



Stroke of Twelve

Official Publication of Pacific Shores, Region 12

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Diva Jamboree

By Georgia Sutherland
Chair of the Regional Convention

The Regional Convention is nearly here. I hope you are all anticipating it as much as I am. We on the Regional Convention Steering Committee (RCSC) are having fun with Pacific Empire's Diva Jamboree theme, and it promises to be a lot of fun during the convention as well. I hope everyone will be there early. If you are not in a competing quartet and can be there by Friday morning, please plan to attend Shirley Kout's education class. It's something new we have added, and Shirley is a fabulous teacher.

I'd like to take this moment to thank those who are currently working so hard to bring this convention to you.

Pacific Empire is our Assistance Chorus. Their coordinator is Jadine Stenger. Jadine is a "RCSC regular" like me. She's capably held a lot of different convention jobs over the years, and is a great person to work with. There are at least a dozen PEC folks heading up committees, and all their chorus will be much in evidence doing the multitude of jobs which the Assistance Chorus does in their outgoing championship year!

Mission Valley is our Wild Card Chorus. Their Coordinator is Debi Gordon, and Marilyn Rex (last year's CRC) is also serving as a liaison between her chorus and the RCSC. Mission Valley is in charge of producing the Diva Showcase (Show of Champions) and ushering all the events.

Alison Regalia (Mission Valley) is the Finance Coordinator. She receives all your All Events and Guest Ticket orders, your reservations for the Diva Dinner and the Regional Brunch and your video order. She deals with all the money, and is doing a super job.

Sue Booth is the Housing Coordinator, assisted by Maxine Verma (both members of Sacramento Valley). The housing job is a tricky one, as you all have those special requests, and keep changing your minds. Sue is experienced, though, and is capably handling all that comes along.

Bonnie Garlow (Voice of the Valley) is the Site Coordinator at the hotel and is making arrangements for all the hotel-based convention events, for all your chorus events, for the rehearsals and the pattern rooms. Everything at the hotel will go smoothly, I'm sure.

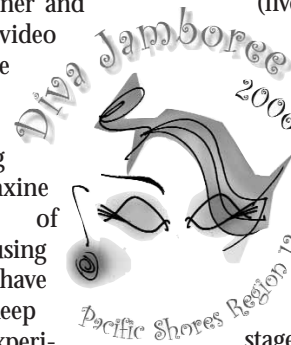
Sue Higbee (Harmony Bay) is the Transportation Coordinator. She is mak-

ing arrangements for the vans (Friday night), for the buses (Saturday), for the security that keeps our walkways patrolled, and for the devices that allow us to communicate between the hotel and the auditorium.

Linda Gummerson (Pacific Empire) is the Official Panel Liaison (OPL). She and her committee are responsible for transportation and hospitality for the judging panel (five people) and the trial scorers (at least three of them) for the entire convention.

Last, but not least, Cathy Daniel (Diablo Vista) is the Competition Coordinator. She is responsible for all the arrangements at the auditorium, and for making the competitions run smoothly (lights, sound, stage crew, video, audio, traffic pattern, etc). This is Cathy's third year in this job. I know everything will go better than ever.

Did you notice how many different Region 12 choruses are represented on this great committee? If you'd like to get involved in any part of next year's convention, just let me know. I'm planning on serving as CRC for one more year, and I'm always looking for fun people to join the committee. ♪



Co-Hosting the AIM Weekend

Co-authored by Marlene Gogue, Joanne Morrison and Georgia Sutherland

In the Fall of every year, the Regional Events Coordinator solicits interest from the choruses in Region 12 to host an AIM weekend. Knowing that it takes 30-40 people to do this job, and knowing that

many of our choruses don't have this many members, the RMT decided to offer the opportunity for two smaller choruses to co-host. The January AIM weekend in San Ramon was co-hosted by Harmony Bay and Harmony Crossroads choruses. Here are their words about how well this worked for them!

(continued on page 2)

Inside . . .

- Chorus news
- Quartet news
- Management messages
- Upcoming events

Northern California & Northern Nevada
www.sairegion12.org



Mission Statement: Pacific Shores (Region 12), as a part of Sweet Adelines International, provides its members with opportunities for singing, learning, and socializing. In addition, the Region promotes understanding and appreciation of barbershop harmony to the general public.

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Choruses

Bay Area Showcase, San Jose, January 1956
Blossom Valley, Modesto, February 1968
California HEAT, Red Bluff, October 2004
Diablo Vista, Walnut Creek, June 1956
Harmony Bay, Alameda, March 1974
Harmony Crossroads, Pleasanton, November 1993
High Desert Harmony, Reno, Nevada, October 2004
Mendo-Lake, Lakeport, June 1980
Mission Valley, Palo Alto, November 1958
Northern Gateway, Redding, February 1981
Pacific Empire, Petaluma, May 1965
River Lights, Salida, March 2002
Sacramento Valley, Sacramento, October 1979
San Francisco Sound WAVE, San Francisco, August 1955
Sierra Gold, Auburn, September 1995
Sounds of the Valley, Chico, June 1974
Voice of the Valley, Sacramento, December 1999

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"It was a wonderful opportunity for two small choruses to be able to host this event. There are so many wonderful things about being a small chorus, but one big problem is that there are only so many people to handle chorus business, and outside events are often not something we can consider because of the people power (or lack thereof) that we have.

