

# Taglines

*Greater New York Region 15 is dedicated to advancing four-part a cappella music through the original American art form of barbershop harmony by providing opportunities for education, performance and personal growth.*

## Imagine The Possibilities!

If you have never attended a Region 15 educational weekend, you must put next year's date on your calendar! I have attended many of these meetings over the past 18 years, and I'm so glad I went to this one.

Chris Noteware, who directed the Thumb Area Chorus in Michigan for 32 years, had us laughing and crying the entire weekend. It started Friday night with "Craziness with Chris," where we learned to "get over ourselves." The emotional roller coaster segued into "The Moose is Off the Wall" on Saturday morning. That's when we found that when your life turns upside down, you go to the place where people love you—and in our cases, that would be our chorus.

Chris is a comedienne, a teacher, a psychologist, a listener, a real character! She insisted during her class, "Let's Sing a Song," to always come prepared to chorus with your music, to be a responsible musician. We laughed when she observed that we spend hours talking about nail polish color but not learning our music or the plan our director wants us to follow.

Just when I thought I could stop looking for tissues in my purse, Chris had us crying again during "Why Did I Choose You?" She interviewed the directors present at this class to identify a pivotal moment in their Sweet Adelines lives. The tears kept flowing because everyone's story was so moving. Chris had us fall in love all over again with Sweet Adelines, our choruses, our directors and our sisters in harmony.

I come to TRAX weekends to learn something new, and I was not disappointed. If you loved this weekend as much as I did, encourage a fellow chorus member or chapter-at-large member to consider the next Region 15 event. We all can benefit. I enjoy meeting my sisters in harmony who I don't sing with on a weekly basis. We have so much in common!

Chorus A and B had a wonderful time working with Katie Pinto from Liberty Oak and Lisbet Kline from Song of the Valley. We learned a new song and got to experience singing with a new director. The culminating chorus activity had us dress up as angels on Sunday morning. For those of you who are new, let me explain: Once you register for TRAX, you are assigned a chorus for the weekend. You have several chances to rehearse and then put on a performance

Sunday morning. The wedding party who stayed overnight that weekend must have thought they were seeing things after all the celebrating they did Saturday night: Angels had taken over the Sheraton!

Long Island Sound did a wonderful job managing the boutique. The faculty for the weekend provided great classes and PVIs, and the dinner show was so entertaining. If you needed to be rejuvenated this weekend, Chris got the job done at TRAX.

—Dolly Power

## Newbie No More

What a wonderful experience! It was my privilege to be director for Chorus A (aka Devil's Advocates!) at the 2006 TRAX weekend. The membership was prepared and ready to sing—able to really work on our craft—as well as perform.

As a novice director, it is still amazing to me how much I can learn from our singers. I loved getting to work with so many of you in our region. The weekend was filled with inspirational and educational information from Chris Noteware, one of the finest Sweet Adelines I have ever had the pleasure to meet. It is hard to put into words what the weekend meant to me, except to say that every time we share music with our friends, every time we learn something, every time we share a smile and get to know someone new, I believe we become better people and bring this region closer together. I know I will not forget TRAX 2006 for years to come!

—Katie Pinto

## Doing Region 15 Proud!

We are so proud of Escape and Hickory Tree Chorus, who represented Greater New York Region 15 in Las Vegas. Escape placed 43rd and Hickory Tree placed 25th in the world. WAY TO GO! Congratulations to all the competitors, but especially to our very own sisters in harmony. Thank you for making Region 15 proud!

**Regional Management Team (RMT)**

Team Coordinator\_\_\_\_\_→Peggy DiSunno  
 Finance Coordinator\_\_\_\_\_→Jeannie Allen  
 Education Coordinator\_\_\_\_\_→Harriette Walters  
 Director Coordinator\_\_\_\_\_→Sharon Vitkovsky  
 Events Coordinator\_\_\_\_\_→Carol Schultheis  
 Communications/Technology Coordinator\_\_\_\_\_→  
 Beth Fulton  
 Marketing Coordinator\_\_\_\_\_→Christine Klepeis  
 Chapter/Membership Coordinator\_\_\_\_\_→Lisbet Kline  
 Administrative Assistant\_\_\_\_\_→Pat Friedhoff

**International Appointments**

Communications/Technology Coordinator\_\_\_\_\_→  
 Beth Fulton  
 Competition Coordinator\_\_\_\_\_→Joyce Brandt  
 Education Coordinator\_\_\_\_\_→Harriette Walters  
 Marketing Coordinator\_\_\_\_\_→Christine Klepeis

**Staff Coordinators**

Education Coordinator\_\_\_\_\_→Barbara Blaisdell  
 (Blaise), Teresa Heuser & Kathy Sullivan  
 Director Certification Program\_\_\_\_\_→Mary DiLeo  
 Quartets\_\_\_\_\_→Katie Pinto  
 Young Women In Harmony\_\_\_\_\_→Carolyn Schmidt  
 Arrangers\_\_\_\_\_→Sonny Steffan  
 Coaching\_\_\_\_\_→Sharon Vitkovsky

**Off-Team Chairs**

Events Coordinator Assistant\_\_\_\_\_→Cathy Bucholtz  
 Registration\_\_\_\_\_→Helen Caponigro & Catherine Lynd  
 Taglines\_\_\_\_\_→Heather Collins  
 Bylaws & Rules\_\_\_\_\_→Johanna Herudek

