

**It's time to plan our 56th Annual Regional Convention and Competition!**

Happy New Year to Great Gulf Coast Region #10 Chapters, Quartets and all Members! It is 2017 and time to start preparing for our big spring event: the 56th Annual Great Gulf Coast Region #10 Convention and Competition

We recommend that each chorus appoint a Competition Coordinator who is responsible for making sure your chorus handles all required details and makes sure all forms and money are submitted by the deadlines given in this handbook. There is a handy checklist of all tasks to be handled in the next couple of months. Any changes/updates will be posted on the Region #10 website and also distributed through the Region #10 mailing lists. Deadlines for each of the forms are clearly indicated. **Please make the deadlines a priority on your calendars.** For everything to run smoothly, all forms and money need to be in on time. You may copy the forms printed in this handbook, or download the complete handbook and/or individual forms at the Region10 webpage: <http://www.region10sai.org/2017-regional-competition/>

Convention weekend officially starts with our Thursday night ***The Sky's the Limit When You Dream!*** Kick Off held on the 2nd Floor in the Donatello Ballroom. Everyone is invited to join competing quartets and Winners Circle members for this special event. You'll have the opportunity to meet all our competing quartets and wish them well. It's a standing room only event, so don't be late!!!! We'll have a photo

*cont. on page 2*

# a Region 10 newsletter

# TIWT

Tune In With Ten

Winter 2017

Volume 31, Issue 3

*Representing Region 10...*



***The Woodlands Show Chorus  
and  
Live It Up!***

***They made us proud!***



# Regional C & C

from pg. 1

backdrop set up in the foyer of the Donatello Ballroom and you can take as many pictures as you would like with your chorus, quartet and/or singing sisters. You can post to Facebook and share with everyone both at the convention and back home!

## *SPECIAL NOTES FOR THIS YEAR:*

- The official drawing for order of appearance is done at SAI Headquarters and this year open division participants will be interspersed among all competitors. We won't know who has chosen which option until you have registered to compete and it is noted on our order of appearance!
- Audience Choice Award will be presented to the most entertaining performance in the OPEN DIVISION ONLY for both the quartet and chorus contests. If there is only one competitor in the Open Division in either contest, that competitor will be declared the Bravo Award winner.
- Again this year we will only have ONE riser configuration, so be sure to select the ALTERNATE riser configuration when you register with SAI to compete as a chorus. We will be using seven 6' riser sections, with NO inverted center section. See diagram of this year's riser set up on [Page 32](#).
- Pictures for Chorus Competitors will be taken on stage immediately following your contest set again this year. We will work with the official photographer to make sure you have time to check "windows" and you will hear a signal as the 4 photos are taken so you'll know when the picture-taking is done.
- Our Mass Sing on Friday will be held in the middle of the Atrium which seemed to work very well last year. Listen for the music and join your chorus and regional friends for this bonding event. Immediately following the Mass Sing, we invite all First Timers (members who have never attended a Region #10 competition/convention before) to move to the front of the crowd for a group photo. The First Timers photo(s) will be available on the Region #10 website along with all the other candid photos done by our professional photographer during the convention weekend.
- Back by Popular Demand!!! **STARS DREAM WHILE ON PARADE REGION-WIDE MEMBERSHIP GATHERING !!!** Immediately following our Mass Sing and First Timers Photo, we invite everyone to join us in the second-floor Donatello Ballroom for a region-wide membership gathering. We will start with a parade of chorus flags (We'll display them during the Mass Sing and then parade with the flags up to this event before displaying them in the atrium for the weekend. If you need details about flag suggested sizes, let me know and I'll get those to you.) You'll want to be there to cheer on your chorus representative. Then we will present most of the

awards formerly given at the Show of Champions including the Marketing Awards, the Nancy Carter Community Service Awards, recognition of the Sweet Adeline Extraordinaire from each chapter, door prizes from many of our vendors and who knows what else?!?!?! This membership meeting is a great way to have some social time with your regional singing sisters and still leave plenty of time for you to be there for contestant #1 in the Quartet Competition. If you have any brilliant ideas about what you'd like to see at the STARS DREAM WHILE ON PARADE membership meeting, please let our RMT Team Coordinator, [Gail Eltgroth](#), know as soon as possible.

- If your chorus is not having a Saturday Night Dinner, you can join Regional Friends for dinner together without leaving the Hilton. [See Page 24](#) for more information.
- Show of Champions will start at 8 p.m., giving you plenty of time to enjoy dinner.
- We'll have a bulletin board to post locations of choruses' parties being held Saturday night following the Show of Champions.

The Competition Steering Committee is here to serve and help in any way possible to make your contest experience enjoyable. We look forward to seeing you!

