

The Key-Note



Official Publication of Harmony, Incorporated
An International Organization of Women Barbershop Singers

SUMMER -FALL 2017 • Volume 52 • ISSUE 2



NEW SUMMER-FALL EDITION!
38 pages of news about your favorite quartets and choruses
SEE WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING!

TAKEN 4 GRANITE

2016 Harmony Queens



ON THE COVER



2016 Harmony Queens *Taken 4 Granite* and families ham it up at the wedding of long-time friend and Harmony, Inc. coach Diane Coates Patterson.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Harmony, Inc. is a non-profit international organization whose purpose is to empower all women through education, friendship, and a *cappella* singing in the barbershop style.

Editor

Sara Wood

keynote@harmonyinc.org

Contributors

- Angie Beatty • Carol Jackson •
- Janine Schindler • Patricia Cassidy •
- Linda Brehaut • Betty Gunterman •
- Christina Lewellen • Diane Zanetti •
- Anita Harvell • Katrine Dickau •
- Annette Draper • Anne Colt •
- Jeanne Chapman • Judy Rector •
- Jill Reid • Philomena Hughes •
- Barbara Labadouche •
- Allison Thompson • Roxanne Powell



departments

- 3 **IT'S ELECTRIC!**
Directing the energy of 2017: CHRISTINA LEWELLEN
- 5 **2017 Area Contest season wrap up:** ANITA HARVELL
- 15-17 **Directors First Campaign:** ROXANNE POWELL
- 35 **IC&C 2017 ORDER OF APPEARANCE**
QUARTET SEMI-FINALS • SILVER DIVISION • CHORUS FINALS
- 36 **IC&C 2017 EDUCATIONAL TRACKS**
OH SO MANY OPPORTUNITIES!
- 37 **THROWBACK!**
YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS THEM
- 38 **Editor's Note**



features

- 4 **QUEENS TALK**
- 6 - 14 **AREA CONVENTIONS & CONTESTS**
100% ATTENDANCE FOR AREA 6
ONCE UPON A TIME IN AREA 3!
AREA 2 SHOWS HOW THE WEST WAS SUNG
AREA 5 IS GROWING, GROWING, GROWN!
AREA 1 COLOURS OUR WORLD WITH MUSIC
AREA 4 CELEBRATES UNDER THE BIG TOP!
- 18-31 **CHAPTER NEWS**
CALIFORNIA NOTE CATCHERS
NICKEL CITY SOUND
HARMONY HERITAGE
NOTEABLE BLEND
CRYSTAL CHORDS
ISLAND A CAPPELLA
BELLA NOVA
ATLANTA HARMONY CELEBRATION!
HARMONY IN MOTION
CODIAC CHORDS
COVERED BRIDGE HARMONY
BLUEGRASS HARMONY
LIBERTY BELLES
SEA BELLES
SUGAR TONES
SOUND CELEBRATION
BARRE-TONES
SURROUND SOUND
TORONTO ACCOLADES
VILLAGE VOCAL CHORDS
- 33-34 **QUARTET POSTS**
PLEASE STAY TUNED
FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE
UPSCALE
SHIRAHZ

Association of Harmony  Queens

2017 Parade of Champions

You don't want to miss this fantastic show!

Why?

A number of wonderful Harmony, Inc. championship quartets will perform for you, including our current International Quartet Champions, **TAKEN 4 GRANITE!** The **ASSOCIATION OF HARMONY QUEENS** chorus will blend their voices together to sing some beautiful songs for you!
We will honor the anniversaries of past International Quartet Champions, including the 50th anniversary of the Debonaires who won in 1967!
Our current International Chorus Champions – **A CAPPELLA SHOWCASE** – will entertain you in a style that only they can do!
And both **TAKEN 4 GRANITE** and **A CAPPELLA SHOWCASE** will perform their swan package on the Parade of Champions

AND!

Taken 4 Granite will receive their permanent crowns!

