



## Congratulations To Our Regional Champions *Alamo Metro Chorus and Oasis Quartet*

By Vickie Dennis, Education Coordinator; and Carol Mouché, Communications Coordinator, Region 10

Region 10 members worked hard last year to increase scores across the board, and the 2009 competition numbers showed our success.

Alamo Metro Chorus placed first with an overall score of 636 to secure a spot at the 2010 International competition in Seattle. Texas Harmony Chorus, which is representing our region at the Harmony Classic in Nashville this October, came in second place with an overall score of 614. This gave Darlene Rogers her first Master Director designation, which is earned when a certified director of a competing chorus garners more than 600 points.

Close behind in third place was Lone Star Chorus with 610 points. That score qualified the chorus to compete in Division AA (medium-sized chorus) at the 2010 Harmony Classic in

*(Continued on page 2)*

### Chorus Winners

1. Alamo Metro
2. Texas Harmony
3. Lone Star
4. Spirit of SE TX
5. Crescent City Sound

### Quartet Winners

1. Oasis
2. Cross Country
3. Flash
4. Prelude
5. Starburst



*All competition photos courtesy E.R. Lilley Photography See more inside.*



*(Continued from page 1)*

Seattle. Spirit of SE Texas Chorus, which took 4<sup>th</sup> place, earned an overall score of 573. They also qualified to represent our region in Division A (small-size chorus) at the 2010 Harmony Classic. Choruses earn a berth for the Harmony Classic Div A and AA contest by earning one of the top-5 highest scores in the world for the size category.

Oasis Quartet took top honors in the Region 10 2009 quartet competition with 608 points and will be representing Region 10 in Nashville at International competition, as will the Young Women In Harmony quartet Fourmata.

In May 2008 at the Leadership Workshop, for my first task as Education Coordinator, I laid out a pretty big challenge to the directors and choruses in Region 10. Our competition scores in recent years were among some of the lowest in the organization and I wanted to lay down the gauntlet and challenge our choruses to “move on up.” I proposed that each chorus focus on raising their scores just one level.

For some choruses that was only 8-10 points but for others it was as many as 40 points. As in usual Region 10 fashion, once the challenge was made, choruses got busy. Education event attendance was up. Choruses focused on improving their scores. And our 2009 competition scores showed it! Here are some statistics from how scores compared from 2008 to 2009:

#### **QUARTET SCORES & LEVELS 2008 vs 2009**

- 22 quartets competed in the 2009 Contest
  - 4 quartets did not compete in 2008 but did in 2009
  - 3 quartets competed in 2008 but didn't in 2009
  - 69% of the competing quartets improved over 2008 scores
- 44% of the 2009 competing quartets moved up at least one level over 2008

#### **CHORUS SCORES & LEVELS 2008 vs 2009**

- 16 choruses competed in the 2009 Contest
  - 4 choruses did not compete in 2008 but did in 2009
  - 2 choruses competed in 2008 but didn't in 2009
  - 83% of the competing choruses improved over 2008 scores
- 67% of the 2009 competing choruses moved up at least one level over 2008

*(Continued on page 3)*



**Texas Harmony Chorus**



**Lone Star Chorus**



**Spirit of Southeast Texas Chorus**



**Crescent City Sound Chorus**

*All competition photos courtesy E.R. Lilley Photography*



(Continued from page 2)

From these statistics alone you can see how we are MOVIN' ON UP! The momentum is with us and if we keep focused on the basics . . . meaning posture, breathing and improving vocal skills, our contest scores will improve and our local audiences will enjoy our performances even more.

When we sing well, our members have an even greater sense of satisfaction from their performances. Our directors are happier, too! So, if we are happier singers, our directors are happier directors, our audiences are happier patrons and everybody wins!

Thank you so much to all of you that worked hard in 2008-2009 to improve your contest scores. Keep up the hard work! Wouldn't it be awesome to have representation in all three divisions when international is in Houston (our very own region) in 2011? Two years in a row would be something I can't recall any other region doing. I know there are regions that have had representatives in all three divisions before, but not two years in a row. That would be a FIRST! (At least as far as my research has uncovered.)

Congratulations to all of you! Your hard work paid off and will continue to pay off as you work towards new and higher goals. I can't wait to see what happens with our 2010 regional scores!



## 16th Annual Wall Of Fame

- Sybel Pici — Alamo Metro
- Virginia Alexander — Baton Rouge
- All Chorus Members — Bayou Blend
- Barbara Lennon — Brazos Crossing
- All Rookies — Chisholm Trail
- Donna Stroud — Cradle of Texas
- Lynda Grass — Crescent City Sound

- Rhoda Taylor — Fiesta City
- Mary Smith — Houston Horizon
- Nancy Jean Fleming — Lone Star
- Chris Sutton — Magic Valley
- Charlotte Hoffman — Panther City
- Mary Vegh Hower — Sparkling City
- Judith Miller — Spirit of Southeast Texas
- Tina Kowis — Starlite Sound
- Sheila Foster — Texas Harmony
- Pamela Fontenot — Voice of Vermilion





## Chorus Lines

### Alamo Metro Chorus San Antonio, TX

Alamo Metro Chorus is very proud to be your 2009 Chorus Champions. We are very excited to be representing you in Seattle, WA, next year.

We have been busy transitioning from board of directors to Team management and are very excited about the possibilities. We held our very first Installation dinner in May. A great time was had, filled with quartets entertaining, 20 years of stories and music, and our guest Vickie Dennis conducted the installation of our new Team.



It has become a yearly event that we give back to those that given so much to us, our ladies and men in uniform. For Memorial Day, Prelude Quartet and the chorus sang at the services held at the Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery. It is such an honor to remember those who have fallen so that we may enjoy our freedoms. Sweet Adelines is one of those freedoms, and is a great feeling to give back when we can.

As we approach the summer we have been busy learning new music for our annual show September 27. It will have a 1960s theme, which is "Totally Groovy." Be sure to mark your calendars for we'd like to see you all come to San Antonio.

Congratulations to all the chorus and quartets, especially our own Flash, Prelude and Starburst finishing 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>. Special congratulations to Texas Harmony and Lone Star for their directors becoming Master Directors. Big congratulations to Spirit of South East Texas as they are a competitor for the Harmony classic in Seattle. For two years in a row Region 10 will be sending

two choruses to the International level.

