

real women.
real harmony.
real fun.

InTune

North by Northwest Region 13 Sweet Adelines International



Mark Your Calendars for SET 2016

We are thrilled to have the dynamic duo of **Lori Lyford** and **Jana Gutenson** from the 2015 International Champion **Scottsdale Chorus** as the faculty for SET 2016!

Mark your calendars now for August 25-28 and plan to join us for a weekend of education and fun.

We will once again have a **Strut Your Stuff Novice Quartet and VLQ Festival** on Saturday night. (At least 50% of the performers in any novice group must have not have previously competed in a quartet contest.)

Our event hotel will be the **Red Lion in Spokane, Washington**. Registration for SET and our hotel room block will open later this spring, so be sure to monitor the Region 13 website and Facebook page. You will also receive email notification.

About our faculty:

Lori Lyford began her Sweet Adeline career in Region 13 where she spent many years as director of the Rolling Hills Chorus. In her first appearance on the International Competition stage she lead the Scottsdale Chorus to a 3rd Place medal. Since then she has directed them to three International Championships, (2005, 2010, & 2015.) She is also an accomplished quartet singer, having won multiple times at the regional level and broken into the top 10 at International with **Affinity Quartet**. Today she is one of the most sought-after coaches in the barbershop genre, conducting training seminars and coaching sessions throughout the United States and abroad. She is the choral music teacher at Chandler High School in Chandler, Arizona where her a cappella ensembles have received local, regional, and international acclaim. The current Rising Star Quartet Champions, **C'est la Vie**, grew up in her program.

Jana Gutenson has been a member of Sweet Adelines International since 1984, but barbershop has been in her life since birth as both her parents were barbershoppers. Jana has a BA in Music Education and an MA in Curriculum & Instruction and is a general music teacher in Chandler, Arizona. She is a certified Music Judge in Sweet Adelines and has served as the Education Coordinator for Region 21 and on the Regional Leadership Committee for the International Organization. In addition to being the Associate Director of the Scottsdale Chorus, Jana is an accomplished quartet singer, having reached the International top 10 singing baritone with Affinity.

Submitted by Laurie O'Brien

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Now you can visit us on our Region 13 Fan page, even if you're not a member of Facebook.

Simply visit us at [facebook.com/Region13](https://www.facebook.com/Region13)—no sign-up required—and catch up on all the latest goings-on in North by Northwest Region 13.



Coaching Connection

With Regional competition just months away, many choruses and quartets have the need for additional coaching. Region 13's website has a wonderful resource for you: simply click on Education, then on **The Coaching Connection**. There you will find links to contacts and documents to help make your coaching experience more enjoyable.

If your coaching session is open for observers, you can email your dates to Nancy Kurth (nkurth@msn.com) and they will be added to the calendar. Observing someone else being coached can be one of the most valuable learning experiences you can imagine (you'll be able to see and hear the difference as changes are made).

And be sure to check out the other links on the Coaching Connection site:

- List of coaches
- Sample coaching confirmation form
- Making the most of your coaching session
- List of regional faculty
- PEP program outline

One of the new documents is a Sample Piggyback Coaching Agreement that can be modified and used when several choruses and/or quartets share a coach during the same travel period. The Piggyback Policy basically states that when you share a coach you agree ahead of time to share the cost of transportation on a pro rata basis with coaching fees going directly to the coach. It also outlines who coordinates the time slots, deposits needed, what to do if cancellation or no shows occur. This is a great document that outlines many concerns before the arrangements are made.

Submitted by Nancy Kurth

Check Out Our Newest Regional Song

Were you at the Mass Sing at the International Convention in Las Vegas this fall? If so, you may recall a new song was introduced—One Song at a Time (arranger Joe Liles). It is a solid barbershop song, typical of songs arranged by Joe Liles. Region 13 has decided to add this song to our regional song repertoire. The music and learning tracks are available on the North by Northwest Region 13 [website](#). Contest is coming up in May; we hope many of our Region 13 sisters will be ready to sing it at our Mass Sing in Spokane.

