

# N&NW

## North by Northwest Region 13

September 27, 2020

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## DIRECTOR HIGHLIGHTS

### Connie Alward

Connie Alward began her Sweet Adeline career, at the ripe old age of 14, singing tenor with Prospective Juan de Fuca chapter in 1979. Two years later, that chorus chartered as **Grand Olympics Chorus**. She sang lead in many quartets over the years, including **The Note-Ables**, (1990 - 4th place honorable mention, prior to 4th & 5th place medals) then bass with **Aspire**, (2014 - 2nd place medalists) and currently sings bass with **Wink** (2019 Regional champions.)



She began directing **Grand Olympics Chorus** in November of 2016, received Novice Director in 2017, Most Improved Chorus director in 2018 and received her Director Certification in January, 2019. Then came COVID19...

Much love and care is given in preparing for our bi-weekly Zoom rehearsals to keep everyone engaged, singing and having fun during this time of COVID. We can hardly wait to be together again and are planning for an Open House in October.

*Submitted by Connie Alward  
Director, Grand Olympics Chorus*

### Peggy Benton

As the director of **Alaska Sound Celebration**, Peggy is fully immersed in the musical life of Anchorage. As a music specialist with the Anchorage School District, she passes on her love of music to younger generations.

Peggy has a Bachelor of Arts in Arts Administration and a Bachelor of Music. She received her Masters of Teaching in 2006. Over the years, she has had many roles in local theatrical productions including our own Fur Rendezvous Melodrama. These have allowed her to display the comedic and fun loving sides of her personality.

A mother of two grown up children (and three of the furry kind), Peggy has a busy life which includes a love of gardening, and spending as much time as possible being "Yamma" to Keegan and Addie. If she had more time to spare she would be on a boat fishing with her husband Ron.

***"Transforming Lives One Song at a Time!"***



## Sandy Cahill

Sandy says there was nothing other than music that she ever wanted to do. Singing and music have always been an important part of her life and finally, she has found a way to put her degree in music education to good use.

In 1988 she and her then-new husband left her native New York to return to his hometown - Portland. Sandy knew nothing about Sweet Adelines, but she went to a rehearsal and immediately fell in love with the music and the director, who was "funny and warm and smart about music" (hmmm, that sounds like Sandy). Sandy says, "Since the day I walked in the door, there hasn't been a day I haven't been involved in the organization. Sweet Adelines is an integral part of who I am."



She became the director of **Cascade Harmony Chorus** in 2006 and has maintained dual membership in **Pride of Portland Chorus**. At regional competition in 2012, Sandy led **Cascade Harmony** to its first-ever championship, earning Sandy the Master Director status and the opportunity for the chorus to compete in Hawaii the following year.

Sandy has sung baritone with numerous quartets, including four regional champions (for seven appearances at International). She continues to work at her singing and performing skills as well as directing, coaching and learning. In 2017, she joined the leadership team for **Pride** as associate director and was named the Assistant Director in 2018.

*Submitted by Sandy Cahill  
Director, Cascade harmony Chorus  
Assistant Director, Pride of Portland Chorus*

## Paula Davis



Paula is a 36 year member of Sweet Adelines International and has lived and sung with choruses in Texas, Colorado and now Washington! Now directing the **Song of Seattle Chorus** in Bellevue, WA, she also serves on the International Board of Directors, and has been a Past International President of SAI. She also serves as the Judge Specialist Moderator in the Judge Specialists Committee as well as being a Certified Expression Judge and Panel Chair. Paula is currently Region 13's Leadership Development Specialist and also serves on an International Task Force for Leadership Development and Certification.

Paula is proud to sing bass in **Touchstone Quartet** and often sings with **Song of Seattle** in their performances. She and her husband, Bob, moved here 5 years ago to be close to their 4 grandchildren (Paula's oldest son and wife too). Now, both of their sons live in the South Puget Sound area - the gang's all together again! After living and loving Sweet Adelines in 4 regions, Paula loves settling in and making Region 13 her home!

*Submitted by Paula Davis  
Director, Song of Seattle Chorus*

## Cheryl Issacs

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enjoy singing barbershop with the local men's chorus, The Mount Baker Toppers. My daughter, Erika, also joined **North Sound Chorus** the same year as me...so we definitely made barbershop singing a family event! I started directing this chorus in 1993, then joined **Sea Island Sound** in Mount Vernon (now they are known as **Harmony Northwest Chorus**) in 1996. I did become a certified director and started directing **Harmony Northwest Chorus** in 2003 and have been here ever since.



