



# THE HEARTBEAT

Sweet Adelines International  
Region 25  
Heart of America  
Fall 2005

## GREAT JOB! INTERNATIONAL COMPETITORS



**Top of the Rock Chorus**  
**Kismet**  
**Cabaret**

*Region 25 was well represented by your performances at the 2005 International Competition in Detroit.*



## Region 25 welcomes our newest chorus: Sweet Sensations!

**Sweet Sensations,** under the direction of Jean Morris, officially chartered on September 9, 2005 and celebrated their achievement at a charter party on October 25, 2005! They rehearse each Tuesday, 6:45 pm, at Wesley United Methodist Church, 5302 Business Hwy 69 South, Greenville, TX 75402.



Congratulations, Sweet Sensations, and **WELCOME** to Region 25!

## CONGRATULATIONS BUCKEYE COMPETITORS

**SHOW-ME HARMONY** Chorus  
and  
**RENDITION** Quartet

Region 25 celebrates with you for being invited to compete in the 2005 Buckeye Invitational Competition.

Congratulations  
Prairie Winds Chorus!



Hooray for you! REGION 25 takes pride in the great job representing us at the Harmony Classic Competition at IES and we congratulate you on your 3<sup>rd</sup> Place win!!!



**Marilyn Dickey**, director of Prairie Winds Chorus, achieved Master Director status at IES.

**THE HEARTBEAT** is going  
**ELECTRONIC!**  
Beginning in 2006 we'll have  
our very own  
**online newsletter!**

- ❖ More features
- ❖ More pictures
- ❖ More color

Watch for it  
online in  
February!



Check out the Region 25 Website  
[www.sairegion25.org](http://www.sairegion25.org)

# The Rich-Tone Chorus and Maureen McGovern Prove to be a Winning Team

**"Extraordinary vocalist" Maureen McGovern gives a "stellar performance" in her recent concert "featuring the impressive Rich-Tone Chorus"...**

*The Dallas Morning News*

The reviews are in and all agree. The recent concerts featuring the Richardson-based Rich-Tone Chorus with guest star Maureen McGovern were a smashing success. Audiences were treated to musical entertainment bringing excitement, joy, wonder, laughter and tears, as the Rich-Tones pounded the stage with their energy and emotion, and Ms. McGovern enthralled the auditorium with one of today's most amazing voices. On the Sunday following the matinee and evening performances, Ms. McGovern hosted a Master Class that proved to be the icing on the cake for those fortunate enough to attend.

The 3-time International Champion Rich-Tone Chorus, under the direction of Master Director Dale Syverson, opened and performed in the first half of the show. Recognized for their inventive choreography and energetic entertainment style, their performance included numbers such as "One" from *A Chorus Line*, an exciting rendition of "Yes Sir, That's My Baby," and a grand finale performance of "Go Tell It On The Mountain." Not a sound could be heard when the Rich-Tones delivered stunning ballads such as "A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square," "I Have Dreamed" from *The King and I*, and "Evening Prayer" from the musical *Hansel & Gretel*.

Maureen McGovern left audiences spellbound with her extraordinary second-half performance, accompanied by her long-time pianist Jeffrey D. Harris. The review by *Dallas Morning News* critic, Mario Tarradell, says it all.

"Maureen McGovern, whom composer David Shire has referred to as having a 'Stradivarius of a voice,' blanketed the Eisemann Center in Richardson on Saturday with her power, melody, grace and warmth."

Ms. McGovern presented an hour of songs by the late Richard Rodgers, the highly recognized theater composer. Her expansive vocal range and knack for theatricality were exemplified in her humorous performance of "To Keep My Love Alive" from *A Connecticut Yankee*. Ms. McGovern then amazed the audience by laying down her microphone and singing "My Funny Valentine," a cappella. Everyone throughout the auditorium could clearly hear the beautiful timbre of her voice. After joking with the audience about being known as the "disaster-theme queen" (she also recorded the theme song from *The Towering Inferno*), Ms. McGovern gave an encore performance of her top hit, "The Morning After" from *The Poseidon Adventure*.