**Regional Convention Committee**

Chair\_\_\_\_\_→Joan Shuster  
 Official Panel Liaison (OPL)\_\_\_\_\_→Sandy Adams  
 Events Coordinator\_\_\_\_\_→Carol Schultheis  
 Assistant, Events\_\_\_\_\_→Cathy Bucholtz  
 Competition Coordinator\_\_\_\_\_→Joyce Brandt

Competition Coordinator Assistant\_\_\_\_\_→Jeannie Allen  
 Technical Assistant\_\_\_\_\_→Lauren Heller  
 Tickets/Registration/Ushers/Photos\_\_\_\_\_→Jan MacCaskill  
 Housing\_\_\_\_\_→Johanna Herudek  
 Assistant, Housing\_\_\_\_\_→Kathleen Wright  
 Awards\_\_\_\_\_→Anita Barry  
 Front of House\_\_\_\_\_→Susan Johns-Greenfield  
 Convention Program\_\_\_\_\_→Lauren Heller

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**Deadlines/Submissions**

Want to submit an article? Seeking quartet  
 personnel? Need to let us know about an upcoming  
 performance? Here's your contact:

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**FUTURE DEADLINES**

Winter 2006-2007: Jan. 15, 2007  
 Spring 2007: May 1, 2007

**EDITOR'S NOTE**

**Due to space constraints, logos for all choruses  
 were eliminated in this edition of Taglines. They will  
 be used again in future issues. If your chorus would  
 like to send an updated logo, please e-mail it to  
 heather@voiceonly.com.**

# REGIONAL NEWS

## This Schoolhouse Rocks

What an experience I had attending the International Education Symposium (IES) this July in San Antonio, Texas. I attended classes on Thursday, Friday and Saturday in the director track and went to a contest Friday night to root for 18 quartets comprised of Young Women in Harmony. Wow, what a contest! The girls ranged in age from 11 to 21 years old, and they were all so very talented. Their interest in barbershop is crucial for this hobby to survive, so it was with delight that we were there to support them. The winner was a quartet from Ohio called Footnotes.

On Saturday afternoon we had the joy of watching the Harmony Classic Contest, where the top five Division A and top five Division AA choruses compete. It was just like international contest, only with smaller numbers on stage. The caliber of singing, the extravagant costumes and intricate choreography created such an exciting contest. The winner of the Division AA (midsize) contest was Harbor City Music Company Chorus under the direction of Michael Gellert. Their performance was over the top with huge white boas, chorus members dancing all over the stage and their director surrounded by white feathers while they sang. Many times the chorus was singing while the director danced around the stage. The winner of the Division A (small) chorus had only 29 on stage, and their sound was neat and clean and continuous ... just amazing. They were Metro Nashville Chorus, directed by Kim Wonders. They wore pajamas, had an adorable script and did an entire number with no director.

The International faculty, along with guest faculty Dr. James Jordan, Lila Mori, and Jim and Marcia Massey provided classes for every type of barbershop singer. International Quartet Champion Spotlight sang in many of the classes I attended. How gracious of them to let themselves become a learning tool.

On Thursday night a group of us toured downtown San Antonio, visiting the Alamo and going on the River Walk. We saw flamenco dancers and really got a flavor for the Southwest. On Saturday evening, we finished up with a Spanish fiesta on campus!

Please think about attending next year. You can take advantage of the many classes offered to improve your singing, learn more about our organization, cheer on contestants, meet our International faculty—and enjoy a Saturday night party with faculty and friends.

—Peggy DiSunno

## Remembering Dody

At regional competition this past year, we collected more than \$1,000 to be donated to the Young Singers Foundation in memory of Dody O'Brien. The following is the thank-you we received from the head of the Young Singers Foundation:

*Dear Greater New York Region 15:*

*Thank you for your contribution to the Young Singers Foundation! Our efforts to provide vocal music education and performance opportunities for young people succeed because of people like you. Music provides an opportunity for expression: it brings joy; offers hope and provides good times. Your donation helps bring these opportunities to young people. We appreciate you very much. Sincerely;*

*Julia Kendrick,  
Chair, YSF Management Committee*

## Team Changes

As most of you know, Sweet Adelines International decided, on the recommendation of all the regions, to make a few changes in the composition of the Regional Management Team structure. Beginning with the May 2007 term, the Chapter Coordinator will be replaced with the Membership Coordinator title, and the current Membership/Marketing Coordinator position will become Marketing Coordinator.

In our forward-thinking region this has been the case since last year. I have been taking care of membership issues, which I absolutely love, since my term started in May 2006.

Everything we do at regular rehearsals has an impact on whether or not visitors decide to stay and become members. Is the director well-prepared? Are the members friendly and welcoming? Is the atmosphere positive and uplifting? Is there a musical plan for the upcoming year? Does everyone know the plan? Is there an emphasis on improving singing skills for each individual member? Does the director participate in educational events to get better?

I could go on and on, and will in the near future contact you all regarding more specific ideas and plans I would love to share with you, so we all can become a success.

—Lisbet Kline



## Copyright and You

Copyright is a body of laws created by Congress and defined by the Constitution "to promote the progress of science and the useful arts, by securing for authors the exclusive right to their respective writings." The first federal copyright statute in 1790 gave protection to authors of books, maps and charts. In the 19th and 20th centuries, other statutes were enacted to expand the scope of protection to creative works including photographs, fine art, dramatic works and music.

Copyright owners have five basic rights:

1) The right to reproduce the copyrighted work in copies or phonorecords (that would be copying PRINTED MUSIC and making LEARNING TAPES).

2) The right to perform copyrighted work publicly. Strictly speaking, buying the music doesn't give us performance rights. That's why we need mechanical licenses for our shows and recordings.

