

# Quartets

The legal name for the Barbershop Harmony Society is still *The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop **Quartet** Singing in America, Incorporated (S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A., Inc.)*. Indeed, it is our “quartets” and the men who sing in them that are the backbone of the Society.

When the Carolinas District was chartered, there were a total of 44 District quartets registered with the Society. During this period an additional 13 quartets registered resulting in a total of 57 registered quartets. The following pages contain available information, names, and photos for those 57 quartets:

17 Below	InVoice
½ Ton Pickup	Just 4 Fun
Acappella Fellas	Lakenotes
Aire	Let's Sing!
Antics	LINKS
Bar None	Locked & Loaded
Beach Music	Mountain Vocal Project
BLacKJack	Never Home 4
Brunswick Stew	Once In A Row
Carolina Chord Company	One Accord
Carolina Moonshine	Out Of Bounds
Carolina Quadraphonic	Partners in Rhyme
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# *17 Below*

Frank Thorne



## **2011 District Champion**

Travis Murray (Br), Scot Gregg (Bs), Adam Gossage (L), Michael Fitch (T)

*17 Below* is the 2011 District Champion Quartet in the Carolinas District of the Barbershop Harmony Society, and they have entertained audiences throughout the southeast with the antics of their famous pirate-themed show set. Travis, Adam, Scot, and Mike have been singing, competing, and entertaining audiences together since 2009. While they may not be a professional barbershop quartet, they did rehearse at a Holiday Inn Express last night... (seriously!) They travel a combined 888 round-trip miles each time they rehearse there – as members are spread out between Eastern Tennessee and the North Carolina Piedmont Triad area. These performers are dedicated to providing outstanding entertainment from the heart – and their quest is to share a great adventure in harmony with each and every audience.

Adam Gossage lives in Knoxville, TN where he works as a Vice President of Risk Monitoring Technology for Bank of America. He has been singing lead in competitive barbershop quartets since 2004. In his free time, Adam enjoys finding and collecting rare gold coins.

Scot Gregg lives in Denver, NC and works as a retail manager. He is a trained musician with an undergraduate degree in vocal performance, and has been providing his deep bass voice to barbershop quartets since 2007. Scot dreams of sailing the open seas with the wind in his hair.

Travis Murray lives in High Point, NC and works as a computer programmer and project development professional. He has sung lead, tenor, and baritone in competitive quartets since 2000, and sings baritone for 17 Below. Travis one day would like to give up computers and travel the world searching for treasure.

Mike Fitch lives in Winston-Salem, NC, where he works as an emergency physician and Associate Professor at the Wake Forest School of Medicine. He has been singing tenor in barbershop quartets since 1988. When not providing care in the Emergency Department, Mike works as an amateur cartographer.

# *1/2 Ton Pickup*

Elizabethtown, KY; Savannah, GA;  
Terre Haute, IN; Lexington County, SC



Ben Miller (T), Jeremy Conover (L), Daniel Walz (Bs), Andrew Miller (Br)

# *Acappella Fellas*

West Jefferson, Hickory,  
Frank Thorne



Don Lang (Br), Arden Hintzmann (T), Buck Wicker, (Bs), Dennis Kimbleton (L)

Acappella Fellas barbershop quartet has been entertaining Hickory area audiences since 1994. There have been several personnel changes, however they were with men dedicated to continuing the reputation of excellent family oriented entertainment.

Dennis Kimbleton joined the “Fellas” in 1998 singing Baritone. He switched to Lead a few years later. Dennis is an emergency physician and lives in Granite Falls.

Don Lang has been singing Baritone with the “Fellas” since 2003. He also directs the Carolina Moonlighters and has an extensive record of service to the Barbershop Harmony Society as contest judge and District Officer. Don is a retired consultant and makes his home in Hickory.

Arden Hintzmann sings Tenor. He joined the Acappella Fellas in 2007. Prior to moving from Florida, he sang with Just Four Tonight Quartet of West Palm Beach, Florida. Arden is a retired auditor and loan administrator and moved to Hickory in 2004.

James “Buck” Wicker sings Bass. He is the newest addition, joining in 2008. Buck has extensive singing and musical experience singing barbershop in the Michigan area and in various church choirs. Buck is a retired General Motors employee and stays busy with his photography business.

They enjoy performing for Barbershop Shows, community events and various family affairs.

# Aire

Asheville



Kevin Kehres (Br), Kier Klepzig (Bs), Wayne Rumble (L), Justin Slack (T)

Where there's air, there's life. Where there's Aire, there's harmony.

Aire, a quartet culled from the ranks of Asheville's Land of the Sky Chorus, blends four unique voices in the distinctive style of barbershop harmony.

Lead Wayne Rumble is a baby barbershopper, having been a member of the Barbershop Harmony Society for just over two years. However, he's an experienced church soloist, as well as the dedicated father of two young girls.

Tenor Justin Slack is a veteran of community theater where he has performed and served as musical director in several musicals -- most recently "The Putnam County Spelling Bee" at the Hart Theater in Waynesville, NC.

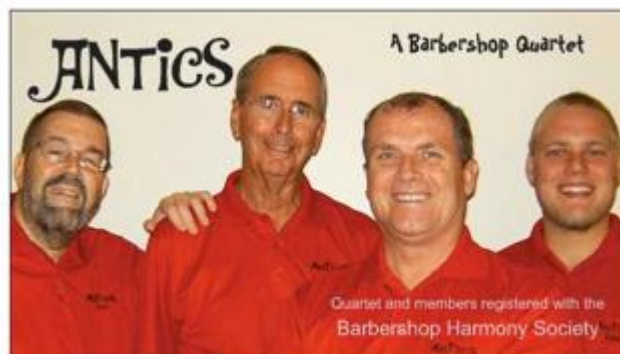
Bass Kier Klepzig works for the US Forest Service by day, and with his wife Lisa is a master chocolatier by night. Kier also plays guitar and sings for his church.

