

March 1, 2018
Harmony Happenings

MIDWEST HARMONY *Region 3*

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Greetings Region 3!

Spring is here, and with it comes the Sweet Adelines International season of Regional competitions! Woohoo! It's only a few short weeks until we meet in Appleton, WI, once again. What fun it will be! I, for one, can't wait to see and hear what you all have prepared to entertain us!

Also exciting is the fact that 18 quartets and 15 choruses will be webcast this year! See the informational flyer elsewhere in this newsletter for all the details. Then share it with your friends and families.

Enjoy putting the finishing touches on your performance. Polish and pack your sparkle. Then shine all the way to Appleton and back!

See you there!

In Harmony,
Debi Batchelor

Harmony Happenings Newsletter Editor

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Spritzer

Hi Region 3!

Happy New Year!

Spritzer is preparing for contest - St. Louis, that is! Unfortunately, both of our Regions' competitions (3 and 16) are scheduled for the same weekend in April this year. We're very disappointed about that because we won't get to connect with our friends as a foursome. On a positive note, Hannah has begun directing a chorus in Region 16, Ontario Heartland Chorus, and will make her directing debut in April! Otherwise, we're busy learning new music, working on current music and coaching. We wish all singers a happy spring filled with laughter, friendship and ringing chords!!

In harmony,
Spritzer — Joan, Susann, Hannah, Sharon



March 1, 2018

Quest

Quest has enjoyed representing Region 3 as the 2017 Quartet Champions. Now we are looking forward to seeing all our Region 3 friends in Appleton in April and enjoying the excitement of another contest weekend!

It is evident that Sweet Adelines around the world are learning and practicing and improving every year. Our understanding of performance gets better and we love to share what we've learned - especially with our sisters in song.

Quest can't wait to share the stage with all of you and see just how far we, as a Region, can move that line of excellence forward!

In Harmony,

Mary Ann, Sherry, Diane and Debi



By Request Quartet

How often in the course of a journey do you think back to the beginning... the start, the hesitation, the unknown, the insecurity. This year, By Request did some soul searching and introspection and recognized that we never could have accomplished this without family, friends, choruses, coaches, and Region 3 sisters around us. You have been integral to our past growth and are still integral to our future growth. So this year, we decided that one of our competition selections is a "thank you" to all of you. We see it as our gift given in love and friendship, and to let you know how much we treasure all of you.

Always in friendship and harmony!

Angie, Marie, Jen, and Jane

Choral-Aires Chorus

The Choral-Aires Chorus is back in action after a short and much needed hiatus over the holidays. We celebrated a very successful 2017 at our annual Christmas Party on December 18 and returned to rehearsal refreshed and reenergized in January. However, while the Chorus was taking it easy in December, our busy ensembles, A la Carte and Evening Edition were covering the suburbs, performing numerous times to enthusiastic holiday audiences.

January was an exciting month that included a successful recruitment campaign and a visit from Mo Field after January Jamboree. We're excited to welcome new members to the risers!



A group of us enjoyed singing the National Anthem for the Chicago Steel hockey team in early February, and we're all hard at work getting ready for the Annual Luncheon and Fashion Show on March 3 at Drury Lane Theatre.

We're looking forward to a coaching retreat with Betty Clipman in late March and, of course, Regional Competition in April. Best of luck to our competing quartets, and to every quartet and chorus preparing to take the risers in Appleton!

Crosstown Harmony Chorus



Crosstown's fall show, "Let Freedom Sing", a musical tribute to the armed forces, was a huge success! It was a packed house as we performed not only for our friends and family, but for the brave men and women that protect our great nation. It was a truly moving and wonderful show.

We spent the holidays spreading Christmas cheer by performing our favorite holiday songs on a local morning TV show, The Morning Blend, at parades, tree lighting ceremonies, hospitals and holiday parties. We wrapped up the year with our annual Christmas party where we enjoyed some delicious food and drinks, played a few games, exchanged gifts, laughed and of course, we sang. This year we even held a supply drive for the Sojourner Family Peace Center. What better way to celebrate the holiday season than with 40 of your closest friends!



