

Seattle Shores Chorus



Volume 2, Issue 1

FALL of 2010

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Special Thoughts

Sing it like you mean it!

It meant something to the songwriter.



This is the Fifth quarterly newsletter to be sent. If you received it in the post and would rather receive it thru e-mail, know someone else that would enjoy receiving it, or would like to be removed from our list—Let us know. See contact information on the back page.

Holiday Bazaar

COME ONE COME ALL

The Seattle Shores Chorus 2nd Annual Holiday Bazaar will be held Saturday, December 4, 2010 from 9 am to 4:30 pm at the Shoreline Unitarian Universalist Church., 14724 First Avenue NE, in Shoreline.

Admission is free! Find the perfect item for yourself, family and friends in a wide assortment of crafts, baked goods, used books, jewelry and more.

Meet our talented and friendly chorus members—all eager to share our love of music and song. Live performances are scheduled throughout the day. A fine way to usher in the season of hope and goodwill.

By Vickilynn Gruber

Holiday Bazaar

Seattle Shores Chorus
Saturday, December 4, 2010
9 am to 4:30 pm
Shoreline Unitarian Universalist Church
14724 1st Avenue Northeast
Shoreline, Washington

Free Admission

Crafts
Baked goods
Used Books
Jewelry
Silent Raffle
Gently Used Household Goods

Live Performance
by the Chorus!

International Experience

Sweet Adelines International Convention and Competition was held in Seattle from October 19th through the 23rd this year. This was my very first time attending an International Convention and, as such, I decided that I wanted the complete experience so I volunteered to work behind the scenes. Volunteers can escort choruses and quartets from the hotel lobbies to their buses, from buses through the traffic pattern and on to the stage, and from the stage to the auditorium. One may also help out by handing out programs or assisting the official judging panel as a page.

For my part, I was assigned to hand out programs for a few hours and escort 3 quartets and 4 choruses between their hotels and buses over the course of 3 out of the 5 days of International Convention. The handing out programs part was a little boring as I ended up not having any help but I did get to talk to many interesting (continued on page 2)

International Experience (continued from front)

people from, literally, all over the world. During this time, I also got to see Love Notes, the eventual 4th Place International Quartet, and marvel over seeing their name in the list of the top 10 competitors that would compete in the Quartet Finals portion of the competition.

While escorting the choruses and quartets, I was able, while waiting in the hotel lobbies with them, to see them perform and/or rehearse. Again, I got to talk to a lot of interesting women, including chorus and quartet members as well as my fellow volunteers. This experience reinforced for me the fact that Sweet

Adelines come from all walks of life and speak all kinds of different languages. We are united in our love of barbershop music and our desire to share this wonderful 'hobby' with the rest of the world. I now 'have the bug' more than ever and sincerely hope that this is not my last International event. I would strongly encourage every Sweet Adeline to volunteer when they are asked at any such event as it is a fantastic experience. I met so many more people that I would not have been able to just sitting in the stands as a spectator.

By Jamie Miller

50+ Years and Still Singing Strong



Bonnie Willis being recognized at the 2010 Sweet Adeline International Competition in Seattle

We are thrilled to have in our chorus another member* who has reached a very high milestone. Bonnie Willis has been recently recognized at the international competition for reaching her 50th year with the organization.

Bonnie started singing before she could talk, and along with her 3 sisters, 4-part

harmony came naturally to her. All of her daughters and granddaughters also sing as much as they can.

We are all proud and grateful to have someone of her expertise and experiences in our chorus. We sincerely hope she continues guiding and inspiring us in the many years to come.

Way to go, Bonnie!

By Ellen Brockman

For more on Bonnie see our Fall 2009 issue of Soundwaves available on our Website.

* Over 50 years has also been attained by chorus member Opal Hicks. And rumor has it, we will have another member with fifty years in 2011!

2010 Show, "Once Upon A Mid-Life Crisis"

On October 2, 2010, the Seattle Shores chorus performed their show, "Once Upon a Mid-Life Crisis" at the Shoreline Community College Theater. The show revolved around Melody, who was experiencing a mid-life crisis in her life. Through song, narration, and acting, her crisis unwound and ended on a happy note when she met a wonderful man (a barbershop singer) on The Mating Game, a TV show for singles.

The audience was audibly surprised when the chorus opened the show in their bathrobes and slippers, and then magically transformed into their black sequin outfits



practically before their eyes half way into the first act.

Songs ranged from the serious My Romance to the comedic Since You've Been Gone.

The Seachordsmen, a local men's barbershop chorus, were our guest performers, and sang three songs on the show.

The performance was well-attended by approximately 200 people. We received many compliments, especially

from former members of the chorus and visiting Sweet Adelines from other choruses.

A great time was had by both the performers and the audience, and everyone left feeling happy and with a song in their heart.

By Barbara Fine

Editor's note: A huge thank you goes out to Barbara and to her family. She was not only the Show Chair but also the Producer—Director—Script Writer and Lead Character, Melody. Her husband and two sons also played characters in the show and were our stage hands. You all were GREAT!!

Seattle Shores Welcomes New Member

She walked in the Seattle Shores door in May, 2010 and related later that she immediately felt at home in her new chorus!! Jeanne McNeil was born in Flint, Michigan to an airline pilot father and an interior designer mother. The oldest of four children, she learned to live in a musical world from the very beginning. Both parents were singers and Jeanne and her siblings sang also.

Jeanne went to a private boarding academy and took voice lessons in high school also singing in the choir. (When she was in the 8th grade in Illinois, the mother of one of her classmates sang barbershop. She chose four 8th graders and formed a quartet to sing for graduation. Thus, Jeanne's first quartet was established for one performance.)