So obviously you really don't want to miss it!

~~~~~  
What does it cost to experience this FANTASTIC show?  
Attendance at the Parade of Champions is by donation.  
**SUGGESTED DONATION: \$10**

WHY?

The Association of Harmony Queens puts this show on every year to raise funds for the Queen's Travel Fund, which is a fund that helps finance the travel expense of bringing any registered Harmony Queens Quartet to your chapter show or Area educational event.  
(Donations will be accepted at the door.)

*See you there!*



# A Word from our President

## It's electric!

Directing the Energy of 2017



By Christina Lewellen  
Harmony President

**G**reetings, Harmony sisters! This issue marks us rounding the corner to the home stretch of 2017. I don't know about you, but I feel like 2017 has been marked with a different energy at Harmony, Inc. As you'll see in the pages that follow, our Area Convention & Contests (AC&C) season was memorable and exciting, and now we're moving swiftly toward International Convention & Contests (IC&C) in Halifax! Where, my friends, has the year gone?

I believe one of the strongest drivers of energy in the Harmony, Inc. universe this year has been the wildly successful Directors First program. You'll read more about it in this issue, but here's the nutshell version: Thanks to the generous donations you offered to the Directors First program, we sent an impressive number of Harmony, Inc. musical directors to experience a week-long intensive training at Harmony University in July. Starting the very next week at rehearsals throughout the United States and Canada, Harmony members felt the ripple effect of this initiative. Their directors were informed, energized, and improved—and that means the members on the risers were, too.

We made an impressive showing in year one of the program, but it's time to push the harder on the gas pedal and start working toward our 2018 Directors First scholarship goals. We promised that EACH CHAPTER would get to send one musical leader to Harmony University sometime in the next four years, and I know that we can make this vision a reality. Don't stand in the way of Harmony sisters with a game plan, right!? There's a whole new crop of musical leaders in our organization who are ready for the training that Harmony University offers, and it's our job to make sure they get there.

Please work with your chapter and your fellow Harmony, Inc. members to dream up creative ways to contribute to the Directors First program. I've said this before but it bears repeating—there's simply no more important effort we can support for the overall health of the organization we love so much. Stronger musical directors = strong chapters; strong chapters = strong Areas; and strong Areas = a stronger Harmony, Inc.

The Directors First program matters and its success lies in your hands. Together, when we are focused on a common goal, "We're Harmony, We're Strong."

# Queens pass summer in blur of activity

**W**ow! It is hard to believe that September is already here! With school starting back up and the busy travels and adventures of summer over, you'd think we'd be settling in to a cozy, peaceful New Hampshire autumn. Well, autumn is creeping in with its crisp air, mums by the potful, apples by the barrel, and tinges of red and gold in the trees, but for Taken 4 Granite, we are not slowing down. We are revving up into a season of shows, the launch of our new CD, and of course, IC&C around the bend. We are so very excited with everything that is unfolding!

This summer went by in a blur of activity for us as a quartet and individually:

- The quartet enjoyed participating in the Area 2 contest, especially our first Sing With the Queens and master-class.
- Sam finished her sophomore year of college and worked along with Christina for many hours of each day feeding hungry people in Nashua at Five Guys and Chipotle.
- We traveled up to Ontario and had a blast singing on Harmony Gold, the A Cappella Showcase annual show in June.
- The Tramack family went to Disney World, then BHS International contest in Las Vegas, then Renee and Christina attended Harmony University in Nashville.
- We sang on New England Voices in Harmony's Christmas in July show, and later on their Quartet Showcase in August.
- Christina and Sam helped out at Harmony Explosion Camp Northeast in Massachusetts.
- Kat attended multiple powered parachute fly-ins around New England with her family, and participated in a few weeks of summer camps and vacation bible school with (and without!) her kids.
- Longtime friend and coach Diane Coates got married to David and became Diane Patterson. She invited us to sing at their beautiful wedding at the end of August.

Throughout all of that, our quartet has been regularly working on our rep and learning some fun and exciting (and challenging!) new songs that we can't wait to share with the

rest of Harmony. We also have been in the recording studio throughout the summer, squeezing in evening sessions whenever we were all in the same state. You'd think it would be easier to get together when three out of four live in the same house!

Anyway, recording is complete and the files are being mixed and mastered as you read this! You will all love the songs—some new and original, some classic. Don't worry, Taylor the Latte Boy and It Don't Mean a Thing will be on it! Our plan is to have them in hand by IC&C. We hope you ALL get one so that you can enjoy and learn our songs and sing them with us next time we see you. It's the best way to get on stage at Sing With the Queens!

We have just launched a Kickstarter project to help us fund the production of our CD. You can find it here: <http://kck.st/2wPWSNj> or navigate to it from our website [www.t4gquartet.com](http://www.t4gquartet.com) or our Facebook page. Please consider supporting us and get some great rewards in return! Please also share, share, share! Spreading the word is half the battle. Our fundraising project ends October 8.

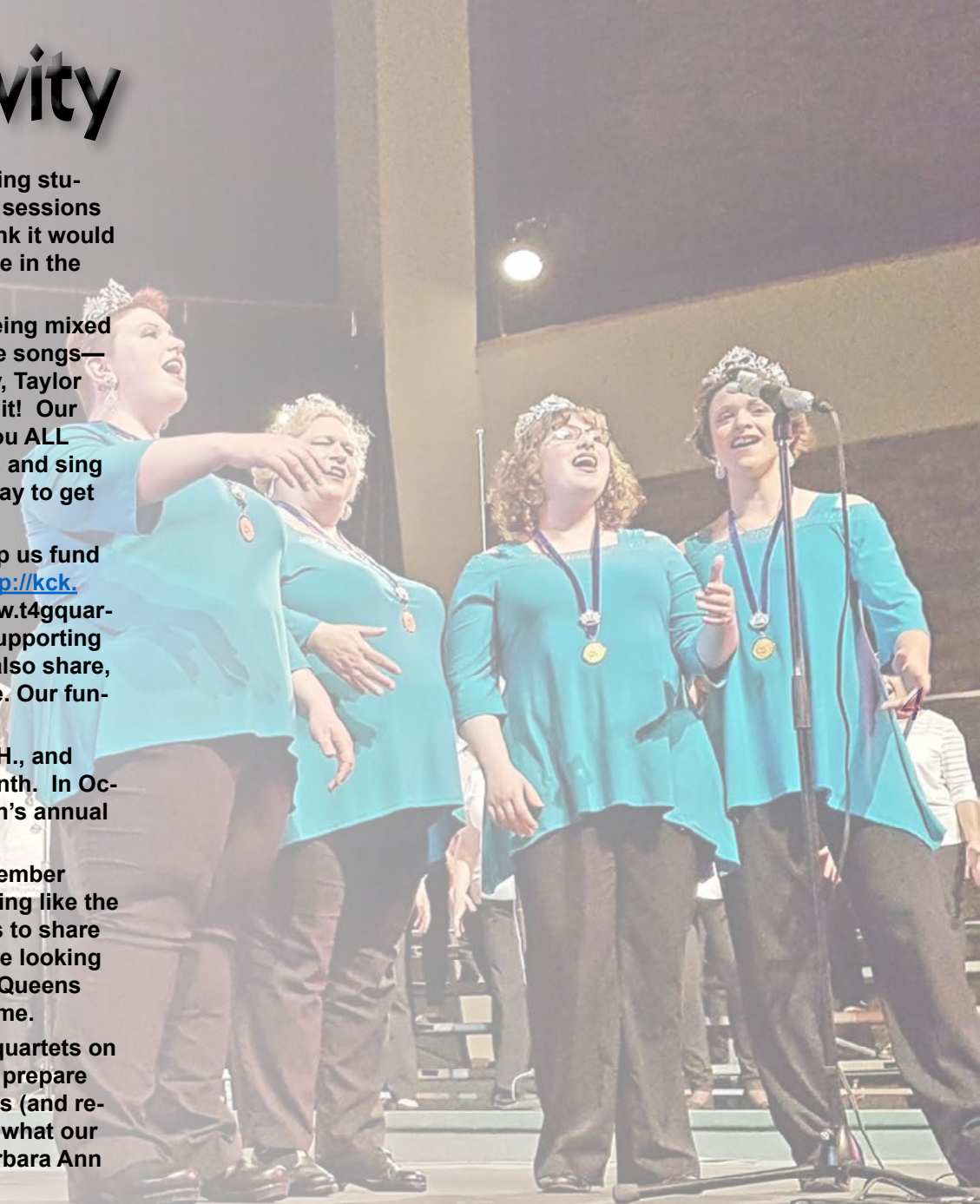
We are looking forward to singing in Plymouth, N.H., and also on the Barretones show in Barre, Vt., this month. In October, we will be singing at the Concord Coachmen's annual show in Concord, N.H.

We all believe the highlight of the year will be November when we get to see all of you again. There is nothing like the barbershop family we all belong to. What a joy it is to share the music together with you. Sam and Christina are looking forward to singing in the Association of Harmony Queens chorus on the Parade of Champions for the first time.

We can't wait to cheer on all of the choruses and quartets on the contest stage. Good luck to all of you as you prepare in your final months leading up to contest. Dreams (and really funny nightmares!) have already begun about what our permanent crowns will be like, but only Queen Barbara Ann knows what is in store for us.

This year has been like a dream come true for us, and we're so happy you've all been along for the ride with us. We hope and pray that all of your hopes and dreams come true whatever they may be! See you in Halifax!

— By *Katrine Dickau*



*Taken 4 Granite performs on A Cappella Showcase's annual show, Harmony Gold, in June.*

# Statistics, statistics, statistics!

## 2017 Area Contest Season Wrap Up



**By Anita Harvell**  
Social Media Coordinator

Now that all the Area convention and contests are over, we've got a few tidbits about this year's contest season:

There were 58 quartets and 45 choruses competing this year

Twenty-three quartets and 24 choruses qualified for International, with 13 Silver Division qualifying choruses (the most Silver Division qualifiers ever)

Farthest traveled competitor at contest was Low Key with one member from On Q chorus from Albuquerque, New Mexico (On Q, Bluegrass Harmony and associate)

Highest percentage of qualifying choruses per Area - Area 3 Harmony, Inc. (6 and 1 Silver Division), followed by Area 1 Harmony, Inc. (4 and 1 Silver Division)

Highest percentage of qualifying quartets per Area - Area 5 Harmony, Inc. (78%)

Chorus with the most members on the Area contest stage - ScotianAires Chorus (47) followed by Sea Belles of Harmony, Inc. and Silk'n Sounds with 45

Chorus with the fewest members on the Area contest stage - (tie ) Codiac Chords, Inc, Surround Sound Chorus, and St. Louis Chordinals with 13

Qualifying chorus with the fewest members on the Area contest stage - Atlanta Harmony Celebration! with 17

Area convention themes:

Area 1 Harmony, Inc. - Colour Our World

Area 2 Harmony, Inc. - Hats off to Harmony

Area 3 Harmony, Inc. - Once Upon a Time

Area 4, Harmony, Inc. - Big Top Harmony

Area 5 Harmony, Inc. - Spring Fling/Harmony High

Area 6 Harmony, Inc. - Broadway

And the "Wow, We Really Did It!" award has to go to Skyway Connection Chorus (Area 5) who qualified for the Silver Division in their first time on the contest stage since becoming a Harmony, Incorporated chapter.

Great job by everyone crossing the stage this season and congrats to all of the qualifiers. See you at IC&C 2017 in Halifax!

# Winter Swing!

**Sunday**  
**December 10, 2017**  
**2:00 PM**

**North Haven High School**  
**221 Elm Street**  
**North Haven, CT**  
**06473**

**Featuring Award Winning Silk'n Sounds Chorus**  
**With Jazz Trio & North Haven High School Students**

**Tickets: \$20 Adults**  
**\$15 Seniors & Students**  
**Children under 12 Free**

For Tickets call Louise at 203-239-7104



Silk'n Sounds is a non-profit organization that supports New Reach.

[www.silknsounds.org](http://www.silknsounds.org)

# 100%

## of Choruses and Quartets

### attend AC&C!

Although Area 6 is the smallest of all Areas, we have a lot to brag about. Our AC&C 2017 was a big success with more than a 100% attendance. We had two chapters qualify for IC&C (Atlanta Harmony Celebration! as 1st place winners and Sisters of Sound, 2nd place) and one quartet, In A Chord from Sisters of Sound. All will attend IC&C this year.

Area 6 is very well represented on the International Board of Directors with the following people: Amy Johnson, Director of Communications, Marie Ross, Director of Membership and Carol Jackson, Area 6 Director.

We have one new prospective chapter that is close to becoming a registered chapter that is called South Lake A Capella Chorus in the Clermont Area. They hope to become chartered so they may compete in the April 2018 Area Convention and Contests.

Area 6 is what we call “a work in progress” and still needs representation on their Area Council, so let’s get the vacant positions filled with some of the great talent in Area 6. We may be small, but we are willing to work hard to get some growth.

— Area 6 Director Carol Jackson



2017 Area 6 Champions  
Atlanta Harmony Celebration!

|      | Area 6        | Area 2        | Area 3           | Area 5      | Area 1          | Area 4       |
|------|---------------|---------------|------------------|-------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 2018 | April 20 – 22 | April 26 – 29 | May 4 – 6        | May 25 – 27 | May 31 - June 3 | June 8 - 10  |
| 2019 | April 5 - 7** | April 25 – 28 | May 3 – 5        | May 24 – 26 | May 30 - June 2 | June 7- 9    |
| 2020 | April 17 – 19 | April 23 – 26 | May 1 – 3        | May 22 - 24 | June 4 - 7      | June 12 - 14 |
| 2021 | April 16 – 18 | April 22 – 25 | April 30 - May 2 | May 28-30   | June 3-6        | June 11-13   |

\*\* indicates dates changed per HI policy to avoid conflict with Easter or Passover holiday





# Once Upon a Time

*Rain poured in torrents into the contest ballroom, but the roof didn't collapse!*

**Area 3 AC&C was the place to be.**

Area 3 is always The Place To Be when it's AC&C time! This year's AC&C was hosted by Northern Blend from Watertown, New York. AC&C was held at the Hyatt Rochester Regency Hotel in Rochester, New York. It was a new venue for us this year, but the difference was that it was all under one roof! Unfortunately, renovations at the hotel were not complete. It rained all weekend and we competed with a huge non-stop leak in the ballroom, praying that the roof didn't collapse! We all survived and it was hardly noticeable!?!?!?

Area 3 is also very fortunate to have had an ACC Team for 11 years. Special thanks go to Co-Chairs Sue Trenchard and Dorene Dickerson, Facilities Chair Denise Michaelson, Judges Services Coordinator Michelle Buckenmeyer, ACJC Nicola Stevens, Registration Chair Sharron Gilbert, PR Chair Cait Schadock, and Area 3 Director Janine Schindler who filled in as Interim Treasurer and Education Coordinator.

The theme for this year was Once Upon A Time. Although the weather in Rochester can change at a moment's notice and it isn't always warm and sunny for too long, Area 3's display of love and friendship will warm any Harmony heart! Friday night started out with Mic Testers LiveWire, Area 3's very own Harmony, Inc. 2015 Queens. After 16 quartets sung, seven qualified for International and Charisma was the new Area 3 Quartet Champion! Congratulations to Kate Kreinheder, Carol Zeffiro, Barb Yendall, and Karin Kirkham! The evening finished with performances by the Area 3 Quarus under the direction of Ron Mason, Director of Niagara Frontier Chord Authority. They sang Goodbye Medley, arranged by Tom Gentry.

Saturday showcased eight of Area 3's Choruses. Northern Blend, directed by Katie Taylor, were the Chorus Champions and walked away with the First Place Trophy. The Rising Star Award, Jean Linn Award and the Most Improved Chorus Award were all swooped up by the



2017 Area 3 Quartet Champions

## Charisma

*Kate Kreinheder, Carol Zeffiro, Barb Yendall, Karin Kirkham*

*The Rising Star Award, Jean Linn Award, the Carol McDonnell Membership Award for largest increase in membership and the Most Improved Chorus Award were all swooped up by the Liberty Belles!*

7



*She's a section leader, Music Team Member, coach, choreographer, former Area Education Coordinator, clinician, Performance category judge and a two-time quartet champion who loves Harmony!*

*Congratulations to the 2017 Kay DeLong award recipient - Lynn M. Blakeney!*

See **AREA 3**, continued next page



**AREA 3**

*continued from previous page*

Liberty Belles! Six choruses qualified for International and Harmony Falls qualified for the Silver Division Competition. The contest ended with a performance by the Family Chorus singing *When There's Love at Home*, arranged by Tom Gentry, under the direction of Roxanne Powell, and the Area 3 Chorus singing *Music Speaks Louder Than Words*, arranged by Carole Prietto, under the Direction of Katie Taylor, 2015 Harmony Queen LiveWire and Director of Northern Blend. The Family Chorus has grown significantly over the years especially as Harmony Affiliates (our "Family" men) have joined the chorus.

The Saturday evening theme-inspired *Once Upon A Time* meal at the Hyatt was awesome. The only thing better than the meal was the camaraderie and *Once Upon A Time* attire! Little Red Riding Hood, Cruella Da Ville, and Mrs. Tea Potts, you name it, and it was there! The moonglow acknowledged the

quartet medalists, active queens, our reigning queens and all of our choruses with a performance for the membership. There was also that "special" performance by the judges, but you had to see it to believe it!