Best wishes to the 2009 Quartet Champions Oasis, and 2008 Chorus champions Houston Horizon, as you prepare for Nashville and Texas Harmony for the Harmony classic.

*By Jane Schlinke, TIWT Correspondent*

### Bayou Blend Chorus Lafayette, LA

Bayou blend's gumbo pot is HOT & SPICY! The Installation theme at Bayou Blend Chorus' rehearsal began with a recipe for success as the Management Team was installed.

Susan Kinniff, Management Team Leader for a second term, officiated and made sure the Team was given all of the ingredients necessary for the BLEND to ensure a winning combination in 2009-2010. Team Management Members are Marsha Bock, Financial; Kate Sutton, Membership; Lynda Fontenot, P/R-Mktg.; Carla Bay, Music; and J.P. Poirier, Director.

Bayou Blend's first Regional Competition provided members with the enthusiasm needed to work toward all of the areas observed by the Judging Panel and goals are already tossed into the mix as JP, our Director, begins to "stir the pot"!

Membership Chair Kate Sutton and the Team have an agenda already in place for new members to be seated at our table of musical excellence filled with a blend sure to please. JP has appointed the Music Team: Carla Bay, Asst. Director; Marsha Bock, Lead Section Leader; Lynda Fontenot, Bass Section Leader; Lynette Arceneaux, Baritone Section Leader; and Kate Sutton, Tenor Section Leader.

The Music Team is already hard at work ordering new FUN 50s music – planning a December concert to attract new members – and booked several coaches for the Fall and Winter leading up to competition 2010 including Vickie Dennis, Kim Wonders and awaiting dates from several others. Sounds like the GUMBO POT is full to the top—spicy and hot.

Nothing is complete and ready to serve without the continued support from our Regional members and BAYOU BLEND is dedicated to the Region, serving HOT – SPICY fellowship with perfect condiments!

*By Bev Colomb, TIWT Correspondent*

### Brazos Crossing Chorus Rosenberg, TX

The Brazos Crossing Chorus of Rosenberg is searching for a new director after the retirement this spring of our longtime director, Gail Bartz. Gail led the chorus for seven years and we are immensely grateful for her dedication to the chorus. Janie Macchiaroli from Houston Horizon has stepped forward to provide interim support to the chorus by leading rehearsal for every two weeks since Gail's departure in April. The chorus greatly appreciates Janie's help. In the meantime, we ask our friends in other choruses to spread the word about our open director position. We hope all our friends in Region 10 have a great summer.

*By Julie Platek, TIWT Correspondent*

### Chisholm Trail Chorus Temple, TX

Returning from Regional contest with 3<sup>rd</sup> place mid-size chorus medals again this year was terrific. Our scores had improved by 42 points! The IGNITE program, led by Assistant Director Janet Brown, culminated with contest and really lit the fire in all our hearts. We had 9 rookies on the risers to add to our enthusiasm on stage.

We have since taken that spark to outside performances where we have pre-



sented our 50s package at Bloomin Fest

*(Continued on page 6)*

## Baton Rouge Chorus Cruises To Cozumel During Retreat 2009

By Cathy Clites, TIWT Correspondent

Think out of the box? Why not out of the country? For Baton Rouge (LA) Chorus' annual retreat, our Membership Coordinator, Molly Manson, came up with an unusual idea. Why not go on a cruise retreat? Molly researched the possibility and presented it to the Team. Our Director, Cate McRitchie, loved the idea. What Director wouldn't love getting her chorus' undivided attention for at least two days of coaching and working on our competition songs? The Finance Coordinator loved the fact that the cost was comparable to a weekend stay at a hotel and we didn't have to pay for a meeting room or any food while on the ship.

The idea was brought to the whole chorus and they voted to try it. We set the date (with our Coach's approval) and booked a group cruise to Cozumel with Carnival Cruise Line out of New Orleans, leaving at the end of January on Thursday afternoon and arriving back on Monday morning. It was decided that we could invite friends, spouses or relatives to go with us, so for a chorus of 20 we had 45 people on our cruise.

The cruise began with dinner on Thursday night (all of our evening meals were the late seating and we all had reserved seats together). Friday we were at sea all day going and Sunday we were at sea returning, so this time was set aside for our coaching sessions. Nights and all day Saturday in Cozumel we had free time. Some people shopped, others took tours, some went to a beach, and some stayed on board relaxing. A few chorus members even swam with the dolphins.



In our free time, we could go to one of the many entertainment spots aboard the ship: pools, Jacuzzis, Spas; casino, sports bars and others. Three cruise shows were presented and we all agreed that the "Beatles Review" was the best. Since it was Super Bowl weekend, passengers could watch the game on the big screen in the theater or in any of the sports bars.



One thing I would recommend is that anyone who even thinks she might get motion sickness...come prepared. They have great pills and patches out there, so why take a chance on missing anything?

We did not experience any of the typical hotel retreat problems. There was no searching for a parking space or waiting forever for an elevator. Everything was right there in one place. This was the perfect retreat. Our chorus learned a lot from our coach, Vickie Dennis, as well as having enough time to play. Most members agreed that they would love to go on another Cruise Retreat, maybe in a year or so.



*(Continued from page 4)*

in Temple, a regional meeting of Red Hatters in Temple and the annual state meeting of Daughters of the Republic of Texas in Killeen.

In May, Assistant Director Janet Brown introduced the new Vocally Improving Performer (VIP) program to the chorus. All members are encouraged to attend three (or more) 30-minute vocal skill sessions. These sessions are scheduled outside of rehearsal time and focus on the next level of vocal skills needed to move the chorus even further on our vocal journey.

Additional craft-builders are our coaching sessions. Darlene Rogers visited in June and we are looking forward to a visit by Ruth Ann Parker in August. The Regional Area School in June was another stop on our journey where members picked up lots of tools for our craft.

How about a "no-selling" fundraiser for your chorus? Our chorus, along with several others in our region has been using Great Lakes Scrip Center to earn extra bucks for chorus expenses. This is a simple, no-cost program that is only open to non-profit organizations. CTC's Scrip Coordinator, Gail Eltgroth, says, "It takes a little time to get members educated but after ordering Scrip for only three and a half years we have realized a profit of just over \$4,000." For more information go to the website <http://www.glscrip.com/>

*By Gail Eltgroth, TIWT Correspondent*

#### **Cradle of Texas Chorus Sugar Land, TX**

Cradle of Texas is gearing up for a great summer. We have been able to move into a larger rehearsal room and are enjoying the spaciousness. We have welcomed one new member since contest, Jane Vaucher, and we are pleased to have her. It was a thrill to win the Membership growth award this year and we hope we can continue to grow.

