

HARMONY HAPPENINGS

Sweet Adelines Region 3 | Newsletter



March 2020

REGIONAL INFO

Contest Webcast Info



Our third Region #3 webcast is going to be Available this year by donations!

It's time to have your friends and family plan that Webcast Party. They can be a part of all the action, even if they cannot make the trip to Appleton Wisconsin. OR- If you are part of the action – and you missed some of the performances – you can watch the archived webcast for 4 weeks (until May 1, 2020). Mark your calendar to watch live on Friday, April 3, 2020 for the quartet contest and Saturday, April 4, 2020 for the chorus contest. [The link to order the webcast](#) is “live” right now, so don't delay.

Please remember that in order to have the webcast next year, we must cover all the expenses, so bring your cash to Appleton or donate online.

Newsletter Note...

Thank you so much who contributed to this issue of Harmony Happenings, Region 3's revamped newsletter!

It is such an honor to help connect our regional community in some way, and I greatly appreciate the support and patience I've received as I've worked through some growing pains. Big shout out to Linda Gross for her help!

Keep an eye out for our next issue in June, and if you have any ideas about submissions, please email me!

--Meg Palmer, Harmony Happenings Editor
(meglizpalmer@gmail.com)

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CHORUS NEWS

Updates from The Great Lake Sound Chorus

Contribution written by Melissa Dalton

The Great Lake Sound Chorus has had a few busy months! In November 2019, we held our annual dinner auction and show, which was our biggest one to date. The event hall was packed, and we had a great time debuting some new songs and singing a few of our old favorites. We celebrated the holiday season with MP3 seasonal greetings for anyone who wanted to send them to family and friends, and before we knew it, 2020 had arrived! Many of our chorus members were able to attend Singapalooza in February, which was such a fun-filled day. We had a great time being able to sing with so many of our regional sisters in song!

With our dinner auction and the holidays behind us, we've shifted focus to Region 3's competition, coming up in April. GLS has been working hard to polish our contest set for this year, and we've learned a lot from our coaches



and at our chorus retreat. We're excited to see everyone in Appleton!

News from Danville

Contribution written by Ruth Pancoast

After our show in November and planning for our very successful Christmas luncheon from which we give all of our profits, we are settling on our plans for the year. Unfortunately, we are experiencing a little too much illness and surgeries and are keeping it together hoping to be all back together really soon.

Our Christmas luncheon profit was \$1200 allowing for the splitting of that, to both Big Brothers Big Sisters and the Rescue Mission. We invite them to come to speak and share their impact on the community with our audience. We are very proud of our small but significant donations.

Now, we are looking forward to our annual visit to the National Junior College Basketball championship tournament where we sing the National Anthem on the opening night. You would be proud of how impressed the college-age basketball players and their crowd (from all over the United States) appreciate our singing. We look forward to sharing with all of you singing sisters, what we are able to accomplish during the next year.

Yahara River Review

Contribution written by Lois Haag

Greetings from YRC (aka Yahara River Chorus – yes, there really is a Yahara River in Dane County!) We've had a busy year singing at the Dane County Airport for Make Music Madison, our Once Upon a Time Fall Show and several Christmas performances.

We left energized after coaching with Diane Porsche at our fall weekend retreat, and (twice!) with Joan Boutilier this winter. So far the snow has been cooperating by falling on days other than Tuesdays so we can make it to our Tuesday night practice, as we work hard preparing for competition. (We're #10!)

Welcome to YRC Jenni and Kathryn! And welcome back Nicole and Donna!

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Did you know...

The first ever email attachment was an audio clip of a barbershop quartet singing "Let Me Send You Email" to the tune of "Let Me Call You Sweetheart." [Listen here!](#)

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Upcoming Events with the Melodeers

Contribution written by Meg Palmer



The Melodeers would like to extend the biggest thank you for all of the love and support we received in our journey to New Orleans! It was such an honor to share our music with you, and we can't wait to see you all in Appleton in April. Here's hoping that Mother Nature will give us a break this year!

We were so happy to share our third-place medal with the region, and we are excited to share some of our upcoming events. We hope to see you there!

Guest Night

The Melodeers will be hosting a guest night on May 13 at 7 PM. Theme and specifics coming soon, so stay tuned and follow @MelodeersChorus on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) or @TheMelodeersChorus on [MeetUp](#) for more information!

We're Having a Birthday Party, and You're Invited!

Mark your calendars... The Melodeers are turning 60! This year, The Melodeers Chorus will be celebrating its 60th birthday, and we are asking any former Melodeers and all of our singing sisters of Region 3 to celebrate with us! Join us during rehearsal on June 10 at Christian Heritage Academy in Northfield, Illinois for cake, party games, and of course some singing and music!

