

Real Men Sing Educators for the Day
June 23, 2018

Rocky Toppers from Nashville, TN



The Quartet

Matt Parks (tenor), **Mike Tipton** (lead), **Mark Beeler** (baritone) & **Harrison Cooke** (bass) have almost a hundred years of vocal music performance between them. Most of those come from Mike.

The **Rocky Toppers** were brought together in April of 2017 by a mutual love of barbershop music. They have performed at concert venues and schools in

Tennessee, Alabama, and Georgia. At a barbershop singing contest in Oxford, Alabama, they recently placed 2nd among the best quartets in the Dixie District (Mississippi, Alabama, Tennessee, Georgia).

All four singers attended the University of Tennessee and are long time Volunteers!

The Members

Matt teaches choir at Central High School in Knoxville. He is originally from Texas. Matt lives with his wife, Hailey, and their two dogs, Walker Texas Ranger and Ruby Grace. In his spare time, he likes to arrange and compose music.

Harrison has yet to contribute to society, but is currently majoring in opera performance at the University of Tennessee. He likes to cook and has worked in restaurants since his days at Powell High School.

Mike has been the minister of music at Clear Springs Baptist Church in Corryton for 30 years and has sung in quartets for over 40 years. He has sung at the International Barbershop Quartet Contest eleven times, with 4 top 20 finishes. He lives in Corryton with his wife, Anne, and their son, Joseph.

Mark has been a barbershopper for 30 years in the Knoxville area. He has 3 district titles and 2 top 20 finishes at the International Barbershop Quartet Contest. He works as a CPA for the Tennessee Valley Authority in Knoxville. He and his wife, Gail, have been married for 23 years and live in Corryton and with their two sons.