

June 2008

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.

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Speak Out

The Future of
Barbershop

Scholarship
Opportunity for
Arrangers



Dear Heather,

Are you up to the minute? Minutes from the May 10, 2008, RMT meeting are now on the Region 15 Web site. [Visit this link](#) to download them.

**Your Regional
Management
Team**

Team Coordinator
[Peggy DiSunno](#)

**Finance
Coordinator**
[Jeannie Allen](#)

**Education
Coordinator**
[Lisbet Kline](#)

**Director
Coordinator**
[Carole Argulewicz](#)

Events Coordinator
[Carol Schultheis](#)

**Marketing
Coordinator**
[Dana Dunlevy](#)

**Membership
Coordinator**

Recapping The Musical Leaders Weekend

On May 30 and May 31, many of the music leaders of Region 15 gathered in Isilen, N.J., to participate in the annual regional music weekend. This weekend has been established to provide music education specific for our leaders: Directors, Asst. directors, Assoc. directors and section leaders.

The weekend was facilitated by Lorraine Barrows, International Faculty, former Music Education Director at International's Corporate Office and the current Region 1 Director's Coordinator. Lorraine Barrows has been involved with so many different aspects of our organization, that she was a natural choice for this music school.

Lorraine was able to spend Friday evening with Region 15 directors discussing music selection and how our choruses are a reflection of us, the directors. The evening was productive, and everyone became more aware of how their leadership affects the chorus image.

Saturday's session began with Music in Morning, a topic that is familiar to those of us who have attended the International Education Symposium (IES). Lorraine was able to demonstrate and provide a

Dolly Power

**Communications
Coordinator**
Heather Collins

**Submissions
Deadline**

If your chorus or quartet has news to share, [e-mail your idea to Heather Collins](#) before the 15th of each month for consideration in the next electronic Taglines. The next deadline is July 15.

multitude of activities to get all of the choruses up and ready to sing to their best ability.

The sessions that followed utilized the Pythagorean Theory on a regional song and hands-on directing techniques. Lorraine incorporated leadership skills with the ability to reach out to all members musically. It was an exciting, fast-paced, invigorating and FUN weekend.

This weekend proved again to be a vitally important means of educating the individuals that you, the membership have selected to stand before you each week. It is this continued education and growth that will have a successful long-term affect on our region. The more we are educated and share our ideas and methods, the stronger we will become.

Thank you to everyone who attended!

-Carole Argulewicz

**Save The Date For TRAX
Featuring Guest Faculty Jean Barford**

DATE: September 12-14

LOCATION: Ramada Inn & Conference Center, 130 SR 10, East Hanover, NJ.

FACULTY: Jean Barford, Certified International Faculty, Certified Sound Judge and Master Director, Gem City (Region 4), Five-time International Chorus Champions. Jean was also a member of Sounds of Music, the 1974 International Quartet Champions.

Other Dates To Remember

Sept. 8: RMT Conference Call

Sept. 28: Long Island Sound Show

Sept. 28: Hickory Tree Show

Oct. 25: Jersey Harmony Show

Oct. 26: Evergreen Show

Nov. 4 - 8: International Convention (Honolulu)

Dec. 7: Greater Nassau Show

Dec. 7: Song of the Valley Show

May 2: Harmony Celebration Show

Members Only: Using The Region 15 Web Site Psst. It's a secret. To sign into the "Members Only" section of the [regional Web site](#), enter your Sweet Adelines membership number (minus any

zero that might be on the front of your number). There, you'll find resources and files meant only for Region 15's eyes Such as the regional standing rules. Plus, you'll see a directory of your chorus members, complete with e-mails that have been provided to International. If you have changes to your profile, contact [Heather Collins](#).

New Members Share Their Inspiration

Editor's Note: Each Region 15 chorus was asked to contribute the names of new members so they can be highlighted on an ongoing basis. We love growing! New members have also been encouraged to share their thoughts and inspiration. If other new members have additional thoughts to contribute about their first regional contest experience or what inspired them to join their Sweet Adelines chorus, please send to [Heather Collins](#).

Greater Nassau

In the May edition of *Taglines*, we announced the names of the eight new members who had joined since March 2007. It did not take long for these ladies to discover that the harmony in GNC goes far beyond ringing chords. Here's what they have to say.

Gerri-Ann Seidman: "For me, it's about sisterhood. The love and support ... the understanding ... the nurturing ... the unending commitment to a fabulous sound ... Priceless."

Merrill Weiner, also new to GNC, describes her experience as "the antidote to middle age blahs. The experience has been altogether out of this world! Singing with GNC rekindles passions you haven't felt since you were a teenager—the joy of harmonizing, the sense of sisterhood with such diverse, energy-filled and welcoming women, the sheer fun of preparing for competitions. It has filled my soul."

Lauren Seaman, GNC's newest member agreed: "Overall, it's been an AMAZING experience for me. Some words that I'd use to describe it are: warm and friendly, positive energy, FUN,

confidence-building, **WONDERFUL** sound, and the harmony is **FANTASTIC!** GNC really feels like home to me."

