



NINE ON LINE



IMPORTANT DATES

2023

Jan 27 - 29 - Winter Workshop featuring
Karen Breidert and Debbie Cleveland

Feb 12 - [Women of Note Show](#)

Feb 21 - [Youth Workshop hosted by
Women of Note](#)

March 18 - [Magic of Manatee Show](#)

April 2 - Spirit of the Gulf Show

May 4 - 7 - Regional Competition

July 13 - Diamond Division Quartet
Contest

July 14 - 16 - Queens College

Oct 30 - Nov 4 -
International Convention - Louisville

2024

May 16 - 19 - Regional Competition

2025

April 4 - 6 - Regional Competition

2024

April 15 - 19 - Regional Competition

Team Coordinator Corner

Greetings, salutations, and Happy New Year, Region 9!

The Region is buzzing!

So many holiday performances and shows!

It is fantastic to see our Region coming to life again.

You won't want to miss Winter Workshop with our own Queens of Buzz, Karen Breidert and Debbie Cleveland. We are also very fortunate to have Jean Flinn, who will be offering one-on-one arranger's coaching, and others on the Regional Faculty are offering PVI's and quartet coaching. What a great way to launch the year!

I also want to remind you about our Regional Coaching Program. Choruses are eligible for up to 12 hours of free coaching, and registered quartets up to six hours of coaching by our own Regional Faculty. See the Region 9 Faculty Coaching Policy article below for more details

Yes, it is shaping up to be a fantastic year for Region 9!

See you all soon!

Gayle Burton

2022 Region 9 Champions - Toast of Tampa

After a three-year hiatus, the members of Toast of Tampa were thrilled to join our sisters in harmony for a homecoming weekend in Daytona Beach. The Regional Convention weekend was a great "charge" for everyone in attendance, and we are excited to be representing Region 9 in November at the next International convention in Louisville, Kentucky.

After a successful Regional showing, some would think we plan the next 18 months around the one goal of competing at International, but that is not quite how we operate. After all, our middle name is "Show," so our preparations began with getting back to entertaining people.

2022 Regional Champions - Toast of Tampa (cont.)

In the last four months of 2022, we had four major shows with our brother chorus, the Heralds of Harmony. These shows showcased our regular and holiday-themed repertoire. In addition, we were also privileged to sing the National Anthem at a Tampa Bay Buccaneers game! Click the picture below to see our performance.



Like most other choruses in our organization, after spending 18 months meeting on Zoom instead of in-person, we have had some rebuilding to do. We have been thrilled to gain new members every month, and learn new music. Last year was the first year we ever did an all out Holiday / Seasonal show. We learned four new songs in seven weeks for this year's holiday shows.

At the beginning of this year, our Music Team defined and communicated to our chorus our core values, which all fit into the main purpose of singing for FUN and JOY. Before Regional, Tony gave us a 30-day challenge. We received a small task via e-mail every morning for the 30 days leading up to Regional, which gave our members extra ownership and accountability. This helped to focus us all in the same direction over the last month leading into convention weekend.

We have always enjoyed doing show packages such as Wizard of Oz, Music Man, Sound of Music, and Shrek. Since 2019, we have been planning a fun theme for the next time we go to International. We have always been in the Top 10 since we have been under Tony's direction, but we do not take anything for granted. The first round is priority, and if we are fortunate enough to move on to the second round, we will use the same theme for our entertainment package as we use for our first round. It will take a lot of preparation, since all of our music will be brand new. It is all being custom arranged for us by Clay Hine. So far, we have learned one song and were able to perform it at Regional Competition this year. At Toast of Tampa, we strive to not have separate contest and repertoire material - we just have repertoire. Our goal in everything we do is striving to sing at an "A" level.

Thank you, Region 9, for supporting us on our journey to Louisville! We will be striving to represent you well. It was especially inspiring to see our sisters with Spirit of the Gulf perform in Phoenix. Congratulations to them for their wonderful, Top 5 finish!