Our installation was held at Marlene Keplinger's home and was a fun time for all of us. We came in a costume depicting our suppressed desire upon graduation from high school. It was hard for

me to remember that far back, of course sometimes it is hard to remember last week. Joann Meyers was our installing officer and did a marvelous job with beautiful decorations.

There has been a lot of illness since contest. One knee surgery, one knee replacement, two with scary flu symptoms, one with diabetes problems and one who has been in the hospital since before contest. Fortunately they took turns being ill so our attendance has been good. We have three new songs under our belt and three more in the hopper. Yes, we like to stay busy.

Hope everyone has a wonderful summer and the best of luck to those of you competing in Nashville.

*By Charlene Cummings, TIWT Correspondent*

#### **Crescent City Sound Chorus New Orleans, LA**

To say that our chorus is excited and walking on air would be like me saying that Brad Pitt is kind of cute. We love our "jewelry" as much as we would a solid gold chain -- maybe more. Some of the ladies in this chorus have been in Sweet Adelines for over 30 years and this is their first medal. Needless to say, we proudly wear our new "jewelry" every week at our rehearsals.

There is no time to rest on our laurels. The week after competition we started to work on the music for our show, which will be in October. The goal is to have everyone qualified on all of our show tunes by our retreat in August so we can work on them with our coach, Mary Beth McMurray.

We had our Installation Banquet in May. The restaurant, which is owned by the son of one of our members, is usu-



ally closed on Monday so we had the entire place to ourselves. We could be as

loud as we wanted and not worry about disturbing anyone else. And, yes, we were loud.

The Team and new officers and our director, JoAnn Fernon, were installed using parodies of songs the chorus has sung. It seemed only fitting for Crescent City Sound that this would be done using parodies written especially for the person being installed.

June will be very busy for us. In addition to our regularly scheduled weekly rehearsals, we will have a Harmony Holiday Picnic. The time will be used to socialize with our sisters in harmony and go over the script and music for our show. We also traveled to Lafayette for the Louisiana Area School in June. As I always say, "I feel sorry for people who aren't us." Ain't it the truth!

*By Kitty Warner, TIWT Correspondent*

#### **Fiesta City Chorus San Antonio, TX**

Fiesta City started this summer singing and we were HOT -- not only in our singing and stage performances but also temperature-wise. Heat index for the San Antonio Folk Life Festival was in the 102- 104 degrees area. Many of us had our false eyelashes melt right off our eyes! But we still sang our hearts out. This was our 24<sup>th</sup> year at the Folk Life Festival, which celebrates all of the various cultures that make up the San Antonio population. Many of us participated in the Area School on June 27. And as always, we have a stage production in progress. This year will pass quickly and it will be time for Christmas carols before we know it.

*By Betsy Billinger, TIWT Correspondent*

#### **Houston Horizon Chorus Houston, TX**

Nashville, here we come! Houston Horizon Chorus is flying high after our "For Evaluation Only" performance during Regional Weekend. What a great opportunity to roll out the songs and NEW costumes that will be our first set when we head to Music City USA. With several coaching sessions, upcoming performances, including singing The National Anthem at the Sam Houston Race Track, and a retreat ahead of us, we are

certain that we will be in top form when we take the stage in October.

Any basketball fans out there? If so, maybe you saw us singing at the Houston Rockets vs. San Antonio Spurs game on March 14. What a fun experience!



Several of our members were even selected to high-five the players in the tunnel as they took to the court.

You know, there are so many great venues in our collective cities, states and countries, but there is something special about performing in the shadows of the legendary Grand Old Opry. And just a few blocks away, the Headquarters of the Barbershop Harmony Society tells the story of our unique art form. There is a music history and sense of music appreciation in Nashville that is undeniable. We can't wait to leave our mark! We know that Nashville, TN, is in our travel plans this fall. Are YOUR bags packed?

*By Jodi Ceaser, TIWT Correspondent*

### **Lone Star Chorus Fort Worth, TX**

Spring has sprung for Lone Star Chorus! We've had a spring in our step since earning first place Division AA, third place overall, and our highest contest score ever of 610 points. We're so proud of our Master Director, Xanna Williamson!

Since contest, we've been working hard in preparation for our "Lone Star Chorus Variety Hour" 50s-themed show. On June 20 we gave the audience a blast from the past with an evening of song and dance, including special guests Magic Mix Quartet, Voice Over Quartet,

Mixology Quartet, The Texas Millionaires Chorus and William Kratt Chord Co. Quartet.

Lone Star is happy to announce our new and returning board members. Our new board was installed April 16 at Del Italia Café in North Richland Hills. The Lone Star Chorus board for 2009-2010 is Susan Hammerschmidt, President; Allison Hollier, Vice President; Roni Hancock, Treasurer; Stacy Coalson, Recording Secretary; Melissa Linnenburger, Corresponding Secretary; Judy Wilson, Financial Assistant; Julie Klem, Membership; and JoAnne Burton, Marketing.

Lone Star reveled in "Happy" days as we hosted the Fort Worth Area Regional School on June 27, featuring International Faculty Vickie Dennis and Darlene Rogers.

*By Melissa Linnenburger, TIWT Correspondent*

### **Magic Valley Chorus McAllen, TX**

What a thrill it was to hear our name announced as the winner of the coveted Most Improved Chorus Award at competition in March. We improved by 61 points, a result of the wonderful coaching by Charlotte Hoffman at our retreat in February and the hard work by every single chorus member.

We have entered our 2<sup>nd</sup> year with Team Management and it is working well for our small chorus. Although nearly 35 percent of our members go on Leave of Absence from spring to fall, there are so many wonderful ways to communicate nowadays that distance is not a factor in being eligible to be elected/appointed to the team. And we now have a website (magicvalleychorus.org) and a dedicated email address:

[mvcingsforyou@aol.com](mailto:mvcingsforyou@aol.com).

As is the situation for a number of choruses, we are searching for an experienced Director. If you or someone you know would be interested in finding more about this great opportunity, please get in touch with us! We're moving right along!

In May we had performances at two retirement homes in the area, and we are planning a Guest Night for the near future. It's for sure--- we are Happy Together!

