

# taglines

The Greater New York Region #15  
Sweet Adelines International  
[sairegion15.org](http://sairegion15.org)





# *Taglines*

*Sweet Adelines International*

*Chapter News*

Harmony Celebration Chorus, Liberty Oak Chorus, a.k.a. and East Coast Style Quartets including in-coming Region 15 Chapter, Saratoga Soundtrack Chorus will be singing their way to the TOP of the mile-high city in Denver, Colorado at the Sweet Adelines International Competition.

### **International Competition Denver 2012 (EST)**

Harmony Classic: Tuesday, Oct. 30  
from 8:00p.m.-12:15a.m.

Quartet Semifinals: Wednesday,  
Oct. 31 from 12:45p.m.-12:30a.m.

Chorus Semifinals: Thursday, Nov.  
1 from 12:45a.m.-10:30p.m.

Quartet Finals: Friday, Nov. 2 from  
2:00p.m.-7:00p.m.

Rising Star Quartet: Saturday,  
Nov. 3 from 11:00a.m.-3:00p.m.

Chorus Finals: Saturday, Nov. 3  
from 5:00p.m.-11:00p.m.

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International Competition - Denver, Colorado  
October 29 - November 3, 2012



Tune into the Webcast and feel the excitement of being in Denver.  
Cheer on our Region 15 and in-coming competitors. Watch Region 15's Membership Coordinator, Dolly Power, appearing as a webcast correspondent.  
Webcast viewers, consider making a donation to keep the webcast viable.  
Tune in by visiting: <http://sweetadswebcast.com/>

Saratoga Soundtrack - Contestant #2, Tuesday October 30, 2012 at 8:38p.m.  
East Coast Style Quartet- Contestant #31, Wednesday October 31, 2012 at 7:45p.m.  
a.k.a. Quartet- Contestant # 42, Wednesday October 31, 2012 at 9:55p.m.  
Liberty Oak Chorus - Contestant #11, Thursday, Nov. 1, 2012 at 3:15p.m.  
Harmony Celebration Chorus - Contestant #14, Thursday, Nov. 1, 2012 at 3:54p.m.



**a.k.a. Quartet**  
**2012 International 3rd place winners**



**East Coast Style Quartet**  
**2012 Regional Champions**



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Greater New York Region 15

## Regional Newswire

### Communications Coordinator, Loretta J. Peskin



#### **The Future Has Become a Present Reality**

Hello, Region 15 and welcome, Capitaland, Carousel Harmony, City of the Hills, River Valley, Saratoga Soundtrack, Seneca Soundwaves, Seven Valley, and Spirit of Syracuse, new Chapter-at-Large members, and all our in-coming quartets to our regional publication!

Membership has its advantages, and this is one of them - your first edition of *Taglines*. Greater New York Region 15's quarterly publication provides you with regional news, chorus and quartet updates, a calendar of events, new member information, and fabulous photos.

Another benefit is access to the member-only area at the regional ([www.sairegion15.org](http://www.sairegion15.org)) and international ([www.sweetadelineintl.org](http://www.sweetadelineintl.org)) websites. All in-coming members will have password-protected access to the regional website as soon as all membership information is loaded into the database. This will give you access to regional songs, sheet music and learning tracks.

After 7 years of serving us so well, it's time to revamp the regional website to better meet our needs. Is web design your forté? If so, please email me ([loretta@region15.org](mailto:loretta@region15.org)) and join in the planning process. To make a difference in our organization, get involved, so together, we can more easily address the challenges facing us during this transition.

In addition, if assisting with newsletter layout is your interest, please let me know.

The Regional Management Team, Transition Team, and Regional Convention Committee are in constant motion. We all volunteer tirelessly to fulfill Region 15's unique mission, and are so proud of the progress we're all making. We look forward to May 1, 2013 when the merger will be official! The future of our region is now and it has become a present reality.

### Directors' Coordinator, Judy Douglas

#### **Young Singer Foundations - Big Success at VocalFest**

Our Young Singers Foundation sale of bags and scarves at VocalFest brought money to the



foundation in the amount of \$841. Way to go ladies. It was a huge success. Also, singing with the champs, East Coast Style brought in another \$120. 24 people got a chance to sing with the Regional Quartet Champions. Thank you to East Coast Style Quartet!

Young Singers Foundation (YSF) is our major charity in Sweet Adelines International (SAI). The money raised goes to scholarships and grants. YWIH chapters benefit from these monies as do groups teaching music and using music as therapy. There was a group of musical therapists that met at the Sheraton Hotel during the same time that we were there. They asked if we could get a quartet to sing for them. Chain Reaction Quartet just happened to be around so I asked them if they would go

and they agreed. Not only were the therapists impressed, I think if you were to ask Chain Reaction Quartet, they would tell you they had a ball and, they hadn't even had a chance to have breakfast yet. So, thanks again to everyone who helped to make our wonderful charity a major part of our weekend. You all are the best!

## Education Coordinator, Eileen Welsh



Fall has arrived and VocalFest is now a memory. For me, it was my first regional event as your Education Coordinator. After months of meetings, emails and hours of planning, I can say that it was a successful weekend with approximately 300 members in attendance.

Laura Pallas was an excellent faculty presenter. We learned a variety of vocal production techniques that we can take home with us and use to improve the quality of our singing. Laura's positive attitude, immediate diagnosis of the singer's vocal issues and techniques to improve the voice were a great help to all in attendance.

I would like to thank my mentor, Lisbet Duponte, for being my go-to person with questions and advice. Her years of experience in this position were so helpful to me when I called or emailed a question. She was always there for me, and I am so fortunate to call her friend as well as mentor. All in all, it was a wonderful weekend. I enjoyed meeting so many of you and appreciate your support and good wishes to me.