The Rich-Tones joined Ms. McGovern onstage for two final numbers arranged specially for their performance together, "America The Beautiful" and "My Love Is Here To Stay." The audience was brought to their feet on numerous occasions throughout the show, which was laced with emotion.

Sunday's Master Class, entitled "Surviving The Morning After," was every bit as rewarding, as Ms. McGovern took the audience on a journey through her career from almost instantaneous stardom, through the demands of the recording industry, to her career today. She brought the audience to tears when she performed several songs she wrote for her CD "Songs from the Heart," designed to serve as music therapy for those in hospitals and in hospice, a project that is near and dear to her heart. Ms. McGovern serves as an Artist Spokesperson for the American Music Therapy Association and is a Board Member of the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

The Master Class also included personal voice coaching for four accomplished singers. The talented Ms. McGovern, after hearing each perform several numbers, amazingly coached each singer to perform with new dimension and expression, once again taking the audience on a roller coaster ride of emotions.

Maureen McGovern is currently starring in the Broadway National Tour of *Little Women, The Musical*, and she and the Rich-Tones are planning future opportunities to perform and possibly record together. –  
*submitted by Sharon Taylor, The Rich-Tone Chorus*

## SING-A-THON

The **Lawton Harmony Chorus** will entertain all the nursing homes, assisted living centers, as well as the Veterans Center, Wal-Marts, and the mall, as they receive "pledges-per-song" from their families, friends, and associates. December 3 is the date of this "sing fest" and the chorus hopes to sing 70 to 100 songs that day!

The chorus is also using this Christmas season in combination with the "Divas Wanted" campaign, and have had many visitors! We will invite these prospects to sing with us during our holiday performances at no cost to them.

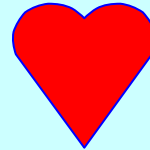
*Submitted by  
Wanda Brown and Angie Mack – Lawton Harmony Chorus*



## HATS OFF TO SOONER SENSATIONS CHORUS



who received the **Most Improved Chorus Award** at Regional Competition in the Spring! Their score of 386 was 77 points higher than last year. This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest improvement in the history of Region 25! **Way to GO!!**



### 2007-2009 Regional Management Team Applications being accepted.....

RMT Positions that are up for election for the 2007-2009 term include; Communications Technology Coordinator, Directors Coordinator, Team Coordinator and Financial Coordinator. Applications are available online and will be accepted until June 30, 2006. Contact Gwen Zylks for information.

## Little Chorus with a Big Heart shows Patriotic Spirit

### Spirit of Oklahoma Show Chorus participates in Barbershop Music Appreciation Day

The mayor of Newcastle, Oklahoma, Jim Wilson, and the city of Newcastle declared an official Barber shop Music Appreciation Day in honor of the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

On July 13, the Spirit of Oklahoma Show Chorus, along with the Newcastle Fire Department, held a celebration in honor of Barbershop Music Appreciation Day. The members met at the fire station and sang throughout the evening to the firemen and community visitors. The chorus served homemade cookies and punch.

The chorus also sings at the Newcastle, Oklahoma fire works celebration each year, opening with the Star Spangled Banner and then singing several patriotic songs.

Another summer project for this chorus was to send care packages overseas. Two of our members have family in the military, so we sent them several goodies to enjoy. It made our hearts feel good to receive their thank you notes and know how much they and their whole unit enjoyed our gifts.

