

TUNE IN WITH 1



In Loving Memory Jacquelyn "Jackie" Hall Sweet Adeline Coach, Judge, Director, Mentor, Sister, Daughter, Friend Dec. 19, 1941-Jan. 2, 2009

Jackie Hall's name is synonymous with Sweet Adelines, which she joined in 1957. She was approved faculty in the International Faculty Program and a certified judge in the sound and expression categories. She had served on the International Board of Directors and Editorial Review Board. Jackie sang with two San Antonio choruses -- the Mission Belles and Alamo Metro. She was also a part of the comedy barbershop quartet, Jam Session (see page 2.) In San Angelo, she was the director of Mesquite Magic Chorus. She taught high school math in San Antonio for 35 years before retiring to San Angelo.



*The following eulogy was written by Patricia Scroggins,
Jackie's youngest sister*

December, 1941, was certainly a month to remember. Soon after bombs exploded over Pearl Harbor, Mother and Daddy moved into their brand new home on South Monroe Street in San Angelo and, a week later, Jacquelyn Hall was born, a first child and a first grandchild for the doting family. Of course, Jackie was a beautiful baby, and she proved her worth by winning a Most Beautiful Baby contest before her first birthday. At 2 ½ years, Jackie got her first baby sister, Kathleen. As Kathy grew, the two became great pals. At 5 1/2 Jackie was presented sister #3, Meredythe, and, a year later, Jackie received sister #4, Patricia. The 4 Hall Girls would spend their childhoods in shared adventures, but some were foremost than others.

Swimming was a major part of the Hall family life. Jackie and her sisters spent many summer days at the Municipal pool or the Country Club. It wasn't too long before Mother was taking Jackie on swim meets to places as far away as Houston where Jackie was especially adept at synchronized swimming competitions. During high school summers, Jackie would lifeguard at the pools and dream of swimming the English Channel. Though she never made the swim from Dover to Calais, Jackie spent a summer imparting a love of the water to young scouts at camp.

Camping and scouting were also shared family experiences. Jackie started as a Brownie scout at Santa Rita Elementary, and, soon, Mother was serving as leader. Beginning with Jackie, the Hall family and its descendants would remain involved in scouting to this day.

Individual endeavors were encouraged by Mother and Daddy, and this led to Jackie's initial interest in music. Jackie joined the youth choir at church. She also took piano lessons. But, when she started junior high, Jackie joined the marching band. Here, Jackie found a passion for music that would change her life. With the rigors and discipline of band, Jackie developed a deep desire for excellence in music and performance that was exemplified by the standards set by Central's legendary band director, Homer Anderson. Mr. Anderson's expectation for excellence was severe, but Jackie shone under his leadership and was propelled by his influence into a lifetime surrounded by sound.

Academically, Jackie excelled. From the 8th grade, she knew she wanted to be a math teacher. In high school, Jackie was a 2 year member of National Honor Society. In college, Jackie took a double major-English and math-and, afterwards, she spent 35 years teaching secondary education in San Antonio.

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Jackie's quartet, *Jam Session*, was a comedy ensemble that entertained our region for many years. Tenor was Grace (von Stein) Jennings, leads were Peggy (VanKirk) Gibb, Nancy Bourell and Dee Guzman; baritone was Martha Fleming and Jackie sang bass. Photos courtesy Grace Jennings



1989



1990



1988



1993



1992



1995



1996



1998



1999



2000



1991



1994



1997

(Continued from page 1)

Time doesn't permit me to ramble on, regaling you with stories of Jackie. I do hope, though, that I leave you with a sense of Jackie's youth. As most of you know, the innocence of her childhood gave way to the responsibilities of adulthood into which Jackie readily matured. Jackie's future would unfold to reveal the fulfillment of her youthful promise and potential as Jackie lived her life in service to her family, her friends, her community, and her God.



May 12, 2003, Jackie received her Certified Director pin from Carol Scherer, DCP coordinator, in front of Mesquite Magic Chorus.

Cinda Crews, Alamo Metro Chorus: Region 10 has lost a wonderful friend, coach, director, teacher, judge and judge specialist. Jackie Hall was definitely our Sweet Adeline Extraordinaire. I first met Jackie in 1973 when I joined the Mission Belles Chorus in San Antonio. We stood next to each other on the risers, but we were both so shy we didn't talk to each other for a very long time. Through the encouragement and mentoring of Lynn McCord, director of Mission Belles, Jackie entered the judging program and became a much-respected judge. She traveled around the world judging chorus and quartet competitions. In fact, she judged the quartet contest at the International Competition this past November in Hawaii. I don't think anyone in Region 10 can ever forget her comedy quartet, "Jam Session." They were a real crowd pleaser and loved by all. Region 10 and Sweet Adelines everywhere will definitely miss her love and friendship.

Beth Cruse, Alamo Metro Chorus: Jackie Hall was my best friend for 34 years. We met when I transferred to Mission Belles from Manhattan Chapter in 1974. We lived 2 blocks from each other so we spent a lot of time together. We both loved singing, old movies, cross-stitching, fishing, swimming, reading and eating out. We always traded our paperback books when we finished them. It was the best 34 years of my life.

Jackie was very competitive. We would race to see who could get the most cross-stitching finished while we watched a movie. Many evenings we spent sewing sequins on our costumes. Jackie always wanted to finish first. She was so smart and clever and seemed to know the answer to every question I could ever think to ask her. We ate out every other evening, mostly Mexican food and fried catfish anywhere we could find it. We often laughed about whether our friendship was based on eating.

She was such a thoughtful, caring friend and we had so many adventures. One thing we especially enjoyed was filling a basket with food, gifts and toys to deliver to students of hers that were having a difficult time in life. Excursions to choose a new car every four or five years left us giggling all the way home. She would pay cash for her new cars and then put monthly payments into her savings account. As soon as she had enough in savings, off we would go to pick out the next one. She always loved her recliner chair, and we would hurry home from our wanderings to sit in the quiet evenings and stitch awhile.

I walked with Jackie through all these years of Sweet Adelines, quarteting, her acceptance and rise in the judging program which she dearly loved. A good bit of her time was spent traveling and I always enjoyed tagging along or listening to the tales of her latest trip. I have so many great memories of an extended trip to Europe we took together to catch the Passion play in Oberammergau. I will miss her very much, but will always be able to find joy and laughter remembering the funny jams we managed to get ourselves into.

Chorus Lines

Alamo Metro Chorus San Antonio, TX

Alamo Metro Chorus sends our most sincere condolences to Jackie Hall's family. I don't know what hurts worse, deleting her name from our Prayer List or putting it in our Dearly Beloved List. The memories Jackie created with each of us will bring laughter and tears for years to come. Our Sweet Adelines Family has lost a beautiful soul.

