

The Choo Choo Chorus

A Barbershop Harmony Society Chapter
proudly presents an encore presentation
of

Radio Days



Special Entertainment by:

Steve Plemmons

Rick Hasty

Steve Wixson

Saturday May 5, 2007 8:00 pm
Notre Dame High School Auditorium
2701 Vermont Ave., Chattanooga, TN

President's Welcome

In behalf of the Choo Choo Chorus and our Choo Choo Belles I welcome you to our annual show, "Radio". The membership of the Chorus has long held that this is one of their best shows. The last version of it was performed in the late 1990's and, with the help of member Gary Fisher, has been rewritten and upgraded in the performance you will see this evening.

Without wishing any sudden aging upon younger members of our audience, I can only say that if you are too young to remember radio shows when radio was our primary form of home media entertainment - well, it is your loss. But we hope this evening to give you some notion of what it was like to sit around the old radio, glowing orange and warm, and with a little help from your imagination, be entertained in a thousand ways.

Of course, being who we are, we just have to have a little fun with the old radio days. We begin at KORD Radio station and . . . well, we just hope you have as much fun this evening as we surely will.

Welcome, enjoy, and thanks for supporting the Choo Choo Chorus.

Beau Christian, President
Choo Choo Chorus

Free Tickets?

Send us a singer who becomes a member,
and we'll give you two free tickets to our next show!

CITY HALL GRAND RE-OPENING

Saturday, May 19TH, 2007

11:00AM - City Hall Parade

Noon - Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

12:30- 5:30PM - Celebration

Performances by Choo Choo Chorus

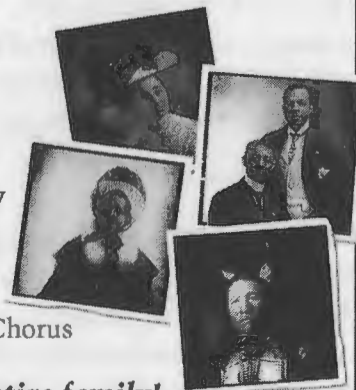
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and celebrate history then and now!

1907-2007

CHATTANOOGA



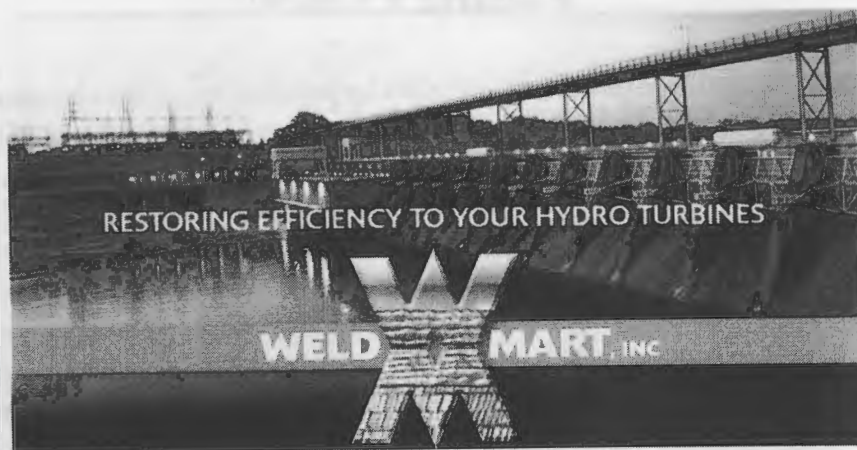
Encore! Encore!

On behalf of the Choo Choo Chorus, let me welcome you to this command performance of Radio Days! This particular show is deemed the favorite by many of our long-term members, and it is my hope that you will see why tonight. We are very excited about tonight's show and trust that excitement will carry across the stage to each and every one of you here tonight. While many of you may remember gathering around the family radio and listening to your favorite show, some of our younger guests may not even know what a radio really is or meant to the typical family during its hey-day. Whatever category you fall in or between, we hope to take you back to those good old days for a while tonight.

Let me thank everyone who played a part in making this night a success. All of the fine men of the Choo Choo Chorus have worked very hard and taken on various volunteer duties—tickets, ads, props, programs, publicity, singing in a quartet, pro-viding food, back stage help—and all of them served admirably. Our Director did his stellar job preparing this rag tag bunch to put on a show. Our *Belles* remain our most ardent supporters and most redeeming and appealing aspect of each member. A big thanks to our local entertainment as well: a world champion “Bones” player, well traveled comedian, and ever popular juggler. Who knew such talent could be found here in the Scenic City?