Submitted by Debra Aungst



Frequently Asked Questions

Do I need to obtain a “clearance” for my chorus’s show dates from North by Northwest Region 13?

No, choruses do not need to get permission to schedule show dates. However, you should check the regional calendar on our website to see if your chosen dates are in conflict with any chorus shows already scheduled in your vicinity. Conflicts may result in lower attendance at your show.

When you have confirmed dates, add them to the regional calendar promptly, so others will have this information. The reality is that choruses often have little flexibility in selecting dates. We ask that you do your best to avoid competing with other choruses.

How do I get my barbershop event on the regional calendar?

To submit an event for the regional calendar, go to the public home page of the regional [website](#). Select the *Events* tab and select the *Submit a Calendar Event* box. Complete the online form and hit the submit button! Easy peasy!

How can I update changes to my address or email for the Region and for International?

International: Go to the SAI [website](#). Log on to the Members Only section. Select *More Member Options*. Click on “Update Your Info.”

Region 13: Go to the regional [website](#). Log on to the Members Only section. Select *Members*, then *Region 13 Members*. Find your name, select it, then click “Edit” and make the changes. Make sure that you hit the SAVE button at the very bottom of the page when you are finished.

What is the best way to access information about upcoming educational events?

The best source of information is on the regional [website](#). Events that are in the near future are typically listed on the home page with a link to a more detailed page. Events that are further away are typically listed on the Events Calendar. Just select the *Events* tab and click on *Calendar* from the drop down menu. You can always send an [email](#) inquiry to the Region's Education Coordinator.

Submitted by Pat Breen

Education Class Once Again At Our Annual Convention & Contest Weekend

There will be an education class for all Region 13 members on Thursday afternoon of Convention weekend. Plan on arriving on Thursday in time to catch the class. We are so excited to bring this learning opportunity to you. You will not want to miss it! Here is a sneak peek...

Class: Artistic Performance for Every Singer

When: Thursday, May 19, 2016 from 3:00-4:45 pm

Faculty: Ryan Heller, Master 700 Director of Pride of Portland

Demonstration Quartet: Frenzy, 2016 Second Place International Quartet

Watch for future convention communications for more details.

Submitted by Debra Aungst



Regional Management Team News

Greetings from the Region 13 Management Team! The Management Team met on January 7-9, 2016 in Federal Way, WA. The meeting was

attended by the current RMT members plus those elected/appointed for the 2016-2018 term:

Debra Aungst, Education Coordinator
 Sharon Stockstad, Membership Coordinator
 Diane Lee, Communications Coordinator
 Nancy Kurth, Team Coordinator
 Jeannie Law, Associate Coordinator

Proposed changes to Regional Governance: The RMT listened to the announcement of the Regional Governance Proposal from the SAI International Board of Directors. We also participated in a Skype conference call. We asked and received answers to many of our questions about the proposal. This proposal only affects regions; it does not affect chapter governance. You will find information about this proposal on the SAI [website](#) Members Only section under a tab titled Regional Governance Proposal.

During the month of April, the RMT from each region will be voting to accept or decline the proposal. The results of the vote will be announced on May 1, 2016. If the vote is affirmative, the proposed changes will take place on May 1, 2017.

Education Coordinator Debra Aungst presented information about SET 2016.

Date: Thursday-Saturday, August 25-27

Location: Red Lion Hotel, Spokane, WA
 Guest Faculty: Lori Lyford and Jana Gutenson
 Regional Faculty will teach a variety of classes on Friday

The workshop song will be "One Song At A Time." Music and learning tracks are available in the Members Only section of the regional [website](#).

Directors Coordinator Nancy Kurth reported that the Star Chorus Program continues to be on hold as we transition to our new region and learn the same regional songs together. The focus will be on songs from the Mass Sing Book. Sandy Cahill will be conducting a Harmony College Northwest (HCNW) class based on learning several of those songs.

