

AREA 4 COUNCIL

February 21, 2016

Area 4 Director Betty Gunterman welcomed participating Council Members to the teleconference (5:30pm Central) as they phoned in. The meeting was officially called to order at 6:07, and roll was called with the following Council Members, Chapter Presidents, or Delegates and Committee Chairmen present:

Council Management

Betty Gunterman – Area 4 Director
Jeanne O'Connor – Area 4 Secretary
Mary Ross – Area 4 Treasurer
Janice Westphal – Education Coordinator

Council Management Not Present

Melanie Concklin - Website Manager
Peggi Meyer – Manual Chairman
Beth Montgomery and Deb Neisch – Membership Chairmen
Joy Coleman – Associates Coordinator

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

*Bluegrass Harmony (Louisville, KY) – Valinda Petri
*California Note Catchers (San Diego, CA) – Annette Draper
Covered Bridge Harmony (Greencastle, IN) – Roseanne Jensen (not present)
*Harmony Magic (Central Indiana) – Sara Stone
*Misty River Music Makers (Geneva, IL) – Mary Ross, alternate
*St. Louis Chordinals (St. Louis, MO) - Linda Wehmeyer, alternate
*Sound Celebration (Plymouth, WI) – Marianne Cooke
*Village Vocal Chords (Metro-Chicago, IL) – Maria Bunte
*Wolf River Harmony (Shawano, WI) – Rebecca LaLonde

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

Welcome	Betty welcomed the Council Members to the call, then shared information: <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Minutes of the September 26, 2015 Council Meeting were approved via email, distributed by Betty and posted to the website. Should you find errors in these minutes, please contact Betty or Jeanne.➤ Nominees for election to the International Board of Directors are being sought. Those interested in running, please forward your name to International President Sandra Dunlop.➤ If your chapter is planning a youth event this year, please contact Youth Coordinator Jen Wheaton.
---------	---

	<p>➤ Reminder: When sending in membership renewal dues and information by <u>April 1</u>, please send a copy of the HAR-078 form (chapter officer data) please forward a copy to Betty.</p>
Website	<p>AC&C 2016 information will be posted by “categories” (e.g., hotel, panel members, education classes) versus a series of “mailings” as in the past. Convention Manager Sara Stone will send the information to the Website Manager for posting, and then notify the chapter Presidents of the new information. Presidents are then asked to inform their membership to visit the website for current information.</p> <p>Any website information needing correction should be reported via email to Website Manager Melanie Concklin.</p>
Area Manual	Nothing to report at this time.
Finances	<p>Following review of financial statements,</p> <p>MOTION by Linda Wehmeyer and seconded by Annette Draper to approve the financial statements (Income and Expense, Balance Sheet) as provided by Treasurer Mary Ross. Motion Carried</p> <p>MOTION by Marianne Cooke and seconded by Sara Stone to approve the 2016/17 Area 4 Budget as presented by Treasurer Mary Ross, and amended by the Council. Motion Carried</p> <p style="text-align: center;">\$ \$ \$ \$</p>
Verification of Bank Accounts	<p>The decision by the International Board of Directors at the 2015 Annual Meeting (see page 21 of meeting minutes) in an effort to provide transparency and accountability of Area bank accounts. All Areas are directed to adopt a practice whereby the Area Directors are to review the check register and the Area bank statements on a monthly basis. In addition, Areas are directed to obtain a review of the banking records every two years, or sooner as directed by the Area Council. Further, all Area Budgets are to be forwarded to the International VP Finance.</p> <p>In compliance with these directives, Area 4 Director Betty Gunterman will put this verification information in the financial policies section of the Area 4 Manual.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">\$ \$ \$ \$</p>
AC&C Profits	<p>The 2016/17 Area 4 AC&C Budget was approved previously, on the January 2016 Convention Team and Chapter representatives teleconference, with minor adjustments made (i.e., riser rent and transportation). In discussing the modest profit line (below \$300), the Convention Team recommended all profits go directly to the Area account, rather than an equal division between the nine chapters.</p> <p>Following discussion on THIS Area 4 Council teleconference,</p>

