



2014 Women of Note

Women of Note winners were honored at VocalFest 2014.

Here is a sampling of each Women of Note.

For more information about each Women of Note visit the
Regional Website or [click here](#).



Carolyn DePaolo Brooklyn Chorus

Carolyn has been taking a leadership role in Brooklyn Chorus longer than anyone can remember. She has been a member longer than anyone, having received her longevity award for forty years' service this year. Appropriately, Carolyn has been our chorus historian and her detailed memory of chorus history often comes in handy. Carolyn has served as chorus Treasurer for the past eight years. She has also served on our Board of Directors in other capacities. A longtime tenor section leader, Carolyn is a valuable part of our Music Team. She has also performed various duties on our show committees, including scriptwriter and chairperson. Outside of chorus, Carolyn has been very active in her church community for many years, and at the public polls whenever elections are held. **Congratulations, Carolyn!**

Kay Weiss, Capitaland Chorus

Joining Capitaland in July 2012 with a passion for music, and eager to immerse herself in barbershop, Kay learned all her music to perform in our 2014 November show. Over the past few years, Capitaland Chorus has faced many challenges, and members have assumed various leadership responsibilities to keep the chorus moving forward. Kay was an integral part of this effort by chairing our show, becoming the assistant bass leader, and in January of 2014 agreeing to prepare and direct the chorus at the Regional Competition. Kay sought guidance and education from directors Kay Crawford and Diane Porsch. As a result, Capitaland Chorus placed third in the small chorus division, and Kay earned the "2014 Novice Director Award". She also competed in the 2014 Quartet Competition. **Congratulations, Kay!**



Judy Zwick, Carousel Harmony Chorus

Judy has been a Sweet Adeline for many years. When our director needed time off, Judy was asked to fill in and she never hesitated to accept. She is organized, understands barbershop completely and is dedicated to do the work required to be our director. Without her assuming the responsibilities of the directorship, we would be without the leadership necessary to continue.

Judy has contributed to many committees over the years including costume committee, music staff, Singing Valentine Coordinator, Young Women in Harmony Coordinator and many more.

Furthermore, she has such an appreciation for this type of music that she devotes her spare time to singing with her quartet. Her dedication to doing a job and doing it very well is most admirable. **Congratulations, Judy!**





Jan McGrath, City of the Hills Chorus

Little did Jan realize in 1993 how dedicated she would become to the City of the Hills Chorus. She is our Assistant Director, Baritone Section Leader, Chorus Historian and has been President of our Board of Directors for several years. Jan's been in three quartets, and currently performs with *Four of Hearts*.

When asked if she had any chorus adventures, she replied "Well, I broke a tooth on a tuna sandwich dining in Syracuse the day before competition; several singing sisters accompanied me on foot looking for an emergency dentist – and we found one!"

We all love Jan. She does creative warm up exercises with an engaging smile. She is very encouraging when she steps in as director, and is a natural leader. We are so pleased to be able to honor her for her many years of hard work by selecting her as our 2014 Woman of Note. **Congratulations, Jan!**

Patricia Miller, Evergreen Chorus

Pat came to Evergreen when she moved to Poughkeepsie with her husband. She has served on the Regional Management Team as Finance Coordinator for two years (2010-12), and Events Coordinator (2013-14), handling the transition of moving our competition venue from Philadelphia to Albany.

Pat has been Finance Coordinator for Evergreen for many years, Show Chair, and Fundraising Coordinator, etc. She is always willing to pitch in and help with whatever needs to be done in a moment's notice, including arranging for riser transportation, and always with a bright welcoming smile.

She has opened her home to many of our coaches. Recently, after a weekend coaching with Diane Porsch, a bolder fell on the train tracks, leaving Diane without a way to return home. Pat stepped up and drove Diane to Rochester, to be picked up and safely returned home. **Congratulations, Pat!**



Jocelyn Rampage, Golden Apple Chorus

Jocelyn has spent the last three years as our Team Coordinator. During that time, she was Chair for one of our annual shows and has held multiple positions on show committees. When we were "buddy" chorus to Saratoga Soundtrack, while the two regions were merging, Jocelyn was good about reaching out and keeping in contact with this fun chorus. Jocelyn has since joined the Music Team as a bass section leader.

