



A Publication of Carolinas Barbershop Harmony

NSC December '24 News

Membership Stats a/o 12/1/2024: NSC Active Membership: 488
NSC Registered Active Quartets: 40

Below, Our Compelling December Content:

- Thank you to 2024 BoD
- Officer Updates required in BHS Database
- Real Men Sing 2024 in Winston Salem, NC
- Happy Holidays in Cary, NC
- Harmony Explosion in Rock Hill, SC
- Merry Christmas from Fayetteville, NC
- **Leadership Academy 2025** - Register Now
- BHS News: Midwinter, Un-Convention, International and HU
- Just a note for Quartets
- And last but not least, our trusty Calendar of upcoming events

And, may your Holidays be everything you are wishing for!

NSC BOD

Thank you for a Great 2024

It's time to say a huge **Thank You to the Carolinas District Board of Directors in 2024**. We wish to recognize and thank you for your dedication, tenacity, compassion, patience, ideas, actions, and planning. Whether you are remaining in place, stepping down, or stepping in to a new role, we thank you again, and wish you the best in 2025. □

BHS YEAR END

Critical Reminder for Chapter Officers

PLEASE UPDATE YOUR CHAPTER OFFICERS IN THE BHS MEMBER SITE by **January 1**. This information is critical to our correspondence with BHS, the Chapters, and Districts. Thank you!

NSC YOUTH IN HARMONY

Real Men Sing 2024



On Tuesday November 26, 83 young men from 9 different senior high and middle schools in the Winston-Salem area came together for an all-day program of learning and singing. The featured clinician was Robert K. Summerell from Freedom High School in Morganton, NC.

For many years, the **Winston-Salem Chapter (Triad Harmony Express)** has also helped with this program and this year was no different. **Sound Counsel** quartet and **Robert Cox**, director of the Winston-Salem chorus, and **Tom Parker**, Chapter President, were there all day helping the students perfect their music skills and taking any opportunity to teach a quick tag.

The day ended with an evening concert featuring **Triad Harmony Express**, **Retreads** quartet, and **Sound Counsel** quartet and then a wonderful presentation by the **Real Men Sing** chorus. They didn't sing "barbershop" but performed four very interesting pieces; Kuimba, Dies Irae, Start of the County Down and Bringers of the Noise.

Thank you to the Carolinas District's **Youth in Harmony** Program which, together with the Winston-Salem Chapter, covered the cost of Real Men Sing t-shirts for all the students.

~Tom Parker, VP-Chapter Support

AROUND THE DISTRICT

Happy Holidays from Cary, NC



HCA Performs at Atria retirement community in Cary, NC



Impromptu warms up for HCA's Holiday Show in Durham, NC

Yes, Christmas time is here and time to spread good cheer!

Many of us have found that the most receptive ears are around the holidays. And it's heart warming to know that many of our Carolina's chapters, choruses and quartets are heeding the call with performances, shows and caroling.

Here in the Triangle, we've spread the joy to friends and family with Holiday shows in Apex (Oak City Sound) and Durham (Heart of Carolina). They have been a wonderful opportunity to try out new quartets (that will hopefully carry over into Valentines and District conventions).

Most appreciative of our performances have been our retirement homes—Atria (HCA), the Cardinal, Springmoor, Waltonwood, Whispering Pines (OCS). And the funny thing is, the more we sing and share our gifts, the happier and better we feel!

What a way to spend a day (or two) and ring in the New Year!

*~Paul Martin
Carolinas District, IPP
Incoming President, Heart of Carolina
A Capella*

[Harmony Explosion 2024](#)

Harmony Explosion Camp lives on...



Top panel - 39 high school women from NC and SC join together to sing a custom Travis Murray barbershop arrangement of Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree under the direction of Mike Fitch. Middle panel – the packed audience in Rock Hill got to enjoy four a cappella barbershop harmony songs as part of a wonderful winter concert. Bottom panel – Barbershopper Mike Fitch directs his high school women's barbershop A Cappella Singers on the show as they visit from Salem Academy in Winston-Salem, NC.

