

real women. real harmony. real fun. 



## Region 8 eNews

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### RMRU information

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Rocky Mountain  
Round-up  
August 10-11  
Rooms are full, but you

June 2012

Registration for the 2012 Rising Star Contest is Now Open!

This year we're heading to Denver, Colorado. The 14th annual Rising Star Quartet Contest will be held during the Sweet Adelines International Convention week and take place on November 3, 2012. Participating in this adjudicated barbershop quartet contest is available to women 25 years of age and under.

#### **Don't Delay!**

The Rising Star Quartet Contest is limited to the first 20 entries received.

For contest information and registration, check out our interactive brochure to the right.

#### **Pass it On**

Call your friends, share this e-mail or post the flier. Come to compete or join us for the show.



<http://www.sweetadelineintl.org/ImgUL/files/risingstar2012.pdf>

still have time to register for the weekend, but housing would not be in the same lodge as the others. There is plenty of time to register for Saturday only. See the [Region 8 website](#) for registration forms.

-

[Leadership Training with Kathy Carmody on Sunday Aug. 12](#)

[Click for more information](#)

### **Region 8 needs you!**

Applications are being taken for these 2013-2015 Regional Management Team positions:

**Events Coordinator**  
**Finance Coordinator**  
**Marketing Coordinator**  
**Directors' Coordinator**

See the Regional [Website at rnr8.org](http://rnr8.org) for job descriptions and applications or email Judy Murphy at [mjmurp@earthlink.net](mailto:mjmurp@earthlink.net).

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Nebraska Pride Chorus-Can It Really Be 20 Years?

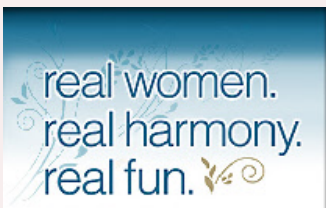
When the Region 8 Management Team asked our Chorus what we were going to do to celebrate 20 years as a chorus, we were taken by surprise. We did not think it had been that long since we chartered. Actually, we did not know that changing the name of the chorus did not disrupt the count of the number of years of existence. It seemed like only yesterday...

In the spring of 1990, Ruth Chism, a long time Sweet Adeline member, called upon Gary Drown to direct a Sweet Adelines chorus in Kearney, NE. Gary was very active in men's barbershop chorus and quartets and had directed choirs since high school days. He took up the challenge. Midland Pride Chorus chartered in 1991 in Region 20. In 1992, Gary was unable to attend Regional Competition, his quartet was competing on the same weekend. Evie Caldwell, from McCook, NE, was asked to step in and direct for the competition. Not long after this, Gary resigned and Evie took over directing the chorus full time.

Since McCook and Kearney are 100 miles apart, a site for weekly practice was secured at a nursing home in Holdrege, NE, where the chorus practiced and stored risers and supplies until 2011. This was only a 75 mile trip for the Director and 35 miles for the Kearney chorus members. At one time, it was estimated that if everyone traveled alone, we would log over 2500 miles each week just to practice.

The chorus membership has fluctuated between 20-45 over the years. The travel distance has always been an albatross (many women did not want to commit to the travel) but also a boon, as many friendships developed in the car pools. The chorus planned and performed annual shows each fall and performed quarterly for the nursing home in Holdrege in exchange for use of their building. The chorus also performed for different conventions, community concerts, and community festivals.

In 2003, the chorus was asked by a music travel company to perform in Washington DC at the World War II Memorial dedication in May 2004. We learned that the North Platte, Nebraskaland Chorus, had also been asked to sing for this event and that they were currently without a director. Midland Pride Chorus invited Nebraskaland Chorus to join them on this trip. We all enjoyed the sound so much that we voted to



**Chorus happenings, quartet performances, members honored, directors in the spotlight.**

Would you like your news and photos published in the Region 8 eNews? We know our members love getting news from others in the region so go ahead and send in your articles and pictures. Send to [wyoehills@tctwest.net](mailto:wyoehills@tctwest.net) and please include "Region 8 eNews" in the subject line of your email.

**Charms for Sale**

**CHARMS FOR SALE!**

Region 8 has charms for sale. We have charms from the most recent convention and from conventions over the years. We would be glad to mail these to anyone who would like to purchase any. We have charms for the years 1990, 1995, 1997-2000, 2002, 2004-2012. All charms are \$1.00. And we have many old

merge choruses, which happened in December 2004.

