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ESSENCE QUARTET



SAVING GRACE QUARTET



REGIONAL MANAGEMENT TEAM





positions! In even years, we fill the following coordinator positions: Communications, Education (SAI appointed), Membership (Regional election), and Team Coordinator. In odd years, we fill the Directors, Events, Finance, and Marketing coordinator positions. It's important that we keep the torch going with new leadership. Do you have skills listed in any of our positions? We sure would love to have you complete an application! If you have any questions, please contact us!

We look forward to hearing from you!

To view the positions, go here: Management Team – Region 10 Sweet

Adelines

To fill out your online application, go here: Application for Regional Positions





EDUCOTION

Hi Region 10!!

We have exciting events on the horizon.

Fall regional will have happened by the time you get this newsletter. However, Winter regional isn't far off. Be sure to put it on your calendars, January 16-17, 2026. Yikes it's almost 2026 already!!!! Our faculty will be the fabulous **Caitlin Castelino.** Here is her bio, in case you haven't already seen it on the website. Registration is up now! You won't want to miss this weekend. It will be in Austin, at the Holiday Inn where we stayed this past spring for contest.

Caitlin Castelino is a 25-year member of Sweet Adelines and has been on the International Faculty since 2020. She is the Master 600 director of *Diablo Vista Chorus*, the 2020 Harmony Classic AA Champions and 2024 8th place International medalists, and baritone of *Love Notes*, the 2014 International Quartet Champions. Caitlin created and directs The Starlettes, the chorus comprised of past Rising Star champion quartets, and previously directed Circle 12, the Region 12 chorus comprised of past quartet champions. She has had the honor of teaching, performing, and coaching all over the world as an individual and with LoveNotes, and has been very fortunate to serve as the clinician for numerous Youth-in-Harmony events. Caitlin graduated with her Master's Degree in Speech-Language Pathology in 2012, and she brings her knowledge of the vocal mechanism, healthy voice production, and voice therapy techniques to her classes and coaching sessions to promote healthy singing in all vocalists.

You might notice she is active with our **Youth in Harmony** program, and this Winter Regional will have a youth event. **Laura DeGraw**, our Youth Coordinator, is actively working on putting this event together, and Caitlin will be working with the youth as well. While she does, we will have a SURPRISE faculty – stay tuned for more information on that!!

Can't wait to see everyone at our two upcoming events!

Ethel Lowther Great Gulf Coast Region 10 Education Coordinator

HEART OF THE PINES

What a great summer!

hat is typically a routine, summer slump became an exciting new event for the Heart of the Pines Chorus. In July we held our first summer series, A Cappella 101. We invited women in the community to join us for five rehearsals and learn two Beatles songs culminating in a Friends & Family performance. Fourteen women attended and eight performed in an energetic 60's music show. And even more exciting, five returned to audition for chorus membership... We are PUMPED!

In September one of our favorite coaches, Mary Beth McMurray, visited and worked on vocal unity with the chorus.

We are now busy preparing for our fall show, FEELIN' GROOVY. Special guest chorus is the Tyler, TX group *East Texas Men in Harmony*. The show is November 1 at the North Street Church of Christ in Nacogdoches.



A Cappella 101 Friends & Family night



A Cappella 101 community performers



Coaching with Mary Beth McMurray



New members! (L-R) Doris Wilson, Tammy Harpin, Laura Neumann, Shelby Chassell, Bev Grimes



Submitted by Kay Awtrey – author Melanie Cole – editor and submission, jdcole@gci.net

CHISHOLM TRAIL CHORUS

We've enjoyed lots of coaching this summer and are excited about several upcoming events for our chorus.

August – Two of our members, **Sheila Donahue** and **Phyllis King**, attended the Jurassic Chords Quartet Retreat powered by 2025 Queens of Harmony, **Clever Girl** in Tulsa at the beginning of August. They also

cheered on R10's Diamond Division winner, **Regale Quartet** (who will be one of our guest performers at our Fall Show) and the Rising Star contestants. Sheila has since visited with **Holly Janda**, baritone of Clever Girl, and now Holly joins our coaching lineup! Holly lives about 45 minutes away and will make the drive north in early March 2026 to share her knowledge of "emotional performance," among other topics.

