

Taglines

Sweet Adelines International

Chapter News

Don't forget those sashes and fake eyelashes!

It's almost time to sing, perform, and compete
At the Philadelphia Sheraton Downtown at
201 North 17th Street!

Mark your calendars, bring yourself.
The fun begins March 22, 2012!

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Regional Newswire



Regional Merger, Transition Team 2012-2013

By Lisbet Duponte, Education Coordinator

As you know, Region 15 is undergoing a geographical membership adjustment and will soon grow by nine choruses. These chapters come to us from Central New York Region 16. I am honored to be appointed Chair of the Transition Team that will oversee the process. Working with me is Johanna Herudek, a Regional Convention Committee member from Liberty Oak Chorus, plus two members from the Region 16 Transition Team. Together we plan to do everything we can to make our new sisters from the north feel welcome among us and know you will assist in our transformation.

The Transition Plan

Our Goal:

To gently merge the nine incoming Region 16 choruses with those from Region 15 in order to bring the chapters together to form a new, dynamic, and cohesive region. Our new region will be filled with more great talent and be an even greater place to be!

Our Action Plan:

- Region 15 choruses will send welcome letters to all incoming choruses prior to April 1.
- Sister choruses were assigned to each of the incoming choruses in February.
- Invitations have been sent to incoming chapters for contest and regional events in Region 15.
- A competition to change the name from *Greater New York Region 15* will begin to better describe the combined new region.
- Social events will be planned for getting to know each other.
- If possible, we will try to move the first regional contest and the education events scheduled for 2014 to a place more central to our new region, such as Central NY. By doing this we hope to ensure that our new sisters feel more at home, while our current Region 15 members also get to experience something new.
- In the coming year I will visit with each of the nine incoming choruses accompanied by a member of the transition team or RMT.

Our Timeline:

- The Directors and Team Coordinators from each incoming chapter have already been invited to the Region 15 contest in March 23-25 2012.
- All Region 16 incoming members will be invited to VocalFest with Laura Pallas on September 14-16th 2012.

- The contest for a new regional name to replace **Greater New York Region 15** starts now and runs until January 2013 when the RMT and Transition Team will choose 3 names from the suggestions. All incoming and current members will vote for the winning name.
- Please send any suggestion you may have to Lisbet@ptd.net. Johanna is available as well at jherudek@optonline.net.
- Starting May 1, 2013 when the merger is complete, the name change will be in effect.
- The sister choruses were assigned and choruses informed by March 1, 2012.
- The RCC is already looking into new facilities for contest. The Events Coordinator is looking for a new location for VocalFest. All will be finalized in time for the first contest as a new region in 2014.
- All visits to incoming choruses will take place between April 2012 and April 2013.
- All questions, concerns and issues will be answered as soon as we learn about them.

Introducing our New Education Coordinator Eileen Welsh

By Lisbet Duponte



Eileen Welsh was appointed by International to take over my position May 1, 2012 after being trained as my Successor for the past year.

Eileen joined Sweet Adelines International in 1993. She sang with Jersey Sound Chorus in Region 19 where she served on their music and choreography teams, was a tenor section leader, recording secretary, sunshine chair, and regional liaison for regional activities. She was part of their director search, conducted candidate interviews, became President in 2002, and was voted Sweet Adeline of the Year.

Eileen joined Millstone Chorus in 2004 and served as music team member and tenor section leader before joining Liberty Oak in 2006.

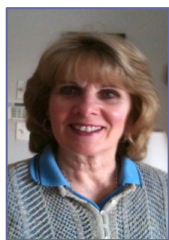
At LOC, she holds positions on the music team, as tenor section leader, was Vice President, and is now President. She was co-chair of the International 2010 committee and continues to coordinate regional competition activities for the chorus while also training to become an Assistant Director. Most of you may know her best as tenor of our Regional 4th place Quartet **Match 4**, which is her 4th registered quartet since 1998.