Baritone Kevin Kehres is the grizzled veteran of the group, having performed as far away as St. Petersburg, Russia with Manhattan's Big Apple Chorus, and as a member of the popular Manhattan-based quartet Yes Indeed.

Aire has already gained a reputation as the hardest-working quartet in western North Carolina. It has sung for tips at a local farmer's market, on street corners just for giggles, and at hotels, restaurants and just about everywhere else four guys can break loose in song without being arrested.

# *Antics*

Hickory, West Jefferson,  
Charlotte



Don Lang (Br), Robert Johns (Bs) Ed Walk (L), Issac Steward (T)

Don Lang is our baritone extraordinaire. has been in barbershop “forever.” His major credits include former barbershop and choral director, barbershop music arranger, and former President the Dixie District of the Barbershop Harmony Society. Don has sung tenor and baritone in several quartets. He retired from the computer industry and currently lives in Hickory. A member of the Carolina Moonlighters, Don also sings in another quartet, Acappella Fellas.

Bob Johns is our bass. Bob began barbershop in Arkansas (of all places). He is an original member of Antics, a member of the Carolina Moonlighters and sings with three Harmony Brigade organizations (North Carolina, Great Lakes and Atlantic). Other credits include a background in choral singing, major roles in musical productions (most recently in the Green Room’s “Music Man production). Bob retired from the steel industry and currently lives in Granite Falls.

Ed Walk is our lead (he gets to sing the melody most of the time....). Ed’s barbershop career started in high school and after a fairly long layoff from barbershop he resumed this great hobby with the RTP chorus in Raleigh. Ed also sings with the Carolina Moonlighters and Charlotte’s Gold Standard Chorus. You may have seen Ed as a quartet member in “The Music Man” along with Bob. Ed is an IT manager working in Charlotte but living in Newton.

Isaac Stewart is “new” to barbershop as “Antics” is his first barbershop quartet. He is our tenor and what a great addition he is. The ability to sing those high notes is indeed a gift. He is an accomplished wind and string instrument musician, has an extensive background in choral singing and even had a brief encounter with opera. Isaac is an educator teaching science at Alexander Central. He lives in Conover.

# *Bar None*

Charlotte, Winston-Salem

## **Bar None Quartet**

*Simply the Best - Bar None!*



Walter Miles (L), Ted Leinbach (Bs), Steve Shoaf (Br), Jeffrey Meekins (T)

BAR NONE Barbershop Quartet has enjoyed a reputation for providing great entertainment throughout the Carolinas for more than a decade! They are a sure crowd pleaser with an extensive repertoire. The quartet members can boast of a combined total of over 80 years of a cappella Barbershop quartet, chorus and musical experience. The quartet tailors its performance for just about any type of gathering - banquets, weddings, church groups, corporate events, private parties - you name it!

Jeffrey Meekins (tenor) hails from Charlotte, North Carolina, and is an expert in supply chain operations. Jeffrey is very low maintenance because he can subsist on twigs, berries and a few raisins. As a tenor, Jeffrey can hit those notes that can crack cubic zirconia (he's frugal, you see).

Wally Miles (lead) lives in Mooresville, North Carolina, the barbershop capital of the universe (or at least the Bar None universe) and is a sales rep by profession. What does Wally sell... uh, what would you like to buy? Wally's vocal range is astounding, and his velvety voice has been known to melt women away -- we're talking from solid to liquid in less than 4 minutes.

Ted Leinbach (bass) lives in Winston-Salem and works as an exciting accountant during the day. Isn't "exciting accountant" an oxymoron? Ted is the "manners" of Bar None -- no other member of the quartet really has any to speak of. His smooth bass voice is the foundation of the quartet.

Steve Shoaf (baritone) also lives in Mooresville, North Carolina and is a marketing guru for IBM. Steve is a very accomplished musician playing keyboard and singing in several bands. In Bar None though, Steve sings the Rodney Dangerfield of barbershop quartet parts--baritones never get any respect.

# *Beach Music*

Wilmington



Richard Millard (T), Andre Brillaud (L), Louis Leiner (Bs), Kent Atkins (Br)

Beach Music barbershop quartet was established in 1999 and has been a registered quartet for over 10 years. They are very active in the Wilmington, NC area being members of The Cape Fear Chordsmen and sing for various groups over 40 times a year during that period. They have been in the movies and have appeared many times on TV and on the radio in addition to their regular private gigs. Beach Music has appeared a number of times in the Harmonizer as an active and unusual quartet. They have been named as “the” barbershop quartet in residence on the battleship North Carolina, among other awards.

The initial members who are now retired were: David Parker, singing Bass. David had retired from Beach Music in 2007 and was the CEO of the Hatteras Yacht Company. Dr. Thomas Head, singing Baritone. Tom is a prominent retired dentist in the Wilmington, NC area and retired from Beach Music in 2009. Both David and Tom retired due to changes of family responsibilities

The present members are:

- Richard Millard, singing Tenor. Richard is the active owner and president of a computer technology organization and is one of the two original members of the quartet.
- Louis Leiner, singing Bass. Lou is a retiree employee of the University of North Carolina at Wilmington (UNCW) having extensive experience in Engineering and has been singing Bass since 2007.
- Kent Atkins, singing Baritone. He was Director of pharmacy at Hadley Medical Center in Hays, Kansas and staff pharmacist in a major hospital in Topeka, Kansas".
- Dr. Andre Brillaud, singing Lead. Andre is a retired research oncologist who is the other original member and is retired from Bristol Myers Pharmaceutical Co.