A few years ago, she was one of two leads who switched over to bass when a few of our basses became disabled or had to take a leave of absence. She has evolved into a very good bass, and was able to sing bass in *Just Sing* quartet for one of our shows and in a VLQ, *the NOTEables*. Jocelyn has also agreed to be our Chorus Competition Liaison for competition this year, and we are sure she will do a wonderful job. **Congratulations, Jocelyn!**



Andrea Macey, Greater Nassau Chorus

As a member of Greater Nassau Chorus for eight years, Andrea Macey has worked tirelessly and passionately on behalf of GNC. As Team Coordinator, she leads with confidence and positivity. Using her management skills, and redesigning and streamlining team meetings, Andrea was instrumental in maximizing the effectiveness and efficiency of the Management Team. She is GNC's Competition Coordinator for both Regional and International Competitions.

This past year, Andrea constructed a new website for the chorus. Greater Nassau has reaped the benefits by now being well represented in the Internet world. Yet again, this highlights just how passionate Andrea is about sharing with others her delight in Barbershop and her pride in GNC. **Congratulations, Andrea!**



Heather Collins, Harmony Celebration Chorus

Heather is a front row baritone performance dynamo for Harmony Celebration Chorus. She started in a small startup chapter in California in 1992. In 1995, she moved to New York and joined Greater Nassau Chorus and sang with them at the 50th Anniversary International in New Orleans. Heather went Chapter-at-Large, and in 2007, joined the Harmony Celebration Chorus and has sung both tenor and baritone.

Heather started editing Region 15's newsletter, Taglines, then became editor. During her tenure, the newsletter went from a mailed publication to a cost-effective online tool. She also served as Region 15's Communications Coordinator for five years.

Heather is HCC's Management Team Coordinator. She was on the cover of the October 2013 Pitch Pipe as one of the top individual "Bowling for Barbershop" fundraisers. Heather was HCC's first Team Coordinator Award recipient. **Congratulations, Heather!**



Marianne Savage, Heart of Long Island Chorus

Marianne joined the Heart of Long Island Chorus in November of 2011. She is an accomplished artist, book illustrator, and musician. Marianne has been the Management Team Secretary and is now the Marketing Coordinator. She is also on the Music Team, is a section leader, and has taken over our newsletter. Marianne also won the Region #15 contest to create a new regional name and logo.

We are sure you can see that Marianne is a multitasking, all around good person. A casual comment to her results in a full-blown plan. She is generous with her time, committed to helping the chorus succeed in every way, and is a genuinely nice person! **Congratulations, Marianne!**



Nina Comanto, Heart of New Jersey Chorus

Nina was no stranger to barbershop harmony, growing up with her father singing in SPEBSQSA's King Chorus from Brooklyn, NY. Nina became a baritone with the Heart of New Jersey Chorus December of 2009. Nina also sings baritone in the quartet, *Extension Chords*.

Whether chairing the annual show, coordinating housing/registration for retreat, competition, VocalFest or International, Nina is always ready to help with chorus events. Lending a "helping hand" at our garage sale, Millstone Day, or planning our installation, Nina does so with zest, and a smile. Kept busy by her family, her dogs, her chorus and quartet, Nina retired in June, after 35 years in the same NYC middle school!

Nina is serving her second term on HONJ's Management Team and is our 2015 Chorus Competition Liaison. **Congratulations, Nina!**



Joyce Brandt, Hickory Tree Chorus

Joyce has been a Sweet Adeline for 53 years, during which time she has served in almost every job in her chapter and in Region 15. These include Regent (Regional Team Coordinator), Regional Convention Chair, Regional Competition Coordinator, and Chapter President, among many others. She has been coordinator and facilities negotiator for large events such as retreats, and helps our Costume Committee alter and fit costumes. She has danced in the front row, is on her third voice part (bass), and is a walking archive of chapter, region, and Sweet Adeline history.