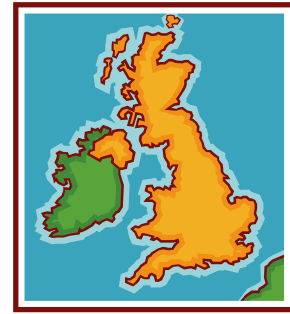
*Submitted by Kathie Thomas, Publicity Chair, Spirit of Oklahoma Show Chorus*



## The Rich-Tones perform in Plymouth, England – *Here's to Every Place in the Old U.K.*

*When I'm a roamin', I'm at home in  
Any place you mention in the old U.K.*

*Just a rover, stoppin' over  
Makin' some new friends on my way...*



Great new words to begin a fabulous performance by the Rich-Tone Chorus from Richardson, Texas, USA, at the Region 31 convention held in Plymouth, England, in the merry... and drizzly... month of May. The Rich-Tones, three-time International First Place medalists, gave a performance that will forever be etched in the memories of the audience and the performers.

The stars came together to create a magical situation for all as the Rich-Tones dazzled the crowd with the beautifully sentimental “A Nightingale Sang In Berkeley Square.” This was followed by the energetic “Yes Sir That’s My Baby,” where the audience was treated to the unique and clever choreography for which the Rich-Tones are so widely known. Their spirited performance concluded with the Broadway show-stopping finale “One,” from *A Chorus Line*. It was truly an award-winning performance by the multitalented singers!

Words can’t describe the warmth in the room as the Lace City Chorus joined the Rich-Tones onstage to give combined renditions of “We are Family” and Region 31’s own “Quartet of Nations.”

“We are truly blessed to know the love of music and to let the joy of singing build harmonies that span countries and continents!” exclaimed one member.

Many of the singers’ families hail from the green fields of England, the valleys of Wales, the wild Scottish mountains, and the dear Emerald Isle. Everyone was moved as singers showed their heritage by the raising of hands as their countries were mentioned.

Sunday morning brought an additional treat. The Rich-Tones astounded all with an education class led by Master Director, Dale Syverson. Demonstrations by the Rich-Tones showed techniques that are used to improve singers of all skill levels. Eager to learn, audience members were on their feet during much of the class, vocalizing new warm-up exercises and joining in on familiar and well-known tags.

“The Rich-Tones want to thank all the members of the Quartet of Nations for their wonderful hospitality, and for providing us the opportunity to bring greetings from the USA,” said Team Leader, Judi Hoose. “It was such a treat to get to know the performers from Region 31 and to share our joy of singing in the barbershop style.”

Returning again to the parody written by Rich-Tone Ann Fincher to the tune of “If There’s Anybody Here from My Hometown,” the words thoughtfully cover the hometowns and countries of new-found friends and e-mail buddies from across the pond. It was truly a wonderful journey enjoyed by all!



*Then on to Dublin, we'll go a pubbin'  
Sippin' Irish whiskey at "The Horse and Tram"*

*We'll be golfin' up in Scotland  
Sail across the water past the Isle of Man*

*They expect us backing Essex  
We'll be down in Plymouth when it's contest time'*

*Go on over, check out Dover  
And I hear that Birmingham is mighty fine*

*Been to Ireland, Scotland, England  
Time to take a summer on the coast of Wales*

*Howdy Brother, have another  
Here's to everyplace in the old U.K...*



## Show-Me Harmony Represents Region 25 at the Buckeye Invitational

Last November our President bounced into rehearsal looking like the proverbial “cat that ate the canary.” Her announcement that Show-Me had been “invited to the Buckeye!” got a mixed reaction—there were shouts of joy from some and quizzical looks by others. “What’s the Buckeye?” was on the lips of many while others excitedly tried to describe the event.

We recalled that Prairie Winds had attended (and performed well) the year before, so a quick phone call to Marilyn Dickey reinforced our already positive response. The next months were filled with fund raisers and taking virtually every performance opportunity offered. We chartered a bus and most of the chorus members elected this mode of transportation.

A total of 11 minutes is allowed for a package of songs including two to be judged. We added *Flirty Eyes* to our competition songs, *If You Love Me, Really Love Me* and *The Moment I Saw Your Eyes*. Our choreographer designed our package around a caravan of gypsies with Director Glenda Rucker reigning as King of the Gypsies. The final number included a voodoo doll (dressed like the King) which the chorus tormented until the King turned the tables.

