

It's That Time Again!

The fall and winter holidays are following one after another with hardly time to breathe. So perhaps it's time to spend a couple of relaxing hours allowing the Barbergators and the Gainesville Harmony Show Chorus to entertain you with the holiday music we all love – some traditional old carols and some unexpected melodies. Our two Barbershop choruses are joining for the seventh year to bring you HOLIDAY HARMONIES VII. We'll have men's voices, women's voices, quartets, and the eight part harmonies we love singing together. And yes, our own Elf on the Shelf/Fairy Godfather/Lost "Bride," the irrepressible Alan Lehtola will be our emcee.

Please plan to join us Saturday, December 14 at 1:00 or at 4:00 at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 4225 NW 34th Street, Gainesville 32605. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for children under 12. They may be purchased from any chorus member, online at gainesvillechorus.com or at the door.



Gainesville Harmony Show Chorus at the 2019 Coastal Harmony Region 9 competition, April 2019.



Gainesville Harmony Show Chorus performing with The Barbergators during Holiday Harmonies VI, December 2018.

Performance Highlights

In April we entertained the residents at The Village with our "Friends and Family" program. This is always a fun program for us, as it is our dress rehearsal prior to our competition performance at our regional Sweet Adelines conference. A few days later we sang at the Spring Arts Festival, and the next weekend was our competition in Daytona Beach.

Summer brought a more relaxed pace, although we did have a concert, "Aloha! Summer" at the Thomas Center in August. Along with the chorus, both our quartets (*On The Edge* and *Jazzed*) sang. Audience participation on some songs, corny jokes, leis for all, photo booth pictures, and home-made cookies added to the festivities.



Gainesville Harmony Show Chorus presenting "Aloha! Summer" at the Thomas Center, August 2019.

On the Edge Honored

The Harmony Buzz Award was created in 2018 by our Coastal Harmony Region 9 Regional Executive Committee and is presented to an active, registered Coastal Harmony quartet that has had an impact on their community and fellow Sweet Adelines through outreach, leadership, inspiration and in general, harmonizing the world.

The inaugural award winners in 2018 were The Buzz! Nancy, Debbie, Karen, and Jeannie enjoyed 18 years of performances, education, leadership, and inspiration in the excellence of barbershop harmony singing. Nominations are adjudicated by The Buzz! quartet or their designees and are awarded at our annual convention each year based upon how the quartet embodies the ideals of The Buzz!

Our very own On The Edge quartet, Chanda Morris, Jenny Winsor, Beckie Preston, and Diane Sherley, were beyond thrilled to receive this award from members of The Buzz! this past April. These four women have been harmonizing together for 15 years (and 145 combined years of singing barbershop). They enjoy sharing their love for each other and the joy of music with audiences wherever they travel. They are active in our chorus in various leadership roles and always attend education weekends to improve themselves and help our chorus improve. They proudly wear their 'Buzz' necklaces to all performances!



On the Edge Quartet with their Harmony Buzz Award necklaces at the Costal Harmony Region 9 Competition, April 2019. Left to right: Jenny Winsor, Diane Sherley, Chanda Morris, Beckie Preston



Jenny Winsor receiving her director certification, April 2019.

Congratulations Jenny Winsor!

Jenny Winsor became a Sweet Adeline International Certified Director in April, 2019. This is no easy feat. She had to pass seven different tests (Analytical Listening, Communication Skills, Directing Skills, Management Skills, Rehearsal Planning and Implementation, Judging Categories and Competition, and Organizational Knowledge and Director Resources). After completing all the tests she had to be evaluated by a Regional Musical Faculty member. She was also evaluated by chorus members. The process took about 3 years. She applied to the program in December, 2015 and completed the process in March, 2019. She received her certification at the Regional Competition in April, 2019.

Jenny has been a Sweet Adeline since 1984. During this time, she has been a part of three different choruses, Neapolitan chorus, Spirit of the Gulf chorus and Gainesville Harmony Show Chorus. In the past she has held many chorus positions. She was Team Coordinator, Show Chairman and Quartet Promotion Chairman. Currently Jenny is a Member, User Admin and Site Admin for Public and Private Website, Lead Section Leader, Music Team Member, and Riser Chair. In 2017, Jenny joined the directing team as Associate Director of the Gainesville Harmony Show Chorus.