Looking forward to seeing everyone in Region 3 this April!

East Central Harmony Chorus

The East Central Harmony Chorus participated in the January Global Open House with a "Harmony Workshop", where 5 excellent singers attended. One has joined and another is planning to join soon. We were very pleased with our first attempt.

Preparations for our first contest are in full swing. We are very excited to participate in the main event, after winning the Krazy Kwartet contest at January Jamboree. More than half our members attended, and were very impressed with the education provided by Mo Field (and astonished by the Krazy trophy we received).

We are grateful for the support provided by the Toast of Champaign Chorus and the Spring Valley Chorus, and we are looking forward to meeting up with all of Region 3 in Appleton.

Great Lake Sound

What a wonderful winter it's been for the Great Lake Sound Chorus! We've had an exciting and active few months, and we're eagerly preparing for our regional competition coming up in April. Here's just a little bit of what we've been up to . .

We held our annual dinner show/auction in November, which is always great fun! We debuted several songs we learned over the summer and officially rang in the holiday season with some of our favorite Christmas carols. As November moved into December, we kept ourselves busy with several community performances, including having a show at the local community college, caroling in downtown Valparaiso, and visiting the residents of a local retirement community to spread some holiday cheer.

GLS has also been busy fundraising through trivia night events (where we had a completely full house!), and an upcoming canvas painting party. The funds we raise go to help us pay the amazing coaches we've been able to work with—including Jim Arns, Betty Clipman, and Renee Porzel! We couldn't think of a better way to help us prepare for competition in the spring, and we're practicing hard to put all of their wisdom into our songs. This winter, we have also been fortunate enough to add three new members to our chorus, and we're excited to bring them with us to the competition stage in Appleton.

GLS has also been fortunate enough to have some wonderful articles written about the chorus over the last few months, including articles in the *Chicago Tribune*, the *NWI Times*, and *North Valpo Neighbors* magazine!

Good luck to everyone in Region 3 as we gear up toward competition season. See you in Appleton!



HarmonEssence Chorus

The HarmonEssence Chorus from DeKalb, Illinois is eagerly anticipating our first Regional Contest since revitalization as Prairie Echoes and with our new director Jeff Lathom. We've been working hard on our contest pieces and having a lot of fun at the same time! We were lucky enough to have the legendary Bonnie Fedyski come join us for an evening of coaching a few weeks ago. The night was full of hard work and laughter.

We also held our first Christmas performance in early December with guests Family Tradition (women's Barbershop quartet) and OMG (men's Barbershop quartet, featuring our own Jeff Lathom as Lead). The event was well attended and was full of ringing chords!

We look forward to all of the fabulous fun and harmony that Regional Contest has to offer! See you all soon!



Melodeers Chorus

Ready for Appleton!



Well, almost...we're putting the finishing touches on our contest set and can't wait to see and sing with all of Region 3 in April!

What's The Buzz?



We are very excited to announce the date of our only show this year! It will be Sunday, August 5th immediately following Queens' College. The Buzz will be our featured guests! Also appearing will be Spritzer Quartet! That's a lot of amazing barbershop packed into one afternoon. Mark the date on your calendar now and keep an eye out for ticket information in the early summer time frame.

Midwest Crossroad Chorus

We had a busy and fun-filled fall! In mid-November we turned our rehearsal venue into a living candy land, complete with sweet treats, ice cream, and a chocolate fountain. We found that mixing sweets & barbershop harmony and adding in “Pure Imagination” was a win-win! It was great to see some of our Region 3 friends in our audience. Thanks for your support!

In December, the chorus was once again invited to sing on the West Towns Chorus' annual holiday show – 3 fabulous performances with many talented musicians at the beautiful Tivoli Theater in Downers Grove. The choruses performed with hand bells, flute, strings, and the awesome pipe organ! This definitely got us into the holiday spirit!

