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A New Tag



What you need to know now...

Greater NY/NJ Region #15 Presents

VOCALFEST 2016



With

JEAN BARFORD

Master Director, Certified Sound Judge, Sweet Adelines International Faculty and Coach

September 9-11, 2016
Westchester Hilton
Registration Deadline August 20th

The Magic of Warming Up

Me and My Tonal Center

No Strings Attached-Learning Musicality

Coaching with Ease

and more!

Plus a Region 15 Chorus, classes from your Regional Management Team, performances by your Vegas 2016 Representatives, PVIs and more!



What are people saying about the Harriette Walters Leadership Award Recipient?

Regional Management Team Coordinator,
Barbara Wright,was awarded the Harriette Walters
Leadership Award at our recent Regional Convention.



Barbara is a member of the Spirit of Syracuse Chorus and Skylark Quartet. At Spirit of Syracuse Chorus, she currently serves on the management team as the music team liaison and she has been bass section leader for many years. She has spear headed many music and financial projects over the years in Spirit of Syracuse Chorus.

Barbara has inspired many with her quality leadership at the Regional level. She exhibits calm under duress, handling thorny issues with aplomb, guiding a meeting to a consensus at the same time leading with directness to get the job done. She delegates and listens to results with fair mindedness. The years of service that she has dedicated to Sweet Adelines displays steadfastness and willingness to work hard to achieve goals. As Financial Coordinator at the regional level she displayed trustworthiness in the care and keeping of the Region's financial well -being.

As current Team Coordinator, we have seen her exhibit leadership at director meetings, team leader/president meetings and in front of the whole region. Motivation, decision making, diplomacy, striving for

excellence, bearing in mind fiscal goals as well as musical goals are exhibited consistently.

Her ability to keep cool and calm has been a tremendous strength for the region as it moved through a monumental transition. She sacrificed countless hours, tackled some very difficult discussions with style, grace and complete fairness to all parties involved. Barbara does not subscribe to the "that's how we have always done things" mind set. She embraces change and the challenges of moving her chorus and region forward though innovative and thoughtful risks.

Barbara always has a way of targeting the root issues instead of just addressing the symptoms. It's these traits that have made her a go to source of advice and mentorship for other women in the organization just beginning to take on leadership roles themselves.

On top of everything, Barbara is able to show leadership in a way that empowers those around her. Her strength, grace, and empathy as a leader is what has made her so effective in her roles on both a regional and chorus level.



Where, oh where, has summer gone?

If you are anything like me, you can hardly believe that we're at the end of August, headed into Fall and VocalFest. Kids are going back to school, leaves are turning, and many of us are off and running in rehearsals for chorus shows and performance events. I encourage you to check the Regional Calendar to see what's going on around the Region – you never know what opportunity you might have to hear some great barbershop just a short drive down the road! Speaking of great barbershop...I hope you're planning to be with us in Westchester when the legendary Jean Barford arrives! The VocalFest schedule is jam-packed with learning, teaching and vocal production sessions for every singer at every level of proficiency. Harriette Walters and the Education Coordinator's Committee have put together another great event, and the RMT is looking forward to learning, singing and playing with you all.

On another note: Much of the information, marketing and promotional documentation and notices that you receive from the RMT are the work of our Regional Marketing Coordinator, Tricia Zichello. If you learned about it on Facebook, Twitter, or another social media account, or if you participated in the regional Peanut Butter and Jelly phone conferences, you have been touched by Tricia's networking and marketing talents. Sadly for Region 15, Tricia and her family are leaving the area for a new home in Florida. She will be greatly missed here, and will leave a tremendous hole in the hearts of those of us on the RMT who have had the opportunity to work with her over the past few years. Her dedication to you, the members of Region 15, has been unwavering. Her efforts on behalf of the membership and the RMT have helped to craft the New York/New Jersey Region 15 that we have come to know. We are fortunate to have had Tricia working for and with us, and thank her for her efforts and the support she has shown for Sweet Adelines, and especially for Region 15. We wish Tricia, her husband Dan and her beautiful girls much happiness and success as they begin this next chapter of their lives.

Which leads me to this final thought: if you are wondering what YOU can do for Region 15 - how you can help shape future programming, how you can contribute to the organization that provides you with so many sisters in song – please consider submitting an application for a position on the Regional Management Team. Maybe this is not your year to do that, but there are plenty of opportunities and years ahead for you to consider sharing your leadership talents. The reward for participation far outweighs the work involved. Trust me, I know – I am fortunate to experience it every day.