You may ask.....so, what's next? I look forward to receiving your evaluations from VocalFest. From your comments, plans will be made for upcoming educational events. I will have a planning meeting in November to set our calendar for 2013 and 2014. In early 2013, I am considering having PVI schools in different locations throughout the region. That way, more members can get one-on-one instruction for a nominal fee. More details will follow on this. Also, I will look into some quartet workshops, administrative seminars and more music and musical leadership trainings. Your input is valuable to me. Please do not hesitate to send me an email at [welsh984@comcast.net](mailto:welsh984@comcast.net). All suggestions will be reviewed and hopefully, I can implement many of your ideas.

The following VocalFest dates planned are:

VocalFest 2013	September 20 - 22	Lori Lyford
VocalFest 2014	September 19 - 21	Karen Breidert

Stay tuned and check the website for future educational workshops and seminars. I look forward to serving the membership of Region 15 and providing meaningful and worthwhile educational opportunities for all.

## Marketing Coordinator, Dana Dunlevy

### Welcome to the Marketing Team!



It was great seeing almost 300 members of the Marketing Team at VocalFest! Three hundred?! Yes! Each and every member of Sweet Adelines International is a member of the Marketing Team, because every day we each have the opportunity to invite someone to join us in friendship and song. And beginning January 1, we'll each have the opportunity to win a year of free International dues through the ["Sweet! Adds"](#) membership campaign, kicking off with the 2013 Global Open House. See details in the August/September *Pitch Pipe Lite*.

Many of you joined me for the "Elevating Social Media" class at VocalFest, where we discussed the value of each member connecting their friends to Sweet Adelines International. We have varying degrees of comfort with social media, but if you're connected, be sure to share Sweet Adelines and chorus news with your community of friends. International will host a free Social Media webinar in November –watch for the exact date.

By the time you read this, the September "Global Open House 2013" webinar should be archived. If you did not have a chance to participate live, take some time and give a listen. There are more details about the "Sweet! Adds" membership campaign and lots of great tips to help your chorus grow.

The best Marketing/Membership training guide is *The Real Guide to Growth*, available through the Marketing Center at [sweetadelineintl.org](http://sweetadelineintl.org). You can order a hard copy for \$15, or download it for *free!*

Lastly, going to Denver? Look for Region 15's video billboard slides cheering contestants Harmony Celebration, Liberty Oak, East Coast Style, and a.k.a. This year's slides were designed by Regional Marketing team member, Tricia Zichello.

## Membership Coordinator, Dolly Power

### WebCast Jitters



Believe it or not, as funny as I can be at region 15 functions, I am a little nervous about the upcoming webcast in Denver. Let me tell you how this all came about for me. Every time I met an International Faculty member or Judge either at an RMT meeting, VocalFest or Hickory Tree Chorus coaching session, I would start my little campaign speech about putting an "Everyday, normal face of a Sweet Adeline" on the webcast. I reassured them that while I *love* watching the "Queens" and other important women who do the webcast, what about us little people -- the regular members of this wonderful organization who don't wear crowns but sing in some of the

best choruses in the Queendom?

I finally got my wish after speaking to Renée Porzel, Betty Clipman, Lori Lyford, Sharon Babb and a few other famous people over the years and I swore to them I would do a great job and be on my best behavior representing the best region...Region 15...on the webcast. Someone must have really gotten sick of hearing my plea because I received an email back on January 20<sup>th</sup> from Carol Schwartz from S.A.I. which had the subject line, "Invitation to Denver." I

misread it as "Invitation to Dinner" and wondered which of my friends wanted to go out to dinner. I opened the email and read about the webcast and that I had been invited to be a webcaster. I screamed so loud my 23 year old son came running down the stairs wondering what had happened to me. What happened? I was just invited to be on the webcast! My dream had come true.

I am beyond thrilled to represent all of you in Region 15 and our new sisters in harmony from Region 16. If you are not able to get to Denver, you can get on the webcast and watch every single competition starting with the Harmony Classic on Tuesday, October 30<sup>th</sup>. I did that last year and enjoyed myself thoroughly. Just go to the S.A.I. website and follow the directions to the webcast. I start my commentary before Liberty Oak Chorus comes on to compete which is 1:15 p.m. (Denver time) and 3:15 p.m. our time. So get on the website early enough to see Contestant # 11 Liberty Oak Chorus and Contestant #14 Harmony Celebration Chorus who will be on at 1:54 p.m. (3:54 p.m. our time)

Please tune in and support the webcast along with sending me great vibes for an exciting contest experience as a webcaster.

## Team Coordinator, Arlene Gunther

### VocalFest 2012 President's/Team Coordinator's Luncheon



Once again, our Presidents and Team Coordinators came together for lunch and a lively dialog at the recent VocalFest education seminar in Parsippany. The luncheon has become an annual event and we find it is extremely helpful to all who attend. We were privileged to welcome Mary Connelly, Team Coordinator from Spirit of Syracuse Chorus. Spirit of Syracuse is one of the eight choruses who will merge with us to form a new region in May 2013. This year's topics of conversation included: An update from Region 15's Harmonic Progression Transition Chair, Lisbet Duponte, and two members of our Regional Convention Committee, Carol Schultheis and Johanna Herudek who are keeping us up to speed

on the search for a new contest site; a discussion involving contest judges acting as coaches for competing choruses/quartets; new member audition process and an update of the education plans for our future.