Working with Harmony Bay was a lot of fun. The management teams met on several occasions and kept in contact by telephone. We evaluated the "assets" in each chorus and decided that the artistic creative activities belonged to Harmony Bay. Harmony Crossroads would do the baskets, etc. Choosing the theme was a joint effort and of course running around in our PJs was really great!

It was an opportunity for both choruses to work together, sing together and get to know each other better. We look forward to some more joint ventures with Harmony Bay in future, on the risers and off!

"For Harmony Bay Chorus, the prospect of co-hosting an AIM weekend with Harmony Crossroads Chorus was intriguing from the time Georgia Sutherland first suggested the idea." Region 12 had never tried a co-hosting approach before, but Harmony Bay and Harmony Crossroads had already worked together successfully in a fund raising project operating a food booth at the Oakland Coliseum. We knew it would work, and it was an opportunity to break new ground.

Coordinators from each chorus met with Georgia, who briefed us and offered helpful suggestions. The coordinators then met with their respective choruses, the responsibilities were divided, and everyone worked enthusiastically. I think we were all pleasantly surprised at how easily we were able to share and manage the work between the two choruses. It took only two additional meetings of the coordinators and a few phone calls to bring it all together. We also held one joint rehearsal before the weekend to practice a song to perform together.

'Thank you, Georgia and RMT!'

Joanne Morrison,
Management Team Coordinator
Harmony Bay Chorus

The weekend was fun. The choruses shared the work and supported each other throughout, with high energy and good humor. Performing together was exhilarating — it was a new, bigger sound for these small choruses, and we blended well. Since Harmony Crossroads was in the process of seeking a new director, Harmony Bay's director, Sally Massen, directed both choruses. She did a great job of bringing all of our voices together.

After the weekend, we decided it would be fun to have a party to celebrate our joint success and to get to know each other a little better socially. Hopefully, there will be other joint projects in the future for these two choruses. Sharing resources in this way makes us both stronger, and spreads a feeling of sisterhood and good will.

We appreciate the RMT giving us the opportunity to do this project. We especially want to thank Georgia, who gave us great support and encouragement in carrying it out. The Region's written guidelines were very helpful, but with her extensive experience, Georgia was an invaluable source of information and was always there to answer all of our questions. 🎵

'Thanks to the RMT for allowing us this opportunity.'

— Marlene Gogue, President
Harmony Crossroads Chorus

Pacific Shorebirds Tour New Zealand

By Leah Brooks
Director, Pacific Shorebirds Chorus

For twelve days in January and February, members of our regional chorus joined Sweet Adelines from around the USA for an unforgettable tour of New Zealand. In addition to Chord Company, a quartet from Minnesota, and singers from Michigan, Minnesota, Texas and Pennsylvania, the group included nine members of Sierra Gold Chorus (Jane Rhodes, Jackie Dow, Carolie Brenan, Bev Rhoby, Sylvia Resovich, Karen Luttinger, Sharon Stratakos, Marge Biddle and Barbara Burdick), and two members of San Francisco Sound W.A.V.E. Chorus (Elizabeth Sargent and Michele Garside). Leah Brooks, Pacific Empire Chorus member and director of the Shorebirds, led the group in two concerts during the tour.

Organized by well-known visual coach Cindy Hansen and tour coordinator Carol Tatum of American Classic Tours, the fun-loving group of 27 sang their way around the land best known these days as the backdrop for The Lord of the Rings trilogy. The singers enjoyed seeing much of New Zealand's scenic wonders, including the incredibly high snowcapped mountains of the Southern Alps, the steamy sulfuric geysers of Rotorua, the Victorian homes of on the hills of Wellington, and the turquoise waters of the glacier-fed rivers and fjords.

On the bus tour around the country, the group was surprised by how many people knew about Sweet Adelines. In the art deco coastal city of Napier, a member of the



Director Leah Brooks (center) with members of the Pacific Shorebirds in New Zealand.

Napier chorus who was working in a souvenir shop was pleased to hear about the tour. She got on the bus and sang a song with the group.

The first concert, in Wellington, was hosted by The Wellington City Chorus (current region 35 champions), who shared the stage with the Shorebirds. There were also performances by two other Sweet Adeline choruses (Faultline Chorus and Capital City Chorus), the local men's barbershop chorus and a young men's ensemble. The highlight of the show was singing a Maori song together that the group had learned in advance. There was also a wonderful performance

by a young men's quartet called M.I.B. (the Musical Island Boys). Watch out for these guys when they hit the International stage!

