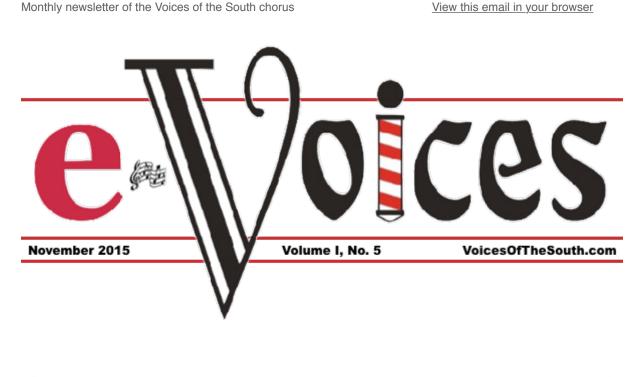
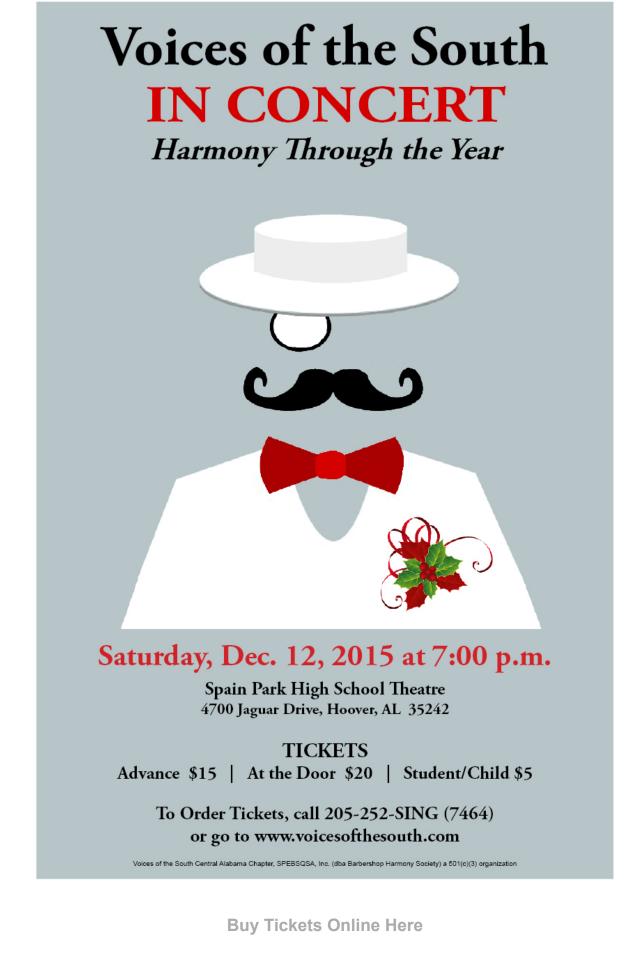
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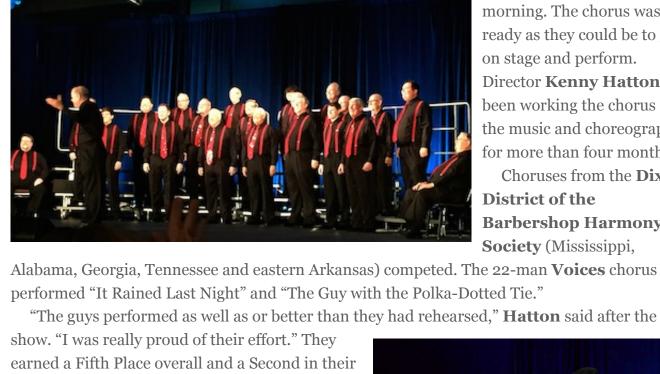
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The Voices of the South chorus members made the two-and-a-half-hour trek to Atlanta to compete in the Dixie District Chorus Finals staged at the Crowne Plaza Ravinia Hotel on the

Some came the night before. Some left Birmingham early Saturday morning. The chorus was as



'We sang our hearts out'

afternoon of October 24th.

on stage and perform. Director **Kenny Hatton** had been working the chorus on the music and choreography for more than four months. Choruses from the **Dixie** District of the **Barbershop Harmony** Society (Mississippi,

ready as they could be to go

with a score of 73.2 percent. The largest performing chorus in the contest, Music City Chorus out of Nashville with 61 men on the risers, won it all and qualified to

Chorus Contest next July. They scored 87.2 percent. One of the judges who met with chorus members following the performance told the group that **Voices** was "the crowd favorite. You guys always sing the neatest songs."

represent the Dixie District at the International

Plateau, comprised of choruses of similar size,

"We had a great time and we learned a lot," bass singer Frank Holmes said. **Voices** next competition will be held in Oxford, Ala., in March 2016. Eye Candy, a quartet representing the Central Alabama Chapter, also competed in their first Quartet Competition at the Dixie District show. (See the photo just above. From the left, Matt, Tony, Mel and Jack.) Mel White, the lead; Tony Ivy, the bass; Matt Powell, the baritone; and Jack **Donaldson**, the tenor, make up the group. Donaldson belongs to the Knoxville Chapter. He

conflict. **Eye Candy**'s performance made the chapter look good. They performed very well.

sang in the contest because **Dennis Hoffman**, who normally sings tenor with the group, had a

This 'kid' got a ton of experience singing as a child Why do you sing? I began singing because my parents wanted me to. I continued to sing as a teenager because it was a great way to pick up chicks. I sing now for a couple of reasons. I enjoy the special fellowship that comes along with making music with others. And I enjoy it because my wife Morgan loves it.

