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Monthly newsletter of the Voices of the South chorus

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Come Celebrate With Us!

Come celebrate a year of harmony with Voices of the South as we present our annual concert – “Harmony Through the Year.”

Join us as we entertain you with our repertoire of barbershop harmony in the First Act, and then ring in the Christmas Season in the Second Act with a presentation of secular and sacred Christmas songs done in the barbershop style.

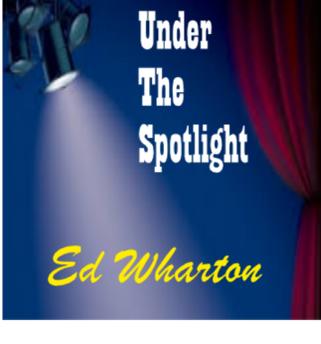
See the poster below for details. You can click on the button below the poster to order tickets online.

[Buy Tickets Online Here](#)

Singing Barbershop fulfills Ed's basic needs

Why do you sing?

In the great chain of performance art I am a necessary cog, along with all the other



cogs — composers, lyricists, arrangers, performers and audience — that work together to pull that chain along.

Why sing barbershop?

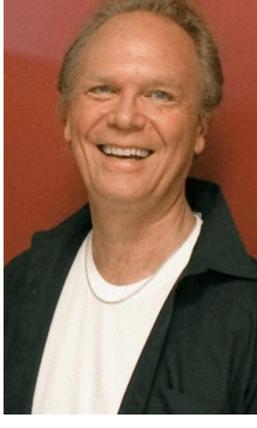
Singing Barbershop fulfills many of life's basic needs — the need to sing, the need to perform and the need to have friends.

Who are you?

My full, legal name is **Joseph Edwin Wharton**. When I answer the phone and the voice on the other end says, “May I speak to

Joseph?” I hang up and run!

I was born on September 1, 1951, in Birmingham. I have been married to **Judy** for a splendid 22 years! I have worked for 33 years as a business analyst for **Command Alkon, Inc.** — the world's leading software provider to the construction materials industry. Between the two of us, Judy and I have four children and four grandchildren — **Sam**, who lives in Asheville, N.C. (Sam's three kids are **Nilah**, **Phineas** and **Seamus**); **Heather**, who lives in Birmingham (Heather's daughter is **Emmaline**); **Sharon**, who lives in Boulder, Colo.; and **Wayne**, who lives in Birmingham. All eight of them are unique and most enjoyable!



Got experience?

I had the good fortune to grow up in a family that encouraged musical expression. Also, the church we attended had an active music program led by Judge **Joe Barnard**, who was the director of the **Birmingham Barbershop Chorus – The Singing Gentlemen**. I was a member of the Boys Choir in the church where I sang soprano. At Woodlawn High School I was a member of the Warblers' Club where I sang baritone.

After High School I started singing baritone with The Singing Gentlemen. I was one of **Frank Buttler's** early men-of-note. Frank is the oldest member of **Voices of the South**. I was fortunate enough to go to one — maybe two — International Barbershop contests. I don't remember much about the Atlanta contest in 1970. But I do remember a lot about the Kansas City competition in 1974. In 1975 I moved away from Birmingham, and away from Barbershop. I didn't get back to Barbershop until 1988. When I came back Frank Buttler got to add ANOTHER man-of-note! I was



part of **Alabama Jubilee** and **Harmony Express**, which later morphed to **Voices of the South**. Somewhere in the early 1990s, I moved from singing baritone to bass, and have never, officially, moved back. I openly admit that I am a “closet-tenor”!

An anecdote ...

I can't just pick one anecdotal moment. Being the director of such a fine group of guys for 10 years produced one-anecdote after another!

One that maybe stands out is a trip to Russia with Dr. **Greg Lyne** and **Vocal Spectrum**. I got to sing on the same stages that had accommodated the likes of **Rachmaninoff** and **Tchaikovsky** among others.

What an experience! It was amazing to be surrounded by opulence and poverty in one turn of the head. And to top it all off, a pizza joint was the best place to eat in town!

We'd love to sing at your next function

Voices of the South is ready to perform.

We don't care if your event is a corporate dinner, a fundraiser for your organization, or just singing the national anthem in the barbershop, we can provide the entertainment.

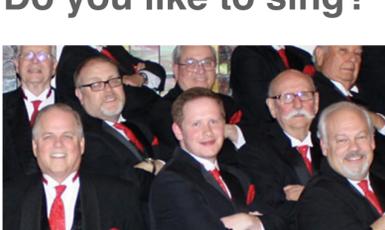
We are two-dozen men who sing **Barbershop**. We want to help.

We would love to talk to you!

Please click the following URL and leave us a message.

www.voicesofthesouth.com.

Do you like to sing?



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 music.

If you can sing “Happy Birthday” we can teach you the rest you need to know. We would really love to have you sing with **Voices of the South**. There's only one restriction — you do have to be a male. Sorry ladies.

We rehearse from 7 to 9:30 p.m. each Monday in the Fellowship Hall of Saint Mark United Methodist Church, 2901 Columbiana Road, Vestavia Hills 35216. You can also call us at 205-252-SING (7464).

Calendar

Monday, Dec. 7 — Chorus Rehearsal *

Saturday, Dec. 12 — Voices of the South presents “**Harmony Through The Year**,” 7 p.m., Spain Park High School, Hoover, Ala.

Monday, Dec. 14 — Chorus Rehearsal*

Friday, Dec. 18 — Voices of the South Holiday Performance, 7 p.m., Oxford Performance Arts Center, Oxford, Ala.

Monday, Dec. 21 — Chorus Rehearsal *

Monday, Dec. 28 — Chorus Rehearsal *

Monday, Jan. 5 — Chorus Rehearsal *

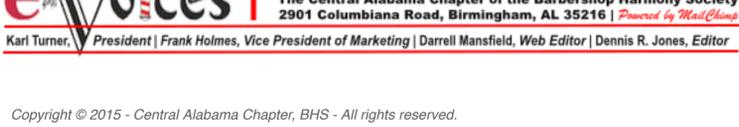
* 7 to 9:30 pm, Fellowship Hall, Saint Mark United Methodist Church.

In Memoriam

It is with deep sadness that we report the passing of **Dr. Richard G. Scholl** on November 10.

Dick was an avid barbershopper and an active chorus and quartet Bass until his health would no longer allow his participation. He was an oral surgeon in Birmingham and a long-time member of Trinity Methodist Church where he sang in the choir.

We will miss him greatly. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his wife **Frances** and the rest of his family.



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Our mailing address is:
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