

# HeartBeat



*Sweet Adelines International's Region 14  
Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Tennessee*

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## **REGION 14 CONVENTION AND COMPETITION: On Track With Harmony!**

Another Convention is in the books and from your many comments, we think everyone enjoyed all that the weekend had to offer! For the Convention Team, we saw the culmination of months of planning come together for a wonderful weekend of singing and sharing with one another. While there is always a modicum of concern when we move to a new venue, wondering if everything will work out according to our plans, our new location proved to be an excellent fit for our convention and competition.

While some things were different from previous venues, overall, the new hotel and convention space worked out beautifully. The sound in the ballroom was excellent for those on the stage, and those in the audience. The All-Suites hotel was a big hit, as was the free breakfast and evening manager's reception. The short, 3 minute, walk to the warm up rooms was welcome news and everyone loved the free parking. The majority of the membership enjoyed having the Show of Champions back on the schedule, even in its shortened version.

We recognize that everything was not perfect and there were a few hiccups during the weekend, but these were handled as quickly and efficiently as possible and the weekend continued. We've made notes of the problems we encountered – problems with rooms requested, lo-o-o-o-o-ng lines at check-in, no close outside restaurants, etc., and we're already working on ways to make improvements for our return in 2019.

**WANT TO HELP?** There are a couple of things you can do to help the convention team. Number one is to fill out the post-convention survey [here](#) or on the regional website. We need to know what worked for you and what we can improve for you.

Number two - volunteer to be part of the convention team for 2019 and you can help shape the weekend! **VOLUNTEER TODAY TO BE A PART OF THIS HARD WORKING TEAM.** We need to grow and train new members all the time, so we need you in order to ensure we continue to have volunteers available who are willing to be part of the team to **MAKE CONVENTION HAPPEN!** Contact Beverly Coe-Cotton ([cotbcoe@yahoo.com](mailto:cotbcoe@yahoo.com)) or Nancy Field ([Nancy.field@aol.com](mailto:Nancy.field@aol.com)) if you're interested in applying for a spot on the team.

## Congratulations to our Regional Winners!

### CAROLINA STYLE CHORUS



### UP ALL NIGHT QUARTET





## There are Great Leaders in our Midst!

Missy Wurthmann

Four years ago the Regional Management Team decided that since we are only as good as the leaders within our organization, we ought to not only be seeking and developing leaders but also recognize them at the Regional level. This was the beginning of the LEADERSHIP EXCELLENCE AWARD. Annually, chapters are asked to submit, a brief description of their nominee who they feel possess qualities such as:

**\*Innovative \* A Visionary \* A Risk Taker \* A contributor to growth and development of leaders \* A motivating force \* Someone who helps people believe in themselves**

This year we had a record ten nominations from the chapters. The most recent previous award recipients are the final selection committee and this year's quality nominees made this decision really challenging. While we were only able to give the 2018 award to one, we want to honor each of the nominees here along with a small excerpt from their nomination:

Chorus	Name	Quote from their nomination
Carolina Harmony	Pat Wylie	"Simply does what needs to be done; quietly and efficiently"
Queen Charlotte	Becky Wilkins	"Energy and Enthusiasm when dealing with others is infectious"
Georgia Sensation	Margaret Rhodes	"Her creative mind pushes us to places we didn't think we could reach, but we do!"
Greater Richmond	Susan Inge	"Knowledge of Regional and International organization is invaluable to our chorus success"
Song of Atlanta	Becki Hine	"Has instituted a positive 'we can do this' culture within the chorus"
Sound of the Strand	Barbara Mousaw	"So humble you often forget how accomplished she is"
Sweet Georgia Sound	Bethany Grady	"An inspiration, role model and leader!"
Vienna Falls	Beth Kimlick	"Has developed a wealth of knowledge that she is more than happy to share with any sweet Adeline sister!"
Vocal Matrix	Susan Kelley	"A true servant leader who sees the best in others and encourages their efforts without seeking recognition"

This year **Tom Nawrocki of Southern Harmony Chorus** was selected to receive the award. The nomination from his chorus says it all.

*If it is true that "Men are from Mars and Women are from Venus" well then Tom Nawrocki must be from out of this world! Tom is definitely one of US, which isn't easy since he's the only man in a rather boisterous little group of women. He has directed our chorus for the past 18 years. He has worked us, loved us, teased us, helped us, laughed with us and cried with us. He looks for new ways to motivate and inspire us each week. He uses both his musical skills along with his tech-y knowledge and devices to literally SHOW us the music! He's never content to let us be less than we can be. Even when it feels like he's demanding more from us than we can give, he shows us that his "nudging" comes from a place of love. He LEADS from within not above us. He'll load the risers like a hired hand or allow us to dress him up (literally "DRESS" him up) for a laugh on a show. In addition to sharing his talent us, he has served on the faculty for the Region and is currently a part of the Regional Coaching/Resource Staff. We're so proud when choruses or quartets in the Region know and value our Director. What they get from him during a coaching session is what we are blessed with each and every Tuesday and that is a talented barbershopper who wants to share his passion for this craft!*

Congratulations to Tom and to ALL those who were nominated. Keep leading us! We are inspired by you and grateful for the time talent and love that each of you share with us.

## Regional Executive Staff

A new fiscal year brings some new faces stepping up to serve the region! Happy New Year! Yes... May 1 is our New Year's Day. Region 14 is moving into the second half of the Pilot Program of a new governance structure and excited to see what this year brings. The members who have served us this past year as either staff members or Executive Directors have given of themselves in talent, time and energy. WE THANK THEM ALL! Some have elected to complete their year of service and move on to other challenges, while several have agreed to stay on in their position for another year. Please take a minute to review the outstanding women who will be serving you in 2018-2019.