Finally, a special thanks to all of our Patrons who monetarily chose to support this show. Please consider visiting their places of business and saying your thanks by supporting them. And no show would be a success without our audience. Many of you attend all of our efforts and for that we are eternally grateful. Should this be your first barbershop show, don't let it be your last. Your presence and support makes what we do worth while. Thanks for choosing to be here and spending your evening with us! And now, without further adieu, ... “On With The Show!!”

Steve Grubb
Show Chairman



At Weld Mart we don't ask, "Can we do that?" but rather, "How can we do that?" to best meet the ever changing needs of our valued customers.

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What is Barbershop Music?

On Saturday night, April 11, 1938, twenty-five men gathered at a hotel in Tulsa, Oklahoma, at the invitation of two of them to sing in barbershop quartets. As more and more singers appeared in the next few months, Owen C. Cash and Rupert T. Hall founded the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc., abbreviated as SPEBSQSA, a playful poke at the government agencies whose initials and regulations still plague us.

The style of "barbershop", now written as one word, began around 1900. It is not really four-part harmony but, rather, three parts harmonizing to a known melody, unaccompanied by instruments. The lead sings the melody and is joined by the bass, the lowest part, and the tenor, who sings consistently above the lead. The baritone, ranging above and below the melody, puts in the last note. There is usually one harmonizing chord on each melody note, although sometimes one or more voices add more notes. Often musical rules of time, expression, and word theme are sacrificed to create variety and pleasurable tension in order to delay the reaching of the expected chords.

With headquarters now in Kenosha, the "Society," as Barbershoppers refer to it, has grown into a pastime for almost 30,000 men in the U.S. and Canada, as well as for affiliated groups in Great Britain, Australia, New Zealand, Sweden, and other counties. A few hundred choruses and over 2,000 quartets perform regularly in and near their communities and often compete against each other, beginning at the District level and then at the International level.

This year the Society has changed its name to the Barbershop Harmony Society.

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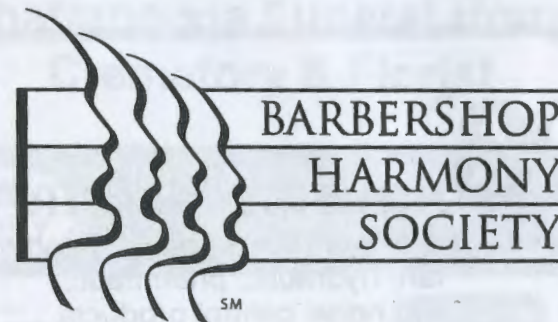
Larry C. Rooks, CPA/PFS, CFP®
Managing Member

1025 Executive Drive, Suite 104
Hixson, TN 37343
Phone: 423-648-7665
Fax: 423-648-7664
E-mail: Larry.Rooks@rookscpas.com

From The Director

Welcome to our third production of "Radio Days"! Each time we put on this show, our memories (for some of us) grow fonder and fonder as the radio era fades farther and farther into the mists of time. For others, especially the younger members of the chorus, the concept of no television, computers, or video games seems rather strange - what did people do for fun? Close your eyes, put your imagination in high gear, and return with us to those wonderful days. My thanks go to all the chorus members and everyone else involved in the production - you'll see their names elsewhere in the program. Please support our sponsors - it's through their generosity and your kind patronage that we have been able to keep barbershop harmony alive and well in Chattanooga for the last 45 years. Also, watch for advertising about our Christmas show, sometime around the first weekend in December.

Paul Blazek, Musical Director



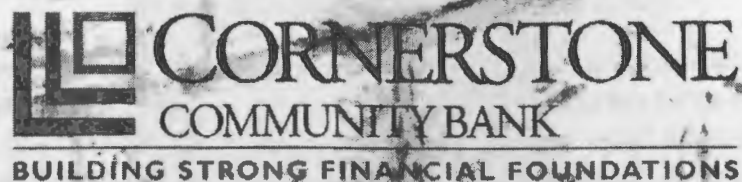
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Show Committee

Show Chairmen	Steve Grubb
Publicity	Pete Jones
Program	Nancy & Barry Owens
Show Treasurer	Johnny Jackson
Music Director	Paul Blazek
Stage Director	Linda Touns
Ticket Chairman	J.W. Kirk
Ad Chairman	Frank Delaney
Script	Paul Blazek & Gary Fisher
Set	Steve Wixson
Flyers	Barry Owens
Choo Choo Belles	Mary Strickland