In harmony,

Barbara

Barbara Wright
Team Coordinator
RMT









Hilton

VEGAS

Drive!
Quartet...

On the Road to Vegas



Drive! is so excited to represent Region 15 in Las Vegas this fall! This is our first time competing internationally with our bass, Loren Vaughn, and we are thrilled our hard work is paying off! It has been a pleasure watching our quartet family grow, with the many new faces we have gotten to know and laugh with during this past regional contest. Also, quite literally too, as Loren and husband, Chris Vaughn, are expecting their first child, a baby girl, in December!

Thankfully, Diane, Carol, and Patty have a lot of experience in the parenting department, so Loren is in good hands. Patty, mother of Aidan (6), Clare (4), and Jonathan (2), competed pregnant in three regional contests, and ventured to Baltimore Intl. in 2014 when Jonathan was only 6 weeks old, with the help of her mom, Kathe deRose (who won regional while

pregnant with Patty!) Carol, has three children- Kyle (19), Julia (16), and Mark (13), all of whom shared various competition experiences. Diane was the bravest of all, as daughter Amy (24) was born only 2 days after a regional contest—a little too close! Three more competing babies followed suit-Jimmy (22), Casey (20), and Billy (15).

Drive! is grateful for the support of its chorus sisters from GNC, HTC and most recently, HCC! We look forward to sharing the stage in Las Vegas with them and our friends in LOC!! We can't wait to celebrate with everyone at Vocalfest and add to our evergrowing circle of friends!

In Harmony, Patty, Loren, Carol and Di



Already "famous" individually, Famous Janes Quartet members Susan Taylor, Jen Kuethe, Amanda Clements and Region 15's own Harriette Waters hale from three states, two regions and sing in or direct four award-winning choruses. After placing 15th in Vegas last fall, Famous Janes has been busy competing for evaluation at Region 19 Contest, singing at SingStrong DC, performing on chorus shows and, of course, traveling to rehearsals!

Don't forget to cheer them on as Contestant # 28 in the Quartet Semi-finals.

Viva Las Vegas: Liberty Oak Chorus

On our way to Vegas we have welcomed some new members to our LOC family. These talented ladies are Cindy Allen (bari), Karen Pulfer (bari), Bianca Skvirsky (lead) and Dara Van (bari). They are busy learning our competition songs for International along with our repertoire and choreography. Yea LOC Newbies!!!

We had some wonderful performances for the community in June starting with our appearance at Four Seasons, Metedeconk Lakes in Jackson, NJ where several of our members reside. The audience was so excited to finally hear our chorus. We also sang at the "God and Country" concert on June 24th at King of Kings Church in Middletown to benefit **Emmanuel Cancer Foundation for** children. There were very few dry eyes that night as a young cancer survivor spoke about his future!

Congratulations to Jennifer Wiseman who received this year's Director's Award at our Installation dinner along with Carolyn Burroughs who was honored as our Sweet Adeline of the Year. Everyone agreed that Jen and Carolyn were so deserving of these honors!

Our coaching schedule has been busy with visits from Joe Connelly, Jim Arns, Renee Porzel and Erin Howden. The chorus looks forward to VocalFest with the amazing Jean Barford.

And last but not least- Viva Las Vegas- an afternoon of song on October 1st.

Submitted by Dolly Power







Playing the Wildcard in Vegas

As I write this, just 9 regular rehearsals, 2 sendoffs, and 2 coaching sessions stand between HCC and our semifinals appearance in Las Vegas as your Wildcard Chorus Competitor. We can't wait to hit that stage! We're also SOOO excited Region 15 will have three chorus representatives there in 2017. Way to go, Greater Nassau, Spirit of Syracuse and Evergreen!

HCC is making the most of every moment together, including our first-ever joint rehearsal with frequent Top 10 chorus AND reigning Region 15 champs GNC. Our new favorite word: "thigh-draulics." Our new favorite performance

concept: adding more animation to every character change. To our sisters in song: We're setting our GPS coordinates for Long Island next summer. Thanks for the inspiration!

To keep things fun, we divided the chorus into RAH teams that embody HCC's Core Values: Excellence, Love, Trust, Unity, Joy, and Passion. This has been a great way to keep these ideals top-of-mind. Each group is balanced by voice part, so our director Scott Brannon can use any of them as a demonstration tool.