*By Shirley Valentine, TIWT Correspondent*

### **Panther City Chorus Fort Worth, TX**

March 21 was a special day for Panther City Chorus, as it performed in its first regional competition in Houston. Panther City and its director, Charlotte Hoffman, were delighted when the score attained by the chorus surpassed the goal set for this novice performance. The comments of the judges gave Panther City suggestions for ways to improve its performance for next year, and the chorus has decided that one of its goals for next competition is to win the award for "Most Improved Chorus."

The chorus has decided that, in months with five Thursdays, the fifth Thursday will be "Guest Night." July has five Thursdays, and April 30 Panther City Chorus will welcome visitors to its rehearsal.

Save the date! September 12, Panther City Chorus is presenting a Fashion Show with styles from Coldwater Creek. A limited number of \$15 reserved seat tickets are available for the show, which also includes lunch, a silent auction, and, of course, a performance by Panther City Chorus. For more information, call (817) 236-7554, or [panthercitychorus@gmail.com](mailto:panthercitychorus@gmail.com).

Visitors are always welcome to visit chorus rehearsals, which are held on Thursdays at 7 p.m. at Handley Baptist Church, 6801 Church Street, Fort Worth. For more information, call (817) 236-7554, or [panthercitychorus@gmail.com](mailto:panthercitychorus@gmail.com).

*By Ruth Gerik, TIWT Correspondent*

### **Sparkling City Chorus Corpus Christi, TX**

It's summer in South Texas, and Sparkling City Chorus is sizzlin' hot! We're jumping right into our second Sing 'N

*(Continued on page 8)*

*(Continued from page 7)*

Sizzle summer guest program. Last year was a great success; several new ladies came for the summer singing classes and decided to join our family. At the end of the six week camp a public performance on August 4 will feature all of our guests singing along with the chorus. We hope they'll be as hooked on the applause as we all are!

We've been on the road learning and having fun in Houston at the Leadership Seminar in May, and a caravan headed to San Antonio for the Area School on June 27. We LOVE the new regional song, "Happy Together." The music is great, but the best part was seeing all of our out-of-town Sweet Adeline sisters.

Work has begun on our annual stage show, scheduled for February, and love will be in the air as we celebrate in song the many ways that love fills our lives. Hope to see you there!

We wish all of you a safe, happy and relaxing summer.

*By Lela Gallo, TIWT Correspondent*

### **Spirit of Southeast Texas Chorus Beaumont, TX**

The Spirit of Southeast Texas Chorus is alive and well and busier than ever! Regional Competition in Houston was a blast and we enjoyed receiving a second place medal as a Division A, Small Chorus and a fourth place medal overall, at the Regional Level. While basking in the glory... we learned that we also qualified to participate in the Harmony Classic during the upcoming Sweet Adelines International Competition in Seattle during 2010. Performing on the International stage will be a first for many in our chorus and we are so very excited to accept this honor and the exceptional opportunity.

In addition, "Spirit" has enjoyed another successful community show as well as many performances within the greater Southeast Texas region. We have also been busy with multiple fundraisers, which include: ongoing bake sales at chorus members' worksites, garage sales, silent auctions, show-ticket sales, brisket/turkey/ham sales, and the Kroger Stores "Friends Helping Friends" pro-

gram.

Lastly, we do want to remind everyone within the Region that we welcome new members and consistently recruit throughout the year. We look forward to a great year with continued success, always striving to keep the "Spirit" of Sweet Adelines and 4-part harmony in our sights.

*By Jeri Sullivan, TIWT Correspondent*

### **Starlite Sound Chorus Humble, TX**

So far, 2009 has been a busy year for Starlite Sound. In spite of not competing at contest this year, it remained a focal point for our chorus. Not only did ALL our members volunteer to help with contest, we used it as a learning tool. Each of us chose a category to 'judge.' You may have noticed some of us sitting in the audience, scribbling furiously. It turned out to be a very educational, insightful, and beneficial experience for us all.

We had an active May with two fundraisers and the Leadership Workshop. Our chorus garage sale provided fun, fellowship, closet cleaning, singing and fund raising all in one day. For Mothers Day, we did a singing telegram fund



raiser. We sang, laughed, ate, sang some more, ate some more, and made about 100 mothers, grandmothers, and daughters cry. How does it get any better than that? And just as everybody had dried their eyes, our new management team was sworn in, and the leadership weekend was upon us. We had excellent representation by our team, were inspired and led to great leadership, of course, by our fearless leaders in Region 10, and

we're now ready to get the lead out, and lead the way.

Our director, Vette Morgan, is working on some new ideas to keep the momentum going through the summer. Hard to believe we're about to celebrate her second anniversary as our director! She has brought a lot of energy and enthusiasm to our chorus, and we appreciate her efforts to keep us moving forward. We also appreciate the support of International through the webinars and the new marketing tools on the website—lots of new things to try! Looks like it's going to be a busy summer!

*By Suzanna Pointer, TIWT Correspondent*

### **Texas Harmony Chorus Irving, TX**

The year 2009 started with a lot of excitement for Texas Harmony. On Friday, February 13, 2009, we boarded our plane for New York looking forward to performing at Carnegie Hall. The day started with some stress since our flight was over two hours late and we had tickets to see the show "Wicked" that night. All worked out okay even if we didn't get a chance to prepare and dress up for the evening. The bus dropped us off at the show and the night was wonderful. Saturday morning, we were up bright and early for our chorus rehearsal. A little sightseeing during the day and then in the early evening another rehearsal with the other 6 choruses for our special performance on Monday with Dennis Loy from Mid America Productions directing. We were so proud of Darlene, our very own director, as she was requested to do the warm ups for the 350-plus Sweet Adelines.

Our chorus performance on Sunday afternoon was awesome. More sightseeing and dinner at a 50's and 60's diner with the waiter and waitresses singing for us. To top it all off, Texas Harmony also sang. Monday evening it was back to Carnegie Hall to watch as the last 3 choruses performed. Then it was time for Dennis Loy to direct all of the choruses in Tuxedo Junction, How We Sang Today and New York, New York (the kick line was bigger than the Texas Har-

*(Continued on page 9)*



(Continued from page 8)

mony Chorus). We received a standing ovation -- it was breathtaking. After the performance, all 350 Sweet Adelines headed for the cruise ship "Spirit of New York" for some relaxing and fun time.

