

# BARBERSHOP BEAT

ATLANTIC BAY - MOUNTAIN REGION 19 | NOVEMBER 2021

## Updates on the Region 19 Spring Convention

From Sally Kelly, Events Coordinator  
and  
Irene Hersey, Team Coordinator

## East Coast Harmony Explosion Details

from Lori Jo, Education Coordinator





# REGIONAL MANAGEMENT TEAM (RMT)

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# REGION 19 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

THIS SECTION INCLUDES CHAPTER EVENTS, REGIONAL EVENTS, EDUCATION EVENTS, AND INTERNATIONAL EVENTS.

EVENT

DATE

2022

Singer's School, Sheraton Baltimore North Hotel

Jan. 14-16

East Coast Harmony Explosion

Feb. 19

Region 19 Convention & Competition, Lancaster County Convention Center

Apr. 28-30

International Education Symposium, Trinity University, San Antonio, TX

Jul. 20-24

International Convention, Phoenix, AZ

Sept. 12-17



SUBMIT ADDITIONS AND/OR CORRECTIONS TO THE REGIONAL CALENDAR TO IRENE HERSHEY, TEAM COORDINATOR, [IHERSHEY@AOL.COM](mailto:ihershey@aol.com)  
CHORUS SHOW DATES DO NOT HAVE TO BE "CLEARED" WITH THE REGION, HOWEVER, THIS CALENDAR MAY BE USEFUL FOR PLANNING EVENTS.



## REGION 19 MISSION

**Our mission:** Region 19 is a women's organization dedicated to musical excellence and the development of leaders through education, camaraderie, and performance of a cappella harmony in the barbershop style.

**Region 19 Website:** [www.region19sai.org](http://www.region19sai.org)

**Member's Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/region19SAI](https://www.facebook.com/region19SAI)

**Director's Facebook Group:** [www.facebook.com/groups/381778536043160](https://www.facebook.com/groups/381778536043160)

**Presidents/Team Leaders' Facebook Group:** [www.facebook.com/groups/514932849349532](https://www.facebook.com/groups/514932849349532)

**REC's Facebook Group:** [www.facebook.com/groups/558299848045442](https://www.facebook.com/groups/558299848045442)

**Membership Coordinator's Facebook Group:** [www.facebook.com/groups/2484755828517569](https://www.facebook.com/groups/2484755828517569)

# THANKS FOR YOUR SUBMISSIONS!

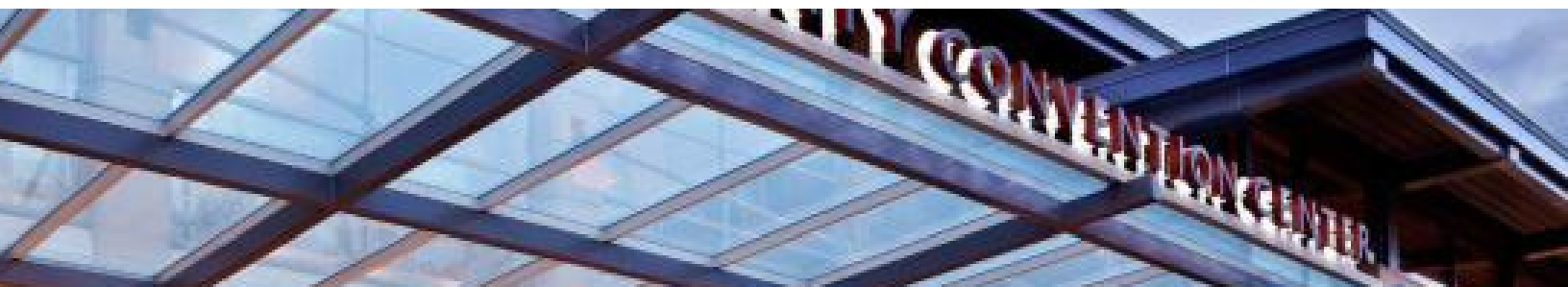
We welcome your calendar items, chapter  
and quartet news, and other items  
of regional interest.