Yours in Harmony,

[Cheryl Pyle](#), Chair of the Regional Convention

## [Complete Competition Handbook PDF](#)

## [Individual pages from the handbook webpage](#)



Sound: Ruth Ann Parker

Music: Sharon Babb

Expression: Vickie Maybury

Showmanship: Peggy Gram

## Quartet Order of Appearance

**1A: Live It Up!**, EVALUATION ONLY, Houston  
Horizon/The Woodlands Show/Toast of Tampa

**1: Texas Accent**, Heart of the Pines

**2: Choices**, Texas Harmony

**3: Center Stage**, Spirit of SET/The Woodlands Show

**4: Mental Notes**, Austin Harmony/CAL

**5: Unedited**, The Woodlands Show

**6: Essence**, Alamo Metro/CAL

**7: Fleur de Lis**, OPEN DIVISION, CAL/Crescent City  
Sound

**8: Joyful Sound**, Lone Star

**9: Sympatico**, The Woodlands Show

**10: Rhapsody!**, CAL, CAL Reg 25, The Woodlands  
Show

**11: Bella Bleu**, Piney Hills Harmony

**12: Changed 4 Good**, Crescent City Sound

**13: SoundWise**, A Cappella Unlimited, Alamo Metro

**14: Glitz!**, The Woodlands Show

**15: Sheer Bliss**, Alamo Metro

**16: Reunion Street**, Houston Horizon

**17: Sibling Rivalry**, Capital City Sound, Mountain  
Jubilee, Pride of Portland, The Woodland Show

**18: Belle Tones**, CAL

**19: Toulouse**, Crescent City Sound

## Chorus Order of Appearance

**1: Houston Horizon**, EVALUATION ONLY, Houston,  
Texas, Janet Burnett

**2: Heart of the Pines**, Nacogdoches, Texas, TJ Reed

**3: Sparkling City**, Corpus Christi, Texas, Kathy  
Littlefield

**4: Magic Valley**, McAllen, Texas, Sandy Seitz

**5: Piney Hills Harmony**, Ruston, Louisiana, Sheila  
Nugent

**6: Crescent City Sound**, New Orleans, Louisiana,  
Mary Beth McMurray

**7: Chisholm Trail**, Temple, Texas, Carol Scherer

**8: Austin Harmony**, Austin, Texas, Nancy Bourell

**9: The Woodlands Show**, The Woodlands, Texas,  
Betty Clipman

**10: A Cappella Unlimited**, San Marcos, Texas, Katy  
Dane

**11: Baton Rouge**, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, Cate  
McRitchie

**12: Lone Star**, Fort Worth, Texas, Charlotte Hoffman

**13: Bayou Blend**, Broussard, Louisiana, Tina Kneisler

**14: Alamo Metro**, San Antonio, Texas, Mary Ann  
Wydra

**15: Azalea City Harmony**, Mobile, Alabama, Patricia  
Hegwood

**16: Texas Harmony**, Irving, Texas, Darlene Rogers

**17: Cradle of Texas**, Sugar Land, Texas, Holly Ritter

**18: Spirit of Southeast Texas**, Beaumont, Texas,  
Jeana Evans



## From our education coordinator...

Well, our Winter Regional event was great. I hope those of you who attended took back valuable tools to share with your quartets and choruses. Rio thoroughly enjoyed spending the weekend with us and I know we enjoyed them! Our mock quartet contest gave our quartets and opportunity to perform and have coaching by our guest faculty and our regional faculty. I want to thank all of those who shared their time and talents with us. Congrats to all who participated. I hope those of you who were not able to attend this year will plan for next January when Kim Vaughn will be our guest faculty. You DO NOT want to miss that! I personally would like to thank Janie Macchiaroli, Mary Ann Wydra, Sheri Strawther and Janet Burnett for being our judges for the mock contest. THANK YOU!!! I would also like to thank our own Live It Up! for facilitating the tag singing class. I think you ALL had fun with this one by all the singing in the bar afterwards! THANK YOU!! Thank ALL of you for your evaluations and ideas concerning this event and future events. Your RMT and Education Faculty DO listen so please let me know if you think of anything else you'd like to see for future events.

As you know, contest is right around the corner and we will once again be able to share time together and ring a few more chords. I hope you will bring your tags and regional songbook with you. Who knows when it might come in handy!

We will soon have a new regional song!! We are in the process of purchasing "Baby You Can Drive My Car". It should be a fun song for all of us! The plan is to have it available to you at regional. Keep your fingers crossed. There will be a per-copy fee so be prepared to purchase your copy.

Summer Regional Meeting – This event will be June 30 – July 2 at the Hyatt in Houston. Our guest faculty will be Kim Wonders. She is from Nashville and has lots to share with us about carrying our "contest skills" into the rest of our music, as well as how to make it come to life. There will be singing and much more so please make plans to attend. Keep checking the website for more information as it becomes available.

Best of luck to all quartets and choruses who will be sharing their joy and musical excitement on the stage with us in March! Sing your hearts and may you have your best performance ever!

See you at contest.

In harmony and love,

Denise Fly

## Special message from Mary Beth McMurray

Join the Mass Sing on Friday, March 31st at Contest! Sheet music and learning tracks are on the Region 10 website under [Resources/Music](#)

\*Harmonize the World \*How We Sang  
\*Dancin' Queen  
\*One Song at a Time \*Happy Together  
\* We Are Family  
\*Blue Skies \*Swinging On a Star \*Fly Me to the Moon



## Karen Bernard history

**Scrapbook Pages** & information on the **Twenty-Fourth Annual Wall of Fame** were handed out during the Winter Regional Meeting in Houston. Those not picked up will be mailed. I encourage all choruses to honor **only one** special member on this year's Wall of Fame and to be included in the Regional Scrapbook Contest for 2016-2017. **Wall of Fame Certificates** will be presented on Friday at the Region's "Stars on Parade Region-Wide Membership Gathering"

that will be held in the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Donatello Ballroom immediately following the Mass Sing and First Timers Photo. The Scrapbook Awards will be announced on Saturday night at the Show of Champions.

I plan to bring a lot of the Historian albums this time, but not as many as last year. Our history is very interesting – take some time to look at some of the older materials. The Region's Historical Chorus and Quartet Champion Albums and Region 10 scrapbooks are on display. **Snapshots, chorus & quartet photos from previous years are now FREE for the taking. Of course, donations are always welcome!**

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: (home) 337-662-3247;

(fax) 337-662-2274; (e-mail) [kbsings@centurytel.net](mailto:kbsings@centurytel.net)



Are you on the Region 10 email list? Are you receiving your copy of the "Monthly Summary Blast"? The [January](#) issue was sent out on 2/2/17. The MSB keeps you informed on what your Region 10 Sister Chapters, Regional Management Team and Sweet Adelines International are up to – keeping you in the loop. If you were at our last two workshops you would have been added to the Region 10 mailing list and received special emails related to the particular event you were registered for. Signing up is easy just follow this link: <http://eepurl.com/choig>. (If you signed up and did not receive a MSB check your Spam folder and/or put [communications@region10sai.org](mailto:communications@region10sai.org) email address on your contact list. All MSB are sent from Great Gulf Coast Region 10 Communications)

We would like to follow you and your Chapter/Chorus. When posting to any social media please tag us on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram. We now have a hashtag for our region: [#region10sai](#). Do you have a hashtag for your chorus? Make one up, share it with your chorus members and start using it along with [#region10sai](#) and [#iamsweetadelines](#). Try to post to your social media at least once a week. Let potential members and your followers know what you are up to and what fun you are having.

