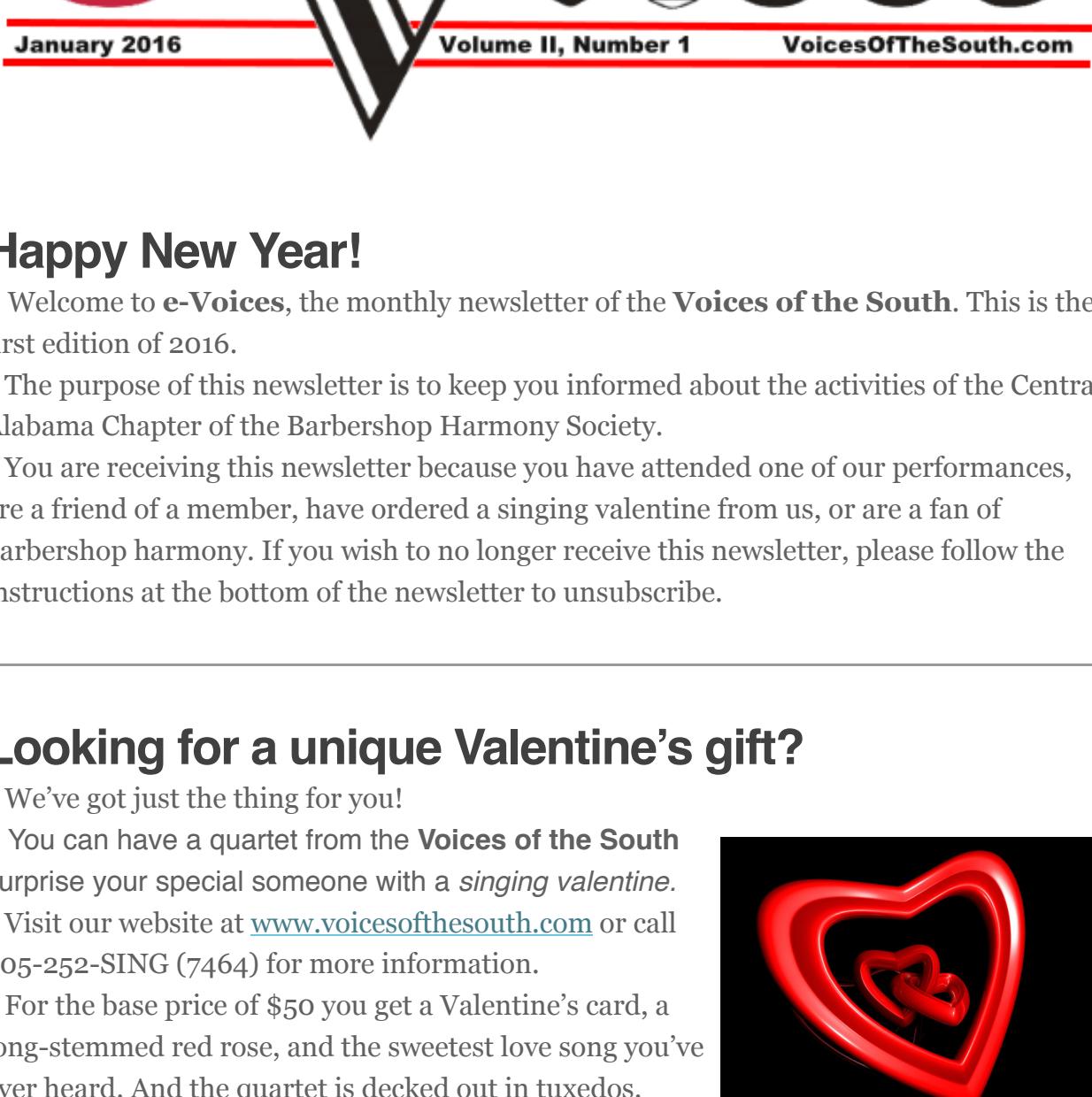


[Subscribe](#)[Share ▾](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▾](#)

Happy New Year!

Welcome to e-Voices, the monthly newsletter of the **Voices of the South**. This is the first edition of 2016.

The purpose of this newsletter is to keep you informed about the activities of the Central Alabama Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society.

You are receiving this newsletter because you have attended one of our performances, are a friend of a member, have ordered a singing valentine from us, or are a fan of barbershop harmony. If you wish to no longer receive this newsletter, please follow the instructions at the bottom of the newsletter to unsubscribe.

Looking for a unique Valentine's gift?

We've got just the thing for you!

You can have a quartet from the **Voices of the South** surprise your special someone with a *singing valentine*.

Visit our website at www.voicesofthesouth.com or call 205-252-SING (7464) for more information.

For the base price of \$50 you get a Valentine's card, a long-stemmed red rose, and the sweetest love song you've ever heard. And the quartet is decked out in tuxedos.

Not only that, you get a lifetime memory that's priceless!

Call us — 252-SING (7464).



Karl picked up barbershop while serving our country

Why do you sing?

