



Welcome

Welcome to the August edition of the newly renamed Lake Erie Region 17 newsletter—The Beacon. Several names were submitted and Greater Harmony's Cindy Sheffler suggested "The Beacon." It struck a chord, has a nice ring to it and also tied in nicely with our logo. Please sit back, and enjoy reading about your region!

Congratulations

Congratulations to our chorus and quartet competitors this year. We hope to see all of you walk across the stage in 2010!

1st Place Overall
Greater Cleveland Chorus
Score of 615
Seattle Bound

1st Place
Fusion Quartet
Score of 557
Nashville Bound

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Real Women
Real Harmony
Real Fun

Outgoing Team Coordinator, Jenny Thompson

It has been my honor and privilege to serve as Region 17 Team Coordinator for the last six years. This region has been and is very blessed and fortunate to have the quality of leaders willing to donate their time and talents to further our membership's quest for musical excellence.

The decade of 2000 has brought many changes:

- Regional leadership focus on business/education of organization
- Excellent teaching staff at Harmony weekends
- Progressive programs put in place

to rebuild membership (Real Women campaign), Region 17 pilot.

- Electronic files for events, email groups, webinars, webcasts, digital music files
- New logo and name for newsletter
- Performers continue to raise the bar – Region 17 scores speak to the hard work and musical excellence of our chorus's
- Regional medals awarded for all placements
- Financial reimbursement to cho-

rus for membership growth

- Financial reimbursement for director education
- Matching dollar campaigns for membership/marketing
- Choruses are intermingling more, number of dual members rise

I could go on and on about our "Region 17" and what a wonderful place to practice, explore, educate and perform this hobby of ours we call "Barbershop."

Continued on page 7 ...

Incoming Team Coordinator, Donna Knapp

I am so proud and honored to be the new Team Coordinator. I have huge shoes to fill, and I want to personally thank Jennifer Thompson for all of her hard work these past six years. She will be a hard act to follow for sure.

I am thrilled to welcome several new faces to the RMT. Karen May of Dogwood Blossoms

*Donna Knapp,
Greater Harmony*

Chorus takes over as Finance Coordinator following the retirement of Peggy Fritz. We all send thanks to Peggy for her 5 years of service to the Region; Peggy is going to become a snowbird!! Jennifer Jones of Voices in Harmony and Cindy Sheffler of Greater Harmony are new associate members who will watch and learn over the next year. They are wonderful additions to the team and have already shared

some of their ideas with us.

Continued on page 10....

We have all heard that quartet singers make for a stronger chorus, right? Every time an individual singer works on her craft and improves her instrument, she becomes a stronger contributor, a more confident singer, and that, in

2009 Division A Medalists

Lake Ridge Chorus—Elyria, OH 1st Place Division A Director: Jill Priestersbach

Allegheny Sounds Chorus—Franklin, PA 2nd Place Division A Director: Linda Whren

Indi-Anna Chorus—Indiana, PA 3rd Place Division A Director: Mary Lou McKinney

2009 Overall & Division AA Medalists

Pride of Toledo Chorus—Toledo, OH
2nd Place Overall
Director: Kay Seymour

Greater Harmony Chorus—Gibsonia, PA
1st Place Division AA & 3rd Place Overall
Director: Bonnie McKibben

City of Flags Chorus—Canton, OH
2nd Place Division AA & 4th Place Overall
Director: Darryl Flinn

Voices in Harmony—Ypsilanti, MI
3rd Place Division AA & 5th Place Overall
Most Improved Award (+37 points)
Director: Lynne Peirce

Education Coordinator Update, Bonnie McKibben

turn, helps the chorus. Agreed?

To that end, we are keeping an eye to quartet promotion. Our new Quartet Promotion Chair “Double Dare Quartet” has hit the ground running. The transition from our wonderful chair of the last four years, Kathy ‘Fuzz’ Fazekas, has forged a successful path and left a powerful legacy. Look for Double Dare to continue providing wonderfully fun and educational opportunities. See elsewhere in this newsletter for just the beginning of their tenure.

Now when we have improvement in our individual singers and then as a result the choruses, our directors then have new opportunities. It’s like going from the 24 box of crayons to the 64, and then hopefully the 128. Our directors can keep adding new things to the mix! To continue our director growth and education, we continue to fund their registration to the International Director’s Seminars! In addition, beginning in March of 2010, we have director retreats scheduled every year. Our first guest faculty is Dale Syverson, beloved director of The Richtone Chorus. Also, Dale holds the titles of Certified International Faculty, Master Director, Certified Expression Judge, Education Direction Committee, Directors' Seminar Faculty, Recipient of the President's Lifetime Achievement Award (2004). Continued on page 4.....