Let me know what I can do to help communicate better with your members. For some ideas take a look at the [Communication Handout](#) from 5/2016

Petra 'Piet' Chini

Region 10 Communication Coordinator -

[communications@region10sai.org](mailto:communications@region10sai.org)

Email sign-up: <http://eepurl.com/choig>



Above is a QR code. If you've never used one, here's how it works. Download a QR reader from your app store. Open the app, allow it to read the QR "stamp" above and it will open the website or link that will allow you to sign up for the blast. This QR reader will work for any code stamp. They are everywhere. The app also allows you to create QR codes for your use. Check it out at your app store.

## Message from Piet Chini RMT Communication Coordinator

I have been privileged to hold this wonderful position on the Region 10 Management Team as Communication Coordinator this past year. I have enjoyed meeting and working with the many women who make this region succeed. But I find that I must leave this position before my term is up with my pending move to California. Therefore I am looking for someone who would be interested in stepping in to finish my term.

My job responsibilities are:

- Administrate of Reg10 YahooGroups
- Publish a Monthly Summary Blast
- Send out communications from RMT
- Keep member/job title lists up-to-date
- Publish a Reg10 Directory
- Oversee - TIWT and social media
- Work closely with Marketing and Events Coordinators
- Attend 3 to 4 meetings per year
- Conduct Chapter Visits x3

If you are interested feel free to send me an [email](#) or call me, so that we can set up a time to discuss this job more in detail.

Petra 'Piet' Chini

RMT 10 Communication Coordinator Texas

Harmony – since 2012

469-464-3770



# membership

## Kaye Pledge

This time of year we all begin the hustle and bustle of getting ourselves in gear for contest. After the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays, most people can let down, put their feet up and rest thru January and February. Not Region 10. That is when we begin the most intense participation in rehearsals, retreats, sectional rehearsals, coaching, costume fittings, make up refresher classes, choreography learning, and breathing exercises.

Contest is just around the corner. I know you think it is months away. Not so my singing buddies. We are 10 weeks away from stepping out on the contest stage to show off all our hard work, sweat and tears that we have exerted getting to this point.

January is International's Global open house month. With all the preparations for contest, it can sometimes be difficult to make this a priority. I do hope each of you choruses is planning a guest night or open house. Guests who turn into new members are exciting. Getting them involved in the competition hub bub is also exciting and a bit scary for them as well.

The "Plus One" pin program is designed to acknowledge those current members of a chorus who have brought in a new member. We have given out 8 plus one pins recently and hopefully this is just the beginning.

**Baton Rouge – Virginia Baez referred Sarah Morvant**

**Baton Rouge - Virginia Baez referred Natalie Evelyn Denby**

**Baton Rouge – Tina Watts referred Bonnie Weismann**

**Magic Valley – Dee Fritch referred Kathleen Mahoney McCormick Padilla**

**Chisholm Trail – Maria Hudskins referred Lisa McKinnon**

**Crescent City Sound – Debbie Mora referred Janice LeBlanc**

**Crescent City Sound – Debbie Mora referred Karen Soulet**

**Crescent City Sound - Kitty Warner referred Lilli Arning**

Welcome to each of the new members mentioned here as well as all the other new members who will be making their first trip on the contest stage.

Good Luck to every participant at the upcoming Region 10 regional competition March 31<sup>st</sup> thru April 1<sup>st</sup>.

*plus one!*



YOUNG SINGERS FOUNDATION

## YOUNG SINGERS FOUNDATION

The Young Singers Foundation is committed to enriching lives of young women by promoting educational and performance opportunities for vocal music within the barbershop style.

The Young Singers Foundation is an organization that raises monies to help fund the scholarships provided by Sweet Adeline International.

Each year we have tried to present a fund raising program that everyone would be excited about and participate in.

The past two years have been very exciting and I again thank those who were involved in making them a success. The Regional quilt was a huge success and I feel we will be bringing it back in the next couple of years. Last year, thanks to Carolyn Bottemley of Austin Harmony Chorus, the tote bags were fantastic.

This year we are doing something totally different. Sheila Donahue, a member of Chisholm Trail Chorus, has made one-of-a-kind baskets for us to raffle off. There will be six baskets in all that will be raffled off and I know you will want to get your tickets early and often.

There will be a display table at the upcoming Winter Regional where you can purchase your tickets. The tickets will be \$5.00 each or 3 for \$10.00. All proceeds will go to the Young Singers Foundation. We will continue to sell tickets at contest and will have the drawing on Saturday for these one of a kind baskets.

Thank you Region 10 for your continued support of this important cause.

For more information, visit:

[sweetadelines.com/give/youngsingersfoundation/](https://sweetadelines.com/give/youngsingersfoundation/)



Sweet Adelines International is

committed to connecting young women  
with the joy and passion of singing  
barbershop harmony.

Young Women in Harmony (YWIH)  
offers life-changing opportunities to  
youth and provides music educators with  
complimentary resources to include the  
study and performance of barbershop  
harmony in school music programs.

These specific programs are unique and  
offer proven methodologies to engage  
youth and support the mission of Sweet  
Adelines International — to advance this  
musical art form through education.