Speaking of coaches, **Donna Smith** from OK City Chorus spent a full Saturday with us in mid-August. Donna helped create visual moves for one of our show tunes and gave us fantastic tips to increase our performance levels.

And, more coaching: **Patty Cobb Baker** returned the following week to provide every chorus member with a PVI. Patty brings the "personal" to Personal Vocal Instruction to help us individually on our singing journeys. Some members seek more self-confidence; others want to get over medical hurdles that affect their voice. Several simply need validation that they're "doing it right" – whatever their individual "It" is. These quarterly sessions with Patty help us become the best singers we can be.

The Sunday of Labor Day weekend, Chisholm Trail had two performances in Hamilton, Texas, where member **Amanda Thompson** and her family live. The first was at a skilled nursing facility to entertain Amanda's grandmother and other residents. We then went to a private residence to perform for guests at an annual gathering of Amanda's relatives, neighbors and friends. It

Phyllis King and Sheila Donahue were joined by Denise Tazumi and Patti Britz-Stensaker of Regale to tour SAI headquarters in Tulsa. They were cleverly photobombed by Clever Girl Quartet!

has become a fun tradition for our chorus, complete with a home-cooked Chinese meal afterward!

September – Two extraordinary activities took place this month. First, chorus President Micheala Poindexter and her husband Brant welcomed their first baby (and Chisholm Trail's first baby!) Mom and baby boy Lachlan [see photo] are healthy and finding balance in their new family dynamic. Micheala plans to return to rehearsals in a few months and bring Lachlan with her to hear his first barbershop chords. They are a musical family – Micheala has been a public school music and choir teacher and her husband is band director at a Central Texas high school. There's no doubt their son will have a few musical skills of his own!

In addition, we launched our first **Open Audition** event on Sept 27, modeled after **Texas Harmony Chorus'** successful program. THC has generously shared the details of how its membership grew by more than 40% with Open Auditions. We purchased advertising on Facebook and Instagram, which drove many people to our website. Chisholm Trail is hopeful that many of the 10 auditioners will convert to fulltime members.

October and November – Chisholm Trail Chorus will be hyper-focused on our Fall Show repertoire. Our show will be held on Nov 22 at the Temple Civic Theatre. Keep an eye on our FB page and website for more details.



Coach Donna Smith (in multi-colored top, front row) with Chisholm Trail members at a Saturday session.



Chisholm Trail sings at a Labor Day weekend party in Hamilton, TX



Advertisement for our Open Auditions. There was an accompanying "Register" button to take viewers to our website with details.



Lachlan, our newest and youngest addition, has plenty of "aunties" in Chisholm Trail

Submitted by Carol Mouché cmouché@aol.com

BATON ROUGE CHORUS

Is it Fall already? Time sure flies when you're having fun! And Baton Rouge Chorus has been having lots of fun!

The had the final performance of our Adventure Trip package on August 19th for an audience of over 200 at the Istrouma Baptist Seniors Luncheon. They were a fabulous audience and have invited us back!

LSU's continuing education program for ages 50+ is called OLLI (Osher Lifetime Learning Institute). We have been participating in their program by offering a series of classes on singing barbershop. **Sherry**, **Gloria**, and **Emily** manned our booth at the kickoff meeting in August. We have five ladies signed up and taking our classes this fall. It's another good way to spread the word about Sweet Adelines!

Our very favorite activity is to welcome a new member and **Sarah** is going to be a terrific one! She sings tenor and brings that shot of youth to the chorus that is so invigorating. You just never know where you might find a future member. Sarah is a college student and current member's dog walker who loves to sing and misses being in a choir. Now to get about 50 more just like her!

We had such an exciting experience in April singing at the Lincoln Center in NYC! We realized that a lot of the songs already in our repertoire were sung on a Broadway stage at one time or another. So we put together a program called Broadway Barbershop and have had a great time sharing it with the community. We also carried the Broadway opening night theme into a guest night which resulted in sixteen ladies walking the red carpet to check us out! We are hopeful that a few of those guests will want to become members!

