

TUNE IN WITH 10

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January 2024

Good Luck to Region 10 Competitors!! Mar. 21 - 23

Hello 2024!

Chorus News

A CAPPELLA UNLIMITED

OCTOBER. Au took a break to celebrate the birthday of our director, Katy Dane...but with a twist. We also surprised our baritone Bonnie Wolfe with a bridal shower!

NOVEMBER. Au was once again invited to open *PetFest San Marcos* with the National Anthem. This annual event is sponsored by Prevent a Litter Central Texas (PALS), a non-profit organization that works to reduce overpopulation and pet homelessness. PetFest is a pet-centered, family event that includes entertainment, a blessing of the animals,



Katy's birthday and Bonnie's Bridal Shower

booths with pet-centered items for sale and lots of pets. Au members were able to bring their pets who joined in the event. • Also in November, Au is honored to perform annually at The Hays County Veterans Day celebration.



PetFest with our pets (l-r) Marché Marquis, Kathy Pillmore and Patron, Jocelyn Yanagisawa and Kona, Meli VanNatta and Roxy, Michelle Mitchell and Kate Hungerford.



Au members (and guests) in front of the Hays County Courthouse after our performance kicking off the annual parade.

A Cappella Unlimited Continued

DECEMBER. For the ninth consecutive year, A Cappella Unlimited performed at the annual *Wimberley Trail of Lights*. The trail is a walking adventure through approximately 8 acres of lighted exhibits. The audience is always varied and enthusiastic. It was the beginning of the holiday season and there's so much to see and hear. We're delighted to be part of it each year. • This was our first performance at *Kissing Tree*, a 55+ residential



Au on stage at the Wimberley Trail of Lights



Au at Kissing Tree. We'll be back!

community in San Marcos, TX. It was a packed house...200+ guests. We received a standing ovation at the end of the performance, and we hopefully opened the door to future performances.

• Au brings the holidays to a growing group of *Ukrainian refugees*. We can't



A very appreciative crowd of Ukrainian refugees

say it better than this quote from one refugee...*"We're a small group of Ukrainians who came together in Austin due to the war which broke in our homeland, among other reasons. Some of us were drawn to Austin Ridge Bible Church because of its strong foundation for faith, especially during these challenging times. We were thrilled to be hosted by the church for a Christmas celebration, and it's even more special to have A Cappella Unlimited bless us with their lovely voices and the spirit of love and joy. Thank you for making this a tradition to come together for Christmas music."*

• This was our second year to perform holiday music for the residents of **The Village on the Park-Onion Creek**, a senior living residence. There were some former barbershoppers and a retired music teacher in the audience, which is always very appreciative of our performance. • Each year Au is invited back to perform for this "Life Group's" private party.



Au gets the residents of the Village on the Park-Onion Creek into the holiday mood!

DeAngelo/Marché Marquis (Tenor sub), Jocelyn Yanagisawa (Lead), Meli Van Natta (Bass) and Michelle Mitchell (Baritone)

One of our members belongs to the community. • **QUARTETS** Au quartet, **Encore! A Cappella** also represented the chorus with four holiday performances. (l-r) Laura



Encore! A Cappella (l-r) Marché Marquis (as sub) Laura DeAngelo, Jocelyn Yanagisawa, Meli VanNatta and Michelle Mitchell

Submitted by
Kathy Pillmore

Greetings from *Alamo Metro Chorus*! We are still flying high from our wonderful contest experience in Louisville, KY last fall. We had so much fun on that stage and were very happy with our performance. We are thankful for the opportunity and for the support of our Region 10 friends who were there cheering us on! Once we returned, the holidays were soon upon us. We had a fun and fabulous Christmas party at the home of one of our members, complete with lots of good food, drinks and camaraderie. After taking a few weeks of holiday time off, we hit the ground running! We started out the year having two guest nights and were delighted to have a total of 10 guests, one of which has already passed her audition! We're excited to 3 other prospective members in the pipeline! We were fortunate to have a "new to us" coach work with us in early January. The ever expressive expression judge Lea Beverly worked her magic on our contest songs on Friday night and all day Saturday. We thoroughly enjoyed her coaching style and her slightly wicked sense of humor! The following weekend, many of our



AMC Guest Nights produced ten awesome guests, three of whom are in the membership pipeline.