AMC has found there IS life after International. While we would have liked to place higher in the contest, the experience of the International stage, being there to cheer our own Prelude quartet, and the awesome beauty of Hawaii made our trip very memorable. Besides celebrating AMC's 20th Anniversary while on Oahu, there were taxi rides, "gold-lined" room service sandwiches, quirky Champagne bottles, taped hem lines and "the-airplane-trip-from-*&%\$" stories to tell.

There wasn't much time to reminisce about all our Hawaii antics because the Christmas season was upon us when we returned. Our "Happy Booker" had accepted an encore performance at the Stone Oak Winter Festival, and a 70th Birthday Celebration for a former barbershopper. Our quartets were very busy with scheduled performances as well. In all the hustle and bustle, though, we took time for an AMC Christmas celebration hosted by our own Kerry Parker.

Not all our community outreaching was through singing, though. AMC participated in Lack's Trim-A-

Tree contest. We decorated our tree in a musical theme (go figure!) People voted for their favorite tree with canned goods.



Our tree had too many cans around it to count! We won first prize of \$200. The bigger winner was the San Antonio Food Pantry as the donated canned goods from all six trees were given to them.

Now that the 2008 book is closed, we have new goals in sight for 2009.

Polishing our performances for the March Regional is at the top of our list. There are coaching sessions scheduled with Sharon Babb and Ruth Ann Parker. Vickie Dennis will join us for our Regional visit in February, and we are sure she will have some performance pointers as well.

Growing our AMC family is a major 2009 objective. We have adopted "100 by 2010" as our slogan. With our advertising strategy, energized attitudes and two Guest Nights in January, we should be teaming with new faces. AMC will be Real Women singing Real Harmony having Real Fun!

While preparing for competition, guest nights and visiting coaches, we are also auditioning quartets for one of our annual fundraisers -- Valentine Metro-Grams. A singing quartet valentine with a heart-shaped cookie and a rose creates a loving atmosphere for all ages.

If the first full week of 2009 is any indication, AMC is going to be a very active, outreaching and growing chorus. Our Spring and Summer is filling up fast with more community organizations requesting performances. This is going to be a fun ride!

By Carrie Mae Jackson, TIWT Correspondent

Austin Harmony Chorus Austin, TX

The holidays just flew by for Austin Harmony. We started in November with performances at "An Evening of Giving" sponsored by Simon Malls at Barton Creek Mall followed by the Austin Ham Radio Society, Lakeline Mall, Pioneer Farms, in the Capitol Rotunda with the Austin Chord Rangers, Christmas caroling in the Onion Creek neighborhood, and two Christmas shows with the

Austin Chord Rangers on December 13. Our Christmas shows were a little different format this year and were a lot of fun



Austin Chord Rangers perform Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer during the Christmas shows on December 13th. The red noses were a complete surprise to everyone!

for the choruses and the audience. Instead of just standing on risers and singing, we created a storyline (with the help of our own talented playwright, Pam Kurburski) of a family gathering in a cabin somewhere in the north. We used platforms to elevate some of the singers and spread out in front our "cabin" backdrop in a more casual setting that allowed us to move around in between numbers. A few brave volunteers were recruited to play speaking roles in the vignette. Reports from audience members indicate the format was a big hit.

The New Year brought us the tragic news of Jackie Hall's passing. Most of us have known Jackie for many years and have respected her talent and quiet sense of humor. We are distraught over her death and praying for her family. Jackie was to coach AH! at our annual retreat in February. Her absence will be deeply felt.

AH! welcomes our newest members Valerie Taylor and Erica Sigler, and prospective members Kristine Erlich, Janis Montgomery, Lori Schmidt (Darlene Schmidt's daughter-in-law,) and Marcy Watkins. Valerie, Erica, Kristine and Janis were attendees at our workshop last September. Darlene's been working on Lori for quite a while. She joined our holiday community chorus and got hooked. Marcy and her mom heard us at our Capitol performance where the BBshop bug bit Marcy (another teenager!) and now she's on the fast track to becoming a Sweet Adeline.

AH! is excited about our newest quartet, Fourmata. These four young women,



ages 16 to 22, made their debut on our Christmas shows and won the *Young Women in Harmony* competition January 17. Their lead is Cheryl Pyle's daughter Laura, tenor is Kimberley Newcomb, baritone Deanna Melder and bass Jessica Telle. We're expecting great things from these extremely talented girls.

By Kathy Pillmore, TIWT Correspondent

**Baton Rouge Chorus
Baton Rouge, LA**

We have been very busy in Baton Rouge the past several months. After having a successful LSU Leisure Class at the end of the summer, we inducted two new members from that. Welcome to Annie and Dawn. We are delighted that Patty Collins, a former member, came back. Soon we were singing our Christmas Chorus repertoire for our community, including several paid performances and our participation in the yearly "Lighting of the City's Christmas Tree Cere-



mony." We held our annual Christmas party at the home of member Jan Daly after one of our performances.

We have been very busy working on our competition songs. This year we decided to take our chorus on a very different "retreat." We will be going on a 4-night cruise to Cozumel. Vickie

Dennis, our coach, and Cate McRitchie, our Director, will have our undivided attention while at sea and we will have our nights and 'time on shore' with our friends and family. Doesn't that sound exciting?

On a sad note, Alma Risley's husband Ray passed away before Christmas. We had seen him just a few days before at Landmark Retirement Center where he attended our Christmas performance. Alma is a charter member of our chorus and a lifetime member of Sweet Adeli-

nes. Some of you will remember her from the quartet, Cajunettes, which placed in the top three many times at Regional. She counts singing at Carnegie Hall in International Competition as one of the highlights of her Sweet Adelines career. On a happier note, an Open House is being planned for mid January to attract prospective members. Cate is working hard at keeping us on top of our game.

By Cathy Clites, TIWT Correspondent

Welcome To Our Newest Chorus, Bayou Blend

What a fantastic Christmas present we received from Sweet Adelines International -- acknowledgment that we are the proud recipient of the long-awaited CHARTER for Bayou Blend Chorus of Lafayette, LA. The member acknowledgments were totally out-of-tune, joyously loud and a bit tearful as well.

- C** is for CONGRATULATIONS to all who have been so thorough with paperwork requirements
- H** is for HOPING that we would be successful
- A** is for ALWAYS keeping the dream alive
- R** is for READINESS to accept the challenges
- T** is for TOTAL involvement of all of the members
- E** is for ENTHUSIASTIC approach for the future
- R** is for REALIZATION that the dream has come true



Bayou Blend Chorus had several performances during this holiday season and were acknowledged in the local newspaper as the "new sound in town."

The Bayou Blend Chorus, under the capable direction of J.P. Poirier (from Coteau), did several humanitarian services as well and were applauded for those efforts.