Seated Left to Right (Front Row): Beth Fulton, HCC; Robin Carberry, Jersey Harmony; Barbara Festa, Island Hills

Left to Right (Standing): Pat Meade, SOTV; Jocelyn Ramage, Golden Apple; Alexis DePersia-Norelli, Sirens of Gotham (prospective); Eileen Welsh, LOC; Lori Britt Horvath, GNC

Left to Right (Back Row): Becky Woodard, HONJ; Elise Laine, Twin County; Mary Holder, Spirit of Syracuse; Nancy Clark, Evergreen

## Regional Management Team Election Results

### Regional Nominations Chair, Peggy DiSunno

The Regional Management Team has recently completed their election procedures and the following persons have won seats on the RMT beginning in May, 2013:

- Director Coordinator, Carole Argulewicz, Evergreen Chapter
- Events Coordinator, Patricia Miller, Evergreen Chapter
- Finance Coordinator, Barbara Wright, Spirit of Syracuse Chapter
- Marketing Coordinator, Tricia Zichello, Heart of New Jersey Chapter

Congratulations to all of you and thank you for your interest in becoming leaders in our region.

## Greater New York Region Welcomes Two New Coordinators!!

### Quartet Coordinator, Jeanine Perruso



Well, now the dust has settled and we're onto rehearsals galore getting ready for either Denver or 2013 competition!! Life is good!

I hope you enjoyed 2012 Vocal Fest as much as I did and enjoyed hearing our Regional Quartets...they were all terrific and I for one, am very proud to be a part of this Region...there's soooo much talent here and more to come in 2013!!!

For those who were able to attend the Quartet Showcase and the "Find the Blend" afterwards, please give me any positive and/or constructive comments, so going forward it could be improved upon. I know two quartets managed to find their missing part that evening, how exciting for them!! Thank you to

those Regional quartets who helped "find the blend"!

I'd like to ask your help with ideas for educational quartet programs for the future. If you'd like to see the Region conduct any types of classes, please forward thoughts on this, specifically which types of classes **you** would attend. Do you feel a need for something that's currently not happening in our Region? Have you experienced a class or event that you'd like Region 15 to consider? Whether quartet member or not, no idea is overlooked...we welcome your comments!

Thanks again for all your help during Vocal Fest, for those who were unable to come, WE MISSED YOU!

I look forward to hearing your feedback and comments for future educational programs for our members and to promote the quartet experience!

### Director Certification Program Coordinator, Jeanne Elmuccio

Only a week after I became a dual member of LOC, Eileen Welsh, Education Coordinator for our Region



15 and Team Coordinator for Liberty Oak Chorus came up to me and asked if I'd like to be the DCP Coordinator for the region. Wow nothing like jumping in head first! I am so glad that I said "yes". I have gotten to meet so many wonderful people from other choruses that I may not have gotten to know otherwise. With a music background, experience as an Assistant Director and having gone through the program myself, I know that I can provide support and guidance to those currently participating in the program.

I encourage you to consider going through the Director Certification Program (DCP). It's not just for Directors! SAI describes the DCP as "an educational home-study program designed to develop skills for Sweet Adelines International directors, potential directors, and musical leaders. Much of the information contained within the DCP Resource Modules is useful for ALL chorus members." It's a great way to learn about our craft and contribute to the growth of your own chorus.

## Region in Transition

### Regional Transition Chair, Lisbet P. Duponte



Beginning in December, all 23 choruses in our new region will receive the same updates from Region 15's Transition Team/RMT. While a lot of issues have come up that we never even dreamt about, we have been so blessed by having you all right here beside us, helping, supporting, asking great questions and solving whatever issues that have propped up. THANK YOU to all for that. Here is a summary of what is currently going on:

- A visit to all in-coming choruses completion date is the first week of December.
- Barbara Wright from Spirit of Syracuse was elected the new Regional Finance Coordinator for the term 2013 - 2015.
- The site search committee will make a recommendation for the 2014's regional contest location shortly. The final decision will be made by the RMT, with both transition teams signing off on it. As soon as the decision is made, all 23 choruses will be informed simultaneously.
- The 2 regions' Finance Coordinators (from Region 15 and Region 16) are currently discussing how to handle the dues for the in-coming members. There will be no changes for the current Region 15 members.
- The Regional Standing Rules are being updated and will be available to all after the RMT's February retreat.
- The Regional web site is being redone so our new chapter members can access it.
- The first VocalFest for the new region is with Lori Lyford from September 20-22, 2013. The location is currently under negotiation, and as soon as the contract is written, it will be publicized to all.
- The deadline for the name change contest is November 1. The best three names will be submitted to all chapters for a vote, after which Sweet Adelines International will approve the winning name.

## Carolyn Schmidt Masters Sweet Song Arrangements

by Dana Dunlevy, Hickory Tree Chorus Marketing Coordinator



Soon after joining Sweet Adelines International in 1974, Carolyn Schmidt, with no previous experience, was asked by fellow quartet members to 'fix some chords' in "I Write the Songs."

"Now I arrange the songs!" says Schmidt, who was notified September 6 by Sweet Adelines International President Renée Porzel that she had been advanced to the Master Music Arranger level, a level which few in the organization ever achieve.

In the 67-year history of the 23,000 member organization, only eight Certified Music Arrangers have reached the Master Music Arranger level, and only five of them are currently active. The Sweet Adelines International Board of Directors, its Education Direction Committee, and Arrangers Coordinators all must agree on the advancement of a Certified Music Arranger.

"Carolyn is so deserving of the Master Music Arranger advancement," says Carol Schwartz, Director of Music Services, Sweet Adelines International. "The designation recognizes not just quality arrangements, but her service to the educational mission of Sweet Adelines International. Carolyn has always been eager to help educate up-and-coming arrangers. She is a highly regarded mentor."