We applauded the great work completed by Events Coordinator Judy Galloway and reviewed the schedule for the 2016 Convention and Competition. The new Region 13 [Convention website](#) will be an effective tool to distribute information about the many details involved with the regional competition.

Finance Coordinator Danie Stiles and the entire team reviewed and approved the budget for 2016-2017.

Marketing Coordinator Jo Sahlin announced that we will have Region 13 T-shirts available again this year for the International Competition in Las Vegas, Oct. 17-22, 2016.

Submitted by Sally Wallace





Arrangers WorkShop

This is the third year that Region 13 and **Harmony College Northwest** are joint sponsors of The Arrangers WorkShop at HCNW. The dates are set for Thursday, June 16 (afternoon and evening) and Friday, June 17 (morning) at the University of Puget Sound, Tacoma, Washington. Plans to date are summarized below.

Susan Kegley, Certified Music Arranger, is returning by popular demand and will be joined by **Mike Menefee** and **Janice Wheeler**. An exciting agenda is planned, including a new “clinic” format and separate sessions for arranging for men’s voices and women’s voices.

On-site registration and check-in will be from noon to 1:00 pm on Thursday, June 16, 2016. Then the afternoon begins at 1:00 pm starting with your choice of

concurrent sessions:

Arranging from the Edge begins with basic guidelines and terms and then gets right into the “how to” and “hands on” of actually preparing a lead sheet, choosing chords, and assigning voice parts within an arrangement.

Arranging Clinic – Focus on the WOW! is a more advanced session with Susan and Mike leading the way, sharing details and techniques that can add finesse and pizzazz to arrangements, with before and after examples. You’re encouraged to bring your own arranging work—works in progress or completed arrangements—to share, discuss, and maybe revise.

After dinner Thursday, the evening will be devoted to:

Arranging the 2016 WorkShop Song Mike will lead the group

creating the arrangement for men’s voices and Susan will lead the group creating the arrangement for women’s voices. Then everyone will get back together at the end of the evening to brainstorm arrangement format ideas.

Friday morning plans in progress include:

Tin Pan Alley for students who want to showcase personal arranging work (stay tuned for details).

Finalizing Project Song Choices, making decisions about arrangement formats and plans to complete both the men’s and women’s arrangements.

Registration details and a 2016 flyer will soon be available at [here](#). Send questions to [Janice Wheeler](#), Region 13 Arrangers Coordinator.

Submitted by Nancy Kurth

It’s Scholarship Application Time!

Reminder—May 15 is the application deadline

Are you interested in financial assistance with your registration to an upcoming educational event? What about some financial help covering the cost of SAI educational materials or tools? Just submit an application outlining your request. You don’t need to wait until the application deadline. You can submit your application at any time. All applications received by May 15 will be considered in this next round. Scholarships will be awarded soon thereafter. If you miss this window, there is another round for consideration next fall.

How to get an application: Just log into the Members Only site on the [Regional website](#). From there go to the *Documents* tab and select the *Forms, Downloads and Miscellaneous Information* box. Then click on the *Education Scholarship Information and Application* link to access the application form. All the submission directions are included on the form.

Please remit your application to Debra Aungst, Education Coordinator no later than May 15. You can submit it by email or by snail mail.



Region 13 Chorus Chatter

Alaska Sound Celebration

ASC's Quartet Explosion
Ignites Entire Chorus

There are currently 49
quartets pictured on the

Region 13 website. Many of them will be in this year's Quartet Contest in Spokane, including eight from Alaska Sound Celebration. ASC actually has 10 registered quartets now. That's half of our entire chorus!

ASC's quartet explosion of four brand new quartets within the past several months alone is due in no small part to an organized effort to promote quartets within the chorus. Headed up by quartet veterans **Misti Forrest** and **Melanie Cross**, activities included rehearsals devoted to woodshedding experiments and inspirational lessons.

"The ability to hold your part in a quartet situation is the quickest way to really know if you *know* a piece of music," said Cross, the baritone in last year's 6th Place quartet, **Vocalocity**. "Our quartets are each growing in their own personal vocal production, which only strengthens the vocal production of the chorus as a whole."