NAME	APPOINTMENTS	CHORUS
<b>MISSY WURTHMANN</b>	<b>REGIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR</b>	Southern Harmony
Cindy Partlow	Marketing Coordinator	Carolina Style
Deb Lawrence	Financial Coordinator	Virginia Coast
Katie Staggs	Communication Coordinator	Vocal Matrix
Carolyn Benkowitz	Regional Bylaws and Rules Chair	Georgia Sensation
Susan Inge	Regional Secretary	Greater Richmond
<b>NANCY FIELD</b>	<b>REGIONAL EDUCATION DIRECTOR</b>	Vocal Matrix
Mary Margaret Prange	Event and On-site Facilities Coordinator	Vienna Falls
Peggy Jones	Quartet Coordinator	Carolina Harmony
Sherry Sprague	Chorus Director Liaison	Song O Sky/Carolina Style
Vera Crouse	YWIH Specialist	Greater Richmond
Becky Wilkins	Education Specialist	Queen Charlotte
Melody Hine	Arranger Education Specialist	Song of Atlanta
Bev Coe-Cotton	Chair, Regional Convention	Vocal Matrix
<b>JULIA OLSEN</b>	<b>REGIONAL MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR</b>	Skyline Harmony
Kathy Rector	Membership Growth, Retention & Expansion Coordinator	Greater Richmond
Jackie Kaminer	Prospective Chapter Coordinator & Revitalization Specialist	Heart of Columbia
Cathy Rothey	Alternate Membership Liaison	CAL

Did you know that we still have a few open positions on the Resource Staff for this year? They include: Chartered Chapter Liaison, Competition Coordinator, Site and Facilities Service Coordinator and Chair of the Regional Convention. There are also other tasks that we can always use some help! Perhaps you are being called to serve? There is an application available on the Regional Website. Or contact either Missy, Nancy or Julia (the Regional Executive Committee) for more information about the open positions.

## EDUCATIONAL EVENTS

### Triple Track Toss-Up (aka T3!)

**Join us for our Summer Educational Event, Triple Track Toss-Up at the Hilton Durham June 1-3rd!**

**With three tracks, Arranging, YWIH, and Singer Roulette, there is something for everyone! Not sure which track to choose? Check out the track descriptions below!**

#### Arranging

Whether reading music is your biggest fear or you're already busting into the world of arranging music, the Arranger's Workshop is for you! Any experienced arranger will tell you that no matter your level of singing, a knowledge of music theory can be HUGELY helpful in your ability to be successful in a quartet or chorus or as a soloist.

There are three different class levels for this exciting weekend, where the Beginning Track will be taught by Claire Gardiner, the Intermediate Track will be taught by Melissa

Martin, and the Advanced Track will be taught by Clay Hine. Each one of these experienced arrangers and teachers will meet you where you are in your arranging experience (or lack thereof)!

### **Young Women in Harmony (YWIH)**

Sweet Adelines Heart of the Blue Ridge Region 14 is launching an exciting a cappella experience and looking for females under 25 years old who love to sing!

Singers will come ready to perform in a Young Women in Harmony chorus under the direction of the esteemed Jennifer Cooke. The stage will also be open for YOUR barbershop or a cappella group to perform for the best audience!

Do you teach or work with young singers? We've got something for you, too! An interactive barbershop 101 course and Q&A with Jen will help you integrate barbershop into your music program! PLUS: Register four (or more) students and receive a discount on your own registration to this awesome event!

The Blue Ridge A Cappella Bellas is running in congruence with Region 14's Triple Track Toss-Up. Click here for our registration website. Singer registration includes sheet music for 3 songs, learning tracks by Jen Cooke, and an event t-shirt. Educators registering multiple students can choose the "Other, we will contact you" payment option in order to apply the 4+ student discount.

Come sing and be a part of this a cappella initiation!

### **Singer Roulette**

Love being in a chorus and want to learn and sing some songs with lots of people from other choruses?

Curious about quartetting and would like to go for a test ride?

In a quartet and need some new fun songs?

Come to Singers Roulette!

Participants in the Singers Roulette track will have a fun weekend of non-stop singing and mingling. Learn three songs before you arrive, check in at the desk to receive your "Musical Bingo" card, then attempt to sing with every other "Rouletter" before the weekend is up!

**The four participants (drawing for one per part) who sing with the most people during the weekend will get a coaching session at the end of the day on Saturday with Lady Luck herself - the one and only Karen Breidert!**

Register now to receive the sheet music and learning media for our three Roulette songs - the wheel is about to spin and you're sure to win with Singers Roulette!

We encourage everyone to sign up online! Note that you do not have to pay on line; if you prefer, you can pay the old-fashioned way through your chorus. Just click "Other" when you get to that part of the form.

Be sure to let your chorus know that you registered on line.

[Sign up online!](#)

## **FALL MUSIC SCHOOL**

### **Close Your Eyes and Leap!**

**A Workshop Promoting Emotional Exposure and Performance Freedom**

**Guest Faculty:** Erin Howden, International Faculty and Director of North Metro Chorus,

current International Chorus Champions

**Date:** November 9-11, 2018

**Location:** Sheraton Greensboro at Four Seasons  
Greensboro, NC 27407



### Mark Your Calendars!

**June 1-3** - R14 Triple Track Toss-Up (akaT3!) - Durham, NC

**October 15-21** - International

Competition <https://sweetadelines.com/competitionconvention/internationalcompetition/>

**November 9-11** - R14 Fall Music School - Winston-Salem area

Share your news with Region 14! Send articles to [newsletter@sairregion14.org](mailto:newsletter@sairregion14.org).

**Deadline for next issue is August 3, 2018**

STAY CONNECTED

