



BORDER LIGHTS

Border Lakes Region 2 • WINTER 2021 Newsletter

First Introduction to Sweet Adelines ~~ by Lois Kelly



Music has always been a part of my life. My Mom taught piano lessons and, for many years, was the organist at our church. My Dad played the drums in his younger years. Music, especially singing, was a big part of my upbringing in a family with four sisters.

I was first introduced to Sweet Adelines by my sister Joyce, a member of the Kent County Chorus when she invited me to their annual show. The harmony, costumes and sheer joy that emanated from these talented women captured my heart. I joined the very next week, was christened a BASS and immediately acquired 42 best friends. Within the next year all five sisters became Sweet Adelines belonging to the same chorus, one tenor and four basses. We had so much fun together, even our sister arguments calmed down.

I never imagined when I became a Sweet Adeline where the journey would lead me. This chapter of my life has given me so much joy, many friendships, invaluable learning opportunities, travel adventures and personal growth. My triumphs are countless.

With the care and love of my Sweet Adeline sisters, I survived breast cancer. I experienced singing on the International competition stage in a chorus and quartet, delved into the history and future of Sweet Adelines International on many levels of regional government and, my greatest gratification, my transition from singer to director of the Heart of Essex Chorus. Thirty-nine years have passed so quickly. Would I do it again? Yes, but better.

My advice to you is always keep your family first. In your Sweet Adelines life, take advantage of every opportunity that comes your way, never stop educating yourself, get involved in the future of our region, let peace prevail, and enjoy every minute as you travel the road to harmony.



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/

**2020-21 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

(photo with installing officer Mary Patrick)



**BORDER LAKES REGION 2
2020-2021 REGIONAL MANAGEMENT TEAM**

●
Team Leader
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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 under "more" and distributed via email winter, spring and fall.
Next deadline: May 6, 2021

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. Do not convert documents to pdf. Do not embed photos into the document. Send photos and clipart as attachments. Articles and photos can be in the same email. Please put the team area / quartet / chorus name in the subject line of your email. 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





REGIONAL MANAGEMENT TEAM COORDINATOR

★ Lois Kelly

Happy New Year!

It was a quiet one for most of us. Lock-down continues but we must believe that this too will pass and singing, and togetherness will soon return. For those of you who are skeptical of our future, think of how music and singing can have influence in your life. Just belonging to Region 2 is reason enough ~~ We have much love and personal connection. Singing is such a surefire way of feeling good; it gives a physical rush. That rush, or "singer's high," happens to me almost every rehearsal, especially now during COVID. Rehearsal leaves me feeling a trust and bonding with my chorus. As a director, I will admit that Zoom rehearsals do cause a lot of stress, especially trying to bring education that will keep the chorus interested (and not reaching for that crossword puzzle you keep just an arm-length away.) That bond, that connection, has seen me through many trying times. I am convinced the answer is harmony because the world doesn't bring shimmering sequins of hope and possibility when I sing alone, or even with other people in unison. It happens when I am surrounded with my singing sisters in harmony. Here is hoping we can all be together again soon.



The Regional Management Team met recently and continues to plan and make every effort to bring in the best educators for our future. The Zoom events have been successful. However, membership attendance has been disappointing. This is your opportunity to gain experience and grow in everything barbershop and a cappella in the comfort of your home. Please review the Events Calendar and make note of **upcoming Zoom gatherings**. Marketing, Directors and President/Team Leaders meetings are set as follows:

Jan. 23	9:30 a.m. ~~ Region 2 Zooms Directors Coffee Chat
Jan. 30	11 a.m. ~~ Region 2 Zooms with Marketing Professional Jen Zucker
Feb. 13	10 a.m. ~~ Region 2 Zooms with Presidents/Team Leaders



Elections to the Regional Management Team for the term 2021-2023 have been completed. A huge **THANK YOU to NAN WARDIN**, who has completed her term as events coordinator. Nan has done a fantastic job of overseeing our regional competitions, especially during this past year of COVID when she had to negotiate the cancellation of contracts between hotels and the Performing Arts Center. On behalf of Region 2, thank you Nan for a job well done.