Young Women In Harmony is not only  
the avenue through which Girl Scouts  
have an opportunity to learn a cappella,  
barbershop harmony, but now these  
young ladies can also earn a coveted  
uniform patch! YWIH also seeks to  
empower all women age 25 and  
younger, exposing them to the world of  
barbershop music and providing the  
opportunity to develop the mastery of  
their singing technique.

Representing Region 10 @...

BHS MIDWINTER IN SAN ANTONIO

Southern Belles Chorus

**A Message from Region 10  
YWIH Coordinator, Laura  
DeGraw:**

Region 10's own Young  
Women in Harmony chorus just returned  
from the Barbershop Harmony Society's  
Midwinter Youth Chorus Festival in San  
Antonio. The Southern Belles performed  
well, and after only 5 rehearsals leading  
up to the event, received a rating of



"Excellent" from the Midwinter judging  
panel. Congratulations to director Katy  
Dane and the Southern Belles Chorus on  
their success!

Recap video link:

[http://tinyurl.com/  
R10MidwinterRecap](http://tinyurl.com/R10MidwinterRecap)





## Recap of 2017 Winter Meeting Evaluations

- Many ladies enjoyed the Tag Singing and asked for MORE!
  - Need a class on:
    - Setting up (and maintaining) a chorus web page
    - Team Building
    - Using technology to market a chorus
    - Navigating the SAI website
    - Setting quartet goals and getting a written agreement
    - How to do PVI's
    - Rookie Class/Barbershop 101 (with acronym explanations)
    - Rules for Mock Quartet Contest
  - Remind the presenters to introduce themselves. A new person is always in attendance.
  - Need more coffee in the sleeping rooms (Solution: Call Housekeeping. Or leave a tip and a note in the room!)
  - Change the lunch menu. (Solution: We DO, but more ladies cannot eat the pasta lunch than the taco one.)
  - Grab 'N' Go Breakfast will be back in June!
  - To the lady who wanted a "Free Lunch". Fine! We must charge \$20 for Registration, lunch included.
  - Why did you come? Several replies were "Denise said we HAD TO."
  - One person needs Sweet Iced Tea with lunch.
  - One person did not get coffee in time at lunch. (They sometimes leave the coffee urns up for a while. Get another cup!)
  - "Disappointed at light turn-out". January's meeting is always smaller than the Fall one. At least we do not have the problem with SNOW, although we have had ice storms preventing attendees from coming. Think "More Intimacy and Personal Attention!"
  - What about an earlier start to the Saturday Night Show? Well, if the last class happens to run longer than scheduled, eating dinner and returning in time becomes a challenge. Also, we need not to rush those who will be performing. Better to have too much time than not enough.
  - Deke Sharon for Guest Faculty? We WISH! But the fees involved are out of our budget range!!
  - Move the venue? Since SAI has stretched our boundaries from the Rio Grande Valley to Dallas, and from Alabama to San Angelo, we need to keep in mind our members who are farthest away. Houston is still central, geographically (see the Distance Chart on the Region 10 website). It's extremely interesting! Go to

[www.region10sai.org](http://www.region10sai.org); click on "Resources"; scroll down to "Membership", and it's the first link.

- Handouts? We always try to have them on the website, so you can print your own, prior to the meeting. We don't always RECEIVE them in time! Printing costs would negatively impact our budget to provide all handouts, when in reality they are not picked up and must be recycled after the meeting.
- We do post the schedule on the website. It is also taped to the Registration Desk. Take a photo with your phone if you lost your copy or did not print the latest edition.
- Better signage for the meeting rooms. We are working on it! Signs require easels, which can be at a premium. Not all hotels provide FREE easels!
- Someone still thought the meeting rooms were too cold (always bring a wrap). Another said they were "perfect!".
- Best Class: Wish It, Dream It, Do It!



July 15, 2017: The Woodlands Show Chorus Annual Show - The Woodlands, TX

August 2, 2017: IES - College Park, MD

September 16, 2017: Fall Regional Meeting, Visual Focus - Houston, TX - Jana Gutenson

October 9-14: International Convention - Las Vegas, NV

November 4, 2017: Alamo Metro Chorus Annual Show - San Antonio, TX

December 2, 2017: The Woodlands Show Chorus Christmas Show - The Woodlands, TX

## Region 10 Management Team

Gail Eltgroth, Team Coordinator  
Elizabeth McCurdy, Marketing Coordinator  
Marilyn Turner, Events Coordinator  
Mary Beth McMurray, Directors Coordinator  
Piet Chini, Communications Coordinator  
Cheryl Pyle, Finance Coordinator  
Denise Fly, Education Coordinator  
Kaye Pledge, Membership Coordinator



# Congratulations



The Mission Belles Attendance Award  
Recipient for the Winter Regional Meeting in  
January

# Save the Date

## SUMMER REGIONAL MEETING

**JUNE 30 - JULY 2**



**August 2 - 6**

## Fall Regional Meeting September 15-16



**October 9-14**



## A Cappella Unlimited

Greetings from A Cappella Unlimited Chorus! Since our last installment, San Marcos hosted a Veterans Day

Parade and Au kicked off the event with the National Anthem and a set of patriotic songs. We also had an opportunity to meet State Representative Lloyd Doggett!



On Saturday, November 28th we participated in a video with the Mayor of San Marcos followed by two hours of caroling supporting Small Business Saturday in the Square. December began with our annual Sights & Sounds of Christmas performance! Special thanks to the City of San Marcos, Main Street Program for including us in this special event!



Au turned 5 this year and we celebrated this special time with friends, old and new, along with Cheryl Pyle and Laura DeGraw, who was gracious enough to help us commemorate the evening with beautiful photography. The New Year brings contest focus and another Au



retreat! This year Steve Scott returned to coach us on the road to gold. The weekend was action packed and so educational for each member. We left the weekend with techniques to become more efficient singers. We look forward to seeing you at contest!

