

MINUTES FROM PRESIDENT/TEAM LEADERS' MEETING
9 AM – SEPTEMBER 26, 2009
PERRYSBURG, OHIO

The following choruses were represented: Towns of Harmony, Pride of Toledo, Flagship City, Greater Cleveland, Lake Ridge, Sounds of Pittsburgh, City of Flags, Allegheny Sounds, Maple Mountain, Renaissance Rhythm, Voices In Harmony, Little River, River Raisin, Heart of Ohio, and Greater Harmony.

1. Donna Knapp, Chapter Liaison and Region 17 Team Coordinator, opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. She gave the following reminders and news from the RMT:
 - Start now promoting IES July 8 – 10, 2010. It is in Pittsburgh, and this East Coast IES has the most faculty assigned. Watch the Pitch Pipe and International website for more information. This is an invaluable educational experience for ALL members.
 - There is a grant writing tool online in the marketing center on International's website.
 - Please remind your members to complete the evaluation of harmony weekend. If they did not turn one in, the survey can be found online at www.region17online.org . Please urge them to complete the survey in order to better help the RMT and the education coordinator plan future weekends.
 - Remind your members that there is a question of the month also on the regional website. We want to hear from everyone!
 - When you get e-mails from the Region, are you forwarding them to all of your members? Please forward them!
 - There is an all-member e-mail group through the regional website. Brenda will be sending more info about this.
 - Are you sharing your ideas electronically? Please share what is working well in your chorus. We want to help each other and build a better, stronger region
 - There is a Director's retreat set for March 6 and 7. Jennifer Fogle will be discussing this with the directors at the directors' forum.
 - We trust EVERY chorus is participating in the Real Women, Real Harmony, Real Fun Regional pilot program. We are thrilled to have been chosen as one of the pilot regions, and we will be mentioned at International in Nashville. If you have any questions, Deb Ferenc is the Marketing Coordinator for the Region.

2. Standing Rules: Donna reminded everyone that it is time to submit your chorus standing rules to her for review.
3. Love Gifts for International competitors – Donna mentioned that the RMT was discussing changing the procedure for giving of the love gifts. It was suggested that the Chapter Liaison collect the love gifts at the President/Team Leaders' meeting and then make one presentation at the Saturday evening show. This was discussed and **it was decided by unanimous vote of those present to keep the procedure that we have been following. Every chorus representative will continue to walk forward on Saturday night and give their chorus' gifts. It is up to the individual whether or not she wants to say anything publicly.**
4. Guests:

Lucy Reguerya, Mary Schwartz, and Sue Heck spoke on behalf of the Convention Committee.

- AEB will be increased by \$5 to \$40/person. It has been 10 years since this price was raised. All single event tickets except the youth ticket will also increase by \$5.
- The new site is the Renaissance Hotel adjacent to Tower City in Cleveland. They are very excited about this venue.
- The stage is carpeted; all choruses will enter AND exit stage left
- This year BIG choruses will go first, and risers will be reconfigured for the small choruses.
- There is flat floor seating, but we will have big screens to show the contest.
- There are enough rooms for all choruses to have breakfast and/or brunch on site.
- Competition info and packets will be on the website
- More info in January

Susan LeMonte and Sue Heck – Events

- Please remind your members they **MUST** bring/wear their lanyards.
- Choruses are needed to hostess future harmony weekends. A book was passed around for people to sign up. Let Susan LeMonte know if your chorus can help
- You only need about 20 people to hostess the weekend; most work is done beforehand by Susan and Sue.
- Two small choruses could hostess together
- The hostess chorus gets a free boutique table

Pam Dickinson – Membership Coordinator

- Distributed spirit ribbons for those going to International

Brenda Bernhardson – Communications Coordinator

- Made many announcements, but she will be sending an e-mail to all chapter leaders listing her remarks.
 - She does need help with the web. If you have anyone in your chorus who likes to work on websites, have her contact Brenda. We are also looking for someone who likes to take pictures. Let Brenda know.
 - There will be a Bulletin Board in The Beacon, our regional newsletter. Your chorus can place free ads (i.e., costumes for sale).
 - Brenda wants articles from everyone at any time. She will be advising when the next issue of The Beacon will be published.
 - Regional nominations – she will be requesting applications for the RMT
 - Watch for her e-mail for all details
5. Be sure to let Pam Dickinson know if you have anyone to be honored in the Angel Chorus in January.
 6. Donna advised that the RMT had a discussion on going to one harmony weekend per year. She asked each chorus representative to think about this, talk to their chorus, and we will discuss in January. We need to promote harmony weekends in our choruses and keep attendance up. Bonnie brings in only the finest faculty.
 7. It was agreed that one hour is just not enough time for this meeting. Donna will ask Bonnie to schedule at least 1 ½ - 2 hours in the future.
 8. Mini-minutes from the RMT meeting will be available on the Regional website.
 9. There was not enough time to share chorus news. Next time! As stated before, if you have something wonderful/exciting to share, you don't have to wait for harmony weekend. Share it will all through the chapter leaders e-mail group.
 10. REMINDER: The Region is offering matching funds of \$350 for membership/marketing advertising, etc. The deadline is Dec. 31. Receipts for reimbursement should be sent to Pam Dickinson

If you ever have any questions, problems, suggestions, etc., I'm only an e-mail or phone call away. I would love to hear from you. See you January 22-24 in Sandusky when Darlene Rodgers will be the guest faculty. You won't want to miss it!!

*Donna Knapp, Chapter Liaison
Region 17 Team Coordinator*