

# SIXTEENTH NOTES

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## 'Tis the Season...

... to reflect on the year gone by, and all that 2010 holds for us, our families and our Sweet Adeline lives.

As for 2009, we saw a fabulous Regional contest that resulted in three choruses qualifying to compete next year in Seattle, not to mention sending Spritzer to their Top Ten destiny in Nashville. Quartet School and the highly successful Fall Music Symposium provided phenomenal education and camaraderie.

Several choruses held YWIH events that were not only well-attended, but received very positive feedback from parents, attendees and sponsors. Think about getting your chorus involved if they aren't already. These programs will go a long way to securing the future of our organization.

The New Year is less than a month away, and we'll soon find ourselves getting ready for contest again. It's amazing how quickly the months pass!

On behalf of your Regional Management Team and your Sixteenth Notes editorial staff, I'd like to wish you all a Happy Hanukkah, a Merry Christmas, a festive Kwanzaa and a Healthy New Year!!

In Harmony,

Kagey Gray  
Sixteenth Notes  
Editor-in-Chief

## International News

### INTERNATIONAL ELECTION RESULTS

Thanks to the special efforts made by each chorus in Region 16, we received special recognition and thanks from International Headquarters.

Region 16 is one of seven regions that were only one ballot short of 100% participation in the recent elections. There were only three regions with 100%.

Elected were: Sharon Babb, Region 8; Peggy Gram, Region 25; Carole Kirkpatrick, Region 13; and Dale Syverson, Region 25.

Congratulations, Region 16!



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SWEET ADELINES  
INTERNATIONAL

## Around the Region

### SARATOGA SOUNDTRACK CHORUS

Saratoga Soundtrack Chorus had its first show – and what a show it was. The chorus wanted to try something different and so we had a cabaret-themed show. There was a variety of songs with the second half dedicated to veterans of all generations, those who have served in the past and those serving now. It was held in one of our local banquet halls, which was decorated in fall colors with little white lights. It was a beautiful setting. Hot appetizers and drinks were served at the intermission while our audience visited our raffle table. The feedback from the audience was very positive and we look forward to doing it again.

As the holidays approach, the chorus is getting ready for our holiday performances. We will be singing at town Christmas tree lightings and Christmas parties while planning on our own party to share our good fortune for this past year.

Just today I reviewed the convention handbook for contest in April. It is hard to believe that contest time is almost upon us. We are working very hard learning new songs and choreography to bring to the stage in Syracuse. I am sure all of you are working just as hard. We wish the best of luck to everyone in the upcoming competition. Contest is always a chance to learn, meet up with old friends and make new friends too. What a great time.

Well time is short and as the holidays approach, on behalf of Saratoga Soundtrack Chorus, I wish everyone a joyous holiday and a Happy New Year.

In harmony and joy,

Barbara Castelli

### GREATER KINGSTON CHORUS

Well there may not be any snow outside, yet, but GKC Chorus members are getting into the holiday spirit. We have three holiday performances in December and are happily reviewing our Christmas music. When I was a little girl I always looked forward to the Christmas pageant at church because an elder in the church always sang "O Holy Night" with such passion. I still get that feeling when the GKC performs that song. The other song that really brings home the message of Christmas for me is "Mary Did You Know". When the GKC finish singing that one, there's always just a little pause before the applause, as the audience savours the message.

Much effort has been put into fund-raising this fall as we prepare for Seattle in 2010. Poinsettia sales were brisk and FunScript (prepaid gift cards to many, many shops/ restaurants) have also been going well. Our cheese lady is amazing... and has even offered six hours of housecleaning to the chorus member with the largest cheese order!

We had a great coaching session with Erin Howden November 28th. She always manages to make us laugh, work hard and understand more about this craft we care so much about.

Our GKC Christmas dinner will be held on December 15th. We're all looking for a fun evening of good food and fellowship with current and former members. Who knows just what entertainment the members will come up with... but it will be plentiful and hilarious no doubt.