In between performances Area Director Janine Schindler acknowledged many Area 3 members with their years of membership awards. The Kay DeLong Award (Kay DeLong was a longtime member of SING Niagara) was presented to a very deserving Lynn Blakeney from Northern Blend for her contributions to the members and music of Area 3. The Carol McDonnell Membership Award for largest increase in membership was presented by Karen McDonnell, Carol's daughter-in-law from Niagara Frontier Chord Authority to.....The Liberty Belles! Singing ensued after the moonglow for many hours and late into the night, or early morning.... **Area 3's The Place To Be!**

— Area 3 Director Janine Schindler



**Northern Blend Director Katie Taylor gleefully accepts the Area 3 first-place chorus trophy.**

**2017 Area 3 Chorus Champions  
Northern Blend**







to Harmony



2017 Area 2  
Champion Chorus  
**New England Voices in Harmony**



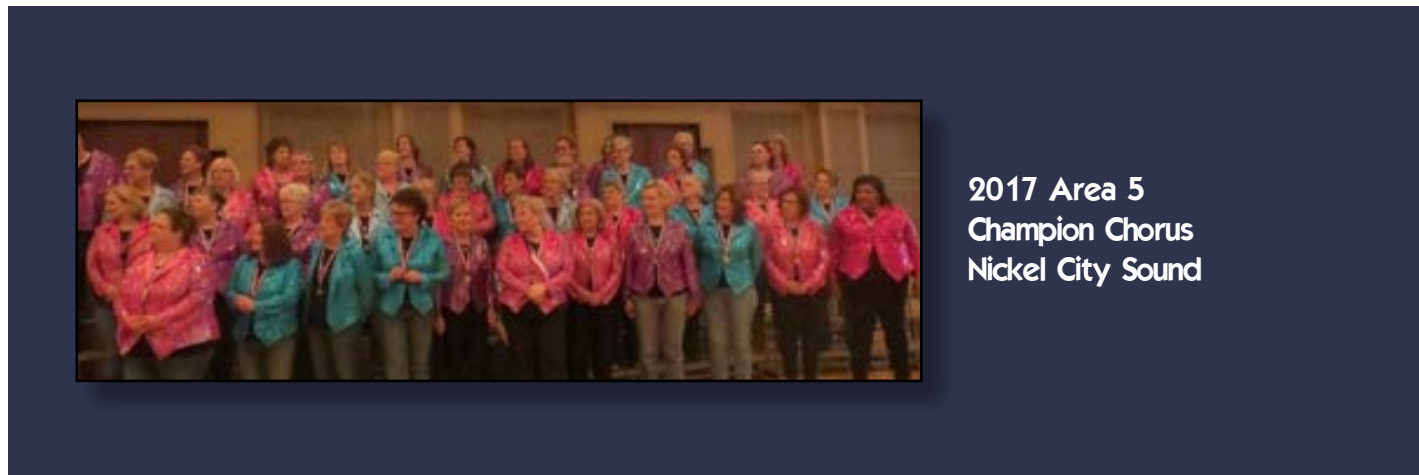
Area 2 was well-represented at Harmony University in Nashville this summer.



2017 Quartet Champions  
**Upscale**

Area 2 Council celebrates the end of the council meeting which was held in conjunction with the AC&C.

# Area 5 is growing, growing, grown!



2017 Area 5  
Champion Chorus  
Nickel City Sound

**A** C&C 2017 was very exciting in Area 5 this year, when we welcomed 6 new choruses to our area! This of course meant we have welcomed many new and exciting quartets too!

Nine quartets competed on Friday night, with Just Jump!, Skyfall, FLASHPOINT, Shirahz, High Five, Nuance and Bluebird qualifying to compete at IC&C in Halifax. Congratulations to the award winners, Kindred Spirits (Kathleen Racicot Award of Encouragement), Odyssey (Louise Malison Memorial Quartet Award), and Just Jump! (Val Mullin Memorial Award).

Saturday afternoon saw the largest chorus contest Area 5 has ever had. It started with the 2016 International Champion chorus, A Cappella Showcase testing the microphones. Then 261 singers crossed the stage and gave it their best. Nickel City Sound came out on top, and will join The Sugartones, Toronto Accolades, and The Over Tones, Inc. on the international stage in Halifax. The Chord Spinners, Shades of Harmony, Classic Blend, Sing Niagara, and Skyway Connection Chorus also qualified for the Silver Division contest at IC&C.

The Moonglow saw us all heading back to high school, and attending the Harmony High Prom. We had jocks, nerds, the drama club, and many other groups represented. Thanks to the Chord Spinners for organizing an exciting evening!

After 3 great years at Nottawasaga Inn in Alliston, we are moving on. In 2018 our centralized AC&C will be held at the Delta Toronto East at Kennedy Road and the 401 in Scarborough and we will be welcoming The Capital Chordettes as they join Area 5 for their first contest in their new Area.

— Area 5 Director Patricia Cassidy



2017 Area 5 Champion quartet, Just Jump!



A crowd shot at the  
Harmony High School Prom

Area 1  
**Colours  
 our  
 World**  
 with music!

“When you’re  
 with good  
 friends doing a  
 hobby you love  
 it’s win-win!”

— Anna Tapper,  
 Newfound Sound



Judges remind contestants that "gold" may also improve your score at the Area 1 moon glow.

As a member of Harmony and as the Area Director for Area 1, I am touched by the generosity of our members. Yes, we are a singing organization. We are also an educational organization that celebrates a cappella singing and sharing that music both within our communities and with each other. These things are so important, but there is so much more! We are committed to learning and growing and finding our voice, but that doesn't just happen on the risers.

**Harmony from our hearts**

Members across the Atlantic provinces are spreading "Harmony from the heart" in so many ways. Choruses, quartets, and even individuals give to their communities both in time and resources. Community food banks, shelters, and a variety of charitable organization to mention a few have

benefited by the generosity of our members.

Here are just a few of the many special moments this past spring:

- ScotianAires president Deb Bradley presented a donation to Brigadoon Village. Brigadoon Village offers twelve camps, each designed to accommodate a specific chronic illness, condition or special need – the latest program is Camp BELIEVE for children who have a parent living with mental illness.
- Sea Belles A Cappella Chorus donated a percent of their profits from their annual Spring Fashion Show and auction of several local art pieces to support Romero House and Sophia Recovery Center.
- A portion of proceeds from the "Decades of Song" concert by Island A Cappella was used to support the Treble Tremors, a local music therapy program provided by the PEI

chapter of Parkinson, Canada.

- Newfound Sound was pleased to donate to the Air Daffodil program in memory of their treasured member **Elaine Sparkes**. This program uses its funds to help offset expenses for patients who must travel from Labrador to St. John's for cancer treatment.

**Harmony from the risers**

While the harmony from our hearts was flowing freely, so was the harmony from the risers! Throughout the Area there were many events promoting our art. Janet Kidd, director for Sea Belles held a workshop on a cappella singing at an elementary school and Linda Brehaut, Valley Voices met with a few local ladies' auxiliary groups to share the health benefits of singing. A few

See **AREA 1**, continued next page



**2017 Area1 Champion  
 Tonic!**

Mary Gareau (Tenor), Adele Merritt (Bass),  
 Marion Fraser-Pritchard (Lead) and Cathy  
 Hunter (Bari).

AREA 1

continued from previous page

choruses took part in Canada 150 celebrations.

As an Area, we kicked off the spring with our Sing into Spring Event which highlighted quartet singing as well as small ensembles. We were fortunate to be coached by **Sue Kember**, recently certified as a Singing Judge, and **Jill Reid**, a Performance Category candidate. We do our best to keep Newfound Sound involved despite the geographic distance between us, and we're thrilled to be able to use technology so they could spend the day with us! **Anna Tapper** of Newfound Sound shared that, "they had a great day singing together and with more than 30 of our harmony sisters in Moncton via Skype. We had two wonderful coaches giving great advice and tips, we learned a new song and had fun too. When you're with good friends doing a hobby you love it's win-win!"

**Education is the key**

Harmony is true to their word when they say we are an educational organization! The **Direc-**



SUE KEMBER

Six Area 1 members attend Harmony U.: Jill Reid, Cathy Hunter, Mary Gareau, Adele Merritt, Marion Fraser-Pritchard and Sue Kember.



Sea Belles perform at Saint John Library Bibliofest in May.



tors First campaign, which has a goal to send a musical leader from every Harmony Incorporated chapter to Harmony University over the next 5 years, is off and running. The **ScotianAires** were pleased to have their director, **Sue Kember** be one of the successful applicants.

This year, **Jill Reid**, ScotianAires and candidate in the Performance category also attended Harmony U with a Sing Canada Scholarship.

She shared this about her experience: "What a phenomenal experience.....Nearly 1,000 barbershoppers living, learning, and making music together is nothing short of life-altering. ....The faculty is second-to-none and provided a con-

stant environment of positive feedback while helping every attendee improve in a multitude of ways, and come to a realization of each one's own opportunities to positively impact our individual areas. I am so thankful to Sing Canada for their scholarship support for me to attend HU again this year."

The Area 1 Council voted to support the Directors first campaign by donating the money from the 50/50 tickets sold at AC&C 2017 – we were please to send off a cheque on behalf of Area 1 for just over \$500 to Sing Canada!



**"Together, proud and strong"**

AC&C was just around the corner where we would "Colour our World" with music! What an honour to spend 4 days with such wonderful women! (and a few men too!!) We were excited to qualify 3 quartets (Tonic!, Gotta Sing!!!, and enJOY!) and 4 choruses (ScotianAires, Sea Belles, Valley Voices and Elm City Echoes) and were thrilled to have Island A Cappella qualify for the Silver Division!

We often talk about membership as a common goal for chapters; it was so encouraging to pres-



**Area 1 Director Linda Brehaut presents a 50-year membership certificate to Judy Comeau at this year's AC&C.**

ent to Island A Cappella for the second year in a row, the Area 1 membership award with a 27% increase in membership! What an honour it was to present membership certificates on behalf of Harmony Incorporated to 18 of our members, with two of them celebrating 40 years of membership with Harmony, Inc.

**Vangie Mofford** of the **Sea Belles** had this to say about receiving her 40 year certificate: "I was thrilled to receive this certificate from Harmony, Inc. It has been a most rewarding 40 years belonging to this great organization. I have served on the International Board and the Area 1 Council and I have had the privilege and pleasure of working with wonderful, caring women. This organization certainly brought me out of my shell, and I hope I am around many more years of singing "Harmony From Our Hearts".

**Codiac Chords** presented their outgoing president **Winnie Belliveau** with a plaque and engraved gift in recognition of her 40 years of

See **AREA 1**, continued next page



**AREA 1**

*continued from previous page*

exemplary service and dedication to the Codiac Chords. Thank you, Winnie!

Area 1 also celebrated a milestone for another member of Harmony Inc. at our AC&C. We had the pleasure of celebrating with a lady who is no stranger to this Area. While she is a member of Area 5, but was not in Ontario for their AC&C, I had the privilege of presenting **Judy Comeau** with her 50-year membership certificate. Judy is certainly an honoured member of Area 1. Joining Harmony in 1967, Judy became the first Area 1 representative in 1969 – 1970 and the founder of two Area 1 Choruses, the **Chaleur Echoes** in Dalhousie, NB and the **Nova Chords** in Yarmouth, NS both in 1970. At the time, the Atlantic provinces were designated as Area 5 and only the Sea Belles and the **Cumberland Choristers** from Springhill, NS had chartered. It would be sufficient to say that not only are Judy's Harmony roots in Area 1 so, too, is her Heart!

**Area 1 Convention and Contests**

At AC&C 2017 we shared a message taken from a children's story book called *The Crayon Box That Talked* by Shane DeRolf. The last lines in this little story really sums up what we are all about.

"We are a box of crayons each one of us unique. But when we get together the picture is more complete."

Area 1 is a work of art because of the individual people that have "brought themselves to the paper" and added their own colour to the masterpiece! I am honoured to be a crayon in this crazy box of colours! Together we help to define Harmony Incorporated as our masterpiece!

As the fall comes around, more Find Your Voice programs are starting up and Christmas performances are finding their way to the calendars. While **Island A Cappella** transitions from their Summer Singing Circles to regular rehearsals, Codiac Chords

are kick-starting their fall with their annual Find Your Voice program, headed by Codiac Chords director **Mary Norrad** from Sept. 19 through Oct. 17 and the second edition of "Christmas with the Codiac Chords" – an upbeat fundraising event filled with skits, songs, and sweet holiday treats! (Nov. 26, location TBD).

For many of us, our attention is shifting to IC&C – Area 1 is so pleased to have Harmony Incorporated join us in Halifax for IC&C 2017! We will put in a request for good travelling weather and trust that you will be warmed by the maritime hospitality when you arrive.

You will no doubt have an opportunity to hear **Marion Fraser-Pritchard** on the bag pipes (when she is not singing with her chorus ScotianAires or her quartet Tonic!).

Our heartfelt welcome to everyone as you begin to make your travel plans to join us in Halifax this November!

— *By Linda Brehaut*



**CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Valley Voices impersonate a box of crayons. Island Acappella won the membership award for the second year in a row with a 27% increase - meet their new members! Newfound Sound supports a local cancer program (Patsy Kelly, June Cussens, Alexandra Stapleton-Community Resource Coordinator from Daffodil Place, and Anna Tapper). ScotianAires president Deb Bradley presents a donation to Brigadoon Village. Just six weeks until IC&C in Halifax! Marion Fraser-Pritchard pipes the assembly in to the feast at Area 1 AC&C.**



*Bearded ladies under the big top!*



*First Place Medalists Village Vocal Chords lift their voices in song.*

Area 4 celebrates under the

**Big Top**

Area 4 members are still talking about the greatest show on earth! This year's AC&C theme was "Big Top Harmony" and everyone embraced the theme and made it a memorable experience for all.

Highlights of the weekend included the presentation of the Area 4 Membership Award (increase of membership this year) to Harmony Magic by Area 4 Director, Betty Gunterman at our annual membership meeting. We also announced our financial support of ALL six Area 4 directors, four of whom have received scholarships† from the Director's First campaign:

- †Janice Westphal, Sound Celebration
- †Sara Stone, Covered Bridge Harmony
- †Pam Ringo, Bluegrass Harmony
- †Randy Parish-Bell, California Note Catchers
- Janet Foster, Harmony Magic
- Maria Kolano, Misty River Music Makers

The highlight of the weekend was an exciting chorus and quartet competition. Area 4 had 3 choruses, 3 quartets and 1 silver qualifier for IC&C! Way to go, Ladies!

The following awards were presented:

- First Place Chorus – Village Vocal Chords
- Qualifying Choruses – Village Vocal Chords, Bluegrass Harmony, and Harmony Magic
- Qualifying Quartets – Low Key, T4, and With A Twist
- Silver Division Qualifying Chorus – Sound Celebration
- Most Improved Chorus Award – Harmony Magic
- Nancy Stephenson Memorial Trophy (Highest Ranking Small Chorus) – Bluegrass Harmony
- First Place Quartet – Low Key
- Change of Heart Achievement Award (Most Improved) – Low Key
- Kaleidoscope Entertainment Award – Low Key
- Best in Show Award (Most Entertaining Act at Moonglow based on theme) – Harmony Magic

The weekend culminated with an entertaining Moonglow where our members stepped right up by dressing in outrageous costumes and delighted us with entertaining songs!



*TOP: Jeanne O'Connor poses with first place medalists and multiple award winner Low Key.*

*Area 4 Director, Betty Gunterman presents the Membership Award to Harmony Magic.*



By Roxanne Powell  
VP Education

# Join us in the Directors First Education Campaign

## We Did It!

Nine Harmony Directors/music leaders attended HARMONY UNIVERSITY in July courtesy of the hundreds of donors to the Directors First initiative in the U.S. and Sing Canada Harmony. They were immersed in a week-long learning experience where they expanded their knowledge and raised their skills to new heights, to better serve their home chapters.

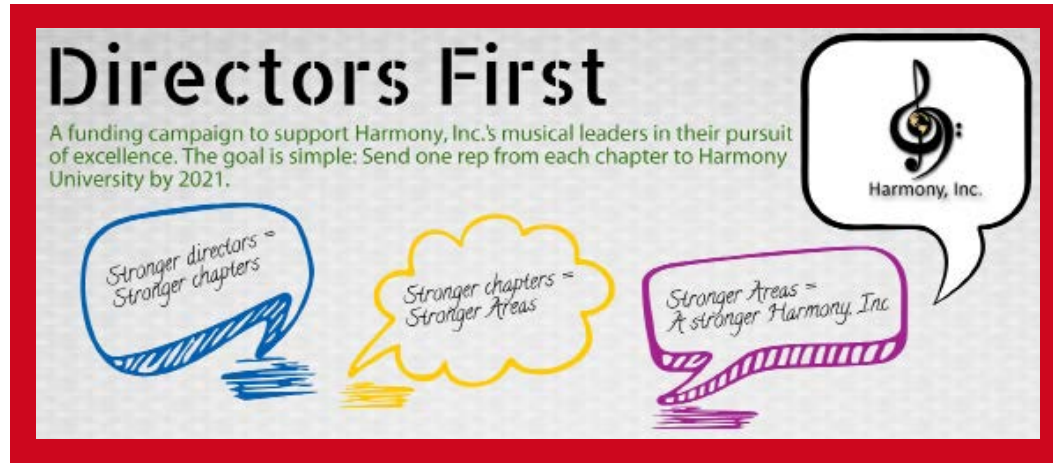