<p style="text-align: center; color: red;">Fall Meeting Agenda Item</p>	<p>MOTION by Marianne Cooke and seconded by Linda Wehmeyer that all 2016 AC&C profit or loss be sustained by the Area treasury. Motion carried</p> <p>Rationale: 2016 is a transition year to a Convention Team; thus, it is not the Area’s typical policy for profit distribution between the Area and a hostess chapter.</p> <p>NOTE: The fall Area 4 Council Meeting agenda shall include this subject, including points raised here:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Should an AC&C’s profits be put toward the next year’s AC&C? - Should profits be divided among all Area chapters only if they exceed an established amount?
OLD BUSINESS	<i>Chords and More in Area 4</i>
2016 AC&C	<p>Convention Team Manager Sara Stone addressed the Council on the upcoming 2016 AC&C. In January she conducted the first of 5 monthly teleconferences with Convention Team members and chapter representatives. She will be forwarding reminders for assignments to all prior to the February 27 call.</p> <p>Sara will forward a revised 2016 AC&C budget to all chapters.</p> <p>Convention Team Members Sara Stone (Convention Manager), Cookie Crews (ACJC), Betty Gunterman (Area 4 Director) and Jeanne O’Connor (Contest/Stage Manager) had visited the AC&C venue, The Holiday Inn & Suites in Bloomington, months ago; since then, the hotel has undergone extensive reconstruction, and Sara is considering another site visit soon.</p> <p>Chapter, Representative, Responsibility:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sound Celebration – Chris Hembel <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Hospitality/welcome center, create/distribute ditty bags ▪ Assistant Convention Manager, Sandy Lorenz - Harmony Magic – Rosario Dorriott <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Moonglow, select AC&C theme previous year - Village Vocal Chords – Maria Bunte <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ On-site contest services (door ticket takers, photographer, backstage and pathway help) - Bluegrass Harmony – Valinda Petri <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Education (introduce instructors, direct attendees to rooms) ▪ Education Coordinator, Janice Westphal, contacts the judges and sets up classes - Misty River Music Makers – Linda Berg <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Registration (manning desk), collect room numbers

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - St. Louis Chordinals – Marilyn Arana <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Judges services (snacks, general hospitality, transportation) - Covered Bridge Harmony – Roseanne Jensen <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Publicity and program (Libby Brown to complete the program) - Wolf River Harmony – Rebecca LaLonde <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assist with Moonglow <p>Each year, the responsibilities will move “down” a slot on the list, with some adjustments.</p> <p>Betty reminded the chapter Presidents that they must convey AC&C information to all of their members. Keep them informed, as each chapter is working on a specific area of interest at the event. Also encourage their members to visit the Area 4 website often for current information.</p>
NEW BUSINESS	<i>Chords and More in Area 4</i>
<p>Quartet Coaching Day</p>	<p>The planning of Quartet Coaching Day is in its preliminary stages. The event will be held Saturday, April 30, at St. Thomas Church in Glen Ellyn, IL.</p> <p>To date, six quartets have expressed interest in participating. Two budgets have been submitted by Education Coordinator Janice Westphal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 3 coaches, representing 3 hours of coaching and 3 hours of bye - 4 coaches, representing 4 hours of coaching and 2 hours of bye <p>Following discussion of the benefits of each,</p> <p>MOTION by Marie Bunte and seconded by Annette Draper to approve and budget for 4 coaches. Motion Carried</p> <p>Registration fee for each quartet is \$75; observers are welcome for a \$20 registration fee.</p> <p>Janice will soon distribute a registration form, including payment information.</p>
<p>Future Council Meetings</p>	<p>Meeting at AC&C on Thursday evening, June 9, 6-8pm</p> <p>Fall meeting in September – date to be determined</p>
<p>Adjournment</p>	<p>The teleconference adjourned at 6:55.</p>

Following are chapter updates, as submitted:

SOUND CELEBRATION

- Our October show was a success. Show profit exceeded \$9,000.00. Although we give away free tickets (2 shows “sold out”) revenue is from free will offering; money raffle; basket raffle; and patron sponsorship. Success was due to all members stepping up their sales of raffle tickets and sponsorships.
- We applied for several grants from local foundations and received a \$500.00 grant from the Kohler Foundation.
- We did over 100 telephonic singing Christmas cards. Profit exceed \$1000.00
- The chorus did 5 Christmas gigs. We parlayed our 1950’s show into a holiday themed show. For the first time we performed in Oshkosh at a large senior complex. They have already invited us back for next year.
- Although we had to cancel two consecutive rehearsals in January due to inclement weather, we conducted too Find Your Voice open rehearsal nights. We have 5 women who are in the process of applying for membership.
- Director, Janice Westphal conducted 3 pre-rehearsal “Rookie Camp” sessions to orient our new members into the barbershop style of music and to chapter membership. Many of our veteran members also attended for a tune up.
- Our biannual Retreat will be held on March 5-6 at the Green Lake Conference center. Jeanne O’Connor, Lynn Randall, and local coach Joanne Bischoff will be our clinicians.
- On January 5th we began rehearsing at our new location in Plymouth. It’s a Congregational church. We were invited to use this wonderful facility at no cost. Our long term rehearsal site at the Greenbush Town Hall was going to start charging us an exorbitant amount starting in 2016. All’s well that ends well...

We look forward to seeing our Harmony friends at AC&C in June.

CALIFORNIA NOTE CATCHERS

We celebrated our 20th Anniversary on March 23, 2015 and were so happy that Joanne Willett could join us to celebrate a great event. We had a terrific slide show representing 20 years of Song and Friendship.

We enjoyed performing at many residential facilities and many luncheons as well as our Community service of singing for the patients at a local rehabilitation facility and for Relay for Life. In total we had 21 performances. We enjoyed another successful Holiday Show with 150 in attendance. We are preparing for an event in June for family and friends to showcase our current repertoire songs.

We have 2 members that have returned and 1 new member who joined after participating in our community sing.

HARMONY MAGIC

Harmony Magic is doing well!!

- We have 1 new member, 1 going through audition process, 1 more prospective member possible!
- We are gearing up for our 10 year anniversary celebration – planning to have a picnic/party in the summer to celebrate the chapter existing for 10 years!!
- We’ve done many performances – several holiday performances in addition to our Holiday Show on 12/5, local Tipton nursing homes
- Upcoming summer performances: 4th of July celebration in Tipton, IN; singing at a citizenship ceremony for a member who will become a US citizen on the 4th of July and singing the National Anthem at local AA baseball game.
- Grossed close to \$600 from singing holiday cards and singing valentines
- We’re very excited to continue coaching from Jim DeBusman on a regular basis and have a coaching session with Jean Barford on April 23rd
- We are investigating a youth education day in Tipton, IN – no firm details yet – just in the initial planning phases
- We are working on our contest package for AC&C.

VILLAGE VOCAL CHORDS

The VVC’s have kept busy since capturing our first place medal at IC&C back in November. We got right into getting ready for our annual Christmas concert, as well as doing singing Christmas cards. There were so many this year that we had to split the chorus in two to be able to get them all out on one rehearsal night! We had our Christmas party and then took the next two weeks off to celebrate the holidays. In January and with a new year ahead, we began learning a new up tune and ballad. Cold weather and ice caused us to cancel a rehearsal and then the start of coughs and colds began to take its toll on members. Many had to miss rehearsals and we are slowly getting back to health again. Being Harmony’s champions brings with it added responsibility to learn new music. We enjoyed singing our “Oz” package for you so much that we are adding 3 more songs to the set and bringing it to Providence. As we continue to represent Harmony, Inc. as the reigning champions, we also look forward to singing at a Special Olympics concert in April, our show on May 14th, and then Area 4’s AC&C in June.