Happy holidays to all

Debbie Millan

## New Members

Region 16 extends a warm welcome to the following new members.

### CIRCLE OF HARMONY CHORUS

Louise DiCarlo

Vicky Flett

Teisha Hall

Barbara Handler

Shannon MacInnis

Stephanie Poitras

Lauren Puigmarti

Bev Turner

**Sixteenth Notes is seeking written submissions for its quarterly issues.**

This is a fantastic opportunity for choruses to raise their profile and share experiences and insights about membership growth and other successes with chorus members across the region.

We'd love to hear your stories and see your pictures! Please send .jpg files of images and be sure they're at least 100k in size so we can feature them properly. It's so much fun to see your members featured in a regional publication.

To be included in the next issue, please send submissions to: kagey16@rogers.com no later than February 28, 2010.

**BUFFALO GATEWAY CHORUS**

Celebrations!

It's holiday time! Thanksgiving has just been upon us (at least, on this side of the border) and all those other December holidays are right around the corner. Time to loosen up our belt buckles and wallets and celebrate!

Both Buffalo Gateway Chorus and Region 16 have things to celebrate.

How exciting is it that Spritzer is a Top Ten - in the world, mind you - quartet?! As everyone in Region 16 celebrated that experience we bet the feet of Hannah, Karen, Sharon and Susann haven't touched ground yet.

Back at home, BGC celebrated the amazing contributions of Mary Ann Jablonski, who recently earned our vote for Sweet Adeline of the Year. She has an associate degree in business management but even without this, she is a natural at both business and management. She tirelessly works behind the scenes to take care of the business of our rehearsal hall, our annual retreat and our show program ads. She manages hotel and meal accommodations, baskets for our cabaret's silent auction and writes a summary (complete with cute icons and jokes) of our weekly business meeting. For Mary Ann, finances are a game to be played. There is no one who can wheel and deal a bargain for our chorus better than she. Even with working full time, she handles all of the above with a great sense of humor, an unsurpassed work ethic and, most of all, love and enthusiasm for our chorus.

We also reveled in the accomplishments of some novice chorus members. As a surprise to us, Diane Porsch, "volunteered" 4 of these members to teach us a tag. Each woman sang her part, solo, for each section to learn. After our lesson and a few renditions of the tag, this random quartet broke out into one of our newest songs, "Ain't No Mountain High Enough." Can you all remember how you felt your first few months

in a new chorus? Oh my, what a magnificent job they did. You can imagine our respect for and awe of these fledgling members. What a way to celebrate our membership team (Go, Mary Jackson, Sharon Wolff, Barb Rossman and Bonnie King) and the quality of these "newbies" (Heather, Lauren, Kimberly and Heatherlyn).

During the last week of October we celebrated the sharing of a rehearsal night with the entire girls' section of a high school chorus. Their talented and dedicated teacher, Erin Holmes, brought them from Lackawanna High School to sing for us and to learn more about barbershop harmony. Erin is solely responsible for increasing this high school's chorus size from 9 to 63 in just four years. The girls sang beautifully, and after learning music AND choreography for "Dancin' Queen" we heard enthusiastic shouts of "we wanna join!" What a way to touch the hearts of young women and plant the seeds of future Sweet Adelines.

Finally, BGC will celebrate the holiday of love by sending out quartets all three days of Valentine's weekend. Unsuspecting recipients of this gift (sent to them by their special someone) will hear two love songs, receive a rose and chocolates and, of course, a keepsake photo to capture the entire embarrassing moment.

Our new holiday CD is called "A Season to Believe" but, truly, 2010 is our season to believe. All of these celebrations project us into the new year where we continue to delight in more singing, dancing, working, and laughing with our eyes and hearts solidly set on the celebration which is... Seattle.

Submitted by Jane White

## Events

**REGION 16 ADMIN EVENT**

**February 19-20, 2010**

**ST. LAWRENCE CHORUS**

**Saturday, March 27, 2010**

Jukebox Saturday Night

Canton Central High School, Canton, NY

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Tickets: \$7 advance or \$10 at the door

Guest quartet to be announced

**NORTH METRO CHORUS**

I have no idea where this past year went – or how it passed so quickly!