There have been many opportunities to expand my barbershop experience, including a trip to Finland with the Toppers in 1999 and a trip to England and Ireland with Zoe Thompson's 'Spirit 2000' group. A few interesting stories always seem to emerge on such trips, such as losing luggage, singing "Battle Hymn" for an Israeli group and 'bugling' to "Stars and Stripes Forever" on a double decker bus with my daughter and Joan Levitin on July 4th!

I was fortunate to work with the Regional Management Team as Director Coordinator in the early 2000's, which definitely gave me a great overview of how the region works together to provide such a wide array of educational and positive experiences to the members. My early music background includes my first musical instrument, the accordion. I went on to become an assistant band director in my high school and learned to play the clarinet and saxophone. This led me to play in the Washington State University marching band, where I lost my shoe in the mud one time while performing during half-time. And the show, but not the shoe, must go on!

During my time working at an elementary school, I was asked to organize a music show for Pre-K through 3rd grade students. I'd like to just say that Sweet Adelines experience was certainly helpful! I continue to learn and grow and be ever thankful to all the ladies who have encouraged and supported me with this hobby and enriched my life these past 30 years. In my working life, I was a teacher for the developmentally disabled. First with adults in a vocational workshop in both Spokane and Bellingham, and then with preschool children ages 3-5, including working with deaf and hard-of-hearing students for over 30 years. Now I'm retired and loving the time I spend with family and friends.

*Submitted by Cheryl Issacs  
Director, Harmony Northwest Chorus*

## Becky Pope



Becky Pope has been the director of **Inland Harmony Chorus** since 2010, Co-Director with LuAnn Scott since 2019, and a member of Sweet Adelines since 1998. Like many Sweet Adelines, she wishes she had started when much younger :-). Becky became a Sweet Adelines Certified Director in 2011 and led the chorus to Most Improved (by 95 points!) in 2013 and a 3rd place for Division A at the North by Northwest Region 13 Competition in 2014. She has sung baritone, tenor, and bass in the chorus.

She grew up with grandparents and parents who sang together and her dad was active in a local men's' barbershop chorus. Becky has a BA in music from the University of Idaho where her quartet, **Out of Order**, sang "It Is Well With My Soul" at her senior vocal recital.

She and her husband, Craig, have built several of their homes, always including space for a piano, extra quartet or VLQ rehearsal, and their grandchildren :-). Becky credits Sweet Adelines with transforming her from a shy individual to an outgoing educator unafraid to stand in front of large audiences, as well as filling her life with many Sweet Adelines sisters.

*Submitted by Becky Pope  
Co-Director, Inland Harmony Chorus*

## Chuck Roegiers



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together. Charles "Chuck" Roegiers is a retired U.S. Navy Bandmaster who joined the Navy Music Program after working as a circus acrobat and... wait for it... flying trapeze artist. Very cool, but completely irrelevant to barbershop (and the Navy) except that it instilled in him a relentless pursuit of superior showmanship.

Chuck now works as a freelance script writer and music arranger, having written over 70 show scripts for seventeen different choruses across the country, and has done several commissioned arrangements for various groups, including the **Dapper Dans** of Walt Disney fame.



A staff instructor at Harmony College Northwest, Chuck has taught courses in Music Arranging, Creative Script Writing, and Music Theory. He is a seasoned Master of Ceremonies and most recently has become the proud director of the **Acapella Soundsations** Sweet Adelines chorus in Kitsap County, Washington!

*Submitted by Chuck Roegiers  
Director, Acapella Soundsations*

## CHORUS HISTORY

### Fairbanks Frontier

**Fairbanks Frontier Chorus** was chartered in 1965 with 12 members. The cost was \$6.00 each to International and Gen Sole was the first director.

Quartets: "**Arctic Association**" won first place in Region 13-1979 and "**Alaska Gold**" won first place in Region 13-1985.



**Fairbanks Chorus** has done a Community Christmas show every year since 1990. Sadly, 2020 will be the first year for NO Christmas show for over 30 years.