Coaching sessions are on the calendar in readiness for the March Region #10 contest with an excited positive approach for this, our first competition.

A TV appearance by the Membership Chair, Kate Sutton and the Public Relations Chair, Regina Lowrance, alerted the community to the January 10 charter party, when Regional Education Director Vickie Dennis and Membership Coordinator Carin Williamson from Houston, officially installed the Management Team and presented our Charter.



We are so excited to be part of this organization and, of Great Gulf Coast, Region #10 where harmony is in the air, in the heart, and rings true in all that we do!

By Bev Colomb, TIWT Correspondent

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Brazos Crossing Chorus Rosenberg, TX

After the joy of a successful October show and a fun Holiday Harmony Chorus season, the Brazos Crossing Chorus shared heavy hearts in late December and January with two of our members whose husbands passed away. Our hearts go out to Patsy H. and Barb L. in this time of sorrow. It is good to have them back at rehearsal.

The chorus is now busy preparing for regional competition. As always, we are thankful for our management team: Bess Matthys, team coordinator; Gail Bartz, musical director; Helen Hughes, secretary; Mary Cook, treasurer; Ann Pavliska, performance coordinator; and Emma Kueck, membership coordinator as well as our choreographer, Carol Roberts. Coaching, taping and a chorus retreat are on tap for February. This will be our third year to retreat at the Caney Creek Lodge. We look forward to seeing our regional friends in Houston for competition. Watch out for some sparkling new faces and costumes as Brazos Crossing takes the stage!

By Julie Platek, TIWT Correspondent

Chisholm Trail Chorus Temple, TX

Sadly we missed Jackie Hall's annual visit to voice place us on the risers as she has done on the first Thursday of every January for so many years. There are really no words to express the loss our organization will be feeling for quite some time. You all know how wonderful a person she was as well as having been a valuable asset to our Region and choruses around the world. She will be missed.

Our annual gift wrap booth at the mall was a great success once again. This



activity gives members a chance to visit outside of chorus, chatting and eating all sorts of holiday goodies but the best part is the money it raises to help with chorus expenses. With holiday sing-outs behind us and regional contest in front of us, we have our work cut out. Over the last few months a new program has been initiated by assistant director, Janet Brown. "Rising Stars" is a rookie program developed to bring our newest members up to the vocal skills of the chorus. See [related article, page 16](#).

Our 2009 theme is "Ignite," as we bring spark and enthusiasm to our vocal and visual performance. We're looking forward to lots of fun as well as hard work when Sylvia Alsbury comes to coach during our annual retreat in Salado later this month. More than a dozen of our members got a jump start on improving personal vocal skills at the Winter Regional Meeting in Houston to start the year out right. Also in January we will be performing at a fundraiser for the local public TV/radio station, KNCT, in Killeen. And in March we will do a 50's package for a large group of Red Hatters in Temple.

We continue to welcome guests, including a "transplanted SAI" who was a co-director in Pensacola, FL. We hope she decides to become a member as soon as she gets her roots started in Central Texas.

By Gail Eltgroth, TIWT Correspondent

Cradle of Texas Chorus Sugarland, TX

2009 and everything is fine...Cradle of Texas is still rocking and working hard getting ready for contest. We have welcomed Joann Meyers, Suzelle Martin, Eden Parks, Marlane Kiplinger and Vicki Kunetka as new members since October.

We are all saddened by the sudden death of one of our dual members, Peggy Zinner. Peggy had been a member of San Jacinto, Port of Harmony and Houston Horizon choruses for 45 years. Although she was 90 years young, she put some younger members to shame with her singing and choreography. We will all miss her.

We shall also miss Jackie Hall who was an inspiration to all of us. Jackie was always as near as the telephone anytime you needed her advice or just wanted to chat. Mesquite Magic our prayers are with you.

Good luck to all of the choruses and quartets competing in March. You're all winners!

By Charlene Cummings, TIWT Correspondent

Crescent City Sound Chorus New Orleans, LA

CCS had an extremely busy holiday season. Not only did we do the routine holiday performances, we had some pretty extraordinary ones too. We performed in the French Quarter for a prestigious women's group. It was in a beautifully refinished old French Quarter home that is now used for society functions. The next weekend we performed in the Garden District in a lovely centuries-old St. Charles Avenue house. These homes were opened for a holiday tour of homes.

We once again performed at Celebration in the Oaks, which is a tradition in New Orleans' famous City Park. The chorus makes it a habit to go caroling in the French Quarter after this perform-



ance. In New Orleans it doesn't seem strange to have a group of ladies strolling through the quarter in 70-degree weather wearing red capes trimmed in white fur. We're just another sight.

January brought us back to rehearsals. We selected Dee Mayeaux as our Sweet Adeline Extraordinaire. What a wonder-

ful person to represent us. Dee has been a Team member for the last four years. She is the bass section leader, the music librarian, and if that isn't enough she is also our costume chairman and total look coordinator. Dee gives the chorus 100%. She wouldn't know how to do it any other way.

January will bring us another visit from our coach, Mary Beth McMurray. We are all looking forward to having Mary Beth visit us so she can work her magic.
By Kitty Warner, TIWT Correspondent

Fiesta City Chorus San Antonio, TX

Our Fiesta City Chorus has had so many incredible performances during the fall and Christmas season of 2008. In September, we sang for a group of 70 Air Force Wives from Malibu, CA, who had traveled to San Antonio with their husbands for a convention. It was quite a performance and was paid at that!

Two weekends in early December, we attended the Braken Christmas Festival (4 performances). We also attended performances at Milberger's Nursery & gardens twice and got to sing on a San Antonio Radio Station. Some Fiesta City folks also attended a performance at the Volunteer Luncheon site located at Texas Folklife Hemisphere building. In addition, we attended 3 performances at La Contera Resort. All totaled, we performed 12 performances...and all except 1 were paid.

Currently, we are preparing to compete in March at Spring Region 10 Competition. The "Hub-Bub" of competing is always enjoyable.

We look forward to seeing all of you in approximately 8 or so weeks. Time does fly. Hope everyone "breaks a leg"!
By Zee Tuck, TIWT Correspondent

Houston Horizon Chorus Houston, TX

Houston Horizon Chorus spent the end of 2008 preparing for a Christmas concert, our first in several years. Not only were we excited to share the joy of the season through our music, but we were also honored to share our risers with

members of the community, as well as several former and potential new members. After the concert, a couple from the audience approached our director, Vickie Dennis. They explained to her that they had not felt "in the Christmas spirit" this year, but that our concert had changed that for them. What a gift to us, to know that we had touched others in such a positive way. Isn't it amazing to think that doing something that we love to do can have such an impact on others? After the high of that realization, we were quickly forced to deal with the fact that life is also a precious gift, and one that does not last forever. Our dear friend and long time chorus member, Peggy Zinner, passed away at the age of 91. During a Memorial Service held in her honor, we shared our many memories of Peggy. What an extraordinary lady! How blessed we were to have had her in our midst. The news of her passing had barely sunk in when we heard about Jackie Hall. Another amazing lady, another reminder that life is too short. As for you, our friends, we wish you health and happiness in the New Year, and look forward to seeing you in March!