Since advancing to the Certified Music Arranger level in 1990, Schmidt has had 29 of her arrangements published. She served as a coordinator for the International Music Arrangers Program, as Arrangers Seminar faculty, on a team identifying material suitable for Young Women in Harmony (YWIH) arrangements, as Co-Chair of the International Arrangers Seminar, and as an arrangers mentor.

Schmidt has arranged more than 125 songs. A random sampling includes: "Come Fly With Me," the swinging up-tune made popular by Frank Sinatra; "In My Life," the touching Beatles ballad; "Girls Just Wanna Have Fun," the rollicking chick anthem made popular by Cyndi Lauper; and "Happy Together," the relentlessly chipper hit by the Turtles.

"My favorite arrangements tend to be the ones I've just completed, and right now I really love 'I Wanna Dance With Somebody', the song made popular by Whitney Houston, that I just finished for Hickory Tree Chorus's December 1 show," says Carolyn, "It was a creative challenge for me, and I really enjoyed listening to and learning from others' treatment of similar songs."

"Arranging can be kind of tedious, like a crossword puzzle, trying to fit the notes and chords together. You believe it's going to work, but when you walk away from the piano it's on paper, not living." Schmidt's voice quickens as she continues, "Then you give it to the chorus! And then it's off the paper, and it's alive! It's like magic –POOF! You see the energy the chorus brings to it and to an audience. That's what's really exciting!"

## Liberty Oak Chorus, Summer Quartet Program

by Master Director Katie Blackwood



One of the many ways that LOC helps our members to build better vocal skills and confidence is our annual summer quartet program. This program has worked for LOC no matter how many members we have at any given time. I decided the best way for me to hear all of my members and have a more personal approach with each of them was to hear them sing in a quartet. Our music team also offered PVIs, but how someone sings her part with the other three is an entirely different scenario.

In the summer quartet program, every member sings in a randomly chosen group. Each summer I choose different repertoire. One summer we did holiday music; another summer we did regional songs. I would then coach the quartet in a private venue. Eventually, we added more coaches from our music team to assist me as we grew in membership. We asked that all members participate up to this point.

The next step is for the quartet to sing in front of the chorus and be coached again. The other chorus members participate by contributing positive and affirming comments. We do not require performing in front of the chorus if any member of a quartet is not comfortable with this. However, every member receives private coaching in a quartet.

There are many benefits to this program, but the most important is building confidence in a safe singing environment. We work as a team to support and cheer for each member as she takes the brave step to sing in a quartet in front of the chorus. Hearing everyone helps me to know their voices so I can place them on the risers for the best ensemble sound. This also helps me to know what basic vocal production I need to focus on (this was especially true in the earlier years). Yes, it takes time away from our regular chorus rehearsal, but the payoff is huge!

~Deb Poulson, Editor

## Introducing Island Hills Director Tom Bruscia



I guess I always loved to sing and had an ear for harmony. Pop groups of the 60s that made good use of vocal harmony, like the Beatles, the Four Seasons, the Turtles and the Happenings, were among my favorites.

I "discovered" barbershop harmony while singing in a small ensemble in my high school glee club. In college, I went looking for, and found, S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A., now the Barbershop Harmony Society (BHS). I joined right away and have been an avid barbershopper for the last 32 years.

I became a director the same way all directors do--the chorus had a performance that the regular director could not get to on time. Over the years, I have served as Assistant Musical Director of the Nassau Mid-Island Chapter, BHS, and as Musical Director of the Huntington Soundmen Chorus. I am very proud to have been a founding Co-Director of the Twin Shores Chorus of BHS.

In 1987, it was my privilege to be a front row member of the International Silver Medalist Big Apple Chorus (with fellow front-row man, Scott Brannon). Today I am an active chorus singer, music committee member and baritone section leader in the Long Island Sound Chorus, Five Towns College Chapter of BHS.

My quartet, Sound Approach, sang well enough in 2011 to qualify for the Mid-Atlantic District competition in Lancaster, PA. Previous quartets include Quatrain, Spotlight and two-time International Quarter-Finalist The Right Stuff. I also sing in a mixed quartet, NexTime, a two-time competitor in the

New York regional Harmony Sweepstakes and a frequent visitor to the Region 15 competition hospitality rooms.

It must be destiny that I came to direct the Island Hills Chorus. My first date with Karen, my wife of 27 years, was the Island Hills show in November 1983. Karen is a Barbershopper's daughter, and we have two adult children.

It is a thrill for me to be involved with the talented and dedicated ladies of the Island Hills Chorus. IHC's Gold Medal-winning "Something About a Soldier" routine was legendary when I first came onto the Barbershop scene.

I thoroughly enjoyed attending VocalFest recently, making new friends and renewing some old friendships. I have attended many educational events in the men's hobby over the years, and I was very impressed, not only with Laura's depth and breadth of knowledge and wonderful style of delivery, but with her expert ability to "walk the walk."

Thanks to everyone in Region 15 for welcoming me with open arms. Best of luck to all our Denver competitors!

## Aussie Barbershopper Finds Sirens of Gotham



Steffi Wesman, Mark Lubart, and Natalie O'Driscoll at VocalFest 2012

In 2012, I experienced an existential crisis. What is this thing, I thought, called life? What is it really all about? Is what I'm doing making me happy? The answers, respectively, were "no idea," "no idea," and "no." So I decided to mix things up, get some answers, and figure out how to change that "no" to a "yes." Selling my home and getting rid of all my stuff was the easy part. Kissing my family, friends, and two furry felines goodbye for a year was the hardest. Finally, I began the adventure that took me through caves and beaches in South East Asia, into the Sahara desert in Morocco, dancing through Spain and the Canary Islands, on trains throughout

Europe, staying with friends in England and finally two and a half months in New York City. Why so long? I had dusted off an old dream of becoming a writer, and during the trip, had completed a manuscript for which I was now seeking an agent. Missing barbershop like crazy, I joined up with the sassy Sirens of Gotham in Manhattan and together, we made beautiful music for my duration there. I shall never forget any part of my amazing trip, but the love and harmony I shared with my Region 15 sisters and our brothers from Voices of Gotham will remain a part of me forever. Once a Siren, always a Siren!