Happy 2017! After ending the year with our annual Christmas party, holiday performances and once again singing the National Anthem for a SA Spurs game, we are hitting the ground running! We had the pleasure of working with the fabulous Ryan Heller twice in the last few months. His fast paced coaching was the perfect way to start our preparations for regional contest. We are looking forward to our retreat with the incomparable Dale Syverson who always brings out our best!

We were excited to have been invited to perform in the Fredericksburg Music Club series on February 19<sup>th</sup> where



we reprised part of our Music Con show as well as a concert style second half.

Lastly, we were all saddened by loss of our very own Marguerite Reavis, who lost her valiant battle with cancer on January 7<sup>th</sup>. Marguerite was a 25 year member of AMC, who also sang baritone in Brilliance, Starburst and Head over Heels quartets. Marguerite was known by many in the region and will be greatly missed by all her knew her. At the request of her family, AMC sang at her memorial service, which was a beautiful tribute to a lovely and kind lady.

In memory  
Marguerite Reavis





# austin harmony

## Wow! 2016 was a great year for the Austin Harmony Chorus!

From coaching with Kerri Mauney, region 10 coaches and also Eddie Martinez of Vocal Majority to medaling as both 3rd place Small Division and Most Improved Chorus, we are

thankful for a great year and are preparing for contest in March 2017.

The Austin Harmony Chorus presented a fall show on

November 19th, 2016 at Hillcrest Baptist Church. The show celebrated AHC through the years. We debuted some new songs including "For Good" and "All About That Bass" both of which

our audience enjoyed tremendously.

Our own AH!HA quartet opened the show and our second half was comprised of a set by *Live It Up!* who entertained us like only they

can do. What talented ladies they are and how fortunate we feel to have had them in our show!

Our friends and family joined us at the after glow where we had restaurant guests popping their heads in the room to see why we were having so much fun together! Mimi's Café may never be the same again.

We have recently welcomed new members Anita Bray singing tenor and Lindy Peterson singing bass. Additional guests are in the qualifying process right now and we look forward to growing even more in 2017!



The Baton Rouge Chorus had fun performances at Christmastime. Marketing Coordinator, Patricia Casiello, helped us put together a smaller group of singers (about half the chorus) directed by Assistant Director, Molly Manson. This group, the *Chopsticks*, accepted daytime performances. We got extra rehearsal time and performance experience. It was a great success.

Once again, the Baton Rouge Chorus has been preparing for WEATHER OR NOT!?! , our show that was postponed due to flooding last August. Avoiding a blizzard and other winter weather possibilities, it was held on February 11, at 2:00 and 7:00 at Trinity Lutheran Church. We're excited to have had 4 new members in the show -- Stacey McIntyre, Bonnie Weissman, Ned Denby and Sarah Morvant.

After the show, we will concentrate on Competition, in the International Division. Then we will work towards another show, in November 2017 with a Patriotic theme at the brand new Goodwood Library.

## baton rouge

We were humbled and grateful to the Chisholm Trails Chorus, who "adopted" us at Christmastime and blessed us with gift card donations for our members who were flooded last August. Recovery efforts continue for many in our area, but "this too will pass" with the help of friends like this. Thanks to members of the Chisholm Trail Chorus.



# bayou blend

2017 is here and January and February are gone already, but first, we'll let you know what BBC did this past fall. Tina went to Las Vegas and came back with renewed energy from all she had seen there. Our raffle sales were really good this time – chorus members worked at several locations in and around Lafayette. We also sold tickets at Marisa's food booth at the Crowley Rice Festival in October. A new performance venue for us in November (to celebrate Veterans Day) was at the Southwind Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Crowley. BBC sang at the South Central Region Convention of the General Federation of Women's Clubs. What a great audience! Our November fundraiser was a Pallet Painting Party held at St. Elizabeth Seton's church hall. We had great attendance and did very well. Our pallets were amazing!



December was a busy month for us. Several BBC members traveled to Covington to see the Crescent City Sound Chorus show – our Director Tina sings with them. Bayou Blend had performances at Acadian Village (Many members had dinner after the performance at Cheddars.); at the Abbeville Stroll, followed by a magnificent meal at Shucks Restaurant; and at



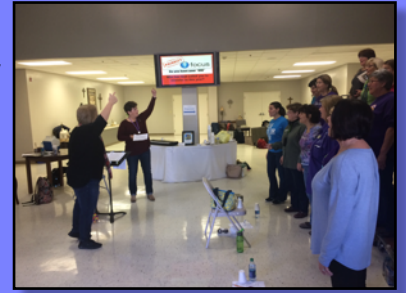
our rehearsal site's Carols and Candles Service. A chorus VLQ sang for the Lafayette Quilters Christmas party at the Northwood United Methodist Church and saw many friends and former Sweet Adelines in the audience. Audrey Courtright hosted our chorus' Christmas Party again this year. We had lots of food and fun and did an ornament exchange. Our Christmas Chorus was a success in 2016. We had a good group of guest singers who enjoyed their time with us.

Almost 50% of our members attended the Winter Regional Meeting. I'm sure you saw Doris, Catherine, Marsha, Marisa, Carol, Sarah, Beau, Patricia, Jessica, Barbara and Karen at the Hyatt. Rio! was amazing and everyone thoroughly enjoyed their classes. Our own JACQ (Marisa, Patricia, Sarah and Jessica) was in the Mock Quartet Contest and sang



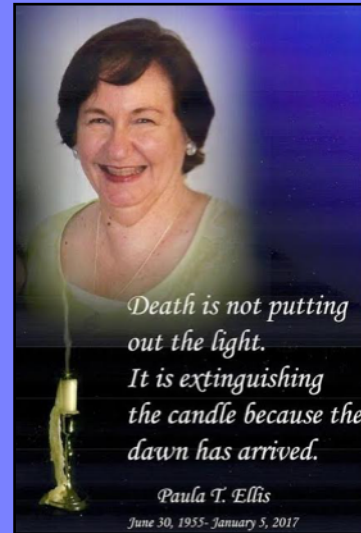
on Saturday night. Way to go, girls! We're proud of you!