By Jodi Ceaser, TIWT Correspondent

Lone Star Chorus Fort Worth, TX

As the old saying goes, "Time flies when you're having fun." Well Lone Star Chorus has been having a blast! We started the fall season with a fabulously successful dinner show in September, and with performances at the State Fair of Texas and The Cowgirl Museum. We worked hard with incredible coaching from Kim Hulbert, Becky Larson and our very own Xanna Williamson. And we stepped outside of the box by taking an acting class with Beth Bontley. Lone Star can honestly say, "Where did the time go?"

With everything going on, there was one event that stood out for a lot of our members – The Christmas Merry-thon! On the Sunday after Thanksgiving, we put on our best Christmas outfits, gathered dozens of cookies donated by our friends at Feastivities, and loaded a bus for a fun-filled afternoon of caroling to many of the area Fire Stations. Not only

did we get to spend an afternoon laughing and sharing with each other, but then we got to serenade all of those wonder-



fully heroic firefighters. What woman doesn't appreciate a man in uniform? And what a way to start off the Christmas season!

Rounding out our Christmas season were performances at the Fort Worth Library, Hulen Mall, Central Market, and a very special performance for the people at Universal Health Services. And we can't forget to mention the 400-plus poinsettias that we sold! WHEW! Lone Star can't wait to see and hear everyone at contest this year!

By Tammy Mathis, TIWT Correspondent

Magic Valley Chorus McAllen, TX

Magic Valley chorus is happy to have our leave of absence chorus members back -- what a difference it makes on the risers and sound. Our thanks to Charlotte Hoffman who helped us make some long-term goals and gave us a good coaching session. We had five holiday performances at a small theater in Weslaco, TX. The theater is unique as it used to be a water holding tank and sat empty for many years until someone got the bright idea to turn it into a small theater. The theater is at ground level that makes it easily accessible and seats up to 100 people; performers are close to the audience and sit on chairs that are three tiers up. People who live in the area fill the seats whenever there is some kind of performance and are always a good audience which makes it a fun performance to do.

We also did a performance at Hidalgo Fest that is held outside among many

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beautiful lighted figurers, what a beautiful sight! After the performance we all went on a trolley ride to see the rest of the town that was lit up. Most of the whole town is decorated for the holidays; it is quite a sight to see. The weather cooperated and made it an enjoyable performance and we had a great audience who enjoyed our music. Our chorus is looking forward to the coming workshop and meeting all our friends in the region again. It is sad to think that Jackie Hall is gone; she was our mentor and such a good help when we were organizing the chorus. She will not be forgotten by any of us who knew her well.

By Gloria Johnson, TIWT Correspondent

Panther City Chorus Fort Worth, TX

For the last few months, Panther City Chorus has worked hard learning and refining its selection of Christmas music. Saturday, December 13, all of that hard work was put on display when the chorus spent the day singing. Beginning at the home of the mother of one of its members, the chorus delivered musical Christmas cheer to residents of a number of assisted living facilities. That same day, Panther City performed for the



crowd at Central Market in Fort Worth and sang for a gathering at Dido United Methodist Church.

On December 20, Panther City met at the home of its director, Charlotte Hoffman, for the chorus Christmas party. Members brought food and a white-elephant gift to exchange. Later in the evening, the chorus sang Christmas carols for the neighborhood.

Now that the holidays are over, Panther

City Chorus is working hard and concentrating on music for competition. With all-day rehearsals and coaching sessions scheduled, the chorus expects to be well prepared for its Region 10 Competition debut.

Panther City Chorus rehearses on Thursday evenings at Handley Baptist Church, 6801 Church St., Fort Worth.

By Ruth Gerik, TIWT Correspondent

Sparkling City Chorus Corpus Christi, TX

Our Annual Show was held on Jan. 10, 2009, with matinee and evening performances at the Harbor Playhouse Theater in downtown Corpus Christi. The show was titled: "Lost In The Fifties Again: Music from Doo-Wop at the Sock Hop to the Best of Broadway."



Our featured special guests were "Sterling," the award-winning men's quartet from San Antonio.

Sparkling City Chorus always looks forward to singing Sing-A-Grains for Valentine's Day. This is always my favorite time of the year – what a joy it is to be able to share a love song. We have several quartets ready to make someone's day a special one.

Our coaches have been fabulous this year. Wow, we loved Vickie Dennis' coaching visit with us in October. Vickie is dynamite! Darlene Rogers will be here on Jan. 27 and will be back again on Feb. 27 for our Retreat.

Lots of love and hugs to everyone...Break A Leg! See you soon for Region 10 Competition in March.

By Glenda Hudgens, TIWT Correspondent

Spirit of Southeast Texas Chorus Beaumont, TX

The Spirit of Southeast Texas Chorus has been very busy performing at various sing-outs throughout Southeast Texas. The holiday "spirit" was alive and well as we performed for multiple holiday church events and assisted living centers. The performance at the Mamie McFaddin Ward House was special in that we dressed in turn-of-the-century period costumes to celebrate Christmas time in Beaumont's stately southern mansion.

We also performed our first Christmas show as a new and improved chorus at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church (our rehearsal hall). The audience was packed with friends and family, and we held a Silent Auction fundraiser throughout the evening as well. Now that the holidays have passed, our focus will turn to our upcoming Retreat at Rayburn Country near Jasper, TX, so that we can prepare for the annual Region 10 Competition. Yes, we plan to compete and will also enter 2 quartets for the quartet competition.

We want to wish everyone throughout Region 10 and beyond a very productive and successful 2009! See you all in March, with "spirited" harmony!

By Jeri Sullivan, TIWT Correspondent

Starlite Sound Chorus Humble, TX

Yes, we had some enjoyable Christmas performances and a successful garage sale in November. But the most notable event in late 2008 for the Starlite Sound Chorus is part of a continuing saga -- The Legend of the Ugly Dress.

Flash back 10 years . . . Their intentions were good. Buy showy costumes with sequins and sparkle. Dresses that would look great on all body types and look fabulous on stage under bright lights. When put to the test however, they were dull and lifeless. And, very itchy, hot and uncomfortable. Instantly, the brand new costumes for Starlite Sound Chorus became the "Ugly Dress."