One of ASC's newest quartets is "**Sweet Chillys**," headed up by novice barbershop lead Stacy Miller. She said she knew during last year's quartet contest that she belonged on that stage on a Friday this May.



"Each one of us brings a unique background and skill set to the quartet," Miller said. "We've learned from each other every week, which keeps our enthusiasm high as we hear ourselves improving."

Submitted by Kate McKee

Chapter-at-Large

Congratulations to **Song of Seattle**

As foretold in a previous InTune, my CAL roster shrank when the Prospective Song of Seattle Chorus, under the direction of **Paula Davis**, recently chartered. I will sure miss those names but couldn't be happier that we have a new, outstanding chorus in our region. They will be a powerful force on the competition stage! Congratulations!

Help Us at Regional Competition 2016!

The dynamic and talented members of Region 13 CAL help in our region in so many ways. If you would like to be of service during our busy competition weekend, May 19-22 in Spokane, WA, please [email](#) me.

Chapter-at-Large Information on Region 13 Website

North by Northwest Region 13 is one of only a few regions in the world who have a dedicated Chapter-at-Large landing page on the regional website. That's because we want our CAL members to be well-informed, and able to make the most of their membership. Please check it out [here](#), then log in for additional CAL resources on the "Members Only" CAL page. There you will find all things CAL, including general information, standing rules, and bylaws.

Submitted by Cris Conerty



Chorus Chatter Continues...

Coeur d'Alene Chorus

Members of the Coeur d'Alene Chorus have a Christmas tradition of caroling and entertaining shoppers and holiday guests at the Coeur d'Alene Resort during December, dressing as Victorian ladies. On December 7, we kicked off the season with our annual winter concert, "**Caroling of the Belles,**" performing barbershop arrangements of a variety of holiday songs, traditional and modern. The show was built around a charming skit created by member **Kay Rafferty**, and directed by another member, **Nan LoPresti**. In keeping with our established traditions, a local student singing group was featured as part of the program; this year our guests were the **Charter Academy a Cappella Choir**.

Every fall for several years, we have offered local prospective members an opportunity to join us in a few songs on this show. Beginning in October, eight enthusiastic women spent eight rehearsals and then joined our 32 members on stage, attired in Victorian finery.



After our concert, the rest of December was a whirlwind of caroling performances. Singing in groups of 9, we had 26 members who took turns covering 22 public singouts. Most gigs lasted three hours, and more than once, we had two groups singing at different venues on the same night! We were busy, but the reward of delighted audiences made it worth every minute!

Submitted by Lori Gessner

Helena Xpress Singers



The Helena Xpress Singers had an awesome Christmas Chorus this year! We had thirteen wonderful singers perform with us at a total of seven holiday events and our annual Flash Mobs, where we surprised shoppers with our barbershop carols. We are very excited to announce that we have welcomed nine new members to our chorus over the past several months and are having a blast singing with Becky, Bonnie, Charlotte, Chessa, Karla, Mary, Peg, Shaylene, and Tonya. Like all of you, we are busy preparing for 2016 competition and our chorus's new adventure of performing in the Open Division. We can't wait to share our fun package with all of our Region 13 friends. We wish everyone an "a cappella awesome" competition. See you in May!

Submitted by Sandy Smith

Jet Cities

We are excited to announce that **Ken Potter** is interim director of Jet Cities Chorus! He officially began on January 11 and will direct us through the competition season this May. He is the director of the Evergreen District champions **Northwest Sound** and tenor of **On the Rocks Quartet**. Before moving to the Pacific Northwest he was the assistant director for the Masters of Harmony, eight-time Barbershop Harmony Society chorus champions. Welcome, Ken!

Our annual Sweetie Pie Social will be held this year on Sunday, February 28 at 2:30 pm at Todd Beamer High School in Federal Way. Tickets are

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More Chorus Chatter..