March 13, 2021 the Regional Management Team will gather for our **annual RMT Retreat day**. Unfortunately, this event will not be in person but by Zoom. This is an opportunity for **ALL Region 2 members** to attend and find out what the Regional Management Team is about, job descriptions, elections, strategic planning and any questions you may have. The next four coordinator positions coming up for election in 2022 are Team, Communication, Marketing and Education. Hope to see you there.

Every chorus in Region 2 is offered a **coaching grant** to help ease the financial burden of engaging educators for their singers. Grants up to the amount of \$300 USD are available. One form, along with all receipts from the educators, is required before April 15, 2021 and submitted to Diana Gregg at dandfgregg@yahoo.com. The form is available on the Region 2 website, or contact Team Coordinator, Lois Kelly.

A **Region 2 Strategic Planning committee** has been formed and has held its first meeting. Thank you to Maria Christian for organizing and chairing this group and to the wonderful women who have committed to share their ideas, enthusiasm and eagerness for the ongoing success of Region 2. – Sonnet Rumora, Deana Fisher, Nancy Kirkpatrick, Mary Patrick, Anne Norman, Nanette Peters, Cathy Maxwell, Lois Kelly, Judy Sirut and LeAnn Hazlett.



Many of you will remember Dolores Foreman, Past Director of Heart of Essex Chorus. We received word that she passed away due to COVID. She was a very positive lady and always had a smile for everyone. Please offer a prayer up for her, her family and all her Sweet Adelines family. May she Rest in Peace.

COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR

★ Leslie Lennon



Welcome to 2021 Region 2!

It is my pleasure to announce the following successful applicants for the 2021-2022 Border Lakes Region 2 Regional Management Team:

Directors Coordinator: Jill Watson
Events Coordinator: Nanette Peters
Finance Coordinator: Nancy Swift
Marketing Coordinator: Cathy Maxwell

Nanette Peters is the only coordinator who is new to the team and we are so excited to have her on board! Her term officially begins on May 1, 2021; but she has been shadowing the outgoing Events Coordinator, Nan Wardin, for a while so that she can hit the ground running. We will now begin the process of soliciting applicants for the 2022-2023 team.

The following are the positions to be filled in the next election process:

Communications Coordinator
Education Coordinator
Membership Coordinator
Team Coordinator

All Region 2 members are invited to visit an RMT meeting, especially anyone considering applying to become a member of the team. The best way to decide if a certain position is suitable for you is to shadow that coordinator. Currently, all our meetings must be in virtual format — this is an excellent opportunity to participate! Please, send Lois Kelly (teamcoordinator@saiereg2.org) an email in advance to let us know you'd like to visit.

Here's hoping we will all be together in person soon!



DIRECTORS COORDINATOR

★ Jill A. Watson

How can it be that we have not been together in almost a full year? Getting through the holidays without singing Christmas gigs was strange indeed. Hang in there – and let's all believe that the end is in sight!

The Directors Seminar scheduled for June 11-12 with Kim Vaughn will most likely be cancelled as an in-person meeting and will be some type of virtual get together. Details are being worked on right now.

Stay tuned for dates for more Director's Coffee/Chat mornings. Hurry up spring!

MARKETING COORDINATOR

★ Cathy Maxwell



Are you a Chorus Ambassador?

Did you know your chorus has an ambassador? It's you!

Ambassador (noun) def. a person who acts as a representative or promoter of a specified activity.

We designate someone to be the marketing and public relations prime for the chorus. They keep our websites and social media platforms up to date. They also get the word out when we have a performance or public event scheduled. They work on presenting your chorus in the best light in public to attract new members, audiences, or sponsors. And each of us can help them out by promoting our choruses on our own social media platforms.

