



# BORDER LIGHTS

Border Lakes Region 2 • SPRING 2020 Newsletter



## TEAM COORDINATOR ~ Lois Kelly

**H**ello to all in Region 2. It is a difficult time in our region, our communities, and all over the world right now. Not having the connection of togetherness this coming May for our competition will be so surreal. I'm sure we are all feeling the disappointment of not being able to celebrate together, the excitement of walking on stage to perform our songs, the hugs and watching in amazement at the talent of our quartets and choruses. However, it is with much joy to connect with you on Facebook, Zoom, FaceTime, Skype and email.



I recently read an article from Jan Carley, Inner Coach of Barbershop. Here is the link and well worth the read. (Copy and paste) <https://myemail.constantcontact.com/-Newsletter--How-To-Take-Control-When-You-Have-No-Control.html?soid=1101889232139&aid=JlfPN6Od4IM>

The SAI Music Educator Awards are presented each year to outstanding music educators who have achieved excellence in their field and made exceptional contributions to promoting the barbershop style in schools. We encourage you to find out more and nominate an exceptional musical educator from our region. Here is the link and nominations are open until May 1, 2020. <https://sweetadelines.com/education/music-educator-awards>

A big thank-you to chapter presidents, team leaders and members of the RMT for connecting on Zoom for a very productive meeting. It was so good to see faces and chat with each other. We are so very fortunate to have these wonderful women in leadership roles. Even though our rehearsals are nonexistent right now please know that you chapter deadlines are being kept up to date.

**The Regional Management Team has our installation on Zoom at 1 p.m. April 26 with installing officer Mary Patrick.**

**Coordinators being installed for 20-21 are:**

**Nancy Swift ~ Finance Coordinator**

**Leslie Lennon ~ Communication Coordinator**

**Lois Kelly ~ Team Coordinator**

**Cathy Maxwell ~ Marketing Coordinator**

**Jill Watson ~ Directors Coordinator**

**Brook Tucker ~ Education Coordinator**

**Melissa Wright ~ Membership Coordinator**

**Nan Wardin ~ Events Coordinator**

We have room for 100 people so if you would like to attend, send me an email and I will forward you the link to connect on that day. That would be ever so wonderful! Say a prayer and send us your blessings that Region 2 will strive and stay strong. Keep on talking, keep on meeting, keep on emailing and making personal phone calls. Lean on each other if you are feeling alone or need assistance. Even though we can't be together we can reach out to each other until we meet again. Take care, stay strong and be safe!

Questions about October 2020 International Contest in Louisville, Kentucky. (Copy and paste the link.)

[https://sweetadelines.com/sites/default/files/Events/Regional\\_Compition/Regional-Contest-Updates/March-25-2020\\_All-Member-FAQ.pdf](https://sweetadelines.com/sites/default/files/Events/Regional_Compition/Regional-Contest-Updates/March-25-2020_All-Member-FAQ.pdf) or click on <https://tinyurl.com/y7y2kzcy>

**MISSION STATEMENT**

Border Lakes Region 2 is an organization of American and Canadian women singers which advances musical excellence in barbershop harmony through education and performances.



Regional Website  
[www.saireg2.org/](http://www.saireg2.org/)

**2018-2019 REGIONAL  
MANAGEMENT TEAM**

**Team Leader Lois Kelly**  
**Communication Leslie Lennon**  
**Directors Jill Watson**  
**Education Brook Tucker**  
**Events Nan Wardin**  
**Finance Nancy Swift**  
**Marketing Cathy Maxwell**  
**Membership Melissa Wright**

**BORDER LAKES REGION 2  
2018 – 2019 REGIONAL MANAGEMENT TEAM**

●  
**Team Leader**  
**LOIS KELLY**  
teamcoordinator  
@saireg2.org  
●  
**Communications**  
**Leslie Lennon**  
communications  
@saireg2.org  
●  
**Directors**  
**Jill Watson**  
directors  
@saireg2.org  
●  
**Education**  
**Brook Tucker**  
education  
@saireg2.org

●  
**Events**  
**Nan Wardin**  
events@saireg2.org  
●  
**Finance**  
**Nancy Swift**  
finance@saireg2.org  
●  
**Marketing**  
**Cathy Maxwell**  
marketing@saireg2.org  
●  
**Membership**  
**Melissa Wright**  
membership@saireg2.org

Border Lakes Region 2 newsletter "Border Lights" is posted on the regional website and distributed via email winter, spring and fall.  
Next deadline: September 3

Send copy and photos to  
Linda May  
lindamay@ameritech.net  
23611 Glenwood Street  
Clinton Township MI 48035-2943  
Landline 586-791-8116

Send articles by the deadline as a plain email message or as an email attachment. **(Avoid saving documents as pdf.)** Send photos and clipart as common photo files (jpg, bmp) as attachments. Do not embed them in the document. Please put the chorus name in the subject line of your email. Keep articles to about 600 words. Sign your articles and include author's head and shoulders photo. Send **ONLY ONE** final and complete article. (Late corrections not accepted.) You may snailmail a photograph. Attach photo information. Mailed photographs will be returned if accompanied by a stamped self-addressed envelope.