Back home again, it was time to buckle down and get ready for competition. In preparation for contest, Dale Syverson coached us and everyone was very encouraged by her words of wisdom. So we went out on that stage and gave it our all. We were all pleased with our performance and placed 2<sup>nd</sup> overall and 1<sup>st</sup> in small chorus, and the very best of all is since our points for the contest were 614, our director, Darlene Rogers, is now a Master Director. In addition, now after all contests are over, we are proud to be the #1 small chorus internationally, scoring 614 points with 27 members on stage. We were also very proud of our 4 competing quartets, High Five; Sass & Class; I, Me, You, and Her; and Ram-bunxious.

As we move on preparing for performing at Harmony Classic, we have welcomed the following as new members: Stacey, Pat, Nancy, Gwen, Patricia and Sherri. Texas Harmony now has several members who are "Dual Members." We have several up-coming performances; Irving 4th of July Parade and Texas State Fair to name a few. We also have some great coaching sessions coming up, so be sure and watch for the next issue to see all the very exciting happenings at Texas Harmony Chorus.

By Joanne Stolp, TIWT Correspondent

#### Voice of Vermilion Chorus Lafayette, LA

Voice of Vermilion Chorus was proud to honor **Catherine Sarwar** as its 2009 Sweet Adeline of the Year and to have already recognized **Pamela Fontenot** on Region 10's 2009 Wall of Fame. The chorus' 2008-2009 Attendance Award went to **Rosie Roy**.

New team members elected include **Pat Cotini** - Team Coordinator; **Donna Thibodeaux** - Financial Manager; **Barbara Ewing** - Secretary; **Margaret Kresse** - Director; **Nelda LeJeune** - Membership Coordinator; **Debi Smith** -

Communications Coordinator; and **Catherine Sarwar** - Visual Coordinator. Congratulations to all!

May activities: The Team installation and annual business meeting was held on



May 4th. Five members (Margaret Kresse, Nelda LeJeune, Karen Bernard, Catherine Sarwar & Pat Cotini) attended the Musical Leaders/Administrative Leaders Workshop in Houston. It was an excellent learning weekend for us all. June events: A successful Garage Sale was held on June 6th. A big thank you to Betty Couch for the use of her garage! Three members (Nelda LeJeune, Margaret Kresse & Karen Bernard) attended the Region 23 Summer SINGsation in Birmingham, Ala.

VOV was very excited and proud to co-host one of three Region 10 Area Schools on June 27<sup>th</sup> at Asbury Methodist Church. With faculty members Xanna Williamson and Janie Macchiaroli to educate us and Jason's Deli to provide lunch, the day was a wonderful experience. July performance & education: The chorus will perform for Grace Presbyterian Church on the 19<sup>th</sup>. Our director Margaret Kresse will attend the Side by Side Directors' Seminar & Judge Training in Detroit, Michigan. August coaching: We are delighted to have two fantastic coaches visit us in August - Darlene Rogers from Texas Harmony and Kim Wonders from Metro Nashville. Fall coaching: More is on tap in October with Janie Macchiaroli.

We wish our Nashville competitors (Houston Horizon, Oasis, Texas Harmony and Fourmata) all the best. We know they'll represent Region 10 proudly and VOV members Nelda LeJeune, Catherine Sarwar and Karen Bernard will be in the audience cheering

very loudly for everyone!

By Karen Bernard, TIWT Correspondent

#### Prospective Heart of Dallas Chorus Plano, TX

It was touch-and-go for Heart of Dallas this year. After losing a number of members to moves and family situations we were down to seven members. But now we're happy to report that we're on a rapid upswing. We've added five members in the last three months, and three more have committed to join, with more potentials in line. So we're a stone's throw away from being able to recharter, and the probability is you'll see us on contest stage again next year. Heart of Dallas was seven years old in January. We're having a blast, pushing the envelope with ways to explore our voices, and ending every rehearsal (except board nights--first Thursday) with 60-90 minutes of tag singing! Any and all are welcome to join us for this. Everyone's getting PVI's and the new members are coming up to speed rapidly.

We're also doing visitations, so if you'd like us to come visit your chapter and exchange some songs, we'd love it (probably under about 50 miles). Being small gives us a certain flexibility, and when we had a surprise visit last week from a neighboring quartet, we gave the entire rehearsal over to tag singing. Much fun was had by all. We took a road trip to Panther City for their charter party, and are looking forward to our musical visit with Vickie Dennis.

By Sandy Hanne, TIWT Correspondent

### Stay Connected With Region 10

All active and CAL members are encouraged to sign up for the Region 10 listserv. This is our most timely method for disseminating information that is important to you — registration and flyers for area schools and contest, updated links on our regional website, this TIWT newsletter and valuable information for your chorus leaders, directors and quartets. It's easy and free to join. Just send an email to [Region10comm@aol.com](mailto:Region10comm@aol.com) and we'll do the rest.

## Quartet Notes

### Counterparts Quartet

**Mindy Butler, Lead; Linda Knight, Bass; Jane Rousseau, Baritone; Karen Mulkey, Tenor**

We had a wonderful time at contest, and succeeded in raising our scores from previous years. What a tremendously loving experience to walk from the stage into the arms of so many wonderful fellow friends and singers. The memories of those moments will remain in our memory banks for many years to come!

We want to thank Janie Macchiaroli for voice lessons, coaching and believing in us as well as Steve Shannon for his excellent coaching. We couldn't have raised our scores without you! We know we still have a long way to go, and we're going to give it our best efforts. When we attended Queen's College in St. Louis last fall and we attended a goal-setting session. We actually made a commitment to stay together for 5 years -- and we are committed to that goal.

We have been busy rehearsing and learning new songs. We have grand plans to perform at least once per month, and are working hard to make that goal reality. We performed twice in May, once at Jane's church for a Mother's Day



Luau, and once at Mindy's church for a Mother's Day Tea. In June, we performed at Garden Oaks Baptist Church for a Senior "Patriotic" Luncheon, and we added a sing-a-long to the performance, which was enjoyed by all. Thanks to Karen's mother, Nita Hibbett, for supplying us with good song suggestions for sing-a-longs. We

plan to sing at Dickens on the Strand in early December -- so we're already dusting off the Christmas music to get ready for that event. Gosh, it's hard to think about Christmas in the hot, humid days of summer!