**BARBERSHOPBEAT@GMAIL.COM**



# EVENTS UPDATE

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Members of the Regional Convention Steering Committee (RCSC) met in October for an onsite visit at the Lancaster County Convention Center (LCCC). Yes, that's right. Details are still in the works, but we are currently planning for a spring convention. Recognizing this will be the first in-person event since the pandemic started, our hopes are to make this convention much more than just competition. Stay tuned here for more details as they firm up.

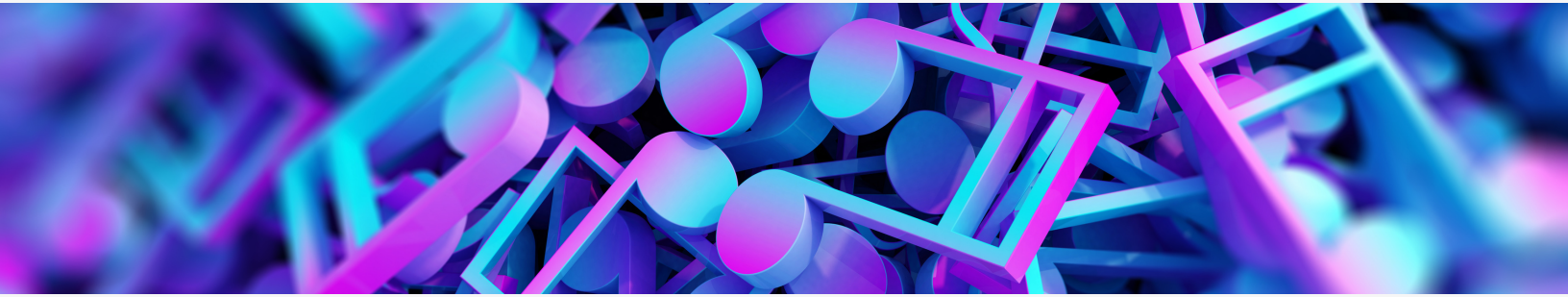
In the meantime I can tell you three firm things. First, we've had a personnel change on the RCSC. Liz Danielski has retired from her position as Chair of the Regional Convention (CRC). Thank you, Liz for your many many years of service to Region 19. Barbara Kelly will step in as CRC for 2022. Her past experience in many positions on the RCSC, including CRC, is already apparent with a smooth transition as we plan ahead. We are in good hands there. Secondly, Alta Paronto, Competition Coordinator, will also be stepping down from her role after spring convention. If you are interested in learning more about this Internationally appointed position please contact me at [sakhcmc61@gmail.com](mailto:sakhcmc61@gmail.com) or Alta at [hcmcbari2@yahoo.com](mailto:hcmcbari2@yahoo.com). Lastly, host chapter Vocal Harmonix is excited to FINALLY welcome us to their hometown. They are planning a fun event that will wow us from the moment we arrive.

Do you still have some concerns about gathering in a large group? Lancaster County Convention Center and Lancaster Marriott at Penn Square are ready to host us with improved health and safety measures in place. They are one of only thirty-one Global Biorisk Advisory Council (GBAC) STAR accredited convention center complexes in the world, achieving the highest health safety standard achievable for hotels and convention centers. GBAC STAR Accreditation designates Lancaster County Convention Center and Lancaster Marriott at Penn Square as highly prepared venues for outbreak prevention, response and recovery, with the ability to host onsite events safely.

The RCSC working with the RMT will be discussing what the convention will look like both in terms of the convention content and policy. Again, those specifics are in the works. We will post a detailed update in the January Beat and through direct member communication.

Looking forward to seeing you all in person in Lancaster!

# TEAM COORDINATOR VIBES



Happy Fall to everyone! The temperatures are cooling and the days seem to be getting shorter. I hope this finds everyone beginning to think of the upcoming holidays and ways that we can gather as friends and family. My hope is for all to be safe and happy throughout this season of color and change.

I am sure that one of the burning issues on the minds of most of us is what we can expect in regard to the upcoming contest season. Can we safely gather together to rehearse, coach, and hone our craft? Will this crazy pandemic decide to finally take leave of our lives? Will contest be held this year or cancelled again?

