

A Publication of Carolinas Barbershop Harmony
November 2023: Dates, updates, and so much more!
Grab a glass, get comfortable, and find out what's happening
around our District!



#### **WOW! The Carolinas are BUSY!**

#### Hello Beverly, here's what's going on:

- How to Support Your Chapter Director
- The Latest on Chapter Visits from Tom Parker
- Chapter Highlight: World War II Memorial Dedication
- Leadership Academy is for Everyone Feb 3
- Last Chance for Contest & Judging Application
- Come Cheer on Aspire in New York, New York!
- Important District Events Updates
- To: long for the endless immensity of the sea
- Let us know what you need...
- District Calendar Your Link to Upcoming Events
- Important Links (also Docs on Website)

### How to Support Your Chapter Director

At Thanksgiving we give thanks for all the special people in our lives, and we should be giving thanks for our chapter musical directors. These directors play a crucial role every week in helping us get the most out of our hobby. So how can we better support our chorus directors, who are volunteers with a wide range of levels of musical training. What can we do to help any of them—

regardless of their level of training—to be more effective directors?

In NSC in 2024 we can arrange to have a professional choral conductor come to your chapter meeting and work with your director and provide your chorus members an opportunity to learn more about how improved conducting gestures and techniques can help everyone sing better. We are extremely fortunate that **Don Campbell**—a recently retired Professor of Choral Activities at Southern Wesleyan University in Central, South Carolina—is willing to visit your chapter and work with your director. And all it's going to cost the chapter is \$100 and providing overnight housing to



Dr. Don if necessary (and that can be at the home of a Barbershopper). The chapter also needs to agree to video record the session. All other costs will be covered by the District.

Don Campbell has a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in choral conducting from Arizona State University. His mentors include Greg Lyne, renowned Society director and musician. Dr. Don has taught choral and instrumental conducting, vocal pedagogy, and music history and theory. He has traveled to sixteen states and six other countries to conduct choirs and festival choruses and present choral clinics. And now he is ready to travel to you!

Of course one way of helping our chorus directors be the best they can be is to have your director go to Harmony University. But that is a major expense and many will not have the vacation time to take advantage. Don Campbell is the Director College's Dean, so who better to share directing expertise with your director? Don will have a pre-mentoring zoom conversation with the director to discuss plans, expectations, and songs for the mentoring session and to answer any questions. Then Don will come to the chapter meeting and work with the director in a collaborative atmosphere. Finally, he and the director will talk again after the mentoring session and in a post-session zoom meeting and the director will complete a short survey.

Here's what to do. Talk with your chapter president and say you want to support your director. Have someone contact Rob Hopkins, NSC Music and Performance VP, at <a href="mailto:rghopkins@verizon.net">rghopkins@verizon.net</a> or call <a href="mailto:315.272.8318">315.272.8318</a>. The sooner, the better! Funds for this program are limited. Moreover, it would help to know what chapters are interested so we can plan the visits most efficiently. Please notify Rob when you decide you want to have a visit by Dr. Don. Keep in mind that he is not available on Sundays, nor on Monday nights. If you chapter meets on Monday, you could meet a different night some week and have Don visit then.

## **Chapter Visits Ongoing!**

It was my great pleasure to visit 3 NSC chapters (and 1 golf course) during a recent swing to the Myrtle Beach area. It was great fun meeting new friends and getting re-acquainted with familiar faces.

In Wilmington, I got to sing along with the Cape Fear Chordsmen (under the direction of Brian Hughes) as they prepared for an upcoming Christmas program. Much fun and good harmony was enjoyed by all, as I successfully

used the "Word of the Evening" - GARRULOUS in a complete sentence! The Wilmington Chapter also hosts a second chorus, A Cappella Spirit, directed by Thea Hagepanos. A Cappella Spirit (mixed) meets on a separate night, but Thea was in attendance and full participation with the Chordsmen.

I made my second visit to the Grand Strand area and was able to enjoy a public performance of the **Low Country Barbershop Chorus** (under the direction of Marty Rhoades) at a local library. The guys offered a very enjoyable program, with quartet and chorus singing and audience singalong. The folks enjoyed traditional barbershop music, along with more recent and patriotic numbers. The LCBS were planning to sing on Veterans Day for a Memorial Dedication.

