.
- All the chapter presidents in my district.
- All of the district officers.

These are just our own local organizations and people who get a monthly reminder of who we are, and what we are doing. Don't miss out on this opportunity to be known. Stop being the *best kept secret in town*. It's not at all uncommon that I get a phone call asking for follow-up information about an article that someone read in our bulletin.

Two years ago, we had an article published in the local daily newspaper in its entirety—complete with chapter bulletin credit, by-line and all!

There are other benefits to plumping up your mailing list. Once you are mailing 75 or more bulletins first class (\$24.75)—you can actually mail 200 at the non-profit bulk rate for less money (\$24.00). Our chapter's mailing list is up to 254, and I could add more if the budget permitted. For comparison to your own area, our Augusta chapter is in a metropolitan area of a little over 200,000. A little browsing through your yellow pages will surprise you with how many media outlets there probably are in your own area.

The only shortcoming to increasing your mailing list is the cost of printing—and that can be substantial. Depending on the size of your bulletin, it's .04 per page for Xerox or about twice that for Kinko's 11"x17" b&w photo quality, and you're talking big money for anything more than that.

The key issue here is the PR value for your bulletin budget. Maybe your board can shift a little of the PR budget into the bulletin for this purpose. Other options are to prioritize your mailing list and alternate mailings—one month just to members, the next month to the whole list. Be creative, but give it a try. The recognition that your chapter gets is well worth the effort and the cost. ☐

Deep Thoughts

If you take an oriental person and
spin him around several times,

does he become disoriented?

If a pig loses his voice, is it dis-
gruntled?

If a cow laughed, would the milk
come out of her nose?

What ever happened to

Preparations A through G ?

If it's true that we are here to help
others, then what exactly are the
others here for?

Last night I played a blank tape
at full blast. The mime next door
went nuts.

Some back-to-basics thoughts for public relations

By Robb Ollett

CHAIR, SOCIETY PR/MARKETING COMMITTEE



I vividly remember my first chorus coaching session. The coach called the session "back to basics." After introducing himself (and there were a lot of accolades), he looked at us, knowing we were multi-year district and International

champions, held up a circular object saying, "Gentlemen, this is pitch pipe." It reminded me that it's healthy to cover the basics for PR, too.

Rule #1: They won't come to you; you have to see them. Silly? Think about how many times you've heard people say, "I sent that news release three weeks ago and no one called." They don't call. After sending that release, you call them—be the instigator. News editors receive hundreds (no kidding!) of releases, so it's worth the call to follow-up.

Rule #2: Once is not a trend. *Sending that media packet, faxing that release or visiting that editor one time doesn't mean, "you're in." You're just getting started. They call it public relations—not public acquaintances, not public periodically. The purpose is to create those friendships in the media. And the media is a high turnover industry, so you have to be persistent in meeting the new people. The idea is the relationship.*

Rule #3: Chapter meeting nights is not news related. The purpose is to introduce potential singers to our style, fine tune our singing, and handle chapter business. Invite media to performances and shows, that's where the news lives.

Rule #4: When performing, meet your audience. I once saw a strolling quartet perform, disappear, perform, disappear, perform, disappear. They never interacted with the group and audience that HIRED them. Nobody remembered them. I also watched an International champion quartet walk into the Afterglow, split with two parts, sing with chapter members as they moved toward the front of the room to take their VIP seats. Took them 30 minutes to get there. Now, there's some involvement and great PR—and everybody recalled that night!

Rule #5: Remember: How can I help you?

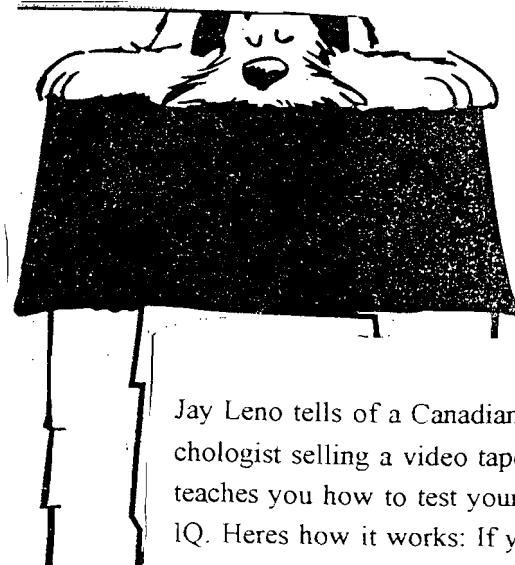
For all media contacts and performances with other groups, make *their* job easier. That's how you win/win with the public. How can you make the newspaper editor's job easier? How can you make the high school stage manager's job easier? How can you make the shopping mall contact's job easier? How can you make music education in the school successful?

Back to basics—add one

And there are other basic printed materials no one should forget for media kits:

- Chapter business cards. It lists a contact person, telephone number, place where chapter meets, which night of the week, hours of meeting.
- Chapter fact sheet. A one-page explanation of the history of the chapter, accomplishments of the chapter, plans for the year, and their affiliation with the Society. (There are samples available from the Society HQ.)
- Photo of chorus. For your media kit, have photos of your chapter quartets and chorus in case media need it—and send pictures EVERY time. (Except for radio!)
- The latest chapter bulletin or quarterly patron newsletter. Bring the media contacts into the family. That's why it's important that chapter bulletins are cheerleading, upbeat and informational.

Hope you enjoyed this back-to-basic trek. And hey, let's B#. ☐





Campbell's Labels for Education

What to Save and Bring to Chapter Meetings

<u>PRODUCT</u>	<u>PACKAGE</u>	<u>WHAT TO SAVE</u>
Campbell's Beans Products	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Chunky Soups	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Condensed Soups	Can	Front Label Panel
BONUS BRAND! Campbell's Condensed Soups (26 oz.)	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Soups in 24oz. Glass Jars or Simply Home Soups	Glass Jar	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Healthy Request Soups	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Home Cookin' Soups	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Low Sodium Soups	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Microwave Soups	Tub	Plastic Lid /Cap
Campbell's Soup & Recipe Mixes	Carton	Bottom Pane with UPC Symbol
Campbell's Tomato Juices	Aluminum Can	Cash Register tape w/product name circled
Campbell's Tomato Juices	Bottle	Lid
Campbell's Tomato Juices	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Healthy Request Tomato Juices	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Healthy Request Tomato Juices	Bottle	Lid
Franco-American Gravies	Can	Front Label Panel
Franco-American SpaghettiO's and Pastas	Can	Front Label Panel
Pace Picante Sauces, Queso, and Thick & Chunky Salsa Jar		Lid
Pace Squeezable Picante	Bottle	Lid
Pepperidge Farm Breads, Croutons, Rolls, Stuffing	Bag/Carton	UPC Symbol
Pepperidge Farm Cookies, Crackers, Goldfish and Snack Mixes.	Bag/Carton	UPC Symbol
Pepperidge Farm Frozen Garlic Breads, Cakes, Turnovers, Dumplings, and Puff Pastry	Carton	UPC Symbol
Pepperidge Farm Soups	Can	Front Label Panel
BONUS BRAND! Prego (48 oz.) Spaghetti Sauces	Jar/bottle	Front Label Panel
Prego Spaghetti Sauces	Jjar/bottle	Front Label Panel
Swanson Broths	Can	Front Label Panel
Swanson Broths	Carton	UPC symbol
Swanson Poultry	Can (Paper Label)	Front Label Panel
Swanson Poultry	Can (Litho Label)	Cash Register tape w/ product name circled
V8 100% Vegetable Juices	32 oz. Glass Bottle	Lid
V8 100% Vegetable Juices	10 oz. Glass Bottle	Front Label Panel
V8 100% Vegetable Juices	Can	Front Label Panel
V8 Healthy Request 100% Vegetable Juices	Bottle	Front Label Panel
V8 Healthy Request 100% Vegetable Juices	Can	Front Label Panel
V8 Splash	Bottle	Front Label Panel
V8 Splash	Aluminum Can	Cash Register tape w/ product name circled



CAMPBELL'S FOOD SERVICE PRODUCTS

Campbell's Foodservice Soups (50 oz.)	Can	Front Label Panel
Campbell's Chef's Kettle Soups (50 oz.)	Can	Front Label Panel
Swanson Foodservice Broths (49.5 oz)	Can	Front Label Panel
V8 Splash (Full cases only —24 cans/case)	Aluminum Can	2-code numbers from Outer Case

Campbell's, Chef's Kettle, Franco-American, Goldfish, Healthy Request, Home Cookin', Pace, Pepperidge Farm, Prego, Simply Home, SpaghettiOs, Swanson, V8, and V8 Splash are all registered trademarks of Campbell Soup Co.



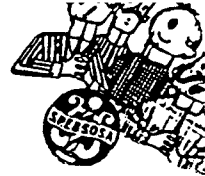
President	Bill Slack	706-638-3791
Past President	Bernard Wheeler	706-638-4013
Music Director	Paul Blazek	423-622-4493
Music V.P.	Fred Jesse	706-375-5935
Program V.P.	Steve Grubb	706-861-6171
Treasurer	Bob Stansbury	423-894-7760
Secretary	David Reynolds	423-875-2674
Assistant Secretary	Earle Fraser	423-892-7630
Business Manager	Lamar Owens	423-894-8559
Bulletin Editor	Pat Crowe	706-375-3878
Chapter Development	Shannon McConnell	706-638-8828
Publicity V.P.	W.C.Strickland	706-866-2567
Heartspring	Brooks Gist	423-892-7191
Board Member	Sam Jones	706-375-5431
Board Member	J.W.Kirk	706-861-3135
Board Member	Ron Satterfield	706-861-1351
Equipment Manager	Pete Jones	706-861-2113
Choo Choo Belles	Audrey Gist	423-892-7191

The Blender
Pat Crowe, Editor
145 Green Court
Chickamauga, GA.
30707



TO:





The Blender

The Official Publication of the Chattanooga Chapter of the
Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America

Chattanooga, Tennessee

Dixie District

Volume 9 No. 9, Sept. 2000

The Chapter meets every Monday, 7:00 PM, All Saints Academy, 310 8th. St. Chattanooga, TN.