CAMERA-READY ADS  
full page 10" x 7" \$110; ½ page 5" x 7" \$55; 1/4 page 3.5" x 5" \$35;  
checks payable to Border Lakes Region 2. Contact Nancy Swift at  
finance@saireg2.org

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Sweet Adelines Toll Free: 1.800.992.7464  
Sales Direct Toll Free: 1.877.545.5441  
Mail Room Fax: 1.918.665.0894  
Upstairs Work Room Fax: 1.918.388.8083



Communications Coordinator  
❖ Leslie Lennon



Spring Greetings, Region 2!

I hope this newsletter finds all of our Region 2 members safe and well! As we navigate the safeguards necessitated by the COVID-19 virus, I know choruses and quartets are finding new ways to keep in touch while still practising physical distancing. That being said, I also know we will all miss being able to gather together for our regional convention this year.

I'm sure choruses are finding innovative ways to hold virtual elections for their 2020-2021 boards or management teams. Please remember to email the regional directory update form to [communications@saireg2.org](mailto:communications@saireg2.org) so that the results of your election are accurately reflected. The form can be found on the regional website in the "forms" section, in two different formats — fillable or print-and-complete. Please scan and email the forms rather than mailing them.

Applications for the following RMT coordinator positions are being accepted until August 31, 2020 for the 2021-2022 team:

- Directors Coordinator
- Events Coordinator
- Finance Coordinator
- Marketing Coordinator

Visit the "Join the RMT" section of the website for job descriptions, application forms and details on the application process. If a coordinator position isn't the right fit for you, there are many committee positions available as well. In fact, I'm looking for a regional historian to organize the region's photos and documents! Contact me or any RMT member for more information.

... 'til we meet again!

Directors Coordinator  
❖ Jill A. Watson



Spring 2020

Who would have ever thought that in any given year contest would not happen? As directors, I think I can safely say that the wind has totally been knocked out of our sails as we were moving full speed ahead to getting ourselves ready for Dearborn.

It has been quite a ride preparing virtual rehearsals each week. I have gotten into the habit of saying, "That sounded fantastic!" HA! It is very strange to give direction, blow a pitch, and then . . . silence while everyone is singing and selling like crazy within their own little Zoom square! I cannot wait to actually hear a chord again.

Our front-line director's weekend seminar with Jean Barford has been cancelled for June 5-6. At this time, another date has not been scheduled – but you might want to tentatively mark the first weekend in June for next year. Stay tuned!

And for 2022 – looking way ahead – keep your calendars marked for a director's weekend June 10-11, with Kim Vaughn!

As we all get through this unsettling time, we can be grateful for the music in our lives. Thank goodness for our barbershop sisters in harmony. Continue to stay home, stay safe, and stay healthy.

Since it is snowing here today (April 15), I am going to close with the same plea that I made in the winter column:

Hurry up spring!





## MARKETING COORDINATOR

❖ Cathy Maxwell

Using Hashtags to Promote your Chorus – As mentioned in the Border Lights Winter 2020 article on Social Media, our most common social media platforms (Facebook and Instagram) mostly reach those who are already friends and fans. It's hard to get your message out to people who don't already know you. A few well placed and well worded hashtags can help further your reach.

**What is a hashtag?** It is a word or phrase preceded by a hash (pound sign), e.g. #region2sai

**Where is a hashtag used?** Within a post on social media (Instagram, Twitter, Facebook etc.) It acts like an index to help find specific posts.

**Why use a hashtag?** It allows people who are not already your fan or follower to find your content. People search the internet for posts about specific hashtags, e.g. #fentonlakeschorus

**How do you make a hashtag?** Choose the word or phrase you want to hashtag and spell it out without spaces, such as #usinghashtags. It can include numbers but not symbols or punctuation.

### Dos and Don'ts of Hashtags

- Don't get carried away. In most cases one to three hashtags are optimal.
- Do keep hashtags short and memorable #harmonyfamily
- Don't try to be clever or unusual. If you use a hashtag that no one is searching for, it won't benefit your marketing goals.
- Do use hashtags that are detailed and specific. When tagging a location use the state or province to ensure you are reaching your chosen audience, e.g. #pontiacmichigan or #londonontario
- Don't try to force hashtags onto every post. Use them when they add value.
- Do use hashtags to research other choruses, quartets and singing groups. You may uncover relevant information about a potential venue or potential member!