We thoroughly enjoyed all the activities of the Buckeye Invitational. Members of Harmony Inc and the Barbershop Society were competing along with Sweet Adeline choruses. The judges were from all three organizations, resulting in a long and somewhat confusing score sheet! We were happy with our performance; we made the same score we did in March at Regional Contest. Unfortunately, everyone else was even better!!!

A highlight of the weekend was cheering **Rendition** as they stole the show—and the contest!

It was a wonderful opportunity for our chorus members to spend time together (something a busy chorus rehearsal doesn’t always allow) and a shared experience we will always remember.

*Submitted by Juanita Holmes – Show Me Harmony Chorus*

**Mark your Calendar**

**Celebrate!**



### **Quartet Retreat**

**February 3-4, 2006**

Renaissance Hotel, Richardson Texas

Guest Faculty – **Tori Postma**



### **SUMMER MUSIC CAMP**

**June 23-24, 2006**

Location TBA

SMC faculty will be our own fabulous Regional faculty. There’s a possibility we combine a Chorus Coaching Seminar with SMC, soooo... stay tuned for more information.

**REMINDER**

### **2006 REGION 25 COMPETITION**

March 31-April 1, 2006

Renaissance Hotel and Eisemann Center  
Richardson, TEXAS

## TEAM REPORTS

### MEMBERSHIP NEWS, Marva Hughes, MMC

Requests for chapter visits from the Marketing/Membership Staff should be submitted to Marva Hughes, MLHughes@cox.net.

### COMMUNICATIONS / TECHNOLOGY REPORT, Gwen Zylks CTC

The Heartbeat will transition to an Electronic Newsletter, similar to International's E-SING! Look for a new format in February 2006!

What's going on in your chorus/quartet? Share your exciting news with your friends Region-wide! February Heartbeat Deadline is January 27, 2006.

Having a show or a special event? Don't forget to submit it to Judy Dixon, Team Coordinator (dixonj@cableone.net) to get it on the Regional Calendar and on the Regional Website!

Don't forget to Vote! Regional Election ballots have been mailed to choruses and Chapter at Large Members. Ballots must be received by December 7, 2005. Choruses and Chapter At Large members must be in good standing for their vote to count.

Get involved! Lots of fun activities need willing volunteers! Submit your application to the Regional Management Team or volunteer for a committee. 2007 – 2008 positions up for election/appointment are:

Communications/Technology Coordinator  
Directors' Coordinator  
Financial Coordinator  
Team Coordinator

Applications are available online or from  
Gwen Zylks ( [GwenZ@aol.com](mailto:GwenZ@aol.com) )

### TEAM COORDINATOR NEWS, Judy Dixon, TC

A big 'Thank You' to everyone who was in Detroit and participated in the send off for Top of the Rock Chorus! This region is AWESOME! Judy Dixon, TC



## CLIFF LODGE

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Innkeeper  
SALLY BECK (Ginger 'n' Jazz bari)



### 2005-06 Region 25 Incentive Plan

**Viva la Diva!**

**Will YOUR chorus be  
a winner?**

Prizes will be free registrations to IES 2007 and SMC 2007 for the top three choruses

in each size category for percentage growth.

Winners will be determined by tabulations based on your chapter totals recorded at International from May 1, 2005 to April 30, 2006!



In Sherman, Texas, the Red River Valley Chorus will have to plan a baby shower this spring. Erica Deweber, our director, is expecting a baby, her fifth one to be exact. With two boys and two girls, this baby will be the tie breaker. To better prepare for the new arrival, Erica is taking a leave of absence from the chorus and will be missed. But we hope you enjoy your much deserved rest until the new baby joins your family!

While Erica is away, the RRVC is proud to have Virginia Fitzpatrick as its interim director. Virginia comes well qualified for the position with massive amounts of musical experience. Her credentials include 33 years as a Sweet Adeline and she is a SAI Certified Director.