Speaking of New York City, we recently received an invitation to participate in the first ever Holiday Concert of the all acapella *Total Vocal!* It will be before Thanksgiving at Carnegie Hall in 2026. There is a lot to consider before we make the commitment, but we are honored to have been asked!

We have a full plate of performances moving into
this holiday season. But we're most excited about a
collaboration with the Louisiana Arts and Science Museum to put on a
show under the stars inside the planetarium! They are celebrating 100 years
of the Baton Rouge train depot where the planetarium is located, so we're
calling the show "Christmas Express" and it's going to be magical! LASM
will be promoting our show as a part of their Coca-Cola sponsored series.

Full steam ahead!



"New Adventure Trip" at Istrouma Baptist Seniors luncheon.



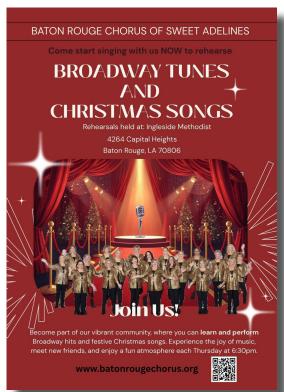
New member Sarah

Submitted by: Emily Wascome emily@wascome.net



Oll Class Members

OLLI kickoff
OLLI Class Members









(Clockwise) Broadway Barbershop, Guests arriving on the red carpet, Guest night guest

Sixteen guests at Broadway Opening Night



LONE STAR CHORUS

Lone Star is raising money, singing in the community and welcoming new members

In July, Lone Star Chorus ran its second HundredX campaign and raised more money than last year! We coordinated a karaoke night during the event to help promote the fundraiser and give people a chance to fill out even more surveys.

In August, we did a sing out at Trinity Terrace, a local retirement community. Our own **Janice Moran** ran a Pampered Chef party to raise funds for our chorus. We joined *Note-ably North Texas Chorus*, region 25, singing at their ice cream social, and sang "That's What Friends Are For" together! Two of our members attended the Jurassic Chords event in Tulsa OK and were rapturous about the quality of education presented by **Clever Girl Quartet**. Our own *Vocal Velvet* quartet competed in "The Great North Texas Novice Quartet Contest" hosted by **Goodtimes Chorus** (BHS) and took second place.

This September, several of our members attended the *Serenade Quartet* concert and their **Spotlight on Harmony** event hosted by Note-ably North Texas Chorus.

We are cranking out the spooky and putting together a line-up of ghostly music for October sing outs.

Best of all, Lone Star Chorus has voted in two new chorus members; welcome to Robyn and Shana!

We are looking forward to gearing up for the holiday season!

In Harmony,

Lone Star Chorus



Lone Star Karoke with Bri and Stormy



Lone Star and Notably North Texas perform together at the Ice Cream Social



Lone Star at Trinity Terrace



Vocal Velvet at Novice Quartet Contest



New members Shana and Robyn



LSC members at the Jurassic Chords event



Lone Star members at Spotlight on Harmony

Submitted by Caryn Hall and April Neill Lone Star Chorus <u>cih4232@gmail.com</u>

ALAMO METRO CHORUS

Can you believe we are less than one month away from International?

Hello friends!

We had a busy and very productive summer getting ready for the big show! The last few months have been filled with activities; section duet rehearsals, early choreography and costume checks to name a few. We also held a special four-week education series in which each section taught about a different judging category. These were very informative and entertaining!

In August we had our pre-contest retreat which we named "Recharge". Our coaches for the weekend were Visual Communications judge Judy Pozsgay and Expression judge Lea Beverley. This dynamic duo really brought out the best in us and helped us rise to new heights! We had a fun Saturday night show which highlighted the many hidden talents of our members. The acts featured an accordion solo, a ukulele duet, hula dancer, tap dancing "Queen Mum" and a webcast hosted by two "Queens of Harmony" and last but not least, a Ryan Heller impersonator!!! We celebrated the real Ryan's birthday with cake and a card shower. In the midst of all our contest preparations, we were thrilled to welcome our newest member, Cathy Steves to our fabulous lead section! Many of our members came out to support our two International quartet competitors at their fund raiser show.

