

# AREA 4 COUNCIL

February 21, 2015

Area 4 Director Betty Gunterman welcomed participating Council Members to the teleconference (6:00pm Central) as they phoned in. The meeting was officially called to order at 6:10, and roll was called with the following Council Members, Chapter President, or Delegates and Committee Chairmen present:

## **Council Management**

Betty Gunterman – Area 4 Director

Jeanne O’Connor – Area 4 Secretary

Beth Montgomery, Deb Neisch (not present) – Membership

Not present: Mary Ross, Treasurer; Melanie Concklin, Website Manager; Peggi Meyer, Manual Chairman

(Education Chairman position is vacant)

## **\*Voting Members of the Council (Chapters officially represented) in this meeting:**

\*California Note Catchers (San Diego, CA) – Anne Ash

\*Covered Bridge Harmony (Greencastle, IN) – Kathy Custis

\*Harmony Magic (Central Indiana) – Barbara Birnbaum

\*Misty River Music Makers (Geneva, IL) – Linda Berg

\*St. Louis Chordinals (St. Louis, MO) – Marilyn Arana

\*Sound Celebration (Plymouth, WI) – Cinda Langhoff

\*Village Vocal Chords (Metro-Chicago, IL) - Maria Bunte

Wolf River Harmony (Shawano, WI) – not represented

Copies of this meeting’s Agenda and Treasury Reports were distributed via email prior to the teleconference.

***Note: Subsequent to the teleconference and prior to the approval of the meeting minutes, assignments were carried out. Such information is noted in bold italics within these minutes.***

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| Welcome             | Betty welcomed the Council Members to the call, then shared information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Deadline for submitting resume for election to the International Board of Directors has been extended to February 28 (slate is not yet full). Presidents are encouraged to address their members, seeking qualified candidates.</li><li>➤ Dues notices for Area dues (\$6 for 2015-16) will be issued within the next week.</li></ul> |
| September 2014 Mtg. | Minutes of the September 2014 meeting were approve via email and are posted on the Area 4 website.   |
| IC&C Events         | Gratitude was expressed to Cinda Langhoff (Sound Celebration) for running the Front Row Seat auction at IC&C last November. The \$40 raised can be used  |

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| Louisville      | <p>for education in Area 4.</p> <p>Appreciation was expressed to Ruth Maple for managing the late Saturday night Area 4 Hospitality Room. The activity was plentiful, and the evening very successful.</p>   |
| Convention Team | <p>Betty has invited Sara Stone to serve as Convention Manager of the Area 4 Convention Team, and Sara has accepted the appointment.</p>   |
| Website         | <p>Information on AC&amp;C 2015 will be posted on the website when received. (Betty will send notice.)</p> <p><b>2/21/15 - Via email, Betty informed the Council Members that the first information about AC&amp;C is posted on the website, <a href="http://www.area4harmonyinc.org">http://www.area4harmonyinc.org</a> and encouraged all chapter members to visit the website often for AC&amp;C details, as well as for Council meeting minutes, etc.</b></p>  |
| AC&C 2015       | <p>Details of 2015 AC&amp;C include:</p> <p>Hotel: Clarion Hotel in Speedway, IN</p> <p>Contest Site: Brownsburg High School (approx. 7 miles from hotel)</p> <p>Theme: "Start Your Engines"</p> <p>Host: Harmony Magic Chorus (Chairmen Susan Spencer and Sara Stone)</p> <p>All Events Pass (AEP): \$89 a night, includes breakfast</p> <p>Education classes: Thursday night and Friday morning/afternoon</p> <p>Moonglow: Saturday night victory banquet - black and white attire</p>   |
| Manual Updates  | <p>Nothing to report.</p>  |
| Finances        | <p>Financial statements prepared and submitted by Treasurer Mary Ross were reviewed. Following discussion,</p> <p><b>Motion</b> by Maria Bunte and seconded by Cinda Langhoff to accept and approve the 2014-15 Budget/Actual as presented. <b>Motion carried.</b> (Approximately \$7000 in the treasury.)</p> <p>Notes included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- This budget is through March 2015</li> <li>- Front Row Seat auction profit of \$40 is under "income"</li> <li>- Expense for Moonglow trophy (new award presented at 2014 AC&amp;C)</li> </ul> <p><b>Motion</b> by Kathy Custis and seconded by Anne Ash to approve the 2015-16 Area 4 Budget (with \$1000 note added). <b>Motion carried.</b></p> <p>(Mary Ross will provide a revised Budget when she returns from vacation.)</p> <p>Notes included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Add \$1000 to expenses for new chorus medals (to be presented starting 2015 AC&amp;C)</li> </ul> |