3) The right to prepare derivative works based on copyrighted music. That means ARRANGEMENTS. This is why all arrangements must be "cleared" by either the arranger or International.

4) The right of public distribution of a copyrighted work.

5) The right to display a copyrighted work publicly. This is more appropriate for visual artists.

### How Long Does It Last?

If published before 1923, the music is considered public domain and not bound by the above rights. If music was published between 1923 and 1963, the copyright term is 28 years, renewable for an additional 67 years (or 95 years total, so assume renewal); between 1964 and 1977, the term is 28 years PLUS AUTOMATIC RENEWAL for 67 years (or 95 years total); after 1977, the term is the composer's life PLUS 70 years.

### What Does All This Mean?

In a word, it means that unless you have permission, DON'T COPY. If you are not sure, DON'T COPY.

International Headquarters has done a wonderful job of getting our organization to be legal in the last decade or so. The fee you pay to International for "X" number of copies of a song goes not to Sweet Adelines but to the copyright holder.

If your chorus purchased a song directly from an arranger, that arranger should have charged you a per-copy fee in addition to her arranging fee (it might have been hidden in the fee). THAT IS THE AMOUNT THE OWNER HAS DETERMINED IS FAIR COMPENSATION TO PERMIT THE SONG'S USE BY SWEET ADELINES. Therefore, when you are down to two copies and you have five new chorus members, you MUST contact Sweet Adelines or the arranger and

BUY additional copies you need. This is the reason you are asked NOT TO COPY REGIONAL OR TRAX MUSIC TO SHARE WITH OTHER MEMBERS. The region purchases a certain number (paid through event registration), and we are liable for duplication. We cannot claim "we didn't know," even if we didn't!

Please be aware that Learning Tapes are also the exclusive right of the copyright holder. If you are purchasing them, be sure the supplier has the permission of the copyright owner. Although there are certain "fair use" exemptions to copyright, they are very stringent indeed and "non-profit" status is not an excuse for violating them.

All the information above was obtained from "Copyright: The Complete Guide for Music Educators" (2nd Edition) by Jay Althouse. It may be purchased at [www.alfred.com](http://www.alfred.com). Other suggested research sites are the United States Copyright Office found at [www.lcweb.loc.gov/copyright](http://www.lcweb.loc.gov/copyright); the Stanford University Library at <http://fairuse.stanford.edu/>; the Music Publishers Association at [www.mpa.org](http://www.mpa.org); and the Music Library Association, found on the Internet at [www.musiclibraryassoc.org/Copyright/copyhome.htm](http://www.musiclibraryassoc.org/Copyright/copyhome.htm)

—Sharon Vitkovsky

## Events Calendar

### 2006

**Nov. 18:** RMT Meeting

**Nov. 26:** Metro Rhythm Show

**Dec. 2:** Hickory Tree Show

**Dec. 3:** Greater Nassau Show

### 2007

**Jan. 6-7:** RMT Retreat

**April 12-15:** Regional Convention,  
Philadelphia

**May 19:** Song of the Valley Show

**Oct. 9-13:** International Convention,  
Calgary, Alberta, Canada

**Oct. 28:** Song of the Valley Show

### 2008

**April 3-6:** Regional Convention

**Nov. 4-8:** International Convention,  
Honolulu

# Round The Region



## Brooklyn

Brooklyn Chorus is happy to welcome two new members: Baritone, Chloe Jones and Lead, Mary Dunbar. We have two more prospective singers and hope that they will be ready to join us before the holidays.

Five current Brooklyn Chorus members joined former members in August at our annual "old-timers" reunion at the home of Ruth Ericksen in Pennsylvania. We were all disappointed that Charter Member Louise Gaeckle was not feeling well enough to be with us this year.

Brooklyn Chorus has been busy getting ready for their dinner show, "Fall Frolic," on Saturday, Nov. 11. In addition to the chorus, the performance will feature the SPEBSQSA quartet Just Four Men and keyboard artist Ray Reggio.

The next day, Nov. 12, Brooklyn Chorus will perform for the annual luncheon of the Cort Club in Gerritsen Beach.

—Carolyn De Paolo

## Evergreen

Zoom, zoom, zoom. There goes another summer!

On a beautiful afternoon, July 8, Evergreen Chorus participated in the Balloon Fest held on the waterfront at Waryas Park in Poughkeepsie, N.Y. This has become an annual event for us and is always so well-received.

Then, on July 22, we made our second bus trip to the Big Apple to sing the national anthem at Madison Square Garden for the New York Liberty women's basketball game. It was just as exciting this time as the first time last year! On Aug. 13, we traveled to Beacon, N.Y., to sing the national anthem at the Renegades baseball game.

Several members attended the TRAX weekend from Sept. 15 to 17 in New Jersey and enjoyed the classes. Our director, Carole A., conducted her first workshop as Quartet Coordinator for the region and from all comments, it was very successful. Then, Xclamation! sang on the Saturday night show and were great! Kudos to Carol S. for the great job she did at TRAX! As if the TRAX weekend wasn't full enough, some gals hurried back to the Hudson Valley Sunday so they could sing in Plattekill, N.Y., for the Plattekill Days Festival. Talk about dedication!

Evergreen members Linnea A. and Sue K. joined Hickory Tree Chorus on International stage in Las Vegas in October! Many of us were in the audience cheering them and the rest of Hickory Tree on! We also rooted for Region 15 Quartet Champion Escape!