The second concert was held in Christchurch on the South Island. Christchurch City Chorus, 120 members strong, held a show and a workshop that featured our NZ Shorebirds group and Chord Company, a stellar quartet from Region 6 (City of Lakes).

Both Sweet Adelines and the people of New Zealand have a reputation for warmth and kindness. Put the two together and wow! The Shorebirds met so many people who made the trip extra special by

(continued on page 7)

Can't Move Ahead Without Retreating

By Carol Smith
Diablo Vista Chorus
fosclsmith16@juno.com

In February, Diablo Vista Chorus packed jammies, toothbrushes and bags of vocal production skills and drove to the Embassy Suites in Napa for our 13th annual retreat.

Director Cyndi Sharp and Coach Jan Gervais presided over the Friday through Sunday sessions, barely granting enough time for (some) sleeping and eating. Oh

yes, there was a break on Saturday night for the traditional Open Mike Variety Show, where chorus members shared their "special talents" (what happens in Napa stays in Napa!).

Lots of hard work. Lots of amazing learning and improvement (Jan Gervais-style epiphanies). Lots of pirate fun. Lots of positive chorus bonding.

Results? We'll see what happens at Competition this spring. We can hardly wait! ♪



Did You Know?

By Suzanne Olsen
Communications/Technology Coordinator

Did you know the Communications/Technology Coordinator (CTC) is responsible for managing the processes of electing and appointing new members to the Regional Management Team? Of course, each incumbent is involved and tries to find women who have the skills and interest to take over for them. And we're always looking for help. Our jobs are so much easier and manageable if the work is spread around! For example, as CTC I'm responsible for this publication. However, I have a wonderful editor, two proof readers, a layout wizard and a printer who do the real work. I just have to be sure it gets done and pitch in if there's a problem.



Each of us on the management team has "big" things that we manage rather than do. Our real work is in setting policy and procedure for the Region, based on our strategic plan, which we review four times a year.

So, I'm asking you to think about what your skills and interests are, and how you might serve the Region. I've asked each of the current and incoming Regional Management Team (RMT) members to include a "help wanted" in their articles. Mine follows:

Help wanted! Region 12 Webgoddess. The current Webgoddess, Mary Ann Neuman, is moving to another state in a few months. She uses Dreamweaver software to maintain our site, so the applicant should have some experience with Dreamweaver. Mary Ann will be available for training and consultation even after she leaves. The workload is light for this position, usually heaviest before Regional Competition, Adventures in Music (AIM) weekends and International Competition, when new posting has to be done promptly. There are no out-of-pocket expenses associated with the position.

If interested, please contact Suzanne Olsen, solsen@sbcglobal.net. 🎵

Ramblings of an Outgoing MMC

By Shelley Culp
Marketing/Membership Coordinator

My term as Region 12 Marketing/Membership Coordinator (MMC) is almost over, and as I organize my files to pass along to the new MMC, Pamela Johnson, I find my mind wandering over several topics.

First of all, it has been my supreme pleasure to serve as the Region 12 MMC for the last six years. I have learned so much more about the working and offerings of our wonderful organization. I have had the opportunity to get to know so many region 12 members.

I have met the Membership and Marketing chairs of every chorus during these past six years — what a delightful, dedicated and smart group of women. Next time you see one of these women from your chorus give her a big hug. These ladies are always working to build your chorus.

I realize that while we are members of our chorus, our membership in Sweet Adelines is so much greater than that. While our chorus membership is very important, we are also members of Region 12 and members of the International organization. We are not islands standing alone; we have a huge support system surrounding us.

If I don't know how to proceed, or handle a situation or develop a program, all I need to do is ask my counterparts in my regional choruses. There is a very strong likelihood they already have a program in place and will share it with me. International has most likely developed literature to address my topic. Region 12's Regional Management Team (RMT) and staff probably have an answer or can find it for me; have a support person to assist me or a video in the Regional library that can point me in the right direction. Everyone in this organization is connected. You never need to feel overwhelmed or have to reinvent the wheel — reach out to each other.



Use the Divas Wanted program — it works. International really stepped up to the plate with this membership program. The new artwork is hip and very eye-catching. International has supplied each chorus with a CD of print quality graphics that makes it easy to put together professional-looking marketing materials. There is an exceptional mini CD to share with potential members that allows them to experience our Sweet Adeline art form audibly as well as visually. Additionally, as part of the Divas

Wanted Campaign, women who hit the International Website and express an interest in learning more about joining us have their information collected in a database that is forwarded to each region. This gives us list of potential guests to farm. If your chorus hasn't started using the Divas Wanted campaign, make a point of getting it started. Step up and offer to put the program in place. The possibilities are endless.

Speaking of possibilities, after viewing "The Art of Possibilities" video shown at International a few years ago, the RMT felt our region should own the video. Ben and Rosamund Zanders have put together an uplifting and insightful approach to creating a positive culture of leadership. Every chorus will discover something of value to take from this video. We have added this video to our Region 12 lending library and encourage every chorus to check out this video and present it to their membership. The message is well worth it.