Introducing Our Regional Events Coordinator



Amanda Wreford, our Regional Events Coordinator, has been a member of Sweet Adelines International since 2009. She got her start singing lead with Bayou Blend Chorus in Lafayette, Louisiana (Region 10). Over the years she has sung and competed in Bayou Blend Chorus, Hilton Head ShoreNotes, Houston Horizon Chorus, The Woodlands Show Chorus and now is a member of Toast of Tampa Show \ Chorus. As a member of various choruses, Amanda has been actively involved in both musical and management teams, including Membership Manager, Assistant Section Leader, Section Leader, Front Row, Costumes and Makeup team, and Director's Assistant.

When Amanda is not singing, she is an event planner by trade. After 17+ years in the hotel industry, she recently made a switch and is now an Event Planning Specialist with Wounded Warrior Project. She works on contracts, negotiations, sourcing venues, and event planning for various warrior events. She's excited to be able to give back to a nonprofit that means so much to her and her family. Amanda and her husband, John, have been together for over 10 years and have a beautiful daughter. Elizabeth is 3 years old and loves singing just as much as her mommy. They are in the process of adopting their second child and adding to the family.

Spirit of the Gulf Meets Ian



As I write this message it is two days away from Thanksgiving and Spirit of the Gulf has so much to be thankful for! We are thankful for music and harmony, arrangers and singers, judges, and directors.

We finally got to compete at an International after a long wait! Phoenix was a blast and we are still on Cloud Nine regarding the results. Thank you, Region 9, for all your well wishes, your support, the backstage greeting from those of you that attended, the flowers, all the love! We are thankful that, although Hurricane Ian was devastating, our members came through with no physical injuries. The property loss is tragic but we are so thankful for the generosity of our Sweet Adeline sisters – from near and far – helping our members who need it the most! We are thankful to be rehearsing for our Winter Show – wondering if we could even find a venue that wasn't damaged. But the show did go on and featured the current BHS Champions, Quorum! Finally, we are thankful for all of you, for Region 9, for Sweet Adelines, for friendship and harmony all year through!

Karen Breidert
For Spirit of the Gulf

Note from the Region: For anyone who would like to provide further assistance, the Region contacted Spirit of the Gulf Team Lead, Linda Boggs. She indicated that the best way to help is to send gift cards like Home Depot, Publix, Visa, etc. to her home address (13061 Bridgeford Ave., Bonita Springs, FL 34135). These cards will then be distributed to those who need them.

Chorus Connection

Sound of Sunshine was chartered in 1977. The pandemic has taken a psychological toll on all of us. It feels almost cliché to say so at this point, but it is no less true. Our daily lives became a treadmill of uncertainty, fear, loneliness, and loss, and the effects of those feelings still linger. When Sound of Sunshine started rehearsing in person again, the joy and camaraderie we felt from making music together was a much-needed balm for the pains of the pandemic. One new song in our repertoire, Sheryl Neal's arrangement of Maroon 5's "Memories," became our anthem. As we learned "Memories," we honored the struggles of our time apart and celebrated the healing effect of building new memories together.



When Sound of Sunshine placed first among small choruses at the 2022 Regional Convention and Competition, we knew what we needed to sing in the Show of Champions. In addition to our contest set, we shared "Memories." The song that had spoken so powerfully to our chorus was our surprise gift to the Region. Singing "Memories" at that moment and in that place, the first time Region 9 had gathered together since 2019 and with Sheryl Neal in the audience, was a deeply moving experience for us and a true privilege.

"Memories" is a song about change, loss, and remembrance. It is a mix of sorrow and solace. The lyrics say, "*Everybody hurts sometimes, everybody hurts someday,*" then immediately adds,

"Everything will be all right." But more than anything, "Memories" is a song about the comfort to be found in sharing and making memories with others. That's an idea worth raising our voices for.

Bridges of Harmony had a busy few months at the end of 2022! We had coaching sessions with Gina Baker and Betty Clipman. Then our Singing Into Summer campaign saw guests galore coming in the door resulting in four new members. It hasn't slowed down since then, with five new guests arriving at our most recent rehearsal. #IgnitetheSound. And then... it was time to start rehearsing for our Christmas show, *The Great Christmas Cookie Prank* and the eight other Christmas performances during the first half of December. Whew! What a month!