# *BLacKJack*

Wilmington



**2011**

**BLacKJack**  
Barbershop Harmony Society  
2011 Senior Quartet  
International 4th Place Bronze Medalists

Contact - Larry Reinhart

Holden Beach, NC, USA  
Phone: (910) 612-6890  
lgreinhart@aol.com



**2011 International Fourth Place Medalist**

Duane Henry (Br), Larry Reinhart (L),  
Bryson Ley (Bs), Kirk Binning (T)



**2011 District Seniors Champion**

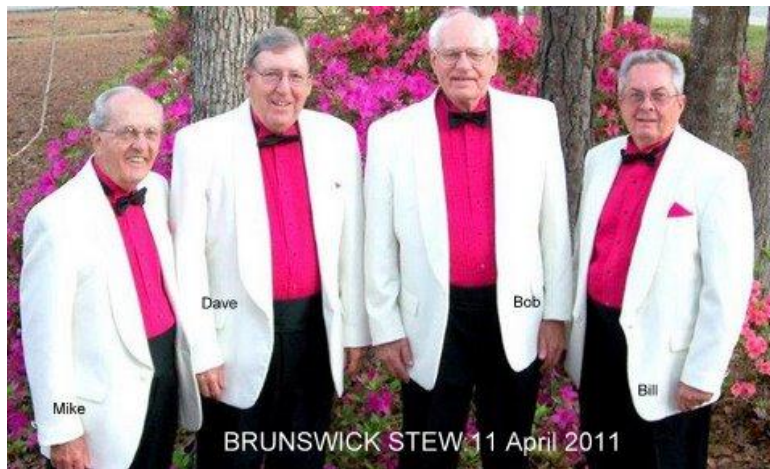
Larry Reinhart (L), Jim Benson (Br),  
Bryson Ley (Bs), Kirk Binning (T)

BLacKJack consists of Kirk Binning, from Surf City - Tenor; Larry Reinhart, from Holden Beach - Lead; Jim Benson, from Wilmington - Baritone; and Bryson Ley, also from Wilmington, Bass. Kirk is retired from the navy. The other three all work in Wilmington. Larry is a healthcare executive. Jim is a partner with an engineering firm, and Bryson is Physician and partner with a major medical practice. The four current members make up the current Carolina District Senior Quartet champions, having won in Oct. 2011. BLacKJack won the Senior International Quartet 4th place medal in January 2011, with Duane Henry from Indianapolis on Baritone. Uniquely, BLacKJack also owns a Sr. Quartet District title from the Dixie District. They won in 2009 with Jim Nappier on baritone.

Our four members of BLacKJack are active with the "Cape Fear Chordsmen" - the Wilmington NC Barbershop chapter.

# *Brunswick Stew*

Wilmington



Mike Prokop (T), Dave McQueeney (L), Bob Zinke (Bs), William Clegg (Br)

Brunswick Stew is a non-competition quartet, established in January 2009 as part of the Cape Fear Chordsmen Singing Valentines program. Brunswick Stew filled the need for a quartet to cover the Brunswick County Cities of Leland, Southport, Shallotte, Bolivia, Sunset Beach and Calabash. Dave McQueeney, Lead, lives in St James Plantation near Southport; Mike Prokop, Tenor and Bill Clegg, Baritone live in Brierwood Golf Club, Shallotte; and Bob Zinke, Bass, Winding River Plantation, Bolivia.

Mike Prokop has sung barbershop for 18 years. For the first 8 years, he sang lead in the Cape Fear Chordsmen. During that time, he was also the Lead in the Rt. 17 quartet. He has sung tenor the last 10 years, 2 of those were also with another quartet, Brunswick Stew.

Bill Clegg has sung barbershop for 16 years. He first sang with the Greenville North Carolina Chorus and for the past 15 with the Cape Fear Chordsmen. He was the Baritone in Rt. 17 quartet and for the past 2 years the Baritone for Brunswick Stew.

Dave McQueeney has sung barbershop for 13 years. This is the first quartet that he has participated in officially. All other quartets under the Society's banner have been informal and un-named.

Bob Zinke has sung barbershop for 40 years. He first sang with the Somerset Hills-Plainfield Chapter in New Jersey, the Mid-Atlantic District and his first quartet, Pladins and later the Gramophones. The first registered quartet was The Aces High and his first competition. In the 80's he sang with another quarter, The Chord Dusters. Retiring in 1989 and moving to North Carolina he sang with the RTP Chapter, Dixie District and a quartet called On The Town and The Good Time Boys. Upon moving to Winding River Plantation in Bolivia, NC, he again joined a barbershop chorus, The Cape Fear Chordsmen in Wilmington NC and Brunswick Stew.