Thanks for the opportunity to say something in the publication. It's a nice way for me to express my appreciation to the Sirens and other ladies of Region 15 who were all so lovely.

Kind Regards,  
Natalie O'Driscoll

**"What a fabulous weekend at Vocal Fest. After hours on Saturday night singing tags in groups of 4 with women of all ages, and from varied choruses was a real treat. Thank you Natalie and Mark for teaching the tags."**

~Steffi Weissman

**"I'm a Barbershopper who loves to sing, and teach tags. It was gratifying to see so many Sweet Adelines willing (and even eager) to try new tags in various quartet combinations. It's a great, easy, and quick way to have an instant quartet experience. And it's fun!"**

~Mark Lubart

## Quartet News

**Act IV Quartet-** We began 18 months ago, drawn together by our friendship and love of harmony. Claire Turner, our tenor, resides in New York; Deb Smith, lead, is a life-long Jersey girl; and Judy Douglas, baritone, hosts our weekly rehearsals at her beautiful lakeside home in Boonton, NJ. We are all Chapter at Large at the moment, having survived the dissolution of our former chorus, Metro Rhythm. Among all of us, we have more than 40 years of barbershop experience in Sweet Adelines. Deb is our "baby" Sweet Adeline - she's "only" been a member since 2006.

We are searching for a bass who is able to dive right in and help us get our two contest songs ready for competition in 2013. We love all kinds of music, from the McGuire Sisters to the Beatles. We are very serious about singing well and have benefitted from coaching by Lisbet Duponte. If interested in an audition, email Judy Douglas at [judydoug@optonline.net](mailto:judydoug@optonline.net).

## Miscellaneous

The International Webcast will begin with the Harmony Classic Chorus Competition on Tuesday, October 30, 2012. A Denver Webcast page will be added to the international website closer to Convention time.

If you experience technical difficulties, contact the Webcast technician, Alvin Ogles, at [alvin@riverbendmedia.com](mailto:alvin@riverbendmedia.com). Sweet Adelines is using Windows Media Player from Microsoft to deliver programming. You will need to get the Windows Media Player installed on your machine, if you do not have it already. The player is free. Visit the following website to download Windows Media Player, <http://www.windowsmedia.com/download>. There could be a network problem with your receiving computer, a network congestion problem from the Internet itself, or a technical problem with [www.sweetadelineintl.org](http://www.sweetadelineintl.org) receiving the feed from the source and redistributing it on the Internet. If you are experiencing technical difficulty with your media player, confirm that the latest version of the player is installed.

## Around the Regions



VocalFest 2012 at the Sheraton Parsipanny Hotel in September 2012. Pictured above is Region 15 Transition Team member Johanna Herudek, Chairperson Lisbet Duponte and in-coming members from Region 16.

## Evergreen Chorus

by Eileen Manning, *Taglines* Correspondent

In 1962, a group of women calling themselves the Southern Dutchess Chorus received a charter from Sweet Adelines International. Southern Dutchess Chorus would eventually merge with Colonial City Chorus under the name, Evergreen.

In 2012, Evergreen Chorus celebrates its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Over the past 50 years, the chorus has seen members come and members go. It has seen directors come and directors go. It has seen babies born, grow up and get married. Evergreen members have celebrated happy events together, and have supported each other through difficult times. But through it all, Evergreen Chorus has entertained. At nursing homes, ballgames, picnics and even Madison Square Garden, Evergreen chorus has brought the sound of harmony into the lives of many people. I have only been a member of Evergreen Chorus for eight years. But I have never felt so welcomed by a group as I did when I joined Evergreen. I am truly proud to join my Evergreen sisters on the risers every Tuesday night. Happy Anniversary, Evergreen Chorus, and may you continue to harmonize the world for 50 more years (at least!)

## Golden Apple Chorus

by Margaret Chaffa, *Taglines* Correspondent

The Golden Apple Chorus had a productive summer working on new music and refreshing our repertoire. We were fortunate again this summer to hold our rehearsals in the air conditioned



SAI Day with Golden Apple Chorus at the Italian Festival

Tower Room at Mt. Pleasant's Town Hall.

Mary M. Romeo, mother of Delia Siemers, longtime member of the Golden Apple Chorus, died on June 17, 2012. Mary was a former member of SAI and the Golden Apple Chorus. She was president at one time. Mary still enjoyed singing with us at holiday time and often accompanied Delia to TRAX. In addition to singing barbershop, she was a choir member of St.

Joseph's Church in Bronxville, NY, and a member of the Songpipers of Bronxville. She was a dedicated volunteer at Lawrence Hospital in Bronxville for more than 25 years. Besides her family and her faith, Mary's greatest joy was music. The chorus performed at her funeral and sang "Friends" at her request. She will be missed.

We performed at the Hebrew Home, a local nursing home on June 3, and were very warmly received by the residents and staff. The chorus celebrated SAI Day on July 13, at the Italian Festival in Verplanck, NY. There was a very lively Italian American Idol competition, lots of delicious food and great fun for all.

Our fall schedule will be busy beginning on October 7, with a performance at Support-a-Walk for breast and ovarian cancer. We will perform on stage prior to the start of the walk and then sing at the starting line to cheer on the walkers. The chorus will hold a Tag Sale on October 13, at The Church of the Good Shepherd in Granite Spring, NY, please stop by if you are in the area. We will be on hand at Westchester Restorative Therapy's Christmas tree lighting December 5.

