

# Choo Choo Chorus

Lovingly Presents

*Can You Feel The Love Tonight*

A Song Fest For Those We Love

Special Guest Quartet: MC4

Saturday, May 16, 2015

Girls Preparatory School

**WELCOME**

*Rich Ptacin*, Show Chairman

Rich Ptacin, Show Chairman

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### CHOO CHOO

Paul Blazek	Wally Edmondson	Gene Huelman
Lebron Brock	Erby Erwin	Charlie Holder
Beau Christian	David Fleury	Johnny Jackson
Pat Crowe	Brooks Gist	Tom Keegan
Frank Delaney	Steven Grubb	JW Kirk

### CHORUS MEMBERS

Benny Malone	Daniel Randolph	Chet Tschetter
J. J. McShan	Neal Robinson	Steve Vipond
Brandon Middlebrooks	Marcellus Scott	David White
Rich Ptacin	Bill Slack	Wendell Whitmire
David Rack	Wilbur Strickland	Chuck Wilson
	Jesse Trigg	Steve Wixson

### ABOUT THE CHOO CHOO CHORUS

Fifty-two 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 43 members.

Of ten different musical directors beginning with Dick Clem, our current director, Paul Blazek, has been director for the longest time (27 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.

#### **SHOW COMMITTEE**

Chairman	Rich Ptacin
Ad Sales	Charlie Holder, Frank Delaney
Ticket Sales	Gene Huelman
Program, Set Design	Steve Wixson
Publicity, Venue	Chet Tschetter
Script	Pat Crowe, Rich Ptacin
Historian	Fred Jesse
Stage Manager	Brandon Middlebrooks
Guest Quartet Coordinator	Paul Blazek
Music VP	Wilber Strickland

#### **Chattanoogaquys Quartet**

Wally Edmondson, Dave Fleury, Marcellus Scott and Beau Christian

#### **Rock City 4 Quartet**

Fred Jesse, Bill Slack, Wilbur Strickland and Johnny Jackson

#### **Birchwood Common Quartet**

Wendell, Charlie Holder, Lebron and Chuck

#### **OUR CHORUS DIRECTOR - PAUL BLAZEK**

Paul Blazek celebrates 28 years as our Director. Paul was born in Chicago, Illinois. He moved to Nashville in 1965 and then to Chattanooga in 1977. He and his wife Lindy have four children, Mary Kathryn, Melissa, Megan, and Matt, and grandchildren Maddie and Caleb. Matt and son-in-law David Grass have sung with the chorus at various times.

Paul joined the Nashville chapter in 1976 and sang in his first barbershop contest at the Cow Palace in San Francisco International that same year. He also competed with Nashville at '77 Philadelphia International and '78 Cincinnati International, and has recently rejoined the Music City Chorus at International in Philadelphia '10, Kansas City '11, Portland '12 and Las Vegas '14.

He has been a member of several quartets: Round Mound of Sound (Nashville), Backstage, Stage II, Four Guys, and Honchos (Chattanooga). Paul has attended Harmony College many times, attended the first Director's College in 1990, and many Society-sponsored schools over the years. He was Director of Tullahoma, TN chapter in 1984-85, assistant director of the Chattanooga chapter in 1985-86, and director of the Chattanooga chapter since 1987. He is currently on the Dixie District Board of Directors as VP, Financial Development. In his spare time, Paul is database administrator for TXI Systems, Inc.

#### **ASSOCIATE CHORUS DIRECTOR - CHUCK WILSON**

Chuck Wilson, a native Tennessean, moved to Chattanooga in 1968. He sang in choruses and quartets, and joined our chapter some 21 years later. He was the baritone for Classic Harmony Quartet. He attended Director's School and is a certified BHS Director.

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# THE CHOO CHOO CHORUS PRESENTS

## *Can You Feel The Love Tonight*

### PROGRAM

National Anthem (Chorus)  
Can You Feel The Love (Chorus)  
Love's Old Sweet Song (Chorus)  
Driving Me Crazy (Rock City 4)  
My Honey's Loving Arms (Chorus)  
Love At Home (Chorus)  
You Are My Sunshine (Chattanooga)  
I Never See Maggie Alone (Chattanooga)  
Georgia On My Mind (Chorus)  
Some Ballad Song (Rock City 4)  
Side-by-Side (Rock City 4)  
When She Loved Me (Chorus)  
Only You (Birchwood Common)  
Sweet Adeline (Birchwood Common)  
Can You Feel The Love - Reprise (Chorus)

### INTERMISSION

#### GUEST QUARTET - MC4 Dixie District Medalist Quartet

God Bless America (Chorus)  
Keep The Whole World Singing (Chorus and MC)

### SPECIAL GUEST QUARTET : MC4



MC4 is a barbershop quartet from Nashville Tennessee founded with the goals of making great music and being successful in both competition and performance. Our name is a reference to "Music City" and the Music City Chorus, which we all sing in, plus the fact that two of us have last names that start with "Mc". We were fortunate enough to qualify for our first international quartet competition after only 2 months together last year. We went on to win the Dixie District Quartet Championship in October of 2014. And we are proud to be representing the Dixie District again this summer in Pittsburgh at the Barbershop Harmony Society International Convention.

Members of the quartet are: Patrick McAlexander (tenor), Howard McAdory (lead), Jesse Turner (bass) and Kyle Snook (baritone).











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