The Weekly Newsletter of the
Choo Choo Chorus

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September Monthly Issue	September 5, 2011

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Calendar

Lookouts Baseball Game, Thursday, Sept. 1, Assemble at 6:30 PM. Dress Casual

Labor Day, Sept. 5, NO meeting that Monday

Dixie Fall Convention, Sept. 30-Oct 2. We host. Marriott is Convention Hotel. Contests in Roland Hayes Concert Hall at UTC.

No Meeting this Monday

This is Labor Day and there is no meeting tonight!

Highlights from Last Meeting

Before the meeting, Gary and Pat worked on mounting the old chorus photographs on the chair room left wall while Steve Wixson installed a shelf in the right corner for the model train donated years ago by former chapter president Jim Coulter.

We followed the script with Paul taking the Leads outside the building to work on Dream. Lebron asked Marcellus to organize the Quarteting with the Stars, and Wendell was the first to perform. After the break, he and Fred, Johnny and Wilbur sang HML.

Dave led announcements. Marcellus brought a visitor, Gary Spangler, and we sang him a welcome. Dave Rack reminded us of our sing out on Thursday for the Lookouts. Wilbur noted that the venue for the Dixie Convention has been changed to the Rolland Hayes Concert Hall at UTC. Fred is making chapter name tags, and collected a list of those needing one. Contact him is you want a name tag.

First CCCCC Rehearsal, Monday, Oct. 3. Dinner after that rehearsal.

Cleveland Christmas Show, Friday, Dec. 2, Cleveland

Chattanooga Christmas Show, Saturday, Dec. 3, GPS

Dixie Convention Registration Information

The registration forms are now on the Dixie District website (click HERE.) I will bring a copy to the next meeting and we can make copies. *Wilbur*

Birthdays

5-Benny Malone
9-Guelda Malone
15-David Collins
19-Cindy Christian
22-Daniel Randolph
26-Sally Jackson
30-David Callao
30-Barry Owens

Anniversaries

5 - Barry and Nancy Owens

Profile of Dave Rack

Dave Rack was raised in Upstate New York in a small town about 80 miles north of New York City. He went to college at Saint Michael's College in Vermont, which at that time was an all male school. It was at Saint Michael's that he first became involved in singing in a group using Harmony. Dave sang in The College Glee Club which had about 40 or so members and a very good director. They did some concerts at The School, but also did some joint concerts with other schools. He also sang in the College Church Choir with the same Director. It was primarily through The Glee Cub that he learned how powerful and moving harmony and chords can be.

After Graduation Dave spent four years in The Air Force. He then worked for The FBI from 1969 until 1997 serving in Savannah, Philadelphia, Indianapolis and North Georgia. After retiring he worked as an investigator for Provident which later became UNUM. Dave retired again two years ago from UNUM.

Dave and his wife, Sondra, have four Daughters and a Son. They also have three Grandchildren.

Paul had encouraged Dave for years to join the Chorus. About six years ago he sang with The Community Christmas Chorus and discovered once again that the sound of harmony is pretty neat. He enjoys the interaction of the people in the Chorus and in particular the different backgrounds and talents of our members.

[At the 2011 Awards Banquet, Dave Rack was awarded the BOTY or Barbershopper of the Year Award.]

A Note from the Director

Thanks to all for the hard work lately on contest/show songs - we continue to make improvement every week. I am worried, however, about the "sawtooth" effect that seems to continue. We make advancement through concentration and hard work, and then fall back over the next six days to something less that what we have achieved. The following week we work hard and advance again, only to fall back again. Retention is important to us in so many areas, but two in particular are crucial - musicianship and membership. Membership is Wally's department, so I won't discuss it here.

Musicianship, musicality, virtuosity - no matter what you call it, it's the ability (and desire) to do the best we can and strive to be even better next time, both personally and as a team. The guy standing next to you on the risers deserves your best efforts, as you deserve his. When we stand together and blend our voices, we are extremely powerful. Let's make the effort to retain "new" skills (or "new" notes) from week to week so that we can work on stuff that really IS new. That requires extra effort away from our Monday night meetings, but I find that I like walking around listening to the music in my head. I keep learning CDs available in the car so I can listen while I drive - Lindy gets tired, sometimes, but she's pretty good on bass to a lot of songs! Sing to yourself in the shower, hum while walking down the street - find ways to keep the music fresh in your head and retain the gains we make from week to week. Thanks again for your efforts on Monday nights, and please work a little on

	other nights (or days) to keep us from "relearning" every week! *Paul*

The Choo Choo Chorus is the performing unit of the Chattanooga Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society.
We meet almost every Monday night at All Saints Academy, 310 East 8th Ave, Chattanooga, TN 37421.
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