**Fairbanks Chorus** represented the State of Alaska in the "Festival of States" in 2005. The chorus had a personal tour of the Senate with Senator Ted Stevens, sang at monuments in Washington DC, and sang the "Alaska State Flag" song on the steps of the Capital.

**Fairbanks Chorus** enjoyed a 7-day southeast Alaska tour in 2009 for the celebration of 50 years of Alaska Statehood. The chorus entertained in Sitka, Ketchikan, Juneau, Haines, and traveled by bus and ocean-going ferries.

**Fairbanks Chorus** has done a huge fund-raiser, held in February bi-yearly since 2009. It is called "The Ice Fog Frenzy" and has raised major funds to help chorus members attend competition.

Elaine Jacobson served as "Regent of Region 13" for several years and was treasurer for over 5 years. Carol Ann Varner was Chapter at Large Coordinator for 3-4 Years.

**Fairbanks Chorus** is mostly responsible for the "Open Division" category. The chorus kept taking parodies to competition. The judges did not know how to judge us. 2010 was the year one of the judges said, "Fairbanks keeps winning the Audience Choice award. Is there any way we can make a category for those who want to entertain rather than do the traditional competition?" Open Division happened the next year.

**Fairbanks Frontier Chorus** is the oldest chorus in the State. We just celebrated 55 years of Sweet Adelines being active in Fairbanks.

*Submitted by Joy McDougall*

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## Jet Cities

The **Jet Cities Chorus** was founded on July 3, 1962, by a group of 23 women, drawing from Seattle, Tacoma and other distant locales. We are currently based in Federal Way, Washington, and have approximately 40 members, ranging from twenty-somethings to octogenarians.



The chorus has placed first in regional competition four times, and has competed internationally in Kansas City, KS, Detroit, Honolulu, and Indianapolis. We also competed one time at Harmony Classic in Greenville, SC.

The chorus has had ten directors over the years, some for just a short time, others for a decade or more. Our current director, Rachel Pack, became our director in 2019 and brings vitality and inspiration to our chorus. She recently sang tenor with the **Renegade** quartet, placing 8th internationally in 2018, and received the Region 13 Novice Director Award in 2019. She teaches choir at Maple Valley High School in Maple Valley, Washington, as well as co-directing at “Harmony Explosion Northwest”, a three day event for young men and women ages 13 to 25. We appreciate her dedication, as well as her joy of spiders, which find their way into rehearsals and contest preparations (plastic versions only)!

During this time of quarantine, our Music Team developed virtual rehearsals that include physical warm-ups, vocal warm-ups, motivational activities and...singing! The chorus undertook a virtual concert of “Harmonize the World”, and is now collaborating on tags using a program called “BandLab”. Rachel has also been teaching music theory online to members who are interested, covering basic theory as well as more in-depth topics related to arranging music, barbershop style! Members contribute to our rehearsals by taking turns providing inspirational thoughts, leading warm-ups, and offering solo performances.

We end each rehearsal by singing “Harmonize the World”, followed by our cheer, “Jet Cities Rocks!” which our past team leader, Sue Pisek, has taken to heart by painting hundreds of rocks





which we take and place in the public domain. Some of them have resulted in the finders contacting us and coming to shows!



We are adapting to this new state of “distance” singing, but look forward to all singing together again, with our own chorus and the rest of our Sweet Adelines sisters!

*Submitted by Edie Toner*

### Seattle Shores



1953

**Seattle Shores Chorus** was officially chartered in 1953. According to Opal Hicks, a charter member with the chorus, in March 1951 Opal and her husband attended a barbershop show put on by the Seattle Men’s Chapter of SPEBSQSA (Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America).

During intermission, a woman named Grace Doyle announced from the stage that a local chapter of a women’s singing group called

Sweet Adelines was forming, and all women were invited to attend. Opal’s husband told her to write down the phone number. She called and subsequently attended a Tuesday evening rehearsal attended by a half dozen women. She decided to try the baritone part.

It took the group a year and a half to meet the requirements to charter with Sweet Adelines International. The charter was presented on May 4, 1953, by Dr. Sigmund Spaeth of New York City, noted musicologist and arranger of “Sweet Adeline,” which was the organization’s official theme song for several years. At that time they officially became known as the Seattle Chapter of Sweet Adelines. The chorus, which started with about 21 members, kept busy with rehearsals, performances, and competitions from 1953 to 1980. Seattle Chapter was also instrumental in helping several other choruses become established in the Seattle area.



