The Weekly Newsletter of the
Choo Choo Chorus

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Monthly Issue | **March 5, 2012**

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Calendar

Special Olympics Swim Meet, Thursday, March 8, GPS, 9:45 am (quartet only)

Dixie Spring Convention, March 9-11, 2012, Gadsden, AL. We go into the Matrix at 11:30 AM Central Time. Dress is tux pants, tux tab collar shirt, gold vest, black bow tie and black socks and shoes.

Naturalization Ceremonies, Wed, April 11, 10:30 AM & 1:30 PM, US District Court.

Special Olympics Track and Field, Saturday, April 21, McCallie 9:30am

Gold Star Wives, Saturday, April 21, Sheraton Read House, 7 PM (**no longer tentative - it's scheduled**)

Garden Plaza of Greenbrier Cove, Thursday, April 26, 7 PM.

Annual Show, *Fifty Year Parade of Harmony*, May 19 (date may change)

Scout Flag Day, Saturday, May 26, National Cemetery, 10:30 AM

50th Anniversary Celebration, Friday, June 1, 5:30 PM, Colonnade.

Dixie Fall Convention, September 28-30, Tunica, MS.

Sweet Adelines 50th Show, October 6.

Valentines $ummary

Income - $2,747; Expenses - $312; Net income - $2,435. *Gary*

Belles Cookbook Recipe of the Week

I just tried last week's recipe, the Blueberry Congealed Salad, and again another treat. If you're not trying these, you're missing out. *Steve*

One of Margaret Crowe's favorite recipes is Spiced Pecans from the Appetizer section. You can see the cookbook by clicking HERE. *Mary Strickland*

Birthdays

12 - Sondra Rack
13 - Charlie Holder
17 - Pat Crowe
18 - Johnny Jackson
24 - Glenda Erwin
25 - Beau Christian
25 - Dave Fleury
29 - Glenda Holder
29 - Cynthia Johnston
30 - Richard Poole

Anniversaries

7 - Dave and Sondra Rack
18 - Grady and Mary Rhoden

On-Line Archive

Script for Monday's Meeting

7:00 Chuck leads warm up
7:15 Chuck - Polecat
7:30 Risers - Paul - Dream is a Wish
8:00 Paul - When You Wish Upon
8:20 Dave White - Announcements & break
8:30 Valentines Quartets
8:40 Risers - Paul - Dream is a Wish
9:00 Paul - When You Wish Upon a Star
9:20 Paul - Craft
9:25 Gandy and KTWWS

Summary of the Last Meeting

Chuck led warm up and worked on the Polecat *My Wild Irish Rose.* We went straight to the risers where Paul did some tuning on the same song, and that was our craft for the meeting. We worked on *Dream* and *Wish* until break.

Dave White led announcements. Lebron noted there are other singing opportunities at Contest including Joe Barbershop Chorus and a Sunday morning Gospel Chorus. Check the Dixie District website. Pat announced there will be a 50th planning meeting after Contest. Paul noted that Dave Cadwell who has sung in the CCCCC for years in very sick in the hospital and needs our prayers. Rick has confirmed that we will sing for Scout Flag Day. Fred passed a 2 year renewal to Wendell. Wendell with the floor and having a conflict that won't allow him to go to contest, needs a volunteer to drive the riser trailer to Contest.

After the break (where we had time to look at the new fridge that Gary got at an unbelievable price) we went to the risers and worked on all three possible contest songs. It was a bit late, but someone requested *Ten Feet*, so we sang that once. Cameron passed the Gandy to young Charlie and we closed with KTWWS.

Other Contest/Convention Activities

A gospel barbershop chorus will sing in a church in Anniston, Ala Sunday mo44rning after the contest on Saturday. Food will be provided for lunch. There is no fee. To sign up and get music - click HERE and on the home/convention page click on "Register" (even if you have already registered for the convention) - a window will appear that lists 4 events you can register for. Click on the "Gospel Chorus" register button and you can read about it and sign up if you wish.

Don't miss Saturday night of the contest. Newer members should be advised that the best part of any contest is the Saturday night Quartet Finals and performances by the winning choruses and previous Quartet winners. If you have to miss something, don't miss Saturday night!!

If any who have never been to contest have questions they can contact me at LBrock2020@yahoo.com for information. *Lebron*

Jerry Bradwell Died

Pastor Jim Bennett from the Fairview Baptist church called me and said that loyal and long term member, Jerry Bradwell, died on Tuesday afternoon. Arrangements are not yet known, and members will be notified by email when we know more. *Dave Rack*

Backstage Quartet

The Backstage 4, shown in the photograph, was formed in 1978 by Dan Bruns (tenor). Dan had been singing with Three Ds and a Dad, consisting of Charlie McDowell, his sons Dennis and Danny, and Dan. They had decided to change tenors and when Dan was asked if "his quartet" was available for a local dinner theater production of Girl Crazy, he didn't have one. He asked David Mills (lead), Dave Reynolds (baritone), and Paul Blazek (bass) if they were interested. They were, and the Backstage 4 was born. They performed in the show at the Backstage Dinner Theater (hence their name) and entertained patrons with additional songs during intermissions. They were having so much fun they registered the quartet and began competing. They performed many times over the next seven years at festivals like the Color Cruise, Prater's Mill, and Ketner's Mill. They even sang as the opening act for the movie Showboat back when movies were shown on the main barge at Riverbend. They attended Harmony College four years in a row and were the first (and as far as we know, the only) quartet to "graduate" with the degree "Bachelor of Song". Somewhere along the way they figured out that most people knew a quartet consisted of four people, so they dropped the 4 and became simply Backstage. They competed at every opportunity and placed as high as 3rd in District competition, performing as headliners at a few chapter (and Sweet Adelines chapter) shows along the way. One audience favorite was their rendition of Old MacDonald Had A Farm. The quartet broke up in 1985 when David Mills moved to Houston. *Paul*