Marketing, simply put, is any activity that promotes a positive image. You can market your chorus by telling someone about how much fun you are having at your virtual rehearsals or sharing a recording or video from back when we could get together in person. Give it a try!

The marketing primes from across the region got together at the end of November to talk about some basic strategies and share our successes. And yes, we had some, even during this pandemic. Some of our choruses held successful fundraising events during the fall and/or published their virtual performances to the delight of audiences.

We have another marketing forum coming up on January 30 with a guest faculty. Jen Zucker is a professional marketer from Las Vegas, and she is also a dedicated Sweet Adeline. She will be sharing her strategies to use free marketing platforms to increase your chorus membership.

As a result of this workshop I suspect your chorus marketing primes will be coming to you, the members, to help them spread the word. I hope you will join them and become one of your chorus's ambassadors.

DIRECTOR CERTIFICATION COORDINATOR

★ Peggi Starkey



The DCP (Director Certification Program) is now virtual! Yea! I have asked Sweet Adelines for this for a long time! Now,

you can take your DCP modules in the convenience of your own home on a Zoom call. I am elated with this news. We didn't meet (live) often enough to make the length of time it took for a person to complete this course.

I have had one person actually take some modules, so I have experienced it firsthand. Please email me at apstar@comcast.net if you are interested in taking a module or two coming soon. Please let me know what times may be good for you. With interest, I'll set a date, and we will move forward!

Now, most of the directors in Region 2 have been certified. This course has excellent information for section leaders too. This is a great time to increase your knowledge while being away for live rehearsals! Let's get some section leaders involved. Go to the Sweet Adelines website under the Education tab to order your study book.

With the judging category updates, you may want to be "in the know" of what is new!



FYI: ANY member may take the DCP modules. There is a title called "Approved Director" for those that take the shortened course for those not involved as a front line director. So, section leaders, if you are not an Associate or Assistant Director, you would also be a part of the shortened course.

Now is a great time to further your education through the DCP! I look forward to working with you and assisting you to any of your educational needs!

You don't have to be a director!

Director Certification Program

Improving Your Barbershop Craft

It's For Everyone!



Rehearsal Planning & Implementation

Analytical Listening Skills

Vocal Production

Judging Categories & Competition

Music Theory

Organizational Knowledge of Director's Resources

Communication Skills

Directing Skills

Chorus Performance

The DCP is an educational home-study program designed to develop skills for Sweet Adelines International directors, potential directors, and musical leaders. Much of the information contained within the DCP Resource Modules is useful for ALL chorus members.

Interested?? Call Peggi Starkey

810-434-3463

apstar@comcast.net

MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR

★ Melissa Wright



It has been said that we join SAI for the music but stay for the friendships. This has been true for me! It was suggested that I could share my story about how I found SAI. So here goes . . .

It all started with an online game. My username had something like "choirgirl!" in it. So one day while chatting with some of my teammates, they asked if I was a singer. At the time I was only singing in my church choir at Christmas and Easter and the worship band once a month. I was missing the challenge of Mozart's Requiem that I learned with my high school choir. One of my teammates was a barbershopper from Wisconsin and when he heard that I was desperately needing a singing outlet, he sent me all the SAI choruses in Ontario. I was a stickler for safety and only disclosed the province I lived in; this must have been a ton of work for him!

A week after he sent me the chorus list, I saw an ad in the local paper for three weeks of free singing lessons with the local chorus, Festival Sounds Chorus. I took this as a sign that I should check them out! So the next week I nervously walked through the doors and met some wonderful people. Then they got on the risers and sang for us; I was hooked on the first chord! This was something that I wanted to be a part of!

Ten years later here I am. Being empowered and doing things I never dreamed I would do! I have taken on leadership roles I didn't think I was capable of! I have driven places I didn't think my car could go and I cross the border all by myself (well when it was open). Now I am collaborating with International faculty setting up Zoom classes for the region and Zoom directing my chorus! Sweet Adelines has helped shape me into a strong young woman and I can't wait to see where it takes me in the future!