On Oct. 14, we performed at the New York State Teachers Conference held at Mt. St. Mary's. At the end of October, we had our two annual shows. The theme this year was "I Believe In Music." Our special guest was the Hudson Valley Youth Chorale. These young people have traveled all over our area and even to Europe and are amazing.

Karen Sweeters is coming to coach us in September and December and for our retreat weekend in January. This gives us a good start on next spring's contest package!

On Tuesday, Nov. 14, we will start our third year of Holiday Harmony classes, which will culminate with a Holiday Harmony concert in December. Also in November, Diane Huber will jet to us from Missouri for a coaching weekend, returning for more coaching in February and March 2007. Everybody eat your Wheaties!

Last but not least, we would like to give a big, warm Evergreen welcome to our newest members. Joining the lead section is Linda Herring; the baritone section adds Laurie Woolever; and transferring from the disbanded Hudson Harmony Chorus is Jeannette Morse, tenor. We are so glad to have you join the Evergreen singing family!

Everyone take time to enjoy the rest of autumn and all its beautiful foliage in our area!

—Bassically yours,  
Ruth Martin

## Golden Apple

Our installation dinner was held in May, to inaugurate our hard-working new team. The "Oops" award goes to the restaurant baker, for the cake that read "Golden Apple Course!"

At Sleepy Hollow's Arts in the Park Celebration on May 14, we sang to those who strolled among the booths of artists, dancers, musicians and craft vendors. Thankfully, the belly dancers kept their snakes in their cages until we were finished!

The audience at Shenorock Day in July was unbelievably gracious, greeting us warmly and even feeding us! A special guest joined us to sing a song or two—Jen is a bass with Greater Nassau, and was in Shenorock visiting her mom. Great to meet you, Jen!

We performed "The Star-Spangled Banner" for the WNBA's New York Liberty team at Madison Square Garden on Aug. 5. It was just as exciting to sing in that great venue as it was last year!

For the third year, we sang at Support Connection's Support-a-Walk on Oct. 1. Our spirits weren't dampened by the pouring rain as

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the walkers braved the weather to raise funds for this important organization.

Since our rehearsal space isn't air-conditioned, bass Carol Barbera graciously invited us to rehearse in her basement on one 100-degree Tuesday. Thanks Carol, the acoustics were great!

We are delighted to welcome two new members: Lead Margaret Chaffa and Tenor Gillian L'Eplattenier. Both are working hard to learn lots of new music and all that choreography! Our annual show, "That's Entertainment," was Sunday, Nov 5.

These past months have been tinged with sadness, as we lost our dear friend Rosalie De-Monte on May 17 after a two-year battle with inflammatory breast cancer. Rosalie was a dedicated chorus member: She held every position on the management team, was show chairman, stage director, choreographer, you name it! She was a caring and loving friend, a devoted wife, mother and grandmother. The Sweet Adelines chorus in the sky has gained a wonderful new bass in the front row. Sing on, RoRo, we miss you!

—*B. A. deFerrari*

## Greater Nassau

Greetings to all from the Greater Nassau Chorus. We've been very busy these past months, learning new music and honing our vocal skills with the help of Betty Clipman and Michael Hayden. Calgary will be here before we know it!

We are very happy to announce that our newly redesigned website is now up and running. If you have a chance, visit us at [www.greaternassauchorus.org](http://www.greaternassauchorus.org).

The recent TRAX Regional Weekend was a huge success. Thank you to the Regional Management Team for a fun-filled and educational weekend.

We had several performances during the summer, including the Freeport Library and an emotional ceremony for the West

Hempstead Lions Club commemorating the fifth anniversary of 9/11.

In the coming months, we will participate in an a cappella concert at Five Towns College in Dix Hills, at the Long Beach Chamber of Commerce Fall Festival and at the Evening of Giving at Roosevelt Field Mall. Whew, it sure is a busy time!

Plans are also under way for our annual show to be held at 3:00 p.m. on Dec. 3, 2006, at the West Hempstead High School. Hope you can join us!

Many of us attended the International Convention in Las Vegas, lending support to our regional representatives, Hickory Tree Chorus and Escape. Congratulations to everyone for a job well-done!

Finally, we would like to welcome our newest members, Denise Roche and Andrea Macey!

—*Georgia Goldstein*

## Heart of Long Island

Heart of Long Island enjoyed a very busy summer, and we're not slowing down!

We welcome new members, Kathy Auleta, lead, and mother-and-daughter basses, Emily and Darlene McDonald. A few other singers are looking forward to their auditions, and so are we! We also welcome back Anne King (bass), who was out sick for quite a while.

Over the summer, we had two great shows in Sayville and Holbrook. These performances were a good experience for the new members, as they prepare for their first contest next spring. Lisbet Kline has been in for coaching and is scheduled for another coaching date in November. We look forward to other coaches in the near future.

Heart of Long Island had a strong attendance at the TRAX weekend this past September, with many new members joining us for the first time. Everyone enjoyed themselves tremendously, and we are looking forward to next year. We hope by the time this is printed,

Harriette's husband will be up and around again and feeling better.

We are very proud of how all our members, especially our "newbies," have put in so much effort and enthusiasm—learning their music rather quickly and taking on various roles to help our chorus run smoothly. Sections are meeting outside of regular rehearsal nights so we can truly sing with "one voice." Our interchapter newsletter has been very successful, aiding in our "sisterhood" and communication. Our director, Irene, has been going "back to basics" with lessons in reading music and always has her door open for extra practice!

Heart of Long Island congratulates Hickory Tree and Escape on representing the region at International Convention. We look forward to our upcoming holiday performances and wish everyone a safe and happy winter.