2023 Regional Competition - What Do You Think?

"Compete: strive to gain or win something by defeating or establishing superiority over others who are trying to do the same." Well, I'm so glad this definition of competing is not the one Sweet Adeline's is all about. For Region 9 choruses and quartets competing means many things, most of which have nothing to do with "defeating or establishing superiority" but doing our very best and letting the chips fall where they may. Of course, that doesn't mean there aren't feelings of elation and disappointment, but in my experience, we celebrate all the wins and learn from all the...well, not wins. And a win for us doesn't always mean we get the highest score in the contest.

We asked some of our choruses and quartets their views on competition, and here's what they said.

AttiTunes Quartet is entering in the Open Division. They've had success choosing songs that will entertain the audience. And they have coaching planned so the singing is also top notch.

Ladybug Quartet performs year-round and wraps up the holiday season with an eye toward competition. They already have their favorite coaches booked and have started planning for a fun weekend in Daytona Beach. At the core of everything they do is FUN; they work hard and play hard! Competition is a time to get together with sisters in song and share the joy of music. Their benchmarks for success include: "Did we have fun on stage?" "Do we feel like we've improved since last year?" "Do the judges agree?" They like to stay an extra day at the beach to relax, celebrate their friendship, enjoy the sun, reflect on the previous year, and plan for the next. There is never a dull moment when Ladybug is around.



Goldcoast Show Chorus is all about competition and they have done well. They meet once a month and have high expectations for each member. They are looking forward to an upcoming coaching session with Dixie Dahlke, a sought after expert in the Sound category.



Ta-Da! Quartet took a break for the holidays and has since been busily getting ready for competition. Coaching sessions and fun rehearsals are their focus. And they are looking forward to the upcoming Winter Regional.

Gainesville Chorus prepares for competition with an annual retreat where they spend a concentrated weekend on contest songs with a coach to add valuable insight. The natural habitat of the retreat center also allows for some much-needed quiet reflection before the busyness of competition weekend.

Syncopation Quartet formed in 2019. Although all have competed, they are planning to compete together this year, even though rehearsal time has been reduced by the pandemic, sickness, and travel. As they prepare for this contest, their first thought is to have fun all while they do coaching and singouts. They especially enjoy seeing eyes light up as they sing good old-fashioned songs to an audience of seniors. They are mainly excited to continue to work on the barber-shop craft and to renew acquaintances with Region 9 friends on competition weekend!



Potluck Quartet, like many others, choose not to compete and find satisfaction through friendship and sharing their love of barbershop with audiences.



Classic Charm Quartet keeps their skills honed by performing as much as possible. And now that holiday performances are over, they are planning for competition. What to sing? What to wear? Who will we coach with? Sound familiar??

DEDICATED DIRECTORS

Diane K. Sherley, Co-Director of Gainesville Harmony Show Chorus



I've been a member of Sweet Adelines International since May 1, 1974 and am the only remaining Charter member of Gainesville Harmony Chorus. I'm currently the baritone of On The Edge Quartet.

I was introduced to barbershop music when I was about seven years old. My father became a member of a chorus in Indiana and soon after, joined a quartet. I went to many shows and witnessed many rehearsals. One Sunday afternoon, my dad spent hours trying to teach my brother, sister, and me parts to a song. However, when he brought us back together for a concert, we **ALL** sang the Lead part. He gave up but it did become a family affair as my mother, sister, and I proudly sang together in the chorus and my first quartet was Rainbow's End with my sister. My daughter Chanda joined the chorus at age 14 and we now Co-Direct. My son also sang with my Dad in the Big Orange Chorus.

In 1980, after our Director, Chuck Griffith retired from directing Gainesville Harmony, the chorus decided to make Beth Ripple and me Co-Directors and it was a wonderful journey! The part of directing I enjoy most is helping chorus members become better singers and watching a song become more than words and notes on a piece of paper. Directing has made me a more independent person as I learned to be a better leader through my directing experience. My family life pretty much rotated around my barbershop life. I have a very supportive husband who has helped on many chapter shows.

My advice to any new Director is to make sure you have a musical team that supports your ideas and goals for the Chorus. I love Co-Directing because I get to be a chorus member half of the time.