One minute we were gathered together with our chorus families for Regional Competition, the next it seems we are planning to spend time with our immediate families as Christmas and other holidays are upon us!

Like many in Region 16, a large number of North Metro members watched the Nashville competition via the webcast – the very next best thing to being there! In fact, we were so impressed with the quality of the coverage that immediately after contest we took up a ‘Support the Telecast’ collection and, like many other choruses and individuals, were able to send a substantial donation down to International.

While watching, we were thrilled to be able to see our very own Spritzer break through into the top ten in their first international competition as a quartet. We were also amazed at the courage and determination of Canadian Showtime as they competed, despite being decimated by the H1N1 virus. (It sure brought back memories of us competing in Phoenix the year half of the North Metro members were poisoned by the water from the local reservoir!) We were so very proud of every one of you! The North Metro members who managed to get to Nashville said that every Region 16 member who was down there was bursting with pride!

North Metro has been working hard to put together a show which was recently held in Hamilton Place. In addition, we have almost completed recording another CD which we hope will be available for sale early next year.

The chorus will be having our Christmas party next week – then we’ll be taking a short break before beginning to prepare in earnest for international in Seattle. We are looking forward to our upcoming retreat, and

to our coaching sessions with both Dale Syverson and Joe Connelly.

As we prepare for the holidays, North Metro wishes our Region 16 sisters, a very Happy Christmas. Our best wishes also to those of you of other faiths who celebrate your own traditions and holidays.

We look forward to 2010 – and may the new year bring each of you the very best of good health and happiness.

Until then – stay safe and sing well.

Doreen Pooley for North Metro Chorus

**OOPS!!**

Please note the following corrections to the Regional Directory:

Page 5 – 2010 – Feb. 19-20  
Administrative Event

Page 13 – Diane Porsch – 18 Ransom Oaks

Page 22 – Rebecca Gilbert phone: (contact me for it); rebecca @ laudate. ca

Page 29 – June Dale – add Unit #72 to the address

Page 33 – Melodie Arbour – change e-mail to concord09 @ live .com

Page 37 – Financial Coordinator – Alexa McCallum; phone:

(contact me); alexa\_mccallum @ yahoo .com

You’ll notice that some e-mail addresses in this publication have spaces in them. This is in order to reduce the amount of SPAM that plagues many individuals whose e-dresses are published. Please copy, paste and then remove the spaces.

If you find any other errors, please let me know and I’ll be sure to mention them either in the March issue or by e-mail.

Next deadline is February 28 for the March issue. Please try to keep your submissions to 300 words or less. Digital photos are always welcome - the larger, the better!

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Did you know...?

The 2010 Convention Handbook is now on the website!

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When communicating by e-mail with the RMT, Regional Faculty or Web Mistress, please be sure to include the name of your chorus or quartet either in the subject line or in your message. It would save a few brain cramps...

Thanks!

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**REGIONAL E-MAIL**

It was mentioned at Fall Music School that we were starting up a regional Yahoo Group e-mail, but incorrect information was given at that time.

To join, email:

Region16SAI-subscribe@yahoogroups. ca

This will be a place where Regional Coordinators can post helpful information and it will be instantly accessible for individual members.

It is hoped that everyone in the Region will sign up for this service. You can use as many e-mail addresses as you wish to receive posts on.

If you have any questions or problems, please contact: kagey 16 @ rogers .com (omit spaces)

## A Note from Spritzer



Although we're called Spritzer, it was a bottle of champagne we broke out after the finals in Nashville in October. Wow, what an experience. We could not have imagined that when we formed in November 2008, we would be sporting a top ten international medal the following year. It has been an exciting journey for us so far. Although this would not have been achieved and enjoyed if we didn't have the wonderful support of Region 16 members and our amazing chorus, North Metro.