In 1980, the leaders of the **Seattle Chorus** and the **Northshore Chorus** decided to combine forces and become **Seattle Shores Chorus**.

**Seattle Shores** won the Sweet Adelines regional competition in 1988, going to Miami for the international competition.

In 2007, the chorus sang for audiences including heads of state in Jamestown, Virginia, for the 400th

anniversary of the founding of Jamestown.



We have been performing at least twice a month at various venues and have an annual performance for the benefit of Operation Smile. We have been able to pay for over 200 operations for cleft palate surgery for needy people around the world. Today we still celebrate our anniversary on May 4, and we still rehearse on Tuesday nights. We have come a long way! And always welcome new members.



*Submitted by Kathy Stark*

## Song of Seattle

**M**ost new choruses start out as a seed in someone's soul, and that is certainly true for **Song of Seattle**. Our original seed sower was Melanie Wroe, who brought her idea of an exciting new musical theater enhanced chorus to fellow Sweet Adeline judge, Paula Davis, when they were on a walk in New Zealand. Having visited New Zealand, I can completely understand how a great idea could germinate there.

But that was only the beginning. Time, opportunity and life had to take their due course for the seed to become something more. Paula's son and his family had moved to the Seattle area, and with grandsons growing up too fast, Paula and her husband took the plunge and moved from Colorado to Washington to be in-person grandparents. Paula was now, at least, in the right state! All that was needed were singers to direct. No worries, Katy Hawley and others were busy gathering the troupes and sowing other seeds. The harvest was finally ripe for reaping, and **Song of Seattle** met for its inaugural rehearsal on April 22, 2015.



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Since those early days, we have loved traveling the path of fusing musical theater with our strong barbershop roots. Learning to sing and act, and sing while moving around, was something new for many of us who were “raised” in the barbershop world of risers. We’ve had a great time on the Open Division stage, and wherever we get the chance to perform. We’re really looking forward to getting to do all of that again!



Our love for each other and for singing from the heart is what is getting us through this Covid time. We are thankful for our chorus, International and Regional leadership for helping us keep it interesting, safe and fun. And we’re looking forward to the day when the masks **Song of Seattle** is wearing will be our cabaret masks once again!

*Submitted by Sydney Thompson*

## Spirit of Spokane

**The Spirit of Spokane Chorus** became an official chapter of Sweet Adelines in 1989 (under the name of **Spokane Falls Chorus**) and won the regional Small Chorus Championship with only 20 members in our very first year of competition. Since that time, the chorus has maintained a commitment to excellence as we have grown in the number of singers and in experience. With expert coaching and several years of gifted direction by Mike Elliott, the chorus exploded into the winners' circle for the first time on April 4, 1998, with a performance that brought the Spokane Opera House audience to its feet, even before the last note was sung. This entitled us to compete at Sweet Adelines International competition in Atlanta, Georgia in fall 1999, where we placed in the top 20 in the world. In 2000, we repeated the regional win, scoring high enough to be one of the top five mid-sized choruses in the world! This gained the chorus an invitation to IES in San Antonio Texas in July 2001 where we placed second.





The women of **Spirit of Spokane Chorus** have proven that these awards were not a flash in the pan with three more regional championships in 2002, 2004 and 2006. We enjoyed our journey to International competition in Calgary, Alberta, Canada in October 2007; we opened the performing chorus to Sweet Adelines in our regional area and nearly doubled the number of members on stage. More recently, our competition results include first place for a mid-size chorus and placements among the top four choruses over-all.



But we aren't only about competition! We are a high-level performing chorus who is also on a joyful, musical journey. We perform for community events and produce original stage shows every year. We have performed as elves, as ghosts, as hobos, and as kids at a slumber party. We dress up in glitter, in neon colors and in basic black. Our performances will make you laugh, make you cry, and make you remember by-gone days. Last fall we celebrated our 30th anniversary with a huge show. All five of our local Barbershop choruses were on stage together singing our hearts out!

Through this period of pandemic, **Spirit of Spokane** is continuing to offer a virtual experience for our members through our Zoom online format. We meet each week to learn new songs, visit with guest coaches, and learn from a variety of online video content. We are currently in the process of creating a virtual chorus video and are looking forward to a time when we can get together again to blend our voices in beautiful Barbershop harmony...the true **Spirit of Spokane**.

