

TC TIES Newsletter

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- **ENJOY!**



DIRECTLY SPEAKING

by Judy Olson
{originally written in March}

I think that Kim A. must have just fallen in a puddle on the floor. An article from me written by me, with stuff from me. Wow - I must be coming down with something.... Yeah - it's TC fever.

There are so many exciting things happening, that I just had to spend a few moments with you and share the vision. As I write this, we're working on some exciting new music, learning a visual plan in a week (unbelievable), looking forward to our show in Paynesville, our performance at The Evergreen Club in April and performing on the contest stage in Winnipeg in May. We've got some great new members coming to our chorus and ALL OF YOU are really working hard and singing better than ever. What an exciting sound you produce together.

Darlene Solheim is busy working on booking park performances for us this summer. My goal is to have a performance a month. We really need to have the opportunity to sing in different venues and experience different settings and sound. Learning to "sing the plan", no matter where we are or what interference we experience, will help us in our climb to the top of the wall.

If you know of an event or organization that is looking for entertainment, let Darlene know. We'll have a very exciting and high quality show to take on the road.

CPR (Choose Personal Responsibility) is where it's at. If each of you choose to commit to working on becoming a better singer and performer, then the chorus team will rise to unbelievable heights. It's up to you ... how good do YOU want to be? Visualize success.

Thanks for continuing to believe in possibilities, and then some! If we can dream it, we can do it
.... together!



The Many Facets of Deb Beltrand

(The following article is derived from a questionnaire I emailed Deb.)

KA: *What you think about your new position with REG. 6? Could you describe what you do for the region?*

DB: I am still learning all that the job of Communications Coordinator entails. It is fun to get to know others in the region and to be in on the workings of the region.

My job is as the liaison between SAI and Region 6 - the SAI needs feedback that I provide for the RMT and SAI often has information that I share with the region. It is a constant job to maintain the region directory & dispense it to chorus leaders, RMT, and faculty. Maintaining the regional website is another thing that I am responsible for, but I have help from Audra Freeman (former RMT member) who takes care of it for me. I am also responsible for the Regional Measures published quarterly - I am fortunate to have help on this publication from our own Kim Arndt.

KA: *Tell us a little bit about your self.*

DB: I have two married daughters with my husband of 34 years. Nikki is 31, works at Corporate Target, & recently married Kyle Renner, a banker with US Banks. Kristin is 28, works at Business Incentives, & is married to Robert Turner, HR with Piper Jaffrey. My husband, Dennis, is with Veit Disposal and I am a teacher/tutor in the Edina Schools.

KA: *How did you find Barbershop?*

DB: I joined TC in 1996. I was reading an ad in our community paper to come to TC for a voice lesson. I was already singing with our church choir & thought a lesson is something I could only benefit from. As we all know, Judy Olson is charismatic in her love of this chorus and everyone was so welcoming that I just couldn't see myself anywhere else on a Tuesday night.

KA: *Is any one else in your family musically inclined?*

DB: Growing up, I was always in our church & school music programs. I was fortunate to get a well-rounded musical background from my parents, my

directors, & my dance instructor. I have danced since I was very young and enjoy all sorts of music genre.

KA: *Do you prefer; Musicals, Operas or operettas? Do you have a favorite and what is it?*

DB: I most enjoy musical theater & majored in it at the U of MN. I was very involved in community theater in high school & my early 20's.

KA: *What makes you happy?*

DB: I enjoy music, dance, and my family. I like organization in my life - it has helped me raise a busy family, work a complicated schedule, and contribute to the operation of organizations that I join, such as TC & Region 6.

KA: *What are your pet peeves?*

DB: Last minute changes or unorganized events/people bother me. Lack of communication can be upsetting to me.

KA: *IF you had a road trip planned what 5 music CD's would you bring OR what genre of music would you bring?*

DB: Mamma Mia, West Side Story, Robert Robinson's Gospel Music. I like listening to country music, 70's, and jazz, also. As you see, I have varied musical interests.

KA: *What fulfills you about singing that keeps you coming back to TCSC each week?*

DB: I would have to say that it would be the music and sisterhood of TC and our wonderful directors.



This is a picture of Deb on May 4th 2010



How much does glamour cost?

By Marcia Fridland

The price to be paid for glamour is greater for some of us than it is for others. Whatever the cost, it must be met if TCChorus members are likely to look their best under the critical lights of a show biz stage.

It is not the cost of the cosmetics that will put us in permanent debt. That bottle of Moondoggie nail polish will dry up before it has all been used. The cost of costuming won't break the budget either. Our black slacks seem willing to serve us well indefinitely, and our Capezios will never die in spite of fervent prayer for their sudden death. It is the all-in-one that makes us pay and pay and pay.

Getting into the thing requires tortuous gymnastic contortions for some of us who hope to hide a few extra pounds temporarily. Mary Jo teaches us to control the air we breathe so we can use it to sustain phrases and produce resonant sound, whatever gasps might try to rush in. As Judy says, "Deal with it" and we do.