January for Bayou Blend was a mixture of happy and sad. Our "happy" was an all-day coaching session with our own "Vitamin K" – none other than Kim Wonders – on January 7<sup>th</sup>. Our "sad" was two-fold with the loss of our bass member Paula Ellis on January 5<sup>th</sup>. Members of



Baton Rouge Chorus and other Sweet Adelines joined Bayou Blend in singing at Paula's funeral service in Baton Rouge on Friday, January 13<sup>th</sup>. At this same time

Tina Kneisler's father, Laurence John Miller, passed away on January 12<sup>th</sup> in Wellington, Ohio.



In memory  
Paula Ellis

March brings Kerri Mauney and Piet Chini to Bayou Blend for a Regional Visit a couple of weeks before contest.

We're excited about being on stage for the 3<sup>rd</sup> time with our Director Tina Kneisler and we look forward to seeing everyone again in Houston.



# chisholm trail

Chisholm Trail topped off our fall by presenting “American Pie, A slice of Harmony” our annual show on November 19<sup>th</sup>. In addition to the chorus singing and musical numbers from “The Schade Tree Band”, the chorus had a Pie contest. We also gave away free pies. The Temple high school culinary class served mini pies during the intermission and they were delicious. It was a delightful evening. The Chorus has put together a cookbook also entitled American Pie – A slice of Harmony that was on sale at the show and on sale now from any chorus member.

December 3<sup>rd</sup>, we sang at the Temple Depot where Santa arrived on the train. Afterward we went to Meredian Assisted Living where we sang for the residents including one of our own member’s dad, Ted Mouche’, as well as a former member Georgia Best. We then went to Carol Mouche’s home for a potluck get together.

December 8<sup>th</sup> brought a visit from Regional Faculty Denise Fly and Betty Clipman for our annual regional chapter visit. It was fun and hard work being coached by Betty Clipman. We gleaned so much good information.

December 15<sup>th</sup> the chorus strolled the Temple Mall and sang Christmas carols. It was also the day our annual gift-wrap booth opened in the mall. This is one of our largest fundraisers and it is always fun to wrap packages for customers. The gift-wrap booth was open thru Christmas Eve.

January 5<sup>th</sup> we began the journey to contest. Our emphasis is continuing what we started last year with a first place in the small chorus division.

We have added two new members to our roster. Lisa McKinnon who sings Lead and Kay Brock who is a baritone. We are looking forward to great things from both these ladies. We also have a couple of ladies who are going thru the audition process at this time. A correction to our September article: Our new member at that time was Amanda Thompson, not Autumn, as reported. Amanda, we are sorry for that flub. We know who you are NOW.

We held our retreat at Summers Mill in Salado again this year the first weekend in February. Mary Rhea was our guest coach and wow, what exciting things she had for us again this year.

There were 16 members who attended the Winter Regional event January 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>. It was an exciting event and even though we didn’t have any registered quartets, everyone came away with something we can use to further our journey in this craft.

See you in Houston for contest. We Can’t Wait. Good luck to all participants and choruses.

## cradle of texas

The Cradle of Texas Chorus has had a busy and fun winter season! We started off our fun with a Karaoke Pajama Party at our member Melissa’s house, where we got to dress up and show our talents.

We continued our fun performing at numerous Christmas performances including Fort Bend CASA Tour of Homes, Brookwood Adult Center, and the Christmas fundraiser for Christ Church where we practice. We were joined by our 7 Elves (guest singers) Jose, Jackie, Julie, Kelly, Kara, Carrie, and Beth.

Our director, Holly Ritter, has been “on go” since attending the Directors Conference last August. She has been thrilled to use her new skills to help the chorus grow and improve our performances. We have several new members who are as excited about contest this year as we are! See you at contest!!





# heart of the pines

**Heart of the Pines** had a very successful and fun show, Case of the Missing Chord, in October. Our audience grew about 30% over past years. Yay! Then Christmas performances filled our calendars with about 3 per week during December.

January brought us a new member, Lindsey Moore, who is singing lead. We are so happy to have this YOUNG, full of life, addition. And we have another prospective who plans to audition soon.



Seven members attended the WRM and brought back many new ideas. Mary Beth McMurray came again to coach

and have some fun. Now to remember all we learned. Singing Valentines were next on the list and we had a ball!

Can't wait to see you at Competition. Best of luck to all.

## houston horizon

Houston Horizon Chorus's show, Holiday Harmony, was a big hit this year! We had a great turn out with over 400 tickets sold. A fun theme of "Christmas in Houston" wound its way through the show with fun snippets of humor. The Chorus carried the theme by wearing white pants, colorful summer tops, sandals and Christmas hats.

We added a homey festive feeling to the church lobby this year with holiday tablecloths and decorations on our wares tables. We had holiday themed raffle baskets, and a musically inspired quilt made by one of our members for auction. Our guests enjoyed our Sweet shop, with home baked items to pick up as gifts, or to enjoy at home.



Our youth guest performers were the Stafford HS choir. Houston Horizon Chorus takes pride in adding new elements to our holiday show each season.

Houston Horizon is looking forward to our road to Vegas in

2017! In February, we had a mini-retreat with Ruth Ann Parker, and a coaching session with Mary Beth McMurray. We can't wait to see all our Region 10 sisters in March/April for contest, and are looking forward to performing our bow-out set!