# Carolina Chord Company

Frank Thorne



Ian Galvin (T), Tony Rivera (L), Dave Stucker (Bs), Jess Lawrence (Br)

I (Dave Strucker) have actively recruited from the USC music scene for young, musically talented voices. The quartet was formed as Ian, Tony and I were auditioning new members for baritone in one of the music rehearsal rooms at USC. Just as we were ready to leave when the guy that we had scheduled for audition had stood us up, Jess popped his head in the corner with his youthful exuberance and said “are you guys singing barbershop and can I sign something with you!!??” The rest was history. We rehearsed through the fall and decided to sing in the prelims in Charlotte. We met our goal of singing all four of our songs and got good tips. Unfortunately for us, Ian went to the mid-Winter and fell into a great college quartet (The Vigilantes) which has now qualified for Portland. The Vigilantes offered Ian the opportunity to sing lead (his preference) with guys all his age and competitive desire. Good for Ian but bad for CCC. Shortly after Ian gave notice of his intent to concentrate on the Vigilantes, Tony had to move back with his folks in Tennessee. Jess is a double major at USC (Engineering and music) and is extremely busy. As for me, I am 56 years old and a 41 year member of BHS. I am a JAD quartet champion (1985 New Affair), former Sound judge, international competitor (Heart of America). New Affair qualified for international but was not able to attend. The Carolina Chord Company is currently defunct for lack of quorum. Nonetheless, Dave intends to keep the name registered and will continue to look for young talented singers to sing in the CCC. You can expect new incarnations of the Carolina Chord Company in the future.

Ian Galvin - Tenor, (~4 year member) currently works as restaurant server

Tony Rivera – Lead (new member) student

Jess Lawrence – Bari (new member) student

Dave Stucker – Bass (41 year member) marketing director

# *Carolina Moonshine*

Charlotte



Al Sundling (T), Chuck Villier (L), John Earnhardt (Bs), Doug Demick (Br)

# *Carolina Quadrasonic*

Spartanburg, Frank Thorne



Martin Hill (T), Joshua Palmer (L), Rich Lee (Br), Eric Rickabaugh (Bs)

Carolina Quadrasonic was formed in the Summer of 2009, by current and former members of the Spartanburg, SC Chapter. The quartet made a dramatic improvement within its short history, having finished last in 20th place at district contest in the Spring of 2010. During Spring 2011 competition, the group finished in 5th place, after valuable coaching by Chuck Greene and Christopher Hale. Bass Eric Rickabaugh brings his vocal performance experience to barbershop, sometimes stealing the high posts. Baritone Rich Lee was a relative newcomer to the Barbershop style, fitting right in wherever needed. Tenor Martin Hill brings years of valuable quartet experience to the group. Josh Palmer, a lifelong tenor, brings a unique Lead sound to the group. CQ enjoys contemporary barbershop charts, screaming high tags, and long walks on the beach.

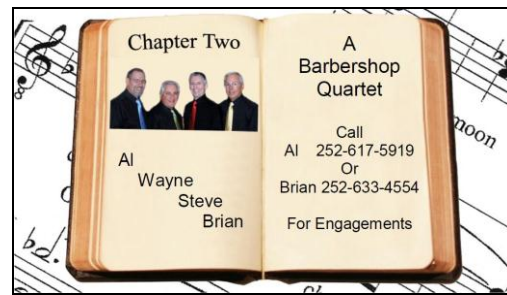
# *Carolina Sundown*

Winston-Salem

Ted Leinbach (T)  
Chuck Villier (L)  
Robert Thompson (Br)  
John Earnhardt (Bs)

# Chapter Two

New Bern



Brian Giersch (Br), Steve Robb (Bs), Wayne Massetti (L), Al Brylowe (T)

The Tenor (Al Brylowe) and Bari (Brian Giersch) has been singing together in quartets for nine years. Wayne Massetti joined the quartet four years ago when a major configuration occurred. It was his suggestion, that with new quartet members, we were ‘turning a new page’....ergo “Chapter Two”. Steve Robb, our Bass, is the newest member. In this configuration, Chapter Two has been entertaining New Bern audiences for three years.

We only competed in this configuration one time...at the first District Competition in Myrtle Beach... (*Aint' Misbehavin'*, *What a Wonderful World*). We have missed the subsequent competitions as they fall on the same day our ‘still employed’ Bass has annual inventory for an internationally recognized company.

Al Brylowe – Tenor: hails from Connecticut, retired from a power company, active in his church, has grandchildren in Pittsburgh, current President of our Chapter.

Wayne Massetti – Lead: hails from Pennsylvania, semi retired, but still works part time as a pharmacist, volunteers his professional skills at MERCI clinic, active fisherman and gourmet cook, has grandchildren in North Carolina, Tennessee and Georgia.

Brian Giersch – Bari: hails from Maryland, very active in his community and our chapter; enjoys sailboat racing & cruising, constantly landscaping, has grandchildren in Penna.

Steve Robb – Bass: hails from Kentucky, alumnus of NC State!!, employed as an engineer at Moen in New Bern, VERY active in the New Bern thespian community and loves karaoke, volleyball, and tennis.

# Cherry Road



Rock Hill



Chris Fischesser (T), Ron Rheingardt (L), Ron Griffin (Bs), Larry Rollins (Br)

The Cherry Road Barbershop Quartet has been performing since 2000. Singing the old favorite songs of the 40's, 50's and 60's, the quartet has delighted many audiences over the past 8 years. Cherry Road has performed in numerous local churches, The Rock Hill Rotary Club, York County Electric Co-Op, Rock Hill "Come-See-Me" events, Pointe Park Village Senior Living Center, Eden Gardens Senior Living Center, Morningside Assisted Living, Spring Arbor, Sterling House Assisted Living, Shepherd's Center, Family and School Class Reunions in North and South Carolina.