We are so proud of **Essence** and **Saving Grace** and can't wait to cheer them on! Our last extra rehearsal was an all day with our very own coach extraordinaire. We fine tuned our contest set and had one last costume check. This week we are looking forward to our "Friends and family" send off. We love performing for our biggest



supporters!! Then a few more rehearsals and we are off to Columbus!!!

We can't wait to share the stage with our Region 10 sisters Crescent City Sound and Houston

Horizon!! What a wonderful representation from Region 10!!!!

RECHARGE!



Judy Pozsgay, Ryan Heller and Lea Beverley at Recharge



Cathy Steves, AMC's newest lead



Birthday boy, Ryan Heller

Submitted by Lisa Deiser, TIWT Editor lisadeiser@hotmail.com

KATY VOCAL EXPRESS

You "autumn" sing with KVE!

KVE is keeping busy with a full rehearsal schedule and having new members join and become friends!

Our interim director Steve Bayless has been whipping KVE into shape, focusing on intense, but fun warmups, and often apologizing for having us sing just one song for two hours! We assure him that is the director's prerogative!

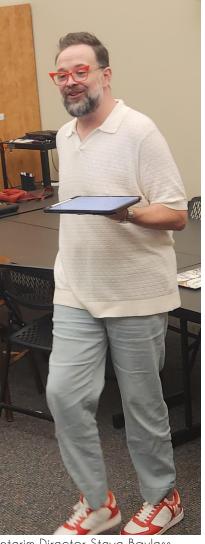
We welcome our new members Carol and Diane!



New member Carol



New member Diane



Interim Director Steve Bayless

HOT NOTE QUARTET

Hello, from Hot Note Quartet!

t's been a busy September! We finally sang in public!!

'It was thrilling to have a debut performance at a benefit concert in Boerne, Texas, for Essence and Saving Grace quartets. No doubt that they'll be awesome at the international contest in Columbus! We wish them all the best!

We also had the great pleasure to perform at the **Harmony Belles Fall Spectacular** concert in San Antonio.

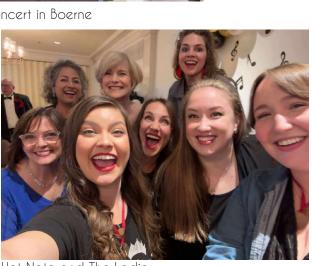
They shared beautiful music and featured The Ladies quartet! Yes, it was an awesomely busy September for us.

We look forward to seeing many of our regional friends in January, at the Winter Workshop with Caitlin Castelino!

Pathy, Laura, Denise and Bebe Hot Note Quartet



Hot Note at benefit concert in Boerne



Hot Note and The Ladies



Hot Note's Denise, Laura, Bebe and Patty with Artie Dolt, director of the Harmony Belles



Hot Note in the sanctuary of the beautiful Trinity Baptist Church, San Antonio, where the Harmony Belles Fall Spectacular was held

THE WOODLANDS SHOW CHORUS

Be on the LOOK OUT!!!

The Woodlands Show Chorus members can be spotted all over the place!

Like, where?

Cynthia Mitchell Pavillion, The Woodlands! On July 3rd TWSC sang prior to the Houston Symphony Patriotic Performance! It's always a privilege to sing for such a great crowd!

COLORADO: In early July four members (**Jodi Ceaser**, **Sheila Donahue**, **Karla Fenton** and **Phyllis King**) were spotted in DENVER at the BHS International Competition watching history being made! The young ladies that won SAI Rising Star Quartet Competition last year were ALSO the first girl group to be awarded as winners of the Nex Gen BHS Quartet for this year! Way to go, **Radiant**!