Dixie District Convention and Competition

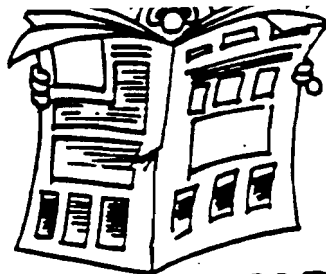


Knoxville, Tennessee October 6, 7, 8, 2000



"Keep the Whole World Singing"





**HAVE YOU HEARD
THE NEWS?**



Blender Deadline



President



Treasurer



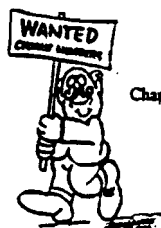
Music Director



Publicity V.P.



Music V.P.



Chapter Development



Program V.P.



Secretary



Business Manager



Choo Choo Bell



A Note From the Risers

October 23rd.

November 27th.

December 18th.

**Chattanooga
Choo Choo Chorus
Box 21326
Chattanooga, TN.
37424-0326**

Silly Goose ? I Think Not

At a recent church service at a recreation area I frequent, the preacher brought out some facts about geese and how they display a God given common sense approach to life which we all could emulate.

No. 1 As each bird flaps it's wings, it creates an updraft for the bird following, By flying in a V formation, the whole flock adds a greater flying range than if one bird flew alone.

Lesson 1 When people share a common direction, they get where their going quicker and more easily. Successful organizations have learned that a spirit of team work, in which all pull in the same direction, makes it easier to achieve goals.

No.2 When a goose falls out of formation, it feels the drag and resistance of trying to fly alone and quickly gets back into formation to take advantage of the lifting power of the bird immediately in front of it'

Lesson 2 If we have as much sense as geese we will stay in formation and be willing to accept help when we need it as well as to lend help to others when they need it Many times we witness prima donnas on teams or in organizations who decide they can be noticed if they go it alone. They may achieve a short-term goal, they have an adverse effect over the long haul which hinders the group from reaching goals. Learning to "fly in formation" helps everyone to achieve desired goals.

No.3 Geese instinctively share the task of leadership and do not resent the leader. We have all seen groups fail due to jealousy among members. Too many chiefs and not enough workers is a formula for failure. A concept of shared leadership based on the belief that each person has a valuable contribution to make toward meeting the goals. We will never know what that contribution is until we afford that person an opportunity to display his wares

No.4 The geese in formation honk from behind to encourage those up front to keep up their speed.

Lesson 4 We need to learn the value of being part of a support system and do what ever we can to encourage other members. Our "honk" may consist of a word of encouragement, a pat on the back, a helpful suggestion or simply going that second mile to accomplish a task.

No. 5 When a goose gets sick, is wounded or is shot down, two geese drop out of formation and follow it down

to earth to help and protect it. They stay with their disabled companion until it is able to fly again or dies. They then launch out on their own or catch up with the flock.

Lesson 5 We too need to learn to care for others if a group member is going through some trying times or has simply been "shot down" by some bad event in life, that may be the time for us to concentrate on the needs of that person. When a group begins to build a reputation for being a caring one, group loyalty increases and success becomes more attainable.

ALL ABOARD!!



Easter in Maastricht

"Easter in Maastricht, the art of fine tuning"

Tentative departure date April 12 return April 19,2001

Cost per person \$ 1850.00

The payment schedule for the Holland trip is as follows :

Amounts shown are per-person

First payment of \$100.00 in by September 25, 2000

Second payment of \$ 300.00 due November 30, 2000

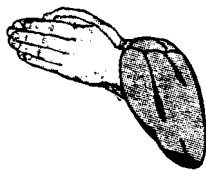
Third payment of \$ 300.00 due January 15, 2001

Final payment due February 15, 2001

Direct your questions to Steve Grubb . Further info will be available ie; itinerary, air carrier, departure times, etc.

I'm sure the weather that time of year will be one of the major concerns, especially those of us who survived the arctic conditions we endured on our trip to London in 97.





The Passing of C.S.

Today I am mourning the passing of an old friend by the name of Common Sense.

Common Sense, AKA C.S. , lived a long life but died from heart failure at the brink of the millennium. No one really knows how old he was since his birth records were long ago lost in bureaucratic red tape.

He selflessly devoted his life to service in schools, hospitals, homes, factories and offices, helping folks get jobs done without fanfare and foolishness. For decades, petty rules, silly laws and frivolous lawsuits held no power over C.S. He was credited with cultivating such valued lessons as to know when to come in out of the rain, the early bird gets the worm, and life isn't always fair. C.S. lived by simple, sound financial policies (don't spend more than you earn) and reliable parenting strategies (the adults are in charge, not the kids)

A veteran of the Industrial, the Great Depression, and the Technological Revolution. C.S. survived cultural and educational trends including feminism, body piercing, whole language and "new math".

But his health declined when he became infected with the " If-It-Only-Helps-One-Person-It's-Worth_It" virus. In recent decades his waning strength proved no match for the ravages of overbearing federal regulation. He watched in pain as good people became ruled by self-seeking lawyers and enlightened auditors. His health rapidly deteriorated when schools endlessly implemented zero tolerance policies, reports of 6-year-old charged with sexual harassment for kissing a classmate, a teen suspended for taking a swig of mouthwash after lunch, and a teacher fired for reprimanding an unruly student.

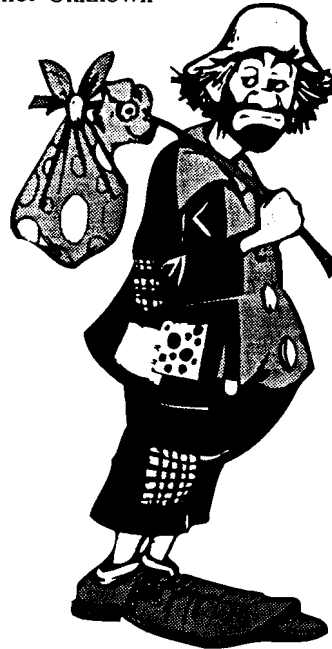
Finally, C.S. lost his will to live as the Ten Commandments became contraband, churches became businesses, criminals received better treatment than the victims, and federal judges stuck their noses in everything from Boy Scouts to professional sports.

As the end neared, C.S. drifted in and out of logic but was kept informed of developments, regarding questionable regulations for asbestos, low flow toilets, " smart guns ", the nurturing of Prohibition laws and mandatory air bags. Finally when told that the homeowners association restricted exterior furniture only to that which enhanced property values, he breathed his last.

C.S. was preceded in death by his parents Truth and Trust; his wife, Discretion; his daughter, Responsibility; and his son, Reason. He is survived by three stepbrothers; Rights, Tolerance and Whiner.

Not many attended his funeral because so few realized he was gone.

Author Unknown



On The Road Again , Upcoming Activities

Sept. 21 U.S.M.C. Reunion Read House. Tuxedo

Sept. 28 Asbury Methodist : Details ?

Oct. 6-7 Knoxville District Convention and Competition

Oct. 14 Cleveland Chapter Show

Oct. 15 Ronald McDonald House : 2:30 PM

Oct. Sweet Adaline Show : Details ?

Nov. 2 Elderfest Cohutta : Details ?

Dec. 14 Alexian Village, Signal Mtn. 7:00 PM

Dec 19 Creekside at Shallowford : Details ?



Something to Crowe About

Well one more show under our belt's. It was well received . But, you know what ? We could always do better .. There was a lot of watermelon on a couple of numbers. What does that tell us ?

It's like the story of the tourist in New York seeking directions. He stopped a fellow carrying a music case and asked "How do you get to Carnegie Hall ? " The hippy musician replied " Practice man, practice!" And that is what was lacking on some of our parts.

Our trip to Cartersville for the Elderfest performance was kind of doubtful when we all arrived at bus loading area. NO BUS ! But all was not lost. Our good friends, Wilson and Son. They backed it up with a van and a stretch limo. We owe those people more than you can imagine. Two vehicles and two drivers and not one penny of cost to us. We had the pleasure of riding in Pete Jones fifteen passenger van . I think it was more enjoyable than the thirty or so on one vehicle, This size of group we all could share in the conversations, song and camaraderie.

Way to go Sam, we all yelled on our return trip missing the exit to BJ's restaurant in Calhoun. He insists it was Benny Malone who said it was the next exit.

And it was another "Way to go Sam" the following Saturday morning as we sang for the 86th Infantry Reunion at the Choo Choo hotel complex.

As we did that bit before we start and Blazek tells them to imagine the curtain is closed as we put on we're checking our ties etc..., Sam called out " Hobby's gotta pee!" ...

Well, that brought down the house and broke us up. Not to mention leaving a blushing Hobby.

So along with Lloyd Gimber's shoe story "Way to go Sam" will enter into chapter history. After it was requested from the risers We brought the house down with our "Keep it Simple" I dont know how to get it through to the music committee or who ever decides our program, but we need some good fun songs to entertain our audiences. I don't know if you noticed, but the standing ovation we received started at the rear of the hall. Saying it wasn't just a few up front coercing the rest into standing. It's the fun and upbeat songs that do it.

Remember church choirs sing, Barbershoppers entertain ! Which one do you want to be part of ? A chorus that sings or a Barbershop chorus who entertains as they sing.

What is the most asked question by our audiences ? I bet you know before I even mention it..... You don't sing Chattanooga Choo Choo, How come ? " "You are called the Choo Choo Chorus, How come you don't sing it ?" Another constant question is "Why don't you have tapes or CD's for sale?"

So I have a DIRECT question to the music committee, and we would like a DIRECT answer. The reason we shy away from Choo Choo and why we have never made a tape ? I would like the answer in writing so we can inform the membership.

in detail the faults of the number and of the chorus inadequacies in performing for taping. I guess placing eighth in the district is no criteria on which to place our performance standards.

What was that saying? "Placing ones candle under a bushel" I do hope I can pass on to the members a response, or will we again be ignored as the request is swept under the carpet once more.

The September Update from headquarters includes something we've been preaching about for some time, namely community sing alongs. And having fun songs, entertaining songs.

How do we get this across to the powers that be?

I repeat what they state at the end of their article

HAVE FUN AND YOUR AUDIENCE WILL HAVE FUN

"Impact 2000" was held at the Ridgeland Highschool football stadium , September 10th through September 13. Forty North West Georgia area church choirs (which included about six of the Choo Choo chapters members) sang to 18,000 plus over the period of those four days. What a glorious time of song and praise for us. Plus it was a great place to spread the word of Barbershop to other singers.