**Ron Rheingardt-Lead.** Ron grew up in a farming community in Northern Illinois, attended Northern Illinois university and Aurora Business College and served three years in the US Army. Prior to retiring in Fort Mill, South Carolina, Ron spent the first half of his work career in Finance and Administration in various offices of The NCR Corporation and the second half of his work career as Director of Human Resources with manufacturing business units of the ITW Corporation. Ron's work assignments and family residents were in Illinois, Kentucky, West Virginia, Michigan and Ohio. Ron's hobby is Barbershop Quartet singing and has been a member of the Barbershop Harmony Society for 34 years, singing in five Barbershop Choruses and five Barbershop Quartets. Ron and His wife, Bernie, have been married 50 years, with three adult children and seven grandchildren.

**Chris Fischesser-Tenor.** Although born and raised in the Midwest, Chris has been living and singing in Rock Hill for over 30 years. He is a member of the First ARP choir and has twice served on the board of Deacons there. Music has been a big part of his life since coming to Rock Hill. Chris is an original member of the York County Choral Society, which was formed in 1981 for the purpose of performing choral masterworks with accompaniment as the composer intended. Branching out in July of 2001 he attended his first meeting of Rock Hill's officially chartered barbershop chorus, the Carolina



Chordsmen. He immediately became hooked, becoming a member in September that same year. Although he originally sang the lead part and some baritone, it wasn't long before he was drafted to sing tenor. Chris enjoys taking existing songs and replacing the lyrics with his own. Chris wrote the lyrics for Cherry Road's signature song, appropriately named "Cherry Road"; as well as the introduction song, "We're Cherry Road". Most recently, Chris has joined a karaoke style trio that sings Christian music and some soft pop tunes from the 60's to Senior Centers in Rock Hill.

Larry Rollins-Baritone. Larry is a native of North Carolina and after graduating from high school, attended Gardner Webb College where he received a music education degree. He then earned a masters degree in church music from Southern Seminary. Larry has served in churches in North and South Carolina as music minister and organist. He has been a part of mixed choirs, acappella singers, and male chorales. Since June 2000, he has been a member of Carolina Chordsmen, Rock Hill's barbershop chorus. Larry's wife is Janie and they have three children, Suzann, Jonathan, and Daniel. They attend Tirzah Presbyterian Church, York, where Larry plays the organ and piano and Janie sings in the Adult Choir. He has helped Carolina Chordsmen as assistant and interim directors, and served for two years as chapter secretary.

Ron Griffin-Bass. Although Ron was born in South Boston, Virginia, the family moved to the Rock Hill area in 1958. Singing in the Rock Hill High School Mixed Chorus and Male Glee Club helped to prepare him for auditioning for the Mars Hill College Touring Choir. Although not a music major in college, he toured with the choir for two years. In 1968, Ron joined the United States Navy and attended the Navy's Great Lakes Training Facility. During his basic training, he auditioned and was accepted into The Navy's Blue Jacket Choir. The Blue Jacket Choir sang for every graduation ceremony and every Sunday for worship services held at the Chapel by the Lake. He has continued to hone his musical skills singing in church choirs and a community chorus. He began barbershop singing over 8 years ago and has served as Treasurer, President and Vice-president of membership for the Carolina Chordsmen

# *Chord of Appeal*

Research Triangle Park,  
Central Carolina

**Chord of Appeal**  
A Barbershop Quartet

Contact: Kenny Bland  
(919) 779-9052  
kbland10@nc.rr.com

George Cherny - Tenor  
Kevin West - Lead  
Kenny Bland - Bari  
Warren Fuson - Bass



George Cherny (T), Kevin West (L), Warren Fuson (Bs), Kenny Bland (Br)

Chord of Appeal focuses on creating the full expanded sound traditional to the Barbershop Harmony style. Formed in 2006, our name is a sidelong reference to the fact that our Lead singer, Kevin West, has been in law enforcement for 30 years, having just retired as Special Agent in Charge of North Carolina's SBI Internet Crimes Task Force.

Other members of this talented group include George Cherny (tenor) who has a day job at Raleigh Orthopedics, Kenny Bland, (baritone) a re-tired (!) tire dealer and Warren Fuson (Bass) a self employed business consultant. All are members of the General Assembly Chorus and delight in being able to support them as our Barbershop home.

Chord of Appeal represents more than 85 years of barbershopping experience among them.

The group has performed for business meetings, private parties, schools, retirement homes, fund-raising events and of course, various Chapter shows

# CLASS

Greensboro



John Long (Br), Carl Stock (T)-seated, Doug Susong (L), Joe Carrigan (Bs)

CLASS formed in the Summer of 2011. Our name is composed of the first letters of our last names: Joe Carrigan, John Long, And Carl Strock, Doug Susong. Joe, John, and Carl have sung together with another quartet, so when Doug came to the Chorus a few short years ago, the wheels started spinning.

We have competed in the last two Fall District Contests. Our improvement in just one year is encouraging, as were the judges' comments. At this rate, Top Ten is in our near future.

Currently, we are involved solely with the Chorus, singing on the Annual Show and at sing outs. We are now in the position to accept gigs and begin performing on our own, gaining experience and petty cash.

# *Collage*

Spartanburg



David Lybrand (Bs), Rich Lee (Br), Martin Hill (T), Ken Maes (L)

Collage became a registered quartet in 1996. The original members were Ted Pociecha (Bs), Grant Libramento (Br), Martin Hill (T) and myself Ken Maes (L). Over the years we have changed our bass and baritone. When the Carolinas District was created Rich Lee was our baritone and David Lybrand was singing bass.