The Legend of the Ugly Dress evolved

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into a coveted Starlite Sound Christmas party tradition. We pass on a little piece of the Chorus' history through a White Elephant gift exchange. The air is always thick with anticipation and the fear that rather than leave with a fabulous new bauble or trinket one goes home with "It." Needless to say, there is much merriment when one DOESN'T take home the Ugly Dress.

This year the very first gift opened was the Ugly Dress. Which meant the pressure was off for the rest of us. No possibility of taking that thing home. But wait. Accepted tradition of the White Elephant Gift Exchange is that the first person to select a gift gets to either keep it or trade it last. So when the realization set in that the horror was not over, our blood pressure started to rise again.

As it turns out, our newest member, Debra Doyle, was the lucky victim. She gets to possess the Ugly Dress for the next year. However, this year offered a new twist. Our empathetic leader, Yvette Morgan, decided to surprise the new owner with a few sparkly baubles from our brand new local Charming Charlie store. So, the Legend of the Ugly Dress takes on a whole new meaning. Next year, maybe it will be the most traded item at the party. And, the legend will live on.

By Tina Kowis, TIWT Correspondent

Texas Harmony Chorus Irving, TX

Texas Harmony Will Shine in 2009! Yes, that's Texas Harmony's new year's resolution. This is going to be a very special year for us, starting with our appearance with 8 other Sweet Adeline choruses on the stage of Carnegie Hall in New York City on Valentine's weekend. We then go to Regional Competition in March and finish out the year with competing in



Harmony Classic in Nashville in October. Imagine this: Texas Harmony On Tour!

It's thrilling to be part of the first Harmony Classic to be held in conjunction with International Competition. We were so excited when we won first place Small Chorus in Region 10, and then as the scores from all regions around the world started trickling in, to find out that we were in the Top Five Small Choruses Worldwide was breathtaking. We have been blessed with this opportunity and are elated.

We've been working really hard preparing for this year. Talk about raising the bar of attainment... Starting with each chorus member, we've placed even more focus on the importance of honing our voice quality. We are blessed to have our very own International Music Faculty, renowned vocal teacher, coach and director, Darlene Rogers, who has worked tirelessly with personal vocal instruction and coaching. The hard work is definitely showing positive results.

We co-sponsored an "Irving's Got Talent" contest in conjunction with our annual show in October. Ten High School finalists competed as Act I of our show with 3 judges. We were able to award a \$1000 scholarship to the winner and still made money on the show. Wow, what talent we found in our youth!

In addition, we have been building our stamina. Although there were times we were convinced that our choreographer Donna Reeves was trying to kill us, we've made great strides in that aspect as well. Our Finance Manager Ladonna Bingham and her team organized a six-hour Holiday Sing-A-Thon for Dec 6 that took us to many Retirement Homes and Hospitals. Not only did we spread Christmas cheer to the sick and elderly, we achieved energy, stamina and made money doing it!

The beauty of the whole picture of striving for success is that each and every member of our chorus has taken ownership seriously. Our DART and Management Teams and Show Committee have worked hard to bring the best "bang for the buck" that we could get. From the

choice of music, the costumes, the rehearsal halls, extra rehearsals and visiting coaches to working it all in from a personal level trying to squeeze it all in around family and work schedules has been challenging.

Being part of Texas Harmony and watching our quality grow is exciting to say the least, but we know that we are just beginning. Our schedule this year is packed with more of the same, as the saying goes *practice makes perfect*. So, that's what we're doing, practice, practice, practice.

We are definitely excited about the opportunities we have been given this year and are looking forward to them. Having met many new friends along the way makes it even better.

By Mary Lou Spencer, TIWT Correspondent

Voice of Vermilion Chorus Lafayette, LA

Voice of Vermilion Chorus wishes all Region 10 members a very Happy and Prosperous New Year! We entertained during the holiday season with performances at Paul's Jewelry for the Oil Center's "Festival of Light," in Grand Cocteau for the "Le Grand Noel," at Acadian Village, at Lafayette General Hospital for their volunteers, in Abbeville for the Nunez Nursing Facility, and for the Republican Women's Club. Quartets were featured at several performances. We did find time to enjoy our chorus' Christmas party, hosted by Rosie Roy, in early December.

Voice of Vermilion welcomes the newest member of our lead section, Marcey Canulette.

Although VOV was not able to be present at Fall Regional because of a previous commitment, we are happy that almost half of the chorus chose to attend the Winter Regional. Voice of Vermilion was delighted to host Janie Macchiaroli for a coaching session in November and Vickie Dennis for two sessions in December and January. We are looking forward to competition in March 2009, after taking a year off in 2008.

By Karen Bernard, TIWT Correspondent

Quartet Notes

Prelude Quartet

Hilda Mancillas, tenor; Jane Schlinke, lead; June Deiser; baritone; Lisa Deiser, bass



What a fantastic experience it was to compete on the International stage in Hawaii! It was so great to be up close and personal with the "Queens" at the quartet reception the first of the week. Then our days were filled with rehearsals, both quartet and chorus. What an exciting time for all of us, but especially our rookies Lisa and Jane. They had the time of their lives living the dream of competing on the international stage, and all the fluff that goes with the opportunity. From the briefing to that late night debut set, it was just a very special time for all of us. Our seats at the competition were the best ever...center section right up front! So many awesome performances...just blows your mind! Thanks to all of you who stayed up till the wee hours to catch our set on the webcast. Thanks, too, for all the love gifts, cards and emails of encouragement...they meant so much. We were able to stay over a few days and enjoy the beauty and hospitality of the islands...tours, luaus, shopping. Paradise!!!

When we got back to earth, we sang for the Retired Teacher's Association

luncheon. This was especially memorable for Jane since she lost her car keys. Weeks later, she got a call saying they had found her keys in the toilet! We also entertained the residents of Madison House Estates for their Christmas banquet. Senator John Cornyn's mother was a resident there and she showed us photos of her son with President Bush.

Happy New Year to each and every member of Region 10 and best wishes to all the quartets and choruses as you prepare for this year's competition.

Montage Quartet

Kathy Walden, tenor; Nita Myers, lead; Carole Carmichael, baritone; Julie Jones, bass

The Montage Quartet sends best wishes to Region 10 for a great New Year! This



year we decided to do something different, so the four of us signed up for skydiving. But our Bass, Julie has a fear of heights, so we had to choose something else. Next, we took up scuba diving. But Kathy didn't want to get her hair wet, and you know how temperamental Tenors are, so we decided to take up glass blowing. But Lead, Nita has hot flashes to contend with, so we decided not to do that either. Then we submitted our application to TV's "The Amazing Race" and were accepted! But they would only take two of us and, of course, Baritone, Carole couldn't decide who to take, so we canceled.