—*Gina Cicero*

## Hickory Tree

What an amazing year we've had at Hickory Tree! As I write this, we are only a couple of weeks from competing in Las Vegas, and we're very excited. But let's back up and start from where we left off last spring.

In May, we had a terrific dinner show and silent auction, featuring Escape, who auctioned off a private dinner and performance to several lucky couples. The only glitch was we made so many desserts, we had to beg our guests to take home leftovers. (Don't worry, we'll do it again.)

June started off with a bang as we spent the first Saturday performing and walking at the "Relay for Life" in New Providence, N.J., in support of our members and loved ones who have battled cancer. Last year we walked all night, but this time we could stay only until midnight, because on Sunday we had the chance to be coached by the inimitable Carole Kirkpatrick. She is a dynamo, and we instantly forgot we were tired!

Summertime brought performances at the New Providence Arts Festival and the Summit "Hot Summer Nights" concert series. We also repeated our most fun fundraiser, selling refreshments at the ballpark for the Somerset Patriots. We celebrated "Christmas In July" to kick off rehearsal season for our December show (more about that in a bit), and best of all, we were fortunate to be coached by Harriette Walters, who not only helped our singing but helped us think about singing in a different way.

That brings us up to September. We were absolutely thrilled to perform at TRAX for all our friends in the region, and were so very proud and moved by the response of that wonderful audience. Thank you all so much! We finished up September with a last little polishing for International contest in Las Vegas by Mighty Mouse himself, Jim Arns.

We can't leave the topic of the International contest without thanking our two dual members, Sue Koppenhaver and Linnea Acton, also of Evergreen Chorus and Xclamation! These women are not only impressive singers and performers; they are devoted and hardworking members who faithfully make the long trek down to our rehearsals to make sure they are part of the musical and performing unit. They're an enormous asset to Hickory Tree, and we're very grateful they chose to join us for this journey.

Whether or not we saw you in Vegas, we hope to see you at our show, "Home for the Holidays", at Chatham High School in New Jersey on Saturday, Dec. 2, at 7:30 p.m. We'll sing both holiday music and regular repertoire, and will be joined by Escape and our special guest, Cadence. Visit us at <http://hickorytreechorus.org> to learn more.

Contrary to the saying, what happens in Vegas will be reported in this space next time!

—Susan Williams

## Hudson Harmony

This summer, after decades of being a front-line director, Brenda Crawford decided it was time to retire from her position as Director of Hudson Harmony.

The chorus accepted her decision with respect, sadness and a great amount of love and although the decision was made to discontinue as a chapter, the organization has not lost a single member.

On the contrary, at Brenda's insistence, members started visiting the surrounding chapters, and as of Oct. 1 most had already joined other choruses. The Region 15 Regional Management Team has even had the pleasure of learning that former inactive members have joined their friends when they transferred to area chapters, and thus a sad story has a happier ending than expected.

During July and August the chapter fulfilled their obligations by performing as promised at several functions in the Hudson Valley area, and on Sept. 30, the members met for one last time over dinner to remember the times together and to thank Brenda for her years of dedicated service.

Region 15 joins those members in thanking Brenda for her dedication, for inspiring women to join our organization and for making sure all members are able to go on without any regrets.

—Lisbet Kline

## Island Hills

We would like to dedicate this column to a very special lady who will be retiring from our chorus after many years of dedicated years.

Hope Koski, or more correctly Mother Hope Koski, is the pastor of St. Lawrence of Canterbury Church in Dix Hills, Island Hills' base of operations. Hope has dedicated herself to her congregation and leaves to begin a new and exciting life in Florida.

Hope has always been active in our chorus. She served as a member of the music team and as

bass section leader; she voice places all guests and was a former member of our board of directors. Our bass section will miss you the most, Hope. We all wish you health and happiness ... until we meet again.

During the late spring and summer, Island Hills went through some important changes. Effective May 1, the chorus changed to the team management structure and elected a new governing team. Each chorus member stepped up and volunteered to take on a chorus job. With new leaders and the new structure in place, the chorus is poised and excited to go forward with more organization and involvement from our members.

Speaking of involvement, special kudos go out to Barbara McKeon and her husband John for hosting our very successful three-day garage sale in September. Not only do the McKeons open their home to us each year, John picks up the donations from the church and stores everything until the sale begins. During the sale they find time to feed the chorus workers for three days. Thank you Barbara and John for your unselfish dedication, we appreciate you.

The chorus has been busy with singouts and special events this summer. We sang at an afternoon "tea" at our rehearsal church and surprised the guests with an antique hat fashion show compliments of Marianne Fulfaro, who collects the hats as a hobby. The hat with the seven veils was the show stopper!

In August, we celebrated 25 years of entertaining at the Huntington Arts Council's Summer Arts Festival. This year instead of a concert performance, the chorus presented an abridged version of our annual show, "A Class Reunion." The audience was very receptive, and the chorus enjoyed the singing and campy flavor of the evening. Even Elvis strutted his new "do" for the occasion.

Our performance at Sayville Common Ground, in conjunction  
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with their summer concert series, was originally scheduled for mid-summer. However with weather reports forecasting temps around 100 degrees, the event was re-scheduled to a cooler September evening—to the delight of all.

Special congratulations goes out to Leona Schwartz for completing the Director Certification Program. We are very proud of her accomplishment.

It's always a special day when we add a new member to our chorus. We extend a warm welcome to our newest member, Sally Ann Hausner. Sally is a welcome addition to our lead section.