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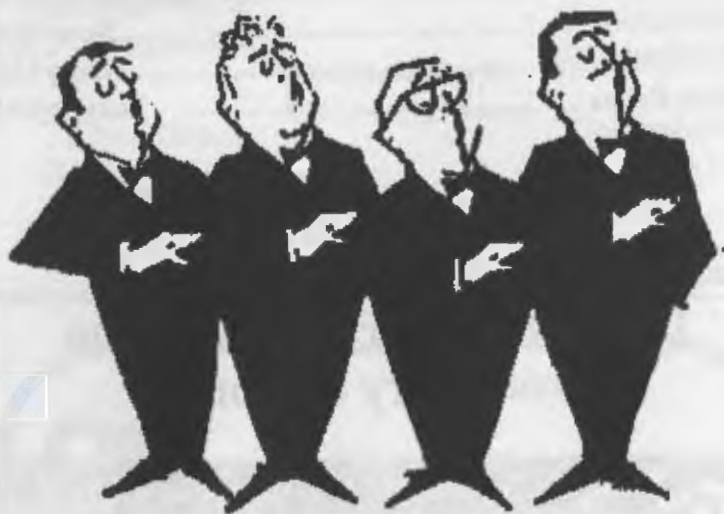
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About Our Chorus

Forty-five years ago (May 17, 1962) the Chattanooga (Rock City) Chapter became a charter member of what is now the Barbershop Harmony Society.

The Rock City Chorus performed their first show on July 14, 1962 at the new Chattanooga High School auditorium. The Knoxville Smokyland Chorus and Knoxville Sweet Adeline Chorus and the Atlanta Peachtree Chorus along with four quartets, including Dixie District Champions, The Dignitaries, also performed that day.

In 1975 the chorus name was changed to The Mountain City Chorus and in 1982 the name was changed finally to The Choo Choo Chorus. The Chorus has had as many as 62 members in 1963 and as few as 12 members in 1970 and currently has 49 members.

Of ten different musical directors beginning with Dick Clem, our current director, Paul Blazek, has been director for the longest time (18 years). Thirty-two chapter quartets have competed for Dixie District honors over the years but only one quartet, The Chattanooga Shoe Shine Boys, has ever won a Dixie District Quartet Championship (1981).

From its inception the chorus has been busy singing in the Chattanooga area. With two contests each year, an annual show, a Christmas show and singing in the community, the men get their barbershop "fix" and provide audiences with lots of entertainment opportunities. With performances ranging from entertaining at a nursing home or retirement center to singing the National Anthem at sporting events to performing with the Chattanooga Symphony to various outdoor events, even providing strolling quartets for the Riverbend Festival, the chapter provides ample chances for men to indulge the inner "ham" while making people happy. An added benefit is health improvements as the result of singing - we've had men performing with us into their 90's!

The vision for the future is continued efforts for preservation of barbershop music, entertainment of patrons, help for service projects, and continued friendship with fellow barbershoppers.



Choo Choo Chorus

Chattanooga Chapter

Barbershop Harmony Society

Paul Blazek, Director

Chuck Wilson, Associate Director

Leads

Matt Blazek
Pat Crowe
Michael Cyr
Frank Delaney
Steve Grubb
Oliver Jenkins
Sam Jones
Tom Keegan
J.W. Kirk
Lamar Owens
Richard Poole
Bill Slack
Arthur Southerlin
Hobby Thomas
Steve Wixson

Basses

Paul Blazek
Jerry Bradwell
Lebron Brock
Lucien Claiborne
Roger Coffman
David Collins
Edgar Dawson
Erby Erwin
Gary Fisher
J.N. Howard
Darryl Hubbard
Pete Jones
David Rack
Daniel Randolph
Clyde Rogers
Lonnie Satterfield
W.C. Strickland
Ed Thornton
Clarence Wall
Hobert Woody

Baritones

Beau Christian
Brooks Gist
Johnny Jackson
John Johnston
Benny Malone
Chuck Wilson

Tenors

Niles Fowler
Fred Jesse
Argyle Kaufman
Barry Owens
Michael Prentice
Ron Satterfield