In Eileen's "other" life she has been married to John for 36 years with 3 children and a precious granddaughter, Grace. She worked as Burlington County YMCA Program Director for 11 years, was Recreation Director for 2 years at Mansfield Adult Community, and ran her own business for 8 years before selling it 6 years ago. She adds to her enormous experience by reading to kindergarten students once a week thru a volunteer program called Bookmates, is a volunteer chaplain aide and Eucharistic minister at Virtua Hospital, and occasionally sings at her church.

In the past year, I have seen Eileen's talents blossom. She is able to think outside the box, is a great communicator and does not shy away from handling problems as they arise. Those she handles with diplomacy, kindness, but firmness and determination, and the RMT has grown to respect and admire her during the meetings she attended.

Welcome, Eileen.

Finance Coordinator, Pat Miller



Thanks to all choruses and Chapter At Large members that sent your Region dues by the end of the year!

- If you plan to become CAL AND plan to compete in 2012 Competition in this region, please make sure you are first registered and paid with your International dues and then send a check in the amount of \$80.00 and payable to Greater NY Region 15 for your Regional dues. Send the \$80.00 check to:

Greater NY Region 15, c/o Pat Miller, 26 Vassar Street, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601. Please do this ASAP so you will not have any issues with registering with your quartet.

- Choruses and Quartets: Please remember to send in your requests for reimbursements in a timely manner so you can get your reimbursement funds in a timely manner. Remember that within a fiscal year, (May 1st thru April 30th) choruses get a maximum of 3 reimbursements for a \$300.00 maximum reimbursement and quartets get 3 for a \$125.00 maximum reimbursement.
- Greater NY Region 15 continues to be in solid financial condition thanks to the efficient financial management of your RMT and RCC members and thanks to all of YOU who have supported the events such as Leadership and VocalFest weekends!!! Let's finish the fiscal year on a high by supporting the events at 2012 Contest, like the Dinner Show at the Show of Champions!!

Regional Nominations Chair, Peggy DiSunno

HELP WANTED.....

It's not too early to be thinking of how YOU can make a difference in our region. Why not take that step and become a member of the Regional Management Team? The following positions will be coming up for appointment or election in the fall:

- Directors' Coordinator
- Events Coordinator
- Finance Coordinator
- Marketing Coordinator

Please contact me if you have an interest in running for one of these positions or if you would like to recommend someone whom you know would make a difference.

Thank you.

Peggy DiSunno

Region 15 Chair, Nominating Committee

disunno@optonline.net

Marketing Coordinator, Dana Dunlevy

As I write this, Sweet Adelines International's first Global Open House event is ending. Most of Region 15's chapters were able to host at least one Open House event this January, and many hosted a month-long (or longer!) series. By the time you read this, I expect that our Membership and Marketing Chairs will have reported their guest numbers –and hopefully 'new member' numbers, too!

With the busy contest season approaching, remember that it is always a good time to introduce a woman to the joy of singing with a Sweet Adelines International chorus. After all, a great musical product is what we're selling! Have general membership fliers available at all times of the year, whether or not you are hosting a special event, to make women in your community aware of the harmony and friendship they can enjoy each week.

I encourage *all* members, but especially Marketing and Membership Chairs, to take advantage of the free educational materials available in the 'Members Only' section of sweetadelineintl.org. In the 'Leadership' section, under the 'Education' tab, there are great articles about how to invite women to our doors then making them feel at home. Many other interesting materials are here, too! The 'Marketing Center' Training Library has great resources like the 'Real Guide to Growth' available for free download – look at "Section Three: Preparing the Chorus for Active Recruitment" to find out how you and every chorus member can help grow membership.

Use Social Media to Grow Your Chorus

By Tricia Zichello, Marketing Chair, Heart of New Jersey Chorus

Facebook ads can target the audience you want. For instance, you can create an ad that shown to women over 18, who live near your rehearsal location, who like to sing. Another idea is to create a YouTube channel where your Marketing Chair posts approved videos about your chorus. Link the videos to Facebook and Twitter so potential members can view them. Meetup.com also offers an opportunity to keep people up-to-date on chorus happenings.

