



Carolinas District

Barbershop Harmony Society

Carolinas District 2013 History

The “third year is the charm” for the Carolinas District and it was good one. Another new chapter. Twenty-one new registered quartets. And a full year of activities. The history includes the following sections: The Year In Review, 2013 Spring Convention, 2013 Fall Convention, Chapters, Quartets, Leadership, and Awards.

The Year In Review

The year began with one of our own, Shannon Elswick, becoming the International President. Shannon previously lived in Asheville, was a member of the **Asheville** Chapter, and directed the Asheville Sweet Adeline’s chorus. Although Shannon lives in Florida now he is dual member with **Asheville** and we claim him as our own.

This year was also significant for the Barbershop Harmony Society as it celebrated its 75th Anniversary. The **Savannah** Chapter held a special anniversary event and several other chapters held annual shows that recognized the 75th Anniversary.

Here is the 2013 Carolinas District History “year-in-review” in photos...



Shannon Elswick



A record-breaking 107 chapter officers attended the Leadership Academy on January 5, 2013 at Richmond Community College in Hamlet, NC. Organized by Warren Fuson, Chapter officers from throughout the district gathered to learn how to make their chapters a more vital force in the district.

State of South Carolina Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, barbershop harmony is an cappella musical genre originating in America in the 19th century; and

WHEREAS, today, barbershop harmony is enjoyed by millions of men and women of all ages around the world; and

WHEREAS, barbershop harmony helps promote music appreciation and enriches the cultural landscape of the Palmetto State; and

WHEREAS, officially organized on April 11, 1938, The Barbershop Harmony Society is celebrating 75 years of organizing and encouraging close-harmony singing groups.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Nikki R. Haley, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim April 7-13, 2013, as

BARBERSHOP HARMONY WEEK

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to celebrate this truly American style of music and the people who are helping to preserve this tradition for future generations.



NIKKI R. HALEY
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA



Representing the Carolinas District at the Midwinter Convention and Contests in Orlando, FL

Seniors Quartet Contest:

- *You Kids Get Off My Lawn!* (top left) placing 14th
- *Village Green* (top right) placing 21st.

Youth Chorus Festival: *Savannah Storm* (below) directed by Duke Andrus received a Rating of Excellent. The average age for the chorus was 17.7 years.



The **North Carolina Harmony Brigade** held its 21st annual rally again on the Sandhills Community College campus in Pinehurst, NC. The Saturday night show (January 19th) featured the 3rd place International Medalist Quartet, **A Mighty Wind** and a fantastic chorus of over 120 experienced quartetters who attended the even. New members were presented with certificates (right).



Many chapters perform “Singing Valentines” in the community. For the quartets, delivering a singing valentine is always a joy, and for many the high point of their barbershop year. This year the *Never Home 4* quartet from the **Research Triangle Park** chapter found a way to make it even better by adding some extra class. The Lead, Dick Smith, volunteered to chauffeur the quartet around in his vintage 1971 Rolls Royce Silver Cloud. So now the quartet arrives in style (right) – four handsome men in tuxedos, riding in one of the world’s great classic cars: a class ride for a class act.



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The Spring District Convention was held April 5-6 in Pinehurst, NC. Once again Spring Convention included a Saturday full of classes and the opportunity for choruses and quartets to be coached by members of the judging panel.

Three quartets contests were held:

- Seniors Champion – *Harmony Grits* (top left)
- Collegiate Champion – *The Skinny* (top right)
- Representative to Toronto International Contest – *1/2 Ton Pickup* (right)



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The District Board of Directors provides leadership throughout the year. Shown at left at one of their many meetings.



The **Brunswick County Coastal Harmonizers** received their charter on April 6, 2013. Read the complete story on their founding and chartering on **Brunswick County** page in the Chapter Section.



In April the **Southern Gentlemen** held a YIH Festival. It was very successful. We had 21 high school singers and two choral directors who attended. **BlackJack** from Wilmington were the coaches along with **Chapter Two** from New Bern.