I sing because I love it. I enjoy making music with like-minded people. It's satisfying to bring joy to a bunch of listeners. Sharing music makes us a little more human — a little more humane.

Why sing barbershop?

I started singing barbershop because I thought it sounded neat. It was music from the past. When I started singing with a group it grew from a hobby to an opportunity to develop my



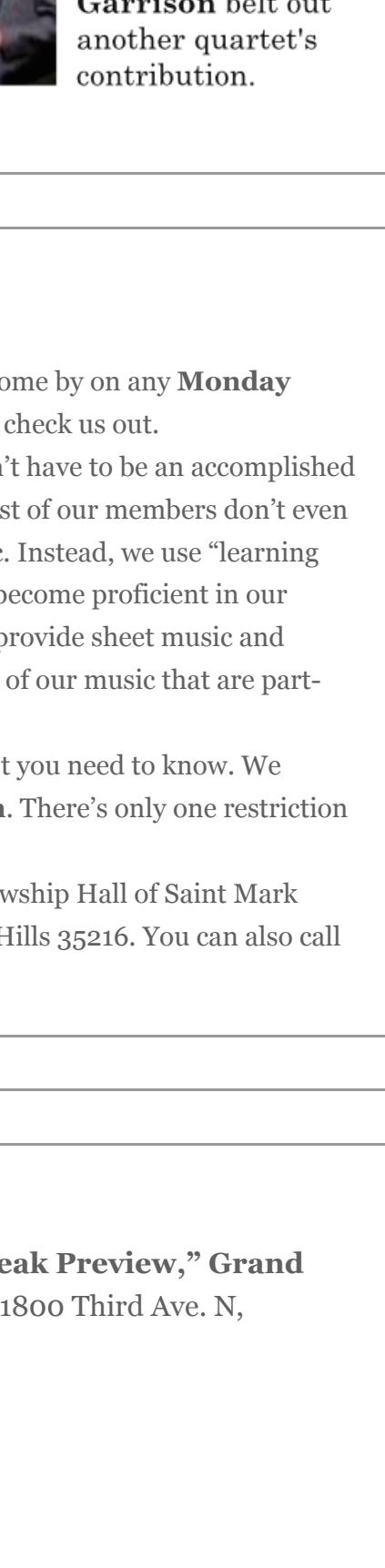
limited singing talent. The next thing I knew I was entertaining and I was encouraging others to sing in their communities and around the world. What's better than bringing people together?

Who are you?

My name is **John Karl Turner**. I was born on April 9, 1941, in Birmingham. You can email me at johnkarlturner68@gmail.com. On January 28 I will have been married to my lovely bride **Linda Shepard Turner** for 49 years.

I served nine years of active duty in the U.S. Army as a

warrant officer pilot, including two tours in Viet Nam. Following active duty I served for 20 years as a drilling reservist flying for the commanders of the 121st Army Reserve Command. In the Reserves I worked for 10 years in the automotive service industry and for 10 years in the Federal Civil Service. Then I went back on active duty in the Active Guard Reserve. There I flew Beechcraft, King-Air 200, twin-engine turbo-prop aircraft all over the U.S. and Europe. After 39 years in the Army/Reserves I went to work at the Home Depot in Eastwood, Ala. Ten years later I retired for the last time as a department supervisor. Over all that time we raised our wonderful daughter **Allison** and helped her raise our two wonderful granddaughters, **Anastasia Marie** and **Karlynda Noel**.



Got experience?

I have been singing my entire life. I sang at **Crestline Heights Grammar School** in Birmingham with **Amos Hudson**, a well-known Birmingham musician and teacher. I was in the Boys' Glee Club at **Shades Valley High School** in Birmingham, the **Albany (Ga.) High School** choir, **Irvin High School** advanced choir in El Paso, Texas, and The Collegiate Choral at **Texas Western College**, now the **University Of Texas, El Paso (UTEP)**. For years I sang in the choir at **Highlands United Methodist Church** again under the direction of Amos Hudson.

My vocal range spans Lead, Baritone and Bass, but I prefer singing Bass. My first barbershop experience was in El Paso, Texas. The local chapter there sponsored a quartet contest. They asked high school students in the area to form quartets and sing in their annual show. Three guys and I from my school formed the "Rocket Men." We won the contest. Thirty

years later I attended a barbershop show put on by the **Alabama Jubilee**. When they invited men to sing with them I was hooked. I sang with them for four years and was chapter president before I went back on active duty.

An anecdote ...

Voices Director **Kenny Ray Hatton** and bass **Sonny Holt** love to eat at Waffle House. They often go there after rehearsals for a late supper. A couple of years ago **Voices** was going to a performance in Pell City. That night I was on I-20 on the way to the venue in my truck, towing the chorus' trailer containing our risers. As I exited the interstate at Pell City I got behind two Cadillacs. Kenny was driving one of them. Sonny was in the other one. As we got close to the venue on Martin Street North I saw a Waffle House on the right. Both vehicles slowed down.

"Surely they won't stop," I thought. "We have a show to do!"

They didn't. I thought, though, I might have to go back and get them.