Information and news reaches audiences in a variety of ways. Millions of people get are receiving information through online social networks. If you want your chorus information publicized for potential members to see, consider using social networking as an additional recruiting tool. Why not start today by posting a Facebook status or tweeting about your upcoming performances.

More on marketing with social media is found at the Sweet Adelines International Website Members Only Section/Marketing Center. It's there you will find "The Real Guide to Growth" Section 2-17 and Action Plan Template 2.11.

The Power of Sweet Adelines

By Dolly Power, Membership Coordinator, Greater New York Region 15
Membership Coordinator, Hickory Tree Chorus



Gina and I are singing into our fake microphones.

I have been taking care of my sister, Gina, for four years ever since my mom, Connie, passed away. It hasn't been easy because Gina has Down syndrome and about a year ago, developed dementia/Alzheimer's disease.

This past fall of 2011, I realized that I could no longer be Gina's caretaker. Her needs were beyond me as was the physical and emotional toll. I listened to the advice given to me by Gina's doctors and planned on making a life-changing decision beginning in spring 2012. The process began by my visiting a highly recommended nursing home and by filling out paperwork. This was very difficult for me. For many years prior, I had made a promise to my mom, I had told her I would take care of Gina when she was gone.

Well my plans quickly changed the day before Thanksgiving because unfortunately, Gina fell, and broke her leg in two places. I had no choice but to place Gina into a nursing home then.

Months prior to this incident, I had planned to go on a Christmas cruise with Gina and Mike, my youngest son. I had called it "The Last Hurrah Cruise" knowing that I would be placing Gina into a nursing home when we returned. Regrettably, Gina's broken leg precluded her from joining us on this special trip.

Yet in order to still travel with Mike, I realized that I needed coverage for Gina at the nursing home. I quickly emailed friends in Hickory Tree Chorus who live close by the nursing home. I needed one person to stop into the nursing home each day that I was gone to feed Gina lunch or dinner. What happened next was mind-blowing. Within 4 hours of sending the email, I had an awesome response. My sisters from HTC signed up to help with both lunch and dinner. It was overwhelming to me. In light speed, so many people answered my plea for help and quickly came to my assistance. I cried after I read every email.

I was able to get on that cruise ship and relax, knowing that Gina was in great hands...literally! She never even realized that I was gone! Interestingly, the staff at the nursing home wanted to know whom all these wonderful people were that visited. I proudly said, "They are Sweet Adelines." I'll always be grateful for the response to my outcry; it was incredible; it was clearly the power of Sweet Adelines.

Thanks again to all of my sisters in harmony at HTC. I am so proud to be a member of this wonderful organization who not only sing well together, but also lend support to others in the blink of an eye. That is the Power of Sweet Adelines!

Edited by Loretta Peskin, Greater New York Region *Taglines* Editor

2012 Regional Chorus Competition Roster

Order	Chapter	Location	Director
1	Brooklyn	Brooklyn, NY	Dale Gherman
2	Hickory Tree	New Providence, NJ	Carolyn Schmidt
3	Greater Nassau	Baldwin, NY	Harriette Walters
4	Evergreen	Poughkeepsie, NY	Carole Argulewicz
5	Heart of Long Island	Holtsville, NY	Leona Schwartz
6	Jersey Harmony	Princeton, NJ	Kat Britt
7	Golden Apple	White Plains, NY	Anastasio Rossi
8	Twin County	Massapequa Park, NY	Connie Kash
9	Island Hills	Dix Hills, NY	Wayne Grimmer
10	Liberty Oak	Freehold, NJ	Katie Blackwood
11	Long Island Sound	Riverhead, NY	Peggy DiSunno
12	Heart of New Jersey	Millstone Township, NJ	Jane Holden
EVALUATION	Harmony Celebration	Ridgewood, NJ	Scott Brannon