HCC is grateful for the amazing coaches who have lent us their expertise: Jim

Arns, Betty Clipman, Carole Persinger, Renee Porzel, and Harriette Walters. A heartfelt thank-you to Scott, who hasn't missed a beat despite the health issues faced by him and his wife Maggie. We love both of you something fierce, and your positive attitude is an amazing example. To our fellow International competitors Liberty Oak and Drive! (and special friends Famous Janes): We're all in this together, and we couldn't be prouder to share the International stage with you. May good luck be your friend in everything you do!

Heather Collins

Harmony Celebration International Send Off
Wed, October 5, 7:30pm

Ridge School Gym, 325 West Ridgewood Avenue, Ridgewood , NJ www.harmonycelebration.com





FEATURED EVENTS



3:00pm Twin County: International Fest 3pm 7 pm



Sep 9 2016 -6:00pm to Sep 11 2016 - 2:30pm VocalFest with Jean Barford Exact schedule and start time to be

determined.



3:00pm Liberty Oak Vegas Kick Off Doors Open at 2:30

The Greater NY/NJ Region #15 of Sweet Adelines International is dedicated to empowering women through education, passion and innovation.

With almost 900 members in 20 choruses and dozens of quartets. you can find a harmony home with us!

RECENT NEWS



August 16, 2016 7:04pm **Exciting News for** Vegas 2017! Congratulations to Evergreen Chorus who accepted an invitation to compete on the International Stage in the... more



August 16, 2016 6:44pm Heart of LI chorus director relocating. Heart of LI chorus director relocating. Seeking new director. The Heart Committee met. of LI charus is seeking an energetic... more

August 16, 2016 6:40am International Names New Board of **Directors State** The International recently and chose our new state for the upcoming International...





Drivel is so excited for Vec **Buzz for Drive Quartet** Drivel is so excited to repres Region 15 in Las Vegas this This is... more

I am so happy to give you a sneak peek into our new public and members only website! We've stepped into the future with a great new look and easy to use platforms. Choruses and Quartets will love the new features on the public site. The new members only site will allow more consistent communication with our membership.

Of course, change can be exciting, but also scary. Fear not! There will be a class at VocalFest introducing you to some of the exciting features! We hope that each chorus and quartet will send at least one member to the class held on Saturday afternoon at 4:30 entitled "Groupanizer Maximizer." Bring a laptop too, if you have one!

Please be patient as we roll out these changes. There are likely to be some mistakes along the way.

Jenn Hunter Communications Coordinator

What's New: Public Site

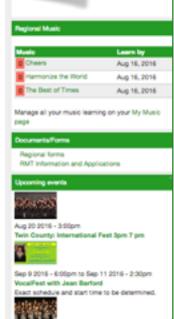
- Responsive web design
- Faster turn around of web postings
- Easy to view on your smart phone or tablet
- Featured Public Events
- Stunning Video and Audio
- Easy to Share Chorus & Quartet Information

What's New: Member's Site

- Choose your own password
- Update you email and contact information easily
- Never miss an announcement or regional email
- Easy to view on your smart phone
- Easy Search Options
- Easy to use Music Library
- New Document and Form Sections
- Easy to view Regional Calendar connected with new public site.



a week! Congratulations to Evergreen Chorus who accepted an invitation to compete on the memational Stage in the Harmony Classic Division A famal chorus) competition in October 2017 in Las.



ns Coordinator, Jennifer

SHO 7

HARMONY CLASSIC 2017 EVERGREEN

WILDCARD VEGAS 2017 SPIRIT OF SYRACUSE Oct 1 - 3:00pm Liberty Oak Vegas Kick Off

Oct 5 - 7:30pm Harmony Celebration International Send Off

Nov 5 - 7:00pm Capitaland Show

Nov 19 - 3:00pm & 7:00pm Hickory Chorus Seasons of Love

Nov-19 2:00pm & 7:00pm Jersey Harmony: Just For Fun!

Nov 20 - 3:00pm & 7:00pm Twin County: International Fest

Dec 3 - 2:00pm Heart of NJ Holiday Show

Dec 10 - 7:00pm Spirit of Syracuse Christmas Show



Invitation

The Ladies of Liberty Oak would like to invite anyone from Region 15 and their guests to join us for a dinner and party in celebration of Region 15's contestants in Las Vegas on Saturday evening October 23rd. Find out more by clicking here



We Harmonize the World. We are singers. We are Sweet Adelines.

Join us this January for Global Open House.

RMT Applications Due
August 30th!
Click here for more
information.



Theme From Cheers! Arrangement by Larry Wright Check out the whole song and learning files on our website!