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|                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Membership numbers (Chapter and Associates) are provided by the Corporate Office, and some Associates are delinquent in paying Area dues</li> <li>- \$300 for Area development is available from Harmony, if we apply and use it</li> <li>- The \$50 for supporting Area 4 groups at IC&amp;C may not be sufficient, depending upon what is used for this purpose (medals or ribbons or ?)</li> <li>- Conference call costs are less due to contracting a better deal</li> </ul>  |
| OLD BUSINESS           | 4      4      4      4   |
| Chorus Medals          | <p>Following the Council’s decision at the June 2014 meeting to present medals to the Area 4 Chorus Champions each year, Betty and Maria Bunte researched various designs. The Agenda included a photo of a beautiful medal design. Details of their findings and recommendations were presented for Council (approval in <b>bold</b>):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Source - B. Gunther &amp; Co. Inc. in Lisle, IL</li> <li>▪ 2-1/4” die cast medal in gold color</li> <li>▪ If order 100 or more, \$3 each (motion was 300, no more than \$1000)<br/><b>Council approved the purchase of 300</b></li> <li>▪ Includes jump ring and ribbon in color of choice<br/><b>Council approved red, white and blue ribbon</b></li> <li>▪ Engraving “Area 4” on back adds an additional \$2 to each medal, prohibitive, International Chorus medals are not engraved on back<br/><b>Council agreed to <u>not</u> engraving</b></li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><i>Receiving Council’s approval, Betty placed the order late February.</i></b></p> |
| Quartet Medals         | Medals for Area 4 Quartet Champions each year are being donated by U4X (2008 Area 4 Quartet Champions and 2008 Harmony Queens). The medals have been ordered.  |
| Motto                  | <p>The Area 4 motto (<i>Chords &amp; More In Area 4</i>) was recently chosen, and discussion took place on how the Area will use it:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The “&amp;” will be replaced with a treble clef, when possible</li> <li>- Will appear on the website</li> <li>- To be discussed at the June Council meeting relating to the Area support item for groups representing us at IC&amp;C (ribbons?)</li> <li>- Presidents will see if any of their members can help with graphics designing</li> </ul>   |
| NEW BUSINESS           | <b>Chords &amp; More In Area 4</b>   |
| Area Director Election | Betty informed the Council that she has been notified of being re-elected for a new two-year term as Area 4 Director, beginning in November. This news was received with unanimous expressions of congratulations, along with thanks for her dedicated service to the Area.  |

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| <p>Future Meetings</p> | <p>The next meeting of the Area 4 Council will be:<br/> <b>Thursday evening, June 11, 2015, at the AC&amp;C hotel, 6:00pm to 8:00pm.</b><br/> Chapters are reminded to have representation at the meeting by their President, or her designee.</p> <p>The Fall meeting of the Council will take place in September – date tbd.</p> |
| <p>Adjournment</p>     | <p>Delegates were asked to send chapter update information (for inclusion in these minutes) to Jeanne O’Connor by March 1.</p> <p>The teleconference adjourned at 6:55pm.</p>  |

**AC&C Rotation Schedule**

2015 – Harmony Magic

2016 – Convention Team with chapter responsibilities as follow:

- ✓ Sound Celebration – Hospitality Room, on-site facilities, and Assistant Convention Manager
- ✓ Harmony Magic – Moonglow (and as the 2015 host, select the 2016 AC&C theme, advertised on back page of the 2015 AC&C program booklet)
- ✓ Village Vocal Chords – contest services (DVD and photographer)
- ✓ Misty River Music Makers – registration
- ✓ St. Louis Chordinals – education and judge services
- ✓ Covered Bridge Harmony – publicity and program

**CHAPTER UPDATES (as submitted)**

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**California Note Catchers – Anne Ash**

We are busy getting ready to celebrate our 20th anniversary with Harmony, Inc. Our March Installation will be themed around our celebration, and we will also be pinning 2 new members, and pinning a 10 year member (Melissa Hibbs) and a 20 year member (Karen Hasman).