We were honored to be part of the evening dinner performance at TRAX this year and proud to dedicate our song "You Raise Me Up" to all Region 15 members. And what a Region we are... Thanks to everyone who made this weekend the success it was.

With contest looming in the not-too-distant future, we are busy with our music and costumes and are looking forward to our January retreat.

Chapter quartets are on the move. Our newest quartet, In Accord, was formed earlier this year and sang for the first time in September at a chorus singout. Spell Bound entertained at a function at Good Samaritan Hospital and also treated attendees at a Breast Cancer Dinner in October to their harmonies. The ever funny Close Enough performed their parodies at the RV camp grounds at Cathedral Pines on Long Island, and they entertained at the AARP's fall meeting in the Northport Library.

Winter is nipping at our heels, and we are sad to say goodbye to a great summer and fall. However, we all look forward to another year of new challenges and the excitement of barbershop harmony.

—Chris Klepeis

## Liberty Oak

Autumn has begun, and Liberty Oak is moving right along.

First, we'd like to acknowledge Region 15 for the tremendous show of support to its family of choruses and quartets at TRAX. We especially appreciated the enthusiastic response to our performance during the show. WOW! We were quite dazed and deeply moved by it all. But even more so, we had such fun singing for you. Your spirited ovation was truly icing. Thanks to Harriette and her team for another successful regional weekend.

As typical of fall, it's been "back to school" for Liberty Oak. We've hosted three guest nights, from which we've welcomed more new members. We've continued with our quartet program, which has been an outstanding educational and confidence-building experience for our members. Its benefits are invaluable. We've also been working diligently on new choreo for repertoire, as well as contest songs. The ability to "walk and chew gum" sure comes in handy about now!

The fall season also begins coaching season. We're looking forward to several upcoming sessions with some esteemed SAI coaches. It's amazing how much there is to continually learn. But bring it on, it just makes singing that much more fun!

Liberty Oak is preparing for several upcoming performances. We're especially looking forward to performing some new holiday songs at our December appearances. (Check our website at [www.libertyoakchorus.com](http://www.libertyoakchorus.com) for details.) Unbelievably, it'll be here before we know it. But with life rushing by, at least we can enjoy the harmony.

—Anne Gerard

## Long Island Sound

Greetings. What a fabulous TRAX weekend! The chorus is still on a wonderful high after the honor of hosting the weekend and singing for our wonderful region on the Saturday night show. Thank all of you for your generosity in our boutique and being so supportive to us in so many ways.

The faculty this year was one of the best! Chris Noteware was inspirational, informative and motivating. We all felt good after listening to her, how could you not be touched?

We were all saddened to see Harriette's weekend cut short, after all the work she obviously put into its success. Our thoughts and prayers are still with you, Harriette.

On another note, no pun intended, we held a membership night on Sept. 6, and were happy to attract some new singers. In fact, one new prospective member actually came to TRAX. She soon will audition and join us as a member. We have others who will soon audition, and we will welcome their beautiful voices into this wonderful organization as well.

As I write this, we are busy finetuning our songs for our annual show, held this year in Hampton Bays on Sunday, Oct. 29 at 3 p.m. Just4 will appear as our guest quartet. Think about taking a ride out to see our show! We sure would appreciate it.

On Sept. 27, we had Elaine Gain coach us at our regular rehearsal. She will come back a couple more times before April, working with us to perfect our contest songs. This "singing hobby" is so addictive—the more you learn, the more you want to learn. Our director Peg has instilled that drive into all of us: You can take the teacher out of the classroom, but you can't take the classroom out of the teacher. We love you Peg!

Yours In Harmony,  
Thea Di Sunno



## Metro Rhythm

It really is hard to believe that autumn leaves are falling as this is being written! Where did the summer go?

As the crisp, cool weather moves in, Metro Rhythm Chorus is busy with upcoming performances and regional activities. An enthusiastic group attended TRAX Sept. 16 to 17 and had nothing but raves for the weekend. There was so much to be learned, and everyone had fun. A big hit seemed to be the Sunday morning Angel Chorus performances.

On Oct. 8, we sang at the Cranford First Presbyterian Church, where we rehearse. Our songs were part of the service. Nov. 26, the Sunday after Thanksgiving, is the date for our holiday show. We are planning to have prospective members singing in part of it. Light refreshments will be available, and there will be a chance to buy for the holidays at intermission. Step right up! Get your tickets now! Hope to see many of you there!

We are proud to welcome a new baritone into our midst, Debbie Smith. Debbie adds strength and flair to the chorus. We're so glad that she's here.

Lisbet Klein paid a visit from the RMT on Sept. 6 and will coach us at our January retreat in Sloatsburg, N.Y. Metro Rhythm will also have a coaching session on Thursday, Dec. 7 (in lieu of a Wednesday rehearsal) with Karen Sweeters.

Daniel's agendas for our rehearsals are thought-provoking, thorough and musically uplifting. We feel like we're learning and making progress. It's fun to sing again with a purpose and a plan.

As I write this, a few of our members are looking forward to the Las Vegas trip. We're thinking about all competitors, especially our own Escape and Hickory Tree.

—Sue Schmehr

## Millstone Valley

What happened to summer? It was gone in a flash! There was, however, time for lots of good singing. Millstone Valley spent the summer polishing up a few songs from the current repertoire and added lots of new ones, all in time for our annual show, "Classic Barbershop IV."