And we all know it wouldn't be barbershop involvement with out eating,... now would it ? On youth night we served close to 3400 slices of pizza !! I ate my share... Sorry you missed it Bob.

Easter In the land of tulips, wooden shoes and canals.

Thats the plan for April 2001. If Lloyd is going, he can check those wooden shoes for termites.

He's a good man when it comes to shoes and termites.

The only word I've received on what's happening or what

there is to see is something about is visiting a cemetery...

a cemetery ?? WOW !! We've sung to some dead audiences..

But I draw the line at a tome of tunes to a tomb.



Birthdays

Melissa Wilson	October 1
Ron Weaver	October 1
Paul Blazek	October 11
Dave Reynolds	October 18
Lynn Pruet	October 19
Cyndi McConnell	October 30

Anniversary

Susan & Scott McKenzie	October 1
Gloria & Larry Huber	October 17
Jeanne & Dick Hagar	October 18
Guelda & Benny Malone	October 21
Sandra & Bob Stansbury	October 21
Melissa & Chuck Wilson	October 21



Honors

From the Times- Free Press

• • • Sunday, September 10 , 2000 •



Chuck and Melissa Wilson were honored by the Chattanooga Theatre Centre as volunteers of the year.

Chorus member , **Classic Harmony** bari , amateur magician, Chickamauga Military Park, visitor center volunteer and aspiring assistant director, Chuck and Melissa, chocked up another one, when the **Chattanooga Little Theater** presented Chuck and Melissa with the theater groups, volunteer of the year award..

Way to go ! Chuck did you do one of your rope tricks for them ?





The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc.

6315 Harmony Lane
Kenosha, WI 53143-5199
(262) 653-8440
(800) 876-SING

fax (262) 654-4048
(Music, Marketing, Executive offices)
fax (262) 654-5552
(Membership, Conventions, Merchandise,
Harmony Foundation offices)

update@spebsqsa.org
www.spebsqsa.org/update

Coming events

January 21-28, 2001
Midwinter Convention
Jacksonville, Florida
(800) 876-SING x8462
www.spebsqsa.org/midwinter
convention@spebsqsa.org

June 30-July 2, 2001
SING!
An a cappella celebration
Nashville, Tennessee
(800) 876-SING x8462
www.spebsqsa.org/2001

July 3-8, 2001
International Convention
2001 A Barbershop Odyssey
Nashville, Tennessee
(800) 876-SING x8462
convention@spebsqsa.org

Keep the Whole World Singing

How important is singing to our culture? How important is it to each of us? You know the answers to these questions. Barbershoppers, perhaps above all others, understand the rewards of recreational singing.

SingAmerica and SingCanada were created by our Society to promote choral music education in our schools and recreational singing in our communities. We are desperately in danger of losing recreational singing as an important aspect of our North American culture. The contributions Barbershoppers provide to the Harmony Foundation General Fund support important projects that will help us accomplish our mission.

Another way we can keep the flame of recreational singing alive is to promote community singing whenever and wherever we perform. Individually, we can also encourage community singing in other organizations to which we belong.

Attached to this issue is a two-page "Community Song Leading Guide" (spebsqsa.org/arrangements/free/communitysinging.htm). It contains advice and ideas from Joe Liles, Burt Szabo, Val Hicks and Bill Biffle. Please use it to help accomplish the important task of keeping singing alive in our communities.

Grant application deadline announced

The next application deadline for Harmony Foundation's SingAmerica, SingCanada grants is November 1. Download an information packet and application from the Foundation web site at harmonyfoundation.org or contact the Foundation office at 800-876-SING x8446 for an information packet or to discuss the project with a staff member.

Grants are for projects which strengthen vocal music education in schools and keep singing alive in communities.

Conventions update

Pre-registrations for the early draw for seat assignments for the Nashville convention were 3,563, as of the August 15, 2000 cutoff date. This is an excellent start for convention registrations and could indicate a strong attendance for this convention. You probably don't want to wait until the last minute to order your registrations. Order on the web at www.spebsqsa.org/2001/, by phone at 800-876-7464 x8462, or use the convenient order blank in *The Harmonizer*.

SING! tickets are going well also. The shows — Saturday, June 30, Sunday, July 1, and Monday, July 2 — have fantastic performers scheduled from the a cappella world. See the Sing! web site at www.spebsqsa.org/2001/ for detailed information.

The Mid-Winter Convention in Jacksonville, Florida, January 21-28, 2001, will be a great time to visit with friends and enjoy some wonderful entertainment. As always, there will be the Association of International Seniors Quartet Champions show; the Best of Barbershop show; the Seniors Quartet Contest; and the Show of Champions. This year we also plan to have an activity that will involve high school quartets. That should be a wonderful addition to the week's entertainment. Order your registration online at www.spebsqsa.org/midwinter or use the order form in *The Harmonizer*.

SuperShuttle service available at Mid-winter

Transportation from the Jacksonville, Florida airport to either the Omni Hotel (Mid-winter headquarters hotel) and/or the Hilton Jacksonville Hotel is provided via SuperShuttle van service. The hotels *do not* have complimentary van service. After arrival in Jacksonville, get your luggage and go to the ground transportation center. The one-way fare is \$10 per person and the round-trip fare is \$18 per person.

The phone number for SuperShuttle is 904-355-2583.

Enroll now in Music Premiere

Six new arrangements are being printed for the November Music Premiere release. But there's still time to enroll and it's easy to do. Just call the Harmony Marketplace at 800-876-7464 x8410 to enroll.

For the low, low cost of \$11.95**, you'll receive 12 arrangements — six in November and six in May. A cassette with each song performed by a top quartet is also included.

The November Music Premiere release includes the following titles:

* "Tie Me To Your Apron Strings Again" as sung by Rural Route Four

* "Everybody Loves A Lover" as sung by Gentlemen's Agreement (arranged by Drayton Justus)

* "That's The Glory Of Love" arranged by Dennis Driscoll

* "Sweet Georgia Brown" as sung by Second Edition (arranged by Ed Waesche)

* "Fortune In Dreams" arranged by Earl Moon and Mel Knight

* "Silhouettes" arranged by Tom Gentry

****Effective November 1, 2000, Music Premiere enrollment increases to \$14.95 (U.S. & Canada) and \$19.95 (foreign orders).**

Stock market growth can help SPEBSQSA

The direct transfer of appreciated securities to a charity such as Harmony Foundation, may entitle you to a charitable tax deduction for the full market value of the securities, and allow you to avoid the capital gains tax. Depending on your individual circumstances, certain restrictions may apply, and we recommend that you obtain professional counsel before making such a transaction.

Since its incorporation in 1959, the Foundation has been the conduit for all of the Society's charitable activity. The Foundation also manages the SPEBSQSA Endowment Program, which provides a pool of funds that can help to keep the Society alive for future generations.

Harmony Foundation accepts direct transfers of capital assets, such as stocks and bonds, to any of its funds, and can assist with these transfers. For more information about making a direct transfer of securities to benefit SPEBSQSA, contact Development Director Larry Gilhousen at 800-876-SING x8448 or lgilhousen@spebsqsa.org.

Show licensing / registry information clarified

All chapters have a **legal requirement** to pay licensing fees for performances at which they charge an admission fee. Show date clearance requests and licensing fees are **sent by the chapter secretary to the district secretary** to be processed. Failure to pay the proper licensing fee puts the chapter and Society at severe financial risk because of copyright violations.

Specific information for handling clearance requests can be found in *The Chapter Secretary Manual* paragraphs 5.5.1 through 5.5.3.

Once the appropriate fees are paid and the show date(s) cleared, chapter officers may register their chapter show on the Society web site: www.spebsqsa.org/members/. This function on our "Members Only" site allows you to submit your show information in the same way Singing Valentine registrations are submitted. If you have a change to your show or wish to add a piece of information, you are able to edit the information online. This function is limited to chapter officers (another reason to make sure that all your officers are on record with the Membership Department).

Problems? Email Crystal Miller: shows@spebsqsa.org.

Supplies, music and more available at Harmony Marketplace

Harmony Marketplace District Store: Plan now for your upcoming district convention Harmony Marketplace store. Call Nancy Thorn, 800-876-7464 x8487, or email nthorn@spebsqsa.org to request merchandise. This is a great service to your members and an easy way to make some money for your district or convention host chapter.

Chapter Secretaries: Be sure to order supplies in plenty of time for the annual chapter installation of officers. If you don't find what you need at HarmonyMarketplace.com, call Harmony Marketplace to place your order. 800-876-7464 x8410.

New recordings posted: Looking for that CD you didn't buy at international? Check out HarmonyMarketplace.com for all the new recordings we carry. New selections will be included in our 2001 catalog, due out November 1.

Donkeys, elephants and Barbershoppers

The Society Laws and Regulations Committee has issued a detailed ruling regarding participation by barbershop chapters in political activities. All chapters should be thoroughly familiar with the ruling to avoid any legal problems regarding the Society's and/or chapter's tax exempt status.

* The Society, its districts and chapters may not accept political advertisements in their show programs or other publications.

* Paragraph 7e of the Society Statements of Policy specifically prohibits paid or unpaid appearances (performances) at political functions in support of a candidate.

* In addition, Canon 8 of the Society's Code of Ethics prohibits "the introduction of political, religious or other similar controversial issues into the affairs of the Society."

* A chapter chorus or quartet may make an appearance at the opening ceremony for a political convention to sing the National Anthem (as a paid or unpaid civic activity).

To read the ruling in its entirety, go to www.spebsqsa.org/Docs/politicalactivities.htm.



SPEBSQSA COMMUNITY SONG LEADING GUIDE

HERE'S WHY

We don't need anyone to tell us about the joys of singing. In fact, Barbershoppers should be constant salesmen of the positive effect it has on us every day of our lives. Let's sell the joys of singing everywhere we go. We owe it to the world and to ourselves. We can do so by including a sing-along in every performance our chorus or quartet does. Get the audience involved. They'll be surprised at how much they enjoy being participants rather than observers. This is a spectator world. We can change that. You'll enjoy it and so will they.

Community singing will enhance every performance you do: your annual show, senior citizens centers, service clubs, birthday parties, anniversaries, opening the new shopping center, every performance you do! You'll demonstrate the joy of singing and recruit new members.

The Society's service project SingAmerica and SingCanada has as one of its goals to renew singing throughout our communities. And we are not alone. The Music Educators National Conference has joined with us and Sweet Adelines International, the American Choral Directors Association and Chorus America to "Get America Singing ... Again!"