Turning the page into a new calendar year, we have turned our sights to Regional Competition, as have all of you! This season we have enjoyed coaching with Kim Wonders, Master Director of the Metro Nashville Chorus, and with a few of our very own Midwest Harmony Region 3 Queens - Amy Brinkman, Darcy Newell, DeAnne Haugen, and Bonnie Fedyski. Director Tori Hicks set up our own Midwest Crossroad Queen's College, and we have been having a BLAST!

The chorus looks forward to seeing all of you in Appleton, and sharing the stage with inspiring performers! See you all soon!



River Bend Chorus

Director Needed

**At River Bend Chorus, Midwest Harmony Region 3 of Sweet Adelines International
This dynamic women's barbershop chorus is located in South Bend , Indiana.**

River Bend Chorus was chartered in 1977 and is celebrating 40 years of singing in the Michiana area. The chorus has performed at local parks, festivals, and fairs. The chorus supports the Young Women In Harmony program of Sweet Adelines International by providing education to local high school music students.

**River Bend Chorus is currently accepting applications for the
position of chorus director.**

If you are interested in learning more about the position, please contact Sharee Hartman, Team Coordinator by email at sahartman@bnin.net or by telephone 574-971-0800.

River City Sound

Let Me Call You Sweetheart never rang more true than this Valentines Day as our director, Joan (aka Boots) welcomed her first grandchild into the world. Rosanna Marian was born on February 12th. Grandma is overflowing with joy. She is spending a couple of weeks with Rosie and mom (Janet) and dad (Rick) in California. Just think, a new Sweet Adeline! Maybe she'll be a beautiful tenor just like her mom and grandma! Little does Rosie know that she just gained 35 RCS Auntie Adelines plus hundreds more if you count all of the women who know and love Joan!

And whether the ground hog saw his shadow or not, there are 9 more weeks 'til contest! Yay! RCS is proud to be your host chapter in Appleton. We can't wait to experience those ringing chords in that beautiful performing arts center!

It will be so good to see everyone again. Please visit us in the boutique and take a chance on some fabulous raffle baskets. We appreciate your love and support as we work towards our St. Louis performance!

Enjoy your own journey as your choruses prepare for competition! It is kind of like our own Olympic games. Go for the gold!

RCS has several performances planned this spring and summer. That's why we do what we do! We hope you are all able to get out in your communities and SING! Share your music; spread the word about the joy of 4-part acapella harmony.

See you all in Appleton. Safe travels.

Riverport Chorus

Riverport Chorus held their 12th annual-amazingly successful Diva Quest 2018 on January 27, 2018 at the Veterans Terrace in Burlington, WI. Ten area high school girls performed with the chorus and competed with an individual solo of their choice. This year's First Place Diva is Rachel Gebel from Burlington High School and coincidentally the sister of Diva 2011 – Micah Gebel. Riverport has donated over \$20,000 in music scholarships to the Diva Winners!

Now we are gearing up for the Regional Contest – looking forward to our retreat with the “Wonder”ful Kim Wonders. Hope to see you all in Appleton!

We have had multiple sing-outs at senior living centers and will be performing for the annual Ryan's Art Fair, a fundraiser for childhood cancer and the MACC fund in Union Gove. Hope you are all enjoying our beautiful snow!

“Life is a Song – Love is the Music!



Riverport Diva Quest 2018

Toast of Champaign Chorus

Toast of Champaign is still on a natural high from the January Jamboree Music School with Mo Field. We had 16 members in attendance and, to a person, we came away renewed, refreshed, and re-dedicated to digging deep within ourselves to find the reason we “do what we do.” Our director claimed to notice a difference in our first rehearsal after coming home, and we plan to keep that spark ignited.

December found us once again visiting the Danville Veteran’s Hospital to put on a show and express our appreciation for their dedication and service to our country. We always believe we get more than we give whenever we sing for them. Then our annual Christmas party was pure fun with lots of good food, good singing, and plenty of laughter at the creativeness of some of our chorus members as they perform Crazy Quartets.