Hello from Vermillion Valley Show Chorus

Contribution written by Debbie Lowman

Vermillion Valley Show Chorus has had a whirlwind of events the past few months! We were so proud to represent Region 3 in the Harmony Classic Competition in New Orleans last September! We loved performing on the International stage and spending time with our chorus sisters. Most of us stayed the whole week to enjoy the Quartet and Chorus International sets as well as the cuisine and sights in NOLA.

October found us assisting with the Youth in Harmony event. Our annual show themed "The VVSC Variety Show" was in November. **Our long-time, beloved director Kathy Filipiak retired from directing in November.**

In January, we were thrilled to welcome our new Director, Krista Chmiel.

Our chorus has chosen not to compete at Regional this year but is looking forward to 2021! Also in January, VVSC



celebrated its 40th year with SAI!

We had a party that included many prior members of our chorus, a slide show of photos from past years, as well as cake and fellowship. We are so honored that two of our founding members till sing with us: Bev Friese and Jean Keck (pictured). Here's to another 40+ years!

Heart of Illinois Ready for Regional!

Contribution written by Lynn Bartek

We all know the four seasons of the year but for Sweet Adeline's there is another called "Countdown to Competition" For us, this happens in April and The Heart of Illinois Chorus travels North to Alaska (just kidding) but it did seem like it last year when parkas would have been a good costume choice.

This is also when we joyfully welcome back our snowbirds. They keep up through the recordings we make at each rehearsal.

We are looking forward to competition this year. We have a new song with exciting choreography. We've been coaching with Liz Hardcastle and Diane Huber. We even have two of our coaches riding on the bus to Appleton with us! Let's hope our bus driver either has good ear plugs or likes music. Of course, last year we were too worried about the snow to sing!! Here's to hoping for good weather this year!



We are working on music for our August 15 show - "Are We There Yet?" at Illinois Central College's Performing Arts Center in East Peoria and are having a great time picking music and writing a script.

Before that happens, we will be hosting our new annual event, the Hearts' All Chorus Retreat. We had a great time last year singing with a bunch of our Region 3 and Region 5 singing sisters and hope that you can all attend this year! This year's retreat will be held on July 11, and we will be putting more info on our Facebook page and website very soon, so be sure to save the date so you can join us!

East Central Harmony Chorus

Contribution written by Becky McDuffee

East Central Harmony Chorus is entering our third contest, and Jane Baines of the Melodeers has been coaching and supporting us the whole way.

A shout out to you Jane, we hope to make you proud.

We are up to 24 members and enjoying strong community support. We look forward to seeing you in Appleton.

Chorus Order of Appearance

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| 1. Midwest Crossroad (EVALUATION) | 6. East Central Harmony | 11. Crosstown Harmony |
| 2. Melodeers | 7. HarmonEssence | 12. Heart of Illinois |
| 3. Choral-Aires | 8. Riverport | 13. Toast of Champaign (OPEN DIVISION) |
| 4. River Bend (EVALUATION) | 9. Great Lake Sound | 14. River City Sound (EVALUATION) |
| 5. Westosha Lakes | 10. Yahara River | |

Choral-Aires Chorus: New Rehearsal Space!

Contribution by Linda Herza



Choral-Aires Chorus is still reeling from our performance in NOLA! It was so much fun performing for all of you!

We just cannot wait for our very own Region 3 Contest to see all our friends again!

Choral-Aires is excited to have 5 Quartets performing at Contest this year; Spare Parts, Humdingers, PRISM, Stiletto, and Drive Time (in that order)!

We had a fantastic Winter Retreat in January! We were

Westosha Lakes Chorus Singing Out

Contribution written by Linda Ramsak

Westosha Lakes Chorus is pleased to welcome new member Elise Livingston.

The chorus has enjoyed several sing-outs and special events in our area, as well as a series of fun theme nights and a busy holiday season with plenty of performances: a corporate Christmas party, a Christmas gathering celebrating foster families, a senior center holiday gathering, and a special VFW holiday dinner for veterans and active duty service men and women from Great Lakes Navy Base. We also rang bells and sang for the Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign and held our own festive holiday party.

Early in 2020, we sang the American National Anthem for two basketball games at the University of Wisconsin – Parkside.

WLC was pleased to honor Bev Leding as our 2020

coached by the wonderful Jana Gutenson who we always learn so much from. We just love spending time together and a retreat is just the place to do it.

We've changed our rehearsal location! We are now rehearsing at Cityview Community Church at 343 S. York Rd in Elmhurst Mondays, 7 to 10.