The ultimate objective is to encourage audience singing at concerts, recitals, opening and closing public gatherings with a song, singing at clubs and private meetings, and in homes. Talk to service clubs and volunteer to do an entire program on barbershop singing. Include some audience singing of familiar songs.

To help you on the road to encouraging community singing, the Harmony Marketplace offers *Sing Along Songs* – a collection of more than 100 public domain song lyrics that you may reprint. (stock no. 6044, \$3) and the *Get America Singing . . . Again!* songbook – a collection of words and music of more than 40 songs that represent America's vast and varied music heritage (Singer's edition, Stock no. 6030, \$3.95)

HERE'S HOW

Determine your best song leader(s). He or she should have these traits:

- Ability to communicate verbally with the audience
- Ability to elicit response and encourage involvement
- Ability to communicate physically, that is, use good body language and gestures that encourage and coordinate participation
- A desire to bring joy to each participant

Choose songs your audience has a good chance to know. Don't try your chorus contest ballad on them. Try "My Bonnie Lies Over the Ocean," "I've Been Working On The Railroad," "Take Me Out to the Ball Game," "Let Me Call You Sweetheart" or similar songs. Although some

(over)

songs more easily invite natural harmonizing, don't let that be the final determining factor in choosing a song. Natural harmony should always be encouraged, but unison can be amazingly powerful. *However, community singing is not a time to teach songs and tags or even to correct words and notes.*

Pitch the song in a moderate key. This is vital because an incorrectly pitched song can be a real hindrance to the sense of musical community. People avoid singing if it is not vocally comfortable for them. It is important that the song leader know in advance the key in which each song will be sung. General audience voices lie a little lower than those of trained singers and it's easier for mixed audiences to find the notes when the key feels a little low to us. A whole step or minor third down from a barbershop arrangement quite often is sufficient.

Although not necessary, you may wish to use instrumental accompaniment. There are ragtime piano players who also lead audience singing as they play. Have a Dixieland band as a special guest to open the second half of your show and provide an audience sing-along. Transition that with a number combining your chorus and the band, or bring the band back for a finale with the chorus, guest quartet(s) and maybe include the audience in the big finish.

Above all, the community song leader should have fun with his role.. The song leader cajoles, praises and helps to propel the songs along. The leader sings out to give others courage. Don't worry about fancy conducting gestures. The idea is to keep the song moving, to stimulate participation and to share the fun of music. You don't have to be a chorus director to do well at this. You're participating with them in the activity. Practice leading the songs in front of a mirror. Learn to demonstrate enthusiasm, exude positive energy, and generate excitement. Show your love of singing on your face and with your body. Encourage participation. Thank them when it's over.

Here are some more ideas:

- Use a round, such as "Row, Row, Row Your Boat," and "Frère Jacques,"
- Use songs that can be sung simultaneously by dividing the audience (and chorus), such as "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot/When The Saints Go Marching In" (put "Swing" on the pickup beat). Also, "Delta Dawn" can be sung with "When The Saints" Try "Play A Simple Melody/Me Father & Mother Were Irish."
- You may wish to use a leader for each song.
- Use action songs that require physical response, such as clapping, swaying, sitting/standing, arms raised/lowered, etc.
- Leave out the personal pronouns in "Let Me Call You Sweetheart."

**HAVE FUN AND YOUR AUDIENCE WILL HAVE FUN
LET'S KEEP THE WHOLE WORLD SINGING**



" I DUN HEERD "

Comments and Observations

Elderfest Cartersville: September 7

" how come your the Chattanooga Choo Choo and you don't sing it ?"

" Very patriotic and sounded good, but I thought barber-shop songs were fun songs and love songs. Sure would like to here some of them."

" Do you have tapes or CD's ? Would love to have one to take back home."

" That was great! wish you would sing more."

Belles conversation: " Maybe it's that becace I've heard our guys so often, But I enjoyed that ninety-three year old playing the bones... he stole the show. "

86th. Inf. Black Hawk Div. Reunion (Ladies) Sept. 9

" I enjoyed it immensely, the Civil War songs brought tears to my eyes. "

" That number where the men danced was wonderful, gave us a good laugh."

" I loved the dance, you should do more."

" Thanks for going and giving the men a few songs while they were in their meeting room, it probably woke some of them up ."

" How come you don't have tapes for sale?"

Comment from the Risers: " How come we wore Tux's ?

The new uniform with our red jacket would have been more appropriate, and blended with the patriotic program that we presented."

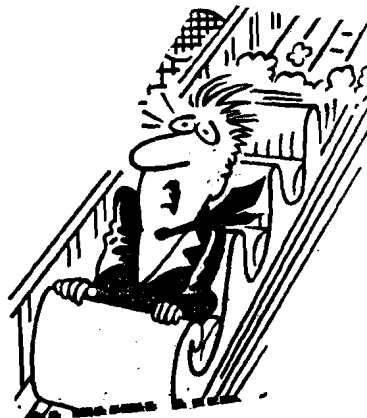
Glad we did a couple of less serious songs... To me the package, is good, but too serious. We got to lighten up.

" Way to go Sam ! your comment about Hobby's stressful condition was a real ice breaker. "

Did you hear about that thrifty lead, You know the one. He turns off the ignition when going down hill to save gas. Walks in movies backwards, so they think he's leaving. So he doesn't have to pay.

He's at it again, While visiting Wyoming, he stayed on the fourth floor of a hotel whose elevator only went to the third floor. He had everything he and the family needed in one large suit case. (That way you pay only fifty cent tip for one piece of luggage) Upon checking out he decided to carry it down and save the tip. Well, it got away from him and he rode it down the stairs till it threw him at the the bottom causing a broken thumb and facial abrasions.

All because he didn't want to break a dollar bill and pay that .50 cents a bag. We should send him to Washington to fix the budget. Look on the bright side , you can use that big bandage as a excuse to not pickup any tabs



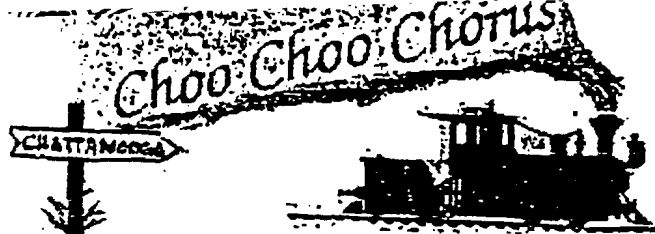
THE SONG IS "THIS IS MY COUNTRY!"
NOT, WHAT IS.

CHORUS PRACTICE
TONIGHT!



JOHN MADDEN

"DON'T BLAME ME FOR MAKING A MISTAKE...AFTER ALL, NONE OF US ARE HUMAN!"

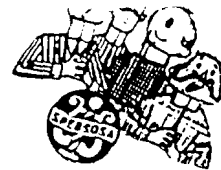
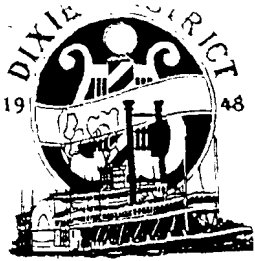


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Publicity V.P.	W.C.Strickland	706-866-2567
Heartspring	Brooks Gist	423-892-7191
Board Member	Sam Jones	706-375-5431
Board Member	J.W.Kirk	706-861-3135
Board Member	Ron Satterfield	706-861-1351
Equipment Manager	Pete Jones	706-861-2113
Choo Choo Belles	Audrey Gist	423-892-7191

The Blender
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TO:



The Blender

The Official Publication of the Chattanooga Chapter of the
Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America

Chattanooga, Tennessee

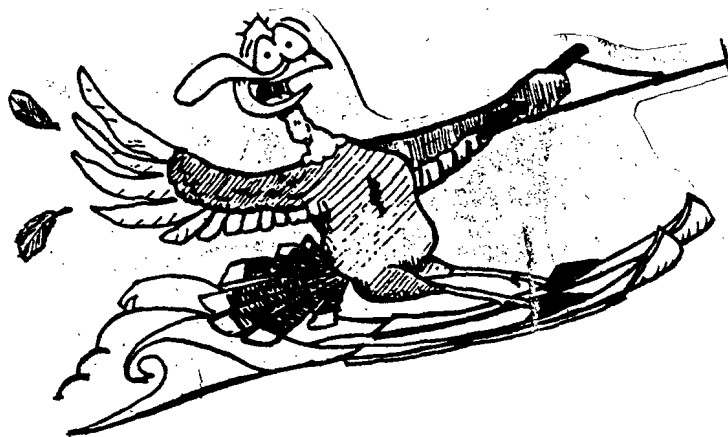
Dixie District

Volume 9 No. 10, Oct. 2000

The Chapter meets every Monday, 7:00 PM, All Saints Academy, 310 8th. St. Chattanooga, TN.



TIMES RUN OUT !



THIS BIRD'S OUD-AH HERE!!



"Keep the Whole World Singing"





**HAVE YOU HEARD
THE NEWS?**



President



Treasurer



Blender Deadline



Music Director



Publicity V.P.



Music V.P.



Chapter Development



Quartet Activities



Program V.P.



Secretary



Business Manager



Choo Choo Bell



A Note From the Risers

Chattanooga
Choo Choo Chorus
Box 21326
Chattanooga, TN.
37424-0326



Something To Crowe About

The big day is over, the smiles are large, though for the life of me I'll never be able to comprehend how the judges come up with their decisions. I'm not knocking it, and I don't recommend giving it back. In Greenville at the spring contest with 32 on the risers we scored 1122.

In Knoxville with 40 on the risers, same songs, we score 1116.

Plus receive the "Most Improved" !

Can anyone explain it to me ?

I want to thank those five contributors who answered the e-mail and verbal pleas, for articles. prior to the Knoxville trip, for this, my final issue of the Blender.



... e comes the nominating committee

The nominating committee has spoken. That hard task of selecting and convincing those with the talent to step forward and take their place in the leadership of this chapter.

The ballot is set. The change this year will be the largest I've seen since I came to the chapter.

In playing the devil's advocate, (I hope this is not considered as a negative response.) a question arises, is it clear within the by-laws of the chapter and the society, for the music director, who reports to the board, to serve on the board as a chapter officer?

Does that position have voting rights?

Will his position on the board intimidate others from speaking out on matters concerning to his discipline.