Education Coordinator Update, cont'd from page 3

She is also an International Queen of Harmony (twice!), a phenomenal coach, an amazing showman, and the quintessential motivator. I'm sure every director will want to be part of this wonderful weekend.

Following that, in March of 2011, we have Pam Pieson, director of Harborlites Chorus; and in March of 2012, we have Jim Arns, director of Melodeers! Our directors will be in great hands!

So what about you? What about you as an individual contributor? What can you expect to see offered to you in your educational future? As you know, vocal production / education / learning never ends. Even for "Queens of Harmony" it never ends! We can never be done because the more we learn and master, the more we realize there is more to learn. We can always improve. So we will continue to look at vocal production as our center point of education. Everything else will radiate from there.

And to you Music Theory Lovers (or those that are wanting to be music theory lovers) how lucky are we to have a Certified Arranger, International Faculty and Music Judge in our midst? Jean Flinn is here to help you learn all there is to learn. Look for more arranging classes coming your way soon!

And as I've said before, please let me know if there is anything you'd like addressed to fill out your educational goals. The entire education team is here to help you become the best you can be!

Quartet Promotion

Did you ever watch a quartet contest thinking "I'd REALLY like to do that-but I don't know where to start"? Or maybe "I THINK I could do that, but I don't know what to expect out on that stage"?

We hear you Sisters in Harmony! And all of your Region 17 Sisters who are already quartet "veterans" want you to join in the fun and participate in the magical world of quartet singing. So, to help you on your journey, your Quartet Promotion Team is planning a fun "**Wannabee Quartet School and Contest**" at September HW.

This cool event will be a fun way to explore what quartet singing is all about, ending with a mock contest to give you a glimpse of being "on stage" in a quartet. Here's how it will work:

Pre-register for the school/contest by emailing your name, chorus and part to: doubledarequartet@hotmail.com

Come to the **Wannabee Quartet** Mixer on Friday evening at HW for the Quartet Draw (we'll have the same number of all four parts ready, even if we have to draft people, so you might get an experienced quartet gal in your **Wannabee Quartet**)

All **Wannabee Quartets** will pick a name and work, as time permits, on two Regional songs (Good News & How We Sang Today) until the Saturday afternoon **Wannabee School** (a one-hour workshop about working as a quartet and mock coaching)

All **Wannabee Quartets** will then strut their stuff for the judging panel. *NO scores, NO criticism (only the good kind), NO medals (but there will be a drawing for a GRAND PRIZE provided by your QPT)*. We hope lots of you will take this opportunity to find out if quartet singing could be right for you. Even if you decide it isn't, we think you'll have fun trying!

Your Region 17 Quartet Promotion Team-Double Dare (Chairpersons) and Dynasty

Quartet Updates—Fusion, Nashville Bound

Where do we begin? That's the question you ask once you have come down to earth after winning the regional competition. For two of the members of Fusion, this will be the first trip to International as quartet competitors. Your whole summer and fall now has to be arranged, or rearranged in some cases, to fit in the extra coaching and rehearsals that it will take to prepare for the "big show" in October.

The first thing we did was to make a decision on coaching. We took a look at our score sheets, this is a good indication of our strengths and weaknesses and where we need to concentrate our efforts. After deciding on the areas we needed to work on, we lined up some coaching dates. We will continue to work with Jean Barford (who wouldn't?) and have dates set up with LeAnn Hazlett. Also on the schedule are Betty Clipman and Chris Noteware. Of course, we have Linda Liddicoatt, who will keep us on track between coaching sessions. Just coming up with dates for coaching can be a huge

undertaking!

Fund raising becomes an important part of the puzzle as the coaching and travel expenses come to the forefront of our preparation. Being in a quartet that has 3 ½ hours between the members, the price of gas and the time factor can become an issue. We try to be efficient and make our time together as productive as possible and save on unnecessary trips. That being said, we are looking for ways to make money to keep ourselves financially solvent. (We all know that it is the hardest thing we do.)

Performing is also a goal you set, you want to sing as much as you can for whomever you can. Whether it is singing at a church, a festival or in front of your chorus, this becomes a very necessary part of the puzzle. It builds performance confidence, sometimes the hardest thing to achieve for many of us.

Entering the international world of quarteting can be scary but also exciting. It gives you a whole new perspective on our organization

and the role competition plays in that world. We are so excited to be a part of that world and appreciate all the love and support we get from our families and our choruses. It would not be possible to participate in this hobby we love without it. We look forward to the journey and can't wait to strut our stuff on the international stage.

With much love and in harmony,

Joyce, Becky, Anne and Beth

B.L.A.K. Velvet

Well, our hiatus is over! We're back to a regular rehearsal schedule and are looking forward to singing for you all again at the Harmony Weekends and contest next Spring. And we are SO excited to be in the new venue for our Regional Contest. A great big thank you to the Convention Committee for pulling this all together!