Martin Hill - 18 year member of BHS, a member of Collage for 16 years and lives in Duncan, SC.

David Lybrand - 13 year member of BHS, a member of Collage for 3 years and lives in Spartanburg, SC.

Rich Lee - a 3 year member of BHS, a member of Collage for 2 years and lives in New Orleans, LA

Ken Maes - 26 year member of BHS, a member of Collage for 16 years and lives in Simpsonville, SC.

# *Crystal Clear Harmony*

Jacksonville



Johnny Thompson (Bs), Ricky Gause (Br), Sandy Sandridge (L), Merwin Mashburn (T)

Our quartet started about 10 years ago with all but one of our present members. Our bass Kenny Pittman passed away about 5 or 6 years ago, so we asked Johnny Thompson to be our new bass. We sing gospel as well as the old songs at nursing homes, churches or where ever we may be asked to sing. Merwin is our tenor and the oldest member at 81 years of age Johnny is our youngest at 45 years. Ricky is our baritone and I'm the lead. We've all been singing most of our lives, hope to sing till we die.

# Debonaire

## Asheville



Kevin Kehres (Br), Matthew Boutwell (Bs), Rob Jordan (L), Justin Slack (T)

Debonaire was a one-time competing quartet. They were happy to get together and ring some chords before Matthew and Rob moved out of state. The remaining members, Justin and Kevin went on to form a new quartet, Aire.

Justin Slack (Tenor) is a veteran of community theater where he has performed and served as musical director in several musicals -- most recently *The Putnam County Spelling Bee* at the HART Theater in Waynesville, NC.

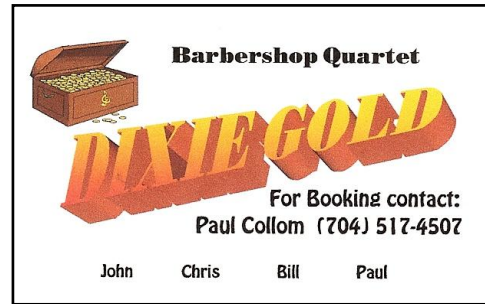
Rob Jordan (Lead) is a long-time barbershopper, having competed in several successful regular and collegiate quartets in the Dixie district including Low Down Sound (Collegiate 2000 Silver Medalist and 2001 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Medalists) and King Street Blues (Collegiate 2002 5<sup>th</sup> Place Medalists).

Kevin Kehres (Baritone) is the grizzled veteran of the group, having performed as far away as St. Petersburg, Russia with Manhattan's Big Apple Chorus, and as a member of the popular Manhattan-based quartet Yes Indeed.

Matthew Boutwell (Bass) rediscovered barbershop 5 years ago after getting his degree in vocal music from the University of Central Florida. His specializations begin in classical voice and opera. He has been featured in many productions with the Asheville Lyric Opera, including Antonio in *The Marriage Of Figaro* and Cecil in *Maria Stuarda* with Western Carolina University. He currently resides in Orlando, FL with his beautiful wife and 3 sons."

# *Dixie Gold*

Charlotte



John Bell (T), Chris Puckett (L), Bill Gronning (Bs), Paul Collom (Br)

We're not technically a "show" quartet and we don't plan on entering the various quartet contests. Our goal is to be a premier chorus quartet to augment the Gold Standard Chorus performances. In that light, we want to have a good, although maybe not extensive, repertoire and perform with high quality and entertain our audiences!

Singing the high Tenor part is John Bell. He would like to try the Bass part, but still needs an octave or so down there to actually do it! John is single and lives in Charlotte which is central to the quartet, so quartet rehearsals are normally held at his place.

Chris Puckett sings the Lead part in the quartet and is also the former Director of the Gold Standard Chorus. Chris and his wife Susan live in Kannapolis, NC which causes Chris to drive about 25 miles for rehearsals.

The newest member to join barbershop singing, and the newest quartet member, Bill Gronning has grabbed onto the low Bass part with great gusto! He lives in Denver, NC, with his wife Lynn, and so also has a long drive to sing in the chorus and quartet.

Our Baritone, Paul Collom, has over 30 years barbershop experience in Bass and Baritone in at least 5 quartets. His main love is the Bari part, but when needed can drift down a bit. Paul and his wife Vickey live just outside of Pageland, SC and he drives around 40 miles to sing with the chorus and Dixie Gold.

# *Doppler Effect*

Research Triangle Park



Paul Martin (T), Bob Cluett (Bs), Lee Horton (L), Craig Ferri (Br)

## *Get Blown Away with Doppler Effect!*

No, it really doesn't have anything to do with radar, or the weather. But they will blow you away.

Doppler Effect is an acapella quartet whose specialty is a chord-ringing barbershop style. The technique amplifies the sound naturally so the whole is more than the sum of the parts. The results are truly amazing.

Those parts are Bob Cluett (bass), Craig Ferri (lead, baritone), Lee Horton (lead, baritone) and Paul Martin (tenor). The first three guys live in Wake Forest, Paul in North Raleigh. They all have real 'day jobs', but get together once or twice a week to rehearse or perform. They all are members of the General Assembly Chorus and also participate in various gospel and choir groups.

They appear in shows, charity events, competitions and private performances. For example, they enchanted their Raleigh audience with their renditions of "Mary Did You Know" and "Silver Bells" at Meymandi Concert Hall on the General Assembly holiday show and delighted both children and adults at the Chapel Hill Ronald McDonald House as a Valentine treat. You might also see them at Rex Hospital entertaining patients or hear them on WKNC 88.1 FM.