Hope you got to one of our winter shows

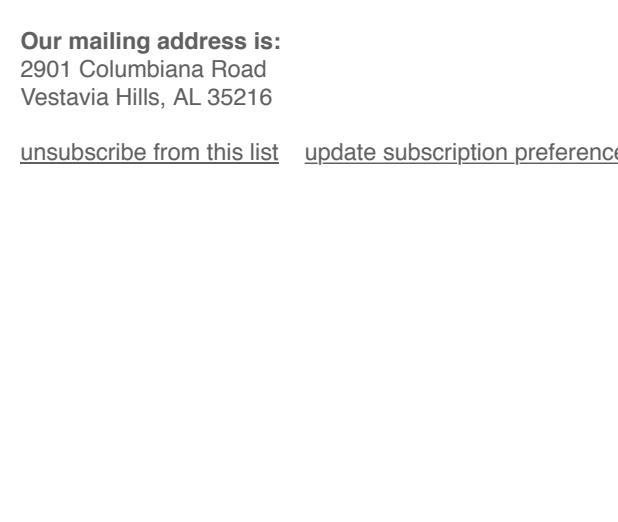
Voices of the South celebrated the holiday season with not one, but two concerts in December.

After presenting its annual show in Birmingham on December 12, Voices took its show on the road December 18. They performed at the Performing Arts Center in Oxford, AL.

We are now looking forward to helping provide entertainment for the opening of the newly restored Lyric Theater in Birmingham later this month.

Show Time!

At the top **Voices** takes the stage at Spain Park's Theatre. Just below and left, baritones, **Matt Powell**, **Frank Buttler**, **Gary Claypool** and **Rick Ramsey** add their voices. Beneath that, **Tony Ivey** adds some bass. To the right, **Judy** and **Ed Wharton** dance as **Tony** reads the Christmas Story and **Darrell Mansfield** sings a solo. Below that left, **Eye Candy** — **Matt Powell**, **Tony Ivey**, **Mel White** and **Dennis Hoffman** croon as one of the quartets. And to the right, **Matt Powell**, **Ed Wharton**, **Daniel Hipp** and **Alex Garrison** belt out another quartet's contribution.



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

Saturday, Jan. 9 — Performance — "Donors' Sneak Preview," Grand Opening of the Lyric Theatre, 4 p.m., Lyric Theatre, 1800 Third Ave. N, Birmingham

Monday, Jan. 11 — No Rehearsal *

Monday, Jan. 18 — Chorus Rehearsal *

Monday, Jan. 25 — Chorus Rehearsal *

Monday, Feb. 1 — Chorus Rehearsal *

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

Hatton chosen as a Top 10 Lead of all time

Voices Director **Kenny Ray Hatton** has been selected as one of the "Top 10 Best Leads of All Time" by **Harmonizer** magazine.

"He is as accurate a lead singer as we could want," says **Brian Beck**, who was on the 11-person selection committee.

The committee started out with 32 lead-nominees spanning the decades before trimming the list to 18. It then chose the Top 10, and listed eight others as honorable mentions.

"It was embarrassing to have been included because a quartet is a single, indivisible thing. There are no lead-singing contests — only quartet contests," Hatton says. He was paying deserved homage to his competitors and to his quartet-mates, **Allen Hatton**, **Dan Burgess** and **Rick Staab**.

The magazine was adamant about listing the Top 10 alphabetically. It was a difficult job just picking them, according to **Lorin May**, author of the article. The committee could not have chosen them in any particular order. They came up with an "amazing list of leads, that are mostly gold medalists."

Kenny continues his long and storied career in both barbershop and band-singing, but is best known as lead of

International Champion, Bluegrass Student Union. The quartet headlined more than 400 **Barbershop Harmony Society** chapter shows during its 33-year career, and was the

sixth quartet of eight inducted into the Society's Hall of Fame. Kenny also enjoyed success with semi-finalist quartets **The Sensations** and **The Exchange**, and switched to baritone to earn a quarter-finalist rank with **The Daddy-Ohs!**

Harmonizer is the official publication of the **Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc.**, doing business as the **Barbershop Harmony Society**.

Recordings by Bluegrass Student Union and Kenny Ray Hatton can be found on at cdaby.com and at iTunes. CDs are available at HarmonyMarketplace.com.

The graphic accompanying this item is an artist rendering of "Bluegrass Student Union" by **Greg Pappas**.

eVoices | The Electronic Newsletter of the Voices of The South

The Central Alabama Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society

2901 Columbiana Road, Birmingham, AL 35216 | Powered by MailChimp

Ed Wharton, President | Frank Holmes, Vice President of Marketing | Darrell Mansfield, Web Editor | Dennis R. Jones, Editor

Copyright © 2016 - Central Alabama Chapter, BHS - All rights reserved.

Our mailing address is:

2901 Columbiana Road

Vestavia Hills, AL 35216

[unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

<http://us10.campaign-archive1.com/?u=fde64dd5fc431eb6c36edb33d&id=ba325f30eb&e=5c47740b6c>

[Page 1 of 1](#)