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\$16 for adults and \$12 for students/seniors/military and can be purchased on

[Brown Paper Tickets](#). Doors will open at 2:00 PM. Special guests include **Profundo** Mixed Quartet, **The Four Get Me Nots**, **Wink**, **Mischief**, **Peppermint Twist**, and more!

In preparation for competition, we've scheduled coaching sessions with Sandy Marron, John Newell, and Kim Vaughn in the upcoming months.

Our dear friend and former director, Teresa McCafferty, continues to recuperate from her illness and we send her continued love and get-well wishes.

Submitted by Rhonda Gould

Northwest Harmony

Happy New Year to all our Region 13 Sisters in Harmony! Northwest Harmony Chorus finished off 2015 sharing holiday music with guest singers at eleven community venues, culminating in an amazing performance at the Grotto in East Portland. We begin the New Year with several new members, and a few new quartets as well. January was a busy month as we planned and hosted our annual **Sing Your Part Smart** workshop, with the members of award-winning **Prime Time** doing a wonderful job sharing

their knowledge and wisdom with the 105 Region 13 members in attendance. The workshop netted a profit of \$1000 which was donated to Prime Time to help them on their way back to Las Vegas. We are looking forward to the convention in May, and will be benefitting from expert coaching sessions with **Dee Neff**, **Kathy Scheel**, **Ryan Heller**, and **Kim McCormic** as we prepare for our moment on stage. NWH members are excited about what lies ahead for us this coming year, and for all members of Region 13!

Submitted by Barb McHugh

Olympia Chorus

It is with heavy hearts that the Olympia Chorus says goodbye to our beloved director of 46 years, **Jack Anderson**. He retired from directing in 2011 and passed away on January 22, 2016.

His love of music started when he was just six years old, when his aunt started giving him violin lessons. In 1961, Jack joined the newly started men's barbershop chorus, the **Puget Sounders**, and within two years of joining became their director. In 1965 Jack started the Olympia chapter and also became its first director. Jack's musical ear is legendary, not only in the Olympia area but also in Region 13 and Sweet Adelines International. Jack was always in high demand for coaching quartets through his 50-year career as a barbershopper and director.

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REGIONAL EVENTS

FEBRUARY

Feb 28: Sweetie Pie Social—an afternoon of singing and pie with Jet Cities Chorus!

APRIL

Apr 30: Columbia River and Northwest Harmony Choruses Send Off with performances by In Sequins, Pacific Blend, and other quartets.

MAY

May 19-21: Region 13 Convention and Competitions

JUNE

June 17: Harmony College Northwest at the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, WA

AUGUST

Aug 5: Queen's College in Northwest Itasca, IL featuring LoveNotes!

Aug 25-26 Summer Enrichment Training in Spokane, WA featuring Lori Lyford and Jana Gutenson of Scottsdale Chorus!

[Click here to see more upcoming regional events!](#)



Additional Chorus Chatter..

(continued from page 8)

With Jack at its helm, the Olympia Chorus won many medals through the years. The highlight of his career as a director came in May of 1978, when the Olympia

Chorus won 1st place at Region 13's competition in Regina, Saskatchewan.

Jack's musical gift was not only his fantastic ear, but his wonderfully powerful baritone voice. Jack sang with many groups and quartets through the years, but one group in particular will always stand out. In 1968, Jack joined a men's barbershop quartet called the Artesians. And in 1972 they won 1st place and became the Evergreen District Champions. Olympia couldn't have been more proud!

Even though Jack retired from directing in 2011 he could often be seen at the Olympia local shows and installation banquets for the last five years. He will be sorely missed by us all.

Submitted by Jo Sahlin

Pacific Sound

Pacific Sound Chorus has had quite a ride, getting ready for competing in SAI **Harmony Classic** in Las Vegas, which happens later this year. We have coaching sessions scheduled with **Judy Pozsgay, Diane Porsch, and Kim Vaughn**. There are extra sessions for learning music and choreography, improving vocal production, script and parody writing, and costume planning. The members are pulling together to make our package fun, entertaining, and filled with quality music.