Our director, Jack Pinto, does a fantastic job providing new repertoire that is fun, different and challenging. He's even got us singing in German! Our show was fast-paced and jam-packed with talent. We spotlighted our own four quartets: Quest, 24Karat, Sweet Revival and Mirror Image. We're so proud of them! Our special guests, OC Times (the Barbershop Harmony Society's 2006 third-place international medallists), brought down the house with their great singing, their antics and great looks! Of course, our buddies, The Brothers In Harmony, gave a spectacular performance, as well, and we joined them for a finale that was very well-received, bringing smiles and tears and everyone to their feet.

With the very first leaves just changing color, we're working toward our holiday performances. We're about to begin rehearsals with singing guests from the general public who are invited to perform with us on stage at our holiday show. The learning and perfecting will be intense, but we love seeing the new faces on the risers, and it's an opportunity for singers to explore barbershop. So, don't miss the show Dec. 17 at the College of New Jersey.

With the Thanksgiving holiday soon approaching, we need to reflect a bit. Good choruses are made up of good people. At Millstone Valley, we're blessed with lots of talented people, both musically and in all aspects of life. Robin Carberry and her team work tirelessly getting our choreo moves perfected and giving us that visual glow. Katie Pinto, Eileen Welsh and Deb Paulson are there to get us warmed

up and vocally sharp. Trish Wolfe, our new team leader, has a sharp business eye and makes sure we remain a well-rounded organization. We're thankful for them and the many other members that make contributions of time and effort. And we're thankful, too, to belong to Region 15 with all of you.

—Carole Auletta

## Song of the Valley

In the spring edition of Taglines, I wrote about reaching out and grasping the "bright star of musical promise" that all of us in Song of the Valley were beginning to believe was waiting for us. Little did we know how prophetic that thought would prove to be nor of the amazing summer that was in store for the chapter.

Under the continually inspiring leadership of our director, Lisbet Kline, the women of Song of the Valley have made the decision to strive for individual growth in the development of musical skills. As a result, the already remarkable spirit of the chorus has continued to soar. A growing belief in ourselves and each other as singers is reflected at every rehearsal and may best be measured by the willingness to learn six new songs over the summer to be performed as a part of our annual show on Nov. 5—an accomplishment of which we are all very proud.

In addition to learning new music, we worked through the summer doing the things that choruses do, such as managing a Diva program, performing at a variety of venues and hosting representatives of the RMT, who joined us the night of our "Christmas in August" party with Hudson Harmony.

Through it all, the special spirit of the chorus was always in evidence and on display. As a result, the "bright star of musical promise" that we were sure would be a part of our future recently presented itself in the form of three new Diva

(continued next page)

members and seven transfer members (with five more nearly ready to audition) all of whom have chosen us as their new chorus home.

And so, Song of the Valley has been propelled into a totally different realm of possibility. Truly, we can't wait to see what will happen next! All we know is that it will surely be a shared musical journey that will be full of growth, learning, friendship, excitement and surprises. What more could a chorus hope for?

—June Pierson

## Twin County

Greetings from Twin County.

First, I just want to say we LOVE our new digs! It's a huge room, with great acoustics, in the Farmingdale Jewish Center. The Rabbi and his staff couldn't be nicer. Our first rehearsal in that space was also our "Divas Wanted" kick off for this year. And what a turn out! On the first night, 13 Divas showed up, with three more showing up the second night. We were so excited, because the very enthusiastic Divas included a tenor and some baritones!

The May 7 performance at Snug Harbor was a success, and we'll be going back next year; the May 11 performance at Somerset Gardens was bittersweet, because that was our last night in our old rehearsal space. The residents, some of whom had from time to time sat in on our rehearsals, bid us a tearful goodbye, but we assured them we'd be back to perform for them in the future.

And speaking of successes, our Chinese Auction on June 16 was a real winner! We had to turn people away, the room got so crowded. The over 200 items up for bid included gift certificates from several area merchants, jewelry, baskets of cheer, electronics, and many other items, too many to list them all here. Even the Divas were on hand to help out. And the crowd loved our mini concert; in fact, one audi-

ence member told us she wanted to join.

Jeannie Froelich came in for a coaching session on June 22, and it was fantastic. She is so dynamic, we couldn't help but pick up on her energy. And speaking as a bass, it was cool having a coach who sings in my range. We were also coached by Karen Sweeters, director of HOTS (and another energetic bass), who came down for a session on Sept. 30 and got us sounding amazing! It is always a great learning experience having someone objective come and give us a fresh perspective.

On Sept. 7, instead of our regular rehearsal, we entertained each other in small groups for Krazy Kwortet Nyte. Some were serious, some were silly, but all were just marvelous. I'm hoping this turns into an annual thing for us. And even though there weren't many of us at TRAX this year, we (including two of our newest members) all had a great time. I especially enjoyed the Quartet Mixer on Friday night. It really brought out my inner Diva.

On Tuesday Oct. 3, we sang on the County Court House steps in Mineola as part of a ceremony commemorating Breast Cancer Awareness Month; our biannual fashion show is on Nov. 9 at The Coral House in Baldwin, N.Y. (Ticket info is on our website.) On Dec. 3, we have a small group entertaining the West Islip Historical Society; on Nov. 19, we will perform at the Farmingdale Jewish Center; of course, there's our annual Holiday Sing at Broadhollow Residence on Dec. 7, and we will entertain the Woodbury Gardens residents at their Holiday Party on Dec. 12. Keep watching our website for details on those events.

We'd like to welcome new members Dianne Iannaccone, Carmen Hyman, Susan Montano, and Terry Putterman.

Lastly, it is with profound sadness that Twin County notes the passing of Annabelle Moodnik, who succumbed to leukemia in May.