I can't think of anyone else that is better qualified to fill the position of publicity. -

His sociable and gregarious manner is what is called for in the public relations.

But will there be some considering this a conflict of interest ?

Again not a negative response, but on the ballot there are three from the same quartet. The question ?

Will the question of a separate competition chorus receive a friendlier response with a new board ?

November 13 is guest night, Sam Jones is working hard to make this one of our best. Get in there and bring a guest. It's bound to be a fun filled night.

We need to finish our wall of fame before that day.

Here it is the waning months of 2000 and the 1990's are still absent from the "Wall".

Plus the members mail boxes need to be rearranged alphabetically, new members do not yet have a box.

My many requests this past year for an entrance key to work on these items during the day has fallen on deaf ears.

Did you know that last year, the income received from performances surpassed any of our previous years?

Next time you see Lamar Owens say thanks to him for the outstanding job he has done.

He will not be returning as our Business Manager. And we all owe him a huge thanks for his efforts and the work he has done for the chapter.

The job he has done as our wardrobe manager has been tremendous... Thanks Lamar

Speaking of wardrobe, there are quite a few of us who try to follow the edicts of the business manager, who, when upon booking a performance the uniform is also posted. Then the director shows up with part of his uniform missing. Stating the dress was optional, One more time where the tail wags the dog! As we bow to his wishes.

Does that mean one can show up in an athletic support and a beanie with a propeller on top? Isn't that what optional means?

Was it on a whim, or because he forgot his jacket.

Will the new board have the authority to see that we all conform to the uniform guidelines, or does it matter if we show up in dirty sneakers, colored suspenders, beanies and jock straps etc.

Well, I close my final editorial, with this Arabian aphorism on cooperation which states:

" One hand cannot applaud"



Birthdays

Joy Kirk	November	2
Shannon McConnell		5
Janice Green		6
Lamar Owens		6
"Hobby" Thomas		10
Janice Owens		13
" J " Green		16
W.C.Strickland		19
Mary Strickland		22
John Johnson		23
Fred Jesse		23
Pat Jones		29
Bob Stansbury		29

Anniversary

Lamar & Louise Smith	November	25
----------------------	----------	----



Ever Wonder ?

How do Crazy people go through the forest ?
They take the psycho path

What did the fish say when it hit a concrete wall ?
" Dam !"

What do esiomos get from sitting on the ice too long ?
Polaroids.

What do they call cheese that isn't yours ?
Nacho Cheese.

What do you call Santa's helpers ?
Subordinate Clauses.

What do you call four bullfighters in quicksand ?
Quatro sinko.

What do you get when you cross a snowman with a vampire ?..... Frostbite.

What kind of coffee did they serve on the Titanic ?
Sanka.

What is the difference between a Harley and a Hoover ?
The location of the dirt bag.

Why do gorillas have big nostrils ?
Because they have big fingers.

Where do you find a dog with no legs ?
Right where you left him.

How are a Texas tornado and a Tennessee divorce the same?

Somebody's going to lose a trailer.

How about that Cleveland Show! I was so glad to hear the Four Voices, Platinur, the entire Cleveland Chorus in one place. Those two quartets really know how to put on and get the audience involved in their singing. And the Cleveland Chorus was simply out. We, as the sponsoring chapter, should be very proud of their first show and the quality of the entertainment product. We should also congratulate those dual members, which are trying to fulfil their requirements of belonging to choruses at the same time. These are Barry Owens, David Collins, Benny Malone, Pete Jones, and Dick Hager.

While on the subject of good singing, I want to encourage all members of the chorus to participate in the Music Premier Series. This is a service performed by Kenosha at a very reasonable price. For the price of \$14.95, Kenosha will send six new pieces of music and a learning tape for all six pieces twice a year. So for slightly more than a dollar a piece, you get a piece of music and a learning tape for six new songs. The songs are varied in their style and arrangements, as well as their degree of difficulty, but none of them are not fun to perform. If enough chorus members participated in this service, we could easily add twelve new songs to our repertoire by working on these tapes and music at home rather than having to do it as a Monday night project! And of course, it allows for great quarteting, since many section members, working independently of one another, can learn the song without having to rehearse as a single unit. All in all I think it is one of the best and most economical services available to the chorus members.

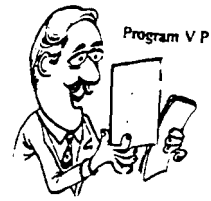


“ Weaver Tapped by District

have all bemoaned the lack of sing-a-longs at the few district competitions.

as great fun to see guys like Charlie Rose and s get up there and fill the waiting times before during the day leading us in polecats, etc. one saw the light, and Ron Weaver was there to gap. When he introduced a program at the "ille competition." "Harmony Classics " was the f the program. The response, great! dback was so great that Ron has been tapped again at Greenville in the spring ever thought ? Golly gee willakers !! oncept... getting singers sing !





GET WITH THE PROGRAM

Wasn't our visit to Knoxville, TN, an enjoyable experience? We had the fourth largest number of men on the risers and the sound was wonderful. We managed to place eighth just behind Nashville and Cleveland, and received the Most Improved Chorus award. Congratulations to everyone for this accomplishment, and to Dr. Blazek for his efforts to lead us in this hobby. If you haven't heard, four of us were able to begin a new tradition for the chapter by establishing both a changing room and a make-up room. The key is for the changing room to belong to someone NOT in the chapter, which is what happened in Knoxville. The cleaning lady was nice enough to allow us in to what we thought was Fred's room to change (wrong room number announced in the lobby) and we discovered that we were in a lady's room who was from North Carolina. We quickly changed and found Fred's room, leaving our changing room no worse for the wear. Only can Chattanooga singers pull this one off!

Mr. Slack's administration is about to dissolve after only one year. We'll have a new slate of officers to lead the chapter. Let me encourage everyone to support them and help out when asked. The Board is only as good as its membership's involvement. A big thanks to Bill and all his officers for a job well done this past year. We've grown in number and gotten much younger, so something is going well. If you're interested in taking over as Blender editor, please let us know. Speaking of growing, don't forget to be inviting someone to our next Guest Night on November 13th. Uncle Sam wants you to help make this big night a success.

We will be putting on a Christmas show this year, so let's be reviewing and learning that music. The night is December 9th @ UTC, so mark your calendars. Also, our Holiday party will be Thursday, December 21st @ Wally's in East Ridge. This will be a buffet meal for \$ 11 a person and we will meet at 6:30 PM to eat and fellowship. Plan now to attend this enjoyable closure to a great year of barbershopping. Much singing is still scheduled between now and the end of the year. Please try and support as many of these gigs as possible. We are a singing organization and this is a great time of year to be performing. Lamar continues to bring in those paid gigs, so let's be out there putting our best face forward.

If you missed the Cleveland show, shame on you!!! What a great night. Cleveland should be proud of their sound (David, Barry, Benny and Barry) and, of course, the Four Voices. It was easy to hear and see why Platinum was the Gold Medal Quartet this year. They were awesome! We got to visit with Rick and Leslie Kulp, as well as many fellow singers from the surrounding area chapters. Probably 500 folks really had a great time.

Until next time, Keep the Whole World Singing.

Steve Grubb,

A Great Weekend In Knoxville

By Bill McKeehan

Our hats are off to the good job that our new members exhibited this weekend. Along with the other seasoned members.

Not only did we come in a respectable position, but we were selected as the most improved chorus.

Thanks to Paul and the efforts of every member. The Four Guys also made us proud, they stayed in there with the best. With some minor changes they can step up to the next level.

I roomed with Ron and Fred, which was a new experience. I was glad they let me sleep in one of the double beds by myself. I slept very well in spite of the strange noises during the night.**

I assisted Ron in providing a room for those barbershoppers who wanted to learn new songs and have all four parts available. The songs are called Harmony Classics. It was a complete success due to Ron who provided all the necessary material and music at his expense and conducted the sessions with plenty of barbershoppers.

We have a wonderful group of fellows who stick together and make it a habit of seeing that everyone is taken care of.

Thanks to those who are concerned with my welfare and make it to see I succeed in participating in all the activities.

I hope I can continue to enjoy my favorite hobby, SINGING!

We also got some good comments about our new casual dress.

** Editors Note: Hmm..Did this have anything to do with that dressing gown ??
see Makeup room story.



VLQ Vote Of Thanks



We tip our hat and a very large vote of thanks to Dave Ambercrombie.

We had an engagement at Apison Baptist Church .

A luncheon meeting for their seniors.

Our old buddy and former member

Le Roy Hobbs set up the gig for us, with his fellow church members .

Fate did not smile kindly on us .

One of our baris, Bill McKeehan came up sick. (I wonder if it was sharing that room with those two singing night owls?) Then two of the other members had a funeral to attend. Well that took a pretty good chunk out of our group.

It was decided that rather than give a poor performance we would reschedule.

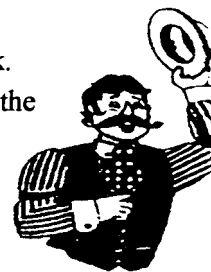
To the rescue, riding in on his faithful white charger, comes Dave.

He drove out to Apison and performed a solo program.

Getting both the VLQ and Le Roy off the hook.

And heres the kicker... Dave isn't a member of the VLQ !What a guy!!

Thanks Dave. You showed the real spirit of Barbershopping. The VLQ is in your debt..



Law Definitions

"The Law of Volunteer Labor"

People are always available for work in the past tense.

"The Law of Probable Dispersal"

What ever hits the fan will not be evenly distributed

"The Law of Volunteering"

If you dance with a grizzly bear, you had better let him lead.

"The Law of Reality"

Never get into fights with ugly people, they have nothing to lose.

" Smart Ass Law"

In Any Organization there is one person who knows whats going on. That person must be fired.

WANTED
CHORUS MEMBERS



Chapter Development

What is networking one may ask. I find it described as " The art or process of informally sharing information and support, especially among members of a group"

Sam Jones, who has stepped forward with with enthusiasm and ably filled in for our absent development officer, brought to my attention the efforts of one of our members who through networking has filled a large spot on our risers.

In almost biblical terminology he has "begat" members. I'm not to sure in what order they came, but Niles Fowler has done an outstanding job in membership recruiting.