Please consider sharing with others how Sweet Adelines has impacted your life!

Until next time!

FINANCE COORDINATOR

★ Nancy Swift



How I Became a Sweet Adeline

Region 2 knows Patti Britz as our "Queen," I know her as Patti Lou in pigtails as her oldest sister Kathy is one of my best friends since first grade. When their father died in 2007, I attended his funeral. Having gotten lost on the way to the church in Marine City, I stopped at the VFW hall and asked for directions. The bartender told a customer to watch the bar and asked me to follow him to the church. I made it just in time and ended up sitting in the last pew of the church.

I was singing "In the Garden" softly to myself (or so I thought) along with the choir. There was a man sitting kitty corner two pews in front of me; after Mass he came up to me and said "you have got to join our chorus." I told him "oh no, I can't sing, I don't live up here, etc." He followed me out of the church telling me "oh yes you can sing, we rehearse in Royal Oak on Tuesday, not far from where you live, you need to come join us." I finally said "I hate to be rude but that is my best friend in the car over there and she doesn't even know I'm here, I really can't stay." He reluctantly said "oh okay."

After the burial at the cemetery, I went to the luncheon and no sooner walk in the door when here comes this guy again along with JoAnn Kramer, Nancy Aird, and Martha Delargey. They were relentless till I finally broke down and said "Okay, okay I'll come to a rehearsal." That was almost 14 years ago, I started out as a baritone with Shoreline Sound and six months later Jean Barford changed me to a lead during a coaching session. I have served on Shoreline's BOD as secretary and have been their treasurer since 2011.

Who was that persistent man? None other than that giver of great hugs, Mike Slamka – may he rest in peace.



Riot Act

– submitted by Nancy Liedel



Welcome to 2021! We hope your holidays were as wonderful! Riot Act tried to figure out what we could do to make life a little more bearable during this very different Christmas season. We always came back to music. So, we did our version of the “12 days of Christmas.” We made a “12 videos of us singing throughout the month of December” as our gift to the world. If you

missed it, you can visit our Facebook page. All 12 videos are there!

We did sing one weekend in Frankenmuth. The customers were so very kind and so very generous! We want to thank Chris Perry for blessing us with a gift of matching masks for our performance! Jax managed to find us some pretty snazzy Santa hats, too! We got a picture of Nancy modeling them both!



We’re back at it again after the holidays. Learning new music, making plans for the future, and just enjoying being us. We miss you all so very much! We just can’t wait to see everyone again and just hug until it hurts! Remember the wise words of Mo and Amelia “Music will save the day!”



Spectrum

– submitted by Peggi Starkey

Whether it is sunny or rainy, warm or chilly, day or night, SPECTRUM went out to share the joy of harmony to members of the Motor City Blend Chorus at their homes, outside. We have been to nearly half of the chorus, plus some former members of GLC, family, and friends while we were in their neighborhoods.

We now appreciate the distance everyone drives to get to chorus. We even went to Ohio! We didn’t log the miles that Kelsey and Lou put on their cars, but it was many! Only one mishap of a flat tire. Luckily BelleTire got us in just before closing! Yes, that definitely was a miracle! Of course we sang to the gentleman who fixed the leaky tire!

Neighbors would hear the music and come by to see what was going on. Tears were shed by many! The sound of harmony is missed by all. Our hearts were so filled with joy knowing we were able to bring them a short musical performance. Seeing a rainbow one evening, gave us the sign, that it was the right thing to do as we called our visits: “RAINBOW VISITS.” Everyone found the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow.

We plan on resuming in the spring when Kelsey gets back from her “winter” home in AZ.

“LIKE” Spectrum's Facebook page to follow our rainbow visits from the past, and see us again in the spring.