Quartets

Classic Harmony

Barry Owens-Tenor
Dave Abercrombie-Lead
Clarence Wall-Bass
Chuck Wilson-Baritone

Four Grand

Ron Satterfield-Tenor
Art Southerlin-Lead
Wilbur Strickland-Bass
Johnny Jackson-Baritone

Uncalled Four

Fred Jesse-Tenor
Bill Slack-Lead
Paul Blazek-Bass
Johnny Jackson-Baritone

Rock City 4

Fred Jesse-Tenor
Bill Slack-Lead
David Collins-Bass
Benny Malone-Baritone

Mason-Dixon Four

Jim Justice-Tenor
Tom Keegan-Lead
J.N. Howard-Bass
Benny Malone-Baritone

Scenic City Sound

Ron Satterfield-Tenor
Lamar Owens-Lead
W.C. Strickland-Bass
Brooks Gist-Baritone

KORD Quartet

Michael Prentice-Tenor
Art Southerlin-Lead
Gary Fisher-Bass
Bo Christian-Baritone

Bart Holliday Players

Bart - Paul Blazek
Lamont - Matt Blazek
Jose' - Bill Slack
Jamison - J.N. Howard
Fifi - Richard Poole
Murphy - Tom Keegan

Radio Days

Emcee Steve Grubb
Sound Effects Man Johnny Jackson

Act I

Star Spangled Banner Choo Choo Chorus
Radio Choo Choo Chorus
Side By Side Choo Choo Chorus
Cool Water Scenic City Sound
Tumblin' Tumbleweeds Scenic City Sound
Rotten Spice Caper, Chapter One Bart Holliday Players
I'll Fly Away Rock City 4
Turn Your Radio On Rock City 4
There's A Meetin' Here Tonight Classic Harmony
I Woke Up This Mornin' Feelin' Fine Classic Harmony
Rotten Spice Caper, Chapter Two Bart Holliday Players
Mother Machree Choo Choo Chorus
Caroline Choo Choo Chorus
Rotten Spice Caper, Chapter Three Bart Holliday Players

Intermission

Act II

Wait 'Til The Sun Shines, Nellie Mason-Dixon Four
I'll Take Your Home Again, Kathleen Four Grand

Special Guest - Steve Wixson

Special Guest - Steve Plemmons

Special Guest - Rick Hasty

Oh, You Beautiful Doll Choo Choo Chorus
Rotten Spice Caper, Conclusion Bart Holliday Players
Cocktails For Two Very Large Quartet
Heart Uncalled Four
Sweet Georgia Brown Choo Choo Chorus
Georgia On My Mind Choo Choo Chorus
Lulu's Back In Town Choo Choo Chorus

Best Wishes for a Great Show!



Benny, David, Bill, Fred

Rock City 4

For bookings call
David Collins @ 423-658-2737
Bill Slack @ 706-638-5848

Musical Commercial Saves Wheaties From Extinction

Wheaties made advertising history as the first product to feature a singing commercial on network radio. Its first airing took place on Christmas Eve 1926. The soon-to-be famous “**Have You Tried Wheaties**” jingle was sung by four male singers known as “**The Wheaties Quartet**”. Since direct selling on radio wasn’t allowed, the singers of the jingle simply asked the listeners if they ever tried *Wheaties*; what it contained; and how *Wheaties* will please the listeners’ taste buds.

Both the musical and non-musical commercials at that time were a barometer on *Wheaties*’ popularity. Sales increased in areas where the people heard the musical commercial. Unfortunately, it was heard only in a very limited area of the United States. In those regions where the musical commercial wasn’t heard, *Wheaties*’ sales floundered badly.

With the product’s sagging popularity, *General Mills*, the makers of *Wheaties*, came within a whisker of discontinuing the production and selling of *Wheaties*. At a company staff meeting, an advertising executive for *Wheaties* offered the suggestion that ended up saving the cereal. He stated that since the sales were good in those regions where the *Wheaties* musical commercial was heard, why not air the commercial in as many regions of the country as possible. In a nutshell, the musical commercial were aired; sales improved; and *Wheaties* quickly became one of the most popular breakfast cereals.

As for the *Wheaties* jingle, the musical ditty continued on the air. During the 1930’s, it helped the product attract a specific group of radio listeners—children. With a slight change in the words, the jingle was sung on the program *Wheaties* was most famous for sponsoring on radio, *JACK ARMSTRONG, THE ALL AMERICAN BOY*.

Rock City 4 will sing the original commercial jingle tonight!