The chorus became the Nebraska Pride Chorus and for the next 5 years, the western and eastern halves practiced separately twice a month coming together in Lexington NE the 1st, 3rd and 5th weeks of the month. In 2011, we began singing every week on Tuesday evening at the Methodist Church in Lexington.

Since the merger, the chorus has produced an annual show each fall in North Platte, Kearney and Arapahoe, which causes everyone to have to travel over 300 miles that weekend performing the shows.

Nebraska Pride now has singers from 12 different communities and truly represents central Nebraska.

When Region 20 was disbanded in 2005, Nebraska Pride voted to join Region 8 and felt we were welcomed with open arms. We have competed as a chorus every other year earning 3rd place medals in 2011.

The chorus continues to recruit members and had its best success in 2010 when the chorus invited women to commit to 6 weeks to learn 2 songs and sing with the chorus on the annual show. Fourteen women participated and 11 of the women joined the chorus.

There are many talented singers and dedicated women in the chorus. One member celebrated 45 years as a member and there are many others with 20 or more years as Sweet Adelines. We are blessed to have Evie Caldwell as our director for 19 years. She is a music educator by profession and loves the barbershop style of harmony. One of the changes being made in this 20th year of chorus history is to add a co-director, Connie Witt. Connie brings a beautiful lead voice and lots of enthusiasm and energy to the team. The chorus looks forward to the next 20 wonderful years.

Now that we know this is our 20th year anniversary, we will have to come up with some fun ways to celebrate. With our gaggle of gals, I am sure we think of something!

Submitted by Judy Drown

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**Featured Choruses**

Region 8 logo charms.

Email Jamie Reed - [reedbooks@gmail.com](mailto:reedbooks@gmail.com) if you are interested in any of these charms.



## GRAND MESA CHORUS

A View of Sweet Adelines Rocky Mountain Region Eight 2012 Competition From Rookies to Seasoned Members.

Grand Mesa Chorus is so pleased to be third place in the small chorus category, fifth place overall and the winner of the Rocky Mountain Region 8 2011 "Watch us Grow" award for the largest percentage of growth in the region.

With 27 singers on the risers from brand new members of a few months to members of 30 and 40 years, we sang our hearts for the audience, judges and our beloved director, Tammy Schler.

Cindy von Gogh joined us as a baritone singer in August, 2011. "Wow what a weekend! Singing, singing and more singing....from quartets to small choruses to large choruses, it was an awesome first Sweet Adelines competition experience. The afterglow was a ton of fun too, and Grand Mesa earning two medals was the icing on the cake!"

Amber Hasson our brand new tenor singer as of March of this year. "My first Sweet Adelines competition experience. What better way to get me more excited about Sweet Adelines than to participate in and experience competition! I am so eager now to learn more about barbershop and am thrilled to make Sweet Adelines forever a part of my life".

Bette Lowenstein, who received her 30 year certificate at the RAH RAH breakfast this year, has sung with 6 different choruses in four different states and has competed in 27 regional contests. " All of them were an exciting experience and always exhilarating. The level of performance excellence in Sweet Adelines has been raised every year thanks to our forward-looking leaders and the educational programs they have provided all of us. The judging at this year's competition has shown us that the bar of expectation for quartets and choruses has been kicked up another notch, once again adding to the level of professionalism of our organization. For me, competition is an opportunity to "strut my stuff" as a proud chorus member of Sweet Adelines, and a time for renewing old friendships while making new ones."

Nola Stephens has been a member of Sweet Adelines for 36 years. "That's a lot of competitions to attend, right? We have come such a long way in holding these competitions. When I first joined,

there was no differentiation between the sizes of the chorus. Now we have Large, Mid-size and Small....back then, we didn't. So, now we have a chance at taking 1st Place Small Chorus, or even mid-size, if we get up that high and work extra hard. The work to achieve "B" level and above is most different now....much harder to get those higher scores (we witnessed that this year, didn't we?)"

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## **GREELEY HARMONIX**

Thank you Region 8 for the wonderful reception during Greeley Harmonix first competition this past spring. Thank you also go to Vickie Maybury and Sharon Babb for the educational coaching sessions and loving guidance that each has brought to our members. We feel so supported and welcomed.

When Julie Palagi, Tonya Olson, and Janelle Knespel sat down at that very first meeting in the fall of 2010, a new chorus vision was planted and fostered. Each had an idea of what the Greeley Harmonix Chorus would look like, sound like, move like, and grow like. Not surprisingly, all three of them had synergy in their concepts. This threesome didn't know how any of it was going to happen, yet they all three knew it felt really good to be part of something new, fun, exciting, and especially, to be able to sing together; it was pure bliss. How would it all come to together and really happen?