### READY TO TRY?

Here are some examples I've found on social media posts by Sweet Adelines choruses and quartets: #sweetadelines #wearesweetadelines #acappella #barbershop #notachoir #comesingwithus

And most recently: #sweetadelinestrong #staysafecovid19 #socialdistancing



Stay safe my friends and keep posting on your social media platforms. You never know whose day you will brighten and whose creative juices you will spark. We are an organization of strong and compassionate women and the world needs to know it. #region2rocks

## MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR

❖ Melissa Wright



Greeting Region 2!

Well we have found ourselves in an interesting time. Who knew that we would be spending a period of time in isolation in 2020? I hope that everyone is staying physically and emotionally healthy during this time. I want to give a huge shout out to all the Region 2 members who are essential workers during this time. Thank you for your willingness to work and keep our countries afloat! I pray for your continued health and safety!

As we are in a time where we are social-distancing and keeping away from everyone, I stop and think this must be especially hard on us Sweet Adelines, as we *thrive* on togetherness! We breathe and sing *together!* Our regional contest has been canceled and I find myself saddened yet grateful. Saddened that I won't get to see all the people I love in a couple of weeks, but grateful that we can do this act of love for each other in order to keep everyone safe and healthy. I look forward to when this is over and we can be together again singing and breathing together! I think a big party is in the future.

So how do we get by until then? By keeping in touch! We live in a time period where we have all kinds of technology and devices at our finger tips! We can communicate on so many different levels: phone calls, text messages, emails, letters, cards, and video chats like Facebook Messenger and Zoom. We can use these tools to keep in touch with our families and friends. Let's also use them to keep in touch with our chorus members. We can use this time apart – when we can't sing together – as a time to strengthen our personal relationships with each other. We can use this time to learn something about our chorus members that before we didn't have time to learn. This will help build our chorus core and make a stronger group in the end!

Until we sing again. Stay Safe! Stay Healthy!



## YWIH COORDINATOR

❖ Peggy Silver

Young Women in Harmony had some quartets working together before the pandemic. But since the young singers are not able to get together with others, their quartets have been put on hold.

Chorus members of Northern Blend have not been able to get into student classes to work with singers also. So the Michigan YWIH camp will not be held this year.

Spring of 2021 likely the end of JUNE is the plan for our next YWIH camp. It will be held in northern Michigan and hosted by the Northern Blend Chorus.

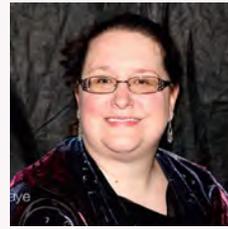
Ellen Pugh of Northern Blend Chorus is willing to help any Region 2 chorus members who would like to find ways to approach local schools. They are also willing to assist in presenting a program to the music students to help get them interested in barbershop music. They now work with about 12 schools nearby.

That is a lot of students who now know what barbershop harmony is all about. Please contact me or Ellen if you would like assistance in this area.

Any choruses or chorus members who would like to help out our young quartets by giving the region a donation should send their check to our Region 2 treasurer.

Music and learning tracts are much-needed at this time for the quartets.

Peggy Silver  
[hpsilver01@sympatico.ca](mailto:hpsilver01@sympatico.ca)



## EDUCATION COORDINATOR

❖ Brook Tucker

Greetings from the office of Brook Tucker, Education Coordinator for Border Lakes Region 2! – Quarantine edition!

I feel lost; everything that I am usually planning is like suspended in limbo. It's such an odd feeling, what a strange time we are living through. My daughter who is 11, got excited when she and her best friend realized we were living in a pandemic and this would be in the history books in years to come. I guess that is one way to put a positive spin on things.

So how can your chorus and quartet still stay connected and get stuff done? Here are a few ideas for you to keep things moving forward with your rehearsal. There are many online video conferencing sites like Zoom that are offering free or reduced costs for their services. I am not sure how good the singing quality is, but you can do other stuff like review musical plans, do section rehearsals, have meetings, social hour etc.

Section leaders can sing interpretation and share it with the section to practice along to. My chorus is having Spirit Month. We are using our members only Facebook page to get to know each other better. Twice a week we have a challenge and we can share pictures and stories on our page. We have done jokes, hats, and an item in your house that has a special story. It has been great fun connecting with the ladies in a different way!

I am sure we saw that directors retreat has been cancelled :-(. Fall music school has not been determined yet and we will update you as soon as we have made a final decision on that.