*Submitted by Cheryl Allen*

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## WHAT IT TAKES TO MAKE REGIONAL CONVENTION HAPPEN

Well, simply put, *it takes a small army.*

establishing a workable budget and a schedule for convention week. This team consists of 5 members: Chair of the Regional Convention (CRC), Competition Chair (CC), Communications Chair (CoC), Facility Event Specialist (FES) and Official Panel Liaison (OPL). Starting in October, the team has monthly Zoom meetings up to the month before convention and then meets Wednesday of convention week for a final touch base.

Under each team member there are many subchairs, helpers, volunteers, etc. The CRC oversees the whole event and is responsible for any items not directly related to the Competition: site selection, registration, classes, Harmony Emporium, Thursday Night Kickoff, Show of Champions, Afterglow, transportation and photographer (both shared with the CC), etc.

The CC handles all things competition: quartet and chorus contest schedules, contest stage and backstage items, riser configuration, sound check, briefings, inspection, video and audio recordings, webcast, traffic patterns, lighting, ticket sales, emcees, award presenters, door monitors, busing, etc.

The CoC manages communications for the convention: webpages, bulletins, eBlasts, InTune, convention logo, program, after convention survey, etc.

The FEC coordinates all onsite management: space for convention events, sleeping rooms, catering, equipment needs, seating, etc.

The OPL is responsible for all activities relating to the official Judging Panel: primarily the care and comfort of the panel, transportation, housing, meals, trial scorers, contestant packet envelopes, inspections, briefings, etc.

So as you can see, there is a lot that goes into making Regional Convention happen. The basics are listed above but trust me, there is so much more that space doesn't allow. The list goes on!

*Submitted by Jody Allen  
Region 13 CRC/Events Coordinator*

## INTUNE DEADLINE

The new deadline for submitting articles for the fall InTune is **October 25, 2020**. An email reminder will be sent to the appropriate recipients on **October 11, 2020**, and the e-Publication date will be on or before **November 15, 2020**.

If changes to the contacts for your choruses or quartets on my distribution list have occurred, please submit them to me as soon as possible at [caroladrew@aol.com](mailto:caroladrew@aol.com). Stay safe.

*Submitted by Carol Drew  
Region 13 InTune Co-Editor*



The Region 13 Management Team is looking for women to fill a variety of jobs in our region. Some are "one and done" positions, others are short-term spots, and still others are for a two-year position.



### Featured Resource Staff Openings:

**Convention Communications Chair**  
**Assistant Webmaster**  
**Social Media Administrator**

Take a few moments to read the detailed Job Description you are interested in and complete an application today! Both documents are found on the Members Only [website](#).

*Submitted by Sandy Smith  
Region 13 Communications Coordinator*

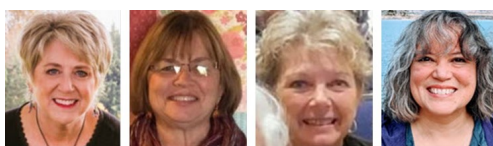
## MEMBER INFO UPDATE REQUEST

Please take a moment to login to the [R13 Members Only](#) webpage to update your member profile information.

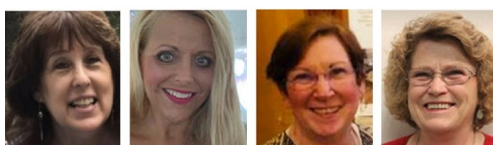
If you have any login issues, please contact [Mindy Engelberg](#) or [Diana Jordan](#).

*Submitted by Sharon Stockstad  
Region 13 Membership Coordinator*

## RMT MEETINGS



Have you ever wondered what your RMT actually does? Members are welcome to visit monthly meetings which are held via Zoom. If you plan to attend, you will need to register **at least 3 days prior to the meeting**.



**NOTE: Meeting times have changed.** All meetings begin at **2:00 pm Pacific time** and last approximately one hour.

The next meeting is scheduled in **October 2020**, **Details will be in the next eBlast**. Register in advance for this meeting at <https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ1vc--qrT8uGtHFgoGpCJysSZs6GgPoz-on>.

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

*Submitted by Sally Ryerson  
Region 13 Team Coordinator*

*A request not made is an opportunity missed*

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**REGION 13**

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