Marketing Mania

The **Bridges of Harmony Chorus** embarked on a new marketing campaign to grow our presence in Jacksonville and surrounding communities, by meeting the public one-on-one at arts and music festivals. So, we bought a tent! Then, we participated in the first two of many festivals to come with great success!

Classic Charm Quartet 'charmed' passers-by with song and even sang tags with some while telling them about BOH and inviting them to sing in our Christmas Show. Members of the chorus also took part handing out brochures, flyers, and engaging the crowds.

We built upon our email database by collecting information for drawings for *free* Singing Telegrams and *free* show tickets to our Christmas show. The same information card was used to inquire if they were interested in singing with us or sponsoring our chorus.

Along the way, we found singers who are interested in joining us and even some who want to sponsor us, so - it was a win./win! In the end, it was worth it to cart that heavy tent around!!!

We'll definitely continue with this approach in the spring.

Myra Newman
Bridges of Harmony, Marketing Chairman



Christmas Hijinx





Ignite the Sound Region 9 - New Members

A Cappella Bay Show Chorus

Kristin Downer
Harriet Fuller
Pat Hargraves
Michelle Kienzle
Emma Winkles

Bridges of Harmony Chorus

Vladi Burdick
Jessie Cornell-Webb
Cynthia Gibson
Anna Maslog
Caryn Massenzio
Adriane Moroz
Nadia Nightingale
Margaret Obogeanu

Gainesville Harmony Show Chorus

Mechele Castillo
Jessie Caynon
Linda Jacoby

Goldcoast Chorus

Roseanne Korvant

Hilton Head Shore Notes Chorus

Judith Hertel

Jacksonville Harmony Chorus

Emily Gainforth
Tatiana Zavala

O-Town Sound Chorus

Rebecca Hyland

Platinum Show Chorus

Jeanie Baer
Debbie Barnard
Linda Mathis

Sound of Sunshine Chorus

Caroline Bradshaw

Southern Company Chorus

Cassandra Drake
Kathy Drake
Gwen Knapp
Lauren Wallace

Spirit of the Gulf Chorus

Lorrie Masse
Sandy Young

Suncoast Harmony Chorus

Christine Carpenter
Linda Taylor

Toast of Tampa Chorus

Kaitlyn Cleverly
Laura Cleverly
Cindy Cunningham
Diane Landry
Sarah Lindvall
Laura Macia
Jeanne Schurman

Women of Note Chorus

Jill Kenney
Samantha Mayernik
Wendy Moyer
Nereide Pickrell



Ask A Judge

Ask a Judge--anything! This column is your opportunity to ask one of Region 9's judges whatever you want to know about the Sweet Adelines International Judging Program. Ever wonder how judges are selected, trained, and reviewed; how they are assigned to specific contests; how they prepare to judge; what a Regional contest weekend (or International contest week) is like for a judge; how they arrive at their scores and comments--or any other burning question you've always wanted to ask? Nothing about the program is a secret, and they are happy to clear up any mysteries or misconceptions that may be lurking out there. Bring on your questions! Jan Meyer, Certified Music Judge, will kick things off with a question that is asked frequently and also her answer to a question from one of our Region 9 members.

Q: How many judges do we currently have in Sweet Adelines International?

A: There are 39 women who are Approved or Certified Judges and qualified to judge both Regional and International contests. Of those, we have 11 Sound, 9 Music, 10 Expression, and 12 Visual Communication judges. But 11+9+10+12 adds up to 42, not 39! That's because three of our judges are qualified in two categories—Joan Boutilier—Sound and Expression; Betty Clipman--Sound and Expression; and Dale Syverson--Sound and Expression. In addition, we have eight women who are Approved Candidate Judges—that is, judges in training who are trial scoring until their skills are developed and ready for an official panel.

The program is always on the lookout for potential judges. If you think you might have the time, dedication, and team spirit to be a part of this program, find details at: <https://sweetadelines.com/education/certification-programs/international-judging-program>

Q: Why has SAI stopped showing a list of contestable songs with the easy / difficulty levels?

A: To my knowledge, there has never been a list like the one described in any official SAI publication, but arrangers often published their catalogs that way.