Through it all, she's been a caring and generous-hearted sister in song who can always find another minute to take one more job, answer one more question, or help one more new (or old!) member. **Congratulations, Joyce!**



Cathy Miceli, Island Hills Chorus

Like Island Hills, Cathy Miceli has been a member of the Sweet Adelines organization for 50 years. As Island Hills celebrates its Jubilee year, the chorus is celebrating Cathy's singing barbershop harmony since 1964. What better tribute than to choose her for our Woman of Note.

Cathy first joined the Greater Nassau Chorus. Living in Brentwood, as Greater Nassau moved further west on Long Island, she looked for a closer chapter. In 1973 she joined Island Hills Chorus, under the direction of George Avener, winning a first place medal in 1978 in Los Angeles, California.

Born in Little Italy's Mulberry Street in NYC, Cathy attributes her love of singing to her father singing "Heart of My Heart" to her. An active member of her chapters, she has worked on choreography, costumes and makeup for almost her entire 50 years. **Congratulations, Cathy!**



Diane Trampe, Jersey Harmony Chorus

Diane has been JHC's Financial Coordinator for about seven years, with timeliness and efficiency. She is an assistant section leader and a most valued tenor. A member of both the Management Team and Music Team, Diane is always a reliable member to conduct a fundraiser, get us moving with physical warm-ups, and generally lend a hand wherever she's needed.

Diane has been a Sweet Adeline for 13 years, joining when Jersey Harmony was known as Millstone Valley Chorus. She has sung tenor with *Time Of Our Lives Quartet* since 2011. Diane lives in Hillsborough, New Jersey with her husband and three teen-aged sons.

Her finest qualities and our biggest pleasures are Diane's consistent upbeat attitude, never-ending smile, her warmth and ability to lift all of our spirits. **Congratulations, Diane!**



Linda Bridge, Liberty Oak Chorus

The first to volunteer for any job, Linda contributes physically, mentally and emotionally at all times. Linda serves on the Liberty Oak Chorus Board of Directors, where she provides a sensible solution to challenging issues. She dedicates her time by handling our risers, assembling them, storing and transporting them cheerfully and without complaint. Linda sets up and operates our audio equipment for performances and weekly rehearsals.

Linda can be called upon to MC our performances and is quick with a joke that puts us all at ease. Audiences respond to her warmth and delightful demeanor.

Linda embodies the Sweet Adeline adage "real, women, singing real harmony, and having real fun!" Liberty Oak is very lucky to have such a talented, ambitious, strong and amazing woman to call our friend! **Congratulations, Linda!**



Karen Mullen, Long Island Sound Chorus

Karen joined Sweet Adeline's in 1977, shortly after she got married. At that time she sang in the chorus with her two sisters and her mom, Betty Strong, and the director was her dad, Jim Strong. She was on the Board for 14 years during which, our chorus changed over to the Management Team format. Over the years, she has filled many positions including President, Vice President, Show Chair and Bass Section Leader. Karen was the Regional DMA for two years.

Karen is an award-winning bass singer and has sung and competed in a few quartets, including *Summer Windsong* and *Moondance*, who won regional contest three times and were wildcards twice. **Congratulations, Karen!**





Linda Brown, River Valley Chorus

Linda started her Sweet Adeline adventure in 1966. She has helped see River Valley Chorus through good times such as performing on the international stage as well as the struggles that came to the chorus in recent years.

Linda has played many roles in River Valley Chorus, including our Competition Coordinator, and editor of the River Valley Chorus Hotlines. Linda has served on the chorus management team and has been the chorus liaison.

In chorus life, Linda rarely missed a rehearsal. From chairing the Boscov's fundraiser to slinging spaghetti at our annual dinner, she is a gem. **Congratulations Linda!**

Sue Pidgeon, Saratoga Soundtrack Chorus

S Super organized! **U** Unbelievably cool! **E** Everyone's friend!

As Stage Manager for our epic fall show, a Musical Odyssey, she really kept us organized and moving forward. She is our Membership Chair, has been an MC for performances, and also has a real talent for writing parodies.