We are looking to sing on our chorus shows, Greater Cleveland Chorus (November 14) and Greater Harmony Chorus (November 7). And we hope to have the opportunity so sing on your shows as well!

Thank you all for your continuing support...we have such a great Region!
Love, Bonnie, Lisa, Amy, Kathy

In Voice! - Nashville Bound

Since winning the Region 2 quartet contest, we ladies of In Voice! Took time to really enjoy our win by first having fun at the region 17 competition supporting our tenor, Dawn Seigneur who is the director of the River Raisin Chorus. Dawn also received her purple ribbon induction into the Encore Club. Way to go Dawn! We also cheered our “sister” quartet Fusion who ended up winning. It must have been our talented cheers from the audience.

In June the quartet sang on Region 2’s 3rd Annual Young Women in Harmony Benefit Show. The show is the culmination of a one-day youth harmony camp with proceeds going to the region’s YWIH program.

Understanding how schedules quickly fill up during the summer we took some time to add a few new songs to the repertoire. Nothing quite like learning new music to keep you humble and on your toes!

With Nashville coming up, the quartet is revved up to make both region 2 and 17 proud on the competition stage. Great coaching from Jean Barford, Jim Arns, Linda Liddicoat, and Cindy Hansen will definitely be a great boost! So keep an eye out for competitor #7 and if you’re on Facebook check out In Voice! Quartet and stay In Touch!

Sounds of Pittsburgh - Nashville Bound

We’re finding it hard to believe a year has passed since we won (Good things DO come to those who wait!), and we are now in the final countdown before we take our place as contestant #22 in Nashville! Turns out that time really DOES fly when you’re having fun! We’ve been pulling out all the creative stops in our fundraising efforts to pave the road to Nashville with a little more than good wishes. So far we’ve run a “super lottery” (grand prize of \$3,000!), had a fabulous USO Christmas show, peddled Entertainment and Enjoy books in the ‘Burgh (coming up again soon—keep us in mind if you’re local!), and our chorus’ “Company Bee” (our spouses and partners—who are always supportive) organized a spaghetti dinner to help us fill the coffers. We’re

hoping to squeeze in a couple more before October, too. We have scheduled a clay shoot fundraising event at the Lawrence County Sportsmen’s Club on August 23. All sportsmen (and women!) welcome! On August 29, take a ride through history as we hold a Poker Hand Road Rally with a start and finish at the site of the historic Whiskey Rebellion. Both events promise to be a lot of fun. We hope you can join us. If you need more details about either event (or any other fundraising activity) e-mail our fundraising committee co-chair (Jennifer.signore@gmail.com). We hope to have a tab coming soon on our web page just for fundraising items, so visit our website at www.soundsofpgh.org.

We’re thrilled that Cindy Hansen-

Ellis recently returned to work her choreographic magic on July 12 and 13. And then we get to take it up a notch with (awesome) Joe Connelly August 9 and 10 and again October 4 and 5! And we are so excited to have an opportunity to be coached by Dr. Diane Clark at Harmony Weekend in Perrysburg in September. We hope to see a lot of you there! Because we really want to shine on the international stage, we are trying something new. We’ve purchased a mini movie camera and will video our members’ choreography sessions bi-weekly and send it to them via the internet. They can then critique themselves and members of the visual team will assist, if needed.

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Sounds of Pittsburgh, continued from page 6

It has been so wonderful to have our 10 dual members sharing the journey with us. City of Flags, Indi-anna, Sounds of Sunshine, and Renaissance Rhythm Choruses are all represented and they've told us they're having a blast so far! And we've made some wonderful new friends in the process – Jean Trask, Dottie Wakin, Bert Hoffman, TammySue Helline-Comer, Sue Heck, Jody Spelman, La Donna Thomas, Mary Jane Gatti, Patty Bent and Bev Calfees.

It's sure to be a wonderful time in Music City in October and we are so proud to be representing Region 17 on the International stage. We hope some of you will stop by at one of our rehearsals on the day before the chorus finals (Wednesday). We'll send info to you about that in a couple of months. In the meantime, we'll see you in September!

Outgoing Team Coordinator, continued from page 2

So much goes on behind the scenes of the general membership experience. The Regional Management Team (RMT) must run the Region as a business and view our membership as our employees. Our main job is to be sure that all of us have jobs well into the future. We love this region. We are facing many challenges in the areas of membership growth and retention, staying financially sound and continuing to bring top quality educational programs and leaders to our region.

The region is in good hands. Each management team coordinator is passionate about her area of expertise, welcoming each Region 17 member to work on committees, share ideas, share concerns. There are so many talents within our Region yet untapped. Those talents "tapped" will make us even greater. Step up and think about sharing your talents.