August in OKLAHOMA! TWSC is VERY excited for the Diamond Division Quartet winners, **Regale!** Oh my goodness! We were busting our buttons over our director **Kerri Mauney**, our baritone section leader **Denise Tazumi**, our previous TWSC member (and Queen) **Patti Britz-Stensaker** and our previous TWSC coach (and Queen) **Patty Cobb Baker**. (see photo) Even now, as I write this, I'm extremely proud of these ladies for having SUCH fun on stage and bringing all the skills together as DIAMONDS in TULSA! During that same time frame, CLEVER GIRL, the new International Quartet Queens hosted a day-long workshop and the judging panels were getting additional training! Excellent skill building education! (see photo for TWSC attendees)

Can TWSC be seen all over the place? Yes!

MAGNOLIA to GALVESTON, covering Northwest, Southwest, Central, and far South of The Woodlands area! Because TWSC membership is spread out, we are having extra rehearsals on selected Saturdays...where Kerri comes to a location and members from that area gather for some small group attention.

What about the future? Where will we see TWSC?

COLUMBUS in 2026! We are especially excited to think about where we will be going next year! We've been invited to be #2 on stage in the 2026 Harmony Classic AA!

Where has TWSC been seen lately?

ON SOCIAL MEDIA...We are making a bigger presence on line by advertising for new members and for our upcoming SHOW! This year our SHOW/fundraiser is going to be a little different! **BARBERSHOP and BINGO!** November 8th—4:30 pm. Come join us for some great Barbershop-style music with additional FUN: Singo-Bingo Games, Tamales, Chips and Salsa, Beer, Prizes and a Silent Auction! Details on the flyer.

And where can you spot TWSC members every week?

Mondays in CONROE! TWSC has welcomed several new members and continues to recruit for membership at rehearsals! Each rehearsal session touches on a bunch of new music, polishing the current repertoire, working on consistent sound, upping the skills, being comfortable with more movement (you should see the whole chorus dance to "Wear Your Crown"), fully embracing characterization, and having total engagement with the music and the audience. Oh yeah, and how about working on chromatic exercises with the notes and rhythms as well!

We are rolling along...Gaining momentum...Making changes...Adjusting our agenda...

Having a blast where ever you can find us! Hope to see YOU somewhere soon!



TWSC Attendees at the Summer Training in Tulsa Oklahoma: (left to right) Phyllis King, Sheila Donahue, Betty Clipman, Nancy Cordner, Denise Tazumi, Sally Green, Kerri Mauney, Janie Macchiaroli, Pat Hummel







Diamond Division Winners Regale: Patty, Patti, Kerri, Denise

Submitted by Phyllis King, TWSC correspondent phylliskingtx@aol.com

HOUSTON HORIZON CHORUS

Oof, it's been a HOT summer in Houston!

Thankfully we had lots of activities to help us keep cool.

We beat the heat with sweet treats and sweeter harmonies at *One of Those Songs*, our Ice Cream Social Summer Show on July 27! Our audience enjoyed our chill tunes, and the guest appearances from **Mixfits** and **Essence**! Between the music, festive decorations, and sweet ice cream treats, the day was a perfect blend of joy and community spirit. We're thrilled to share some photos from the day and can't wait to celebrate National Ice Cream Day again next year.



Pics from our summer show



We launched August with a weekend chorus retreat, gearing up and shifting into focus mode to prepare our contest package for the Sweet Adelines International Convention in Columbus, Ohio, alongside **Patrick**McAlexander! The retreat was filled with enjoyable physical warm-ups, innovative singing techniques, and quality bonding time with our chorus family. And we certainly can't overlook the late-night s'mores and beauty

routines! Choruses that hydrate together, excel together!

By the retreat's conclusion, we emerged not only prepared but also inspired, united, and ready to dazzle on stage in Columbus!

Scan this QR code to see how much fun we had at our Retreat!





We've been having a wonderful time singing in the community this summer! This year, we aimed to enhance our outreach efforts and have already performed during the summer at *St. Dominic Village Houston* and *The Tradition Woodway Assisted Living*. Music has the incredible ability to elevate spirits, and we truly enjoy spreading the joy of music with the residents at these two centers.