From the very beginning we have a few things as our core focus for Greeley Harmonix Chorus. We want quality musicians who are willing to learn and grow their music abilities. Greeley Harmonix Chorus focuses on integrity, class, and a kick of sass to back it up hence our mascot, the Peacock. (FYI: We call ourselves "PeaChicks") With this comes a high level of expectation that each member brings to the group of themselves. Our members have taken the initiative to hold weekly sectionals and work with one another for improvement in the notes, words, and overall music. We have members who ask for what the criteria is that we are going to be

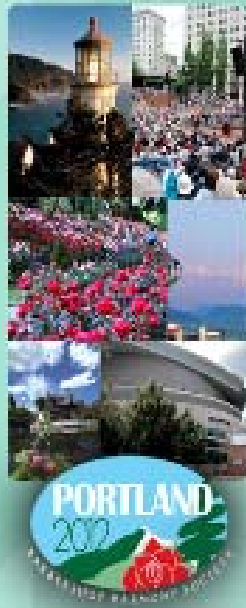
judged on at competitions, what it all means, and how do we reach higher scores. Our members understand what it means to sing at the B+ level and they are hungry to learn more about vocal musicianship and the Barber Shop art form. Our members have taken on the challenges before them as opportunities to further who they are growing as Greeley Harmonix members, musicians, and Sweet Adelines. Since Chartering February 12, 2012, a mere 13 months after our first rehearsal in January of 2011, we have watched all of our members grow and become even more enthusiastic. Many of our members come to Julie Palagi's private studio for private vocal lessons on a weekly basis. This is a huge factor in the team's ability to do so well in such a short period of time.

Just before competition we hosted a Friends and Family Night to show off all of our hard work to those it has affected the most; the people who truly see that it is not 'only one night a week.' We were trying to figure out about how many guests we may have, to tell the pastry chef how many cheesecakes and tarts to create. As we opened the doors for our event, the people just kept coming in. We had to set up more chairs, before we knew it, there were people standing in the back of the room. We had even run out of parking places. When the night was over we had sung to and served pastries to over 80 people! We have a loving support system from our Northern Colorado community through the energy and excitement of our members.

We have such lovely and kind members. They are positive and hardworking. The 'PeaChicks' work together to create an environment of acceptance and understanding for each guest that comes in our rehearsal and along with supporting our members as their family of sisters. Each guest receives a membership packet, which has been created to share information as well as set the expectation of who Greeley Harmonix Chorus is and what type of women sing with us. We are diverse and dynamic. Seriously, think about our age demographics; three of our members had to leave competition early this year to go to prom. Greeley Harmonix Chorus is where women want to stay when they visit because they see what we are offering in high quality music and friendship. Greeley Harmonix Chorus is a very dynamic place to be.

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Barbershop Harmony Society's convention in Portland



**Come see us at the  
74th Annual  
BARBERSHOP  
HARMONY SOCIETY  
International  
Convention & Contest!**

**July 1 - 8, 2012**  
[www.barbershop.org/portland](http://www.barbershop.org/portland)  
**800.876.7464**

### Featured Quartets



#### **4-Ever More Quartet**

Our lead, Mary Roughen, formed this quartet in 1999. The current "4-Ever More" group formed in February 2011 and competed at Regional's that year taking 8th. Every year we sing at The Fort restaurant in Morrison Friday and Saturday nights in December. We dress as Victorian carolers and stroll through the restaurant singing.

It's quite a tradition and fun for all. We also sing a wide selection of contemporary music as well as BARBERSHOP. We are so proud to represent Region 8 with a fifth place medal at this year's Regional competition.

MARY ROUGHEN (Lead)

Mary's first childhood memory of singing was in the first grade. Her teacher, Miss Tiger, asked her to sit in the back of the classroom. She wasn't being bad, it was her big voice and she wanted the others to hear the melody.

She started dancing and singing at age 9 on stage with her 4-H Club. Her mother and grandmother have always been musical; church organist, giving piano and organ lessons etc. Some of her first solos were at weddings and funerals at church with her mother accompanying. Her mother is now 82, and they still enjoy singing and playing together.

She has sung in a small BBS chorus in Conifer and also with Skyline chorus for a while.