We all love to travel, and we will take off (separately) for Mexico, Maine, Michigan and Missouri (at least we're all going someplace that begins with "M"). We plan to trio and/or duo while one or more of our members is out of town, so we can keep on track with our plans. To all our fellow Sweet Adeline sisters, have an excellent year.

### Cross Country Quartet

**Sheri Strawther, Lead; Pam Parish, Baritone; Kerri Mauney, Bass; Carolyn Hudler, Tenor**

WOW! What a great competition year we've had. Our debut with our new bass was wonderful. Such a rewarding experience singing with Kerri Boothe



Mauney again after so many years (she's good at hair dressing, too). Thanks to all of you in the region for such a warm reception after we sang. We really felt loved.

Our summer has started off with a bang. We've all been busy with various things: surgeries, funerals, graduations, weddings, moving and jobs. Now that school is out, we can get back together for regular rehearsals. Hope to see you in Nashville in October.

### Fleur de Lis Quartet

**Sheryl York, Bass; Jeannine Thibodaux, Lead; Susan Domangue, Baritone; Judy Lotz, Tenor**

Fleur de Lis would like to congratulate

all the competing choruses and quartets of Region 10. We would also like to thank all of our supporters for helping to make our first contest experience a wonderful and most memorable one. We are having fun preparing for our chorus show and of course, next year's contest! We hope to see everyone soon.

### Oasis Quartet

**Janet Burnett, Tenor; Vickie Dennis, Lead; Kellie Gareri, Baritone; Karen Johnson, Bass**

We are so thrilled to be the 2009 regional champion quartet from Region 10. The honor of representing our region in Nashville is a happy challenge we're so ready to tackle. We're working on some possible new contest tunes for Nashville plus some new repertoire numbers. Learning new music...always fun. We will have new stuff soon!

We'd like to send out our thanks to you, our Region 10 friends for your continued love and support. Your kind words and gracious gifts are greatly appreciated.

Life continues on as usual. Janet is still working as a CPA as well as running her Curves. Vickie still loves her new job and is busy as ever with Region 10 duties. Karen is doing her learning CD thing. Kellie, still a 6th grade Math teacher, is on summer vacation with a high school graduate in the house! Jason graduated on June 6 and has earned a full-ride baseball scholarship to Hill Jr. College for Fall 2009. SO PROUD!

### Prelude Quartet

**Hilda Mancillas, Tenor; Jane Schlinke, Lead; June Deiser, Baritone; Lisa Deiser, Bass**



Time does fly when you're having fun. Seems like just yesterday that we were cramming for regional contest with our



brand new tenor, Paula, and blown away by our 4th place medals!

We've been in the fast lane ever since with rehearsals and performances including a birthday surprise for June's chiropractor and a tea party for the Altrusa Club where the ladies actually wore hats and gloves and drank "tea." A highlight was singing at Alamo Metro



Chorus' Installation Dinner where Jane and June were installed on our first-ever Management Team. We also sang a Metrogram for a gentleman's 62nd birthday and a couple's wedding anniversary. The latter was at Ft. Sam Houston's Nurses' Training Center. The reluctant recipient kept kicking her husband while we sang "Always." All was well until right before the tag, when several boxes of various mannequin body parts used for teaching purposes,

flew off a shelf and propelled through the air. We completely lost it at that point along with everyone in the room who had gathered for the special occasion. (Paula quipped "we can now say we'll sing for an arm and a leg!")

We were honored to sing for staff members of the Camp Mickey D program founded by AMC member Sybel Pici and her husband, McDonald's franchise owners, to teach area high school students teamwork and communications skills. We also sang for the Lackland Terrace Church of Christ Ladies' Retreat at the end of June. Learning new music is a priority and with all the chorus activities, it's going to be a busy summer!

**Reunion Street Quartet**  
**Alice Williams, Tenor; Vicki Wyont,**  
**Lead; Anna Mae Garner, Baritone;**  
**Carin Williamson, Bass**

Has it been three months since contest? Wow! How things change! Reunion Street said goodbye to Pat Fenton after nine years of singing together. Pat has decided to "spread her wings" and try other things. We've heard she is trying to put together a "Tall Quartet." Soon after bidding goodbye, the tenor search was on. What seemed an arduous task

turned out to be a delightful opportunity to sing with many talented tenors (who knew there were so many?) While searching for the "right match" we developed many new friendships. In the end, it was Alice Williams whose voice best fit with Reunion Street. Alice, a former lead switched to tenor to quartet, is a "virgin" at quarteting. What a freshness she has brought to our quartet. With renewed spirit, we are working hard at building our repertoire and preparing for local performances. Help us welcome Alice into the fold!

***Brazos Crossing Chorus***  
***Searches for New***  
***Director***

**Brazos Crossing Chorus, a chapter of Sweet Adelines International, announces the retirement of our longtime director, Gail Bartz. Gail has been an integral and valued part of our chorus for the last seven years. She has decided to take a different direction in her life - that of being a doting grandmother!**

**Brazos Crossing, located in Rosenberg, Texas, 25 miles southwest of Houston, now seeks a new director to lead us in our new beginning and quest to continue sharing barbershop harmony with each other and our community.**

**If interested in leading this dedicated chorus, please send all inquiries to:**

**Emma Kueck**  
**1813 McKinley**  
**Rosenberg, Texas 77471**  
**Telephone number: 281.342.5857**  
**e-mail: emnray@sbcglobal.net**

**or**

**Julie Platek**  
**3407 Edmonson Court**  
**Missouri City, TX 77459**  
**Telephone number: 713.306.0330**  
**e-mail: jplatek@rice.edu**



**Region 10 Chorus Shows 2009-2010**

- Sept 12 — Panther City
- Sept 27 — Alamo Metro
- Oct 17 — Crescent City Sound
- Nov 21 — Chisholm Trail

**NOTE: Show dates must be approved by Regional Team Coordinator Cinda Crews before they can be posted to the calendar.**







*All competition photos courtesy E.R. Lilley Photography*



*We are so grateful for the many volunteers listed below who assisted throughout the entire Regional Contest weekend in March.*

*Thank you, thank you!  
Mindy Butler, volunteer coordinator*

**Prospective Heart of Dallas**

Sandy Hanne  
Sha Hudgens  
Teresa Hargett

**Chisholm Trail**

Thelma Rose

**Cradle of Texas**

Charlene Cummings  
Holly Ritter

**Crescent City Sound**

Sheryl York

**Texas Harmony**

Marlene Snare  
Laura Fenks  
Shasta Gaither

**Fiesta City**

Sally Wiskemann  
Janice Anderson  
Debbie Harrison  
Patty Richtel  
Mary Billinger