“Harmony University is AMAZING!” exclaimed Bluegrass Harmony Director Pam Ringo in a Facebook post. “My favorite two classes so far, were my last of the day yesterday with Larry Dodge, which was Melding Techniques for Directors (SO much GREAT STUFF) and my lunchtime elective with the wonderfully awesome Kim Wonders, where I learned SO much I can take back and immediately share with my Bluegrass Harmony girls next week! WOW! What a blessing from Harmony, Incorporated for giving me this opportunity!”

Harmony, Inc. members have long known that the strength of our organization rests in the hands of our musical directors. Strong directors contribute to strong chapters, which are the basis for strong Areas and a strong international organization.

We are off and running.

Now we need to build momentum for Class Two.

I’m reaching out to ask you personally to consider giving to this campaign. Your contribution can be \$5 or \$50 or \$500, or any amount you’re inspired to contribute. If each member donates just \$5 per year to the Directors First campaign in these five years, we will be able to send one director or musical leader from each chapter in Harmony, Inc. — including yours.



I implore you to visit the Directors First page of the Harmony, Inc. website to learn more about the program and how to contribute. Show the video at your chorus rehearsal. Host a contest to see if each member could skip a cup of coffee or a dinner out in order to help Harmony, Inc. reach its goal. Your efforts will be rewarded because your director or one of the musical leaders in your chapter will be heading off to Harmony University sometime in the coming years.

With your help, we will send 12 more Harmony, Inc. musical leaders to Harmony University in 2018. And then another 12 in 2019. You get the idea! Watch the Directors First webpage to see our progress in reaching our goal. By 2021, we aim to have sent more than 60 representatives from Harmony, Inc. to Harmony University. We can do it!

Curious? For more information about how to donate, the progress of the campaign, or how your director can apply for the resulting scholarships, visit the Directors First webpage at [www.harmonyinc.org/directors-first/](http://www.harmonyinc.org/directors-first/).

Watch the video. Learn about the program. Organize your donation.

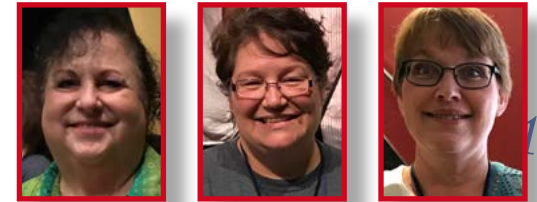
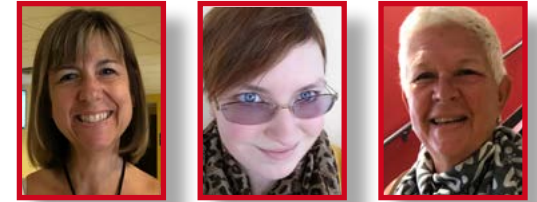
Watch Harmony, Inc. grow and flourish. It all seems pretty simple when we put our directors first, doesn't it?

## HONOR ROLL

The following Areas/Chapters/Quartets supported Directors First with a chapter donation in addition to what their individual members were already giving. Thank you, ladies, for believing and supporting!

Over \$500  
California Note Catchers  
Bella Nova  
Area 1

\$50 - \$500  
Area 4  
Harmony Falls  
Niagara Frontier Chord Authority  
Bluegrass Harmony  
Harmony Magic  
Covered Bridge Harmony  
Toronto Accolades  
Relative Pitch Quartet  
Rochester Rhapsody



**DIRECTORS FIRST CLASS ONE – (L-R from TOP) Bonnie-Sue Bonell-Dowdall, Baytones Harmony; Susanna Kember, ScotianAires; Sara Stone, Covered Bridge Harmony; Wendy Arnold, Toronto Accolades; Christina Tramack (inset), New England Voices in Harmony; Janice Westphal, Sound Celebration; Randy Parish-Bell, California Note Catchers; Pam Ringo, Bluegrass Harmony; Nancy Oliver, Harmony Falls are the leading edge of Harmony, Inc.'s five-year initiative to send a musical leader from each Harmony chapter to Harmony University on scholarship.**

Stronger directors = stronger chapters = stronger Areas = stronger Harmony, Inc.



# Harmony goes to Harmony University

**W**hat a phenomenal experience attending my third Harmony University on the beautiful Belmont campus in Nashville! Nearly 1,000 barbershoppers living, learning, and making music together is nothing short of life-altering. So wonderful to catch up with old friends and embrace the new. We had the chance to meet and interact with barbershoppers from around the world, from all levels of performing.

The faculty is second-to-none and provided a constant environment of positive feedback while helping every attendee improve in a multitude of ways, and come to a realization of each one's own opportunities to positively impact our individual areas. I am so thankful to Sing Canada for their scholarship support for me to attend HU again this year.

## Diving in

Each day began with a General Session for all, encompassing a physical warm-up, vocal warm-up, tweaking and performing a song, and learning a new tag. These were led by a variety of faculty members and are not to be missed as the sessions offer a wealth of take-aways to be shared at home.

I had the honor and privilege of being enrolled in the Performing Arts College stream, which included being an apprentice in the Coaching Apprentice Program. Watching and learning from the fabulous Gene Spilker, and being able to do some hands-on coaching with ensembles from around the globe, was absolutely amazing.

We even had the entire barbershop delegation from Istanbul, Turkey in our group. They formed after watching barbershop videos on YouTube! These fellows took home the foundation to build a strong barbershop organization in that country.

Another group was comprised of two German residents, a Belgian, and a fellow living in Holland — how's that for variety? All four of the ensembles in my "pod" were remarkable in their unique ways, which allowed me to learn methods of coaching diverse groups with varying needs.

## Honors Chorus

This year marked the second year of the HU Women's Honor Chorus, and I was one of those blessed with the

“... always more to learn and new ways to improve the craft

opportunity to sing with these ladies. We met every day to work on three pre-prepared songs with a goal of bringing them to life for the entire college during the Saturday night show.

I don't think it's a stretch to say that we were definitely a highlight of the evening! Under the direction of the amazing Mo Field, with section help from Sweet Lucy quartet, we rocked the house on Saturday, and also performed a lovely tune with the Men's Honor Chorus. This was a very empowering experience for all involved.

## So much to choose from!

Other sessions on my schedule throughout the week included: Making Distinctions at the A Level; Voice Lessons Under Glass; A Level Rehearsal Techniques; Make a Compelling Visual Plan; Master Class with the Performing Arts College; Emotional Intelligence and Effective Leadership; as well as a Private Voice Lesson. All offered great information for me to use in my barbershop journey.

## Global barbershop family

Harmony University is like a big family reunion, with a bit of education thrown in! Without exception, everyone is welcomed into the fold and new friends become comfortable companions in a very short time. For barbershoppers, this is a must-go event at least once, but you'll be hard pressed to keep yourself from returning at every opportunity. It's addictive!

For music educators, you'll never be the same again! Barbershop is not what you may think and I challenge you to attend and not want to jump into this "hobby". I, for one, am already saving my nickels (no pennies in Canada these days!) and hope to return to HU next year as there is always more to learn and new ways to improve the craft, and I can't wait to be reunited with my global barbershop family!

— By Jill Reid



# California Note Catchers answer a challenge

When Harmony, Inc announced their Directors First program it was music to the ears of the California Note Catchers. The idea of supporting scholarships to send chorus directors to Harmony University touched our hearts as well as our wallets and the chapter began collecting donations.

With the idea to spark even more enthusiasm, five members put out a challenge to the chorus that they would match dollar-for-dollar all donations made during the month of March.

The California Note Catchers took the suggestion to donate \$5 per member each year for the next five years to heart. On April 13, our 20-member chapter sent a

check to Harmony, Inc for the Directors First program. Our total donation was \$600, which included the funds collected during the month of March, an on-line donation by one member, and the matching funds from our five challenge members.

Like all Harmony choruses, education is something the Note Catchers value. This last February we organized a Saturday retreat and invited three-time International Quartet Champion Lindsay Chartier-Holdeman to come to California and coach our chorus and quartets. It was a wonderful day full of laughter, singing, questions, and much appreciated feedback with 100% of our active members participating!

— By Annette Draper and Anne Colt



## The Harmony Creed

*Harmony from our hearts, as well as voices;*

*Affection for each other, oft expressed;*

*Radiant with our love of barbershop;*

*Mindful of our principles and ideals;*

*Outstretched hands to every race and creed;*

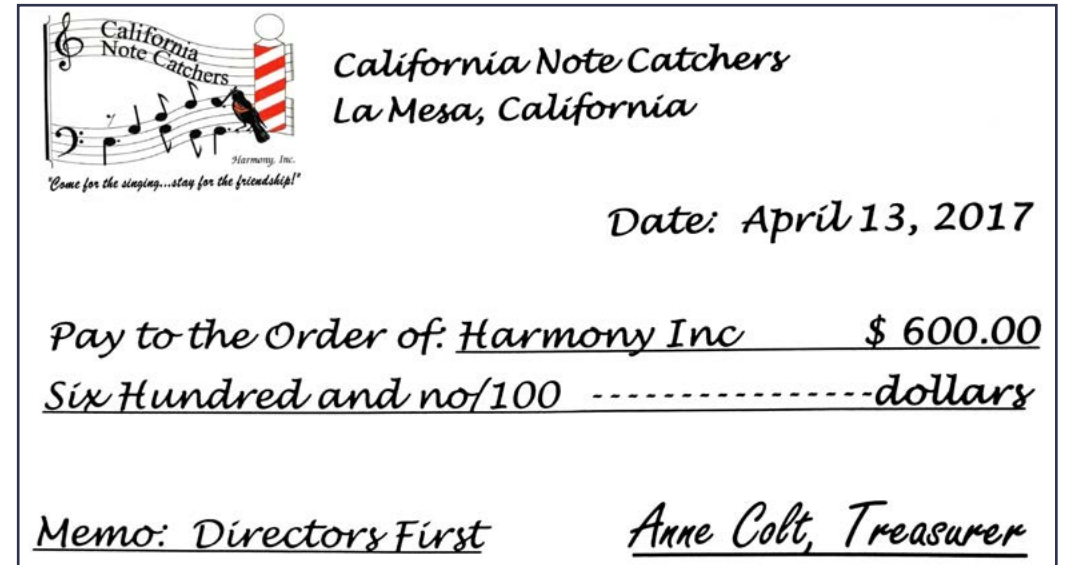
*Neatness in our dress and in our thinking;*

*Young in heart, for singing keeps us young;*

*Inspired with our desire to grow and flourish;*

*Nourished by devotion to our music;*

*Constructive in our work for Harmony, Incorporated*





## Surprise!

### Trip to Golden Gate State brings unannounced visit from Prez Christina

The California Note Catchers' summer has been full of activity. One big event was the surprise visit of Harmony, Inc. President, Christina Lewellen, at our rehearsal on Monday, July 24. We loved having her sing with us and learning a new tag. And it was exciting to hear first-hand the Harmony Inc.'s vision and future plans for the organization. Coincidentally, our director, Randy Parrish-Bell, had flown to Nashville the day before to attend a week of classes at Harmony University on a Harmony Inc. Directors First scholarship, so our assistant director, Lisa Hohman, lead the rehearsal.

Along with a busy rehearsal schedule, there have been performances as well. The chorus sang at a combined three-city Relay For Life benefit, a rehab facility, several retirement homes, an Eastern Star banquet, Alpine History Day (a city founded in the 1870's), and livened-up a library on a Sunday afternoon. We had a successful "Summer Harmonies" show with the chorus and four quartets performing in June with, what else, a barbershop theme.

Our holiday show is planned for December, and we already have several performances scheduled in what looks to be a busy holiday season. To see pictures of the chorus in action visit our web site at [www.californianotecatchers.com](http://www.californianotecatchers.com)

## Nickel City Sound celebrates 20 years

It was a great celebration as current and past members of Nickel City Sound gathered June 27 to celebrate 20 years of friendship and harmony!

We enjoyed a great meal, and were entertained by our chapter quartets, Kindred Spirits, Random Antics, and Encore. We also had several past quartets reunite for a song or two.

Dedication and commitment to our craft make us sound good, but love, joy, and harmony keeps us together.

Cheers to our next 20 years!



*California Note Catchers sing in the local library.*



HARMONY HERITAGE AT 2017 AREA 2 AC&amp;C.

# ◆ ◆ ◆ and the show goes on with Harmony Heritage

Post Providence IC&C has been very busy!

Since we welcomed our friends and sisters in Harmony to Providence, RI for the 2016 IC&C, it has been quite a ride!

## Reaching Out

Immediately following the November convention, our holiday performance schedule began to fill up. In addition to our regular performances at nursing homes and assisted living facilities, an informational postcard and a chance conversation with the pastor of St. Kevin's Church in Warwick, RI resulted in an invitation to share our holiday repertoire with an audience of hundreds at the church's Annual Holiday Concert. We were thrilled to be included in the program. Thanks to Jean Wylie for having that conversation and also to Sounds of the Seacoast for sharing the postcard idea – a picture really is worth a thousand words!

January brought surprises of another sort when we learned of the approval of not one, but both grant applications from the Rhode Island State Council on the Arts and the Seekonk Arts Council/Massachusetts Cultural Council. The grants have enabled us to reach into our communities at area libraries with a series of "Teach-In, Sing-Out" harmony workshops, where we shared our love of barbershop, demonstrated the unique way the parts work together, and invited our audiences to experience the harmony from the inside by participating in some tags. Barbara-Ann MacIntosh, Dianne Clark and our Director Bob O'Connell all shared with our audiences the finer points of four-part a cappella and the rich history of our art form. Three workshops have taken place in the first half of 2017, and we look forward to

presenting the program again at the Seekonk Public Library on September 13.

## Rising Star

Our 1940's themed contest package was very well received at the Area 2 AC&C in late April, and to our surprise and delight, earned for us the Rising Star Award, given to the chorus showing the most improvement in score from the previous year. We also qualified for IC&C's Silver Division. We are honored to be in the company of past recipients and plan to return in 2018 with an even stronger performance.

AREA 2  
RISING STAR AWARD

## Members

In March we welcomed new member Kathy Rasicot to our Bass section and were excited to welcome back Bari Suzanne Misunas.



BETTY TRELOAR

Both Kathy and Suzanne were able to join us for Area 2 AC&C the following month. In May we unexpectedly lost our dear friend Betty Treloar, a 45-year member of Harmony, Inc. Betty contributed so much to the chorus over the decades, and her absence is keenly felt. In July we bid a fond

farewell to Cheryl Copeland-Lewis, who landed her dream job at Disneyworld in Orlando. Cheryl served the chorus officially as Treasurer and unofficially in

See HARMONY HERITAGE, continued next page

**HARMONY HERITAGE**

*continued from previous page*

a dozen other capacities since joining in 2014. While we miss her quick wit and her mischievous sense of humor, we wish her every success in her new job and with her new chorus, Sisters of Sound, in Claremont, Florida. Said Cheryl, “I’ve warned them that I’m coming!” We currently have two new singers who are possible members.

**Summer Fun**

On June 21 and July 18, members of Notable Blend, in Easton, Mass., as well as other friends, family and HH “alumni” joined us in our annual performances of the National Anthem at the Pawtucket Red Sox game at McCoy Stadium in Pawtucket, RI. Says President Anne Diggle, “It’s just about the coolest thing we do!”

July 18 was also the day that we welcomed back our Director Bob O’Connell from a six week hiatus as “Oliver Hix” in Theatre by the Sea’s The Music Man. In this professional production, Bob was joined by award winning barber-shoppers Joe Connelly, Mike Maino and Jamie Jones in their ever-expanding roles as River City school committee, townspeople and salesmen on the train. We are very proud of the quartet’s performance. Much appreciation goes to Dianne Clark and Barbara-Ann MacIntosh for directing our chorus during this time.