My final stop was in Shallotte, NC to see the Coastal Harmonizers. These guys have found an outstanding new Chorus Director by the name of Kat Vigil. Kat has only been with them for a few months, but she was obviously connecting well with the guys as they, too, were sprucing up their repertoire for a Christmas program. Like a lot of choruses, the Coastal Harmonizers were hit hard by Covid, losing over half of their active membership. Under Kat's fine musical leadership, they can be expected to rebound quickly.

Thanks to all above for their hospitality and welcoming spirit. With everyone's help, I was able to visit all but 2 of our NSC chapters this calendar year. I look forward to getting around to all chapters in 2024. Hope to see you in Pinehurst in April!

Keep ringing those chords, and have a warm, relaxing holiday season!! ~Tom Parker, VP-CSLT



The Cape Fear Chordsmen (Wilmington, NC), directed by Brian Hughes





Low Country Barbershop Chorus (Grand Strand, SC), directed by Marty Rhoades



Coastal Harmonizers: Ready for a little glow! L-R: Jay White, Dirk Spit, Bill Clegg, Jay Williams, Kat Vigil, Dick Geiger

The Southern Gentlemen (Grand Strand, SC) L-R: Marty Rhoades (Br), Niall Trimby (L), Chris Bianco (Bs), Terry Moore (T)

# **Chapter Highlight: World War II Memorial Dedication**

The Southern Gentlemen, a quartet of the Low Country Chorus from the Grand Strand Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society, performed at the dedication of the Myrtle Beach WWII Memorial in War Bird Park in Myrtle Beach, SC. The ceremony was well documented by the local news stations, and numerous local dignitaries along with 11 actual WWII veterans were in attendance. This was a community effort to honor the sacrifice of "The Greatest Generation" while actual WWII veterans were still able to witness the event. Several veterans who sing in the Low Country Chorus were present and assisted in the ceremony. The Low Country Chorus is very active throughout the Grand Strand area and during the year has made itself available to numerous local community and veteran's organizations to assist with marking significant accomplishments or dates.



Southern Gentlemen (L-R): Marty Rhoades (bari); Niall Trimby (lead); Chris Bianco (bass); Terry Moore (tenor)

A note from Bob Paulson: Our Chapter is always looking for opportunities to sing for the community. In this particular case, one of our members, Jerry Terwilliger, who has been active in the community for years with the Chamber of Commerce and the Military Officers Association was contacted by the City of Myrtle Beach to see if he knew anyone who could provide some "vocal" entertainment. Jerry forwarded the request to the Chapter, we determined what was appropriate, and the Quartet contacted the city to make arrangements.

## **Leadership Academy 2024**

The Annual Carolina's District Virtual Leadership Academy will be held on Feb 3, 2024 starting at 9:00 am. We encourage every chapter to register their officers and anyone else who would like to learn more about the support available to your chapter from the District, "how-to" classes for your chapter officers and some interesting classes that will

#### help your chapter raise more money!

We are excited about the new programs and line-up we have for you this year and hope you will enjoy the classes we have prepared for you. In addition to the regular officer classes, we have invited a special guest from the Dixie District to teach a class on Singing Valentine's and how his chapter markets them with great success.

We are also planning to offer a class in making the most of your show program by selling ads. The Pinehurst Chapter is famous for its ½ inch thick show program that raises generally in excess of \$25,000 per year in ad sales. They have agreed to offer to anyone the secret of their annual success. In 2022, the Golf Capital Chorus passed the \$500,000 mark (cumulatively) of funds raised and distributed to charity through their annual show program and ticket sales. We think you will enjoy learning how they do it!

As you know, the new District Officers are generally inducted at the Leadership Academy meeting. This year, we have invited Steve Denino, the BHS Interim CEO, to help us with inductions and then to offer a keynote address. While we are waiting to confirm his availability, we are hopeful that we will be able to welcome him to the Carolinas' District virtually!