In fact, when the moment arrives for going on stage, we look really good. With the blemishes concealed under layers of make-up, I glance in the mirror and see a stranger sparkling with a star dust spread on by Zandra, batting flirtatious eye lashes secured by Jane, flashing Moondoggie nails polished by Le Ann, modeling hair styled by Bonnie.

There's magic in the generous nature of our singers with so many talents. When their busy hands take charge, the ordinary becomes spectacular. Surrounded by newly-created glamour, our chorus members gain a special confidence that is priceless; and we carry it with us on stage.

Most of you have your own list of persons to whom we all owe a debt of gratitude for their help at Nashville this year. Their generosity has come from the heart and can be repaid only by another gift offered in the same spirit. Although our mutual love for music is a strong bond, those generous gifts of kindness and skill provide the tie that really binds.



This is a picture of Marcia after Bonnie had styled her hair for contest at Nashville 2009



WE sure kicked up our heals in Nashville!

By Cindy Schlicht



This is a shot of the Sommet Center and the Visitor Tower next to it.

October 18 through 25 was quite an interesting and activity filled week as we participated in SAI International convention in Nashville. I traveled on October 18 with Nancy Elias, Bernie Cates, and Kim Arndt. Upon our arrival, Nancy and I took the bus and Bernie and Kim took the Shuttle to the hotel. Needless to say, it was a faster way for them to get to their hotel, but the bus was much more cost efficient. When we arrived there, everyone but me wanted to hang around and wander down that street that had busy shops and music performances there. Kim called it "Honky Tonk Row" but I think the name of it was Broadway. I was much more interested to go and get in on an open jam session that I knew of in Nashville, but for many logistical and safety reasons (since it required a somewhat lengthy bus ride, and because it was at night in a city I was unfamiliar with, and because the others wanted "to lie low"), I wasn't able to go to it. Browsing along that busy thoroughfare was enjoyable. We did pass by some honky tonk bars with music in them but I wanted to play too!

Monday we started on one of two tours we had all signed up on. The first one was a tour through historic Franklin Tennessee, where probably the most important battle of the Civil War had been fought. We toured the Carter plantation there. All of us ended up learning a lot about the Civil War and of that battle in particular. Lots of artifacts from that huge Battle of Franklin were there. Our guide on the bus even told of an unknown soldier that was discovered in an unmarked grave near there and interred just a week before we all arrived. Our guide at the Carter plantation was very informative and delivered his story of the Battle of Franklin so passionately that I could almost swear that we had been there. He did relate to us that he is a descendent of a soldier that fought in the battle and wanted to relate the story to visitors that came to the Carter house. That same tour took us to the MacGavock plantation which was another major location of the Battle of Franklin. Lots of more interesting and intriguing stories were waiting for us there. I could almost picture everything they told us about and was fascinated beyond words at everything there. The MacGavock home was turned into a hospital and there is still evidence of the surgeries on the second floor. There is also a Civil War cemetery near the home.

Tuesday was the cruise aboard the paddleboat the *General Jackson*. It was a three-hour cruise that consisted of a nice family-style dinner on board followed by a country music show. Our entertainer aboard the *General Jackson* was Tim Watson, an extremely talented self taught fiddler. Towards the end of the show he asked for a volunteer from the audience and guess who had the guts to go up there for him....Yours truly the one and only me. He asked me if I had ever played the fiddle. No, I had answered, but I knew drums and mountain dulcimer!! He said he could teach anyone how to play the fiddle in 30 seconds. Well, you just have to look at the pictures Nancy and Kim took to see how I got to do it.

Wednesday it was down to business, being thrown into the busyness of the convention and the worry over competing with all of the "big girls". We had two power rehearsals to refine and 'cement' all that we learned up to that point. In between rehearsals we had fun watching the quartets from Region 6 compete.



Picture of us during one of our intense rehearsals.

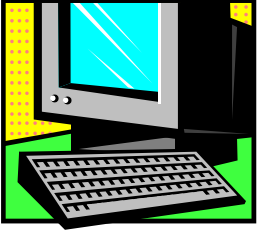
Thursday was contest day and was a very important day for us. I remember us doing our usual contest things for that day, getting warmed up, and then finally riding the bus to the contest venue. Apparently, we had to walk in this enclosed tunnel area to get to our "sing room". It was like no other sing room I remember us being in! It was dark, the side walls were dark, and it really seemed as if we were in an airplane hangar, giving me a bad case of the "heebie jeebies". It seemed as if our time to get up there and show them our stuff came almost unexpectedly. Next thing I knew, we were leaving that room and immediately walking from backstage to the stage itself. I guess it was good that all of that happened so fast...I didn't have time to be nervous. Judy was pleased with how we sounded and how we did everything. I think everyone was proud of that performance! I was a little chagrined to find that we did not place very high, but Judy told us that our score at this International contest was quite higher than what we got at Calgary, so we are climbing the Ladder to Success, I guess.