The summer 2024 Harmony Explosion barbershop harmony camp at Clemson University led to a new vocal music partnership for high school singers between Carolinas District barbershopper Mike Fitch and Piedmont Music Academy vocal director Darcy Ryerson. Both of them direct high school vocal ensembles, and after meeting at our Clemson HX camp last July they joined forces to bring barbershop harmony to a free concert in Rock Hill South Carolina. As part of this larger concert sponsored by Darcy's Voices of Carolina at Piedmont Vocal Academy, 20 of her high school women joined with Mike's Salem Academy A Cappella Singers for a joint performance of a custom Travis Murray arrangement of "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree" for young voices. This collaboration included a visit to Winston-Salem, North Carolina by the South Carolina based singers for a Incoming VP Youth in Harmony together, and then culminated in the concert event in Rock Hill.

*~Mike Fitch
Incoming VP Youth in Harmony*

Happy Holidays from Fayetteville, NC!



Fayetteville sound sings at German Christmas Market

[LEADERSHIP ACADEMY](#)

Register! Leadership Academy for Everyone

The 2025 Joint Carolinas and Sunshine District Virtual Leadership Academy will be held via Zoom, on Saturday, Feb 8, 2025. We encourage as many members of the district as are able to attend this free event. So many classes to choose from, especially if you desire a new perspective, or are a relatively new Barbershopper.

Click through to Eventbrite (below) to read all the details, or [click here](#) for a pdf.

[Please register for the event on Eventbrite!](#)

Login available beginning at 8:30 AM. Come visit with old friends or make new ones while you wait for the festivities to begin!

~For more information, contact [Bob Boone](#), Dean Leadership Academy

[BHS NEWS](#)

Endless Opportunities to Experience our Best!

1. You still have time to register for the [2025 Midwinter Convention in San Antonio](#), being held **Jan 28 - Feb 2**. San Antonio has quite a reputation for a fabulous place to visit...and of course, there's never enough barbershop.

2. The latest NEW ADDITION to the opportunities in barbershop is the [Un-](#)

Convention in Nashville over Memorial Weekend, **May 23-25!**

3. Don't forget a mountaintop experience: our **2025 International in Denver, June 29-July 6!** It's a "don't miss" event, with an enhanced chorus contest draw to make it even better in 2025.

4. As it's often called "The best week in singing", **Harmony University** will be held again **July 22 - Aug 3 in Denver**. Classes, coaching, choruses...you name it, you can experience it!

[NSC Quartets](#)

How's Your Quartet Coming Along?

Ahhh...the **Spring Convention and Contest** is less than 4 months away! Please come and entertain us, get some great feedback, and have the (best barbershop) weekend time of your life! We can't wait! Justin will be contacting everyone for their updated pics and contact information for our website. ALSO: Is your quartet registration up to date?

The Calendar

Your Link to Upcoming **District** and **BHS** Events



Click the link for the official [District Calendar](#), that includes time and place. Here's a recap of what's scheduled to date. Contact District Secretary **Justin Slack** at secretary@carolinasdistrict.org to get your **chapter show** cleared for posting to the **District calendar**, etc.

Jan 28 - Feb 2 - **BHS Midwinter Convention w/Aspire** - San Antonio, TX

Feb 8 - **NSC Leadership Academy** - NSC District via Zoom

April 4-5, 2025 - **2025 NSC Convention and Contest** - Pinehurst, NC

May 23 - 24 - **BHS Un-Convention** - Nashville, TN

Important Links

[> Carolinas Barbershop Harmony](#)

[> Barbershop Harmony Society \(BHS\)](#)

[> HU Warmup Series on YouTube](#)

[> Previous Carolina Crooners](#)

Please send in letters, photos and comments with your opinions, ideas and experiences to share, and ideas to ponder. We hope to see you at our 2025 Leadership Academy on Feb 8 via Zoom!

Happy Holidays!

Beverly Greene, VP Communications

VP-Communications@carolinasdistrict.org



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