Sue is valued for her warm, caring and tactful ways and for never doing anything halfway. She is considered a "joy to be around, hardworking, reliable and a force to be reckoned with!" She created the costumes for our madrigal dancers for Denver, sewed innumerable robes and actually made an "extra set of feet" for every member! She is always prepared for rehearsals and performances. **Congratulations, Sue!**



Jo Lebrecht, Seneca Soundwaves Chorus

Jo has been a member of Sweet Adelines International for a total of 25 years. She began with the Kanandarque Chorus, then moved to Image City Sound Chorus, and is now with the Seneca Soundwaves Chorus.

Jo Lebrecht has held many administrative as well as musical positions, often simultaneously. She has been the Team Leader from 2010 to the present. At the same time, she has served as Performance Chair, CCL when in Region 15 and 16, Facebook Administrator, Publicity Chair and served on the Membership Committee.

Jo has also been an integral part of the Music Team for several years, where she has served as Tenor Section Leader. Jo has recently agreed to move to the Lead Section where she can be of assistance. **Congratulations, Jo!**



Diane Colf, Seven Valley Chorus

Diane has been a member of the Seven Valley Chorus for over 20 years. She has served as President, Secretary, Membership Chair, Publicity and Public Relations Coordinator and Show Chair. As a lead singer, she strives to learn her music and encourages her fellow chorus members to be their best.

Diane always participates in our fundraisers and helps others whenever she can. She even had a cat that she named "Adeline." Diane has also been an asset at recruiting new members for the chorus. She is a true lead(er) and the epitome of a Woman of Note for the Seven Valley Chorus and Region 15. **Congratulations, Diane!**





Teresa Heuser, Sirens of Gotham Chorus

Teresa has been a Sweet Adeline since 1990 when she joined the Greater Nassau Chorus. She first sang baritone for nine years, then switched to bass. She competed internationally as a member of GNC where they finished in the top 10 on numerous occasions.

A Sirens charter member who joined us in April of 2012, Teresa brings 24 years of Sweet Adelines experience to Sirens of Gotham. She has contributed to our new chapter's development, in terms of operations as well as our singing skills. Administratively, Teresa helped develop the Sirens' Standing Rules, represented us at the regional leadership training, and serves as Bass Section Co-Leader. She has also competed regionally in various quartets, with the highest achievement being a 4th Place medal as a member of *Savoir Faire*. **Congratulations, Teresa!**

Marye Weis, Song of the Valley Chorus

As a young mother of three Marye joined Monticello Chapter Sweet Adelines in Charlottesville, VA. She won a medal with Monticello but then moved to New York and put aside singing for a while. Marye joined our chapter three years ago and has made a major impact in that short time. Her positive attitude and love of music and our organization is very evident.

Marye found us when the chapter was losing our beloved director, Lisbet Kline. Undaunted, she joined us and jumped right in, becoming a member of our Management Team only six months later. She found a new rehearsal venue for us, is co-costume chair, has served as Communications Coordinator and Historian. **Congratulations, Marye!**



Alicia Caron, Spirit of Syracuse Chorus

Alicia joined the SOS chorus at the tender age of 15 and sang with her mother Renee. When we competed at our first ever international competition in Nashville in 1998, she was there! She remained an active member until graduating from high school and off to college in 2000.

Chorus members reconnected with Alicia, on Facebook and "encouraged" her to come visit in spring 2013. She has been a valued and active member ever since. She challenges us with warm-ups. She is on the front row and music team, lead section leader, and a member of *Soundbyte*, the Region 15 2014 fourth place medalist quartet. In summer 2014, she was appointed as an assistant director. **Congratulations, Alicia!**



Jeanette Cottone, Twin County Chorus

A member of Twin County since 1977, Jeanette has made many friends, and considers Twin County to be her second family.

Jeanette is an Assistant Baritone Section Leader, the Visual Committee Chair, a member of the music committee, and member of the choreography team. In the past, she served as Vice President and served on many show committees, and every year serves as the Housing Chair for competition.

Jeanette's love for music began very early. During the war years of the 1940s, she sang with the Bay Ridge High School Chorale, and participated in concerts at the Brooklyn Navy Yard. Jeanette loves all styles of music, but especially the barbershop style of singing. **Congratulations, Jeanette!**