AMC members with coach Lea Beverly



AMC members were well represented at the Winter Regional Meeting held in San Antonio

members attended the Winter Regional Meeting with the dynamic duo of Connie Light and Lindsay Chartier-Holdeman aka NLSC. The classes were very informative and entertaining and the fact that it was held in our own hometown was icing on the cake! With contest coming up in 8 short weeks (eek!!) we will be busy honing our skills and perfecting our contest set. We can't wait to take that stage and to see all of our Region 10 friends!

Submitted by
Lisa Deiser

BATON ROUGE

Talk about busy! *Baton Rouge Chorus* has had 15 performances since October! But it's what we love to do and we are spreading the word about Sweet Adelines. We had fun with our fall group of performances which followed "A Year In The Life Of A Sweet Adeline". Then on to the Christmas season with fun songs, beautiful carols, and some really bad jokes! • We're not all about the work, though. We had a mini-retreat at Kristina's home in October where we sang and bonded over burgers. We also dressed for Halloween and awarded prizes (dino Rene' was the winner)! After our last performance for the Christmas season, we partied hardy at Benita's house and learned that our members can really cook as



Halloween with the Baton Rouge Chorus

Baton Rouge Chorus continued



Baton Rouge Chorus at one of our Fall performances



Christmas season performances; carols and jokes abound!



Christmas party time!



Mini retreat at Kristina's

well as sing. • Sweet Adelines International surprised us in October by selecting our “Dive Into Colorful Harmonies” campaign as the winner of their Ideas For Adelines mini-contest! The honor came with a \$1,000 check which will be very helpful. • The most exciting recent events in our chorus has been the addition of new members lead Molly Fontenot and bass Beth O’Quinn. We continue to push for growth in our chorus and are doing whatever we can to advertise this wonderful hobby! Looking forward to contest in March....see you in Houston!



Ideas for Adelines winner!

Submitted by Emily Wascome
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CHISHOLM TRAIL

What?? IS IT 2024 ALREADY? October, November, and December flew by as Chisholm Trail Chorus finished the year and headed into 2024 with flair, focus and growth.

Back in October we had both **Kerri Mauney** and **Donna Smith** come to coach our ballad and uptune! We did a sing out for the Ogletree Gap Heritage Festival in Copperas Cove as well as a nearby assisted living facility. It was great to sing each week in October with **EIGHT** additional singers. These extra “Spotlight Singer” guests came to six rehearsals leading up to our show date and then joined us on stage to sing “**Chordbusters March**” and a new Christmas tune “**Candy Cane Lane.**” It was such fun to have **extra friends on the risers** and they sang **GREAT!** First name thanks to **Kelly, Evangeline, Julie, Layla, Kayla, Jennifer, Patti and Teresa!**



Ogle Tree Gap Outdoor Performance in Copperas Cove, TX

Chisholm Trail Continued

November 18 we had wonderful success on the “**Mystery on Music Street**” show as characters Harmony (**Corrie Ganger**) and Melody (**Phyllis King**) searched for the missing JOY orb that was “stolen” by mystery guest (**Caroline Rocco.**) By following clues to travel the world (leading to places where we could sing a set) the chorus discovered we didn’t need an object to **share the JOY of music** everywhere we went! Moral of the story: **Find YOUR joy from within!** Fun story, fine singing, wonderful **guest quartet** Diamond Division **Madison Avenue**, profitable silent auction and a **VERY** enthusiastic **LIVE cake auction** with **Janet Dyer** made this late-afternoon concert very enjoyable.

December brought only one rehearsal and the opportunity for **chorus quartet** “**Just Us**” to do some holiday sing outs.



Looking good for the November 2023 annual show with our extra “Spotlight Singers” on stage



Madison Avenue Quartet, our guest performers



Kerri Mauney (center, front) brought her coaching skills in January

When January arrived, **Kerri Mauney** coached our first rehearsal of 2024. Nothing like getting on the wagon right away! We were working on sustaining the “**walking sidewalk**” of **air flow** while still moving thorough the phrases of our ballad. (Just ask Kerri about the analogy she came up with out of the blue! I’m writing it down here so she will remember it too.)