"We need to think of ourselves as gifts to be given and to think of others as gifts offered to us" (John Powell). Region 17 has been a wonderful gift to me for the last six years. Thank you again from the bottom of my heart!

Advanced to Master Director

Congratulations to Kay Seymour, Director of the Pride of Toledo Chorus. She advanced to the Master Director level. You'll see her wearing a shiny new blue Master Director pin. Be sure to congratulate her and the Pride of Toledo Chorus!

Communication Coordinator Update,

Brenda Bernhardsson

We've been working towards improved communications over the last year and I think we've done a pretty good job so far. We now have a redesigned website, lots of regional email groups, and we've even started to publish RMT meeting summaries, so you can keep up with what's going on in this great region of ours.

But as the cliché goes, communication is a two way street and we need to hear from you! You can always email any member of the RMT, but we're always looking for new and exciting ways to solicit feedback from you. Starting this month is a new website feature called "Question of the Month". This monthly poll will help us get focused feedback from you on all sorts of regional and SAI topics. We may even run special polls if we need speedy feedback to make a quick decision.

So, what can you do to keep in touch?

Join! – Join the all-member regional email group. While this is mostly for announcements from the Region, it will give you a direct link to the broadcasts being sent from the RMT and other regional leaders, and will give you reminders for other ways to share your opinions, like article solicitations for The Beacon, the current topic of the Question of the Month, etc... **How?** Go to the regional website (www.region17online.org) and click "Join Email Group" in the "Quick Clicks" box in the upper right corner.

Vote! – Let us know what you think by participating in the Question of the Month poll on the regional website. You can also submit suggestions for future Questions of the Month. **How?** Go to the website at www.region17online.org and click "Question of the Month" in the "Quick Clicks" box in the upper right corner.

Respond! – Please turn in those all-important surveys at Harmony Weekends! **How?** These surveys are now distributed in your hand-out packet that you pick up at registration, so please fill it out when you can and drop it off before leaving HW. If you forget, you can always submit it via email after the weekend.

Announce! – As we get more folks to join the all-member regional email group, we'll have even more reason to announce things. If you have anything to announce that you feel should go to everyone in the region, please let us know! The whole point is to keep us all informed about regional happenings. **How?** Submit a request for an announcement to announcements@region17online.org.

Submit! – Did something great happen in your chorus? Do you want to share a moving story? Submit an article for The Beacon. **How?** Send an email to me (elara@umich.edu) anytime and we'll see about getting your story in a future issue.

Suggest! – Is something bugging you? Do you have a great idea but don't know who to tell? Let us know! **How?** You can always send an email to any of the folks on the RMT or use our "contact form" on the regional website to suggest anything that's on your mind.

One of the RMT's strategic goals is "Quality Communication." Help us achieve that goal by keeping in touch and letting us know what you think. Thanks!

Regional Management Team

The Regional Management Team meets three times per year, once at each Harmony Weekend and once in early summer. This June, in addition to our regular meeting, the Team worked with Lynne Peirce, Region 17's Administrative Education Coordinator, in a 2-day strategic planning workshop, using the "Preferred Futuring" tool that Lynne has presented at some of her Harmony Weekend classes.

We had a wonderful session and accomplished much in a short amount of time. We were able to identify 6 core values and 6 overall goals that we'll be working toward this year. Throughout the year we'll determine strategies and actions that support those values and will help us achieve our goals. We're very excited to have this plan in place!

Our Core Values

- **Camaraderie/Friendship** – To experience relationships of goodwill, rapport, caring & loyalty
- **Continuous Improvement** – The philosophy, processes and practices that enable consistent, long term achievement of goals and increasingly higher levels of performance
- **Development/Growth** – To evolve and improve; to become bigger, better, fuller; to build up or expand; to become stronger, more knowledgeable, skilled and effective
- **Education** – The process of training and developing the mind, knowledge and character through continuous formal learning
- **Inspiration/Motivation** – To celebrate and recognize achievements of individuals and groups
- **Teamness/Teamwork** – The state of individuals working in unity toward a common purpose or mission

Our 2009-2010 Goals

- **Musical Excellence**
- **Administrative Leadership Excellence**
- **Quality Communication**
- **Financial Health**
- **Membership Growth & Retention**
- **Promotion of Product**

Other highlights from the June meeting include:

Marketing Coordinator Deb Ferenc has started advertising on FaceBook. The ad points to the chorus section of our Regional website. [Note: the Region is charged per click, so if you're already a Region 17 member, please don't click just out of curiosity.]

Peggy Fritz has resigned after 5 years as the Region's Finance Coordinator. Karen May from Dogwood Blossoms has stepped in to take her place. [Good luck, Peggy & Welcome, Karen!]