## Under Singing barbershop is mainly about the fellowship with a great bunch of guys. Where else will I be able to get better as a singer.

Who are you?

Why sing barbershop?

hipps.daniel@gmail.com. I work for the Pelham Police Department as a dispatcher. Got experience? I began singing long ago at the behest of my parents. My siblings

that makes me 27. My wife **Morgan** and I live in

Alabaster, Ala. You can email me at

I'm **Daniel C. Hipps**. I was born on Aug. 26, 1988,

Also, I've been singing in the church choir for as long as I can remember. For two years, I served as the minister of music for Wilton (Ala.) Bible Baptist Church. I am now volunteering in the same capacity with 16th Street Baptist Church in Calera, Ala. with Voices of the South when Frank Buttler, the oldest

singing at a young age.

you've ever seen. In fact, we look like everyone's brother, father, or grandfather. You know what, that's all we are, though, a group of regular guys that get together to make people happy through singing. Most of us aren't professionally trained and we definitely don't look like we are, but when we sing together, we can fool you into thinking we are pros. I love seeing someone's face go from

and I performed regularly at different nursing homes in the area as we were growing up. We sang Christmas songs and re-enacted the

Birmingham Boys Choir. That group taught me a whole lot about

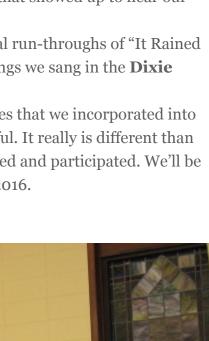
Biblical manger scene. When I was 12 years old I joined the

four times before I finally decided to visit a **Voices** practice. **Linc Parrot**, who sings Baritone with Voices, was the one who really got me hooked, though. Seeing how much **Linc** loved barbershop music made me realize what it could also mean to me. "The look on people's faces when they hear us sing for the first time is really hard to beat. We aren't the best looking group of guys

surprised to impressed."

An anecdote ...

Thanks to all of you who came to the Voices' "Friends and Family Night" in October. We got some great critiques from the musically intelligent group that showed up to hear our "contest package." We had more than three-dozen people listen as we sang several run-throughs of "It Rained Last Night" and "The Guy With the Polka-Dotted Tie," the two songs we sang in the Dixie **District** Contest in Atlanta. We heard some very helpful comments about the performances that we incorporated into our performance. Performing in front of an audience is very helpful. It really is different than just singing at rehearsals. We want to thank all of you who attended and participated. We'll be scheduling another critique session before our contest in March 2016. Hope to see all of you then.



## Recent visitors

music.

Ky, dropped in last month.

AL

Calendar

**Upcoming** 

Monday, Nov. 9 — Chorus Rehearsal \* Monday, Nov. 16 — Chorus Rehearsal \* Monday, Nov. 23 — Chorus Rehearsal \* Monday, Nov. 30 — Chorus Rehearsal \* Monday, Dec. 7 — Chorus Rehearsal \*

\* 7 to 9:30 pm, Fellowship Hall, Saint Mark United Methodist Church.

**School**, 7 p.m. - Hoover, AL (Tickets On Sale Now!)

Thank you for visiting us. We hope to see you again!

Do you like to sing?

Dec. 12 — Voices of the South Annual Show, Spain Park High

Dec. 18 - Performance at Oxford Performance Arts Center - Oxford,

We love to have guests drop in on our Monday night rehearsals. Steve Hand from Louisville,

Please come by on any **Monday** 

night and check us out.

You don't have to be an

accomplished singer. Most of our

members don't even read music. Instead, we use "learning tracks" to become proficient in our parts. We provide sheet music and

recordings of our music that are part-predominate. That makes it easier to learn the

would really love to have you sing with **Voices of the South**. There's only one

We rehearse from 7 to 9:30 p.m. each Monday in the Fellowship Hall of Saint

If you can sing "Happy Birthday" we can teach you the rest you need to know. We

Mark United Methodist Church, 2901 Columbiana Road, Vestavia Hills 35216. You can also call us at 205-252-SING (7464).

restriction — you do have to be a male. Sorry ladies.

We don't care if the event is a corporate dinner, a fundraiser for your organization, or just singing the national anthem at your event we can provide the entertainment. We would love to talk to you about how we can help! Contact us at **www.voicesofthesouth.com**.

**Voices of the South** is ready to perform at your next function.

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Our mailing address is: 2901 Columbiana Road Vestavia Hills, AL 35216

We'd love to sing for you

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Spotlight

Daniel Hipps