We're thrilled to unveil our upcoming *Send-Off Show* before we head off to compete in Columbus, Ohio! Join us for "*Aiming High In Ohio*" on Sunday, October 12, at 2:30 PM, hosted at Pines Presbyterian Church. We can't wait to share a sneak peek of our contest set with our family, friends, and supporters. Admission is FREE, so we would love for you to join us!

In addition to our contest set, we'll feature a variety of songs that are sure to entertain and inspire. Whether you're a long-time supporter or new to our performances, there's something for everyone to enjoy. We hope to see some of the Region 10 community there!

RSVP here: https://www.facebook.com/events/783992130704211/



Ashleigh Kotula, Marketing Manager Email: marketing@houstonhorizon.org/ashleighdkotula@gmail.com

A CAPPELLA UNLIMITED

New challenges, opportunities and members!

June came with our first challenge...our regular rehearsal location would not be available to us over the summer months. *Waaaah!* We frantically searched for a temporary location to hold our Monday evening rehearsals with little luck. Enter our guardian angel and new director **Madison Shortes**. Her husband is in seminary studies at Texas State and he was able to secure Texas State's United Campus Ministry's Sanctuary as a temporary location. *Whew!* Thank You **Austin Shortes!!!**

Madison jumped right into rehearsals, going through songs in our repertoire to see where we are on them. For years we have kicked off the Hays County Veterans Day Parade in November so we began working on our

patriotic repertoire.

On July 21 we performed for the residents of Querencia at Barton Creek, a retirement community. What a great audience! It was Madison's first outing with us and it was a hit with the residents. We met a former Sweet Adeline front-line director, **Genevieve**Williams, who directed Arkansas based Crystal Chimes Chorus for 30 years. She thoroughly enjoyed reliving her



Au performing for residents of Querencia

barbershop memories and we enjoyed her enthusiasm. Our 5th Place Medalist quartet **Better Than BeFour** had sung for her 95th birthday a couple weeks prior to our performance.

In August, A Cappella Texas a local BHS mixed chorus, contacted us to begin discussions about a joint holiday show. We are getting our ducks in a row and planning a fun matinee performance for our mutual audiences. We're looking forward to continued collaboration with ATX.



Better Than BeFour members Kadi Conklin, Laura DeAngelo, Melonie Mills and Kathy Wilson reunited with Genevieve Williams at Au's performance

We hosted a guest night on September 8 and were excited to see 11 guests join us. We introduced them to barbershop and Au, and our upcoming community chorus rehearsals and performances where they would be invited to sing with us. Our membership chair **Kyong Hee Chee** did an awesome job of welcoming the guests, and providing music and information about the chorus. Several of them are coming back each week to be part of our upcoming holiday performances.

In September we also welcomed **Melissa Harvey** as our newest member! Melissa was born and raised in Corpus Christi, Texas, and attended college at Texas Lutheran University majoring in Political

A very successful Guest Night crowd. Jacob Bankston, new director of A Cappella Texas joined us. He's taking the picture.

Science. She works in the State Attorney General's office. Melissa grew up in a musical family that sang hymns in three-part harmony every Sunday. She sang in choirs from middle school through college. She says, "Music has



Madison Shortes and Kyong Hee Chee Welcome New Member Melissa Harvey

always been my happy place, and I realized recently that I really missed singing. "Adding my voice to a wonderful group like A Cappella Unlimited feels like a great opportunity to get back to doing something I enjoy with a group of people who have the same love and passion for music."

We're glad she found us over the summer.

Have a wonderful fall y'all!

CONNECT WITH YOUR REGIONAL MANAGEMENT TEAM





CLICK HERE TO PURCHOSE THE WEBCOST

Team Members

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 being odd years

Education Coordinator, Ethel Lowther - 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, Megan Rose - Regional Appointment - Term begins odd years

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

Tune In With Ten 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. Sweet Adelines International is a highly respected worldwide organization of singers committed to advancing the musical art form of barbershop harmony through education, performance and competition. This independent, nonprofit music education association is one of the world's largest singing organizations!