Finally our husbands (except Nita, she doesn't have a husband...well, she did have a husband, but they split up over religious differences...he refused to worship her!) came to our rescue. They gave us something we all needed. So, for

the past 60 days we have been in a rehab for liars. And, as part of our 10-step program, we have to write everybody we have lied to and confess that all the above is a lie!

We did, however, get involved with a worthy cause this year. We donated 4 wheelchairs (really!) to FreeWheelchairMission.org. We challenge all our quartet sisters to give to a charity. It is such a worthwhile and lasting way to say you care. It has lifted our spirits, and it sure beats lying!!

Intrigue Quartet

Kathy Pillmore, tenor; Nancy Bourell, lead; JoAnn Flanagan, baritone; Gloria Eddy, bass

Intrigue fought off allergies and colds and whatever to keep up with a truly busy holiday performance season. In addition to six chorus performances, we sang for the Ro-Ann's (a women's spin-off of the Rotary,) the American Legion, and the Travis County Republican Party. After the 13th, when all the performances were out of the way and we could begin to focus on other things, we met to run through our contest numbers, exchange Christmas gifts and be on our separate ways for the holidays. JoAnn and John bundled up and headed to frost-bitten Minnesota (temps -1° when she left Austin) to visit family. Gloria spent her last few days in the ranks of the employed then retired and began all the steps necessary to sell her house and move closer to town (and her kids.) Nancy and David, who usually have a house full of kids and grandkids,



Intrigue's partridge-in-a-pear-tree finale from the Twelve Days After Christmas. (l-r) Gloria Eddy, bass; Kathy Pillmore, tenor; Nancy Bourell, lead; JoAnn Flanagan, baritone (the star in the middle!)

celebrated Christmas with parents and adult family members while the kids and grandkids were elsewhere. Kathy & Bob spent a quiet Christmas at home playing Wii then hopped on a plane to LA to work on a float and watch the Rose Parade up close and personal. We began rehearsals again in earnest in January with coaching sessions planned in January and February. With Gloria retired now, we can look forward to more daytime rehearsals and coaching sessions. We're looking forward to Regional Competition and catching up on all the quartet news.

KCKC Quartet

Kate Sutton, tenor; Carla Lindsey, lead; Karen Bernard, baritone; Carla Bay, bass. The second quartet is made up of Audrey Courtright, lead; Lynda Fontenot, bass; Kate Sutton, tenor; Carla Lindsey, baritone.

Although we're not a competing quartet, KCKC wants to wish all competing quartets a great competition in March 2009. KCKC has had the privilege of being part of many Christmas performances for Bayou Blend Chorus. We, along with Audrey Courtright and Lynda Fontenot, comprise two quartets in Bayou Blend Chorus.

Following a company Christmas party performance by the two quartets, we were asked to sing to the mother of the owner of the company. The catch was that it had to be done within 5 days,



L-R: Kate Sutton, Audrey Courtright, Karen Bernard, Carla Lindsey, Lynda Fontenot and Carla Bay

which turned out to be on December 12 (the day after it SNOWED in Lafayette, LA.) We were flown on a private jet from Lafayette to Jackson, Mississippi and then taken to a nursing home to sing for the gentleman's mother. She recently had a stroke and cannot see or speak but can hear. She was a pianist for her church and loves "old time" hymns. While we were singing to her, she moved the fingers on her left hand as though she was playing the piano. It was difficult to see this, see family members crying and do a fine performance but we did it! Then we sang to the residents of the home. One gentleman was very animated and we enjoyed visiting with him. We decided to sing God Bless America before we closed that set. He broke down and cried during the song. We found out afterwards that he was a WWII veteran and that Irving Berlin's song was very special to him. Another resident had a baby doll in her arms. Several of us spoke to her and she nodded her head but didn't speak. When Carla Bay spoke to her, she actually said a complete sentence. The attendant was amazed and said that this lady never speaks. She attributed it to our singing and our friendliness. Before we left Mississippi we sang to the airport employees and made it back to Lafayette safely. The whole trip from start to finish was less than 4 hours.

Cross Country Quartet

Carolyn Hudler, tenor; Sheri Strawther, lead; Pam Parish, bari; Kerri Mauney, bass

We have been busy getting reacquainted with our bass, Kerri Mauney. Since she lives in Tomball, we are truly cross country again. We've been busy with coaching sessions, shows and shopping. Sheri Strawther, lead, is recovering nicely from her most recent surgery and can now stand for longer periods of time. Both Kerri and Sheri have new jobs this year, so they are quite busy learning all the new things they must know. Pam Parish, bari, has been busy with her job and was unable to take any extra days off during December as there was a full hospital during that time. Since Carolyn Hudler, tenor, is retired, she has just

been relaxing and enjoying life! If you believe that, I've got some ocean front property in Arizona to show you. Ten weeks until competition. Have to go practice now. See ya.

Fleur de Lis Quartet

Judy Lotz, tenor; Jeannine Thibodaux, lead; Susan Domangue, baritone; Sheryl York, bass

We are Fleur de Lis, members of the Crescent City Sound Chorus. We formed our quartet in the fall of 2007 and have had many opportunities to sing: Valentine's Day, our chorus show, chorus performances and Christmas parties. We are being coached by Mary Beth McMurray and JoAnn Fernon. We're having fun working hard and plan to compete in the spring. See you in Houston!



L-R: Judy Lotz, tenor, Jeannine Thibodaux, lead, Sheryl York, bass and Susan Domangue, baritone.

The Elements Quartet

Mary Seward, tenor; Gloria Crum, lead; Janet LaBoskey, baritone; Judy McCullough, bass

The Elements are celebrating our 2nd year since forming. This past year has been very busy. We participated in our first recital with the vocal students at South Texas College. "The Women," as we were affectionately called, were a hit with the students introduced to BBS harmony. This was our final exam for Janet's and Mary's vocal classes. New quartets usually have a limited repertoire. We were surprised, as we were finishing our set for UTPA students, to be asked for an encore -- the audience suggested repeating the same song!

(Continued on page 12)

(Continued from page 11)

International Education Symposium was an amazing opportunity to be coached by Vicki Mayberry and Marcia Massey, as part of the quartet track. The



Elements made their international debut at two retirement parties in Nuevo Progreso, Mexico.

Janet, Gloria and Mary joined Alamo Metro for spectacular ride preparing for SAI Competition in Hawaii. AMC welcomed the 'Valley girls' and challenged us to rise to the high standards of our wonderful director, Mary Ann Wydra. Judy had other commitments and was able to cruise with her family in December.

We are looking forward to our first competition. It's time to get the butterflies in formation. Our coaching with Mary Ann gives us many areas to develop during the four hour drive to AMC rehearsal. This time all four are traveling since Judy recently passed her audition for AMC.