Throw in 15 years directing a small chorus in Hutchinson, Kansas that she took to International competition and you begin to see why we are excited to have her with us. Over the years as she moved across the country with her family, she sang with the Wichita Chorus and Seattle Sound. She has also served on the faculty of Region 7.

And if all the above is not enough, Virginia was crowned a Queen of Harmony when she sang lead with the 1977 International Quartet Champions, The Shondells in London, England. That championship led to two USO tours to visit our troops in Vietnam. Imagine, singing in front of thousands of soldiers who are far from home. What an awesome experience that was brave and patriotic as well.

For the past two years, Virginia has been performing with the International champion chorus, the Rich-Tones in Richardson, Texas. And in her spare time, she teaches eighth grade math at the Lake Dallas Middle School. For 5 years of her teaching career, she has been a school counselor as well. Virginia is married to Warren with 4 children and 5 grandchildren. She plays golf and sails with her husband who is qualified for world class sailboat racing. Thank heavens there are numerous large lakes in Texas for them to enjoy this sport.

And now she is commuting to Sherman every Monday night to help the Red River Valley Chorus prepare for a much anticipated performance on Saturday, December 3, 2005 with the local Sherman Symphony in their annual Christmas POPS Concert. This is a major coup for the chorus to be included in the musical arts community. With Virginia's help, we hope to use this venue to entertain and educate attendees about our unique barbershop sound.

In 2006, Virginia Fitzpatrick will direct the Red River Valley Chorus at the annual Region 25 competition. The chorus members appreciate Virginia's experience and we plan to learn a great deal from this talented lady. We also expect to have improved scores this spring under her direction.

To further our presence in the community, the chorus has adopted a new logo. Artist and multi-talented chorus member, Christy Mullens designed the logo which will help to improve sight recognition for the RRVC. New brochures and business cards have been prepared by the Publicity/Public Relations Committee to make the Red River Valley Chorus a prominent musical assemblage in North Texas and Southern Oklahoma.

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November 10, 2005

*Article submitted by:*

*Barbara A. Hotze, CCE  
Red RiverValley Chorus  
Chair, Publicity/Public Relations*

## REGION #25 CALENDAR

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<b><u>2005</u></b> November 11-13 November 19 December 3	The Part Shop with Rumors, Kim Hulbert & Darlene Rogers Talk of Tulsa Show Chorus Show The Rich-Tones Holiday Show	Richardson, TX Tulsa, OK Richardson, TX
<b><u>2006</u></b> February 3-4 March 31-April 1 June 23-24 September 22-23 October 10-14	Quartet Retreat Region #25 Competition Summer Music Camp Director/Faculty Retreat International Convention	<b>Richardson, TX</b> Richardson, TX TBA Richardson, TX Las Vegas, NV
<b><u>2007</u></b> February 2-3 March 23-24 June 22-23 October 9-13	Quartet Retreat Region 25 Competition Summer Music Camp International Convention	Richardson, TX Richardson, TX TBA Calgary, Alberta Canada
<b><u>2008</u></b> February 1-2 May 15-18 June 20-21 November 11-15	Quartet Retreat Region 25 Competition Summer Music Camp International Convention	<b>TBA</b> Richardson, TX TBA Honolulu, Hawaii
<b><u>2009</u></b> November 3-7	International Convention	Nashville, TN
<b><u>2010</u></b> October 19-23	International Convention	Seattle, WA
<b><u>2011</u></b> October 18-22	International Convention	Houston, TX
<b><u>2012</u></b> October 30-November 2	International Convention	Denver, CO
<b><u>2013</u></b> November 12-16	International Convention	Honolulu, HI

### SWEET ADELINES INTERNATIONAL REGION 25 – HEART OF AMERICA

#### The Heartbeat

Editor - Jett Rodgers [jettr@sp-coc.org](mailto:jettr@sp-coc.org)

#### Region 25 Regional Management Team

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[Lrich25@aol.com](mailto:Lrich25@aol.com)
- Communications/Technology Coordinator  
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- Education Coordinator—Sheryl Davis  
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