The Chorus Coaching Program will be continued for a 2nd year. This program enables eligible choruses to receive up to \$800 for coaching during the year. Information on eligibility has been sent to directors.

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Regional Management, Continued from page 9

Upcoming Harmony Weekend Hostess choruses will be: Pride of Toledo in September, 2009; Greater Harmony in January, 2010; and Sounds of Pittsburgh in September, 2010. [Note: If your chorus would like to volunteer for a future Harmony Weekend, please have your President/Team Leader contact Sue Heck, Events Coordinator.]

A director's retreat will be held in March, 2010. More information will be forthcoming as details (location, cost, etc...) are finalized.

With an eye to the Regional budget, the Team has decided to reduce mileage reimbursements to \$0.20/mile if the meeting is during another regional event (Harmony Weekends, Competition, etc...). The regular mileage rate of \$0.40/mile will apply to all stand-alone meetings.

Directors' Coordinator Jennifer Fogle

It is with great pride I announce the sponsorship of Region 17 directors to Side by Side, the Directors' Workshop International held in Detroit in July. All directors were invited to participate in this workshop and 13 of 18 planned to attend. The Region has paid their registration fees! We are confident our region will be enhanced by the knowledge and excitement gained from this event.

*Jennifer Fogle
Greater Harmony*

Again this year, we will offer FREE coaching to all choruses at a C level or below. Information has already been sent to the directors and presidents.

All of our excellent educational resources are evident in our contest scores. No one, neither quartets and choruses, scored below a C level. Wouldn't it be AWESOME to achieve a region that scores no lower than a B level!

The RMT is working diligently to make sure every member and chorus achieves success. Region 17 is continuing to thrive and creating opportunities for growth. This is an exciting time in our region!!

Incoming Team Coord. Continued from page 2

Pam Dickinson moves from Communications to Membership Coordinator filling the position that I vacated, and Brenda Bernhardtsson takes over as the new Communications and Technology Coordinator. Deb Ferenc, Bonnie McKibben, Sue Heck, and Jennifer Fogle continue in their positions as Marketing, Education, Events, and Directors' Coordinators respectively.

I think you will agree that we have a great team in place.

We are off and running as the result of a weekend planning session in June. Lynne Pierce facilitated our Strategic Planning Meeting. You will see many changes we believe will improve the region and the relationships within the region. We are your representatives, and we want to hear from you. Your input is always valued, and we are open to new suggestions and ideas. One of our goals for this year is to be more accessible and to communicate more with our members.

What an exciting time to be a member of Region 17! Thanks to Deb and the group of membership/marketing representatives from choruses across the Region who met in February, we were chosen by International to pilot a Real Women, Real Harmony, Real Fun Regional campaign. What an incentive for all of us to work hard and work the plan to grow our choruses and our Region. As we always say at the end of our chorus rehearsal, "It's great to be a Sweet Adeline!" and I would also add, "It's great to be a member of Region 17!"

New Convention Hotel & Venue

Hello Region 17! Are you ready for change? I am so glad! Our Convention Search Committee has worked very hard to find a venue that works with us all & our needs to hold the Regional Competition, due to the changes happening in Cleveland.

As you are all aware by now, we will be at the Renaissance Hotel in Public Square.

There are many restaurants in the area as well as the Tower City Mall that is actually connected to the hotel. There are many places to eat in there as well.

They offer outstanding guest rooms & suites that offer city & atrium views. All beds are either queen size or king size. They have many meeting rooms which will accommodate rehearsal time & allow for breakfasts & or brunches for all choruses.

The Grand Ballroom where the actual contest will be held is 22,600 square feet! WOW! It is a beautiful place!

We hope you are all excited about this change. I know we are!! There will be many changes in things that you are so used to. You could probably go through contest with your eyes closed all these past years. There will be a different way we have the pattern etc. due to the fact that the competition will be housed right inside the hotel.

Our committee has received many kudos from lots of members. Thank you so much for that! Your support in this change means a lot to us!!!

Change is good. I think this one is going to be great!

Sue Heck, Events Coordinator

Membership Updates, ***Pam Dickinson***

I would like to announce the position of Chapter Liaison for the coming year will be Donna Knapp (dgknapp@comcast.net). As the Regional Management Team Leader and also president of Greater Harmony, she will be a great moderator for the Team Leaders and Presidents meetings. Jennifer Thompson (Jennifer_Thompson@anthem.com) , former team leader of the Regional Management Team will continue as the Chapter-at-Large Liaison.

I am heading the Membership meeting and the Rookie Class at Harmony weekends and am looking forward to an exciting year with the new pilot Membership/Marketing program, "Real Women, Real Harmony, Real Fun."