FLASH! Quartet

Monica Hinson, tenor; Robin Parsons, lead; Bebe Caldwell, baritone; Cynthia Fossum, bass

Happy New Year! We had an exciting 2008. Some of our adventures include



our appearance in the movie *Rennie Guenther Christmas Special*. It is a slapstick tale about a local musical performer. Our role was that of the Strudel Sisters and we sang "Santa Baby" to a comatose Saint Nick. He was un-revivable!! Although the hours were many, we had so much fun and might even be persuaded to do it again. You can visit the website and view pics at www.schmackdab.com.

Alamo Metro competed at International in Hawaii, so three of us (Bebe, Cindy & Robin) flew in a few days early and took in some incredible sights and activities, to include Bebe's surfing lesson! She can now say that she's surfed Waikiki (getting up once counts!).

With the month of December swallowed up by performances, it's a miracle that our families shared Christmas at all! All we can say is thanks to the Lord for their tolerance! And on the family note, all is well at Bebe, Cindy and Monica's home. Robin however, has a sick hubby undergoing oral chemo for a rare blood cancer. She is a good nurse to him and we continue to pray for a quick and full recovery.

Bel Canto Quartet

Katie McClellan, tenor; Janet Brown, lead; Susie Murphy, baritone; Carol Scherer, bass

Bel Canto has been staying busy this past year – singing, getting healthy and traveling along I-35 as un-official "construction monitors."

This past month our singing tour was officially titled the "Jingle Express" to match the sleigh (Garmin car) in Janet's Garmin GPS, which successfully guided us to our destinations in Ft. Worth and Dallas. This year we did not get lost and arrived on time – which is similar to the record of a jolly old fellow we all know.

One of our fun performances was for the Belton Red Hat Society ladies. These cheerful girls know how to make a Sweet Adeline feel right at home adorned with all their feathers, hats and rhinestones. One of our most heartfelt performances was for a hospice care facility in Ft. Worth where we sang for



patients and their families. Here we witnessed the rejuvenation of our simple gift of song to them as a brief respite from the stresses and worries these folks experience daily.

This New Year we are looking forward to making many more new friends, creating memorable experiences and rewarding opportunities. So, when you see us, be sure to stop us, invite us to sing a tag with you or just say "hello."

Reunion Street Quartet

Pat Fenton, tenor; Vicki Wyont, lead; Anna Mae Garner, baritone; Carin Williamson, bass

We can't believe another year is complete and the start of a new one is upon us. We have been busy since contest 08 with many performances. One highlight this year was sharing the stage with the Statesman Chorus of Spring. These guys sure know how to put on a show. We also sang at the birthday of Melinda Jordan's grandmother who turned 100 years young and at the Premium Outlet Mall in Cypress, Texas. Reunion Street entertained crowds at the "Battle of the Choirs" contest with a \$1,000.00 prize up for grabs. What fun it was to sing while the judges tallied scores for the middle and high school choirs who competed.



Great Gulf Coast
Region 10

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Deadline March 3, 2009

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www.region10sai.org or email:

Jane Schlinke - ejane827@gvtc.com

Volunteers Needed For Contest Events

By Mindy Butler, Volunteer Coordinator

Boot Scootin' Barbershop, our 2009 Regional Contest March 19-22, is right around the corner and we will need many volunteers to help the contest flow perfectly. Please consider helping the region by volunteering at contest this year. Please check with your significant other and your invited guests to see if they are interested in volunteering. They will not have to pay for the event during which they volunteer.

Volunteer Job Descriptions are listed below, so that you may choose the job that works for you and your schedule. If you have any questions, please email me at melindasbutler@earthlink.net or call me on my cell at 713-256-6140.

GROUP# 1. GENERAL ASSISTANCE

- . Registration Desk
- . General Information
- . Distributes badges and information packets or forms.
- . Lost & Found
- . Sells tickets
- . Regional Sales - Assists by selling items, making change and arranging items on the table.
- . Past Quartet Pictures Display - Sets up and takes down pictures of past regional winners.
- . Raffle Tables - Assists the international competing quartets and/or choruses at their raffle table(s) by selling tickets and/or accepting donations.
- . Floral Runners - Works with the florist taking orders for and delivering flowers to the contestants.
- . Photography Assistant - Assists photographer with contestant placement, and errands for both quartets and choruses. Collects photo orders and checks them for accuracy and payment.
- . Silent Auction - Assists at the display tables by giving instructions on how the auction works or describing items.

GROUP# 2. TRAFFIC PATTERN

- . Check-in:
- . Check in all contestants

- . Remind of all paperwork needed
- . Hand over to warm-up assistant
- . Warm-up Room Assistant:
 - a. Directs to assigned warm-up room
 - b. Gives 2 minute warning
 - c. Refreshes rooms between competitors
- . Photo Escort - Escorts contestants from the warm-up room to the photographer's station.

- . Personal Belonging Assistant - Collects belongings from performing members and gives their bags back to them after the performance.
- . Special Needs Assistant - Helps attendees in wheel chairs or on crutches to negotiate stage ramps or find seating. (Someone has already volunteered for this job.)

GROUP# 3. CONTEST OPERATIONS

- . Doors - Opens and closes theater doors according to emcee's directions. No one is allowed to leave or enter during a contestant's performance. Doors are staffed both on the inside and the outside.
- . Checks audience for badges or checks for and tears tickets as guests enter.
- . Headphones - Helps to visually monitor the total timing of the contest between judges, pattern and video group by listening to all groups and alerting CRC and CC with contest issues when needed.
- . Pages - Assists judges with the paperwork handling during the contest.
- . A/V Room Assistant - Brings materials to videographer for duplication and helps with labeling. Monitors quartet viewings.
- . Videography - Assists videographer during contests and awards ceremonies.
- . Panel Guard - At contest's end, keeps



- the audience at a safe distance while copies are being made at the panel table.
- . Awards Table - Assists in handing out the awards to the contestants at the conclusion of the contests.

GROUP# 4. Official Panel Liaison ASSISTANTS (Appointed by OPL)

- . Transporters - Transport judges to/from airport
- . Hostess - Helps with making judges feel special.
- . Escorts - Escort judges to/from restroom and/or break areas.
- . Attendants - Maintains judges' meeting room.

GROUP# 5. SHOW OF CHAMPIONS

- . Holding area: Maintain order in the holding area
- . Backstage escort: Escort to stage entry

GROUP# 6. EXTRA

- . Riser Crew - Sets up, tears down and moves riser sections as part of a crew. Husbands, sons and male friends are great for this job.
- . Volunteer-On-Call - Prepared to help in any area if a volunteer is unable to do their task. This position has an assigned seat in the auditorium.

Welcome to our newest Region 10 members October 2008-January 2009

Please note that this information is supplied by International headquarters and may not include dual or transfer members.