As we move forward from this point, please welcome Pamela Johnson, Marketing and Membership Coordinator, and the other new RMT members to the team. Remember these women have the best interests of Region 12 foremost in their minds. 🎵

News from Fran McWherter

Fran McWherter, longtime Director of Musical Activities for Region 12, and namesake of our trophy that recognizes the chorus with the greatest percentage of members at an AIM weekend, is alive and well and living in Rapid City, South Dakota. She writes: "I am not singing, but I am a member at large. Give my blessings to all the winners of the Fran McWherter traveling trophy and tell them I'm still traveling, and watching... HOHOHO. Best to Region 12." 🎵

Seeking "Out of the Box" Ideas

By Bev Barron
Education Coordinator

Some of you may not be aware that one of the goals that the Regional Management Team established for Education was to try and provide a little more variety to stimulate our learning experiences. Those of you who have attended AIM weekends regularly may have noticed a little more variety in the classes. We've been inviting guest faculty to come in and teach specific subjects in which they are expert... and the response from members so far has been very favorable.



In the last year we had members of River Lights teach some basic Tai Chi movements and principles to help with breathing. We had a master hypnotherapist talk to us about techniques for dealing with stage fright. Just last January we had members of a local tap dance company work with us on improving our rhythm.

We invite you to share any ideas you might have that would help us add more variety to our weekends together. Please send your thoughts—even the crazy ones—to your Region 12 Education Coordinator, and we'll see what we can do to enhance our offerings.

On the music education front, we've been trying to move the focus to the individual singer this year. We started off with a bang; it's hard to find someone more qualified than Betty Clipman to help us understand the basic principles of vocal production. Diane Porsch, a wonderful Showmanship judge and International Faculty member, will be here in September to help us work on ways to put it across the footlights.

We also had a record number of members requesting Personal Voice Instructions (PVI) during the January AIM weekend. This is an exciting milestone because the stronger our individual singers become, the stronger our choruses will be! If you've not taken advantage of this free offering, you will want to be sure to sign up when the announcement comes out prior to September's AIM weekend. We have some wonderful PVI coaches on our regional faculty, and you will get some personalized tips for improving your singing. 🎵

Passing the Torch!

By Georgia Sutherland
Regional Events Coordinator

The Winter Olympics are in full swing as I write this article, and though they will be history by the time you read this, that too seems appropriate. I will soon be "history" as your Regional Events Coordinator, as my six years on the Regional Management Team (RMT) is just about over.



There are lots of things I could say about my six years (two serving as Communications/Technology Coordinator and four serving as Events Coordinator), but one

that seems most important to say is that I found it very fulfilling to use my skills and energies to serve the region in this way. It's been a wonderful opportunity to work with women from all over the region. Thank you all for your help and support!

Why don't I continue longer, you ask? Well, that's because there are term limits on the RMT, and I've reached mine. And I can leave knowing that you are in good hands as I pass the torch to Linda Brown, a member of San Francisco Sound WAVE Chorus, who will be your new Region 12 Events Coordinator. I know you will give her the great support you've given me over the years. 🎵

Take a Coach Home

By Marge Biddle

How about it, wouldn't it be great to take home the coach that you just recently heard at Adventures in Music (AIM) weekend? You could have them repeat that new concept as many times as you liked, until you really understood to your complete satisfaction. You could keep them as a guest in your home for a mere \$35 deposit! Does it sound to be good to be true? This is one time it IS true.



How is this possible? The Region 12 Lending Library allows you to borrow a variety of tapes on topics such as how to breathe, plan a show, choreography, past competitions and many others. Check out the list on the Website (www.SAIRegion12.org), and look for them at the next AIM weekend or your

Area School.

When you've decided what you'd like to borrow, write a check to Region 12 Lending Library for \$35 for each video desired. Your check will be held and not cashed unless you lose or damage the video. If that were to happen, the check would be used to replace that video.

Both check out and return can be done via mail or in person.

Is it worth your time and effort? Marg Rightmier from California HEAT thinks so. "I can't say enough to describe how valuable the library tapes are. The tapes are wonderful. Lots of good information that just can't be remembered by making notes. They are absolutely worth borrowing!"

Check it out! 🎵

Get an edge up on the competition

Take advantage of the Region 12 Lending Library.

Available to all Region 12 Sweet Adelines this library offers entertaining & educational video tapes of International chorus and quartet competitions, regional weekend sessions, and vocal production skills.

See **Take a Coach Home** (above) for details.