We took a little break from Harmony Classic preparations, and the joys of the holiday season were enriching and busy! We delivered singing Christmas Cards and performed at numerous

venues, including having an open rehearsal on stage at the Crossroads Mall. If you weren't able to come to one of the singouts or our Cool Yule show at the Kirkland Performance Center, you can still see some of it. The City of Kirkland filmed us and added it to their news website, "**Currently Kirkland.**" It is available [here](#). We start at about the 9 minute 30 seconds mark in the video and continue through much of the rest of the program. It was as fun as it looks!

Submitted by Michelle DeFreece

Pride of Portland

While Pride of Portland had a few weeks off during December, we returned to rehearsals in January with much energy and drive; after all, Las Vegas is just around the corner! We again partnered with **Meals on Wheels** for Valentine's Day. Pride volunteers helped this wonderful organization by packing special meals for the day. We also started the Trunk of the Month in January. At the end of every month, a chorus member "opens her car trunk" and collects various food donations and delivers them to the Oregon Food Bank. What a joy to give to this organization!

We are very excited about our second annual **YWIH Festival**, Feb. 27, 2016. This year the Festival included high school boys and we partnered with **Bridgetown Sound Chorus** for the teaching and the evening performance.

We are beginning our "New Zealand" chorus rehearsals in March. Several are scheduled throughout 2016 in preparation for the February/March 2017 trip.

In preparation for both Spokane and Las Vegas, we are looking forward to challenging and rewarding coaching sessions with **Erin Howden** on March 7 and 8, and **Carole Persinger** April 6
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Further Chorus Chatter..

(continued from page 9)
and 7. Guests are welcome at our coaching sessions. Contact our membership coordinators, Cheryl Gertz or Donna Stewart, if you plan to visit.

Submitted by Susan Stevens

RiversEdge Chorus

On December 4, we presented our annual Christmas show, "**The Most Wonderful Time of the Year!**" Our guest performers were the **Men of Rhythm**, a local jazz band, and the **Pages of Harmony**, the Spokane chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society. We played to a capacity audience, and everyone had a wonderful time. **Janice Lindgren** (emcee) and **Nancy Moore** (Eleanor Scrooge) carried off the script without a hitch, and everyone enjoyed watching Eleanor Scrooge fall in love with Christmas! We raffled baskets with great items: tickets to the symphony, dinner for two at Clinkerdagger's (one of our premier restaurants), and a wine tasting party. We invited ladies from our community to sing with us on the show, and have garnered two new members from the nine who sang. We have a couple of ladies who are perennial Christmas Chorus members due to the fact that they are just too busy to join the chorus.

We had a great Christmas party on December 14 and then took the rest of the month off to enjoy the holidays with our families. Now, we are hard at work once again, preparing for contest in May. We are also looking forward to a coaching with **Sharon Babb** in March.

Happy New Year everyone - see you in May!!

Submitted by MaryAnn Milette

Song of Seattle

It's official. Song of Seattle has chartered in Region 13! We are so excited to be part of this talented and diverse region. It started as a few friends dreaming of creating a show chorus in Region 13. It moved to reality with a handful of us meeting last spring to launch Song of Seattle. Now, each month, the chorus grows and grows. We keep the premise simple: we prepare three months for performances, and then take a month off to recuperate, regenerate, and eagerly anticipate our return.

Our first performance was a pop-up show in June. Returning in late summer, Song Sisters (as we like to call ourselves) started preparing for the holiday season. We sang at numerous venues, including our own show in December. During all of this, we managed to organize and prepare for the charter process, meeting our goal to be chartered in time to compete in the Open Division at regional competition this spring.



But above all, we want to live the goals of our mission statement, "Inspiring women through musical excellence, creative performance, and supportive relationships," and our vision of "becoming a respected and recognized member of the Seattle Arts Community." We're on our way!

Submitted by Diane Lee



Update from Education Team

Your Regional Education Team is hard at work planning educational events. As with most teams, there is some turnover of team members. When it is time to pass the baton from those knowledgeable veteran team members to new ones, it is always bittersweet. Many thanks to Valorie Osterman and Teresa McCafferty who have served on the Education Team for several years and whose terms have ended.