Annabelle had been with Twin County since 1987. She will be sorely missed.

—Naomi Rose

## ESCAPE'S POST-VEGAS UPDATE!

While Escape has yet to become Queens of Harmony, our friends in Region 15 continue to make us feel we've won crowns already! OK, so Janell already has her crown. ... Las Vegas was a blast. We now have a new appreciation for a city that never sleeps! Sweet Adelines, dolled up in costumes, make-up and sequins, blended right in with the Vegas crowds. It was hard to tell us apart from the Vegas high rollers!

It was so much fun to compete as a quartet AND a chorus. We came with the best cheerleaders around! Thanks Hickory Tree Chorus, you're the best!

If you've never been to an International Competition, you need to go. With more than 12,000 Sweet Adelines in attendance, it's the most appreciative audience ever! Escape would like to express our appreciation to our coaches, Jo, Jeannie and Nancy, and to all our friends and supporters in Hickory Tree Chorus and our Region 15 family.

If you want to hear Escape in the near future, come find us at Hickory Tree's annual show on Dec. 2 or find us caroling around downtown Westfield on Thursday nights in December.

—Michelle, Susan,  
Georgette & Janell

**ATTENTION QUARTETS!  
REGION 15 WOULD LOVE TO  
HEAR FROM YOU. SEND  
ITEMS AND UPDATES TO  
[HEATHER@VOICEONLY.COM](mailto:HEATHER@VOICEONLY.COM)**

## REGION 15 SHINING STARS

IN THIS NEW FEATURE, THE RMT ASKED EACH CHORUS TO HIGHLIGHT AN INDIVIDUAL MEMBER WHOSE ONGOING CONTRIBUTIONS HAVE MADE A TRUE DIFFERENCE TO THE GROUP. WE SALUTE THIS GALAXY OF SHINING STARS!

### **Liberty Oak, Sandy Robinson**

Liberty Oak would like to recognize our own Sandy Robinson, an invaluable member who, in her dedication to the chorus, wears several hats.

She is our Costume Committee Chairperson, a shining face in our front row and our diligent "Rehearsal Notes" person. Each week, Sandy records our rehearsals, then writes up all the essential information discussed and practiced during the course of the evening. On the rare occasion that Sandy has to miss rehearsal, she arranges to use someone else's recording of the evening so the notes are not missed. Finally, she sees to it that her notes are made available to every member of the chorus.

Our "Rehearsal Notes" are an exceptional reference for so much of our chorus information. Thank you Sandy for all you do for Liberty Oak!

### **Long Island Sound, Olive Hedreth**

A member for 39 years, Olive Hedreth has seen eight directors come and go, and has loved them all—and they loved her. She can deliver the message of a ballad with heartfelt emotion and embody an uptune with the energy and pizzazz of a Broadway star! She rarely misses a rehearsal and will stand on those riser for three or more hours without missing a beat!

Olive celebrated her 83<sup>rd</sup> birthday last February. Everyone is "Sweetie" to her, and she's everyone's "Mom", "Nanna" or "Auntie Mame." Olive is full of life and fun, and audiences love our Olive too: She is a natural performer and has been known to "flirt" with our audiences by giving them her beautiful smile and a wink or two from her twinkling eyes!

Olive is very active with chorus responsibilities, including "Sunshine," "Bus Lady" and "Installation Coordinator," and is a wonderful hostess who coordinates the kitchen detail for the various fund raisers and guest nights. After the long ride home, she hops out of the car with incredible energy and scurries into her home looking as lively and energetic as she did a long five hours earlier! And just in case you've wondered, yes, she can sing and move—and quite a fabulous bass shaker and mover is she!

### **Ramapo Valley, Renee Craig**

We are blessed to have as director the one and only Renee Craig. She has consistently given RV her fabulous arrangements—luscious ballads and lively up-tunes. Ask

anyone on our risers: Renee brings an inexhaustible energy to everything she does.

Renee's quartet, The Cracker Jills, Sweet Adelines 1957 International Champions, was the first quartet to win top honors without an outside coach. This championship quartet is still known for the significant role it played in development of the style and sound of barber-shop harmony as we know it today.

In the Sweet Adelines world, Renee has done almost everything musical. She has been active in the planning and implementation of almost every arranger training function the International Organization has held. She has served on the International Music Faculty and has been a Certified Judge in the Arrangement/Music Categories. She even served a short term on the International Board. And let's not forget, every year at the Sweet Adelines International Convention, Renee directs the Coronet Club Chorus.

In recognition of her achievements, Sweet Adelines International presented Renee with the Lifetime Membership Award at the 1998 International Convention in Nashville. As the first recipient of this award, Renee once again reached new heights and set a new standard.

As director of Ramapo Valley for more than 40 years, Renee has shared her musical genius with Region 15 and the barbershop world. As her arrangements continue to be sung by women's and men's organizations all over the globe, it is easy to see how Renee Craig has earned a reputation for being the legend she is.

We are the lucky ones. We love you Renee!

### **Twin County, Annabelle Moodnik**

The late Annabelle Moodnik joined Twin County as a bass in 1987, while also singing with a traditional SATB chorus based on the North Shore.

She is remembered by us as a lady, in the true sense of the word: well mannered, impeccably groomed, with a pleasant open personality. She also had a marvelous sense of humor.

Annabelle was well-cultured and loved to travel. She was a kind and giving human being, always available to her sisters in song. And her generosity of spirit was passed on to her daughter, who adopted a baby from Colombia. Annabelle succumbed to leukemia in May 2006. We all miss her very much.

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