## lone star

Greetings from Lone Star Chorus. Our Christmas season sing-outs were a hit with the locals. We had 8 fun-filled performances and we were joined by some old and new friends to spread the holiday spirit.



On January 30th we had an open house and were delighted to visit with previous members. We are happy to welcome new members Sha Hudgens and Pamela Laing to Lone Star.

On February 10-11, we are planning our Retreat weekend with coach Xanna Williamson as we polish our Contest package and indulge in fun and friendship. We are excited as we prepare for Competition.

Best wishes to all our sister region 10 choruses. We know you are preparing as well. See you all in Houston.

## Piney Hills Harmony's recent activities

have included a coaching session, attending the Winter Regional Meeting, singing at the funeral of a dear dual member, and singing in a new member.

We were blessed to have Janie Macchiaroli as a coach Jan. 14 and again with her during our retreat Feb. 10-11 at "Camp Sing Sing."



A group of seven PHH members attended the Winter Regional Meeting and really enjoyed the activities as well as bringing back much new knowledge to the chorus.



We're grieving the loss of 23-year-old dual member Courtney Jewel, whose primary chorus was TexArmonix in Region 25. A baritone, she competed with us last year, and we were all looking forward to continued association with her. Ten PHH members traveled to Ashdown, Arkansas, to join with TexArmonix to sing "How We Sang Today" at her funeral.

In happier news, we sang in a new member, Sheila Carothers, also a baritone.

On Nov. 5, we successfully presented our show, "A Cappella Fever," at Ruston's Dixie Center for the Arts. Featured guests were the Shreveport-based River Cities Jubilee men's barbershop chorus along with Bella Bleu and Bayou Blend quartets.

## magic valley

Late November was the launch of our wonderful winter season as we welcomed back half our singers from their Northern homes. We quickly restored performance mode and were ready for a dizzying schedule of joyful Christmas outings, including Tower Theater, luncheons, local winter RV parks, and two festivals -Hidalgo Festival of Lights, an annual favorite, and St. George's Greek Festival, our first visit.

The Management Team Installation was held in December, although they've been diligently working since May. We also honored several gals with 5,10, 15, and 20 year pins. One of our dual members received her 40 year pin. Congratulations, Marge Laverack.

In January, we performed at Harlingen's Winter Texan Appreciation Day, most appropriately, since half our members are part of that population.

Three of our members attended the Winter Regional Event and returned with many new ideas to share with the Chorus.

Global Open House was a great success, with several visitors expressing interest in returning. We were very happy to welcome back Janet Rudd to our Tenor section, after several years away.

Then we welcomed a brand new Sweet Adeline to our Lead section. Deb Russell has embraced our harmony music and enthusiastically worked to sing in our Annual Show, Happy Together, February 18, at PSJA High School Performing Arts Auditorium. What an exciting event for her! We're all excited about this Show since we've invited our local men's group, Men of A Chord, to be involved, and have held a couple of joint rehearsals.

Magic Valley Chorus is happily singing and working together, enjoying this life in harmony.



# sparkling city

Once again the chorus had the pleasure of welcoming a new member! Jordan Wyckoff is an exceptionally talented young woman with a great voice for singing tenor! Finally our president Marge Dewitt is not the lone tenor of the chorus. Sparkling City will be returning to the contest stage this year under the direction of Kathy Littlefield. The chorus is very excited to experience competition with our six new members since last year.



In preparation for contest, we have continued coaching with Janie Macchiaroli who directed us on the competition stage three years ago. She is our rock and we can't begin to express our deep gratitude for her patience and support as well as coaching us on

singing and performance skills. She gives us outstanding direction in perfecting the barbershop craft. We are also very fortunate to have had coaching by Skype with Bonnie Fedyski, co director of the Choral Aires. It was an incredible experience and a lot of fun!

The chorus began the holiday season early with a performance at Mirador Retirement Center on November 29 of both holiday and non holiday songs. During December, we performed for the residents of two other homes and at the Corpus Christi Art Museum.

# texas harmony

Texas Harmony was privileged to perform for the second year in a row at the Palace Theater in beautiful downtown Grapevine, Texas in December. Our show was called "Christmas Magic" in which toys came to life, and we even had an amazing guest magician who captivated the audience. A good time was had by all! We then kicked off the new year with a soiree on our first rehearsal night of 2017 - potluck dinner, games, videos, lots of laughter, and of course, some four-part harmony! In February: our annual retreat with the amazing team of Darlene Rogers and Lea Beverley! Of course, the contest juices are flowing, and bling and red lipstick are coming out, as we look forward to performing and mixing with our Region 10 sisters! Good luck everyone - we'll see you soon!

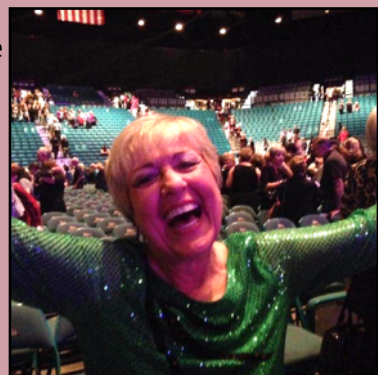
# the Woodlands show

As we sat in our seats awaiting the announcement of the top ten Chorus Competition, there was a nervous hush over our section of the arena. Did we do enough? Was it "A" as we had rehearsed? Was our 6 minutes on stage the beautiful culmination of our dreams, hard work, and expectations? The first few contestants were the usual suspects in the top ten Chorus Finals. Fingers crossed and dreams fully intact, they drew the 4<sup>th</sup> place contestant – THE WOODLANDS SHOW CHORUS! Pandemonium ensued with screams of delight and excitement. We didn't hear contestant 5 or 6 called as we continued to loudly express our glee to be a top ten Contestant in the Saturday Chorus contest.