We will hold a fund raiser and perform at Barnes and Noble in White Plains, N.Y. on December 7 in White Plains, N.Y. On December 12, we will be singing carols for the seniors at Drum Hill.

## Greater Nassau Chorus

by Gerri-Ann Seidman, *Taglines* Correspondent

Greater Nassau Chorus had the privilege of participating in Sweet Adelines International Day on Friday, July 13. Two quartets, Turning Point and Sound FX, as well as a small group including



SAI Day with Greater Nassau Chorus in Rockville Centre

Master Director, Harriette Walters, and 11 members, regaled Garden City, Huntington and Rockville Centre with music while publicizing Sweet Adelines International and Greater Nassau Chorus' July 24 Open House. It was joyous to rove through the town singing and talking with so many people about who we are and what we do. Faces lit up, smiles broke out, and the warm appreciation was palpable. Sharing the joys of our craft in such an intimate way reinforces our commitment and dedication to something we already love. We will use this experience as a

springboard to propel us to find new ways to bring in members, educate ourselves, inspire us to move forward and help us continue our journey of growth to the next level.

## Harmony Celebration Chorus

by Stephanie Robinson, *Taglines* Correspondent

As I write this, Harmony Celebration is a month from the chorus semi-finals in Denver, Colorado. We gave our new costumes and our contest songs a trial run at VocalFest to a most appreciative audience. We're reading up on how to handle a high-altitude environment and almost everyone has engaged in some kind of additional physical activity to build the stamina we'll need to sing in the Mile-High City.

In August, we also performed at one of our regular events, the New Jersey Retired Fireman's Home in Boonton. The men there really seem to enjoy us and those who are able sing along – some of them know the words to the more traditional songs better than we do! We have a holiday performance in December at the Barclay Hotel in New York City, so as soon as we get back from contest we'll be brushing up on our Christmas carols. We also recently welcomed our newest member, baritone, Elizabeth Harris, who has already mastered most of our repertoire and choreography.

Before we leave for Denver, we're having a send-off/dress rehearsal for our family and friends at our rehearsal site on October 14. It'll be our last chance to perform for an audience before we hit the big stage on November 1, and we plan to put everything our coaches, director and section leaders have drilled into us to good use. We're looking forward to seeing all of the Region 15 supporters in Colorado cheering for us and our fellow contestants, Liberty Oak, East Coast Style and a.k.a.

## Heart of New Jersey

by Ellen Greenhouse, *Taglines* Correspondent

The Heart of NJ had another busy summer performing outdoors. We strolled the streets of Red Bank singing in June and July. This has become an annual event for us and many other musicians. We will visit this location again in December, as is traditional for us. Unfortunately, our yearly gig at the Monmouth County Fair was cancelled due to the crazy weather. A "super cell", much like a mini tornado decided to land right in the heart of Freehold Borough. The flooding and damage caused an early closing of the fair.



We

SAI Day with Heart of New Jersey at Freedomfest State Fair

celebrated Sweet Adelines International Day at Freedom Fest State Fair. A lot of water was consumed that day as the thermometer was well into the 90's. Yes, it was a hot summer, BUT, the Heart of NJ Chorus stayed cool on Wednesday evenings as we learned Chanukah and Christmas songs for our show in December. Now it is back to work and hopefully a mild winter. We are looking forward to a visit from our witty and talented coach Sylvia Alsbury in October. She always has something new to share with us. From there we look forward to our Holiday show in December.

We would like to introduce our newest member, Torey Mather. Torey is a bass and is so excited to share in our wonderful hobby.

The chorus is thrilled to announce our "Woman of Note" for 2012, Tricia Zichello will be assuming the position of Regional Marketing Coordinator next year. If that isn't enough good news for one person, Tricia, who recently switched from lead to bass, is now part of our newest registered quartet, "Shore To Please." It is very exciting that we now have four registered quartets. Can't wait to see them on stage.

## Hickory Tree Chorus

by Kristen McDonald, *Taglines* Correspondent

Hickory Tree Chorus welcomes its newest member, Sarah Coffin. We are delighted to have her join us on the risers singing tenor.

Our summer coaching session with Sandy Marron, Master Director of Lions Gate Chorus was a hit. Combine enthusiasm and new arrangements provided by our own Master Music Arranger, Carolyn Schmidt and you are sure to have a wonderful learning experience! October brings spooktacular coaching from Jim Arns, Melodeers' Master Director 700. It will sure be a thriller.

Hickory Tree Chorus Scholarship Chair Lynn Macbeth awarded our 2012 Annual \$1,000 Scholarship July 25 to Ariel Rubin, a 2012 graduate of Montclair High School, now attending Clark University. She performed selections from "Jekyll and Hyde," "Side Show," and "Candide," for chorus members and guests.



The scholarship presentation kicked off HTC's first "Youth in Harmony Night", a free event for student a cappella groups and fans. Performers and fans learned about the art form of barbershop style a cappella singing and enjoyed refreshments. The

special event was part of the month-long celebration of Sweet Adelines International Day in the Greater New York Region.

HTC is proud to have named Dana Dunlevy its 2012 Woman of Note at Vocal Fest. As one of the baritone section leaders, she is an organized and effective teacher, always going the extra mile to help members sing musically and confidently, and is enrolled in the Director Certification Program.

We look forward to our upcoming annual show, "[Jersey Bounce](#)" December 1 in Mendham, NJ. Guests include Frank the Dog Quartet and Miss New Jersey, Lindsey Petrosch. Tickets for the 3 and 7:30 p.m. performances are available at [tickets@hickorytreechorus.org](mailto:tickets@hickorytreechorus.org).