We had a wonderful holiday season and are now busily preparing for several performances this spring. We are blessed to live in a climate that allows us to rehearse all year long, so will have lots of opportunities this summer for performances and Guest Nights. We enjoy having company and always welcome visitors from other choruses to come join us at a rehearsal if you ever find yourselves in Southern California. Come for the singing, stay for the friendship!

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**Covered Bridge Harmony – Kathy Custis**

No report

### **Harmony Magic – Barbara Birnbaum**

Harmony Magic started a new member program last summer in Kokomo - (we often had quite a bit of interest from the ladies in Kokomo, but many thought it was too far from our rehearsal site in Carmel, IN, even though a number of our members came in from Kokomo). We assigned a mentor to each prospective and all of us worked on learning some new songs together. As time passed some people dropped out while a few more came in and we began working on our old holiday songs. I am happy to report that we have or will shortly have 4 new members. In addition we have 2 members re-joining (1 was an associate).

As a result of this success we have also changed rehearsal location to Tipton, IN, halfway between Carmel and Kokomo. It is a pretty straight shot on the highway from either location. The people and businesses of Tipton have already been supportive and we had a number of locals at our Holiday concert and it has brought us one of our potential new members.

We had a successful and busy holiday season with our Holiday concert in Tipton, two performances in Kokomo and singing with Covered Bridge Harmony in Greencastle. We topped these events off with our evening of Singing Holiday Cards and pitch-in. (Of course each of the other events was followed by some additional fun and food at a local restaurant. A girl has to eat!)

Harmony Magic is working hard on preparing to host Area 4 AC&C. We have sent in some of the details of the event which have been posted on the Area 4 Web site. We are looking forward to the 2015 AC&C, June 10-14 (I am sure it will be warmer by then), seeing all of you and having a great time, singing tunes and tags and having a great contest. **Start Your Engines!**

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### **Misty River Music Makers – Linda Berg**

Misty River Music Makers chorus was very busy this fall and winter.

In October, some of us went on a chorus outing to the Paramount Theatre to see an a cappella group called Home Free. They were fantastic. We started our Christmas performances on Nov. 24th at Bria Healthcare (formerly Geneva Care Center). On Dec. 1st we sang at Greenfields, Dec. 5th at the Paramount Theatre, Dec. 6th at the Geneva Christmas Walk, Dec. 8th at Heritage Woods Batavia, and concluded our Christmas performances on Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> by singing at the Chicago Symphony Orchestra before their program and again at intermission. We finished our year with a chorus party with lots of fun, food and harmonizing!

In January, we held Open-House Mondays all month inviting women to “Come and Rediscover the Joy of Singing in Harmony”. We advertised this in the local newspapers and put flyers up at several locations, plus advertising on social media sites such as Facebook and Meetup. We have had 5 guests so far with promise of more coming and we just welcomed a new member this week! On February 6, we sang at a gallery in Aurora at the opening of a photo exhibit exclusive to one of our members, Jean Hess.

In March, we are scheduled to sing at the AID (Association for Individual Development) telethon at Waubensee Community College in Sugar Grove and are looking forward to doing many fun

performances this year. We are also learning new music for AC&C using some new techniques introduced by Ruth. Looking forward to seeing you all at AC&C in June!

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### **St. Louis Chordinals – Marilyn Arara**

The St. Louis Chordinals enjoyed an exciting, productive year. Our fall Trivia and annual November Fall/Holiday Show were quite successful. The show, titled Celebrate St. Louis 250 Years, was as much fun planning as performing. We enjoyed our little "field trips" to visit some of the 250 birthday cakes scattered throughout the area, enjoyed several lunches, and took pictures which became part of a slide presentation for the show. A portion of our proceeds were shared with Touchpoint Autism Services here in the St. Louis area. In addition, we contribute annually to Community Helping Ministries who provide assistance to those in our local community.

We look forward to up-coming spring performances for an area retirement community and senior group. In addition, we are performing a "Thank You" performance on April 18 for our friends , families and loyal supporters at Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church in Bridgeton, Mo., in conjunction with their 50th anniversary. This church is our practice site each Tuesday evening.

Building membership remains a top priority for the Chordinals. Our Membership Committee has planned special guest nights, publicity contacts, etc.

We are hard at work on our competition songs and look forward to seeing everyone in Indianapolis!

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### **Sound Celebration – Cinda Langhoff**

No report

### **Village Vocal Chords – Marie Bunte**

No report