Voice of the Valley Curtain Calls...and Calls...and Calls

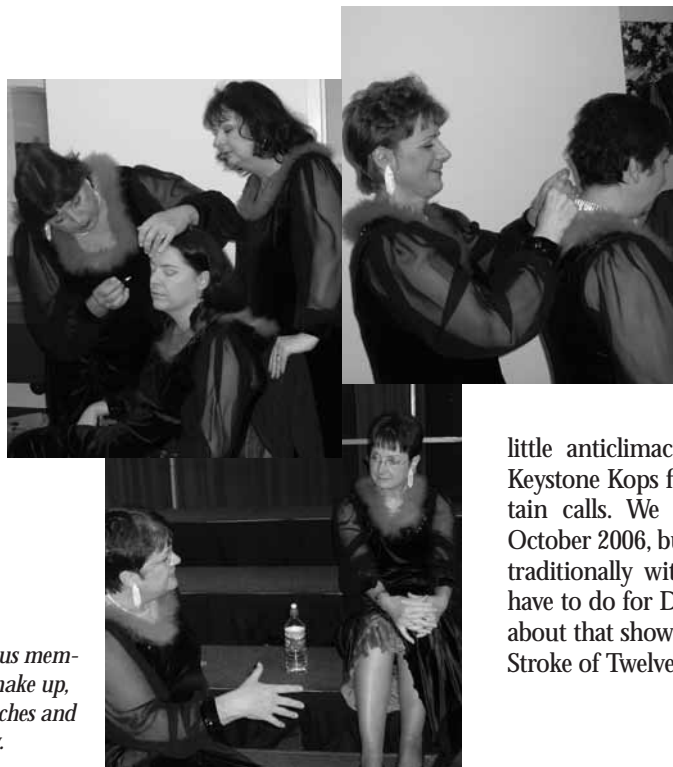
By Elise Reilly

Voice of the Valley Chorus

Since October 2005, Voice of the Valley's activity level raised itself to a high pitch. We added five new members to our roster: Cindy Roots, Eileen Lenoue, and Gayle Hathaway are our new leads; Judy Sheets our new baritone; and Bev Gabrielli our new bass. They are quick studies in barbershop; several were able to sing in our Christmas show.

We had a wonderful stroke of luck for our show in December. Instead of having to hire a hall, sell ads to subsidize printing a program, and sell show tickets, we got hired to do a performance! All we had to do was rehearse, show up, and sing. All this luck didn't mean that the show went on without a glitch or two. In the second half of the program, we had just finished a song when the curtains went berserk. They started opening and closing of their own

Voice of the Valley Chorus members touching up their make up, adding the finishing touches and relaxing before the show.



accord. The up side was that that song got eight curtain calls! Our stage manager, Norm Smith, who sings with the Sacramento Capitolaire, finally tamed the curtain by holding down the switch in the open position. He couldn't move until the show was over.

Our final bow was a little anticlimactic because it lacked the Keystone Kops flair of the unplanned curtain calls. We are planning a show in October 2006, but we will be doing it more traditionally with all the work we didn't have to do for December. You'll hear more about that show in another number of the Stroke of Twelve. 🎵

A Goodbye, a Hello and a Surprise Twist

By Teresa Landsaw

High Desert Harmony Chorus

Members of High Desert Harmony Chorus in Reno, Nevada, know that during the life of a chorus there will be many changes, but since we are only "two years old," our first change of director was a very emotional time for us. Joan Piechocki, our wonderful "first" Sweet Adelines director, had been with us for almost three years when she decided to retire this last November in order to pursue other interests that had been awaiting her.

Joan came to us in January of 2003 when we were just a small rag-tag group of singers who had aspirations of becoming Sweet Adelines. We were very fortunate as Joan brought with her over 30 years of Sweet Adelines experience and we found that her many skills and vast knowledge were invaluable as we went through the steps towards chartering. And patience, did

I mention patience? Wow, did she have lots of that! It took plenty of time and energy to mold and shape us into a real chorus. During the first year, she worked to put together all the pieces: sound, expression, choreography, costumes, makeup and a good singing repertoire. All the while the team was working with Joan on the bylaws, standing rules, member list, funding, etc.

Well, everyone's hard work paid off and we celebrated becoming an official chapter on March 1, 2004. March 1st will always be remembered by the chorus because it is also Joan's birthday! We always joked that it was her "birthday present" for all her hard work. Under Joan's direction, we continued to grow, advance and mature as singers. We were delighted to share our barbershop art form at many functions all around the

(continued on page 8)

The HEAT Wins Trophy

By Marg Rightmier

California HEAT Chorus

What a thrill it was for California HEAT to win the Fran McWherter Travel Trophy at the January Adventures in Music (AIM) Weekend! We especially liked the reserved seating for the Saturday evening activities. A word of warning to all other choruses — we plan to do our best to win the trophy at every AIM Weekend. Not only is the education during the weekend of tremendous value to all our members, but the reserved seating is awesome.