2012 Quartet Competition Roster

Order	Name	Chapter Affiliation
1	Balancing Act Quartet	Liberty Oak
2	Ovation Quartet	Harmony Celebration
3	Under Wraps Quartet	Evergreen
4	Xclamation! Quartet	Evergreen
5	Wildfire Quartet	Island Hills
6	East Coast Style Quartet	Chapters-at-Large Regions 15 &19, Jersey Harmony
7	Drive! Quartet	Greater Nassau, Hickory Tree, Jersey Sound
8	Harmonics Quartet	Greater Nassau, Harmony Celebration
9	Three Quarter Time Quartet	Hickory Tree
10	Chain Reaction Quartet	Liberty Oak
11	Match 4 Quartet	Liberty Oak
12	TURNING POINT Quartet	Greater Nassau
13	Local Color Quartet	Liberty Oak
14	Fanfare! Quartet	Harmony Celebration
15	Just 4 (Kicks) Quartet	Harmony Celebration
16	The Four Baris Quartet	Hickory Tree, Rich-Tone Chapter
17	Impulse! Quartet	Liberty Oak

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Mark Your Calendars for VocalFest 2012

Laura Pallas is coming to Region 15!



Laura is an accomplished musician, performer, regional and international competitor in the Sweet Adelines International arena. She holds an M.F.A. in Vocal Pedagogy, is a member of the Sweet Adelines regional and International Faculty, and has been awarded the title of "Master Director" in 2009. This past Region 11 contest the Santa Monica chorus took 1st place overall and for the first time; Laura was named Director of the Year.

In addition to directing the Santa Monica, Laura also directs the award-winning men's Valleyaires Chorus. She coaches quartets and choruses around the country specializing in vocal production and technique. Laura also sang lead in the internationally competitive quartet, Naturally, Region 11 Quartet Champions many times over.

In Memoriam



Harmony Celebration Chorus mourns the loss their long-time Sweet Adeline Lorraine Chasnov on December 1, 2011.

Stephanie Robinson (left) and Lorraine Chasnov (right) at the International contest in October 2010, Seattle, Washington. Showing off their new 'bling' purchased at the Harmony Bazaar.

Around the Region

Brooklyn Chorus

by Carolyn De Paolo, *Taglines* Correspondent

Brooklyn Chorus is very happy to welcome six new members - two leads, three baris and one bass! Denise Brogan, Lead; Phyllis Micillo, Bari; Pilar Morales, Bass; Dawn Rizzo, Lead; Katherine Scully, Bari; Carmen Velasquez, Bari.

We are excited to introduce our new Director, Dale Gherman, to Region 15. She is a music teacher at Cunningham Junior High School and has a great deal of experience teaching vocal production and correct breathing. Dale has been working very hard to get all the new members - as well as us "oldies" - ready in time for competition.

On January 4th, Brooklyn Chorus members and guests celebrated the Holidays with a party at Pinocchio's Restaurant. Several former members also joined us. Our new members especially enjoyed the opportunity to get to know all of us better in a casual and relaxed atmosphere. One of the highlights of the evening was a visit by "Zelda" who entertained us with her hilarious impersonations. "Zelda" is really one of our Assistant Directors, Sherry Barlitz, who was honored at the recent VocalFest as Brooklyn Chorus 2011 Woman of Note.

Evergreen Chorus

by Jodie Roland, *Taglines* Correspondent

Evergreen Chorus had a busy holiday season, as I'm sure we all did. We did several performances in the Mid-Hudson Valley region. However, our favorite was the New Year's Eve performance in Millbrook, NY. The village of Millbrook puts on a New Year's Eve gala and has many local groups come and perform. Evergreen Chorus sang three sets, in a beautiful, quaint church. The audience was excellent, smiling and singing along. We had over an hour between sets, and we were given a large, comfortable room complete with snacks and water. So the Evergreen family spent New Year's Eve together, visiting and singing in harmony. What better way to end the year!

Golden Apple Chorus

by Margaret Chaffa, *Taglines* Correspondent



Golden Apple Chorus has been busy! In October, we performed at Support Connection's walk for breast and ovarian cancer at the FDR State Park in Yorktown. We sang before the walk and at the starting line for additional support. It was a beautiful fall day. GAC was proud and happy to lend its voice to this important cause. In November, we held our annual show, "Moments to Remember", at Mount Pleasant Community Center. We played to a full house, ran a gift basket auction, a 50/50 raffle and provided delicious, home

baked treats to the audience after the show. Fun was had by all.

