The Weekly Newsletter of the
Choo Choo Chorus

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Valentines Party | **February 27, 2012**

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Calendar

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

Dixie Spring Convention, March 9-11, 2012, Gadsden, AL.

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

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

Gold Star Wives, Sat, Apr 21 (tentative).

Garden Plaza of Greenbrier Cove, Thurs, April 26 (**not the 25 as previously listed.)**, 7 PM.

Annual Show, *Fifty Year Parade of Harmony*, May 19, GPS

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

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

Sweet Adelines 50th Show, Oct 6.

50th Planning

Fred has an idea - a Parade of Costumes worn by the chorus over these 50 years. We have our current costumes. Collins has the old black and white vest. Several guys have the engineer overalls and cap. What can you contribute?

Turn in Singing Valentines Money

If you have any Valentine money that hasn't been turned in, please do so. You can mail it to me if you can't be at Monday's meeting. Do not send cash but write a personal check for the amount in cash, made out to ChooChoo Chorus. My address is 1910 River Chase Road, Hixson, TN 37343. I would like for this to be cleared by February 29th. *Gary Fisher*

Belles Cookbook Recipe Report

We tried Audrey Gist's recommended recipe, Broccoli Casserole, and it was good and easy to make. *Steve*

One of my favorite recipes is the Blueberry Congealed Salad, the first recipe in the 'Salads and Soups' section. You can view the cookbook by clicking HERE. You can find the recipe by clicking on 'Salads and Soups' in the Table of Contents. Please try this and other of these recipes and report back. *Mary Strickland*

On-Line Archive

Script for Monday's Meeting

7:02 Chuck leads warm up
7:17 Chuck - Polecat
7:32 Circle-sing - Paul with Ten Feet
7:47 Chuck - Chattanooga Choo Choo
8:02 Paul - Dream is a Wish
8:22 Dave White - Announcements & break
8:32 Quartets
8:43 Risers - Paul - When Somebody Loves Me
9:03 Paul - When You Wish Upon a Star
9:23 Paul - Craft
9:28 Gandy and KTWWS

Summary of the Last Meeting

Chuck led warm up and worked on Shine on Me. Paul led a circle sing of WSLM. Paul shared some insights on what judges are looking for when they judge. Chuck worked on DOTD and Paul worked on Chat CC. Paul worked on TFOTG and talked about how they flew Matt Blazek on wires when they sung it many years ago.

Dave White led announcements. Lebron talked about the Valentines Party and our new BOTY - Gary Fisher. Wilbur mentioned registering for Contest and that the uniform will be Tux pants, Tux tab collar shirt, gold vest, black bow time and black shoes. Dave Fleury showed a transparency of the names of the businesses that bought an ad for our very first show, and ask that members contact them as they are likely to buy again. Also to start selling ads to businesses where we spend our money. Rich went over upcoming sing outs, and announced a change in policy such that we won't be singing at Lookout games. Fred passed out renewals to Fleury (5) and Wixson (10). Paul announced we will be singing 9th at Contest.

After the break, the Chattanooguys sang a rousing *I'll Fly Away.*Paul worked on WYWUaS for the rest of the meeting. Wally passed the Gandy to Cameron. We closed with KTWWS.

Valentines Party Highlights

Our sweethearts from left to right in the center photograph are Melissa, Sondra, Mary, Alice, Glenda, Marilyn, Mary, Tanya, Audrey, our waitress Hannah, Margie, Karen, Lindy holding granddaughter Maddie, and Joyce.

In one of the chorus' outings nearest to the actual holiday we've had in some time, a handsome and hungry group of nearly 40 gathered at Golden Corral (don't tell Wilbur it wasn't the Golden Gallon) in Ft. Oglethorpe for a celebration and recap of the recent success we enjoyed with Singing Valentines 2012. Based on the emcee's recommendation, many tried the pan-seared shrimp with Alfredo sauce and were not disappointed. Doubtless the joint lost a little money based on the amount of food we consumed and all appeared to have a good time. Our too-thin waitress, Hannah, did a great job clearing plates and keeping glasses refilled. We rewarded her with a stirring rendition of *Heart of My Heart*.

By my feeble count and memory, we delivered 67 valentines, of which 65 were paid gigs. Gary announced that close to $2,000 had already been collected. Special thanks were given to Richard Poole and J. W. Kirk for spearheading the effort, to Beau Christian for manning the phones the most, and to Frank Delaney for selling the most. All quartets that performed were represented and at least one member from each took a few minutes to share a special memory from the valentines they delivered. Lebron Brock had some presidential words for us, and Paul Blazek thanked the special ladies in our lives for sharing on this holiday devoted to love. Last year's BOTY recipient, Dave Rack, presented this year's award to Gary Fisher. Gary's wife and daughter were present to share the evening. He was very surprised and caught speechless, much to the delight of everyone attending. Congrats, Gary; and thanks for all your hard work!

We closed out the evening by singing *When Somebody Loved Me*, *Ten Feet Off the Ground*, and *Keep the Whole World Singing* The Chattanooguys sang a special *I Love You, Truly* to Sasha in the adjoining dining room as she celebrated her sixth birthday. We disbanded a little after 8 PM, very full and satisfied that all had enjoyed a nice evening of food, fun, fellowship and Barbershop harmony. *Steve Grubb*, Emcee

From our Historian

Some trivia is that the chapter has had three names in its lifetime - Rock City Chorus, Mountain City Chorus, and Choo Choo Chorus. Membership has fluctuated between a high of 60 early in its life, to a low of 12 some years later. We have had at least 12 different directors, some as interim only, and then, Paul Blazek, for 25 years. The chorus has had at least 12 different meeting places since organizing in 1962, including briefly at the home of our president at the time. *Fred*