On the first Saturday in January we were honored to sing at the memorial service for our Harmony Honey, Chuck Pledge. He was our faithful fan for many years and was always a front and center photographer, capturing our shows and singouts. Chuck was chorus member Kaye Pledge’s husband, and we will miss his wonderful wit and sweet support. We will “**Sing Your Way Home,**” Chuck. Our love and condolences to Kaye.

Four of our members attended the Region 10 Winter Regional Meeting in San Antonio...and of course, to the delight of Region 10 membership, **Sheila Donahue** made the **balloons for the photo booth**. Northern Lights and Southern Charm duo, Lindsay and Connie, did a fine job talking about membership, responsibilities, and outlining the grunt work for musical excellence. We are looking forward to having them coach us for our chorus retreat in early February.

So that wraps up the highlights of the past few months...but we **continue to work on our GROWTH** theme as we meet weekly on Thursday, in Temple at the Cultural Activities center. Please feel free to come visit or send someone our way if they are looking for a great group of really fantastic friends in Central Texas!



Chisholm Trail members (L-R) Phyllis King, Sheila Donahue, Kaye Pledge and Nancy Welker attended the Winter 2024 Region 10 meeting in San Antonio. Check out those **BALLOONS!**

HEART OF THE PINES

The fall was so busy and went by so fast, it's nice to look back at all the activities and happenings. October was not only a huge month for working on our show but we also had coaching with Holly Ritter and two performances. We sang at the Newcomers Club meeting and both quartets sang at Millard's Crossing Halloween activity.



In November, we presented our fall show "Blast Off, To Harmony and Beyond" complete with a Star Trek-ish set and a visit-



Coaching and lunch with Holly Ritter



BLAST OFF! Fall Show: To Harmony and Beyond - Alien Visit

ing alien. We began working on Christmas music and, once again, invited the community to come learn a couple of Christmas songs to sing with us during any Christmas performances. To our delight, seven women joined us for singing in barbershop style.



Fall Show Part II with former members

One loved it so much that she has already auditioned for the chorus and a few more returned in January to prepare to audition.

attended and enjoyed the educational opportunities at the Winter Regional Meeting in San Antonio.

We are looking forward to the coming months preparing for Valentine's Day singing telegrams, coaching, and regional contest.

Kay Awtrey, Director
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Submitted by:
Melanie Cole, Marketing
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December was busy with six performances and our chorus Christmas party at a local restaurant. Five members at-



Two of our half-dozen Christmas performances

KATY VOCAL EXPRESS

Keeping Up With KVE Katy Vocal Express kept busy this fall! We are a chorus who enjoys going out into the community to sing and participate in the local events! Here are some of the places we sang:



KVE hosted a float in the annual Katy Rice Harvest Festival Parade in October



The Katy Youth Chorus joined KVE to sing together for World Singing Day



Singing for Veterans in November

CHRISTMAS SING-OUTS BEGIN!



KVE had many sing-outs in December. We sang at **Gigi's Playhouse** in Sugar Land; we went caroling in **Methodist West Hospital** for both patients and nurses and doctors; we sang at **Sugar Land Lights**, **Dickens on the Strand** in period costume, **Katy Heritage Society Community Christmas** in period costume, and wrapped up with singing at **Bonterra** neighborhood in Fulshear.



Submitted by: Adrienne Webster
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LONE STAR

Lone Star Chorus has been keeping busy since September! We kicked off October with a Friends and Family night topping off our “Happy Together” series. Lone Star was thrilled to welcome Peggy Prentice, Charis Ellison and Debra Allison as our newest members after participating in the Happy Together series.



Whether it was our Halloween rehearsal, participating in the watch party for this year’s International Convention in Louisville, Kentucky or taking a road trip to San Antonio for Region 10’s Winter Workshop, LSC’s members never passed up an opportunity to get together and have fun as well as learn more about the barbershop craft!