Our holiday season was very active with performances at various venues. At our Barnes and Noble fundraiser in White Plains, many young listeners showed interest in our style of singing. Our holiday party was a combination of catered food and homemade desserts.

The grab bag gift exchange was as hilarious as usual!

GAC is participating in the SAI Global Open House. We have advertised with flyers, on community calendars and our website. Members are inviting women from the community to attend and learn about our wonderful organization.

We are now focused on competition preparations. Faith McDonnell is helping us to develop the movements we use to express our music and to produce better sound. In February, it's on to retreat weekend to work and have fun with Lisbet Duponte.

Greater Nassau Chorus

by Gerri-Ann Seidman, *Taglines* Correspondent

It was both an honor and a privilege for Greater Nassau Chorus to represent Greater New York Region 15 at International Contest in Houston, Texas. The love and support throughout the Region both on site and in spirit was palpable and our appreciation is boundless.

We travelled an arduous road from rehearsals in Baldwin to International in Houston. The path can be fraught with obstacles. Each of us arrives at rehearsal with at least a day's worth of distraction and stress. Work, health, family, absent riser mates all play havoc on our ability to focus. But every Tuesday night, each of us renews her commitment to the chorus. From the moment we walk through the rehearsal doors, we strive to shed the distractions and get into the "zone". Once we do, we draw strength from each other; from each of our commitment to the collective cohesiveness of the chorus. This frees us to give our best in rehearsal; hence, we put our best rehearsal on stage.

It's important to not lose sight of what's important for growth...a willingness to learn, constructive feedback, and commitment to focus. Not always easily accomplished but always well worth the effort. Our spirit has been renewed and we are collectively inspired and strengthened by every experience. With each step of our journey, we gain a deeper understanding and a belief that we are exactly where we are supposed to be.

Harmony Celebration Chorus

by Stephanie Robinson, *Taglines* Correspondent

Harmony Celebration is busy with successful guest nights, performances, the Regional contest and our show to help us prepare for the big stage in Denver. In February, we're performing for the Temple Israel in Ridgewood, New Jersey, our rehearsal space, and we are looking forward to showing the members what we do in their synagogue every Wednesday night. Our annual show is on May 5, also in Ridgewood, at the Benjamin Franklin School; we hope to see many of you there!

We're looking forward to our full and productive 2012 schedule as last year ended on a very sad note. HCC lost long-time Sweet Adeline Lorraine Chasnov on December 1, 2011. Lorraine had

been fighting breast cancer for several years, but despite surgery, chemotherapy and radiation, the disease spread to her spine and then to her brain. Throughout it all, she remained cheerful and positive, always ready with a smile and an encouraging word. Lorraine was a Sweet Adeline going back to her college days in upstate New York and was one of the few remaining active members who had sung with Ramapo Valley Chapter for all three of their International championships - 1979, 1986 and 1990. We miss her terribly; there is a hole in our hearts, risers, and lead section from her loss. HCC has participated in the Susan G. Komen "Race for the Cure" for many years; this year's team will carry Lorraine's memory and her spirit with them.

Heart of New Jersey Chorus

by Ellen Greenhouse, *Taglines* Correspondent

Happy New Year to all of our sister Adelines!

Holidays are over, no big snowstorms, plenty of time to get ready for our 2012 competition. To get started we are looking forward to our retreat weekend with Carolyn Schmidt January 13th.

We would like to introduce our newest members, Amanda Gonzalez (tenor), Eve Silver (baritone), Kerrie Blum (baritone), and Pamela White (baritone). We are pleased to say that we have added 16 members to our chorus in the last 3+years. Of those members, 13 are brand new to Sweet Adelines, one is a past member returning now that her children are grown, and two were Sweet Adelines when they joined. We also have a prospective member.