Contest is coming — our first! We are very busy with all the preparations for contest and local performances. On February 8, we had a wonderful coaching session with Shirley Kout and are looking forward to retreat in March with Shirley also. What a fulfilling experience to build a new chorus, watch the members grow in the craft,

(continued on page 8)

River Lights Running

By Dottie Schmidt
PR/Marketing Coordinator
send2dottie@hotmail.com

River Lights hosted the AIM weekend in San Ramon in September of 2005 — a first for us! In honor of Sweet Adelines' 60th Anniversary, our theme (twisted around a bit) was "Take Aim at the 60s." What fun we had remembering the 60s — tie-dyed t-shirts, wonderful hairdos, some awesome psychedelic peace-symbol earrings. Barefooted or sandaled, our costume was complete. Our program included some rousing 60s songs done barbershop style. And major kudos to our events coordinator, Melanie Thompson, for her diligence, organization skills and unwavering cool head! Great times and great memories; that's what AIM weekends are!

Back home, after a quick gasp, we were on to polishing our Christmas Show entitled "Santa's Big Decision," complete with Santa and all his elves! We performed in a marvelous older auditorium in Oakdale, California's Magnolia Elementary School

and flanked our risers with Christmas trees, giant presents and giant lollipops. Featured guests included Caroline Chiesa (Modesto Symphony's 2004 Idol), Betty Baughman (flautist) and The Sensations, a do-wop trio. After the performance, we were joined on stage by many other Sweet Adelines to sing together as we all like to do.

In the process we have several new members: Kristy Feliciano (bass), Deborah Grochau (lead), Catherine Song (bass), Jennifer Toste (lead) and Margaret Ann Maisel (lead). These gals are all great additions to River Lights Chorus.

River Lights also launched a new quartet this year. "The YaYas" are having a great time and already have several singing engagements to their credit.

Now busily preparing for competition in April, we look forward to seeing all of you there! 🎵

Introducing Mission Valley's New Director

By Margo Atkinson
Mission Valley Chorus

Many may not know that Angela Suraci is now our new Director! She comes with a boat-load of talent, musical and vocal expertise and a really fun and funny outlook on life. No need to tell you that our rehearsals have been a blast.

We had a retreat in February, with Pat LaVezu as clinician. We stayed at Camp Redwood Glen, just outside of Scotts Valley, in the hills. And indeed, the hills were alive with the sound of music and laughter. This retreat gave us a good grounding in musical skills, to use as a base for growing musically and vocally. We plan to make Region 12 proud in Las Vegas!

This year, Mission Valley will be helping host the regional convention. We will be ushering the contests and producing the Diva Showcase (formerly known as the Show of Champions). We plan to wear something "diva-ish"... so look for us if you need help or directions. After the convention, we will hit the floor running to fine tune our contest package for Las Vegas.

Our second retreat before hitting road to Las Vegas will be with Carol Kirkpatrick in August. She will tweak us even more, to help us to achieve our best at International. And along the way we will have choreography coaches help us bring out that "inner dancer" lurking in each of us. It will be a great ride! Mission Valley can hardly wait! 🎵

Greetings to the Best Region in the World From Blaze

By Sharon Carlson
Pacific Empire Chorus

We are newly formed and thrilled to be singing together. Leslie Dalton and Sharon Carlson (former bari and bass of Swing Shift and Kinetix), Angela Boland (lead of Special Delivery) and Sandy Cope (tenor of Highlight) are proud to be part of the healthy, growing community of Region 12 quartets. There are many new configurations and exciting quartet sounds as evidenced at the recent AIM weekend. As always, our region tops the charts in quartet involvement and excellence along with



Blaze: Leslie Dalton, bari; Sharon Carlson, bass; Angela Boland, lead and Sandy Cope, tenor.

embracing change. We just know this Spring's competition will be exciting for all. Our very best wishes for luck and quartet fellowship to all our region 12 friends. 🎵

Shorebirds continued from page 3

their generosity. Chorus members took time off to put on special shows, take the group on side trips, share meals together and, of course, to sing. The group was astonished to find many good choruses (who sing the same songs and share the same love of harmony) on the other side of the globe, so far from home. Truly, Sweet Adelines are a global sisterhood, united in song! 🎵

The Goings on at Sacramento Valley

By Godie LaFlamme

Sacramento Valley Chorus

According to all reports, the Sacramento Valley Chorus's new, unified look made a positive impact at the AIM weekend. Everyone had so much fun stirring up excitement in our electric blue travel shirts. Once the Sac Valley Board approved the idea, our little "mover and shaker," Mary-Lou Munson was all over it. Determined that our "look" be both uniform and attractive, Mary-Lou chose a style and hue that miraculously complimented every figure and coloring. After our own Merriann Cree single-handedly glued 22 rhinestones to every shirt, our statement was complete!

Mary-Lou (lead) also sang in the Novice Quartet Parade with her quartet, "etc."! She and Pat McCandless (tenor), Debbie Doria (baritone) and Pattie Bauer (bass) would like to express their gratitude to the regional audience and judges for their warm reception. Looking out over "the sea of smiling faces" they were "overwhelmed by the love and support!"