We knew we needed a break from all of the groups performing, so a trip to the new headquarters of Barbershop Harmony Society (alias SPEBSQSA) was in order. It was quite a nice change from all the hustle and bustle of competition. It Was very nice to see and to hug hello some of the friends I have made in the barbershop world through Facebook or the Harmonet and through a number of barbershop conventions. It was also refreshing to learn of the new innovative things there was going to be added in the near future.

Coronet Club show on Friday night was the last of our big adventures in Nashville. Kim claims that they saw me on the Jumbotron at some time during the show---but I don't believe it. We went to dinner beforehand at this place. I can't remember the name of the restaurant, but where they seated us happened to be in a semi private room and it happened to have other groups of Addies eating there before Coronet Club show. Must have been about 25 of us there and we had a blast singing the "Standard songs" that every Addie should know.

I can't leave out that I met up with some of the other friends I have made through my faithfulness with The Harmony Network show and through the SAI chat forum, The SING list! Jeannie Garrett from Coastline and Mary Ann Page from Song of Atlanta choruses who both are very close chums together, came along and had some exclusive adventures with me—including doing some horseback riding together! I was far more confident with the riding than I had been when Kim and I had gone ourselves here in Minnesota earlier. My horse at Nashville wanted to be naughty and disobedient though! Good thing our trail guide knocked some horse sense into her!

We got to the airport the same manner that we arrived. Our trip was at an end once we safely were back at the airport. I know our adventures lasted only eight days, but the memories will last a lifetime!



Websites related to our hobby.

by Kim Arndt

~ I reduced the list to include just websites that promote barbershop by helping you find a chapter, quartet, or mixed group or your favorite CD.

www.harmonize.ws

A website for locating groups that sing barbershop and a *cappella*. Just click on the quartet or group that you are interested in to get to their website.

www.barbershopwomen.com

To quote from the website: "*A free and exciting resource for women in the barbershop hobby to promote their websites, gather information, announce their shows and share news about themselves or their group with others.*"

www.singers.com

(also known as *Primarily A Cappella*)
This website features all genres of music - a *cappella* style (both men and women).

www.a-cappella.com

Another wonderful website for Barbershop and other music genres. If you are looking for that special *a cappella* CD that you need to complete your collection, you will most likely find it here.

www.tcshowchorus.org

Our Barb Harvey has created a wonderful informative website. There are links to SAI, Region 6, and Facebook just to name a few.

~~~ I hope you go out to the internet and check out these websites. They have tons of information and they are entertaining too ~~~



## Notable Chat Billboards

by Kim Arndt

I have updated this collection of all the billboards from past issues. Some have shut down and are not on the list. These are all public sites - to access you need to 'join/subscribe' on the listed home page.

<http://launch.groups.yahoo.com/group/SA6memb>

- A chat billboard for members of Region 6.

<http://launch.groups.yahoo.com/group/sweetadelinesinl>

- Chat about a wide range of topics such as: the politics of maintaining an SAI chorus, singing production concerns, etc.

The following billboard websites are part-/group-specific. The non confirmed sites are assumed inactive.

<http://launch.groups.yahoo.com/group/bbsbaritones>  
(not confirmed site)

<http://launch.groups.yahoo.com/group/bbshoplead>  
(confirmed site)

<http://launch.groups.yahoo.com/group/bbstenors>  
(confirmed site)

<http://launch.groups.yahoo.com/group/bbsbasses>  
(not confirmed site)

<http://launch.groups.yahoo.com/group/bbsquartetting>  
(confirmed site)





## TCSC Events Calendar

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 2010 Regional Competition: Winnipeg, Canada, May 21-23.
- Monday, July 12th, Minnehaha Park
- Sunday, August 8th: Como Park from 3:00p-4:30p.



### My last Editorial note~

I have evolved in our chorus to the point where I get invited to do projects that I can't say No to. I enjoy doing the newsletter but this year I got involved in Regional Measures. I really meant for this to get out around last Easter but 'life happened' and here it is.

This is going to be my last issue of the newsletter. IF you are interested in taking it over be my guest. I plan to go back and be one of the harmony reporters.

**Thanks for the Opportunity to be your Editor. It was a great Ride!**

**Thanks again for your love and support!**

### ... Wise Words from Judy

(NOTE: The following I copied from a recent email to all of us on our Yahoo chorus page.)

...So ..... just how good do YOU plan to be on the contest stage. It's all about sound, artistry and finesse."

Sound takes concentration and a determination to sing consistently great!

Artistry takes knowing who you want the audience to think you are in each song, and getting to them.

Finesse - Webster defines as "extreme delicacy or subtlety in action, performance, skill" - in other words, take the audience on a ride and don't let them be AWARE of the technique(s) you are using. JUST DO IT WITH HEART.



### It is on to Winnipeg!

Lets show the region what we are made of and we deserve and earned the Blue ribbons. Let's shoot for the stars and be the best singers we can be on our 'spot'~

### Remember V2!

... and let's get off "Judy's Back" and send the sound to 10C and Beyond!