I am anticipating a wonderful weekend at the French Quarter in Perrysburg. See you there!!

Young Singers Foundation

Created in 1992, the Young Singers Foundation was established to enrich the lives of young people through educational programs in vocal music. The need for such programs grows bigger every day, as music programs are being reduced or eliminated by school systems that struggle with funding.

Visit their website to learn more about how your donation can make a difference.

Young Singers Foundation

P.O. Box 470168

Tulsa, OK 74147-0168

800-992-7464

www.YoungSingersFoundation.org

Marketing Moments, Deb Ferenc

Summer is winding down; however Region 17 is going strong with Membership/Marketing Programs running in every chapter! I have heard from a few of you that your 'free vocal lessons' are running smoothly and bringing in new guests!

Remember, this is a 'pilot program'. That means we are testing the waters, it is not a pass/fail program! International wants to find out what works and what does not work. So please fill out all of your evaluation forms honestly. This will help our organization greatly! The chorus evaluation form can be found on our region17online.org website under 'marketing'. Once you have filled out your evaluation please submit it to me via email or snail mail. I will then compile and

submit one evaluation to International.

We should also keep in mind that if we bring in ONE NEW MEMBER we have succeeded! The idea of this program is to grow our organization AND to raise the awareness about Sweet Adelines to the rest of the world. We are doing that by sharing our Real Women, Real Harmony, Real Fun concept.

The next quarter should be starting now, and that is Real Women Sing! Please invite your guests to sing on an upcoming performance of YOUR choice. It may be your annual show, your Christmas show, or a performance you have scheduled this fall. No better way to get a prospective member hooked than to get them on stage!

Pam Dickinson, our Membership Coordinator and I will hold a Membership/Marketing Forum called "Real Women, Real Harmony, Real Fun, Real FEEDBACK at this Fall's Harmony Weekend in Perrysburg for all the Membership and Marketing Coordinators so that we can all discuss the successes and challenges of the summer. I look forward to seeing you all there!

VOTING: International Board of Director Elections are coming up! They should be mailed around October 7th. Sweet Adelines really does pay attention and they are trying to get 100% of choruses to vote. Cast your ballot!

Question of the month:

What's your opinion of the Celebration of Champions right after the chorus competition?

- I love it! I can't wait to hear the winners perform again!
- It's nice, but I could take it or leave it.
- I'm hungry & tired, but I stay to support our winners—it's the right thing to do.
- I would rather see them perform at an afterglow later in the evening (and I promise I'd attend!)
- I don't stay—I can't stand another minute in this all-in-one!

Visit the regional website to cast your vote.
www.Region17Online.org

**IES is coming to
Pittsburgh!**

July 8-10, 2010

Start saving now!

Associate Members of the Regional Management Team

I'm proud to be serving as an Associate Member on your Regional Management Team this year and I hope to represent you and your choruses well. With our collective creativity, I know this will be a great year for us.

Thirteen years ago, I spotted a bookmark on a bulletin board in my local drug store asking for women who loved to sing. I had never heard of Sweet Adelines before, but I made a call, visited a rehearsal, and joined the County Connection Chorus a short time later. The years have flown by and my chorus has a new name – Voices in Harmony - but I've never forgotten the importance of that one piece of paper, placed there by someone who cared enough to share her musical experience with someone else – me!

We all share a passion for this wonderful hobby and I hope you're shouting it from the roof tops so every woman will take notice.

With a little effort, I think the Real Women, Real Harmony, Real Fun campaign will be powerful and life changing for many women. I'm challenging my chorus to reach 1,000 women this year with a chorus business card and a personal invitation to visit a rehearsal. The woman in line next to you at the post office, the grocery store, shoe shopping – she may NEED this organization, and WE need her. Take the effort, make a difference.

I challenge you to share your ideas with other choruses and be persistent in the getting the information and materials you need to be successful. I learn so much from you at regional weekends sitting around discussing the things that are working in our choruses and the challenges we face. I look forward to getting to know many more of you over the course of the year and if I can be of assistance to you or your chorus, feel free to contact me at 734-699-0164 or jjlynn@med.umich.edu.

Hello Region 17! I am currently serving as an Associate Member on the Regional Management Team and wanted to find out how things are done at the regional level and how I might be able to contribute. Quite interesting, I must say, to gain the "inside perspective".. Plus, I always enjoy meeting new sisters in song and promoting this wonderful "hobby" we all share. Those who know me best can confirm that I became a Sweet Adeline "addict" the moment I joined the organization in June 2000. I'm really not sure if that is a good thing or a bad thing, but it is undoubtedly my most passionate thing... indeed, it's a wonderful thing!