Five in our chorus joined with other Area 2 chorus members in the August 19th Flash Mob coordinated by Women of Note. Under the direction of Angie Dober, over 60 singers converged on and delighted unsuspecting shoppers at the Solomon Pond Mall in Marlborough, Massachusetts.

**Looking ahead**

We have much new music in the works and many events planned in the months ahead, including an inter-chapter night with Notable Blend chorus, some special coaching, numerous holiday performances and an inter-chapter show in March. While we will miss everyone in Halifax, we have chosen to focus our resources on our craft so that we can come back to AC&C 2018 better than ever. We wish everyone a wonderful performance in November!

— *By Jeanne Chapman, Harmony Heritage PR Chair*



*Audience members join in the fun at the Rochambeau Library, Providence, RI.*



**NoteAble Blend sings National Anthem with Harmony Heritage**

NoteAble Blend has had a busy and fun summer! We sang the National Anthem with Harmony Heritage for two Paw Sox Games in Pawtucket, RI, and enjoying free tickets to watch the game afterwards!

We also performed at Crazy Days in Middleboro on August 5, where we had a competition with train whistles in the rain. We won!

We joined in with Women of Note for a Flash Mob August 19, singing Something Inside So Strong with Angie Dolber directing.

As fall is rearing its multi-colored head, we are saving “treasures” to sell at our Fall Yard Sale September 16 in Taunton, Mass. Come and get some of them!



## Party in the Park

### Crystal Chords picnic grows to include five barbershop choruses

This past June, Crystal Chords of Corning/ Elmira NY decided to have a picnic at one of our local parks after members had voiced their desire to have a social get-together. A couple of our members, Lynda Pallone, and Emily Wheeler offered to put it together. And then it grew.

We decided to invite our sister Chorus, Harmony Falls, to join us as well as the Mark Twain Men's Chorus. We work closely with them every year to put on a joint Barbershop Show each October. Soon, Mark Twain asked if we could include another men's chorus in our area, the Painted Post Arrowhead Chorus. They, in turn, asked to invite Hornell's Maple City Chorus! We now had a whopping five barbershop choruses getting together to share their love of music, and of course, food!

After everyone filled up on the huge variety of delectable dishes to pass, we all gathered to sing. We learned some tags to sing together, and then some of the individual choruses entertained us as well.

As we looked around, it was obvious that although we were five individual choruses, we were united as one in our love of Barbershop. Our voices rang out among the beautiful trees and rushing water in the Havana Glen Park. Our kids played games, and enjoyed the sunshine; our respective spouses mingled and conversed. These people are our biggest supporters and fans.

We made so many new friends, making this First Annual Picnic a huge success. We are already working on plans for next summer!

## Island A Cappella rejoices in Silver Division invitation Maritime chorus sees major jump in membership

Island A Cappella (IAC), Prince Edward Island, Canada, had a busy year and saw a 27 percent increase in membership. We were excited to win the Area 1 Membership award for 2016-17. Pictured are our new members at Area 1's crazy fun night!

In 2017, IAC celebrated its 35th anniversary with Harmony, Inc! We were so happy to celebrate this event with two charter members who are still members of Harmony, Inc., Joan MacDonald and Gloria O'Rourke.

IAC also received funding from Sing Canada Harmony to help us bring to PEI bel canto coach Debra Lynn. What a wonderful weekend of learning and fun we had with her! Thank you to Sing Canada Harmony for making this possible and a big thanks to Debra for sharing her knowledge with us.

IAC was thrilled to receive the 2017 Karen Gordon Memorial Scholarship Fund! The \$1,000 will be used for coaching. A heartfelt thank you to the ScotianAires for remembering Karen in this wonderful, educational way.

This summer, IAC has planned four casual get-togethers where we meet and sing. It's extra fun because we get to sing our warm-ups and tags in different parts.

IAC is looking forward to participating in the Silver Division at IC&C in November. Since the majority of our members have never been to or participated in an International, it will be an event to remember. Seeing the best in Harmony Inc. so close to home is something we do not want to miss. We wish all the competitors the very best.

*Island A Cappella's new members smile for the camera.*





Annie Bradley Ermlick, Dave Ermlick, Marcie Miller, Deke Sharon, Judy Rector, and John Rector pose on the Harmony of the Seas cruise.

## Bella Nova members sail on Harmony of the Seas

### *Three on the Sea in Harmony*

**B**ella Nova members Annie Bradley Ermlick, Marcie Miller, and Judy Rector had the opportunity to sail with some of barbershop's greatest this past spring. All over the country, friends and strangers of different ages, men and women from many barbershop choruses, came together to share in a truly magical week on Harmony of the Seas.

Rehearsals for this "flash chorus" were interspersed with the usual cruise amenities and meals (lots of meals!), culminating with a show on the final evening in the ship's Royal Theatre.

Led by Directors Deke Sharon and Tony De Rosa, members of Sweet Adelines International, Harmony, Incorporated

and the Barbershop Harmony Society learned music that included both pop and barbershop arrangements.

From the first rehearsal, strangers gladly joined voices in harmony and began bringing the songs they had learned to life. It was amazing how quickly the performance came together. And as the music progressed, new friendships developed.

Being part of this experience and having the opportunity to be a part of something greater than the sum was a magically moving experience. We all left in high spirits, with some new skills and feeling that we had had the time of our lives.

— *By Judy Rector* 22

## Atlanta Harmony Celebration!

### introduces new singers to barbershop

Atlanta Harmony Celebration! enjoyed another fun filled, well organized AC&C experience. Area 6 really knows how to run a great contest, and we are proud to once again represent our area at IC&C in November!

During the months following contest, AHC! took our singing out into the community to many of our favorite places such as Barefoot in the Park Festival and Brookdale Roswell Senior Living Community. In an effort to reach different segments of the population and as a means of recruitment, AHC! developed a fun and carefree program to introduce and educate high school aged young ladies

to the barbershop art form. The event was held for the first time this summer.

The AHC! Chord Camp offered students the opportunity to sing with AHC! during the summer months and experience the a cappella style of barbershop harmony. The invitation required no commitments and allowed participants to experience tips in vocal production, breathing, enhanced performance techniques, and to simply enjoy some "good ole' a cappella singing"!

After we advertised the event to metro Atlanta high schools, three young ladies expressed Inter-

est, and one young lady, Ava Malouf, ultimately continued participating throughout the summer. She eventually became an official member of AHC! and Harmony, Inc. Ava came to us from the Dekalb School of the Arts. A remarkable young lady, Ava will continue her education in Scotland this fall. Though we are sad to see her go, she has already been contacted by a member of LABBS. Congratulations, Ava!

Additionally, AHC! welcomes Karen White, our newest baritone, and Blair McKinney, our newest Tenor. Karen's interest in our chorus sparked when she heard us perform at Barefoot in the

Park, and Blair was invited by current member Melinda Brunson. Welcome aboard, Karen and Blair!

The AHC! Chord Camp culminating event occurred on July 27 with an evening of entertainment by our chorus, several quartets, and special guests, the Stone Mountain Men's Chorus. A tremendous thank you to Denise Bourg for her dedication and hard work in making our first Chord Camp a success. What a fun way to wrap up the summer! AHC! continues to spread the joy of Harmony!



*Renee Tramack coaches Harmony in Motion singers in sustained, supported tone using heavy duty rubber bands, at the BHS Mid-Atlantic District's Harmony College East, a 3-day music school open to barbershoppers and a cappella singers of all persuasions. Everyone in harmony!*

# Harmony College East

*Renee Tramack coaches Harmony in Motion at intense weekend barbershop school*



New Jersey's chapter of Harmony, Inc., Harmony in Motion, was recently changed to become part of Area 3. Unfortunately, we were not able to attend their AC&C in May because of a conflict with our annual retreat already scheduled for the same time period. We did, however, have an extremely informative and intense weekend of coaching under the direction and guidance of Area 2's award-winning director, Renee Tramack. She shared her talents and expertise with us throughout the weekend, and along with working hard, we had some fun together!

In June, nine of our members took advantage of an educational opportunity at McDaniel College in Maryland, where Harmony College East was sponsored by the Mid-Atlantic Barbershop Harmony Society. Along with various educational classes in our field of music, several of the group also participated in the mixed Harmony College Combined Chorus under the direction of Rob Mance. Along with learning many of his techniques, the group also performed on stage with the combined chorus at their Saturday evening show. What a thrill! We also had the opportunity to meet, greet, and sing with some new friends from other chapters of Harmony, Inc. and the BHS members who attended.

In July, Harmony in Motion held their annual free outdoor performance at Lake Owassa, one of the lake communities in northwest NJ. It was a beautiful setting and some of our audience came by boats, while others

enjoyed the evening of music in the backyard adjacent to the lake. And some of our new friends in Area 3, who we first met at Harmony College, even traveled from PA to see us. Later we enjoyed some social time together, and of course, some more singing! In early September, we will again be singing some patriotic songs during the flag-raising at the annual "Tee It Up For the Troops", a golfing fund-raiser for the military. We are proud to be a part of this special event!

**Come see the show!**

The culmination of over a year's worth of planning will take place on Sunday afternoon, September 17 at Kittatinny Regional High School, where Harmony in Motion will be presenting their biennial big show, "A Jersey Journey", at 3 p.m. We have been working hard on all details of this musical trip through the Garden State, and we look forward to sharing this special event with our audience. Along with songs by our chorus and several of our quartets, we will also have the award-winning Gimme Four as our featured men's quartet. We're sure our audience will be pleased!



*Mary Norrad presents an engraved snowglobe to out-going president Winnie Belliveau in recognition of her 40 years of exemplary service.*

## Codiac Chords sing at International Women's Day Event

The Codiac Chords have had another busy year. In March 2017, the chorus sang for an International Women's Day event in Elgin. Several members participated in the Spring Sing in Peticodiac in April before rolling up our sleeves to get ready for Contest at AC&C in June. The convention proved to be not only a great learning experience, but an awesome time for all participating members!

During our Installations Meeting in June, Director Mary Norrad pre-

sented a plaque to outgoing President Winnie Belliveau in recognition of Winnie's 40 years of exemplary service to the Codiac Chords. Winnie was also presented a beautiful engraved gift as a token of our appreciation for her decades of hard work and dedication to the chorus. Thank you, Winnie!

Also, congratulations to Huguette Grant for 25 years with Harmony Incorporated!

Wishing all a safe, warm, happy summer/fall from the Codiac Chords.

## CHAPTERS



*Covered Bridge Harmony transform from 1890s townsfolk on stage to clowns at moon-glow.*



## Split personalities

Covered Bridge Harmony was "all dolled up" for their "Hello, Dolly" package, which included the songs It Only Takes a Moment and Before the Parade Passes By.

"We really love to dress and play the part when it comes to singing songs," says President Denise Thede.

With attitudes that mimicked Dolly Levi, herself, as well as the townsfolk of Yonkers, New York, Covered Bridge Harmony paraded in costumes as men, women, and children from the 1890s. Then, they made a dramatic change to a chorus of clowns when they sang Beep, Beep at the Area 4 moon-glow. The chorus even included images of the Nash Rambler as well as the Cadillac in the song.

And the beat goes on! With no rest for the singers, Covered Bridge Harmony has had five performances following AC&C, including singing for a birthday celebration, an all-school high school reunion, a neighboring town's band concert, a family fun event in a neighboring county, and a concert at a local nursing home.

### Covered Bridge Harmony Fall Show

Come one and all to Covered Bridge Harmony's fabulous show Saturday, October 28 at Gobin Memorial United Methodist Church in Greencastle, Indiana.

"That's Entertainment!" is sure to be a fun night leading off with some great chili and fixins'. Our barbershop babies (friends, kids, and grandkids) will sing and dance during the meal followed by Covered Bridge Harmony presenting the main entertainment for the show.

Doors open at 5:45 p.m. with dinner beginning at 6 p.m. Covered Bridge Harmony will sing at 6:45 p.m.

Join us for a grand night of fun and barbershop singing!





# Harmony in the Bluegrass

Bluegrass Harmony  
welcomes new  
members at  
Area 4 Contest



Bluegrass Harmony is thrilled to have qualified once again for IC&C. We had a blast “under the big top” at Area Four contest where we welcomed four new members on the stage with us. The moon glow was exceptionally fun as members dressed as circus characters while singing This is It! Gales of laughter ensued as costume failures and quartet shenanigans further entertained the crowd. We are exceptionally proud of all three of our quartets who qualified for international this year. Special congratulations to **Low Key** who walked away with first place.

The chorus enjoyed a small break this summer and hosted our annual chorus pool party and yard sale, both of which were a huge success! We are busy working on several new songs and preparing for our fall show, “Sweet Sounds of Harmony”, which will feature a bevy of succulent sweets along with music from our chorus, quartets, and a special guest chorus.

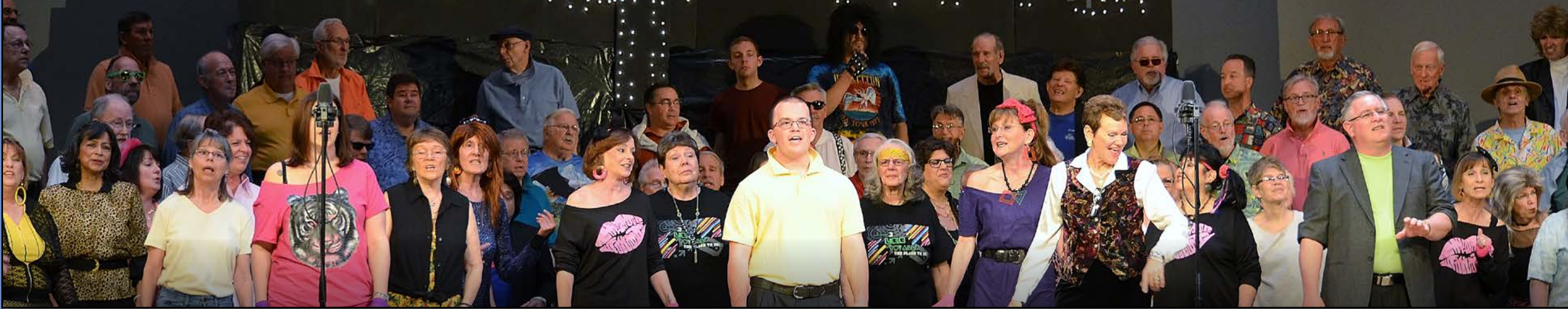
While not all of our members will be able to go to IC&C, we do plan to compete, and are busy preparing for the journey. We want to wish our two competing quartets – **Kentucky Blend** and **Low Key** – the best of luck as they walk across that stage.

— *By Angie Beatty*



# On Broadway

*Liberty Belles share the stage with North Pennsmen*