## Island Hills Chorus

by Eileen LeBrando and Akki Sampson, *Taglines* Correspondents

Hello from Island Hills! In keeping with our motto - Moving Forward! - our chapter is always in motion. Our wonderful, permanent director, Tom Brucia, has worked his way into our hearts and WOW are we lucky to have his 30+ years of barbershop background in performing and directing. Our summer programs were fueled by great weather: we sang on board the Port Jefferson Ferry crossing LI Sound with the sunset as backdrop! Our much looked-forward-to yearly performances at Heckscher Park in Huntington and Common Ground in Sayville were received with smiles and applause! Guest Night - *Come for a Night~Stay for a Lifetime* - brought 25 enthusiastic visitors, who enjoyed an entertaining evening of chorus, octets, quartets, and skits, as well as sharing our joy with an impromptu singing of "Get Me to the Church on Time" for our newly married bass, Edyie! We ended the night with goodies, beverages, and mingling together. Fall is packed with performances for libraries, clubs, special occasions and events. Of course, VocalFest was a blast! Our lively group of blonde, braided yodelers had great fun presenting Love Gifts to the choruses and quartets. Congratulations and good luck to all! Coming up on October 20 & 21 is our annual garage sale; we are often our own best customers! And join us for Breakfast at Tiffany's - oops, we mean Applebees - on Sunday, December 16.

Check for details and information about this and other IHC events at [www.islandhillschorus.org](http://www.islandhillschorus.org) . We look forward to seeing you all! Wishing our Sisters in Harmony a glorious Fall!

## **Liberty Oak Chorus**

by Sue Radford, *Taglines* Correspondent

LOC kicked off the summer with a chorus picnic hosted by our Woman of Note, Mary Jo Bergeron. We are so grateful for all she does for our chorus. Congrats, Mary Jo. You deserve this honor.

For the remainder of the summer, LOC worked on new music, choreography, and coaching to prepare for our journey to Denver. Thank you to our talented and hard-working coaches: Betty Clipman, Joe Connelly, and Erin Howden. We're looking forward to a session with Jim Arns right before we leave for Denver. What a send-off!

On August 25, LOC participated in Macy's Shop for a Cause at Monmouth Mall. It's always fulfilling to share our gift of music. Another full chorus performance in early October and our annual show on December 2 will round out the year.

We are thrilled to share the stage with our newest members: Joan Marino (baritone) and dual members Jeanne Elmuccio (tenor) and Jeanne Viscito (baritone). Welcome, ladies!

It was such a pleasure to hostess this year's VocalFest. Thank you, Region 15, for making our job easy and for supporting our boutique. We will do our best to make you proud as we represent Region 15 with Harmony Celebration, a.k.a, and East Coast Style. Look out, Denver: Here comes Region 15!

## **Long Island Sound**

by Kathy Solomon, *Taglines* Correspondent

Autumn has changed more than the color of the leaves for the *Long Island Sound Chorus*. Our Great Women! Great Harmony! Great Fun! membership drive is in full swing, and we have had several fresh faces visiting us each week in hopes of joining. This constitutes a good change. Less happy is the news that our Team Coordinator, assistant director and tri-sectional singer extraordinaire Kim Palermo-Bogardus will be leaving *Long Island Sound* due to professional and personal commitments, but continuing with Sweet Adelines as a Chapter-at-Large member. To everything, there is a season and we hope that new members and old friends will see their way onto our risers sooner than later.

## **Song of the Valley Chorus**

by Pat Meade, *Taglines* Correspondent

Kudos to all who were responsible for planning Vocal Fest 2012, particularly Eileen Welsh in her first year as Education Coordinator. Five of us plus our director, Tom, attended and had a wonderful time. Laura Pallas was extraordinary. Thanks, Lisbet, for introducing her to our region. Four of us had PVIs with Kat Britt and we were all extremely impressed with her ability and grateful for the opportunity. Pat Novak, our Marketing Coordinator, took Dana Dunlevy's class and is all fired up about using Twitter. She also brought back ideas for Maria Osundele, our youngest member, who is in charge of our Facebook page. Four of us took part in Master

Director Harriette Walter's Harmony High Chorus and loved singing with our fellow members of Region 15 and some of our in-coming Region 16 members.

We are trying out new rehearsal venues in different towns. We'll have guest nights in each location, hoping to pique interest in untapped areas of our very large county.

We are looking forward to a coaching session with Nancy Faddegon in October. We are so happy to have found her "hiding away" in region 16. She is an outstanding director and coach and the great part for us is that she grew up in our county so when she comes to us she is coming home.

Here's to a successful fall for all!

## **Twin County Chorus**

by Naomi Rose, *Taglines* Correspondent

Happy Autumn to all. Didn't the summer just fly by? That's what happens when you have as busy a summer as we did. In May, a double quartet entertained at the West Islip Library. In June, TC performed for the residents of the Atria in Bay Shore where we had the pleasure of reconnecting with Lydia Barbiero, an esteemed former member of Island Hills. August found us performing at the Glen Head Community Center.

As a result of our Open House, TC welcomed three talented newbies into the fold: Erica Boden (lead), Jeanne Bonnici (bari), and Deborah Lorber (bari). Thirteen quartets and two double quartets assembled for our Annual Quartet Night held at the end of August. This tradition provides a wonderful opportunity for those who want to try quartetting without any pressure. It is fun, and another excellent tool that helps us hone our craft.