**Starlite Sound**

Pat Hummel  
Betty Pruett  
Connie Brown  
Phyllis Mason  
Suzanna Pointer  
Marilyn McMurrey  
Jan Edwards  
Kate Franks  
Tina Kowis  
Jerry Tullos  
Louise Newness  
Bodel Guenther  
Barb Posey  
Dedra Doyle  
Linda Negben  
Gerry Cryer

**Lone Star**

Kathy Hill  
Judi Swayne  
Sarah Sutton  
Judy Wilson

Pat Bailie  
Joanne Burton  
Sandra Beason  
Bonnie Schuler

**Alamo Metro**

Roz Jones  
Laura Dylla  
Carrie Jackson  
Cinda Crews  
Alice Ives  
Hilda Mancillas  
Bess Komm  
Carol Ann Large  
Beth Praesel  
Betty Hyman  
Diane Johnson  
Janis Irwin  
Kerry Parker  
Rene Byars  
Beth Cruse  
Kathy Wilson  
Patricia Thomas  
Judee McAden

**Houston Horizon**

Brenda Anderson  
Janie Macchiaroli  
Jan Daly  
Alice Williams  
Marlene Heinrich  
Adrienne Bean  
Gail Goodwin  
Lori Masse  
Dixie Goro  
Denise Tazumi  
Elizabeth McCurdy  
Judy Davidson  
Tory Rhoden  
Sally Ison  
Gretta Young  
Becky Hill  
Susie Chirafis  
Terry Irby  
Barb Garlough  
Marlene Heinrich  
Kathy Parker  
Pat Hawkins  
Biari Givens  
Kathy Parker

Melodie Lippold  
Karla Fenton  
Melinda Jordon  
June Palmer  
Esther Varga  
Elaine Phillips  
Brenda Anderson  
Sue Baudry  
Linda Knight  
Julie Watkins  
Tory Rhoden  
Barbara Ellsworth  
Janie Rousseau  
Sally Ison  
Judy Davidson

**Austin Harmony**

Pam Kuburski  
JoAnn Flanagan  
Kate Burgess  
Kathy Wilson  
Nancy Bourell

**Spirit of SE Tex.**

Joni Miller  
Susie Chirafis

**Baton Rouge**

Cate McRitchie  
Jan Daly  
Annette Douthat  
Cathy Clites  
Annie Michelli  
Patty Collins  
Tolly Thompson  
Molly Manson

**Sparkling City**

Shannon Manthei  
Mary Hower  
Frances Arnett  
Darla Smiley  
Margaret Schneider  
Vickie Brandon

**Chapter at Large**

Sara Davis  
Polly Hightower  
Amy Larson  
Polly Hightower

Karen Mulkey  
Pat Murray

**Magic Valley**

Janet Rudd  
Christine Sutton  
Ann Wright  
Eleanor Mason  
Janet Rudd  
June Roembke  
Gloria Johnson

**Bayou Blend**

Marsha Bock  
Susan Kinniff  
Karen Bernard  
Bev Colomb  
Carole Mathemeier  
Audrey Courtright  
Darlene Flatt  
Carla Bay

**Voice of Vermilion**

Karen Bernard  
Catherine Sarwar  
Debi Smith

**Panther City**

Charlotte Hoffman

**Other Angels**

DeAngela Ewing  
Steve Shannon  
Bonnie Shannon  
Steve Butler  
Gerald Flynn  
Jim Fenton  
Fred Welsh  
Larry Dennis  
Jerry Ison  
Katie Butler  
Larry Girven  
Joey Miller  
Evan Fenks



Welcome to our newest  
Region 10 members January-June 2009

Please note that this information is supplied by each chorus to the regional Communications Coordinator.

\*Dual Members

Alamo Metro Chorus

Tianna Coffey  
Lynn Cruz  
Caitlyn Griffith  
Candice Griffith  
Jeanna Phare Shukayr  
Loretta Welsh

Austin Harmony Chorus

Janis Montgomery  
Pamela Masters  
Marcy Watkins  
Denise Fly

Bayou Blend Chorus

Amanda Arceneaux  
Chelsea Crochet  
Darlene Flatt  
Carole Mathemeier

Chisholm Trail Chorus

Tana McBroom  
Barbara Peterson

Cradle of Texas Chorus

Mary Salinas  
Renae Schumann  
Jane Voucher

Crescent City Sound Chorus

Rachel K Gibbons  
Debra A McKesson

Heart of Dallas Chorus - Prospective

Teresa Hargett

Houston Horizon Chorus

Carol Karna  
\*Carolyn Hudler  
\*Carol Mouché  
\*Vicki Davis  
Barb Feighner  
\*Kathy Pillmore  
\*Roz Jones  
\*Bess Matthys  
Jennifer Garcia

Panther City Chorus

\*Kelli Chou

Voice of Vermilion Chorus

Jenny Best  
Callie Duhon  
Debbie Warnke

**Mark Your Calendar  
Regional Weekend  
October 2-3**

Three times a year we are given an opportunity to improve our vocal skills through weekend workshops. And the cost is included in your Regional dues!



Outstanding Regional and International educators present classes for all skill levels on many different subjects. Make plans now to attend the Fall meeting October 2-3 in Houston with Lynnell Diamond.

During her 33 years as a member of Sweet Adelines International (SAI), Lynnell Diamond has been involved in nearly every aspect of the barbershop art form. She started her barbershop career singing baritone in her chorus, and quickly became a dedicated quartet performer as well. After learning the barbershop style, Lynnell began arranging and eventually composing for barbershop singers. Now, more than 20 of her published compositions and many more of her exciting arrangements are being performed by Sweet Adelines and other barbershoppers worldwide.

Lynnell has been a front-line chorus director three times and frequently coaches choruses and quartets in the barbershop style on three continents. She has taught composition and arranging, basic vocal production skills, expressive singing, music selection and interpretation, visual effectiveness, and understanding the judging process. Lynnell has served on the International Board of Directors of SAI, has been a long-term member of the International Music Arrangers Program (IMAP), taught 8 consecutive years at the International Education Symposium (IES), taught at many regional workshops and has served in several leadership capacities in her local choruses. She currently sings baritone with the Toast of Tampa chorus in Florida. More info: <http://lynnelldiamond.com/>

Registration forms will be available on the regional website: <http://www.region10sai.org/>

## Ambassador Tour 1999 Revisited

By Marilyn Turner, Houston Horizon Chorus

Ten years ago this month, Region 10's Ambassador Tour—98 of us, including husbands and friends--visited England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland. Our drivers doubled as our guides in Ireland. For the British portion, our two buses each had a tour manager/guide in addition to a driver.