In college, Jeanne sang in a travelling choir. Her first husband was a voice major but Jeanne didn't join Sweet Adelines until after her second marriage. In the mid-1980's she joined *Choral-Aires Chorus* but dropped out for a while. (In 1990, she returned to *Choral-Aires* and stayed until

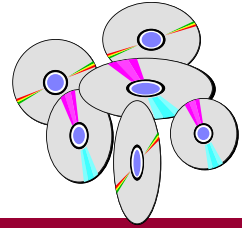
she retired in 1999.) She then joined a little chorus in Florida called *Fever*. Another chorus was in the area, *City of Palms*, but as often happens, the two choruses weren't on the best of terms. Karen Breidert, an accomplished director decided a merger should happen and after considerable effort and mediation, there was a merger of these two choruses and the group now known as *Spirit of the Gulf Chorus* was chartered in 2000. Jeanne, whose background as a labor relations and staff development supervisor for United Airlines, was very involved on the "merger team" and continues her contact with members of *Spirit of the Gulf Chorus* today.

Jeanne graduated with a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from Andrews University in Michigan; taught remedial reading and elementary education in the primary grades and then moved to English literature in high school to complete her 8 year teaching career. She later earned a master's degree in

education from Adelphi, University in New York City. She worked in labor relations and the training of new-hires flight attendants for United Airlines, retiring in 1999. She and her 2nd husband, Eddie, left Fort Myers, Florida in 2006 and moved to the Seattle area. Eddie, 25 years her senior, had suffered a stroke in 1999 causing the move to Ft. Myers. He suffered a 2nd stroke in 2006 and passed away some nine months later.

The grandmother of six grandchildren, (four boys and 2 girls) Jeanne has a son, Scott, in the Seattle area and daughter, Stacey in northern Illinois. In Sweet Adelines, she has sung some lead, baritone most of her affiliation and now loving bass. She finds the women in the Seattle Shores Chorus hard working and loves the smaller chorus because it is an opportunity to get to know everyone. She also loves the fact that everyone is working to improve their barbershop skills. Jeanne states she has found her home and is very glad to be a part of Seattle Shores.

By Linea Croly



To celebrate our 55th Anniversary we made a CD for the first time. Half of the songs are Christmas Songs. Interested ? Hear a sample on our Web Site www.Seattleshores.org

ON FACEBOOK NOW TOO

Upcoming Events

Dec. 4--Our Annual Bazaar

From 9 AM till 4:30 PM

Dec. 14—Chorus Christmas Party - No Rehearsal

Dec. 18—Seachordsmen Show—See Page 4.

Dec. 21—Performance at Aegis Retirement Home

Jan. 4—Coaching Session with Carol Kirkpatrick

Feb. 12—Coaching Session with Sandy Robinson - Marron

Husky Workout

For the last 5 years we have been working at Husky Stadium. It all started when we were looking for some grant money so we could make our trip to Jamestown. In that search one of our members contacted the University of Washington. Instead of a grant they offered to let us clean seat cushions before each home football

game. For each game it took 20 of us between 3 to 4 hours to complete the enormous task. We had some very early mornings but it was a lot fun and enjoyed watching the husky marching band rehearse for the half time show.

One year we were also asked to help clean up after the graduation ceremony.

Some of the things that we found in the graduates seating area were very interesting. We found many empty bottles, a couple of caps, a headband, and even a bra. It was windy and everything kept blowing around which made it quite an adventure, chasing around garbage.

For the last 2 years, our job has been upgraded. We now

usher at the games and show guests to their seats. One of the biggest perks is that we don't have to be there so early anymore. Also our current job is much more relaxed and we get to watch the games!! All in all, these workouts at Husky Stadium have been fun and a wonderful endeavor for our chorus!!



By Laura Burzynski

Seattle Shores Chorus

P.O. Box 77666
Seattle, WA 98177

Rehearsals held at:
14724 First Avenue NE
Shoreline, WA

Voice Mail: 206-363-8987
E-mail: seattle.shores@yahoo.com
Facebook = Seattle Shores ([new](#))



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Power Quartetting

It's that time again to think about a weekend of nothing but quartet singing!! There were 5 of us who went to Portland last year and registration has already started for this year. The workshop date is June 3-4, 2011 in Portland. Participants will be expected to memorize (completely) their part in six challenging arrangements and come prepared to sing their part in quartets. The cost is \$79 (\$49 before December 3); under age 25: \$69 (\$39 before Dec.3.) For information email Harry Buerer at hbuerer@spiritone.com and he will accept your registration, give you a password to access the MEMBERS ONLY page, where you can view and print the sheet music to the songs for the weekend, and download and listen to the learning tracks. Women's Songs will be:

[If You Love Me, Really Love Me](#) (Nancy Bergman)

[Be Our Guest](#) (Nancy Bergman)

[Cheer Up Charlie](#) (Jim Henry)

[Kickin' It Up A Notch](#) (Nancy Faddegon)

[You Raise Me Up](#) (Tedda Lippincott)

[TBA](#) – (Paul Olguin)



Our Next Performance

The Seattle Shores will be joining the Seattle SeaChordsmen for their Gifts of Music at Christmas show. It will be Saturday, December 18th at 2 pm at the Philadelphia Church, 7704 24th Ave. NW, Seattle 98117. Tickets are \$15 general admission, \$12 seniors, \$6 students, and under 6 free. You may purchase tickets through any chorus member, at the door or at

www.brownpapertickets.com/event/132812, There will also be a silent auction with many items to bid on making great Christmas presents.

We would love to see you there.