# *Easy Livin*

Winston-Salem, Greensboro



## **2010 District Novice Quartet Champion**

Fred Conrad (T), David Williams (L), Glenn Ogden (Bs), Mark Thompson (Br)

With over 70 years of Barbershop singing experience between them, the members of Easy Livin' love the special close harmonies of this style of a cappella singing. All dedicated members of the Barbershop Harmony Society, Fred Conrad (tenor), Dave Williams (lead), Mark Thompson (baritone) and Glenn Ogden (bass) sing with the Triad Harmony Express chorus in Winston Salem. Glenn also sings with the Greensboro Tarheel Chorus.

The formation of Easy Livin was really no different than that of most barbershop quartets. In 2007 Mark Thompson and Larry “Hap” Goudy, singing together with the Triad Harmony Express, started talking about forming a quartet. Recruiting Kent Daughtry and Fred Conrad to complete the foursome they were soon busy entertaining audiences throughout the Triad. They put their own special "brand mark" on quarteting by creating the "Wee-Men" quartet where the audience sees singers that are only two foot tall with the help of a special stage set they designed and four additional men hidden behind a curtain. They were an instant comedy hit with audiences at chorus shows and at the 2011 spring district convention.

In 2009 David and Glenn joined Mark and Fred and Easy Livin' started competing winning the inaugural Carolinas District Novice Quartet Championship. Coming from a wide variety of professional backgrounds and living in Winston-Salem, Clemmons and Summerfield, they've enjoyed singing in church choirs, community choruses and even a professional band most of their lives and look forward to many more years of singing together in this quartet.

Fred was introduced to barbershop music when only 13 by his neighbor, John Dawson, who was responsible for forming the Winston-Salem chapter called the Auctioneers. Dawson got his son Tom, Fred, Jon Vickers and another friend together to form a quartet called “The Teen Tones”. Fred has

been singing since and has been a member of the chorus and several quartets since 1973. Retired from RJR Research, Fred currently sings with the Winston-Salem chorus in addition to the Easy Livin' and Sound Counsel quartets.

David grew up loving four part harmony listening to his mother sing barbershop for over 26 years. Showing up at his first chorus rehearsal in 2009 not even knowing what part he should sing, now at the age of, well, let's just say a lot younger than the other three, he's learned to blend his wonderful lead voice into the 4 part harmony we all enjoy so much. Having managed restaurants on the west coast and now working with Valspar Coatings Corp., David currently sings with the Winston-Salem chorus and Easy Livin' quartet.

Mark has been singing most of his adult life as a soloist and member of church choirs. Watching his wife having so much fun singing barbershop he decided to give it a try joining the society in 2004. He has sung in two senior quartets, Midnight Mix and Carolina Sundown, and currently sings with the Winston-Salem chorus and is a founding member of Easy Livin' quartet. Mark is a real estate broker specializing in property management.

Glenn started singing barbershop in Fostoria, OH while in high school in the mid 60's and joined the society in 1981 as a founding member of the "Flint River Ramblers" Chorus in Albany, GA. He eventually became their chorus director and sang in "Yesterday's News" quartet for 13 years before moving to Summerfield, NC. Retired after 30 years as an engineer with Procter & Gamble, Glenn currently sings in the Greensboro and Winston-Salem choruses and Easy Livin' quartet.

# *Eu-4-ia*

Beaufort

**Lead:** Gregory Flowers

**Bass:** Darryl Poovey

**Tenor:** Clifton Kosier

**Baritone:** Michael Masters

# *Four Accidentals*

Jacksonville



Loren Offutt (T), Bill Bennight (L), Mike Ellzey (Bs), Ed Williams (Br)

“Four Accidentals” is a barbershop quartet that was formed from within the membership ranks of New River Harmony Barbershop Chorus of Jacksonville, North Carolina. The quartet formed in 2002 and had to disband in 2011 when Loren, our tenor, moved to South Dakota. While active, performed for numerous organizations and churches from Onslow to Sampson and New Hanover Counties, including the Jacksonville Host Lions Club, the Jacksonville USO, the Jacksonville Civitans Club, the Jacksonville City Council, at a number of events sponsored by the MCCA aboard Camp Lejeune, in local shows, and at ceremonies welcoming home our Marines from the Middle East. The quartet, representing Onslow County in the statewide Senior Games finals, competed in the 2003 Silver Arts Follies, capturing the gold medal in the small vocal group category. They unsuccessfully competed in the first Carolinas District competition in Myrtle Beach.

**Loren Offutt.** Loren, a retired Marine Corps Gunnery Sergeant, is a retired mail carrier from Swansboro, North Carolina. He was the tenor for the quartet.