I wish I could give you definitive answers today but, alas, I cannot. What I can tell you is that the International Board of Directors (IBOD) is working diligently on this issue. They have notified the Regional Management Team (RMT) that they are working on things and will hopefully be able to give us definite guidance by Thanksgiving. The RMT will be meeting November 21st and hope to be able to share regional guidance after that meeting.

In the meantime, what can you be doing for your members and what questions can you answer? You will need to decide in your individual choruses how to continue to safely move forward. I encourage you to stay informed about your local and state guidelines on how to safely gather (or not gather) at this time. I encourage you to keep working on your music so that when you do gather, you can feel confident in that beautiful harmony that your group can enjoy.

I will tell you that, until we get definitive guidance from IBOD, Region 19 is moving forward with plans for our regional competition weekend on April 27 - 30, 2022. Of course, the pandemic has made all things fluid and we don't know where things will be until then. We will be following local, state, federal, and Sweet Adelines guidance with our decisions. One thing I would encourage all groups to do is to be prepared for POSSIBLE requirements for virus clearances. Again, we don't know exactly what those will be but be prepared so that you are not caught off guard if specific guidelines happen. Our main goal is to keep everyone safe and making sweet harmonies together!

So, rest assured that your RMT is staying abreast of all developments and will inform all of you as soon as we have information available. WATCH YOUR EMAILS.

Enjoy the season and I hope to see all of you soon!



# Lines from Lori Jo

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Thanksgiving. In keeping with my standard list of three things, I'm listing three things for which I am thankful.

1. **Volunteers.** Even though it might appear that *nothing* is happening at the regional level, the members of the Regional Management Team, Regional Faculty, Education Planning Team, Youth Outreach Coordinators, Barbershop Beat, Regional Convention Steering Committee, and many other teams are still planning, meeting and working for all of the members of our region. The wheels are still turning and ready for the moment when it's safe to get together again. I am thankful that so many amazing women say "Yes" when asked to volunteer.

2. **Flexibility.** I am continually amazed at how quickly so many of us have become comfortable with Zoom, Facebook Live, Instagram, Twitter, TikTok and all things social media. By embracing these options, we have enjoyed virtual version of our rehearsals, conventions, educational events and shows. These substitutes for in-person events has helped us stay connected to each other through this past year and a half (or 75 weeks or almost 600 days, but who's counting). While I am certainly tired of Zoom meetings on my calendar, once I see my friends' faces I am thankful they chose to show up.

3. **Change.** Personally, I embrace change and actually love change when it's my own choice. Many elements of the pandemic have been frustrating and finding that silver-lining has been a challenge I continually seek. Tom and I took advantage of his shift to permanently working from home to make our retirement plans happen sooner than expected. We have left Pennsylvania behind to start the next chapter in our lives in Delaware. We now live on the Indian River Bay in Long Neck. We closed on the property on October 14th, my 65th birthday. Directing both Vocal Harmonix (SA) and Red Rose (BHS) will continue along with Willow Creek Soaps. It's a long commute but all things barbershop are worth the travel. I am thankful for this exciting change in my life

# SAVE THE DATE



**COME LEARN FROM THE BEST  
BARBERSHOPPERS ON THE PLANET!**

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**FEBRUARY 19, 2022**

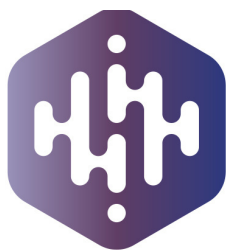
**A FREE A CAPPELLA CAMP FOR MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL  
SINGERS AND MUSIC TEACHERS | 9 AM - 5 PM  
PUBLIC SHOW STARTS AT 6 PM**

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**FRANKLIN HIGH SCHOOL  
12000 REISTERSTOWN RD  
REISTERSTOWN, MD 21136**

For more information, contact us at [echarmony@gmail.com](mailto:echarmony@gmail.com)





# EAST COAST HARMONY EXPLOSION

## FAQ

What is East Coast Harmony Explosion?