While Sacramento Valley is so very proud of "etc.," we are also excited and encouraged by our growing numbers of singers participating in quartets. Five quartets are comprised entirely of Sacramento Valley singers. In addition to "etc.," they are: Chord on Blue — Nancy Mead, Jeannette

Corrigan, Sara Edwards and Godie LaFlamme; The Ritz — Marjie Jenkins, Patty Easley, Joan Eckert and Mikki Melton; GEMTONES — Carrie Falk, Marty Tatterson, Margaret Smith and Barbara Cannizzaro; The F.L.I.P.S. — Jenny Carpenter, Char Rathburn, Ruthi McGee and Arlene Bixby. Seven more quartets in our region include Sacramento Valley singers. Mary Surkala (bass) sings with the Bicycle Belles; Lynne Erickson (bass) and Pat Hunter (lead) are with Impact; Sandy Cope (tenor) sings with Blaze; Bonnie Flint (baritone) and Diane Grindstaff (tenor) are with Vibrance; and Merriann Cree (bass) sings with Spritz.

In addition to those 27 quarteting enthusiasts, we have four more quartets who passed their auditions and were ready to help us deliver singing Valentines on February 13 and 14. They are as follows: Love Notes — Carrie Melashenko, Christi Shea, Judy Halloran and Mary Surkala; Heart Throbs — Sandy Cope, Mary Liz Richter, Adrienne Wright and Merriann Cree; Heart to Heart — Sally Kwong, Kathy Siebenmann, Pat Fanelli and Jan Onishi;

Sacramento Showcase — Michele Igo, Pat Hunter, Lynnette Lewis and Lynne Erickson.

We are enthusiastically responding to the challenges of our director, Patty Easley,



The Four Tots quartet babies get an early start in barbershop!

and our amazing and supportively nagging coaches, Shirley Kout, Jan Gervais and Lynne Smith. Most of our members have committed to a program to maintain and/or improve both our oxygen delivery systems and our muscle endurance.

Congratulations, ladies, for all your hard work! Region 12 can look forward to a highly energetic and inspirational contest performance from the Sacramento Valley Chorus! ♪

Surprise Twist continued from page 6

Reno area and we all had such great fun.

Joan had always promised that she would help us grow into a healthy strong chorus, which we now are, and that she would leave us in good hands when it was her time to go. Those good hands just happen to come attached to a wonderful woman named Lonnie Shodeen, one of Joan's three assistant directors. Our chorus is so lucky! We didn't even have to do a director search. We all agreed that we would love to have Lonnie as our next director.

So, it was with a bittersweet song in our hearts that we gathered last November to wish a fond "goodbye" to Joan and greet Lonnie with a big "hello." The party was November 14th — Lonnie's birthday! As fate would have it, Joan's birthday gift to Lonnie was her chorus. This may be a hard act to follow. ♪

HEAT continued from page 6

then prepare to participate in our first competition. It is so much fun to watch the light bulbs click on with understanding and members begin to step out of their 'protective' boxes to try new things.

California HEAT is offering each chorus and quartet an opportunity to win a coaching session with Cindy Hansen, choreographer extraordinaire. You probably remember when Cindy was the faculty for an AIM Weekend a little over a year ago. The prize includes a three-hour coaching session and travel expenses. The tickets are \$25 each or five for \$100. The date for the drawing is May 11, 2006. E-mail Marg Rightmier at margnoe@thegrid.net for further information.

We look ahead to sharing the time and stage with all of you in Sacramento in April! ♪

Region 12 Convention 2006

April 27-30, 2006

Sacramento, CA



Visit our Web site for information on the following:

- Public Event & Tickets
- Competition Information
- Convention Bulletins for Members
- Chorus Housing Chair Information & Forms
- Chorus Registration Chair Information & Forum

www.sairegion12.org/RegConv/Competition.htm

COMMUNICATOR



Pacific Shores Region 12 Calendar of Events

FUTURE REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

April 27-30, 2006

Regional Convention, Sacramento

May 20, 2006

LAW School
MerryHills School
2650 Lillard Drive, Davis

August 19, 2006

Bay Area Showcase YWIH Festival
Milpitas Community Center, Milpitas

September 15-17, 2006

September Adventures in Music, San Ramon
Guest Faculty-Diane Porsch

October 28, 2006

Voice of the Valley Chorus Annual Show
The Fair Oaks Presbyterian Church
Fair Oaks Ave., Sacramento

November 4, 2006

LAW School
MerryHills School
2650 Lillard Drive, Davis

November 4, 2006

Sacramento Valley Chorus Annual Show

November 5, 2006

Diablo Vista Chorus Annual Show
Dean Leshner Regional Center for the Arts
Walnut Cree,