I hope we haven't missed any, but here are some of Niles' recruits who he has directly or through networking have joined our chapter , Tony Fowler, Wayne Pruett, J.W.Kirk, Lonnie Satterfield, Ron Satterfield, Bud Moore, Hiram Altman, Richard Poole and Erby Erwin

His efforts in spreading the joys of barbershopping is similar to throwing a pebble in a pond.

It doesn't make much of a splash, but it's waves spread out till it makes contact with the shore.

Were you not proud that we could put forty guys up on the risers at competition in Knoxville? Just think, twenty-five percent of them resulted from networking by Niles and his "Begatters"

So Sam is throwing out a challenge to the rest of us.

" GET OUT YOUR NET AND START WORKING"



Is this the
Makeup
Room ?

We all have stories about Bari's but I'm beginning to wonder about tenors, at least one tenor we all know and hold dear to our hearts. I wonder if his employer know about this brilliant mind that they entrust to keep their corporate structure solvent. I for one am going to review my stock portfolio.

As we met after our walk-on, Paul advised the location of the makeup room. That being the tenors room, he corrected Paul saying that was not his room number and gave us another one.

Well you know there has to be a bari involved in this story, So three leads and a bari, (who drove up that morning) went to the room to change into their tux's and to apply makeup, to enhance their countenance

When we got to the room our tenor informed us to report to. Knock, knock.... no answer.... BANG BANG! no answer. We called out his name in vain.. still no answer.

The bari suggested we ask a passing chambermaid to open the door to let us get dressed. The leads faces looked honest.. there was some doubt about the bari. She looked us up and down as we stood there with our bags hanging over our shoulders. A look of pity came over her face as she saw us standing there with a bari.

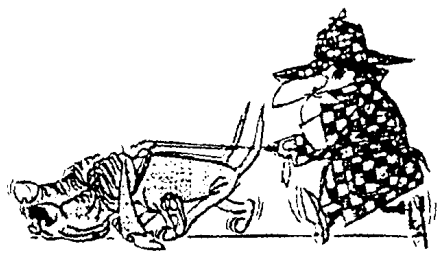
**Looking
Around for new
MEMBERS**

Room cont.

out her pass key and bid us to enter.
d like the tenors room. "Messy" beds un-
owels on the floor etc.
ad who got ripped off by the Pepsi machine
way to the room returned to the front desk
mbursement of his \$1.25, muttering " thats
oint four one six six six cents per ounce!"
ther three started to change. The bari started to
e, because it made him feel grown up to be with
men walking around in underwear.
I number one dressed first and proceed to look
the makeup case. There was a blue case on the
sser, as he was looking through it and mentioning
he could find was different shades of lipstick, the
ri came out of the bathroom commenting " He
ast have brought his wife with him, theres a ladies
essing gown in the bathroom."
ne lead looked at the other and said " No way....
he never comes to competitions, cause he spends all
his time roving the halls singing " Again they look
at each other " He is also a drag queen, or we are in
someone else's room!"
His face flushed with excitement. The bari giggles
again and says " ooooooh "
Then someone's at the door! The bari giggles and
says " ooooooh "
Filled with angst,we clutch our clothes to our chests..
The leads look at each other, their thoughts the same,
Will we be charged with breaking and entry or a
lesser charge of unauthorized entry?
Again the bari giggles and says " ooooooh "
The cold sweat disappears when it's only the reim-
bursement seeking lead. "WOW ! PLOP PLOP
FIZZ FIZZ OH WHAT A RELIEF IT IS ! "
We quickly update him and try to hurry him along
but he moves like some of my ex employees riding
the clock hoping for overtime. It surprises me be-
cause I don't think he was ever employed by TVA or
the government. But he just moves in slow motion ,
As the other two leads start to sweat again.
The bari giggles and says "oooooh "

Our methodical minstrel is ~~minstrel~~

We check the room for any evidence of our visit.



Should we wipe down every thing we touched ?

Don't want to leave fingerprints!

The bari giggles and says " ooooh "

We head for the door, putting our ear to it, we hear
nothing.

We are lined up like paratroopers preparing to bail out
at low altitude.

We throw the door open, pushing and giggling in the
rear is the bari.

The leading lead freezes, as the rest run up his back,
there stands another chambermaid!

Quickly recovering, we smile and wish her a good
morning, the bari giggles and says " ooooh "

As we retreat down the hall we pass the maid who
gave us entry.

We wish her a good day and thank her profusely for
her help. Need I tell you what the bari did ?

Then we we found the makeup room. The room num-
ber ten digits off of what we were told, then the
thought hit us,the bari used the bathroom..... Gawd!!
hope he didn't leave the lid up !!

The bari giggled and said " ooooh "



Ron Satterfield reflects on his first year...



Well, I have a year behind me now and I thought I would share my observations with you guys.

This first year has been a real blast! I have never had this much fun singing with anyone. As some of you know, this has been a big adjustment for Lonnie and me. But you guys have been super in so many ways. You have helped us to learn a difficult style of music, stage performance, and dress. You have helped us realize the importance of commitment in attending all sing outs and performances. And for all these things, I am truly grateful.

Have you all noticed how much better we sound when we leave our hard feelings, disagreements and differences of opinion outside the practice room door? We also have a lot more fun and learn more at the same time. This is called "harmony". I say this at the risk of being called a "suck-up" by Steve Grubb, but here goes...

I have sat under many music directors in my life and have even led choirs myself, which, by the way, I have no desire to do again. But I have learned more from Paul Blazek than from any other director. I honestly believe that if we would spend as much time and energy on doing what Paul says as we do finding fault, we would see a vast improvement in our chorus. We can all learn so much from our director.

Of course there is always room for improvement of attitudes. Our attitude affects us as well as those around us. I want to share with you something I read by Dr. Charles Swindoll that helped me realize the impact of a good attitude. He said

"The longer I live, the more I realize the impact of attitude on life. Attitude, to me, is more important than fact. It is more important than the past, than education, than money, than circumstances, than failure, than success, than what other people think or say or do. It is more important than appearance, giftedness or skill. It will make or break a company, a church or a home. The remarkable thing is we have a choice everyday regarding the attitude we will embrace for that day. We cannot change our past...we cannot change the fact that people will act in a certain way. We cannot change the inevitable. The only thing we can do is play on the one string we have, and that is our attitude. I am convinced that life is 10% what happens to me and 90% how I react to it. And so it is with you... We are in charge of our attitudes."

Thanks guys, for the opportunity to serve on the board and for the wonderful first year. I am looking forward to many more.

Ron Satterfield

CD's, Tapes, "Chattanooga Choo Choo" and Competition Chorus Too !



IT'S Bed time. What happened to my request for the Chattanooga Choo Choo?

At the September board meeting Bob Stansbury asked the board, that often asked question "Why do we not have CD's or tapes ? At ninety per cent of our performances people ask for them." The director replied " the people who request these (CD's) hear us in a performance ,and they hear us as well as seeing us and we sound good to their ears. Have you heard us on tape? " Then in a gesture of spitting, he exclaimed " PUH--TOOEY !!." "Hold on Paul." Stansbury replied, " On our hand held recorders we do. But in a controlled recording studio they can balance all parts and come out with a clear rounded sound."

Sam Jones, in an exasperated tone broke in to say, " And I'm tired of people asking us why we don't sing Chattanooga Choo Choo !... If we are not going to sing it we had better think about changing the name of the chorus !!"

Crowe said " Hey,.. Paul just said we sound good to the audience because they can see us. If this is right why don't we sing it. "

Paul answered " Well maybe we should give a try." An unidentified voiced murmured " We've heard that before."

The question raised by some members has been, " we placed 10th in the fall 1999 and 8th in the spring 2000 competition, with 32 on the risers. and a score of 1122.

Is there something there that Paul sees the judges missed? "

Paul brought to the board the proposition of having a separate chorus for competition. It was not met with enthusiasm by some members. with the feeling the ones who can not read music or whos skills are not within the directors guidelines for this group, will be dropped and left only with separate but not equal membership benefits and shunted aside like a poor redheaded step child.Okay to sing for paid and unpaid gigs,shows and performances. But not good enough to sing for our peers.

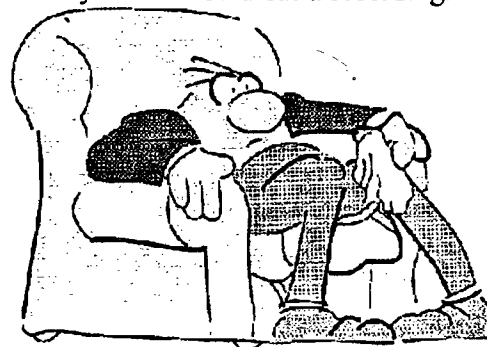
Lets now fast forward to fall 2000 contest.

We have forty on the risers.

We place 8th and a score of 1116.

We receive the Dixie District Most Improved Chorus award. Four more guys... six less points scored !....

Paul tells the chapter that listening to the contest tapes on his drive home he couldn't believe his ears " Did I get the wrong tape? Are these my guys? They sound great! Maybe we should cut a recording. "



"NEGATIVE ! WHO ME?"



This letter is from the
 ance on September 21
 London Detachment, U
 Marine Corp reunion,
 The original had highlig
 the request for tapes and

Sept. 25, 2000

Atlemen,

Thank you so much for
 a wonderful, memorable
 farmanee. The group
 roughly enjoyed the music
 selections. Quite a HIT!!
 - bad you don't have tapes
 D's for sale. Thanks again.
 Terry Keister

S. Marxie - London Detachment



"IT'S A"

200 CENTRAL AVENUE
CHATTANOOGA, TN 37403

PHONE (423) 778-4300
FAX (423) 778-4350
www.rmhchattanooga.com



Ronald McDonald House Charities of Chattanooga
1990-2000 Ten Years and Growing

October 19, 2000

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Chattanooga Choo Choo Barbershop Chorus
attn: Lamar Owens
P. O. Box 21326
Chattanooga, TN 37424

Dear Friends:

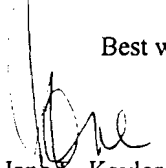
We're writing to say a great big "thank you" for your part in making the 2000 Autumn Children's Festival such a success. Every donor, booth sponsor, volunteer, media partner, and supplier of food, equipment and labor helped make this year's event the very best ever.