Nashville was a busy week for us. We finally got together on Monday night but were separated when Hannah had to go to a walk-in clinic for thrush (which Karen unfortunately caught but didn't tell us until weeks after International). Hannah got that sorted out with

some "magic mouthwash" and it cleared up in time for contest.

Tuesday was busy with the briefing in the morning, a reception in the afternoon and a coaching session in the evening. We were also treated to a lovely dinner from Erin Howden, June Dale and Shirley Murray who arranged to have beautiful roses set out on the table for us when we arrived. Susann also had her parents join us at the dinner; it was all such a lovely treat!

Wednesday was contest day and we had pretty much the whole day to relax and get ready (if relaxing is possible the day of competition). We had our fabulous coach Erin with us on the walk-through giving us some last minute encouraging words. We hit the stage with gumption and came off feeling

good. We had a couple of issues with dry mouth and top lips being stuck to our teeth but those are the little things you have to learn to deal with in that circumstance. When we were waiting for the call off, we were listening intently for the placements from 15-11, hoping they would call our name. When they didn't, we figured we hadn't made it. Until they started to do the draw and called, "Contestant #1: Spritzer!" Hannah let out the biggest "What?!?!" then proceeded to scream and cry. Sharon and Karen had started to chat after 15-11 were called and didn't hear our name announced, but when they realized what had happened, Karen slid off her chair and was lying on the ground, Sharon screamed higher and louder than a bass ever should. Susann sat in shock with tears streaming down her face.

What a thrill! We had no idea who else got called for the top 10, nor did the people around us who were desperately trying to “shush” us. The briefing was a blur but very fun.

Thursday was busy with lots of singing and coaching with June, Erin and Diane Porsch. We had to put together our package and polish it. We could have done with another six weeks on it but six hours were really all we had. Thursday evening, Karen’s husband showed up and we all decided to relax for the evening and do something other than sing: SHOP!

Friday was a great day and a great experience for us. Our package felt great and singing on that stage again was something we all dreamed about. We stayed and watched the rest of the contest and really enjoyed seeing the different packages the quartets came up with. Going back stage for the call off was a whole new experience, as was standing on the stage when they called the top ten. It is a completely different perspective and very surreal to see the champions being crowned from behind. We were just overwhelmed with our placement and very proud to wear our international medal and represent Region 16. We were taken out to a lovely dinner by Paul

(Karen’s husband) and Val and Tony (Hannah’s parents). Saturday, we got to sit through the chorus finals relaxed. We enjoyed the wonderful entertainment that crossed the stage and the exciting placements that followed.

The support from all of the Region 16 members in Nashville was astounding. We got cards, gifts, cupcakes (thanks Canadian Showtime, they were very yummy), flowers, chocolates, pins, champagne with strawberries on our glasses (what a treat, Region 16), a million hugs and wonderful comments. We also couldn’t forget to mention all of the members that

didn’t get to come to international but who were glued to their computer screens, sending us good vibes and all those emails. Wow! We have no way to possibly show our gratitude to this wonderful region. Thank you to everyone from the bottom of our hearts! We look forward to Seattle next year with Buffalo Gateway Chorus, Greater Kingston Chorus, North Metro Chorus and our new regional champion quartet. Thanks again and we’ll see you in the spring!!



## YWIH WORKSHOP

### CAROUSEL HARMONY CHORUS

On Saturday, November 21, 2009, the Carousel Harmony Chorus offered our third barbershop harmony workshop to young women in grades 6-12. What a great day it was! It started with the

The concert where they will be sharing the stage with us is a Christmas benefit for our local food pantry. Carousel Harmony Chorus, along with our local men's barbershop chorus and other community choruses and a hand-bell

choir have presented this concert for several years. What a great way to "show off" for the community and support a great cause, so much in need this time of year! Many people not familiar with barbershop harmony attend this concert, so we're getting the word out about our wonderful hobby and the YWIH experience we provide for young women.

It was fun working with the girls, as usual, and seeing their enthusiasm. From the comments heard from several of the girls and shared by CHC members, we know it was a hit with them as well. We were pleased that there were several girls who had been at previous workshops who returned this time as well.