New members Peggy Prentice, Charis Ellison and Debra Allison, who joined Lone Star after the Happy Together series



Lone Star Chorus is privileged to have Beverly Gooden lead us as our Interim Director and are thrilled to celebrate with her for completing the Director’s Certification program.



Mary Beth McMurray and Kerri Mauney welcome Beverly Gooden as our interim director



(Top to bottom) Halloween rehearsal, International Competition watch, Winter Workshop

LSC has enjoyed many opportunities to share our joy of Barbershop with the community. We sang the National Anthem for the *Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board* meeting in November.



Sharing the joy of barbershop

Over the Christmas season, LSC sang for the Southwest Fort Worth AARP Christmas party, the Genesis UMC Methodist Men and rounded out our holiday performances with a festive sing-out at the Arlington Foodies Farmer’s Market.

Lone Star is excited about offering Singing Valentines for the first time.

Submitted by Julie Klemm
For Lone Star Chorus
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YOU'VE GOT A FRIEND! We ALL need somebody to lean on now and then especially this past year 2023; but in the meantime, we sing, put on happy faces, and do our best to entertain our audiences. And, we do a great job of it! You might say we're dedicated to it, after all we are "sisters" in harmony. But here at Sparkling City Chorus we are also dedicated to each other, as friends. We love to have fun as we grow, learn, and support each other. Our friendships go beyond chorus activities even though we may be from different parents, different cities/states, different backgrounds and experiences, different parts of the song and different parts of the world! Despite the circumstances during the year, we are stronger together embracing our bond knowing **YOU'VE GOT A FRIEND!**



Mary Beth McMurray coaching

Our dear friend Mary Beth McMurray was gracious enough from her busy schedule to coach us from her experience and expertise. Thank you Mary Beth

We did quite a few sing-outs as requested this winter, some at assisted living communities, nursing homes, Christmas gatherings, a community center, and birthday requests. We love sharing our craft!

We ended the year by gaining some "new" sisters in song and we're excited to welcome each one of them! We introduce to you to Karen Outzen and Ingrid Spear. Way to go, ladies! Thank you for joining us! Michelle Cooper also became our new choreographer. Congratulations Michelle! Kathy Littlefield also received her 50-year membership pin. **CONGRATULATIONS** to this classy and graceful young lady!



Christmas 2023



(left-right) Karen Outzen (lead) holding notebook. Ingrid Spear (lead) in black.



Michelle Cooper (lead) in green



Kathy Littlefield and her 50-year pin.

January 2024, Sparkling City Chorus was recognized for "Most Attendance" at the Winter Regional Workshop in San Antonio where we were enriched with a wealth of information and enjoyed singing.

May we all continue singing melodies that heal and chords that touch the deepest recesses of our souls at any given moment of our lives.

Pearlie Archambault; and submitted by Blanca Flores



Sparkling City members attended the Regional Winter Workshop

The end of 2023 brought some fun performances at Sugar Land Town square tree lighting and the CASA (Child Advocates of Fort Bend) Tour of Homes. A memorable luncheon performance ended hilariously when we invited our audience to join in and sing Jingle Bells. They all totally surprised us by jingling most enthusiastically the personal Christmas bells each coincidentally had on their tables!

Short and Sweet quartet has had fun performances, especially a Houston Public Library event in Lone Star College with singing and also talking barbershop with them.

However, each rehearsal and performance at the end of 2023 was poignant, as we knew that they would be Holly's last with us as Director as she was resigning at the end of the year. We have all been through so much together, and there is a lot of love in our chorus, and more recently, concern for Holly's health. What memories we all have shared together, not only singing and under her direction; Good times, bad times, fun times, hilarious times, best of times!

She has directed some of us for over fourteen years, both in the former Cradle of Texas, and in our renamed Sugar Land Sound. Many rehearsals are a hoot due to her talent for stand-up comedy! She has a passion for barbershop and demanded right notes, singing phrases to the end, and was constantly teaching us to sing better.