This fall is proving to be a very busy time for TC. Many thanks to our industrious Ways & Means Chair, Marilyn Vokoun, and committee, who organized a very successful Garage Sale in September. All unsold items were donated – clothing to The INN, and the remaining items to the United War Veterans' Council. We'll be singing at the Lord & Taylor 1 in 9 Breakfast, and at Somerset Gardens in Plainview. We also have a weekend coaching session with Chris Ferguson and Laura Ferguson Abrahams from Region 1 in a few weeks. November 18 is the date for our big event for the year – our International Fest: Italian Buffet, Chinese Auction and mini concert.

This year's VocalFest was a smashing success. More than half of our members attended, including first-timers Erica Boden, Jeanne Bonnici and Chris Scalamandre They were duly impressed by the weekend, and what a great learning experience it was! The best yet!

Congratulations to our 2012 Woman of Note, Marie Harnett, and to one of Region 15's newly Certified Directors, Twin County's own Christine Krowles.

Best of luck in Denver to Harmony Celebration, Liberty Oak, a.k.a, and East Coast Style. We wish you all medals and crowns!

## Taglines Classified Section

Just want to be sure that you are aware of the *Taglines* Classified Section. Our publication readership reaches more than six hundred (650) members within the Greater New York Region. In addition, our *Taglines* publication is linked to the Greater New York Region Website for all members. Consider the readership and then decide to place that full-page color ad. It will be worth it!

Here is the pricing for members and non members:

Full page	\$75	\$100
Half page	\$35	\$50
Quarter	\$20	\$30
Business Card	\$10	\$15

You may also purchase a sponsored home page link for \$30 (member) and \$50 (non-member) for a period of one month. For assistance or if you have questions regarding the ad please contact: Loretta Peskin @ [Loretta@sairegion15.org](mailto:Loretta@sairegion15.org)



**Next deadline for *Taglines* submission is February 14, 2013.**

### New, Returning, and Transferred Members

Diana Abourafeh	Greater Nassau Chorus
Barbara Untracht	Greater Nassau Chorus
Elizabeth Harris	Harmony Celebration Chorus
Sandy McGroarty	Hickory Tree Chorus
Phyllis Prestamo	Hickory Tree Chorus
Bonnie Auriemma	Hickory Tree Chorus
Tina Levine	Hickory Tree Chorus
Sarah Coffin	Hickory Tree Chorus
Torey Mather	Heart of New Jersey
Joan Marino	Liberty Oak Chorus

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## Calendar of Events

Saturday, October 20, 2012	Long Island Sound Annual Show
Tues. Oct. 30, 2012 - Nov. 3, 2012	International Convention, Denver, Colorado
Saturday, November 17, 2012	RMT Fall Meeting
Sunday, November 18, 2012	Twin County Show
Saturday, December 01, 2012	Hickory Tree Annual Show
Sunday, December 02, 2012	Liberty Oak Annual Show
Sunday, December 02, 2012	Greater Nassau Annual Show
Sunday, December 09, 2012	Jersey Harmony Show
Sunday, December 09, 2012	Heart of New Jersey Show
Fri., Feb. 1, 2013 - Sun., Feb. 3, 2013	RMT Retreat/ Budget Meeting
Fri. , Apr. 11, 2013 - Sun., Apr. 14, 2013	Region 15 Contest
Wednesday, May 1, 2013	Harmonic Progression Merger
Saturday, May 4, 2013	RMT Spring Meeting
June 8, 2013	RMT Training Karen Breidert
Fri., Sept., 20, 2013 - Sun., Sept. 22, 2013	VocalFest with Lori Lyford
Tues., Nov. 5, 2013 - Sat., Nov. 9, 2013	International Convention, Honolulu, HI
Saturday, November 16, 2013	Hickory Tree Annual Show
December 8, 2013	Liberty Oak Show
Fri., April 10, 2014 - Sun., April 13, 2014	NEW Region 15 Contest 2014
Fri., Sept. 19, 2014 - Sun., Sept. 21, 2014	VocalFest with Karen Breidert
Tues., Nov. 4, 2014 - Sat., Nov. 8, 2014	International Convention, Baltimore
Fri., May 14, 2015 - Sun., May 17, 2015	Regional Contest 2015
Tues., Oct. 6, 2015 - Sat., Oct.10, 2015	International Convention, Las Vegas, NV
Friday, May 12, 2016 - May 15, 2016	Regional Contest 2016
Tues., Oct.18, 2016 - Sat., Oct. 22, 2016	International Convention, Las Vegas, NV
Tues., Oct. 10, 2017 - Sat., Oct. 14, 2017	International Convention, Las Vegas, NV

For more information on events, visit the calendar on the Region 15 Web site at [www.sairegion15.org](http://www.sairegion15.org).

**Greater New York Regional Management Team**

**Arlene Gunther**, Team Coordinator

**Loretta Peskin**, Communications Coordinator

**Dolly Power**, Membership Coordinator

**Patricia Miller**, Finance Coordinator

**Judy Douglas**, Directors' Coordinator

**Dana Dunlevy**, Marketing Coordinator

**Eileen Welsh**, Education Coordinator

**Carol Schultheis**, Events Coordinator

***Editor's Note***

***There is always something exciting about the start of a new season. Autumn in New York and New Jersey brings picturesque sights of foliage and fabulous sounds of crunching leaves.***

***At the same time, Sweet Adelines from around the world are preparing to wow the judges in Denver at the International Convention and Competition.***

***I can't help but get a bit excited as I look over our region's musical contestants; Harmony Celebration Chorus, Liberty Oak Chorus, East Coast Quartet, a.k.a. Quartet and our in-coming regional contestant, Saratoga Soundtrack Chorus.***

***I'll be with you all in spirit as I watch your performances!***

***Sincerely,***

***Loretta***

Front Page Credits: Dana Dunlevy and Brianna 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.**