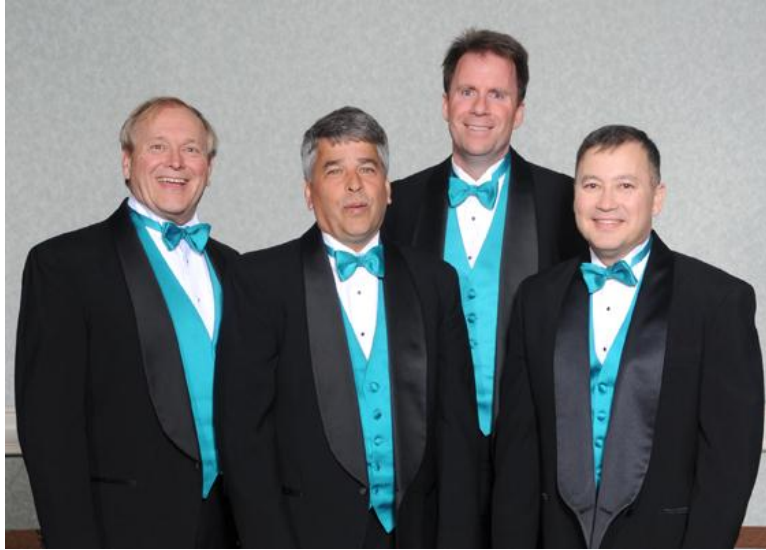
**Bill Bennight.** Bill, a retired Air Force Master Sergeant, is also retired from the Marine Corps Community Services at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina where he managed one of the recreation centers. Bill was one of the founders of Jacksonville’s New River Harmony Barbershop Chorus. Bill has been a singer all his life and has a BS degree from Miami Christian College in Miami, Florida. He has sung in choirs, choruses, ensembles, and gospel quartets and sang lead for the Four Accidentals. He is married and has a son in the Air Force, and a daughter living in Charlotte. He has been blessed with six grandchildren.

**Ed Williams.** Ed, a retired Army captain, and retired social worker from Marine Corps Air Station, New River, North Carolina. Hailing from Richlands, North Carolina, Ed is one of the founders of the New River Harmony, having sung with barbershop choruses and quartets all over the nation.

**Mike Ellzey.** Mike is a former Marine captain and Georgia DOT engineer, and is a retired Public Works Director for Jacksonville, North Carolina. He was the bass for the Four Accidentals and one of the founders of New River Harmony Barbershop Chorus. He is married with a son and daughter and five grandchildren. He has been singing in choirs and ensembles since high school and discovered barbershopping as one of the secrets to a long and happy life.

# *Four-in-Exchange*

Research Triangle Park



Paul Martin (T), Steven Tarantino (L), Derek Walter (Bs), Antony Takahashi (Br)

# *Front Page News*

## Lexington County



Tom Sanford (T), Johnny Nash (L), Dan Walz (Bs), Randy Miller (Br)

Front Page News (FPN) began with the formation of our chapter as the FedUP 4. It consisted of Tom Sanford (tenor), Johnny Nash (lead), Brantley Cox (bari), and DanWalz (bass). Three years later Brantley moved to Charleston, SC and Randy Miller assumed to part of bari and the named changed to FPN. One year later Tom Sanford took a job in Afghanistan and Randy moved to tenor and Paul Jennings became regular bari. This remained our regular line-up until Dan Walz left to sing with another quartet. At that time the bass part was filled with one of several singers at different times. Joe Wiggins, Keith Phemister and Doug McMillan sung with us as our bass. Upon Randy's death the quartet went into a non-singing mode as we could find no tenor to fill the part. Tom returned after a two year absence and FPN began singing again. Approximately 1 year later Doug McMillan assumed the role of regular bass and continues to date. Other individuals who have sung with the quartet in performances include Tony Counts and Keith Phemister as bari's.

# *Grandstand*

Lexington County; Augusta, GA



Robert Gray (Br), John Potts (Bs), David Connelly (L), Lowell Dorn (T)

# *Hazardous Moving Parts*

Wilmington, Rocky Mount,  
Winston-Salem, Frank Thorne



Jim Benson (T), Jamey Benson (L), Robert Cox (Bs), Mark Ream (Br)

“Hazardous Moving Parts” was formed in 2008 as an opportunity for Jim Benson and his son Jamey to sing together in a competing quartet. Jim had baritone sung for many years with Robert Cox in “Choral Roberts” and Jamey had sung tenor in high school and college with his lead buddy Chris Giles. The quartet first competed for evaluation only at the Dixie District spring contest in 2009. Plans were made to compete in the first Carolinas District in Myrtle Beach, but Chris’s wife was expecting at the time and he had to bow out. The quartet regrouped with Jamey moving to lead, Jim moving to tenor and adding Mark Ream as baritone. Soon after the contest, Jamey took a new job in Austin, Texas and the quartet retired.

Jamey Benson (Tenor, Lead) - Austin, TX.

Chris Giles (Lead) - Raleigh, NC.

Robert Cox (Bass) - Sanford NC. Director, Winston-Salem chapter.

Jim Benson (Bari, Tenor) - Wilmington, NC, Wilmington chapter, BLacKJack, Station One.

Mark Ream (Bari) - Rocky Mount, NC. Rocky Mount chapter.



# *InVoice*

Charlotte, Mooresville,  
Research Triangle Park



Steve Curulla (T), David Cauble (Bs), Curtis Kriner (L), Doug Demick (Br)

What do you get when you have a banker (Steve), a CPA (Curtis), a financial advisor (David), and an IT specialist (Doug)? Well... if they like to sing and have a cumulative 40+ years' barbershop harmony experience, you get a quartet named **InVoice!**

The quartet started with 4 members of the Gold Standard Chorus in 2008. The first group broke up in the summer of that year, but the bass and bari found two other singers to form an ad-hoc practice group for Harmony Brigade 2009. They liked the sound so much that they kept the InVoice name and competed in Spring 2009 in Winston-Salem. Later that year the quartet changed tenors. They competed twice more in the new Carolinas district, finishing 9<sup>th</sup> at Myrtle Beach in 2010. At present InVoice is focusing on local gigs, making it their aim to have one sing-out a month and increase their repertoire.