Farewell and thanks:

Valorie Osterman (a joy Chapter, Spin Quartet) brought an important voice to the team and was known for her thought-provoking questions. Curriculum content and attention to detail were two more of her contributions. Most of you know her as the person at SET who worked her magic with the technology and seemed to always be there exactly when you needed help. Thank you, Valorie.

Teresa McCafferty (Jet Cities Chapter) brought an important perspective as a director, coach, and Ovation member. She was passionate about providing solid vocal instruction for all levels of singers. She had an uncanny ability to match up the right faculty member with the various teaching or coaching tasks. Thank you, Teresa.

Welcome to our newest members:

Elizabeth Davies (a joy Chapter, Song of Seattle Chapter, Sunbreak Quartet) brings experience as a passionate barbershopper, avid learner, assistant director, and teacher, as well as a commitment to quality education. Welcome, Elizabeth.

Charlene O'Connor (Voices Northwest Chapter) brings experience as a director, regional faculty, coach, and Ovation member. She is known for her passion for giving fully engaged and energetic performances from the inside out. Welcome, Charlene.

And one more upcoming change:

Shelly Pardis (Helena Xpress Singers Chapter, Boom Quartet) has accepted a new job that will take her out of the area beginning in May. Shelly has been another wonderful member of our Education Team. You may know her as our PEP (Preparing for Excellent Performance) Program Coordinator. She has an uncanny ability to match up regional faculty with the needs of a chorus. We will miss her. Thank you, Shelly.

We are currently accepting application from those interested in joining the Education Team. We are looking for people who care about our educational program, can work well in a team environment, and are willing to learn. If you are interested, please contact [Debra Aungst](#).

Finally, I want to thank all the members of the Education Team for their continuing service: **Elizabeth Davies, LouAnn Hommel, Sue Middleton, Charlene O'Connor, Shelly Pardis, Missy Weeks, and Debby Zeller.**

Submitted by Debra Aungst

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Send articles to Grace Rawsthorne
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Check us out on the web: sairegion13.org



Quartet Corner

Pepper Quartet

What a wonderful last three months of 2015 for Pepper! After returning from International competition, we jumped into preparations for our 9th (I think) annual Christmas Show along with guest quartets **Amore** and **Wishcraft**. We had several other performances, including singing at the **Hayden Lights Festival**. (See the photo with our fan, Donovan.) We ended the year with a fun performance for **First Night Spokane** at the venerable Auntie's Bookstore. We have kicked off the new year with not one but two amazing coaching sessions. The first was with the incomparable **Peggy Gram**, when we latched onto her weekend with the **Spirit of Spokane** chorus's retreat for a couple of hours of intense work. We followed the next weekend with a retreat of our own with Expression Judge and incoming SAI President,



Paula Davis. We LOVE her. She showed us how to get to places in our performance we have always wanted to find, but weren't quite sure how to manifest. We are so excited for the year ahead! And yes, the littlest Pepper, Axl Olsen, is cute as a bug and growing like a weed. He sang with us at our last rehearsal!

Submitted by Carran Kelley

SoundFX Quartet

SoundFX had a marvelous time in Las Vegas! We loved the incredible high-level competition and rooting for all of our fellow Region 13 competitors. Congratulations to us all, and especially to **PrimeTime** for their top 15 finish and to **Frenzy** on their 2nd place finish! Region 13 ROCKS!

We want to thank everybody in the region for your wonderful financial contributions and your loyal support. All the cards and good wishes made us "feel the love" in Vegas.

We had a wonderful time singing holiday songs and entertaining audiences throughout the season. But personal, family, and work challenges are causing us to discontinue as a quartet. Again, thanks from the bottoms of our hearts for all of your support and love. We will individually see you around at shows and events.

SoundFX: Beth, Julie, Megan, and Susan

Submitted by Susan Kegley