Holly Ritter became a "barbershop brat" at the age of 6 and it has been in her blood thru and thru via her mother, Charlene (Char) Cummings, who was an inspiration in the Sweet Adelines Organization for 53 years. Holly took over directing Cradle of Texas from her mother, and Holly will soon have 50 years in Sweet Adelines, with also so much great history with the organization. She is multi-talented and sang in several successful quartets and choruses.

We are proud of you Holly, you are unique and special to us. We sincerely thank you for all the many years of dedication to our chorus in so many ways. We love you and we will miss you!

Submitted by Jane Vaucher



Sugar Land Town Square tree lighting



Holly Ritter



Happy New Year to all our friends in Region 10. What an exciting time for our chorus! Our theme for this year is “Dream to Soar in 2024” and we **ARE** soaring with 15 new members in the past several months! Texas Harmony has been very busy holding Open Auditions in October, a coaching weekend, three Christmas performances including a concert that was well attended by friends and family and lots of Love Tunnels welcoming our new members. For our Open Auditions, we had 20 registrants with 10 auditions



and 6 of our new members came from this event. It was so well planned and orchestrated by our director and other members of the chorus. In November, we had an amazing coaching session

with Ryan Heller. This was the first coaching session for our newest members and it was a blast! So much fun and we accomplished a lot of things during the weekend. We performed our Christmas repertoire for the residents at Harbor Chase Senior Living in Southlake. The residents are so sweet and are an awesome audience. Such great joy to sing for them and visit afterwards. We had a small ensemble that performed at an event in Ft. Worth. They represented us well! Rehearsals are always fun and informative.



Coaching with Ryan Heller...what a blast!

We've focused on many aspects of the barbershop style of singing-Phonation, Resonance, Articulation and Posture and looking at the judging categories to focus on what is needed to better our singing. There is so much love and joy among this group and Texas Harmony sends our love to all of you! Looking forward to seeing everyone in March!

Su!



Submitted by Laura Raitt,
Communications Co-ordinator

THE WOODLANDS SHOW CHORUS

Happy New Year, Region 10! Hope your holidays went well... **The Woodlands Show Chorus** had an “EXTENDED” holiday break with our first rehearsal this year being cancelled and then held the second one on ZOOM, both because of weather issues! But this past week we were **BACK to WORK** with a special topic “**Balance and Blend**” with our inhouse expert, **Janie Macchiaroli**.

Yes, we are focused on **Kansas City International**. Order of Appearance has been posted and we are number 17!

Looking back, the last three months of 2023 were FULL with wonderful musical moments with our sisters and friends. We have had several new members join our ranks in 2023, some “fresh” and some “seasoned” barbershoppers! **Welcome to the RISERS: Patti Britz Stensaker, Cicely Love, June Yagiela, Teresa Reneau, Kat Terry, Deidre Harris, Patsy Magyari, Andrea Jarvis, Deb Baker and Pat Gibbons**. There are several other GUESTS in the ranks and we hope to also welcome them soon!

To recap the last couple of months: **October brought intense rehearsals** as we prepared for the November show. It also brought the wonderful opportunity to attend International Convention and Competition in Louisville. Our very own **Betty Clipman was a CHORUS judge** while our **Kerri Mauney did trial scoring**. **Patti Britz Stensaker** performed on the **Coronet Club**, even singing bass for The Ladies in the opening medley. Jeanna Pharr Shukar, Sheila Donahue, Phyllis King and Keturah Moller also attended this year. The **competition was FIERCE** this time and we didn’t want to miss a single second! We would



Betty Clipman, 2023 Louisville Judging Panel



Lady A Cappella, newly crowned Queens of Harmony, WOWS the audience

like to extend congratulations to ALL choruses and quartets who participated, most especially to **LADY A CAPPELLA, the new QUEENS of HARMONY!**

November brought those very same newly crowned Queens of Harmony, the amazing **LADY A CAPPELLA, to our show** on November 11. The **show was a success**, featuring TWO sets by Lady A, selections by chorus quartets, two holiday VLQs, a tuxedo host Emcee and a parade of songs from the chorus. We performed for an incredibly appreciative audience, and had a Silent Auction and Bake Sale, as well.

Thank you to all who supported our show efforts!