ECHE is a free day camp for singers grades 6-12 in and around the Baltimore, MD area.

Who can attend ECHE?

Any student grades 6-12 who loves to sing and perform. There is also a track for music educators.

When is this super cool event?

Saturday, February 19, 2022 - all day. Students will check in and be ready to sing at 9:00 AM. A free show will be open to friends and family that same day at 6:00 PM.

Where will the event be held?

Franklin High School in Reisterstown, Maryland.

Is it really FREE?

Yes! ECHE is sponsored by Region 19 (SA), Mid-Atlantic District (BHS) and Area 3 (HI). Attendees will not be charged for anything for attending the camp or the evening show.

Will food be provided?

Yes. Students will receive all three meals, snacks and drinks at no cost.

Can I volunteer?

Yes. Sign up on the website!

Can I donate to help defray costs?

YES!! Donate through the website! Individuals, quartets and choruses are welcome to donate.

More Information available on the website at <https://echarmonyexplosion.com/>



# CHAPTER NEWS



## HEART OF MARYLAND

This October the Hearts had what we called a Performance Picnic. Since we had no regular performances planned in the future we decided to perform for ourselves. This event focused on small groups. New quartets formed - one even with a first time quartetter! Established quartets, including a mixed quartet with some Alexandria Harmonizers, and our long time octet, Just In Time, all performed for the rest of the chorus. The basses sang one of our contest songs with the help of one member from each other part. The baritones wrote and performed their own original song! And then the chorus split into three small groups and performed for each other. Right in the middle of all this performing we enjoyed a delicious lunch and desserts. Unfortunately the weather wasn't very cooperative, and it started to pour and got chilly, but we had a nice shelter and at least stayed mostly dry! The whole event was a great motivator for members, and we hope to plan similar events in the future!



## DIAMOND STATE

**BIG NEWS:** Linda Beaver is our new Director!

Our members are being re-energized by Linda's enthusiasm, expertise and positive energy. This "Barbershop Brat" can arrange music and make learning tracks as well as sing, dance and direct. Who could ask for anything more? Weekly we have fun with new vocal warm-ups. We are learning 6 new songs as well as modifying a couple more from our repertoire. Linda Beaver is full of great ideas, and sometimes stays awake overnight getting them organized for us. So far she has helped us plan for a retreat in March of 2022 with Michael Gellert to prepare for our April competition when we will perform 2 new songs, and a Show in November that year. A few members are saying, "I love Linda already". One former member is returning to us and we are expecting a couple of guests who emailed their interest. All of our DSC members are fully vaccinated, and we welcome vaccinated guests.





# CHAPTER NEWS



## VALLEY FORGE

Valley Forge Chorus has many reasons to celebrate; first and foremost because we are out in the community performing again. In mid-September we performed at the South Wayne Porch Fest which celebrates all genres of music and our chorus proudly shared and promoted the barbershop art form. A few days later we were thrilled to perform at Shannondell in Audubon, PA which is a vibrant 55 and older community. Being our first indoor performance, our hearts filled with joy as we heard those beautiful ringing cords and entertained the sincere residents in the audience. Unfortunately, the performance was also bittersweet as we had to say good-bye to our longtime friend Paula Kielich prior to her relocating to Florida.

On October 5 our Chorus celebrated the remarkable accomplishments of members along with membership milestones. Congratulations to Leona Sigurdson for sixty years of true love and dedication to Sweet Adelines International! Your energy, passion, and love of our Chapter is infectious, and we are so honored to sing with you each week. We would also like to recognize our 2021 Sweet Adeline of the Year recipient: Ashley Hazen. Ashley is such a tremendous driving force within the chorus, and we are grateful for all that she does. Valley Forge Chorus is truly blessed to have such talented and dedicated women in our ranks.



## HARBOR CITY

The ghosts are booing. The Witches are brewing. What's Harbor City doing? We're singing holiday songs. That's right. Harbor City is recording audio for our next big project. Animated holiday Ecards that you can send to your friends and family near and far. They will receive a fun and festive holiday scene that emerges in live animation themed to 1 of 3 holiday songs.