Approximately 1/3 of our chorus is comprised of members who have been with us for less than 4 years. New members give us a shot of adrenalin with the enthusiasm they bring to rehearsals.

Once again, thank you Carolyn Wolfe for keeping us performing. Thanks Tricia Tzichello for keeping us in the news and numerous other responsibilities you have taken on. A big thank you to Esther Krutzel for your creative choreography and generosity.

Looking forward to seeing everyone in Philadelphia. Good luck to all competing choruses and quartets!

Hickory Tree Chorus

by Dana Dunlevy, *Taglines* Correspondent

Wow! Hickory Tree Chorus was so proud to be the very first chorus from Region 15 to compete in the Harmony Classic contest, and was pleased to come in 2nd place in the "AA" division (3rd overall), and bring home our first International medals. Thanks to the entire Region for their support, and a special 'shout-out' to those who were able to see the Jersey Girls perform live in Houston! Most of us were privileged to stay the entire week and watch a.k.a. and Greater Nassau also take home International medals!

We did not rehearse most of December, but presented a popular holiday show, with guest quartet Drive! and caroled every holiday weekend in downtown Summit.

January was jam-packed with excitement, starting with an amazing retreat with Lions Gate Chorus's Master Director, Sandy Marron. We participated in Sweet Adelines International's first Global Open House by hosting Open House events each week in January. We welcomed

many guests, some of whom are currently in the audition process. A reporter from Basking Ridge Patch posted a great story and video on the last night.

We were excited to share news that HTC's Dolly Power has been chosen by International to be a webcast chorus correspondent at this October's contest! Great consolation to those of us who cannot make the trip to Denver! We were also proud of Master Director, Carolyn Schmidt, who passed the qualifying test on her quest to become a Music Judge and will begin trial scoring this contest season.

Island Hills Chorus

by Judy Sanford-Guise, *Taglines* Correspondent

IHC's 2011 ended with a move to new rehearsal space in Hauppauge (IBEW 25, 370 Motor Parkway, LIE exit 55) and a rush of holiday performances, including IHC's annual visit to the Northport VA nursing residence and a corporate party for Home Depot. And, for the second year, IHC survived two performances in one day: the 'We Care for Kids' holiday party for the medically frail children served by Angela's House and that evening's Tree Lighting in Greenlawn.

2012 started in a fun way: the SAI Global Open House – and a new baritone. Welcome, Bonnie Cassar! We've already had a wonderful day of coaching with Master Director Katie Blackwood and are anticipating upcoming sessions with Pride of Baltimore (and Alexandria Harmonizers) Master Director Joe Cerutti.

We are looking forward to seeing everyone in Philadelphia. We wish each quartet and chorus a great experience! This competition has with it sadness as this will be Wayne Grimmer's last competition as IHC's director. We wish him the best of happiness on his move to Nashville to join Becca, a member of TuneTown Show Chorus. For information regarding our Director Search, please contact Barbara Festa, at bfesta@optonline.net.

Island Hills was invited to sing at the 'National Cherry Blossom Festival,' representing New York at the National Festival of States at the Centennial Cherry Blossom Festival in Washington DC, (Fri-Mon) April 13-16, 2012. The weekend includes performances each day including laying a wreath on the Tomb of the Unknowns. Interested in joining the trip and tours? Contact Pat MacDonald, trishsha@aol.com.

Jersey Harmony Chorus

by Carole Auletta, *Taglines* Correspondent

The life of a Sweet Adeline is sweet, indeed...but never predictable. At Jersey Harmony Chorus we have struggled through having to find a new rehearsal venue several times in the last few years. At last, we've found a home at Princeton's Forrestal Village where we've got plenty of room, the management loves us and we love being there.

So next up...we suddenly need a new director. No problem! Our own talented Kat Britt has stepped up and taken the reigns. We are pleased and proud to have officially selected Kat as director, and this chorus has never missed a beat. Rehearsals are well attended and everyone is excited and anxious, readying to get on that contest stage and do our stuff!