Dressy Black and Gold, TWSC performs in November



Tuxedoed and Professional, Emcee Larry Girvin

The Woodlands Show Chorus Continued

After the show date, the **Holiday Sing-outs** started up: November 19, **White Oak Ranch Christmas Tree Lighting**; December 1st, **Walden Yacht Club Ladies Association Luncheon**; and December 11th, **Memorial Herman Women's Auxiliary Luncheon**. The audiences at each venue were so grateful. Many of the people followed us as we left to tell us how much they enjoyed our performance. It really made us **feel the holiday spirit** as well.

There were **14 TWSC members at the January Region 10 weekend** in San Antonio to enjoy "Northern Lights, Southern Charm" (Lindsay and Connie Light) presentations about leadership. Special TWSC members **in leadership roles** included: **Kerri Mauney** Region 10 Education Rep, **Annette Quimby** TWSC fundraising in the freezing hallway, **Karla Fenton** technology mistress extraordinaire and Demo Group New Edition Quartet (**Carin Williamson, Anna Mae Garner, Alice Williams**). **Thanks Region 10!**



TWSC members attend Region 10 Winter Workshop: (left to right) Phyllis King, Elizabeth McCurdy, Carin Williamson, Keturah Moller, Denise Tazumi, Alice Williams, Karla Fenton, Anna Mae Garner, Pam Parrish, Pat Gibbons, Laurie Parkinson, Annette Quimby, Sheila Donahue, (not pictured, busy doing Region stuff) Kerri Mauney

Looking to February, TWSC will have a rehearsal weekend for "extra attention" **coaching on Feb 2nd /3rd**, a front row rehearsal and a chorus coaching with **Jen Williams on Feb 18th/19th**, and a **GUEST NIGHT on Feb 26th**.

And then....whoosh! **CONTEST!** How **TIME** does fly when you're having fun.

TWSC is looking forward to seeing **EVERYONE** in March! Until then, stay warm, stay dry and keep singing!

*Submitted by Phyllis King,
TWSC correspondent*

Quartet News



Glitz is thrilled to welcome our newest member, Baritone Cindy Smith, to the quartet! As we gear up for National Barbershop Day, we're diligently preparing to showcase our harmonious blend and passion for a cappella music. Stay tuned for an unforgettable performance filled with joy and musical finesse!

HELLO REGION 10!

It was great to see so many of you in San Antonio for the Winter Regional Workshop! Thank you for attending! Aside from the great classes, I enjoyed visiting with everyone and singing late into the night!

As we prepare for fiscal year ends, please consider where you'd best serve your chorus. Management Team? Board of Directors? Music Team? Committees? Other? Remember that it takes a village!

If you're coming off a term, PLEASE bring your experience and talents to the region. RMT positions are listed here: [Management Team - Region 10 Sweet Adelines \(region10sai.org\)](#). If you'd like to start on a committee, there's a place for everyone!

BEBE

Bebe Caldwell, Team Coordinator
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“Do more than belong: participate. Do more than care: help.
Do more than believe: practice. Do more than be fair: be kind
Do more than forgive: forget. Do more than dream: work.”

-William Arthur Ward



Connect with your RMT!

Team Coordinator, Bebe Caldwell - Regional Appointment - Term begins even years

Communications Coordinator, Karla Fenton - Regional Appointment - Term begins even years

Directors Coordinator, Mary Beth McMurray - Elected - Term begins odd years

Education Coordinator, Kerri Mauney - International Appointment - Term begins even years

Events Coordinator, Euna Poole - Regional Appointment - Term begins odd years

Finance Coordinator, Janet Moe - Regional Appointment - Term begins odd years

Marketing Coordinator, Laura DeGraw - Regional Appointment - Term begins odd years

Membership Coordinator, Carin Williamson - Elected Position - Term begins even years

TIWT Editor Kathy Pillmore

Great Gulf Coast Region 10 is a member of Sweet Adelines International, encompassing chapters in portions of Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama. Mission Statement: Great Gulf Coast Region 10 provides opportunities to women for education, performance, leadership and personal growth to advance 4-part a cappella singing.