Jersey Harmony

As Jersey Harmony prepared for our recent competition, we felt like a new chorus embarking on a new voyage, even though we were really an old chorus that had missed competing the previous year and that had been through a major transition. We had a new name; a new director, Rich Gray, who was making his Sweet Adelines debut; and eight new members competing with us for the first time. That was about one-third of the chorus. We have been delighted to welcome Lisa Berkowitz, Nicole Deschamps, Fumi Horinouchi, Linda Kohn, Bonnie Luning, Pattie Nolan, Debra Santilli, and Susan Swenson into our family. Here are the feelings of two of our new sisters.

Nicole Deschamps: "In 2006, I left Dublin, Ohio, and the Scioto Valley Chorus, to settle in Bucks County, Pa. I decided to take a year off from Sweet Adelines to concentrate exclusively on my kids' adjustment to their new environment. Singing is my passion and that year without singing in harmony proved to be extremely difficult. I realized that this hobby of mine is necessary to my well-being, to my happiness. Luckily, I found Jersey Harmony and am part of a chorus with a new vision and whose members are energetic and dedicated. I've been part of SAI for four years, and the most important thing that this organization has taught me is to confidently state: I am a singer and a performer."

Debra Santilli: "Although I am a former Sweet Adeline from back in the late 80s, my competition experience this year in Region 15 was almost like attending for the first time. I really enjoyed the excitement leading up to competition and appreciated every little detail that went into preparing for it. I felt much more a part of my chorus this time, and enjoyed the camaraderie with my chorus sisters. We have a great director who was a first-timer too, which made it even more special. I thought it was very well organized. I enjoyed the Show of Champions and

next year, I will make it a point to stay up late and join in the fun that I missed in our hospitality room afterwards! All in all, it was a great competition and I look forward to competing next year!"

Except for one other former SA, all the other first-timers were brand-new Sweet Adelines and we were so proud of how well they all did. Now we're busy performing, and learning new music for our fall show.

Liberty Oak

Master Director Katie Blackwood reports that new chorus members since January include Michelle Pellecchia, Carol Porter, Sheila Hodroski, Bea Howley, Brenda Strauss, Pam Pezzullo and Jeanine Perruso. Here are thoughts from two of them.

Sheila Hodroski: "I am still floating on Cloud 9 from my first performance experience! Not only am I new to the group, I am new to chorus in general. I still marvel at how lucky I was to find LOC. The exhilarating feeling I got standing on those risers and singing my heart out among so many gifted and talented women is like nothing I ever felt before. When can we do that again? I'm ready!"

Bea Howley: "As a 'newbie' just voted in, let me share the three basic reasons for deciding to join LOC.

Upon entering the auditorium for the first time, even before rehearsal officially began, I was surprised to see the risers filled with members who voluntarily arrived early to practice choreography. Such effort denotes interest, caring, and a willingness to take that extra step.

Later, watching Master Director Katie Blackwood conduct rehearsal, and speaking with her personally, it was obvious and heartwarming to confirm that her mission and that of SAI are one and the same: to share knowledge and experience while teaching women how to improve their vocal skills and sing with joy.

Lastly, watching and listening to members talk about the chorus and their various responsibilities, an observer is impressed with their enthusiasm, devotion, and the fact they are working within a

very organized, and well-oiled "machine." Without doubt they are a happy group, and constantly the recipients of the best that our organization can offer.

What else could I do? I joined. What a great way to be good to myself!"

Quartets Seek Personnel

Two Region 15 quartets are auditioning members.

- Escape, Region 15's 2008 Silver Medalist, and 2005, 2006 and 2007 Region 15 Quartet Champions, is searching for a new Tenor. After 10 years and eight regional medals (including 3 top place finishes!), Michelle Metallo has decided to step down as tenor of Escape. [You can read more by visiting the Region 15 Web site at this link.](#)
 - Interested singers, please contact Susan at susanschuman@comcast.net
- Sweet Revival from Liberty Oak Chorus is seeking a Baritone. E-mail Jean Ferguson at isng10r@yahoo.com or Laurie Shuss at quartet20@aol.com for more information.

Shaping the future of Barbershop Festival of Harmony

Sixty-six students (30 boys and 36 girls) throughout New Jersey and New York attended this year's eighth Annual Festival of Harmony (FOH) on April 12 in Rahway, N.J. The students enjoyed a day of FUN and FELLOWSHIP while singing barbershop harmony! Mark your calendars NOW for next year's event: **April 18, 2009** and come see the future of barbershop. You can read Carolyn's Schmidt's report on the event on the Region 15 Web site [at this link.](#)

Attention Budding Arrangers

Lisbet Kline has received information from arranger June Berg about an application for potential arrangers'

scholarships being offered by the International Music Arrangers Program, providing two years of funding for up to five individuals beginning May 1, 2009. The application deadline is July 1. If you or someone you know is interested, please reach out to [Lisbet](#) for more details. For more information about IMAP, [read this article](#).

Walking For A Cause HCC members raise \$5,000 in new North New Jersey Breast Cancer Walk



About a dozen singers and family members from the Harmony Celebration Chorus, now forever known as the Ta-Ta Sisterhood, proudly raised \$5,000 in the first [Susan G. Komen walk](#) to be hosted in Newark, N.J. We're training for next year and would be proud to have more of our sisters in song join us. Active in your community? Share your news and ideas with [Heather Collins](#).

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