The SAI Published Music List does have a Difficulty Level column. That list can be found at https://sweetadelines.com/sites/default/files/Resources/Find-and-purchase-music/Sweet-Adelines_Published-Music-List_August-2020.pdf. However, this list does not address the strength for contest of these arrangements. In addition, it is ONLY those arrangements published and sold by SAI and doesn't include the hundreds of other choices available from arrangers. Consulting arrangers' lists and websites can be helpful, but keep in mind that most of them arrange music for multiple barbershop organizations, and the contest expectations vary between those groups.

I have been a judge for over 20 years, and we are frequently asked why such a list doesn't exist. There are many reasons why such a list is nearly impossible to create, but here are some of the primary ones:

- The term "contestable" is not part of our descriptors in the Judging Category Description Book (JCDB) because any song that has been deemed admissible under the Song Assessment Tool can be sung on contest stage except those with patriotic or religious messages and the Sweet Adelines International official songs.
- Songs are not judged in a yes-or-no rating of "contestable" or "not contestable" by Music judges, but instead are evaluated on a "weak" to "strong" continuum based on how closely they match the standards in the JCDB.
- Similarly, the terms "Easy," "Medium," or "Difficult" can be nebulous and are based entirely on the specific vocal skills or vocal liabilities of the performing group. What is easy for one group is difficult for another; or the tuning challenges may be easy but the rhythmic challenges are difficult; or the lead line is easy but the bass line is a killer, and so on.

Email your questions for this Ask A Judge column to Maria Maxwell at communications@coastalharmony.org.

Volunteers Needed

The Region is looking for volunteers for the 2023 Regional contest. First, we need someone who is willing to spearhead the job of finding people to fill the volunteer positions below and be the “Go To” contact for questions the weekend of contest.

Volunteer positions are:

Hotel Housing Contact – This person will be the main point of contact for Competition Coordinators regarding guestrooms. They must be on-site and available over the contest weekend for handling of last-minute issues.

Rehearsal/Meals Contact – This person will be the main point of contact for Competition Coordinators regarding rehearsal space and meals. They will be responsible for gathering information from the choruses interested in having a chorus meal (breakfast or dinner) at the hotel. They must be on-site and available for handling last minute issues when those meals are provided.

Vendor/Exhibitor Contact – This person will be the main point of contact for all vendors. They will be responsible for finding and coordinating with vendors and assigning them a display table during contest weekend. They will work with our Finance Coordinator to ensure the vendor has paid their table rental fee. They must be on-site and available for handling setup, teardown, and last-minute issues while vendors are working.

Traffic Pattern Contact – This person will be the main point of contact for volunteers directing competitors through the pattern. They will work closely with the Events Coordinator to plan the contest traffic pattern for quartets and choruses. They must be on-site and available to work with the Events Coordinator to physically establish the pattern and then throughout the chorus and quartet contests to handle last-minute issues.

Registration/Ticket Sales Contact – This person will be the main point for Competition Coordinators regarding registration and on-site ticket sales before and during the contest weekend. They will also be the main point of contact for volunteers assisting in this area. They will work closely with the Regional Finance Coordinator to ensure all payments are taken correctly. They will be responsible for ensuring that all competitors have been officially and correctly registered for contest prior to going onstage and that tickets sales are appropriately handled at the contest venue and other locations as deemed feasible.

Silent Auction Coordinator – This person is responsible for coordinating the Silent Auction and will be the main point of contact for those submitting auction items. The RMT would like all choruses (plus any quartets or others) to submit at least one silent auction basket for the weekend. All funds collected will be donated to the Region to help offset contest fees and help International-bound competitors. This person would be expected to contact the choruses and ask them to put together a basket and provide an estimated value for that basket. They must be onsite to coordinate setup and teardown, and also collecting the paperwork at the closing bid times to hand off to an announcer during the afterglow/Show of Champions, and throughout the weekend to handle last-minute issues.

Décor Committee Contact – This person will design and coordinate decoration of the ballroom/risers for the Afterglow/Show of Champions within the theme of the weekend. They will also work with the Silent Auction Coordinator to ensure a cohesive design. They will be the point of contact for volunteers assisting with setup on Saturday night after contest. They must be onsite to coordinate setup and teardown on Saturday.