And speaking of wonderful things, I sing Lead with the gals from Greater Harmony (under the direction of Master Director, Queen and Coach Extraordinaire, Bonnie McKibben) and I love everything about my chorus! (OK, everything except all the talking on the risers during rehearsals... ah, yes, just one of the trials and tribulations that an Assistant Director must overcome... but I realize that I am not alone in this endeavor and after all, we are the friendliest bunch of gals you'd ever want to meet!)

I guess you might say I possess a "real zeal" for learning and improving my barbershop craft every chance I get! And of course, my ultimate dream is to make it to the International stage someday.. and I believe that I will (or at least die trying!)

In my real life, I am a graduate of Westminister College in New Wilmington, PA and employed as an Estate Paralegal with the law firm of Tucker Arensberg, PC in Pittsburgh, PA. I also love to golf in my "spare" time and am single. I truly look forward to serving you at the Regional level and will do all that I can to share my enthusiasm and passion for learning. See you all at the next Harmony Week-End and be sure to introduce yourself and say "hello"... I'm certain that my life will have been enriched having met you!

Finance Coordinator - Karen May

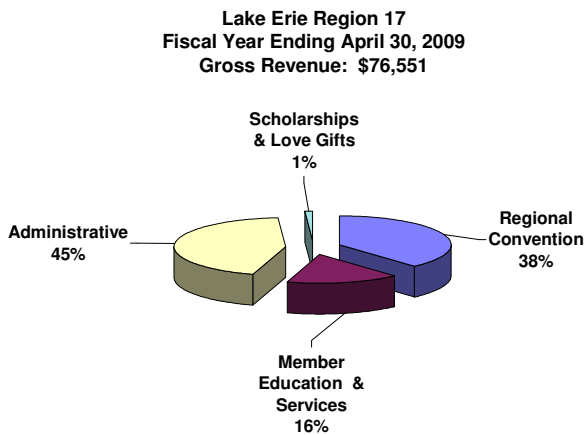
I'd like to thank Peggy Fritz, our retiring Finance Coordinator for her years serving Lake Erie Region 17. Her financial expertise and experience in keeping Region 17 financially healthy over the years creates an opportunity for me to continue in that tradition. Thank you so much Peggy from the entire membership in Region 17.

Now as I step in to fill the remainder of Peggy's term as Finance Coordinator, let me introduce myself. I am Karen May and I am currently a member of the Dogwood Blossom Chorus in Mount Vernon, Ohio. I have been a Sweet Adeline for four years and am currently in my third year as chorus treasurer. Being quite active in my chorus, I try to

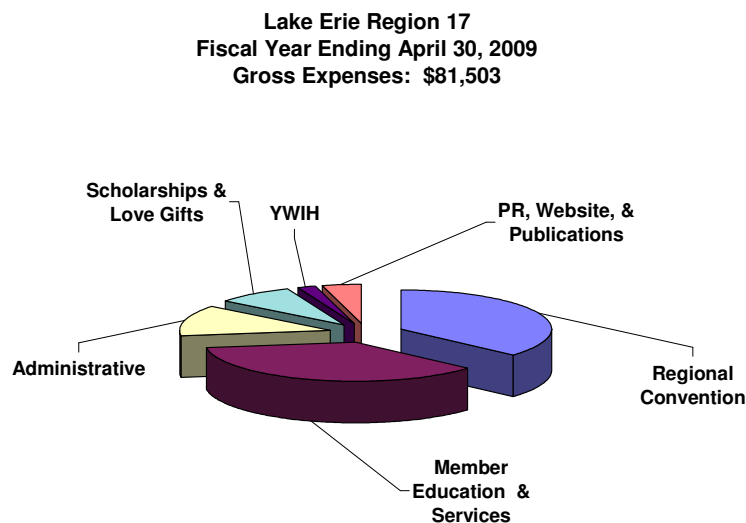
stay out of trouble by producing our monthly newsletter along with being a co-chair for our upcoming show in November. I have worked in the accounting field for 35 years and currently serve as the Office Manager for the Simon Kenton Council, BSA. I am also the treasurer for St. John Lutheran WELCA (women's group). So not only do I have an extensive accounting background, I also have experience working with non-profit organizations. I am married to Doug May and have two sons Adam Jordan and Joseph Jordan and my daughter-in-law Lindsay along with my 7 month old granddaughter Alora who live in Seattle.

Moving forward, I will be hosting the treasurer's meeting at the upcoming Fall HW meeting in September. I look forward to meeting our chorus treasurers and encourage each and every one of you to attend this meeting. If you are unable to attend, please feel free to send a representative from your chorus.