We do not charge for the workshop, but provide everything for them. This year we received a community grant from a local company, BAE Systems, which helped pay for the tee shirts we gave the girls at the end of the workshop. Region 16 also provided financial assistance and S.A. International provided the music for the YWIH arrangements we used. Thanks to all of them for this support.



girls getting acquainted through some fun activities, including physical warm-ups. Then vocal warm-ups and singing through one of the songs they had been sent ahead of time. Then on to sectional rehearsals and more work on the song and adding choreography. At noon, the rest of the chorus joined us for lunch of pizza and salad. We sang a couple of songs for the girls, and they sang for us. In the afternoon, the chorus joined the girls to work on the second song they had learned. Section rehearsals with the chorus followed, and a run through of that song with some logistical practice for their performance with us on Dec. 5. At the end, we joined hands in a big circle with the girls and sang "How We Sang Today." When we finished, one girl turned to the chorus member next to her and said, "can I give you a hug?"



## With Glowing Hearts...

Though the 2010 Olympic Winter Games in Vancouver don't start until February 12, Olympic fever is striking closer to home a little sooner.

The Olympic Flame will travel by land, air and water during its 106-day journey as it visits more than 1,000 communities in our vast country. Approximately 90 per cent of Canada's population will be within a one-hour drive of experiencing the Olympic Flame.

Two of Region 16's choruses have been honoured to take part in the arrival of the Olympic Flame in their communities.

**York Highlands Chorus** will be helping to celebrate the torch passing through Newmarket on Friday, December 18. The flame will be stopping at the Magna Centre at 800 Mulock Drive (905-953-5303) where the celebrations will begin at 10 a.m. The torch is expected to arrive at 11 a.m.

The chorus will perform the "Olympic Song" at 11:10 am. Since this is an outdoor performance, the chorus will be dressed in its colours, as well as official Olympic scarves.

The chorus is honoured to have been chosen to be part of this year's Olympic experience.

**Orangeville Chorus** is part of a spectacular two-hour extravaganza produced by Roland Kerouac (who choreographed the opening ceremonies for the Calgary Winter Olympics in 1988) on the morning of Monday, December 28. The celebration will be held outside by the high school and the Tony Rose Memorial Sports Centre on Fead Street.

For convenience, there will be bussing from the downtown parking area.

Orangeville Chorus will be singing "Power of the Dream." The Theatre Orangeville Youth Singers, of which Orangeville Chorus co-director, Joan Borden, is one of the three conductors, is singing an original new song written for them especially. The Achill Choral Society will sing the official Olympic Song.

There will also be flags, skaters, snowmobilers doing a "ballet" routine, skiers, airplanes with banners, an acknowledgement of 11 area Olympic athletes (including Orangeville Chorus

co-director Pat Vipond's husband Gary who competed in the 1960 Olympics in Rome, on the Canadian Basketball team), sky divers and a flock of birds that will be released over the whole proceedings! The audience will be in the round and the action will be all about them!

If you are in the area, be sure to attend these wonderful celebrations and support York Highlands and Orangeville Choruses as they take part in the unique experience of the Olympic Torch relay.

For more information on the 2010 Vancouver Olympic Games, including the schedule for the Torch Relay, visit [www.vancouver2010.com](http://www.vancouver2010.com).