It all began in late 2015 when our local men's barbershop chorus, the North Pennsmen, a chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society, invited the Liberty Belles Chorus to be guests on their annual 2016 spring show. Instead of paying the Liberty Belles to be on their show as they would any guest ensemble, they provided us with a business opportunity to split the income on all new ticket sales and new ad sales in their show program. The North Pennsmen would manage all details from renting the theatre, hiring lighting and sound crew, props and script to the cost of printing tickets and programs. All we had to do was prepare songs, sell tickets and program ads and perform.

Needless to say, we accepted the invitation and got to work learning two songs which we would sing jointly with the North Pennsmen and preparing four songs for our own portion of the show. After all was said and done, we had so much fun

performing on the show, sang to over 800 patrons and raised some substantial income.

The show was such a success that the North Pennsmen invited us back to be on their 2017 spring show. This time, we were going to spend a greater amount of time on stage with them and on our own. The show was called On Broadway and it was the story about singers trying to make it big by auditioning for a part in a hit Broadway show back in the 1980s. As the curtain opened, both the Liberty Belles and the North Pennsmen shared the stage – more than 80 singers blending their voices in four, eight and twelve part harmonies.

Both choruses sang a few songs together, including On Broadway and Take a Chance On Me, then moved on and off stage as each ensemble performed their songs. The story was being narrated from off stage, requiring singers to remain in character at all times. Dotted between chorus songs were nine

chapter quartets, adding to the flow and variety with their performances. Both choruses joined together one last time for an amazing finale of All Nations Rise.

The entire production took six months to prepare with several joint rehearsals in addition to our regular weekly rehearsals. The script was created and written by one of the North Pennsmen. The Liberty Belles nearly doubled our revenues over the previous year, helped increase the audience attendance by an additional 130 patrons and together, we provided 100 minutes of variety, energy and great singing - a clear a win-win for both choruses.

If you have a men's chorus in your area, consider doing a joint show together. Not only is it a great opportunity to have your local community become more familiar with both choruses and create a larger fan base, but the fun you will have singing with your Brothers in Harmony is the best!



## Area 1 chorus hits new milestones

The Sea Belles have quite the update for Harmony in performance, music develop and contest fun. Check out their happenings below.

### Performance

The Sea Belles continue to share the joy of a cappella music with our community by performing at local nursing homes, seniors residences, special birthday/anniversary celebrations, shopping centers, as well as church fundraiser concerts. Performing as special guests of Men of Fundy Barbershop chorus show was also a year highlight.

This year, through the efforts of our Sing Canada Harmony representative, Marge Fife, we were invited by an elementary school music specialist to share a cappella harmony with her grade 4 and 7 students.

Music specialist Jillian Little described the students' reaction to the experience, "The students were eager to learn the different parts and were exposed to different musical terms that perhaps they had not yet learned. I always love having other teachers in my classroom! I would love to have the ladies return again as many other classes noted their presence and wished they could have been included too."

Janet Kidd, Sea Belles' director, remarked "So heartwarming for the Sea Belles who went to St John the Baptist/King Edward School to see how excited the kids were about making music - and

how much they seemed to enjoy singing in harmony."

As a result of this positive experience, the chorus was invited to join their whole school in May 1 Music Monday cross Canada televised singalong. Sea Belles looks forward to more opportunities to introduce school children to a cappella harmony.

We are always looking for new venues to perform and share our music, Sea Belles sang to a very receptive audience at local Regional Library Book Fair which lead to a later performance kicking off the Library's Canada 150 Summer Celebration.

Another unique learning and performing opportunity came this year when Sea Belles was invited to participate in a music workshop given by visiting Canadian singer/songwriter [Coco Love Alcorn](#). Can you imagine how thrilled we were to also perform several songs with her onstage the next afternoon at the Imperial Theatre! We never know when opportunity will knock at our door.

Thanks to the initiative of a forward thinking member and with the approval of Sea Belles Board of Directors, Sea Belles is now an Associate Member of Discover Saint John, a tourist guide featuring information on festivals, events, sports and visit planning, accommodations, maps and entertainment. Sea Belles will now be included in the services directory which Discover Saint John pulls from when meeting/event organizers ask for information on local entertainment options. This will hopefully result in new performance opportunities.

### Music Development

Sea Belles always look forward to an energizing and educational coaching weekend every winter and this years session with Music Coach and Judge Kathy Greason, did just that. We are again grateful for the generous funding we received from Sing Canada Harmony Scholarship Fund that made this workshop possible.

We are also grateful to Area 1 for the fantastic workshops they held again this year. Many of our members attended Autumn Blend, learning new

music under direction of our director Janet Kidd, while others participated in Sing into Spring, a workshop targeting quartets and potential quartet members. Area 1 Rocks!

Perhaps this is why Sea Belles boasts 5 quartets, with rumours of another coming soon. And with an active chorus Fall quartet promotion planned, who knows how many more will join us?

### Membership Milestones

Sea Belles remain one of the largest Area 1 choruses with membership hovering in the low 50's including several youth members, keeping us young in spirit. Several of our more "experienced" members celebrated significant anniversaries this year.

Several of our members received membership milestone recognition at AC&C: Rhett Bovaid- 25yr, Cheryl Sweeney, Debbie Sabean- 30yr, while Vangie Mofford celebrated 40 years as a member of Sea Belles Chorus and Harmony, Inc. Vangie's milestone was picked up by the provincial newspaper with a large article on her accomplishments.

Sea Belles continue to recognize members who have contributed to the chorus with a Barbershopper of the Year award. This year's recipient, Susan Ingraham, was recognized for her many hours working on behalf of the chorus, and supporting its members as president.

Sea Belles Chorus will mark 50 years as a chapter of Harmony Inc. in 2019. Plans are already underway for a fantastic half century celebration, as Area 1's oldest ladies barbershop chorus. Stay tuned for details!

### IC&C and AC&C Fun!

Sea Belles were thrilled to have 36 members including several new members, cross the stage at Providence, RI last November. The many fundraisers and hours of hard work paid off with a performance which made us proud, not to mention all the fun we had while we were there.

And 2017 AC&C did not disappoint. It is hard to think which of our 45 participating members (second largest competing chorus among Harmony, Inc.) were more excited to hear we placed second among Area 1 choruses, with two new competition songs. And Area 1 had the second highest number of qualifying choruses for IC&C, with 5 of our 7 choruses invited to compete in Halifax.

Sea Belles Public Relations Chair Ann Connolly, had the pleasure of working with two members of ScotianAires, Philomena Highes and Tanya Reid, to provide an AC&C workshop on Social Media for Choruses and Quartets. There was lively discussion among the 25+ participants and as a result, we now have a more formal communication link with Area choruses' PR contacts which will improve overall Area 1 social media presence. Our chorus Facebook and new Instagram account already has more activity!

Sea Belles portrayal of JailHouse Rock, rocked the audience with our tough girl act. The Area 1 planning team are to be congratulated on a fantastic weekend!

This event was best reflected in the words of one of our new members and first time AC&C attendee, Sandra Michaud: "I had the pleasure of attending my first AC&C with my sister Sea Belles in Sackville, NB in early June. The weekend was so enjoyable and between the workshops and the time spent with the judges the day after competition I learned many new things. I thoroughly enjoyed "fun night", meeting new people and a chance to get to know my sister Sea Belles better. But the one thing that stands out in my mind was the friendship between all the choruses. Even though we were competing against one another for that "top spot", I saw how the love for the music that we sing brought us together as one big happy "family in song". I look forward to competing in Halifax in November and can't wait to attend AC&C next year. To all those who helped make the weekend so enjoyable, thank you...it was truly a job well done!"

## Sugartones places second at Area 5

Sugartones did their hometown of Alliston proud at this year's Area 5 AC&C held at the Nottawasaga Inn in Alliston, Ontario. We placed second overall and were awarded the highest mark in the singing category! Kudos to our director Jan-Ake Westin who has brought us to this level of performance. He has the ability to inspire hard work while making it seem like fun. In fact, it IS fun!

Sugartones' members enthusiastically embraced the Harmony High theme at the moon glow on Saturday night. Nerds, Jocks and Cheerleaders strutted their stuff as we sang Best Day of Our Life.

Our Chapter is thrilled to announce that since AC&C we have welcomed five new members and one returning member to our chorus!

We look forward to our Education Day September 16 in Barrie and are truly excited to be going to Halifax in November to compete, learn, and enjoy IC&C with all our Harmony sisters.



## Chorus sends Registration Team to IC&C

Six members of Sound Celebration, a Harmony Inc. Chorus from east central Wisconsin, will support the International Competition in Halifax, Nova Scotia, this November working as support to the convention registration team.

The team will be led by Chris Hembel of Sheboygan. Chris, a member of the International Convention Team, has been the registration manager for both regional and international conventions and competitions since 2012. Accompanying her to Nova Scotia as part of her support team are Pat Kaiser, Linda Christiansen, and Denise Shaffer. Director and Co-Director, Janice Westpahl and Marianne Cooke will also travel with the team. Marianne volunteers as IC&C stage manager and Janice as back stage volunteer. Volunteers from other choruses will also be on hand to help with registration.

The 27 voice Sound Celebration Chorus qualified for the Silver Division in regional competitions last June, joyously presenting I've Been Working on the Rail Road and Give Me a Barbershop Song, but the chorus was not able as a whole to attend the fall international competition.

"I am delighted that Sound Celebration is represented by such a competent and fun support team to assist with the registration process," says Chris. "I know that with their help registration will go smoothly." She continues, "The team is looking forward to welcoming choruses from Canada and the United States in addition to enjoying the Convention and seeing our many far flung friends. Additionally, they look forward to benefiting from the many workshops that will be offered and heartily applauding some fabulous Barbershop Harmony!"



## Barre-Tones serve up a treat

Reminiscent of the TV show “Mel’s Diner,” the Barre-Tones annual show September 23 at the Barre Opera House was titled “Carol’s Diner” for their director, Carol Hollenbeck. The show combined singing, comedy, and special guests Taken 4 Granite.

The annual Cabaret Club fund raiser in June featuring a delicious dinner and of course, entertainment by the chorus and quartets was very successful.

The chorus and quartets also performed for an hour at the Barre-Heritage Festival at the end of July.

In addition to Upscale, ecstatic about their first place finish at AC&C, and In Cahoots, a new quartet named Emergence formed this year and performed on the annual show.

The chorus will have 24 singers including Upscale, traveling to Halifax to participate and compete at IC&C. We are looking forward to seeing other choruses and quartets perform and spending time with them socializing and renewing friendships.

See you all in Halifax.

— By Barbara Ladabouche



### Did you know . . .

that 3.5 MILLION of Canadians sing in choirs?

The results from the (first ever!) National Choral Census were just released. Click here to see more data like this in the full report:

[www.choralcanada.org/activities-projects/national-choral-census/](http://www.choralcanada.org/activities-projects/national-choral-census/)

**CHORAL SINGING: PART OF OUR NATIONAL IDENTITY**  
**3.5 MILLION CANADIANS SING IN CHOIRS**  
 (WOULD BE THE LARGEST CITY IN CANADA,  
 27% LARGER THAN THE POPULATION OF TORONTO)

Saviez-vous que 3,5 MILLIONS de canadiens chantent dans des chorales?

Les résultats du Recensement national du monde choral sont maintenant disponibles! Visitez notre site web pour plus de données sur le chant choral

[www.choralcanada.org/](http://www.choralcanada.org/)

**LE CHANT CHORAL: AU CŒUR DE L'IDENTITÉ CANADIENNE**  
**3,5 MILLIONS DE CANADIENS SONT CHORISTES**  
 (RÉUNIS, ILS CONSTITUENT LA PLUS GRANDE  
 VILLE AU CANADA, 27 % PLUS POPULEUSE QUE TORONTO)



[www.mixedbarbershop.org](http://www.mixedbarbershop.org)

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## Surround Sound selects new director

The Surround Sound Chapter of Harmony Incorporated, headquartered in Gardner, Massachusetts, has decided to dedicate this past summer and the coming year to working on our musical knowledge and skills. We are accepting only very special performances for old friends until we are where we hope to be. One of the most exciting parts of our plan is bringing on a brand new director, Ms. Valerie Eaton. Val has been a member of the chorus for a several years in our lead section. For the past year, she has been working with our temporary director, Evelyn Fogg; Val took on more and more responsibility during the year. It was a natural progression to name her our new director as of mid-August.

Val has a solid background in music with a Bachelor of Music, Music Theory degree from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, and a Masters of Music, Vocal Performance degree from the Longy School of Music in Cambridge, Mass. She has a variety of experience performing and directing in mixed choral groups such as City Sound a Cappella (doo wop).