Part of Jenny's vast experience has been achieved because she started quarteting one month after she joined Sweet Adelines and she has been quarteting ever since. She was the lead for the following quartets: Sunshine Jubilee, High Fidelity, and Snap Shot. She is currently the lead for the On The Edge quartet.

Welcome New Members!

The past twelve months have been action filled for Gainesville Harmony Show Chorus. We began in January with "Spring Into Chorus!" Through this membership campaign, we met several interested singers and gained new members. Over the past year we have actually welcomed seven new members!



Fundraiser garage sale. Left to right: Annie Harvey, Karen Caraway, Eadie Schweer, Donna Martin, Mitzi Korb. October 2019.



Taking a much needed break during retreat with coach Jim Arns (center). March 2019.



Having some fun at our Halloween rehearsal! October 2019.

Other Happenings

Fall is a time for fundraisers, and we had two. The first was a Trivia Night at First Magnitude Brewing Company. A couple of weeks after, we had our annual garage sale, with treasures galore!

In January we hosted one of our favorite Sweet Adelines coaches, Karen Breidert, co-director of the Spirit of the Gulf Chorus, master faculty and master director, and former president of the International Sweet Adelines organization. She always brings such fun, intensity, and improvement to us when she comes.

February brought our annual Chorus Retreat at Camp Weed/Cerveny Conference Center in Live Oak, with Sweet Adelines master director Jim Arns of the Melodeers Chorus in Chicago as our coach. Retreat is an intense weekend-long musical workshop to prepare us for regional competition, though we try to have fun during our breaks!

Since Halloween this year was on Thursday (our regular rehearsal night), we didn't want to miss out on the event so we came in costume—movie/TV characters, witches, clowns, and even an identity thief! At the end of rehearsal our directors distributed treat bags to each of us.

Community Outreach

The Gainesville Harmony Show Chorus is dedicated to giving back to our community. We have worked for several years to fund a scholarship for Veterans at Santa Fe College, and this year we met our first recipient, Emily Nino. She is a U.S. Army veteran and current Army reservist who is now studying television production at SFC.

We continued our monthly singing at the Naturalization ceremonies for new citizens at our Federal Court House. It is so rewarding to sing and watch the expressions on their faces when we start, "This land is your land..." or "God Bless America, my home sweet home...."

We enjoyed caroling last December at the Oaks Mall, VA Hospital, and PACE Center for Girls, in addition to singing at the Tree Lighting Ceremony at the Thomas Center. Recently we did a short program at the Hope Lodge and are planning similar programs once a month at area assisted living facilities or senior residential complexes.



Congratulation to Emily Nino, the first recipient of our Veteran Bridge Scholarship. Left to right: Diane Sherley, Chanda Morris, Emily Nino, Donna Martin.



Our members performing at Naturalization ceremony. Left to right: Mitzi Korb, Joan Gowan, Diane Sherley, Karen Caraway, Alicia Page, Eadie Schweer, Donna Martin.



Caroling at the VA Hospital (left) and Oaks Mall (right), December 2018.

Upcoming Events

Holiday Harmony VII—Dec. 14th, 2019

Open House Rehearsal—Jan. 9th, 2020

Regional Competition—April 30th to May 3rd, 2020

For updates on future events, please go to our website or Facebook page! (see box to right)



Find Us Online!

<https://gainesvillechorus.com>

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

For Twitter and Instagram: @GNVHarmony

Chapter member, Sweet Adelines Region 9:

<https://coastalharmony.org/>

Thank You

We'd like to thank our sponsors, whose support allows us to share our harmony with others. Thank you also to Aimee Fluriach, Joan Gowan, Mitzi Korb, Donna Martin, Chanda Morris, Alicia Page, Beckie Preston, Diane Sherley, Terrie Vasilopoulos, and Jenny Winsor who contributed to content, formatting, and publishing of this newsletter.