Audio Visual Contact – This person will be the main point of contact for the hired A/V, lights, and sound company to ensure we are compliant with International competition regulations. They will work with Amy Mrazik (CRC) to make sure contest runs smoothly. They must be onsite to assist with setup/teardown and be available throughout the weekend to handle last-minute issues.

Other Volunteer Opportunities – The Region is looking for people to serve on a committee to help source new contest venues.

Anyone interested in any of these positions, please contact Amanda Wreford at amanda.wreford@yahoo.com

REGION 9 FACULTY COACHING POLICY

CHORUSES AND REGISTERED QUARTETS

as of May 2022

Choruses may utilize 12 hours of coaching with any Region 9 faculty member.

Choruses can elect to do four 3-hour sessions or two 6-hour sessions. Some choruses may choose to do this for retreats, others for general coaching for a specific area. The only requirement is that there needs to be 3 hours of coaching per visit to justify travel expense.

- 12 hours per year (May-April)!
- Region will cover travel expense for 3-hour or more sessions
- Region will cover cost of coach after the required form is submitted by the chorus
- Chorus is responsible for meals and lodging

Registered quartets may utilize a total of 6 hours of coaching with any Region 9 faculty member.

- 6 hours can be for multiple quartets that are registered and can be done in 3-hour segments. (May-April)
- Region will cover travel expense (for 6-hour session or more*)
- Region will cover cost of coach after the required form is submitted by the chorus
- Quartet is responsible for meals and lodging

*Quartets can get together and split each 6-hour visit or they can elect to have 6 hours for themselves. The only requirement is there needs to be 6 hours of coaching per visit to justify the travel expense.

To maximize travel expense, you could also book the coach for both chorus and quartet coaching during the same visit. The combinations are endless. Areas covered could include musical (sound, etc.) and/or administration (training, goal setting, etc.)

NOTE: When using Zoom for your coaching hours, the hours may be used however you wish (2 hours, etc.).

NOTE: The procedure for booking the coach has not changed. Each faculty member is listed on the website and has an area of expertise. Choose the coach and book with them personally.

Here is the link to faculty bios as well as the evaluation forms:

[Regional Education Faculty and Program](#)

Please fill out the [Region 9 Faculty Evaluation](#) when your session is complete

Please direct any questions to the [Education Coordinator](#)

Advertisements

Does your chorus have costumes (or anything else) to sell? Are you looking for a new director? Are you having a show and want to invite your Regional friends to join in the fun? We'll include your chorus advertisements in this publication for free. Email your information to Karen Wicker at karenwicker@yahoo.com or Maria Maxwell at communications@coastalharmony.org.

Do you have a personal business opportunity that you would like to advertise to the Region? Business card size ads are available at \$50 per quarter on a limited basis. Email your information to Karen Wicker at karenwicker@yahoo.com or Maria Maxwell at communications@coastalharmony.org.

Tag, You're It!

Foolish Over You Tag

(Each Time I Fall In Love)

Music and Words by S.K. Grundy

Arranged by S. K. Grundy

Musical score for 'Foolish Over You Tag' in 3/4 time, featuring a vocal line and piano accompaniment. The score is divided into two systems, each with a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are: 'fall - ing in love o - ver a - gain with you, you, fool - ish o - ver you'. The score includes measure numbers 1 through 17. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 3/4. The piano accompaniment consists of chords and moving lines in both hands.

Regional Management Team

Team Coordinator: Gayle Burton
regional_team_coordinator@coastalharmony.org

Membership Coordinator: Donna Martin
membership@coastalharmony.org

Marketing Coordinator: Melissa Marris
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Director's Coordinator: Faye McLanahan
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Education Coordinator: Kim Elger-Griffin
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Finance Coordinator: Debbie Thornton
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Communications Coordinator: Maria Maxwell
communications@coastalharmony.org

Event Coordinator: Amanda Wreford
events@coastalharmony.org

Regional Education Coordinators

Directors Certification Program (DCP) Coordinator – Deanna Kastler (deannakastler8@gmail.com)

Young Women in Harmony (YWIH) Coordinator – Gina Baker (vivalead4@gmail.com)

Arrangers Certification Program (ACP) Coordinator – Jan Meyer (jan.meyer@hotmail.com)