For more info, check out our webpage

<http://harborcitymusiccompany.org/> and Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/harborcitymusiccompany>

# CHAPTER NEWS



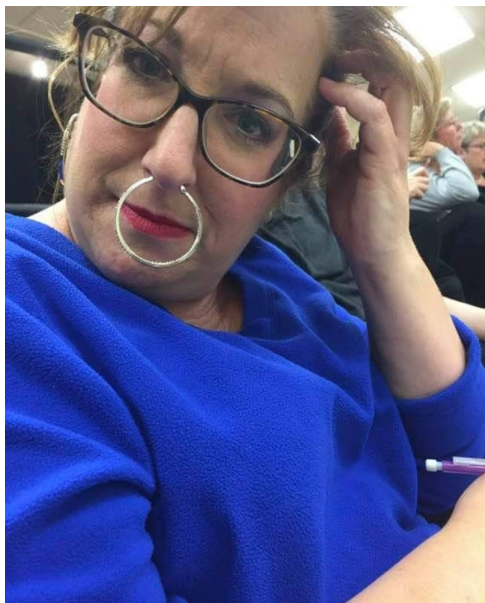
## SHADES OF HARMONY

Shades of Harmony held a "20th Birthday Bash" on Saturday, October 23, 2021 to celebrate the founding of our chorus 20 years ago by our Director, Lori Ludlum on September 27, 2001. Shades of Harmony's 20th Birthday Bash (our "Show") was held outdoors at Wilson Lake Pavilion in Franklinville, NJ on a very pleasant autumn afternoon. We couldn't have asked for better weather! During the show, both Lori Ludlum and Betty Ann Liguori were recognized with engraved bracelets as a token of appreciation from the chorus as being "First Day Members" of Shades of Harmony Chorus. Guests to our Birthday Bash brought "birthday presents" with them to our show. The present was not a gift for our chorus, but instead it was a new unwrapped toy for a local children's charity in Williamstown, NJ named "Bianca's Kids" that helps children in need. The party also included a fun yet competitive game of Musical Chairs where the chorus provided the music by singing to the song "Dancing Queen" to start and stop the rounds of Musical Chairs. As a matter of fact, we had so many people wanting to play musical chairs, we had to rearrange the chairs in an entirely different direction than what we had planned to accommodate all the players. Among other songs performed at the Birthday Bash included the chorus debut of the song "It's the Music that Brings us Together." The chorus members each learned that song individually during the pandemic on "Zoom", so it was very appropriate to finally sing that song TOGETHER as a chorus for an audience at our party. To conclude our 20th Birthday Bash, the chorus asked all current and former Sweet Adelines in attendance to join the chorus up front in singing "How We Sang Today" for our finale. The celebration ended with guests receiving their very own boxed cupcake; a birthday party is not a birthday party without some cake! A fun time was had by all. Happy Birthday to us!





# CHAPTER NEWS



## GREATER HARRISBURG

Greater Harrisburg Chorus gathered Oct. 23 to bid loving farewell to a cherished member. Leigh Anne McGonigal died of ovarian cancer in March. Her Celebration of Life party, finally held last month, was one memorable evening.

There was a special spirit in the pavilion that night. We sang under a ceiling strung with party lights. Occasionally they flickered, but were mostly solid ... until a member pointed out that when the lights twinkled it was a reminder that Leigh Anne was with us. Cue the waterworks. We went into "Somewhere Over the Rainbow" as our last song, tearing up and holding hands, and the lights flickered and twinkled and flashed like you wouldn't believe. When we hit the big finish, it was a mini Vegas Strip moment. The crowd was on its feet, very warmly and emotionally.

Maybe it's because it's been too long since we sang together. Maybe it was singing with old friends. Whatever it was, it was magic. It was an honor. It felt like a blessing. It was Leigh Anne's last gift to us, and we're so grateful for this time together.