Please encourage as many of your chapter members as are willing to sign up and participate. The program for the day will be focused on meeting your needs. All the breakout sessions are designed to be interactive so that you can personalize your learning to the needs of your chapter.

Registration is free, and links to sign up will be available soon. We look forward to seeing you on Saturday, February 3, 2024 at the Carolinas' District Leadership Academy! For questions, just email **Bob Boone**!

### **Contest & Judging: Last Chance for Applications**

BHS is accepting applications for members to become scoring and administrative judges. The Contest & Judging program is looking for individuals who are passionate about helping our choruses and quartets become better singers, musicians, and performers, and who are actively coaching and teaching. For administrators, we are looking for individuals who have great organizational, project management, computer, and communications skills. For more information, go to the **About Our Contest & Judging Program** page on the Barbershop.org website, and download the **'What It Takes to Be a Judge'** document.

Please contact <u>Steve Curulla</u> for the application and an overview of the process - or if you have any questions. One key requirement is to obtain two letters of recommendation from existing certified judges in the category to which you are applying. \*\* Applications and letters of recommendation must be sent to Steve by December 15<sup>th</sup>.



#### Take and break and enjoy NYC in January!

**Aspire** is competing at the International Senior Quartet contest at Midwinter! Cheer on our quartet representatives. And MORE...

BHS has all the information here!

### **2024 Annual NSC Convention and Contest**

Our 2024 All-Inclusive Annual Convention will be: April 19-20 in Pinehurst, NC

Mark your calendars and arrange your schedules...
this is a "Don't Miss" event for everyone. We have three hotels (with shared parking) so there is room for everyone!

# NSC Leadership Academy: ! NOTE NEW DATE! Feb 3, 2024 via Zoom

Start now preparing all leadership and potential leaders in your chapter to attend. There will be something for everyone. All chapters are highly encouraged to get the latest updates. More information will be coming... If you have any questions, email to <a href="mailto:la@carolinasdistrict.org">la@carolinasdistrict.org</a>

Save the Date! \*2025\* Annual NSC Convention: April 4-5, 2025, Pinehurst, NC

District events are detailed below...be certain to showcase your events on our calendar.

"If you want to build a ship, don't drum up people together to collect wood and don't assign them tasks and work, but rather teach them to long for the immensity of the sea."

~ Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

## **How May We Help?**

Not certain how or whether to start or end something? Your district has a HUGE body of experience. Please reach out, (Recent HoD minutes are informative to your ideas too) and we'll get the right people to work with you!

The Calendar
Your Link to Upcoming District

### **Events and Chapter Shows**

GET YOUR HOLIDAY ON! Need a weekend jaunt? Catch one of our District's holiday shows, below!

Click the link for the official **District Calendar**, that includes time and place. Here's a recap of what's coming up in December. Contact District Secretary Richard Harris at

<u>secretary@carolinasdistrict.org</u> to get your chapter show cleared for posting to the District calendar.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
			1	2	3
3	4 ;	7	8	9	10
10	11	14	15	16	17
17	18		22	23	24
24	25	35	1	30	
31					

- Dec 2 Charlotte Chapter Show, "A Cappella Christmas"
- Dec 3 Palmetto Vocal Project, "Sounds of Christmas"
- Dec 5 Oak City Sound, "Songs of the Season"
- Dec 9 Fayetteville, A Very Barbershop Christmas Event
- Dec 15, 16 Central Carolina Show, "Holiday Music"
- Dec 17 Wilmington Christmas Show, "Most Wonderful Time of the Year"

# **Important Links**

- > Carolinas Barbershop Harmony
- > HU Warmup Series on YouTube
- <u>> Barbershop Harmony Society</u>
  (BHS)
- > All Past & Present Harmonizer
  <u>Issues</u>



Thank you for your contributions, and also, please accept our thanks for reading up on all our latest District activities...we are busy!

Please feel free to send in letters, photos and comments with your opinions, ideas and experiences to share, and ideas to ponder.

Yours in Harmony,
Beverly Greene, VP Communications

<u>VP-Communications@carolinasdistrict.org</u>



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Unsubscribe vp-communications@carolinasdistrict.org