She enjoys her work in the life insurance industry. She is married to a wonderful guy, Chris, and they live in Castle Rock. Music is a huge part of her life and she can't imagine life without music!

LEE HAUCK (Bass)

Lee's first singing memory goes back to her very early years...in fact, she can't remember NOT singing. At 3 years old, her twin sister, Lyn, and she sang "Away in the Manger" for the church at Christmas, and on their 5th birthday they sang on the local radio show in Milwaukee. They sang "You Can't Be True Dear", a very popular song at the time. Mom and Dad had coached them quite a bit, but as is common with twins, they breathed and sang phrases exactly at the same time, so from that time on, she has sung ensemble singing and continues that today. As twins, they even dressed alike, so matching quartet outfits is nothing new to Lee. Her sister, Lyn lives in Connecticut and sadly has stopped performing.

Lee lives with her husband Darrell Shafer in Littleton, raised 4 children and has 6 grandchildren. She is part of Skyline chorus, has sung in many quartets, and has been a Sweet Adeline for over 30 years.

PATRICIA (TRICIA) NORD (Tenor)

Tricia's first memory of singing was as a very young girl from Iowa, singing "Tip-Toe through the Tulips" at a recital. She sang through high school and college in various choirs, choruses and singing groups. She was part of Skyline chorus, and sings alto in an SATB quartet at her church, and is the lead singer in a rock band named "EnTuOblivion".

She lives in Denver with her husband, Michael and their dog Nana. She loves to hike, play volleyball, and the piano. She enjoys her beautiful garden of flowers, vegetables and herbs and makes jelly. She may be young, but is wonderful at keeping the "old" new!

CINDY MUNNELL (Baritone)

Cindy's first memory of singing was for her Grandparents. They would ask her to sing "Take Me Out to the Ballgame" for them every spring when the baseball season started. She loved making them happy and even included her first choreography moves. She grew up in a small town in PA where she sang in the Presbyterian Church choir with her mother, sister, brothers, and cousins. She sang in many groups in high school and was a music major in college.

She has been singing baritone for Skyline chorus for 15 years. She is married to Tom, who supports her singing "habit". They have three



grown children and 4 grandchildren that all live in Colorado. Her youngest daughter, Amy sings with her in Skyline. She has been with several quartets in Region 8 and did a dual membership with Velvet Hills the year they went to International in Nashville. She loves BBS music, and wishes she had started this hobby many years ago.

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## **Ruby Blue**

Blue like Rubies

November 2009 began the journey for the four women of Ruby Blue. Quickly, the quartet became not just musical comrades, but close friends, who bonded over wacky personalities, animals, and football in addition to music. Where were we before we were Ruby Blue? Read on...

Rebecca is the only "barbershop brat" of the Rubies. Her mother, Cheryl Suhr, became a Sweet Adeline when Rebecca was 4 years old. After a few months, Rebecca had her own barbershop debut, singing baritone to "Cinderella Your Future Is Gonna Be Mighty Bright" on the fireplace hearth. How true the title of this song was! She sang in many choral ensembles and solos at State Competition through junior high and high school. Most notably, she was selected to be a member of the Union Street Jazz and Meistersingers. In the fall of 1991, she joined Skyline, where she sang lead and was part of the visual team and front row for many years. She has since sung in 4 quartets, including Special Effects, a beloved regional top 5 quartet for many years, and Reverb (International wildcard competitors). Rebecca has competed regionally 15 times, medalling in 13 of those contests. She is a versatile singer having sung 3 different parts in Skyline and two quartets, but she finds herself quite at home as a baritone in both Skyline and Ruby Blue.

Heather's singing "career" began in elementary school, belting out tunes to Annie, Music Man, Mary Poppins and Finian's Rainbow, acting out her own story lines since she had never seen any of them.

In junior high, she sang in the Colorado Springs Children's Chorale and the children's chorus of the local opera company. In high school, she was in choirs and starred in the spring musicals, while continuing to play the piano, she has been playing since the age of four. Heather attended a college without a music department, but worked her way through school performing at the Ascot Dinner Theater, The Denver Civic Theater and the Theater on Broadway. When she met her husband, Luis Tavel, she discovered the world of barbershop. Luis sang with Sound of the Rockies his friend's wife; Danette Kientz introduced Heather to Skyline. After two years of "holding out", she finally joined Skyline in 1998. She sang lead in Destination Denver and Yes Indeed! before she switched to baritone. She then competed with Ms. Behavin' (9th place International) and Impulse (17th International) before returning to lead in Ruby Blue.