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Representing the Carolinas District at the International Convention and Contests in Toronto, Canada

Quartet Contest: *1/2 Ton Pickup* (top left) placing 43rd

Collegiate Quartet Contest: *The Skinny* (top right) who sand with a last minute replacement bass.

Chorus Contest: *Palmetto Vocal Project* (below) directed by Bob Rund and Derek Street came in 29th with 27 on the risers



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The District's Fall Convention was again held in Myrtle Beach, SC on October 25-26. Twenty-four quartets competed with these results:

- District Quartet Champion – ***Zero Hour*** (top)
- Novice Quartet Champion – ***Four Knights Standing*** (top right)
- 2014 International Senior Quartet Contest representative – ***BLackJack*** (right)

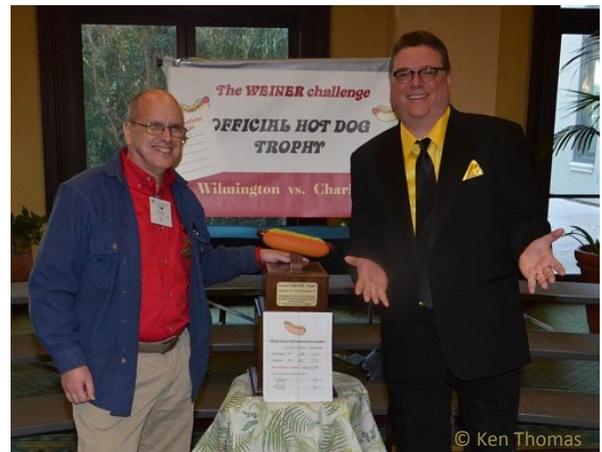
Thirteen choruses competed with these results:

- Representative to Toronto International Contest – ***Palmetto Vocal Project*** (below)
- District Chorus Champion – ***The General Assembly*** (next page)





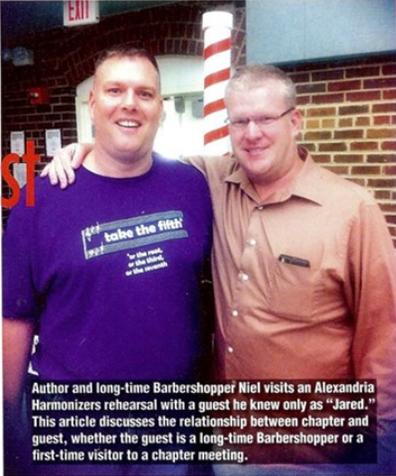
The **Wilmington** and **Charlotte** chapters officially kicked off a new competition for chorus bragging rights at the fall 2012 Convention. The challenge was born at a coaching session for the *Cape Fear Chorus* at the 2012 Spring Convention in Fayetteville. During a break, Cape Fear’s director, Larry Reinhart, approached Charlotte members Jan Muddle and Bill Gronning who were watching the session. For reasons known only to Larry, his words of greeting were, “Hi, we’re gonna whip your butts again in the fall. And with that the “Weiner Challenge was born. Charlotte again won the challenge this year and took home the traveling “hot dog” trophy (right).



The November/December 2013 issue of the *Harmonizer* magazine published an article by Niel Johnson, a member of the **Research Triangle Park** Chapter. Niel’s consultant/training job in the Army requires that he travel around the country to various Army posts. He has visited a many Society chapters during his many trips. His article provides tips on being a great guest when visiting another chapter and how a chapter can be ready for visiting or potential barbershoppers.

Be Our Guest

How traveling Barbershoppers can be great guests—and how chapters can make an enjoyable meeting for either a visiting Barbershopper or a first-time guest



Author and long-time Barbershopper Niel visits an Alexandria Harmonizers rehearsal with a guest he knew only as “Jared.” This article discusses the relationship between chapter and guest, whether the guest is a long-time Barbershopper or a first-time visitor to a chapter meeting.