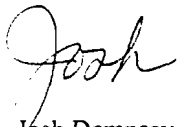
While we are still doing the accounting, ticket and food sales for the weekend exceeded over \$20,000, and the attendance was tremendous. Our Festival continues to be the premiere event held at the Riverpark and with your help, we provided fun, education and pleasure to families and young children from the tri-state area. This event has raised well over \$100,000 in operating funds for our Ronald McDonald House in the last 10 years. Our profit from the festival continues to increase, thanks to the hard work of the Chattanooga Chapter of the Tennessee Society of CPAs who help us underwrite our costs with sponsorships.

As we hope you are aware, our House has doubled its capacity for serving families during this year and with that, our operating expenses have taken a giant leap! The success of the Children's Festival is certainly a big part in keeping the doors open for the many families who need our "home away from home." Thank you for being a part of making a difference in the lives of so many.

Thanks again for your help and support which made this year's Festival the best ever!

Best wishes,


Jane L. Kaylor
Executive Director


Josh Dempsey
Festival Director

Executive Director
Jane Kaylor

Choo Choo Belles

By Sandra Stansbury



Belles: Those of you that didn't attend our September 11 dinner meeting at Town and Country really missed a good time! Food was good and discussions plentiful! We missed you. We had a nice turnout and because you were not there, wanted to fill you in on some topics we discussed.

- **Audrey Gist** officially turned her chairpersonship over to me. We presented Audrey with a \$25.00 gift certificate at Hamilton Place. Here are her words of thanks:

Dear Choo Choo Belles,
Thanks so much for the
gift certificate. I will enjoy
getting myself something - at
Hamilton Place.
Sandra, you were so kind to
do that.

Thanks again,
Sincerely,
Audrey

A gracious lady who was a great Choo Choo Belle Chairperson. Thanks,
Audrey, for all that you have done and continue to do.

- We want to remember Janice Owens in our thoughts and prayers. She has had a rough time of it lately. Recently, she was having heart problems and they discovered a blocked artery. We are thinking of you, Janice. Heard you are doing better and we are sure happy about that!
- **Dues** - most of the Belles present at the dinner meeting paid their dues of \$12.00 for the year. Twelve dollars is not much money for all that we strive to do. We would appreciate your \$12.00 contribution and thank you. The money will help pay for things that come up and for items that we need.
- **Benevolence Chairperson - Guelda Malone**
Thanks, Guelda, for offering to be our Benevolence Chairperson. This is important as we surely don't want to miss sending a card for any reason to one of our Belles. If you know of a Belle that is sick or has a problem, please call Guelda at 344-1439
- **Belles Directory** - We are hoping to get an up-to-date listing of our Belles so we can keep up with our new Belles as well. Guelda has offered to work on the list for us. If you are like me, I have trouble remembering the names!
- **Name Tags** - Isn't that great! Yep, we are going to have new name tags that have:

**CHATTANOOGA CHOO CHOO BELLES
(YOUR NAME)**

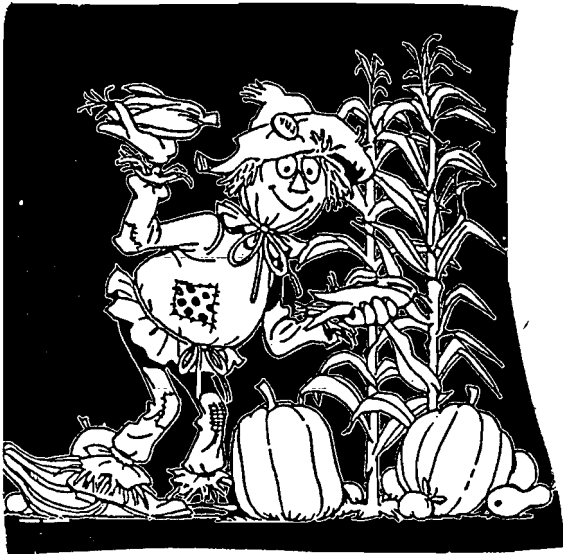
Try to wear your name tag whenever we meet, so we can all learn who is who. You will not have to pay for these. We are taking the money out of our treasury. (See what your dues can help with?) Hope to have the name tags back so we can have them for our December Christmas Dinner.

- Belles Christmas Dinner - and speaking of the Christmas Dinner,, we had a wonderful time last year so you don't want to miss this year's for sure. Always nice to dress festive, eat good food, and be together. There might be a few surprises in store for you, too! More information to come in the November Blender issue (I think!) (I heard a terrible rumor that Pat Crowe has resigned as Editor of the Blender. Pat! You did such a wonderful job. It's a lot of work pulling the Blender together. Hats off to you!!!!!!)
- Oh No! We lost one! A fellow Belle has moved and she will be sorely missed. **LESLIE KULP**. Here's her new address:

1313 Arbor Lake Blvd.
Hermitage, TN 37076

Til next time.

Sandy



**Happy
Thanksgiving**



Dance Like No One Is Watching

e-mail forwarded by Sandra Stansbury

My brother-in-law opened the bottom drawer of my sister's bureau and lifted out a tissue-wrapped package. "This," he said, "is not a slip, this is lingerie," he discarded the tissue and handed me the slip. It was exquisite; silk, handmade and trimmed with a cobweb of lace. The price tag with an astronomical figure on it was still attached. "Jan bought this the first time we went to New York, at least 8 or 9 years ago. She never wore it. She was saving it for a special occasion. Well, I guess this is the occasion." He took the slip from me and put it on the bed with the other clothes we were taking to the mortician. His hands lingered on the soft material for a moment, then he slammed the drawer shut and turned to me. "Don't ever save anything for a special occasion. Every day your alive is a special occasion." I remembered these words through the funeral and the days that followed when I helped my niece attend to all the sad chores that follow an unexpected death. I thought about them on the plane returning to California from the Midwestern town where my sister's family lives. I thought about all the things that she hadn't seen or heard or done. I thought about the things that she had done without realizing that they were something special. I'm still thinking about the words, and they've changed my life. I'm reading more and dusting less. I'm sitting on the deck and admiring the view without fussing about weeds in the garden. I'm spending more time with my family and friends and less time in committee meetings. Whenever possible, life should be a pattern of experience to savor, not endure. I'm trying to recognize these moments now and cherish them. I'm not "saving" anything;; we use our good china and crystal for every special event, such as losing a pound, getting the sink unstopped, the first camellia blossom. I wear my good blazer to the market if I like it. My theory is if I look prosperous, I can shell out \$28.49 for one small bag of groceries without wincing.

I'm not saving my good perfume for special parties; clerks in hardware stores and tellers in banks have noses that function as well as my party-going friends. "Someday" and "one of these days" are losing their grip on my vocabulary. If it's worth seeing or hearing or doing, I want to see and hear and do it now. I'm not sure what my sister would've done had she known that she wouldn't be here for the tomorrow we all take for granted. I think she would have called family members and a few close friends. She might have called a few former friends to apologize and mend fences for past squabbles. I like to think she would have gone out for a Chinese dinner, her favorite food. I'm guessing -I'll never know. It's those little things left undone that would make me angry if I knew that my hours were limited. Angry because I put off seeing good friends whom I was going to get in touch with someday. Angry because I hadn't written certain letters that I had intended to write - one of these days. Angry and sorry that I didn't tell my husband often enough how much I truly love him. I'm trying very hard not to put off, or save anything that would add laughter and luster to our lives. And every morning when open my eyes, I tell myself that it is special. Every day, every minute, every breath is truly a gift from God.

You've got to dance like nobody's watching, and love like it's never going to hurt.



<u>LASTNAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>CITY</u>	<u>ST</u>	<u>ZIP</u>	<u>WIFENAME</u>
KEEGAN	1727 CRESTWOOD DRIVE	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37405	BARBARA
KIRK	35 JACKSON WAY	FT OGLETHORPE	GA	30742	JOY
KULP	600 TIMBER RIDGE DR.	HIXSON	TN	37343-3853	LESLEY
LIENDECKER	7925 HALE RD.	HIXSON	TN	37343	
MALONE	9811 LAKESIDE ROAD	HARRISON	TN	37341	GUELDA
MC CONNELL	135 WILLOW LANE	LAFAYETTE	GA	30728	CYNDI
MC KEEHAN	ROUTE 3, BOX 496	GEORGETOWN	TN	37336-9737	
MC KENZIE	107 TALLEY ROAD	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37411	SUSAN
MOORE	2005 DAVIS RIDGE RD.	RINGGOLD	GA	30736	CHERI
OWENS	8918 VILLA RICA CIRCLE	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37421	NANCY
OWENS	2617 REID DR.	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37421	JANICE
PEEK	5428 SCENIC HWY	RISING FAWN	GA	30738	GLENDA
PRUETT	6749 CEDAR RIDGE LANE	HARRISON	TN	37341	LYNN
REYNOLDS	3879 AZALEAN DRIVE	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37415	MP667-0333
SATTERFIELD	33 DELORIS DRIVE	FT OGLETHORPE	GA	30742-3801	
SATTERFIELD	17 BATTLEFIELD CT	RINGGOLD	GA	30736	BRENDA
SLACK	614 SLEEPY HOLLOW	LAFAYETTE	GA	30728	PAT
SMITH	120 BENTLEY DRIVE	ROSSVILLE	GA	30741	LOUISE
STANSBURY	141 ROLLING RIDGE DRIVE	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37421	SANDRA
STRICKLAND	11 EDGEWOOD CIRCLE	FORT OGLETHORPE	GA	30742	MARY
THOMAS	3811 COUNTRYSIDE DR.	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37406	
THORNTON	RT 1 BOX 410 MT PISGAH ROAD	RINGGOLD	GA	30736	LINDA
WALKER	6127 CALEB PLACE	OOLTEWAH	TN	37363	TISHA
WALL	1115 LULA LAKE ROAD	LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN	GA	30750	SALLY
WEAVER	1287 NEW MURRAYTOWN RD	CLEVELAND	TN	37311	MARY JANE
WHEELER	5907 STRAIGHT CUT ROAD	LAFAYETTE	GA	30728	JO ANN
WILSON	107 GILLISPIE TERRACE	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37411	MELISSA