Kaly hails from a musical family of choral teachers, professional choral singers, instrumentalists and more. Every family event was filled with music and performing. "Just harmonize. Just listen for it and do it". her family would say. Her first choral experience was with the Colorado Children's Chorale in 4th grade. In school she participated in all choirs available to her, including those requiring a selective audition process. In high school, she was selected to sing in the top mixed choral group, the jazz choir, and also the Colorado All State Choir, as well as playing many lead roles in the theater productions. In her junior year, she found barbershop, singing in her first quartet, Forte, with Jocelyn and Neyla Pekarek (former Region 8 Sweet Adeline). Forte would place 2nd at their high school contest! With a different lead and baritone, Kaly sang in Tag, You're It! the following year, placing first at the high school contest. In college she sang in Starlet, the 3rd place Rising Star Quartet in 2006, and the University of Colorado - Boulder's all female cappella group, On The Rocks. Shortly after college graduation, she reconnected with Jocelyn, hoping for another opportunity to quartet... and only six months later did she find Ruby Blue.

Jocelyn's musical "career" began in elementary school band, as a clarinet player. She secretly wished her school had a choir, but had to settle for "hoping to be chosen" to sing in the choir at mass at her Catholic school in Pueblo, CO. No audition, simply volunteers... but Jocelyn was too shy to volunteer at that age. When she moved to Denver, she attended a school where there was a choir. She would sing in all the choirs available to her at Overland High School. She too she sang in the mixed choral group, the jazz choir, and the Colorado All State Choir. She got the "bug" for barbershop singing with Forte and Tag, You're It! quartets with Kaly in high school. After graduation, Jocelyn was determined to continue barbershop with encouragement from staff at Summer Harmony Camps and others, she finally joined Skyline in 2006, her freshman year of college, where she met both Rebecca and Heather. She is now a proud member of the front row of Skyline and her first Sweet Adelines quartet, Ruby Blue!

Outside of quartet, all four lead very busy lives. Rebecca works in a bustling sales office by day, represents Rodan+Fields as an Independent Consultant, and somehow manages to keep up with her husband and three young sons. Heather is a senior data analyst at Kaiser Permanente Colorado's Institute for Health Research, and is working towards a Master's Degree in Public Health and Applied Biostatistics. Kaly is currently taking classes at University of Colorado - Denver to earn her teaching license and MA in Special Education.

Jocelyn is finishing her second-year teaching math and computer science at Cherry Creek High School. She plans to teach part-time next year so she can start her Masters degree in Computer Science at the University of Denver.

Ruby Blue is thrilled to be a part of such an amazing region and will be looking forward to representing Region 8 as a wildcard at their first international in Denver (their hometown)! Summer will be a crazy time for Ruby Blue, as they prepare for both international contest and the Summer Harmony Camp they will help to teach in July, but they are excited to continue their journey making music and learning the craft of barbershop.

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## OBSERVATIONS FROM THE 2012 JUDGING PANEL

**Dale Syverson, Jean Flinn, Jan Gervais and Peggy Gram**, judges at our recent convention, share their observations and comments regarding Region 8 choruses and quartets.

Attached is the [list of observations and comments](#).

## Meet Region 8 Management

### **Nancy Schroeder Membership Chair**

I started singing with the Sioux Falls Chapter in the summer of 1976, in between college years as a music major and joined in 1977 because I, of course, just had to go to competition - the rest, as they say is history. I have belonged to and either been the assistant director or director of 6 choruses in 4 different regions. I have previously served on two Regional Board of Directors, Region 6 and Region 20, and held about every chapter position. I am also the director of our local men's chapter of the Barbershop Men's Society.



The seminars and regional events in SAI, along with the DCP program have taught me much more than I ever learned receiving my Music Ed degree. The education available, and the women who teach it, in this organization still amazes me and am deeply grateful I have learned from some of the best - and that would be anyone in SAI.

I welcome the opportunity to be back on the regional level as the new Membership Chair of Region 8. WOW, what an opportunity to learn even more and to hopefully give back just a little that this organization has given to me.

I want to thank the membership of Region 8 for their trust in me to serve them. I look forward to meeting more of you and helping in any way I can.

Besides my life as a Sweet Adeline, I work at a medical clinic, am the PROUD owner of 2 wonderful kitty cats (Duchess and Kitty), direct a church choir, and help care for my 87 year old father, a Marine Vet of WWII.

Nancy Schroeder  
Region 8 Membership Chair

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