Do you have any ideas on how to keep moving your music forward during this quarantine period? Please share them on the Region 2 Facebook page so we can learn something new together. I hope you are all staying safe and healthy and not putting on too much quarantine weight :-). We will come out of this with a new appreciation for all the little things we take for granted each day.

A CAPPELLA BELLA, MUSKEGON • BLUEWATER, OWEN SOUND • CARILLON BELLES, SIMCOE • CROSSROADS HARMONY, REED CITY • FENTON LAKES, LINDEN • FESTIVAL SOUNDS, STRATFORD • GRAND HARMONY, WATERLOO • GRAND TRAVERSE SHOW, TRAVERSE CITY • HARMONY IN THE PINES PROSPECTIVE • HEART OF ESSEX, MAIDSTONE • HEART OF MICHIGAN, SHEPHERD • LOCK CITIES CHORUS, SAULT STE. MARIE • LONDON, LONDON • MOTOR CITY BLEND, FARMINGTON HILLS • NORTHERN BLEND, PRESCOTT • SEAWAY SOUNDS, SARNIA • SHORELINE SOUND, ROYAL OAK • SONG OF THE LAKES, DAVISON • TRI CITY, AUBURN • WATER WONDERLAND, LANSING



## BORDER LAKES REGION 2 & SWEET ADELINES INTERNATIONAL CALENDAR 2020-2024

### 2020

APRIL 26 RMT INSTALLATION ~ ~ ZOOM CONNECTION  
 JULY 18 RMT MEETING  
 SEPT 18-19 FALL REGIONAL SCHOOL WITH FACULTY PAULA DAVIS—SUNBRIDGE HOTEL, SARNIA  
 SEPT 20 RMT MEETING  
 OCT 12-17 SAI COMPETITION ~ ~ LOUISVILLE KENTUCKY  
[HTTPS://SWEETADELINES.COM/LOUISVILLE](https://sweetadelines.com/louisville)

### 2021

JAN 22-23 REGION 2 WINTER WEEKEND ~ ~ COLOR CHORUS EVENT  
 APRIL 22-25 REGION 2 COMPETITION  
 SEPT 17-18 FALL MUSIC SCHOOL WITH FACULTY KAREN BREIDERT  
 OCT 11-16 SAI COMPETITION ~ ~ ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

### 2022

MAY 12-15 REGION 2 COMPETITION  
 JUNE 10-11 REGION 2 DIRECTOR SEMINAR – KIM VAUGHN  
 SEPT 26-OCT 1 SAI COMPETITION ~ ~ PHOENIX, ARIZONA

### 2023

MAY 11-14 REGION 2 COMPETITION

### 2024

APRIL 18-21 REGION 2 COMPETITION

### **2019-2020 REGIONAL COORDINATOR SUPPORT COMMITTEES**

(UNDER COMMUNICATION COORDINATOR LESLIE LENNON): NOMINATING CHAIR KAY GAINES; BORDER LIGHTS NEWSLETTER LINDA MAY \*\*\* (UNDER DIRECTOR COORDINATOR JILL WATSON) PRG COORDINATOR VICKI GIBSON; PRG ASSISTANT DIRECTOR SYLVIA KARPINSKY; PRG PRESIDENT LOIS KELLY; DIRECTOR SPECIALIST CHRIS NOTEWARE; PAST DIRECTOR COORDINATOR JEANNE LUNDBERG \*\*\* (UNDER TEAM COORDINATOR LOIS KELLY): 25-YEAR PIN AWARD DIANA GREGG \*\*\* (UNDER FINANCE COORDINATOR NANCY SWIFT): COACHING GRANT DIANA GREGG \*\*\* (UNDER EVENTS COORDINATOR NAN WARDIN): FALL REGISTRAR KEANE MICHELIN; FALL TECH SPECIALIST KAREN BEHRENDT; FALL BANQUET COORDINATOR NANETTE PETERS; EVENT ASSISTANT COORDINATOR AMANDA SCOTT; CONVENTION FACILITIES COORDINATOR MARY PATRICK; CHAIR REGIONAL CONVENTION SHEILA JAMNIK \*\*\* (UNDER EDUCATION COORDINATOR BROOK TUCKER): DCP COORDINATOR PEGGI STARKEY; YWIH COORDINATOR PEGGY SILVER; ARRANGERS COORDINATOR DIANE CLARK; MUSIC LIBRARIAN POLLY SNIDER; QUARTET PROMOTION TRACI MARTIN AND SUSAN HEIMBURGER \*\*\* (UNDER MARKETING COORDINATOR CATHY MAXWELL): PR LIAISON LINDA MAY