<u>LASTNAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>CITY</u>	<u>ST</u>	<u>ZIP</u>	<u>WIFENAME</u>
ABERCROMBIE	1505 EAST BROW RD.	SIGNAL MOUNTAIN	TN	37377	MARY
ALTMAN	338 CHAPMAN RD	RINGGOLD	GA	30736	LINDA
BLAZEK	4106 CHERRYTON DR	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37411	
BLAZEK	4106 CHERRYTON DR	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37411	LINDY
BRUNS	205 GILLESPIE TERRACE	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37411	KATHLEEN
BUGHER	2824 NILE ROAD	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37421	ANITA
COLLINS	5124 HWY 27W	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37405	CAROL
CROWE	145 GREEN CT.	CHICKAMAUGA	GA	30707-1877	MARGARET
DAWSON	193 CO. ROAD 722	BRYANT	AL	35958	PAT
DUKE	2309 GALE LANE	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37421	
DUNKIN III	526 OLD HWY 8	DUNLAP	TN	37327	BARBARA
DUNKIN	526 OLD HWY 8	DUNLAP	TN	37327	
ERBY	945 NEAL DR.	ROSSVILLE	GA	30741	GLENDA
FOWLER	201 LAURELWOOD CIRCLE	ROSSVILLE	GA	330741	
FOWLER	525 CONE DRIVE	FORT OGLETHORPE	GA	30742	SHERRY
FRASER	204 STILLWOOD LANE	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37421	EVELYN
GIMBER	719 PYRON LANE	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37412	
GIST	6605 BALLARD DR.	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37421	AUDREY
GREEN	1682 HWY 2 WEST	CRANDALL	GA	30711	JANICE
GREEN	1257 BURNING BUSH RD.	RINGGOLD	GA	30736	MARTHA
GRUBB	1600 SO. SMITH ST.	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37412	
HAGAR	245 HIWASSEE AVENUE N.E.	CLEVELAND	TN	37312	JEANNE
HARRIS	116 GATEWAY LN	ROSSVILLE	GA	30741	KARIN
HAUSMANN	2222 FISHTRAP ROAD	SOUTH PITTSBURG	TN	37380	CAROL
HORTEN	371 HILLCREST CR.	RINGGOLD	GA	30736	
HUBER	1201 CROWN ST, N, W,	CLEVELAND	TN	37312	GLORIA
JACKSON	714 HAVEN HILL DRIVE	CHATTANOOGA	TN	37412	SALLY
JESSE	123 THREE NOTCH ROAD	RINGGOLD	GA	30736	JUDY
JOHNSTON	2 NORTHFIELD RD.	SIGNAL MTN	TN	37377	CYNTHIA
JONES	316 SIGNAL DRIVE	ROSSVILLE	GA	30741	
JONES	6031 S. HIGHWAY 341	CHICKAMAUGA	GA	30707	PAT



By Fred Jesse

Some notes from the Music Committee and Music VP

We met September 26, 2000. A number of things were discussed. These are of major importance. Presently we have no assistant director. We have asked for suggestions and someone who desires to do it.

Chuck Wilson has expressed a serious interest in working toward this position. He attended Director's college this summer and has asked if he can do some warm-ups. This we agreed to do, also agreed to allow him a song to work on and direct at the Christmas show.

He has chosen "Deck The Halls", a song never performed by the chorus, and only sung on a Christmas show in 1990 and 1991 by a quartet. It is a challenging number because on chorus 2, the melody is at sometime given up by the lead to the bass and tenor. We need to support Chuck as he teaches and directs this song. It is a fun song you will like.

Unfortunately music for this and most Christmas songs are in short supply and more will be ordered. Other music will be selected as well, show songs and possible contest.

Bill Slack has agreed to fill in and serve as quartet liaison.

The chorus will learn and perform "Crazy" with the Sweet Adelines on their October 28th. show.

We will use the present arrangement, or obtain another, of the "Chattanooga Choo Choo", and when learned will make it our theme song and sing it when ever appropriate.

Other songs to continue in the repertoire have not been selected.

Those in the chorus needing learning tapes: Bring a tape recorder to record your section leader, singing the song in it's entirety, recording it unbroken or stopping.

Do chorus members want a coaching session?

Arrangements can be made if all will participate.

Remember to ATTRACT good singers we have to BE good singers.

Don't forget Guest Night November 13, Bring someone.



I know I've missed some of our visitors. We seem to be having more luck with the visitors book being signed since I moved it by the door.

The following have visited us recently, Harvey Wileman, guest of Johnny Jackson. Charles Armstrong guest of J.W.Kirk. Mark Oglesby, Chuck Wilsons guest. And Lloyd Gimbels guest who hales from Thialand, Kam Raksincharoensak. Welcome to all of you, we hope to see you again and again.

"There is no limit to what can be accomplished if we don't care who gets the credit."

"Some times the majority only means all the fools are on the same side."

Hindu: "Help your brothers boat across, and Lo ! thine own has reached the shore."

Crowe Sings Swan Song

"THEY" say you are too negative.

"THEY" say your stories and articles should be more upbeat.

"THEY" imply I stick my nose into their business.

"THEY" say

I don't receive reports from officers and members due to these reasons.

As the church lady on "Saturday Night Live" TV would often say "Well, isn't that precious".

It was just two years ago when Barry Owens, after three years of dedicated work as editor, reported he was burnt out from lack of cooperation, and threw in the towel.

I was asked by the board at that time to help in the search for someone to take over the reins. A couple of prospects were given to me.

They declined the opportunity to garner proverbs, epigrams, aphorisms, sayings and bon mots, to cast as pearls before the readership.

Barry suggested, as I had been one of his constant contributors during his tenure, I should take over. With trepidation I accepted the responsibility.

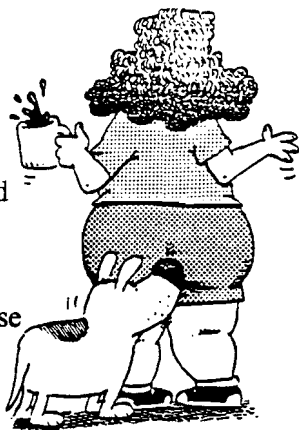
The challenge was, how do we get officers and members on the bandwagon, to accept their responsibility, and to keep the membership informed of ongoing events in their respective disciplines.

I found it was not an easy task.

First it was requests at each meeting, results... not much. Then gentle prodding, results... not much.

Then a contest (with a prize !) results..... a big zero.

What to try next ? I try playing the devils advocate, in a "Don Rickles" style. Questioning some decisions, prodding away, at times cynical and (oops! heres that word..) negative... results? another zero.



I saw the handwriting on the wall(and not in the Blender where it should be) I was approached by the nominating committee and asked if I would take over as Business Manager. The answer to my query "What about the Blender?" was " We'll find someone." I answered using Calvin Coolidge quote " I choose not to be a candidate, and if elected I will not run."

A few days later I received a call from a board member.

He relayed that "THEY" had spoken. (The sound of heralding trumpets were heard.)

There is nothing like being a "THEY". In their cloak of anonymity "THEY" are torch bearers. The guardians of truth, motherhood and the spoken word.

Their motto being " Don't confuse me with facts."

It seems "THEY" felt the bulletin should be more positive, I assume that meant don't make waves, if you don't agree, you are not positive. If I hear someone's voice of disagreement, keep it to yourself. If you remind people of their obligations. If you point out ways that need to be thought out, you are "negative".

I have mentioned there is plenty of space in each issue of the Blender to contradict or explain if "THEY" had "negative" feelings about any article.

"THEY" would like to see a positive, up beat non controversial warm fuzzy feeling good articles.

I believe the term is a "Pollyanna" view.

When I asked why "THEY" didn't contact me to discuss their views, the answer was they didn't want to hurt my feelings.



I don't want to be negative but.....

if you believe that... I've some ocean front property in Arizona for sale

Were my feelings hurt when we hosted the 1994 district convention?

As chapter publicity VP, I lined up three television stations to cover the event. Only to have a district VP deny them entry. Claiming copyright violations. Blowing months of work getting them to promote the chapter.

They retreated to one of the hotels and got extensive footage on an out of state chapter.

When I called Kenosha the following day to clarify the correct procedure, they stated the DVP had his head up some where it shouldn't have been,... were my feelings hurt ? No, just completely Pi... Ticked off!!

As the conversation continued I told the caller I would give some thought to this breach of manners on my part, and of being insensitive to the feelings of "THEY"

As I read Ron Satterfields article and Dr. Charles Swindoll's view on attitude gave me pause to think " We cannot change the fact that people will act in a certain way....." I guess that works for my detractors and myself.

We have all read about everyone's right to have freedom of speech.... But only if you agree with them. I feel "THEY'S " idea of a bulletin is not the same as mine.

Their idea of a team is somewhat similar to being in the traces of a dog team.

If you are not the leader, your outlook is limited to the view in front of you. It also has the faint aroma of censorship.

So I have decided not to come skipping down the gang plank of the "Good Ship Lollipop", singing "The Sun Will Come Up Tomorrow", I'll just sail away on my ship of negativity and gloom.

"Dam the torpedoes! full speed ahead ! ", " There's another windmill to tilt at on the starboard bow ! "

I have been requested by some not to give it up,

" You're playing into their hands ! " was one persons observation. Others were " Everything I read was the truth," "Some don't like to be told their shortcomings"

At the VLQ's performance at Bethel Village and on the bus trip to the Chatsworth performance on October the 21st., I received similar opinions. While I appreciate their comments it sure would have been nice if they had written a article or two.

Back in 1910 President Teddy Roosevelt, delivering a speech said the following.

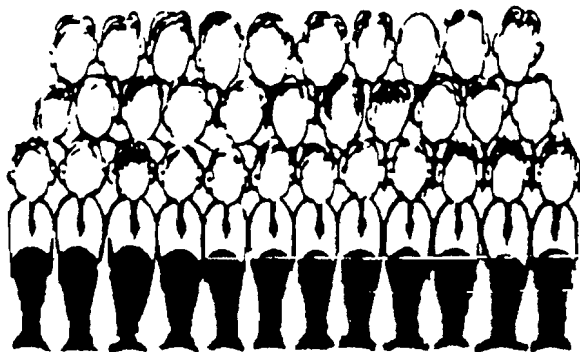
"It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, and comes up short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but who actually strive to do the deeds; who knows the great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, who at the worse, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory nor defeat."

And I receive solace from Psalm of David, a prayer of relief from adversaries. Psalm 70: verses 1, 2 and 3. Matthew 7:15, 7:20 and adhere to Matthew 5:44.

And now it's time for a closing number.

"The Parties Over, It's Time to Call It A Day."

My best wishes to my successor. Hope he has a tougher hide than Barry and I have.



" Any Volunteers ? "



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