She's been part of the local community and musical theater scene as well, with lead roles in operas such as The Beggars Opera by Benjamin Britten and musical theater roles such as Gilbert and Sullivan's Princess Ida (Princess Ida) and Katisha (The Mikado). She's played dramatic roles as Clairee Belcher in Steel Magnolias, Hannah in the Spitfire Grill, and Fatty Pert in Look Homeward Angel.

Having found this jewel of a member in Valerie, the women of Surround Sound were unanimous in their approval of her selection as our music leader going into the future.



## *The Toronto Accolades*

present

# Oh Canada, Eh!

30

**Sun, Nov 12, 2017 at 2:00PM**  
**York Woods Library Theatre**

Adult tickets \$25 • Children 16 and under \$10

Tickets available from any Accolades member  
or e-mail [accoladeshow@outlook.com](mailto:accoladeshow@outlook.com)

Raffle opens at 1:30PM  
Reception following the show



# Friends in need are friends, indeed!

Village Vocal Chords and local church support each other

The Village Vocal Chords began rehearsing at St. Thomas United Methodist Church several years ago and, at the time, had no idea what a mutually beneficial experience it would become:

- The VVCs needed a rehearsal location with air conditioning and room to store our risers, etc., and the church had the room.
- The church holds a blood drive and members of the VVCs participate.
- The VVCs decide to sponsor a craft fair as a fund raiser, and the church provides the facility in which to do it.
- The church needs help paying for a new roof for the parsonage and the VVCs put on a benefit concert.
- The church needs to gather funds to support their mission projects and the VVCs put on an annual Christmas concert for that purpose.

The list goes on. The Village Vocal Chords and St. Thomas UMC are living harmony every day, sharing the harmony in our hearts as well as voices!

## Uke-A-Pella Was Born

Jeanne O'Connor emailed the Village Vocal Chords a month ago wanting to form a ukulele group, spurred from suggestion by "D" Dyer, indicating several choruses within Harmony, Inc. had started up ukulele groups of their own.

Interested members met the following week, with or without instruments. A colorful Hawaiian-themed master chord chart was passed out, along with a few beginner ukulele songs. As the weeks progress, the "bug" is catching more and more hearts of the chorus members.

Before long, a group currently consisting of eight members to

date was formed, and the name "Uke-A-Pella" was voted on from member suggestions. We meet for a fun-filled half hour following weekly chorus rehearsals, where members of all playing levels work on a song or two weekly, adding several new chords to rote.

To spread the word about our group, members played one song as the final act, following newly formed quartets, in a "Christmas in July" themed evening.

The group continues to happily grow, with members playing all four sizes of ukuleles. Our end goal to date is to join our Harmony sisters in a group "jam session" following the 2017 IC&C Saturday banquet.

## Christmas in July and Quartet Development

Team Performance decided to add some zest to those lazy, crazy, hazy days of summer with a Christmas in July-themed quartet promotion. Since the chosen songs, Jolly Old St. Nicholas and Away in the Manger, were in our trusty SPEBS-QSA booklets, we avoided worries about illegal copying.

May and Lauren kindly collaborated to create learning tracks on both selections, which we sent electronically to all participants. Members were invited to sing their familiar part or venture out from their designated chorus section.

By early June, there was enough interest for five groups.

Certain pick-up quartets rejected being known strictly as numbers and renamed themselves Mistletones, Yuletide Favorites and Fa & the La Las. Another foursome nearly had to scratch when a storm that Rudolph himself couldn't navigate prevented Kathy from flying home, but May stepped in to fill her shoes!



**VVC Uke-A-Pellas close the Christmas in July quartet sing with Silent Night.**

Denise, though, took the prize for most ambitious if not most flexible because she sang tenor, bari and lead equally capably.

Since nobody opted for "Manger", one might expect listening to several renditions of "Jolly" repeated through the evening might prove monotonous, however props, parodies and potluck food spiced up things just fine.

We missed hearing the veteran VVC quartets but our recently established; steadily growing band of ukulele players led the chorus in a Silent Night strum along.

Jeanne directed us all through practically every holiday song in our repertoire plus she did something else that made the party extra special. Peppered throughout the program were questions Jeanne posed like "What was the best Christmas gift you ever received?" or "When did you stop believing in Santa?" What was longest distance you travelled on the holiday?"

Everyone had a chance to share funny and touching memories – a true, delightfully rich bonding experience. Indeed, it was a merry Christmas to all and to all a good night because Harmony is a gift that keeps giving no matter what the season!

## Facebook, Twitter, Instagram: Area 1 choruses CONNECT

In Spring 2017, public relations members of ScotianAires and Sea Belles Choruses reached out to other Area 1 choruses and quartets to gauge interest in a discussion forum during Area 1 AC&C Education classes on ways to improve a chapter's social media use.

Encouraged by the small but enthusiastic interest, **Ann Connolly, Philomena Hughes** and **Tanya Reid** collaborated over the next few months, creating a one-hour workshop for Area 1 AC&C. Using our own social media experience and other online educational resources we narrowed the workshop focus to using Facebook effectively and how a chapter can move into Twitter and Instagram to connect with younger fans/members/potential members.



We would like to share with you some of our key discussion points.

- On all social media platforms, we reminded the participants that we needed to use a consistent brand and a professional voice.
- Images and videos make the most impact on Facebook but pick your best two or three photos for major impact.
- When you do add text make it short but engaging; speak to your audience like it's a conversation.
- Don't fall into the habit of posting only when you have something to promote or sell, include personal

details about your quartet or chorus and interesting information about a cappella singing.

- And of course...CONNECT...that is the key ingredient in social media - especially in Twitter; re-tweet! Connect with people and groups with similar interests including other choruses and organizations.

Remember to support your own Area and Harmony, Inc. by sharing important posts and they will do the same for you. Your chorus members can help build connections by inviting their own social circles to like and follow your Facebook page...remind them that everyone in the chorus is part of the PR team!

We touched briefly on ways to further extend your social media outreach with Instagram, showing a more 'behind the scenes' look.

We learned about hashtags and how to properly use them: quality, not quantity. Hashtags will help you get more views and more followers - it's how people will find you on Instagram! Finally, the way to gain followers, is to follow first. Take some time and find lots of relevant accounts to follow. Chances are, they'll follow you back.

The enthusiastic discussion that ensued following the presentation led to the development of an Area 1 Facebook group for the chapter PR leads so that we could discuss strategies and share tips. If you would like more information about our session or would like a copy of our resource list, feel free to contact Philomena Hughes, Publicity and Marketing Chair, ScotianAires at [philomena.m.hughes@gmail.com](mailto:philomena.m.hughes@gmail.com).

## DIRECTORS FIRST

*Send your musical leader to Harmony University next year.*

**In 2017 we sent 9 leaders.**

**For 2018, let's send 12!**

**All it takes is \$5 per member between now and March 1, 2018.**

### FOR U.S. DONATIONS

Online — Make a secure donation via [Paypal](#). This contribution will be earmarked for the Directors First campaign.

Send a check — If you prefer, send a check to the corporate office and be sure to indicate that it is intended for the Directors First campaign. The corporate office mailing address is: Harmony, Inc., 1055 Chadbourne Road, Standish, ME, 04084

### FOR CANADIAN DONATIONS

We have partnered with Sing Canada for the Directors First effort so Canadian members can receive tax recognition for their donation while helping Sing Canada and Harmony, Inc. meet its goals for director support in Canada!

Canadian members should visit the Sing Canada donation page to process their donation: <http://singcanadaharmony.ca/donate-now/> BE SURE TO NOTE THAT YOUR DONATION IS FOR DIRECTORS FIRST and it will be earmarked for the Directors First campaign!

### MAKE IT A TEAM EFFORT

Why not make a group contribution—Get your whole chapter in on the campaign and make a group donation to Directors First! We'll be happy to recognize your effort on social media and in the next issue of the E-Note. And you never know what sort of recognition will be in store if you're the chapter with the greatest degree of support for Directors First.

**Stronger directors = stronger chapters = stronger Areas = stronger Harmony, Inc.**







## Please Stay Tuned turns 3!

Quartet celebrates anniversary with Island Breakfast

Please Stay Tuned is three years old this summer! We came to be through pure serendipity: we got together one evening to work through a tag on a new chorus song. That felt pretty good so we tried another, and then another. Before we knew it we were buying matching outfits and hanging out together every Tuesday morning.

We celebrated our anniversary by taking part in a Brockville tradition of an Island Breakfast. Nothing beats the mouth-watering aroma of bacon sizzling as you cruise around the point of Refugee Island.

We were the entertainment over the three-hour tour and our a cappella style was very well received by the folks there enjoying their meal.

In the photo, we are sporting the “Island Breakfast” t-shirts we were given. Later, we even got to enjoy a complimentary breakfast.

Earlier this year we joined our chorus to do the “Celebrity Serving” fundraiser at our local Boston Pizza. We’ve had some interest at both venues from ladies wanting to give the Thousand Islanders Chorus a try.

Cheers,

— *Gidget, Deb, Cally and Chris*



*For Heaven’s Sake entertains at Area 3’s Once Upon a Time moon glow.*

*Here’s a selfie in honor of FHS’s 20th performance at this church.*



## For Heaven’s Sake enjoys summer hijinks

Every year, except one, since 1997 we’ve entertained for an hour at this little church in the St. Lawrence River. It’s one of our favorite gigs and we love the venue and our very appreciative audience!

We recently sang at the Watertown Farmer’s Market along with our chorus, Northern Blend, and other chapter quartets.

We’re working on some great new charts and can’t wait to share them with Harmony on the Parade in Halifax! See you there!



# UpScale enters Season Four



If your quartet rehearsals were a TV series, what genre would it be? The TV series “UpScale” would be a kind of culinary-musical drama series. Now in our fourth season, as we like to say, we are certainly hitting our stride, just like any good TV show.

All four of us love food, so much of pre- and post-rehearsal conversation revolves around eating. This summer, we have also had the good fortune of sharing meals together that our lead, Carolynn, prepares. Carol, our bass, is usually in charge of the drinks, and often makes our favorite, a cocktail with champagne and elderflower liqueur.

Aside from our culinary adventures, UpScale has also had some exciting dramatic moments this

season. On Valentine’s Day, we drove all around Central Vermont and delivered 22 singing valentines. April, our business manager and tenor, deftly guided us through our day by organizing the roses and chocolates and keeping track of the list of names and addresses. Other musical events this season so far include appearances at the Barre-Tones’ Cabaret Club and the Barre Heritage Festival. Lucky for us, our music theory buff and baritone Trecia always helps us through any mid-season cliffhangers - she knows how to balance out those chords.

However, our greatest dramatic moment this year and throughout the entire run of this series, was our WIN at this year’s Area 2 Quartet Competition!!! We were thrilled to receive the honor of becoming the 2017 Area 2 Quartet Champions, and delighted to be able to represent Area 2 at IC&C in Halifax in November. We are excited for our season finale this fall, and hoping for many more seasons of ‘UpScale’ to come!

***Upscale shows off their Area 2 gold medals.***



## Shirahz competes in Area 5 with new tenor



Shirahz was thrilled to hit the Area 5 AC&C stage for the first time with our new tenor, Claire McMartin.

Claire has done a great job learning a ton of music since joining us in February which has allowed us to do a few performances including a Canada 150th Anniversary celebration, a Taste the Trail event, as well as a performance with the Barrie men’s chorus and a visit to the Sugartones.

We are excited to be representing our Area in Halifax in November and can hardly wait to get there!

# Much to see and do in Halifax!

For a city with more pubs and clubs per capita than almost any city in Canada, it's fitting that its most famous brewmaster was also the mayor. Three times. Alexander Keith's original 1820 brewery welcomes visitors with costumed guides, stories and, of course, good ale.

Walk across the street from Keith's Brewery to the Halifax waterfront boardwalk that follows the water's edge alongside the world's second largest ice-free harbour. Stretching from the Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21 – the gateway into Canada for over one million immigrants – to Casino Nova Scotia, you'll pass unique shops, restaurants, and in the warmer months, graceful tall ships. Hop aboard the ferry, North America's longest running saltwater ferry, in fact, and cross the harbour to the Dartmouth side which is filled with more locally-owned shops, galleries, cafés, restaurants, and pubs. A visit to Halifax is not complete without trying the fabled donair, the official food of Halifax.

## Don't Miss Experiences

Become a soldier for a day at Halifax Citadel National Historic Site Visit a 200-year-old restored fishing village at Fisherman's Cove Hear captivating sea stories from small to the Titanic at the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic

Discover the stories of over 1 million immigrants who landed in Halifax at Pier 21

Explore the new Halifax Central Library, named as one of CNN's 10 eye-popping new buildings in 2014.

Skate or bike The Emera Oval. The long-track speed skating oval on the Halifax Commons is an outdoor activity destination in summer and in winter.

Stroll through the beautiful Victorian flower gardens and grounds at Halifax Public Gardens

Take in one of Canada's best walks along the Halifax Waterfront