The Woodlands Show Chorus is over the moon with

excitement with our 9<sup>th</sup> place finish in Las Vegas in October.

We were thrilled to represent Region 10 and took a piece of each of you on stage. Chorus life picked up where it left off with a Halloween/Celebration Party and then Christmas music. We were able to sing for the Walden



Yacht Club Ladies Association and performed at the Winter Solstice Party at the Bernhardt's Winery. Festivities included luminaries, hayrides, cookie walk, hot

chocolate and S'mores, bonfire and the ever popular sunset toast!

The New Year has ushered in our preparation for our Spring Regional Competition with coaching with the Fabulous Dale Syverson and Ryan Heller. We are busy learning new







music and refining our competition package so that we can put our best on stage.

We have a unique opportunity to sing for the Veteran Appreciations event in The Woodlands on March 11 and have been invited back to The Woodlands Arts Festival as a stage act. We have been invited to sing as the warm-up act for the Star-Spangled Salute featuring the Houston Symphony. We are going to invite women singers in the community to join us as we sing our selection of Patriotic Songs for this special event. We plan to appear at the Bernhardt Winery for their July 4<sup>th</sup> Celebration again as well. SAVE the DATE on your Calendar for The Woodlands Show Chorus annual show, July 15<sup>th</sup> in the Woodlands (More information to follow).

Thanks for again to Region 10 for all your love and support to The Woodlands Show Chorus. We are grateful for each moment of chorus life and sisterhood that this wonderful harmony affords us. See you at Regional Competition soon!



## sheer bliss

Please allow us to introduce ourselves....we are Sheer Bliss Quartet! We are all proud members of the Alamo Metro Chorus; Ellen Kiser (Lead), Lisa Deiser (Bass), Bebe Caldwell (Baritone) and Elizabeth Speigel (Tenor).

While we have only had a few rehearsals as of this writing, we have already had our first coaching session with our very own director and coach extraordinaire, Mary Ann Wydra. We are planning to compete at the regional competition this spring and are excited to sing for you!



## reunion street

It has almost been a year since earning our 5<sup>th</sup> place medal. What an honor to receive recognition by Region 10 and the judges! Have we told you that we love green? As we reflect on our quartet journey over the past 17 years we are thankful for friendship, coaches, and music. We love it so much we are going to continue on for another 17 years.

Speaking of coaches.... We have had the privilege of working with Janie Macchiaroli, Becky Ballough, Ruth Ann Parker, Mary Rhea and Rio. We have enjoyed some quartet travelling this year to Louisiana, Las Vegas, and Galveston. Our performances this year have included being the guest quartet on The Statemen Chorus Show, singing the National Anthem for a Dynamo/Dash charity soccer game, church Christmas performances, Ragley Festival in Louisiana, Demo Quartet for Fall Regional Meeting and our chorus Christmas Show.

We look forward to seeing you in March.

Carin, Anna Mae, Vicki, & Alice



## sibling rivalry

Attending the Sweet Adelines International Competition and Convention is a blast - especially with your sisters. This past October was especially sweet because 3 of us were competing with our choruses. Milaka (Bass) earned a 6th place medal with Pride of Portland Chorus. Keturah (Lead) earned a 9th place medal with The Woodlands Show Chorus. Shanda (Baritone) performed with 15th place Mountain Jubilee Chorus. Not one to be left out of performing on the International Stage, Malauna (Tenor) joined the World Harmony Chorus and got to sing with Sweet Adelines from around the world on Saturday night before the results were announced.



We're looking forward to seeing and hearing everyone at the Regional Competition next month!

## sympatico

The definition of Sympatico is compatible, of like mind or temperament, having a mutual understanding with one another, to be in sync with. In our short time together, we have found this to be true of our combination (go figure, right?).

In December, Marlys (who is now singing baritone) had a full knee replacement and has recuperated quickly. We celebrated our New Year with a Chili Cook-off and debut performance for Dian's church in League City. We were



also able to share a 70<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration with a sweet man named Buddy in League City, TX.

We are busy preparing for Regional Competition, polishing our songs and



having fun. We have a retreat planned in Galveston with Janie as well as coaching lined-up with Betty.

Marlys and Karla were celebrating a wedding in Cozumel Mexico so they missed the Winter Regional Meeting, but we are looking forward to singing for you and sharing the stage with you at Region 10 Competition in March.





# live it UP!

**We went back** to the arena after the contest had ended to hear the results. We found a seat up at the top middle and just waited. Such mixed emotions...you feel good about the performance, but was it gonna be good enough on that day, in that moment?? At this point, we couldn't do anything but wait for them to announce.

Ruth Ann Parker approaches the podium...blah, blah, blah, Live It UP!...OMG!!! We're assuming she finished making her announcements, but for us, it was screams, laughs, tear, snorts! HOLY MOLY...we achieved the goal. 14th place!



We can't thank you enough, Region 10, for all of the love and support you've shown us!

Whether in Vegas or here at home, you have loved on us and made us feel like the best in the world! And yes, that is our goal! We have coaching lined up all



throughout the spring and summer and on in to the fall to prepare for International. Always adding music (and clothes), to continue to represent you (looking) and sounding our best!

We can't wait to share our music with you all at Regional Competition in just a few short weeks and then again in Vegas, III!

From the bottom of our hearts, thank you again for all you've done for us and continue to do each time we see you! We love you all!

Kellie, Gayle, Kerri, and Janet

Music can  
change  
the world.  
because it  
can  
change  
people!

All active and CAL members are encouraged to sign up for the Region 10 Yahoo e-group and/or our Facebook page. The e-group 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 <mailto:sa-region10-suscribe@yahooogroups.com> and we'll do the rest.

If you're on Facebook, find us under "Great Gulf Coast Region 10, Sweet Adelines International."

Note: We have converted from our former FB group — look for the comma in our name.  
Join the discussion!



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