December 2, 2006

Bay Area Showcas Chorus Holiday Show
Flint Center, Cupertino

January 19-21, 2007

January Adventures in Music, San Ramon
Guest Faculty-Cathy Carmody

April 19-22, 2007

Regional Convention, Sacramento

September 14-16, 2007

September Adventures in Music, San Ramon
Guest Faculty-David and Sandy Wright

October 7, 2007

Sacramento Valley Chorus Annual Show

January 18-20, 2008

January Adventure in Music, San Ramon

April 3-6, 2008

Regional Convention, Sacramento

September 19-21, 2008

September Adventures in Music, San Ramon

January 18-20, 2009

Adventures in Music, San Ramon

April 2-5, 2009

Regional Convention, Sacramento

September 19-21, 2009

Adventures in Music, San Ramon

April 22-25, 2010

Regional Convention, Reno, NV

April 28-May 1, 2011

Regional Convention, Reno, NV

April 26-29, 2012

Regional Convention, Reno, NV

INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

July 12-15, 2006

International Education Symposium (IES)
Trinity University
San Antonio, TX

October 10-14, 2006

International Convention,
Las Vegas, Nevada

October 9-13, 2007

International Convention,
Calgary, Alberta, Canada

November 4-8, 2008

International Convention
Honolulu, Hawaii

Communicator is a publication of Pacific Shores, Region 12, Sweet Adelines International. Dates on the Communicator are as of October 15, 2005, and were taken from the Region 12 Master Calendar which is found on the Region 12 web site.

The back of this sheet shows the Regional Management Team Organization Chart. Please contact any RMT member with questions or issues about regional business.

Please visit the regional web site at www.SAIRegion12.org

PACIFIC SHORES, REGION 12 – March, 2006

<p>Chapter Coordinator CAROL COLLINS 916-487-2135 chapter.coord@sairregion12.org</p>	<p>Communications /Technology Coordinator SUZANNE OLSEN 925-937-5055 commtech.coord@sairregion12.org</p>	<p>Directors' Coordinator Fran Laplant 408-266-3269 director.coord@sairregion12.org</p>	<p>Education Coordinator BEV BARRON 925-846-1206 education.coord@sairregion12.org</p>	<p>Events Coordinator GEORGIA SUTHERLAND 408-446-1612 events.coord@sairregion12.org</p>	<p>Finance Coordinator TINA AKINS 925-687-9973 finance.coord@sairregion12.org</p>	<p>Marketing/ Membership Coordinator SHELLEY CULP 925-689-4360 mktgmemb.coord@sairregion12.org</p>	<p>Team Coordinator MARGE BIDDLE 530-477-5107 team.leader@sairregion12.org</p>
<p>Assist Prosp. Chapters Assist Revitalization</p>	<p>Chorus-RMT Liaison Program Communications (Intl' Liaison)</p>	<p>Assist Prosp. Chapters Assist Revitalization</p>	<p>Arranger Training Assist Prosp. Chapters & Approve Charter Assist Revitalization CAL Quartet Auditions</p>	<p>Event Communications Event Documentation Event Site Coordinators Host Chorus Liaison</p>	<p>Audit Budget, Reports & Taxes Finance Committee Finance Resource for Choruses</p>	<p>Approve Prosp. Chapter Charter CAL Liaison Membership Growth & Retention Marketing - Membership Forum</p>	<p>Coordinate RMT Meetings Correspondence & Sunshine International Guide Revisions Job Descriptions</p>
<p>Chapter Visits/ Counseling Chorus Awards, Recognitions & Trophies Communicates Chapter Needs President/Team Leaders' Comm. President/Team Leaders' Forum Regional Brunch Program</p>	<p>Distribution List & Mailing Labels Historian/ Historical Files Leadership Database Nominating Committee Publications Team Regional Directory Regional Surveys Regional Web Page Stroke of Twelve</p>	<p>Assistant Director Forum Communicate Directors' Needs DCP Program Director Communications Directors' Forum Directors Mentor Program LAW School Track Intl. Funded Visits</p>	<p>Curric. Planning & Ed. Programs Double/Novice Quartet Promotion Educational Visits Eval. Choruses for Performance Guides for Intl. Competitors Regional Faculty Program Regional Songs & Reg. Chorus Tape/Resource Library YWIH program</p>	<p>Pep Rally Event Reg Brunch Logistics Reg Convention Awards Reg Convention Management Reg Convention Photographer Reg Events Logistics Site Selection Chair Double/Novice Quartet Event YWIH Festival/Contest Event</p>	<p>Grant Applications HOW Fund Insurance Inventory Tracking Reg. Weekend Registration Signs All Contracts Ways & Means (Fund Raising) YSF Liaison</p>	<p>Member Awards & Recognitions Primary for Revitalization Prosp Chapters (Primary) Public Relations Regional Gifts & Recognition Reg Standing Rules, Policies & Procedures Reg Weekend Announcements Schedule RMT Retreat Planning Review Chorus Standing Rules RMT Secretary & Minutes</p>	<p>Maintain RMT Org Chart Monitor Regional Goals and Plans Regional Brunch Program Regional Gifts & Recognition Reg Standing Rules, Policies & Procedures Reg Weekend Announcements Schedule RMT Retreat Planning Review Chorus Standing Rules RMT Secretary & Minutes</p>