We have our annual Fashion Show March 7, 2020, a Golf Outing "Acapella Swing Classic" August 13, 2020 and Fall Show "A Capella After Dark" on November 21, 2020.



Woman of Note, recognized at the Region 3 Singapalooza.

In February, we had a special pre-competition coaching workshop with Maureen Brzinski. The chorus looks forward to gathering with the rest of our region at the 2020 spring contest in Appleton in April. Find and follow Westosha Lakes Chorus on [Facebook!](#)

QUARTET CORNER

PRISM

PRISM has had such a wonderful year representing Region 3 as the 2019 Quartet Champions! We have met so many Region 3 friends through events and shows and we are always amazed by the kindness and support shown to us! Region 3 Rocks!

A couple of memorable moments we will always cherish are being invited to be the guest quartet/section leaders for both the Bloomington Youth in Harmony back in October and for the Region at Singapalooza 3 this past February!

The song "This Is Me" from The Greatest Showman which we taught at both events has kind of become our anthem this year...such powerful lyrics we can all relate to!



We have been very busy learning new songs and preparing for Contest! We can't wait to share the stage with you and see you all in Appleton!

Odyssey

We are on a journey. A journey through our individual lives and a journey through our quartet life together. We are four busy ladies and like most of you, we look forward to the time we have together to sing and leave our worries behind us for a brief moment in time.

Our quartet has had a whirlwind of activity this year as all four of us sing with the Melodeers. Besides working on our quartet music, we also had the privilege of competing with our beloved chorus in New Orleans. This past year we have had quartet members sell their house, buy a house, move, have surgeries, lose loved ones, and now expecting a baby with their partner! We are on quite a journey and we are excited to share where we are with the region on the contest stage as contestant #13. Appleton here we come!



Quartet Order of Appearance

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1. Spare Parts (OPEN DIVISION) | 6. Humdingers | 11. Cool Beans |
| 2. Chordially Yours (OPEN DIVISION) | 7. PRISM | 12. Hot Mess |
| 3. To the Max | 8. Stiletto | 13. Odyssey |
| 4. Sweet & Salty (OPEN DIVISION) | 9. Chicago Mix | 14. By Request |
| 5. Whimsy | 10. Drive Time | |

Stay Connected!

Looking to fill your feed with more music and harmony?

Then follow the quartets featured here on their social media! (images linked below)

Odyssey



PRISM



Stiletto



Whistle Junction



SAI International



Region # 3



#IAmSweetAdelines

Stiletto



Three years ago, at the Choral-aire's Chorus's annual Christmas party, Kim (lead), Cat (baritone), Linda (bass) and Lindsey (tenor) got together and sang our favorite song, White Christmas. With a little nudge from our directors Bonnie and Amy, we decided to make it official and formed Stiletto Quartet! Fun fact about us: Linda and Lindsey are Mother/Daughter! Stiletto has had the honor of placing 5th in our first competition and 4th place in our second competition! Last year, we also received the Carmela Speta Most Improved Quartet Trophy. We continue to work hard and strive to be even better. We are looking forward to our next Regional Competition and would love to see you all there to cheer us on!

We recently had the opportunity to sing for the Naperville Rotary Club. We were thrilled to have this article written about us in Naperville's local newspaper, Positively Naperville, [and you can read it here!](#)

Whistle Junction

Hi, Region 3! Whistle Junction Quartet is sad to announce that we will not be competing this year in Appleton. We had a typically goofy package for you all, but we'll just do it next year. That will give us a whole year to make it even wackier! Good heavens, what a terrifying thought!

We do have some big news to share with you though. Our wonderful baritone, Holly, has decided to step away from Whistle Junction to take care of other things in her life. We are very fortunate to have found Mary Ann Suprenant to replace Holly. Many of you probably know Mary Ann as she's been a very active chorus and quartet singer in our region. She currently sings with River City Sound and now Whistle Junction!

Our best wishes to all those competing this year. A couple of us will be in the audience cheering you on. We'll be back next year and look forward to seeing you all!

2020 WOMEN OF NOTE



Lynn Berton
Yahara River Chorus



Debi Batchelor
Midwest Crossroad



Susan Bulla
East Central Harmony



Glenda Carpenter
Toast of Champaign



Joanna Coombs
Danville Chorus



Kris Conley
HarmonEssence Chorus



Shirley Hanerhoff
Heart of Illinois



Vickie Jemas
Great Lake Sound



Leslie Kalc
Melodeers Chorus



Dottie Kaufman
Choral-Aires



Bev Leding
Westosha Lakes Chorus



June Nicholls
River City Sound



LaRita Robinson
River Bend Chorus



Ginger Stubbs
Vermillion Valley



Collene Zemke
Crosstown Harmony

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