Currently, we are being coached by the fabulous Kevin Keller as we prepare for contest in Appleton. While the distance to competition seems a bit difficult, the fact that we can take a bus and play games and sing all the way up and back makes it quite a bonding experience. We plan to include members of our new sister chorus, East Central Harmony Chorus, as well as some long-time Danville friends on the bus with us. Luckily, our favorite bus driver comes prepared, probably with two sets of ear plugs.

We are looking forward to meeting, greeting, and congratulating our fellow competitors in April. See you all in Appleton.

Vermillion Valley Show Chorus

Happy 2018 to all our sisters out there in barbershopland!

Must take a moment to brag. Our own Becca Adams (along with her mom/mentor, Michelle) was among the coordinators for the fabulous Central Illinois Youth in Harmony Festival held at the Bloomington Center for the Performing Arts in late October. Tori Postma and Ryan Wisniewski led 21 music educators, 100+ volunteers, and 461 students in a day of fun education and stellar performance. So much fun to see and hear a horde of teenagers enjoying the *a cappella* experience—can't wait to do it again this year!

Another exciting opportunity—a coaching retreat with Tori. (She stays busy!) Wearing our VVSC signature purple, we learned new approaches to old challenges, laughed a lot, and even cried a little. (*So* looking forward to taking our new ballad to Appleton!) And then, after all our hard work, we ate like troopers, drank like fish (some of us, anyway), and battled it out in a hotly-contested trivia game. (Really needed my nap the next day!)

Chorus is more than ever an opportunity for growth, fun, and therapy—especially as VVSC welcomes a couple of new members who will compete with us in Wisconsin. (Now, if I can just lose the 10 pounds I gained during the holidays so I can fit into my costume!) We'll see you all there—good luck!

Westosha Lakes Chorus

Westosha Lakes Chorus is delighted to have a couple of new members and some new music to share in recent and upcoming sing-outs. Recently, we welcomed June Lawlor as a brand-new member and Sandy Smith as a returning one.

The 2017 holiday season was a whirlwind of merry music for us with multiple festive performances. These included a church Advent dinner, a corporate charity outreach party, and a VFW gathering for veterans and active duty service men and women. We also celebrated the season enthusiastically together in our own annual chorus holiday party.

Many members of our chorus attended Region 3's January Jamboree in Bolingbrook, Illinois, where we entered the Kooky Kwartet Contest, performing as the Doo Dah Zingers. (Thanks for joining us, Cindy Slowik!) During the weekend, our own Susan Moore was named a Women of Note for 2018.

In early February, we enjoyed a special pre-competition coaching weekend with Bonnie Fedyski.

Westosha Lakes Chorus is pleased to enter a team of runners/walkers in the Foodie 5K benefit run for the Northern Illinois Food Bank on Saturday, May 12. Several members of the chorus are participating and fundraising for the cause.

The 3rd Annual Westosha Lakes Chorus Golf Outing will take place on Saturday, August 4, at the Twin Lakes Country Club in Twin Lakes, Wisconsin. This 18-hole outing will follow a best ball scramble format with a shotgun start.

Find and follow Westosha Lakes Chorus on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/WestoshaLakesChorus>



2018 Golf Outing **Saturday, August 4, 2018** **at Twin Lakes Country Club** **1230 Legion Drive, Twin Lakes, WI**

18-Hole Scramble Format - Registration begins at 7:30 am, followed by a shotgun start at 8 am. The luncheon follows at 1:30 p.m.

Golf is \$75 - includes golf, cart, lunch and three drink tickets
Lunch-only is \$25 - includes lunch and one drink ticket

The festivities will include a Ball Drop (Tickets are available from any chorus member, and \$10 buys a chance to win \$1,000.), raffles, and a silent auction.

Please join us!



Kooky Kwartet Contest @ January Jamboree



Yahara River Chorus

We had a very successful “Sentimental Journey” cabaret show on October 28th. Whistle Junction entertained us with their hilarious humor!

We were kept busy performing Christmas shows in December. We enjoyed singing with several guests, and one will be auditioning soon! After our holiday break we were treated with coaching by Jim Arns!

We enjoyed the January Jamboree on the 26-28th. We’re excited for our February 16-18 winter retreat with Diane Porsch. We look forward to our Region 3 competition in Appleton, Wisconsin!