Be inspired by Atlantic Canada's largest art collection at the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia

Ride the oldest running saltwater ferry service in North America (second oldest in the world) when you take the ferry between Dartmouth and Halifax.

Experience the craftsmanship of Canada's only mouth-blown, hand-cut crystal maker, NovaScotian Crystal on the Halifax Waterfront.

Venture to McNabs Island, located at the mouth of the Halifax Harbour, for secluded trails, a beautiful beach, and a historic fort.

Visit Alderney Landing on the Dartmouth Waterfront and peruse the shops, art gallery, community theatre, and restaurants.

**Sambro Island Lighthouse, near Halifax, Nova Scotia, the oldest surviving lighthouse in North and South America. Cannons in the foreground were once used as fog warnings.**

Photo credit — Letterofmarque



**HALIFAX CITADEL NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE**  
*Its position overlooking the harbour below is what led the British military to found Halifax in 1749. Today, the Halifax Citadel continues to watch over the city's downtown core, serving as a reminder of Halifax's past. Tour the grounds and interact with costumed interpreters and be sure to plug your ears for the noon gun!*

## 2017 International Contests Order of Appearance

### Quartet Semi-Finals Thursday, Nov. 2, 1 p.m.

- |                    |                |
|--------------------|----------------|
| MT Taken 4 Granite | 13. Kismet     |
| 1. Skyfall         | 14. Zest       |
| 2. FLASHPOINT      | 15. Singlish   |
| 3. Relative Pitch  | 16. High Five  |
| 4. Nuance          | 17. Timeline   |
| 5. Lip Service     | 18. SweetLife  |
| 6. Firestorm       | 19. UpScale    |
| 7. Low Key         | 20. In a Chord |
| 8. Intuition       | 21. Bluebird   |
| 9. Tonic!          | 22. Mach 4     |
| 10. Mystic Chicks  | 23. enJoy!     |
| 11. Kentucky Blend | 24. Shirahz    |
| 12. Gotta Sing     | 25. Charisma   |

### Silver Division Contest Thursday, Nov. 2, 8 p.m.

1. Skyway Connection Chorus
  2. Shades of Harmony
  3. Island A Cappella
- Silver Division champion performs 3rd in the Chorus Contest on Friday

### Chorus Contest Friday, Nov. 3, 10:15 a.m.

- |                           |                          |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| MT A Cappella             | 12. Liberty Belles       |
| Showcase                  | 13. Sea Belles           |
| 1. Elm City Echoes        | 14. Crystal Chords       |
| 2. Valley Voices          | 15. Women of Note        |
| 3. Silver Division Winner | 16. The Over Tones, Inc. |
| 4. Nickel City Sound      | 17. New England Voices   |
| 5. Sugartones             | in Harmony               |
| 6. Barre-Tones            | 18. Northern Blend       |
| 7. ScotianAires           | 19. Sounds of the        |
| 8. Bluegrass Harmony      | Seas coast               |
| 9. Atlanta Harmony        | 20. Village Vocal Chords |
| Celebration               | 21. Sisters of Sound     |
| 10. Niagara Frontier      | 22. Bella Nova           |
| Chord Authority           | 23. Toronto Accolades    |
| 11. Harmony Magic         |                          |



## Sneak Peek at IC&C Education Classes

IC&C isn't all about the singing – it's about learning and sharing too! We have some very exciting education classes lined up for this year and hope you will join us. Once again, we will be offering different tracks and you can earn ribbons by attending classes from each one. In addition to our classic favorites; Singing with the Queens, Quartet and Chorus Master Classes and a First – Timers meeting with the President, you can also choose from:

### What to Do with My Hands

In this class Steve Curulla, Presentation Judge will teach you how to apply easy acting and public speaking tools to deliver a more engaging performance for your audience. As we become comfortable with these tools, we'll answer the question 'What do I do with my hands?' (Hint: it's easier than you think!) This is an interactive class, based on the book by Rhonda Carlson, so come prepared to explore.

### Swing It with a Groove

We barber shoppers are singing more swinging tunes all the time. Join Tom Gentry, Music Judge to experience the pleasure of making these songs really come alive.

### Creating a Common Resonance – Maximize Chord Ringing and Musicality

Learn simple and effective techniques to lock and ring chords at the next level from Carey Burns, Music Judge. These techniques will allow you to simplify your thought process so you can spend more time creating artistry while ringing those barbershop chords.

### Music Category Demystified

Of all the BHS judging categories MUS is most often the one that is least understood by the competitor and the audience. Come hear and learn why the "Mystery Meat" category is really made up of USDA Prime Cuts! What songs can you sing in contest and how many 7th chords should they have? What does "consonance" mean and what does it have to do with the category? How and why or why not is Music connected and related to the Singing and Presentation/Performance categories? Bring your own questions and John Burri, Music Judge will answer them and help solve the mysteries and reveal the secrets of MUS!

### Performance Demystified

Join Joe Hunter, Presentation Judge to learn how viewing non-barbershop performances can assist singers with real world performance skills.

### Coaching Under the Glass

Alan Gordon, Singing Judge, will bring his skills to this session as he coaches a quartet so that you can learn new skills.

### Tell YOUR story – Increase Artistry

Every song has a story to tell. Every person has a story to tell. Join Carey Burns, Music Judge as he helps you explore new ways to think about your delivery of each song. Go beyond fast, slow, soft, loud, don't breathe, breathe. Use a creative, right-brain approach to create engaging and fulfilling musical stories. Go beyond the basics.

### How to Teach Tags

Ahhh, tags...those exceedingly excellent, enjoyable, and entertaining ear-candy endings of embellishments and echoes, eliciting extensive elation and ecstasy! But what to do when there are no Tagmasters in tow to teach tunes? In this course John Burri, Music Judge, will teach you methods and strategies for teaching tags, and teach you how and why world domination through barbershop harmony can be achieved with this humble musical device. Come, Harmony-walker, and begin your journey to becoming a Tag Jedi!!

### Woodshedding

The earliest barber shoppers harmonized by ear, and you can do it too. It is great fun—and easier than you might think! Let Tom Gentry, Music Judge help you get in touch with your roots and let your ears do the arranging!

### Judging - How Hard Can It Be?

Get an inside look from Steve Curulla, Presentation Judge, at what it's like to be a judge in our hobby. We'll talk about the process to become a judge and what our routine is like during a contest weekend. Then we'll review some performances, talk about a score and what we might discuss in the evaluation.

### Coaching Styles

Two for the price of one! In this special session Marty Lovick and Joe Hunter, Presentation Judges will coach a quartet from three lenses: singing, music and performance.

### How to Get Qtet Coaching When You Think There is None Around

Believe it or not, you have more skills and abilities than you think! Your quartet has FOUR potential coaches in it. Let John Burri, Music Judge teach you the rules of engagement and techniques for advancing your quartet game when external coaching is not immediately available.

### Mark Your Calendars:

**Classes will be offered Thursday, November 2 from 8:45 am – 12:20 pm and Saturday, November 4 from 9:00 am – 11:20 am.**

**As a special Bonus Session, Throwback will be holding a Coaching Under Glass session in conjunction with the International Chorus rehearsal, Thursday from 11:00 a.m. to 12:20 in the WTCC Grand Ballroom! We're sure you don't want to miss this one!**

— *By Allison, Thompson, Education Event Coordinator*



# THROWBACK!

## International medalists will share their talents, performing and coaching at IC&C

How lucky are these gals! In addition to meeting up with a crowd of their sisters in song from all over Harmony at IC&C in Halifax, the members of the International Chorus will be directed by world-class director Jordan Travis and coached by Throwback. That's right!

And guess what.

All of us who didn't volunteer for the International Chorus can still get in on the action. **From 11 a.m to 12:20 p.m. Thursday, November 2 onstage in the ballroom at the convention center these talented gentlemen will hold a Coaching Under Glass session with the chorus.**

"This is a fantastic idea," says Jordan. "We — participants and observers — are going to learn so much that we can take back to our home choruses. What an opportunity!"

Throwback will kick off the convention Wednesday night, performing at the opening ceremony. It promises to be quite a ride.

Learn more about our brothers in harmony from their release below:

*"The definition of 'throwback' basically means: a reminder of the past. Music certainly has the power to take us back to a special time, a memorable place, or remind us of that certain someone. This quartet brings together an infectious energy with a love of yesterday's music, and we're certain their fresh spin on familiar melodies will entertain audiences of all ages! Throwback has performed shows across the United States; from Las Vegas to Anchorage to New York City to Miami, including a strong finish at this year's Barbershop Harmony Society International Convention where they earned a 5th place bronze medal! Swing by their website to stay in touch with their latest news and performance dates: [www.throwbackquartet.com](http://www.throwbackquartet.com)"*

### Paul Phillip Saca (tenor)

Paul was born and raised in sunny Miami, Fla. where he currently resides with his beautiful bride, Jenny, and their newborn son, Aiden. Paul is also the only person in Throwback (actually, the only person anywhere) to have won all five Barbershop Harmony Society International college quartet contest medals, including bringing home the gold in 2003 with HEAT. Paul sang both lead and tenor in On Demand, who won the Sunshine District quartet contest in 2008, and sang tenor in A Mighty Wind, 2011-2013 International Bronze Medalists.

Paul also holds a Bachelor's degree in Jazz Vocal Performance from the University of Miami, putting him on the obvious career path of becoming a litigation paralegal.

### Sean Devine (lead)

Originally from The Sweetest Place on Earth (Hershey, Pa!), Sean moved out west in 2001 to perform full-time with a professional doo-wop group, The Alley Cats. In July 2008 he relocated again to the Barbershop Harmony Society headquarters in "Music City, USA" to work as a Director of Development with their fund raising arm, Harmony Foundation International. Sean is now the Foundation's Planned Giving Manager, working from his home office back in Hershey, Pa.

Sean is an active 22-year member of the Barbershop Harmony Society, serving as a certified Performance Judge, Artistic Director of Parkside Harmony (2016 Mid-Atlantic District Chorus Champions and 8th Place International Finalists), and lead of the 2008 International quartet champions, OC Times.



### Alex Rubin (baritone)

A native of South Florida, Alex began singing barbershop harmony when he was just nine years old. Over the past 20 years he has sung three different voice parts, won three Sunshine District quartet championships, and competed in International competition 12 times. Alex is also the musical director of three ensembles: The Miamians; a very popular youth-focused group, The HD Chorus; as well as one of the Top 10 Barbershop Harmony Society choruses in the world, THX.

Professionally Alex is a digital application developer working for such clients as Walmart and Universal Records, but his favorite job is being a husband to his beautiful wife Jennifer and father to their lovely daughter Emma and brand new baby boy Jake.

### Michael Skutt (bass)

Although he was born in Danbury, Conn., Michael has spent nearly all of his life in San Antonio, Texas. A recent graduate of Texas A&M with a degree in biomedical sciences, he now plans to enter the field of pharmaceuticals. Although still relatively new to barbershop singing, Michael has been an accomplished instrumentalist for many years. He stayed busy on campus playing piano with the A&M jazz band and wind symphony, and tenor sax with the 'Hullabaloo' basketball and volleyball band. In high school "Skutt" was selected the Texas All-State jazz band pianist two years in a row, which basically means he was the best jazz pianist in the state!

Now if only we could find a way to bring that piano on the road with us...

## editor's note



SARA WOOD

## Time, Stress, and Singing

As I write this, I am personally coming off of a very busy and stressful summer. I will admit that as this issue of *The Key-Note* was coming together, I had a sobering reminder that there are times in one's life where it is necessary to rely on the help of others. Luckily for me, I had two of my Harmony sisters who were able to help in a pinch – Roxanne and Amy, without whom this issue would not be sitting in front of you. To me, this was a prime example of what it means to be in Harmony; we are more than just a group of people who sing together – we are a support system that can help each other through the hard times.

Over the last year, I've witnessed this within my own chorus. Each one of my Bella sisters has their own stories, and I won't tell them here. However, there is something about my little extended family that has brought light into the dark and difficult times for many of us. When most people think of barbershop, the first thing that comes to mind is light and cheery music. However, I've found in my short time in this hobby that it's much more than that. While a great deal of our fellowship is spent having the time of our lives, I notice that when we dig into the emotion of some of our repertoire, it provides an opportunity for our sisters to work through their own trials and heartache. Then, when the floodgates open, the community is there to catch us.

For those of you who know me personally, you know that I am not great at warm and fuzzy. Getting someone like me to truly open up is difficult, and it only happens when I'm surrounded by an authentic group of genuine people. Yet, that's what I've found in Bella and in Harmony. Don't get me wrong, I'm still not a huge fan of when we have sing about a wedding (ask my chorus how much I love that topic), but the core of what we do has a heart that unites us all. Looking into my own past, it's hard to imagine there was a time in my life when barbershop did not exist. Now, speaking directly to my Bella sisters: I've had many a friend before, but this is the first time I've ever had such a supportive group of women in my corner. I don't know what I'd do without you. To quote Beca from **Pitch Perfect**, "I love you, nerds."

Thank you to everyone who made this issue of **The Key-Note** possible, especially Roxanne and Amy, and I look forward to seeing all of you in Halifax.

Your sister in Harmony,  
**Sara**

deadline  
for  
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is  
January 7, 2018

38