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 2021-2023

<u>2021</u>		<u>2022</u>	
JAN. 23	9:30 A.M.~REGION 2 ZOOMS DIRECTORS COFFEE CHAT	JAN. TBD	REGION 2 WINTER WEEKEND~~COLOR CHORUS EVENT
JAN. 30	11 A.M.~REGION 2 ZOOMS WITH MARKETING PROFESSIONAL JEN ZUCKER	APRIL 28-MAY 1	REGION 2 COMPETITION
FEB. 13	10 A.M.~REGION 2 ZOOMS WITH PRESIDENTS / TEAM LEADERS	JUNE TBD	DIRECTORS EDUCATION RETREAT
MARCH 12	7 P.M. ~REGION 2 ZOOMS ST. PATRICK'S DAY WITH CHRIS NOTEWARE	JUNE TBD	HARMONY DAY CAMP TENTATIVE
MARCH 13	10 A.M.~RMT VIRTUAL RETREAT DAY	JUNE 10-11	REGION 2 DIRECTOR SEMINAR –
APRIL TBD	REGION 2 VIRTUAL EDUCATION	JULY	QUARTET EDUCATION DAY
APRIL 24	10 A.M.~RMT VIRTUAL INSTALLATION	SEPT. TBD	FALL MUSIC SCHOOL
APRIL 29	BORDER LIGHTS DEADLINE	SEPT. 26-OCT 1	SAI COMPETITION~~PHOENIX, ARIZONA
MAY TBD	REGION 2 EDUCATION DAY		
JUNE 12	VIRTUAL DIRECTOR'S EDUCATION WITH KIM VAUGHN (INFO TO FOLLOW)	<u>2023</u>	
JULY TBD	REG 2 QUARTET EDUCATION DAY	JAN. TBD	TENTATIVE ~~ LEAD/TENOR/BARI/BASS (PARTS CLASS)
JULY 13	BARBERSHOP VIRTUAL MUSIC APPRECIATION DAY	APRIL 20-23	REGION 2 COMPETITION
JULY 15	DIAMOND DIVISION QUARTET CONTEST~~RICHARDSON, TEXAS	JUNE TBD	HARMONY DATE CAMP
JULY 16	RISING STAR QUARTET CONTEST~~RICHARDSON, TEXAS	JULY TBD	REG 2 QUARTET EDUCATION DAY
JULY 16-18	QUEEN'S COLLEGE~~RICHARDSON, TEXAS	SEPT. TBD	FALL MUSIC SCHOOL
SEPT. 17-18	FALL MUSIC SCHOOL WITH FACULTY KAREN BREIDERT	TBD BY SAI	SAI COMPETITION~~LOUISVILLE, KY
OCT. 11-16	SAI COMPETITION~~ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI	OCT. TBD	REG 2 CHAPTER LEADERSHIP TRAINING
OCT. TBD	REG 2 LEADERSHIP TRAINING DAY WITH INTERNATIONAL FACULTY		
DATE TBD	HARMONY DAY CAMP (SUMMER OR FALL)		

2020-2021 REGIONAL COORDINATOR SUPPORT COMMITTEES

(UNDER COMMUNICATION COORDINATOR LESLIE LENNON): NOMINATING CHAIR KAY GAINES; BORDER LIGHTS NEWSLETTER LINDA MAY; REGIONAL PHOTOGRAPHER NANCY LIEDEL *** (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): CHAPTER LIAISON NANCY LIEDEL; STRATEGIC PLANNING JUDY SIRUT, MARIA CHRISTIAN *** (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; CONVENTION COORDINATOR LOIS KELLY *** (UNDER EDUCATION COORDINATOR BROOK TUCKER): DCP COORDINATOR PEGGI STARKEY; YWIH COORDINATOR PEGGY SILVER; ARRANGERS COORDINATOR DR. DIANE CLARK; MUSIC LIBRARIAN POLLY SNIDER; QUARTET PROMOTION TRACI MARTIN AND SUSAN HEIMBURGER *** (UNDER MARKETING COORDINATOR CATHY MAXWELL): PR LIAISON LINDA MAY *** (UNDER MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR MELISSA WRIGHT): 25-YEAR STAR PIN DIANA GREGG