I am always available to answer any questions you may have. My e-mail is kmay@redbird.net



Our revenue for the region is broken down in the following areas:
Administrative - Regional assessments, other ways & means projects, interest
Member Education - HW registrations, workshops and International funded visits
Regional Convention - AET's, program ads, photo/video sales, etc.
Scholarships & Love Gifts - donations for Young Singer Foundation scholarships



This pie chart summarizes the 2008-09 expense breakdown
Regional Convention—hotel, music hall, EMS services, photography, judges travel/housing, risers, audio/video, awards, etc.
Administrative expenses - RMT meetings & travel, International meetings & Travel, other admin expenses
Member Education - expenses for HW, chapter visits, membership promotions, directors education, chapter coaching, quartet education, Encore club
Scholarships & Love Gifts - scholarships and love gifts for international contest representatives
PR, Website & Publications - public relations/media, regional directory and publications
YWIH - YWIH and Youth Singer Foundation

Scholarship Award Winner—Holli Glance

Our congratulations and best wishes to Holli Glance, our 2009 Region 17 Scholarship Award recipient. Holli was announced as the winner of the \$1000 scholarship at the Celebration of Champions at the Spring Convention in Cleveland, Ohio. She is from Erie, PA and attends the University of Toledo majoring in music education. Holli attended the Singing Buckeyes Harmony Camp and sang in a barbershop quartet in high school. She was a member of the Flagship City Chapter and currently is a Chapter at Large member. Holli sang tenor in the Young Women In Harmony quartet Jeweltones and competed with them twice in Regional competition. Holli has been very active in numerous college musical activities and community service projects. She certainly represents Sweet Adelines and Region 17 well and we are proud of her many accomplishments.

The Region 17 Scholarship has been awarded annually since 1997 and is offered by competitive application to a woman studying in a music related field. She must be a member of Region 17 Sweet Adelines International or have a female relative who is a member of Region 17. A qualified applicant must be entering her sophomore year or above in an accredited college or university, be pursuing a degree with a major or minor in vocal music (performance or education), or a music related field. Application announcements and forms will be available at Fall PHW or can be requested from the scholarship coordinator. The deadline for receipt of completed applications for

Award Winners

Cleffhangers Quartet
Glitz Standard of Excellence Award (increase of 56 Points!)

Betsy Fowler
Novice Director, Little River Chorus

Limited Engagement
Novice Quartet

Do You Have an Article?

Submit it now for the next newsletter! Email Brenda at elara@umich.edu.

Quartet Medalists

2nd Place

Live Wire Star Performer Regional Award Winner

Flipside Quartet

3rd Place

Lady Luck Quartet

4th Place

Double Dare Quartet

5th Place

Abstract Quartet

**BRING YOUR MUSIC TO
HARMONY WEEKEND**

*Dr. Diane Clark will be using the
following songs:*

San Francisco Bay Blues
We'll Meet Again
How We Sang Today

If you'll be participating in the quartet contest:

Ain't a that Good News
How We Sang Today

Harmony Weekend

Featuring DR. DIANE CLARK

September 25 - 27, 2009

Holiday Inn French Quarter

US20 @ I-75 exit 193
10630 Fremont Pike, Perrysburg, OH 43551
(419) 874-3111

Regional Management Team

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Cindy Sheffler, Associate Member
csheffler@tuckerlaw.com

This dynamic International Faculty brings a heightened sense of expertise to our region! Diane has her Doctor of Arts degree in music (voice pedagogy), her Master of Music degree (voice pedagogy), her Bachelor of Music Degree, and her Certificate in Transpersonal Studies...she's got it all! And we get to have her for an entire weekend!

We know you'll be as excited as we are with the classes we are intending to provide. They are:

A Crash Course in Vocal Production, Suggesting seven characteristics of a good singer and identifying a few tools to help singers cultivate these good vocal habits

Ask the Doctor, Ask Diane questions that have been on your mind...

How to Give a PVI, Learning to analyze individual voices and suggest exercises to improve their sound. Volunteers from the audience will be utilized (hint...a PVI with Dr. Diane!)

The Singer's Tool Kit: What to Practice at Home between Rehearsals, Tips for individual daily practice at home...Learning ten tools for daily practice that will help the singer sing better and learn music more easily

Who, me? Creative? Enhancing personal creativity...Understanding the eight aspects of creativity and encouraging individuals to acknowledge and explore their creative potential

Throw Away the Pitch Pipe! Improving Aural Skills, Improving Aural Skills...Becoming less dependent on the pitch pipe and more secure in the singer's own ability to audiate

Good Things Come in Small Packages, Using barbershop tags to teach the skills of 4-part harmony...Helping singers understand the relationship of the four parts and how to sing each part well

Sounds of Pittsburgh Coaching Open to General Membership

Check out the regional website often as updates will be constant. We look forward to seeing you there!

Please contact Bonnie McKibben (bonzmck@aol.com) if you have specific

[www.Region17Online.org]