## VOCAL HARMONIX

During the summer, Vocal Harmonix celebrated the announcement of our 2021 Sweet Adeline of the Year – Ashley Hazen. She was instrumental in getting our virtual show up and running – no way we could have done it without her guidance and expertise. She is always willing to help with any technology needs – and she is an awesome tenor for our chorus! And oh – by the way, if her name is familiar – it might be because she also sings with Valley Forge Chorus and earlier this year, was named THEIR Sweet Adeline of the Year for 2021! What a well-deserved honor! Much of our summer was spent (with Ashley's guidance) working on our virtual show – we are thrilled that we could put together such a fun show, even though we could not get together in person to rehearse. Have you seen it? If not – check it out here: <http://vocalharmonix.org/virtual-concert/>



# CHAPTER NEWS



## RINGING HILLS

Ringing Hills has been meeting masked but in-person! What a joy to see each other every week at rehearsal. We recently had a "re-imaging" meeting where many ideas and expectations were shared. We are excited about traveling down a new path together. To help us do that, we have a new member – Tancey Bosna! It's wonderful to have such an experienced singer as part of Ringing Hills. Welcome, Tancey!



## CHESAPEAKE HARMONY

Chesapeake Harmony spent September cleaning out our closets. The Chorus Yard Sale at Carol's house was held on a beautiful Saturday morning. The saying may be "Many hands make light work" but in this case it was definitely not light work. However, when you are with good friends time goes quickly and it is all worth it after some pizza and a few drinks. Extra money in the bank helps as well. The holidays are quickly approaching and it is time to pull out the Holiday Carols, the music that is.



## OCEAN BAY

Ocean Bay members met on Chincoteague Island to watch the launch of a NASA mission rocket. Singing the "Star Spangled Banner" - as the evening sky was lit by the rocket - was a wonderful experience. Entertaining the gathered spectators, and harmonizing bayside with friends, was an unforgettable one.

# CHAPTER NEWS



## JERSEY SOUND

We're back! Sunday, September 19, was our first live performance together in 18 long months! It was a beautiful day and a wonderful cause. We performed at the American Legion Post 311 in Atco, NJ, in a tribute to our Armed Forces. It felt so good to be singing for an audience again. Congratulations to Emily McGurk and Maureen Rush-Bogutz on their first performance with us! Thanks for hanging in. Also a big shout out to our amazing Director Team, Helen Kogut, Mary Stansky and Betsy Lutz. Thank you for all of your hard work.



## ARUNDELAIR CHORUS

Although the smell of pumpkin spice is thick in the air and all the leaves are finally showing their beautiful fall colors, Arundelair Chorus has already shifted gears and is in full swing rehearsing some of our favorite holiday songs. Thanks to our awesome Performance Coordinator, Marge Puccinelli, we already have three performances scheduled with another in the works; and under the direction of our incredible Director, Jenny Harris, we are planning to release two holiday music videos this year on our YouTube Channel!

The most exciting news to report is that we welcomed another new member to our chorus, Melissa Mawyer, (pictured with our Director, Jenny Harris, Membership Coordinator, Peggy Reno, and Team Coordinator, Emma Smith). Melissa will be part of our bass section and we are thrilled to have her!





# QUARTET NEWS



## VOICES CARRY

Voices Carry, a quartet from Shades of Harmony, is thrilled to introduce its new lead (and newest member of Shades of Harmony), Deena Osmer-Sikoutris, to Region 19! Deena hit the ground running, passing her chorus audition seven days after her first visit. She has extensive stage performance experience but is brand new to barbershop singing, making us a novice quartet by any definition. We are eager to step foot on the Contest stage in 2022!

We began our search for a new lead several months ago, and it has been an exciting, exhilarating experience. We were honored to have auditioned more than half dozen very talented potential leads from within and outside our chorus and discovered that this region has a wealth of awesome voices, making the choice very difficult. With the help of trusted advisors, we are so happy to have found that magical blend with Deena and look forward to many musical moments together!

It's time to dust off those sparkly shoes we stored away in the Spring of 2020, Ladies!



## CALLING ALL QUARTETS!

Please check the [Region 19 Quartet Page](#) and send any updates to Sarah Nainan-Newhard (syuki63@gmail.com)