Alamo Metro	Lynette Arceneaux	Houston Horizon
Carolyn Houston	Carla Bay	Christy Grobmeier
Mary Seward	Marsha Bock	Rebecca Rangel
	Beverly Colomb	Stephanie Woods
Austin Harmony	Audrey Courtright	Wendy Wright
Erica Sigler	Lynda Fontenot	
Valeria Taylor	Cathy Guidry	Sparkling City
	Susan Kinniff	Nancy Burditt
Bayou Blend	Marcelle LeBlanc	
(new chapter)	Corla Lindsey	Voice of Vermilion
Karen Bernard	Regina Lowrance	Martha Canulette
Jayne Calaway	Kate Sutton	Stephanie Larriviere
Kim LeJeune	Lynne Worth	Ginger Serpas
Susan Tankersley		

Membership Growth Award

By Carin Williamson, Region 10 Membership Coordinator

New this year is a Membership Growth Award. The winner will be announced prior to contest weekend. All choruses are eligible and must submit a listing of all new members to your chorus between Sept. 1, 2008, through March 1, 2009. A list of all members who have resigned, transferred etc. must be submitted as well. The final piece of documentation needed to enter this contest is evidence of membership campaigns used during this time period. The chorus winner will be determined by the largest percentage of growth vs. loss and tools for obtaining this growth. Send documentation to me at willsing@academicplanet.com. The winner will receive reserved seating at the quartet contest in March. Get out there and recruit!

Wall of Fame & Scrapbook Pages Reminder

By Karen Bernard, Region 10 Historian

Scrapbook pages and information on the **Sixteenth Annual Wall of Fame** were given out at the Chapter Leaders Forum during the Winter Regional Meeting in Houston. This information will be mailed out to Presidents of choruses with no representative at the Winter Regional. I encourage all choruses to honor **one** special member on this year's Wall of Fame and to be included in the Regional Scrapbook for 2008-2009. Wall of Fame Certificates will be presented and Scrapbook Awards will be announced during competition weekend, probably on Saturday night.

Be sure to visit the Historian's tables in the Regional Boutique at every meeting and especially at contest. You'll find snapshots and chorus/quartet photos for sale at very low prices. Many are now free for the taking. Some Region 10 scrapbooks are on display as well as the Region's Chorus and Quartet Champion Albums.

Get in touch with me if you have any questions. My contact info is as follows: 841 HWY 182; Sunset LA 70584. Phones, fax, and email are: (w) 337-482-6418; (h) 337-662-3247; (fax) 337-482-2489; (e-mail at home) kbsings@centurytel.net I can still be reached at UL Lafayette during the day if necessary at kb@louisiana.edu

Welcome to the Chorus...Now What?

By Janet L Brown, Assistant Director, Chisholm Trail Chorus

Why should every chorus have a Rookie Program? Because we do not want our new members to be wondering, "Now What?"

Every chorus experiences growth in membership -- whether this growth is one new member or several new members being added during a period of time. Chisholm Trail Chorus has seen such growth in the past 7 months with the addition of 9 new members. So, in July 2008, with 2 new members on the risers and more prospective members in our audition cycle, Director Carol Scherer and I realized a Rookie Program could no longer just be a "wishful idea" but needed to be a concrete reality.

We gathered all our resource materials and the Chisholm Trail Chorus "Rising Star Rookie" (RSR) was officially launched. At the core of this program was a desire to offer our new and current members a clear and confident musical foundation with this surge of "Rookie" energy. In addition, we recognized the importance of communication and mentoring of the Rookies to strengthen the chorus as a whole.

Rising Star Rookie Program Goals:

- Guide and orient New Members through the Rookie Program and Sweet Adeline International experiences.
 - Help Rookie feel *Comfortable* and *Safe* with new experiences.
 - Help the Rookie realize her *performance contribution* to the chorus through encouragement designed in the RSR program.
 - Help her to realize that *"Every new member started at the same place she is starting now."*
- Use Rising Star Rookie Program as a Musical and Educational building block to strengthen individual confidence for the benefit of the chorus.
- Use Music Team as "Riser Representatives" to enhance and strengthen their musical and leadership-mentoring skills within the chorus.
- Build friendships and strengthen relationships within the chorus.
- Establish a Coordinator Position appointed by the Director.

There are many Musical and Educational aspects that are designed into the Rising Star Rookie Program to prepare our new members for their performances with the chorus. For example, we all can relate to how it feels to be "new" to an organization and one of the easiest ways to create a sense of connection is

"They don't care how much you know until they know how much you care."
—Z12° the extra degree—

by consistent communication and encouragement. Each Rookie is assigned a Riser Representative, who is a member of the Music Team and is their guide, encourager and the person who says "Hello" at EVERY rehearsal and maintains weekly verbal or email contact ("How are things going?")

Other program components are a priority list for learning music; participation in free PVIs and half-day "barbershop craft" classes; and orientation sessions on costumes and makeup, retreats, contest and choreography.

So, with just 7 short months into our new Rising Star Rookie program can we view this as a successful program for us so far? Definitely. We see and hear our new members learning the chorus music at "lightening" speed, attending extra rehearsals, gaining confidence as performers, and participating in the Education programs offered. We see our Music Team growing in their Musical Leadership and Mentoring skills. More importantly, Chisholm Trail Chorus members have a "shining sparkle in their eyes" brought to them by some Rising Stars.

For more detailed information about the Rising Star Rookie Program contact Janet Brown at jandgbrown@earthlink.net or (254) 541-2307.

Region 10 Website:
<http://www.region10sai.org/>

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Region 10 Calendar of Events 2009-2011

2009

- 2/7 Magic Valley Annual Show
- 2/28 Houston Horizon annual show
- 3/19-22 Regional Competition (Houston Hilton Greenspoint- *formerly Wyndham*)
- 4/18 Panther City Brunch Fashion Show
- 5/15-16 Chapter Leader Workshop- Houston
- 6/27 Area Schools- Dallas/Ft. Worth, San Antonio, Beaumont/Lafayette
- 10/2-3 FRM, Faculty- Lynnell Diamond “Visual Focus”
- 10/20-24 International Competition- Nashville, TN

2010

- 1/15-16 WRM, Faculty- Harriette Walters “Quartet Focus”
- 3/25-28 Regional Competition- Houston (Hilton Greenspoint)
- 5/21-22 Chapter Leader Workshop- Houston
- Jun- Aug Area Schools
- 9/18-19 FRM, Faculty- Tori Postma “Visual Focus”
- 10/19-23 International Competition- Seattle, WA

2011

- 1/14-15 WRM
- 3/17-20 Regional Competition
- 5/20-21 Chapter Leader Workshop- Houston
- June Area Schools
- 10/18-22 International Competition- Houston, Texas

FRM = Fall Regional Meeting

WRM = Winter Regional Meeting

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