We are fortunate to have a new member join our ranks and we are encouraging all who love to sing to visit our rehearsals and give us a try!

Region 3 Quartet Order of Appearance

April 2018

Quartet Order of Appearance

Cont. #	Quartet	Chapter(s)
1	Spare Parts Quartet, OPEN DIVISION	Yahara River Chapter
2	Change of Tune Quartet	Great Lake Sound Chapter
3	Chordially Yours Quartet, OPEN DIVISION	Great Lake Sound Chapter
4	Humdingers Quartet	Chapter-at-Large Region 3, Yahara River Chapter
5	Stiletto Quartet	Choral-Aires Chapter
6	Ruckus Quartet	Chapter-at-Large Region 3, Crosstown Harmony Chapter, Melodeers Chapter
7	Impromptu Quartet, OPEN DIVISION	Toast of Champaign Chapter
8	4 To GO! Quartet	Vermillion Valley Show Chapter
9	By Request Quartet	Yahara River Chapter
10	Whistle Junction Quartet, OPEN DIVISION	Chapter-at-Large Region 3, Riverport Chapter, Spirit of the Lakes Chapter
11	S.A.S.S. Quartet	Crosstown Harmony Chapter
12	At Eaz Quartet	River Bend Chapter
13	Shop Girls Quartet	Chapter-at-Large Region 3, Melodeers Chapter
14	Quest Quartet	Chapter-at-Large Region 3, Melodeers Chapter, Midwest Crossroad Chapter
15	Cool Beans Quartet	Chapter-at-Large Region 3, Crosstown Harmony Chapter
16	Prism Quartet	Choral-Aires Chapter, Melodeers Chapter, Vermillion Valley Show Chapter
17	Charisma! Quartet	River City Sound Chapter, Yahara River Chapter
18	Aire Waves Quartet	Choral-Aires Chapter

Region 3 Chorus Order of Appearance April 2018

Cont. #	Chorus	Location	Director
1	HarmonEssence Chapter, EVALUATION ONLY	DeKalb, IL	Jeff Lathom
2	East Central Harmony Chapter	Charleston, IL	Becky McDuffee, Laurie Olson
3	Westosha Lakes Chapter	Antioch, IL	Nancie L Kiddoo
4	River Bend Chapter	South Bend, IN	Kristin L. Farwig
5	Spirit of the Lakes Chapter	Lake GenevaW	Tessa L August
6	Great Lake Sound Chapter	Valparaiso, IN	Carol J Thompson
7	Riverport Chapter	Bristol, WI	Cathie Zimmerman
8	Vermillion Valley Show Chapter	Pontiac, IL	Kathryn R. Filipiak
9	Toast of Champaign Chapter	Champaign, IL	Jacalyn A Compton
10	Crosstown Harmony Chapter	West Allis, WI	Kari S. Midtbo Schwartz
11	Yahara River Chapter	Madison, WI	Jennifer K. Johnson
12	Midwest Crossroad Chapter	Joliet, IL	Tori Hicks
13	Melodeers Chapter	Northbrook, IL	Jim Arns
14	Choral-Aires Chapter	Elmhurst, IL	Bonnie L Fedyski
15	River City Sound Chapter, EVALUATION ONLY	Rockford, Illinois	Joan M. Boutilier

Region 3 Calendar 2018

April 19—21	Region 3 Competition Appleton, WI
June 3	RMT Meeting Joliet, IL
June 15-16	Battle of the Barbershop Stars Regions 3 & 5 Cedar Rapids, IA
September 7—9	Musical Mayhem with Tori Postma Location—TBD
October 16—20	International Competition St. Louis, MO



sweet!

APRIL 20-21, 2018

Region 3 Announces Our FIRST WEBCAST!

Live From The Appleton, WI PAC, Region #3 will present
a Webcast of the 2018 Regional Quartet and Chorus Contests!

region3sweetadelines.org

Gift your friends and family with subscriptions to watch
you, share so they can purchase one, or buy it so you
can see the other competitors when it's archived.