One tour manager, Sue Gil, has kept in touch over the years. Sue and son Marc recently came across the pond to our part of the world, touring New Orleans first, then Baton Rouge, where they visited with Nancy Rounsefell (Crescent City Sound).

They continued to Houston and Marc spent the better part of an afternoon at NASA. The next morning we went on a condensed, whirlwind tour of west Houston. Marc, a dedicated beer connoisseur, was fascinated by the "Beer Can House." Sue, an amateur gardener, really enjoyed the landscaping at Bayou Bend, especially the crape myrtles, despite the intense heat. When an armadillo crossed our path, they were mesmerized.

They left the next morning for San Antonio and a family wedding—their reason for coming to Louisiana and Texas—where Sue planned museum tours, while Marc scheduled a waterpark visit.

Sue sends her best wishes to all the 1999 Ambassador Tour participants—and will welcome them back to Britain any time.



Marc (left) and Sue Gil (right) in the gardens of Bayou Bend, formerly Ima Hogg's mansion, now a part of the Houston Museum of Fine Arts.

### *Sparkling City Takes Top Honors In Scrapbook Contest*

By Karen Bernard, Region 10 Historian

Congratulations to winners of the 2008-2009 Scrapbook Contest: 1st - Sparkling City; 2nd - Bayou Blend; and 3rd - Magic Valley. A sincere thank you goes to the 18 choruses that participated this year. Seventeen choruses also submitted entries on the 16th Annual Wall of Fame.

Be sure to thumb through the snapshots and larger photos for sale in the Historian's Display at each regional function. Prices range from no cost at all to \$3. What bargains! PHOTO SEARCH!!! I'm still looking for pictures of Mission Belles from 1962 & 1964 and of Big "D" Chorus from 1963 as well as numerous Small Chorus Winners between 1972 and 1978. All photos would be copied and returned safely.

Region 10 Chorus & Quartet historical albums and scrapbooks are on display at most regional schools and at competition. Take some time to look at them and learn more about the 48-year history of our region. You'll be glad you did!

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Oct 1, 2009

**Region 10 Website:**  
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**Region 10 Management Team  
May 1, 2009 – April 30, 2010**



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# Free Grant Writing Resources Available From International

*Reprinted from Sweet Adelines International*

Sweet Adelines International is a unique organization, but, in the fundraising arena, a proven way to begin developing a funding proposal is to look at others' successes.



A good place to start identifying potential funding sources and writing successful grant applications is the Marketing Center in the Members Only section of our Web site:

<http://www.sweetadelineintl.org/> There you will find links to resources that you can access online.

Even in today's tough economy, foundations and corporations are funding programs, projects, and services that are unique, attractive and meet funding guidelines. Fundraising does not begin with what YOU want. It begins with what the FUNDER is prepared to underwrite.

All successful proposals begin with an idea — a unique concept that is in synch with the interests of the funding source. For example, if your goal is to raise funds to support your chorus' youth outreach program, your proposal should be tailored to funders who give to programs in your geographic vicinity that support the arts or education. You should make your best case for support with these kinds of funding sources.

It goes without saying that any proposal needs to be complete, descriptive, benefit-oriented, and submitted according to the funding sources' guidelines. It is vital that you meet all of the deadlines.

Included in the Marketing Center, which is available in the Members Only section of the Sweet Adelines Web site, are links to several sources for information about grant writing. Start with any of the links to materials prepared by the Foundation Center, which offers online tools to introduce the world of foundations, trends in foundation giving, basic information about the grant-seeking process, and a proposal writing short course.

Links to several other grant writing resources are also included. In addition there are several other resources such as a link to Guidestar, a searchable database of more than 620,000 non-profit organizations in the US, and Canadian Major Granting Agencies, which provides links to Canadian grant makers.

## Great Gulf Coast Region 10 Five-Year Education Plan

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
<b>Jan</b>	Winter Regional Meeting Jan 16-17 Houston, TX Sandy Nason	Winter Regional Meeting Jan 15-16 Houston, TX Harriette Walters	Winter Regional Meeting Jan 14-15 Houston, TX Tomi McEvoy	Regional Meeting Jan 20-21 Houston, TX Faculty Pending	Regional Meeting Jan 18-19 Houston, TX Faculty Pending
<b>Feb</b>					
<b>Mar</b>	Regional Competition March 19-22 Houston, TX	Regional Competition March 25-28 Houston, TX	Regional Competition March 17-20 Houston, TX	Regional Competition March 15-18 Houston, TX	Regional Competition March 21-24 Houston, TX
<b>Apr</b>					
<b>May</b>	Chapter Leaders' Seminar May 15-16 Houston, TX Regional faculty and RMT	Chapter Leaders' Seminar May 21-22 Houston, TX Faculty Pending	Chapter Leaders' Seminar May 20-21 Houston, TX Kathy Carmody	Chapter Leaders' Seminar May 18-20 Houston, TX Faculty Pending	Chapter Leaders' Seminar May 17-18 Houston, TX Peggy Gram
<b>Jun</b>	Area Schools June 27 Ft Worth, San Antonio, Lafayette Regional faculty	Area Schools June 26 TBD Regional faculty	Area Schools June 25 TBD Regional faculty	Area Schools June 23 TBD Regional faculty	Area Schools June 26 TBD Regional faculty
<b>Jul</b>					
<b>Aug</b>	In Region RMT training Aug 7-8 Austin Kathy Carmody				
<b>Sept</b>		Fall Regional Meeting Sept 17-18 Houston, TX Tori Postma		Fall Regional Meeting Sept 14-15 Houston, TX Renee Porzel	Fall Regional Meeting Sept 20-21 Houston, TX Gail Jencik
<b>Oct</b>	Fall Regional Meeting Oct 2-3 Houston, TX Lynnell Diamond		International Competition Oct 18-22 Houston, TX		
<b>Nov</b>					
<b>Dec</b>					<b>(as of June 2009)</b>