After a busy, busy Holiday season, with seven performances in the month of December, we jumped right into the SAI's wonderful "Teach the World To Sing" membership campaign that brought us many guests and several of them have been joining us on the risers each week. We're pleased to have with us, new members, Gail Bruno , Qianping Peng, and Andrea Zintz and welcome back from "baby" leave, Mary-Kate Bozinta.

Thanks to Scott Brannon for a great coaching session in January and February will bring us choreo coach, Faith McDonnell.

We're looking forward to seeing you all at contest in March and then on to preparing for our annual June show. Yes, at JHC it's the typical life of a Sweet Adeline, always sweet and never a dull moment!

Liberty Oak Chorus

by Sue Radford, *Taglines* Correspondent

LOC shared our joy and love of music throughout the holiday season, starting with our annual show on December 4 as well as other holiday performances. Before we took a few weeks off to celebrate the holidays with our families, we enjoyed a wonderful party at LOC member Meg's house. Thanks, Meg!

We're happy to welcome our newest member, Jean Garrett, to the bass section. We hope to have a few new additions soon, since the seven ladies who joined us on our Guest Night in January were all quite enthusiastic about our hobby.

A highlight of our contest prep season was our weekend retreat at the Renault Winery in Egg Harbor, NJ. We had a great time working with our coaches, Betty Clipman and Gail Jencik. As always, we ended a long productive Saturday with a fun party full of skits and games.

Five LOC quartets will compete this year. We are so proud of them all and wish them all good luck. We're looking forward to cheering for all of our Region 15 friends in Philly too!

Long Island Sound

by Kathy Solomon, *Taglines* Correspondent

Coaching is an invaluable tool that helps singers develop their craft, and Long Island Sound Chorus found an amazing way to get *Robin Williams, Billy Crystal, Jim Carey, and Ricardo Montalban* to work with them at their retreat weekend this month. They hired Scott Brannon!

Being coached by Scott is no ordinary experience. A former teacher and actor, he has the ability to *channel* well known personalities making his teaching effective and fun. So, when Billy Crystal tells you it is important to unlock the bottom of the face and stay relaxed while singing, you relax! When Robin Williams tells you that smiling helps the voice resonate and deliver a smoother, cleaner sound, you smile! And when Jim Carey tells you the importance of not pushing and "Lead does not mean loud," you pull back and feel your singing improve. The leads found this advice particularly helpful because it doesn't strain the vocal chords and helps them deliver a softer variation of sound while being able to hear the other parts

Scott emphasized the importance of being focused from the moment our feet hit the risers. His directives? Know your part, know when to come in and when to cut off, keep the tempo,

breathe and have fun! His enthusiasm and passion for singing, coupled with an ability to teach with style and humor helped inspire every singer to do her best. To Scott we say, "Thank you! You are mahvelous!"

Metro Rhythm

by Sue Schmehr, *Taglines* Correspondent

With sadness, some regret, and much soul-searching, we at Metro Rhythm have voted for dissolution of the chorus. We are in the process of organizing details and clearing out paraphernalia for the next couple of months. Plans are to attend regional competition, and some members are investigating other chorus affiliation.

Our quartet, Act IV, will continue.

Our thanks and gratitude goes to Region 15 women, who have been supportive and encouraging to Metro Rhythm. We appreciate the respect we have been shown as a small chorus. We are thinking of you as you prepare for contest – best of luck! Good wishes to all, and thanks for the ride.

Twin County Chorus

by Naomi Rose, *Taglines* Correspondent

Happy New Year everyone and Kung Hei Fat Choi as well.

Twin County finished out 2011 with our annual show "Coney Island Daze" wherein we debuted our new costume. We all feel great in our new look.

During the holiday season, we sang at several locations, bringing the joy that is barbershop harmony to all. And in the coming months, we have performances scheduled at Broadlawn, West Islip Library, Rockville Centre Couples Club, One-in-Nine/Lord & Taylor Breakfast, Atria Senior Living, and Sunrise Assisted Living.

Twin County started the New Year by participating in the Global Open House. We have a couple of interested ladies warming up for their auditions.