## 2009 Sweet Adelines of the Year

Barrie Huronia  
Marlene Thurlow

Bay of Quinte  
Cheryl Street

Buffalo Gateway  
Mary Ann Jablonski

Bytown Beat  
Brenda Weisman

Canadian Showtime  
Karen Keppel Jones

Capitaland  
Nancy Platt

Carousel Harmony  
Linda Laraway

Chautauqua Shores  
Mary Stahlman

Circle of Harmony  
Barbara Hodge

City of the Hills  
Bettie Bennett

City of Lights  
Bobbie Jewell

Durham Shores  
Carol Smith

Eastside Harmony  
Marian Krauss

Greater Kingston  
Laurel Hey

Harmony North  
Nancy Cichon

Image City Sound  
Yvonne Jacobs

Kawartha Music Company  
Jay Lough

Lake Effect Harmony  
Mary Lou Watt

North Metro  
Hannah Barton

Northumberland  
Judy Goossens

Ontario Heartland  
Linda Tupholme

Orangeville  
Judy Paterson

Pineridge  
Geraldine Morrison

River Valley  
Diane Ostrander

Rochester  
Carol Taip

St. Lawrence  
Cate Blankenship

Saratoga Soundtrack  
Barbara Castelli

Scarborough  
Cathy Ashley

Seneca Soundwaves  
Barbara Howard

Seven Valley  
Mary Louise Congdon

Skyway Connection  
Beth Kenney

Sound of Silver  
Rose Hosp

Spirit of Syracuse  
Mary Connelly

York Highlands  
Tracey Beatty

## Jackie Kraft Memorial Assistant Director Award

Heather Deslauriers McCuaig  
York Highlands

## Region 16 Choruses

**Barrie-Huron Soundwaves**  
Barrie, Ontario  
www.barriesweetadelines.com

**Bay of Quinte**  
Belleville, Ontario

**Buffalo Gateway**  
Depew, New York  
www.buffalogatewaychorus.com

**Bytown Beat**  
Orleans, Ontario  
www.bytownbeat.com

**Canadian Showtime**  
Ottawa, Ontario  
www.canadianshowtimechorus.com

**Capitaland**  
Albany, New York  
www.capitalandchorus.org

**Carousel Harmony**  
Vestal, New York  
www.carouselharmony.org

**Chautauqua Shores**  
Jamestown, New York  
www.kinzua.net/~cshores

**Circle of Harmony**  
Oakville, Ontario  
www.circleofharmony.ca

**City of Lights**  
Tonawanda, New York  
www.harmonize.com/Cityoflights

**City of the Hills**  
Oneonta, New York  
www.saregion16.com/cityofthe-hillschorus

**Durham Shores**  
Oshawa, Ontario  
www.harmonize.com/Durhamshoreschorus

**Eastside Harmony**  
Pickering, Ontario  
www.eastsideharmony.org

**Greater Kingston**  
Kingston, Ontario  
www.greaterkingston.org

**Harmony North**  
Thornbury, Ontario  
www.harmonynorth.ca

**Image City Sound**  
Rochester, New York  
www.imagecitysound.com

**Kawartha Music Company**  
Peterborough, Ontario

**Lake Effect Harmony**  
Boston, New York  
www.lakeeffectharmony.org

**North Metro**  
Toronto, Ontario  
www.northmetrochorus.com

**Northumberland**  
Cobourg, Ontario  
www.interpool.ca/sweetadelines

**Ontario Heartland**  
Mississauga, Ontario  
www.ontarioheartlandchorus.ca

**Orangeville**  
Caledon, Ontario  
www.orangevillechorus.com

**Pineridge**  
Uxbridge, Ontario

**River Valley**  
Schenectady, New York  
www.saregion16.com/rivervalleychorus

**Rochester**  
Rochester, New York  
www.saregion16.com/rochesterchorus

**Saratoga Soundtrack**  
Saratoga Springs, New York  
www.saratogasoundtrack.org

**Scarborough**  
Scarborough, Ontario  
www.scarboroughchorus.com

**Seneca Soundwaves**  
Canandaigua, New York  
www.senecasoundwaves.com

**Seven Valley**  
Cortland, New York  
www.sevenvalleychorus.com

**Skyway Connection**  
Stoney Creek, Ontario

**Sound of Silver**  
Oneida, New York

**Spirit of Syracuse**  
Syracuse, New York  
www.spiritofsyracuse.com

**St. Lawrence**  
Canton, New York  
www.saregion16.com/stlawrencechorus

**York Highlands**  
Newmarket, Ontario  
www.yorkhighlands.com

## Regional Management Team

### REGIONAL TEAM COORDINATOR

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