The fabulous Sharon Babb coached us the weekend of January 20th. Her positive attitude, expansive knowledge of our craft, and powerful motivational skills are limitless. She has helped us realize that we can do great things.

We welcome dual member Asuka Ichikawa from Brooklyn, and new member Chris Scalamandre to our ranks; and we're looking forward to a visit from our RMT Liaison Dolly Power.

Life at Twin County Chorus is good and, along with the rest of our region, we'll be spending these next several weeks preparing for competition. See you all there.

Job Opportunity: Music Director

Island Hills Chorus is seeking an experienced musical director to take us ‘onward and upward’ as we continue to build excellence and consistency in both competition and performance entertainment. Island Hills has ranked 4th in Region 15 for the past two years, we are currently scored at a B- level; our history includes multiple regional championships and an International win in 1978. We have a number of quartets within the chorus, one of which participates in regional competition. We have an excellent, year-round rehearsal location and extremely active and talented Management and Music Teams.

Please send your resume and letter of intent to IHC Director Search Coordinator, Barbara Festa at islandhillschorus@gmail.com.

New, Returning, and Transferred Members

Denise Brogan	Brooklyn
Phyllis Micillo	Brooklyn
Pilar Morales	Brooklyn
Dawn Rizzo	Brooklyn
Katherine Scully	Brooklyn
Carmen Velazquez	Brooklyn
Joanne Witkower	Greater Nassau
Kerrie Blum	Heart of New Jersey
Amanda Gonzalez	Heart of New Jersey
Eve Silver	Heart of New Jersey
Pamela White	Heart of New Jersey
Bonnie Cassar	Island Hills Chorus
Jean Garrett	Liberty Oak Chorus
Terry Olson	Liberty Oak Chorus
Paula Hoffman	Liberty Oak Chorus
Robin Bonowitz	Liberty Oak Chorus
Chris Scalamandre	Twin County Chorus
Asuka Ichikawa	Twin County Chorus

Calendar of Events

DATE	EVENT				
March 22-24, 2012	Regional Competition				
Saturday, April 21, 2012	RMT Spring Meeting				
Saturday, May 05, 2012	Harmony Celebration Annual Show				
September 14-16, 2012	VocalFest with Laura Pallas				
Sunday, October 07, 2012	Evergreen 50th Anniversary				
October 30-November 3, 2012	International Convention, Denver, Colorado				
Saturday, December 01, 2012	Liberty Oak Holiday Show				
April 11-14, 2013	Regional Competition				
September 20-22, 2013	VocalFest with Lori Lyford				
November 5-9, 2013	International Convention, Honolulu, HI				
April 11-13, 2014	Regional Competition				
Friday, May 16, 2014	Regional Competition				
September 19-21, 2014	VocalFest with Marsha Pinvidic				
November 4-8, 2014	International Convention, Baltimore				
May 15-17, 2015	Regional Competition				

For more information on events, visit the calendar on the Region 15 Web site at www.sairegion15.org

Deadline For Next Issue: May 15, 2012

Send Around the Region, New Members Names and Email Addresses, Quartet News, Congratulations, In Memoriam, Advertisements, Digital Photos from regional meetings and more to **Loretta Peskin, Editor**. Articles must be no longer than 250 words. We reserve the right not to publish all articles submitted.

Greater New York Regional Management Team

Arlene Gunther, Team Coordinator
Heather Collins, Communications Coordinator
Dolly Power, Membership Coordinator
Patricia Miller, Finance Coordinator

Judy Douglas, Directors' Coordinator
Dana Dunlevy, Marketing Coordinator
Lisbet Duponte, Education Coordinator
Carol Schultheis, Events Coordinator

Editor's Note

Are you looking forward to performing on the Regional Stage in Philadelphia?

Will you be able to free yourself of all external concerns that are irrelevant to making music for those few moments onstage?

Get ready for that wonderful decisive moment and its great fun.

Remember - Smile! I'll be clapping for you all!

Sincerely,

Loretta Peskin



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