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Editor: Barb Nigh

www.tricitysound.org



Tri City Sound Bytes

Team Members

- Team Coord.-Dyanna Cridelich
- Ass't Leader & Ass't. Director-Cindy Pilios
- Secretary-Alexis Van Natta
- Corresponding Secretary-Laura Newbre
- Finance-Marty Crouthers
- Publicity-Lyndell Penney
- Membership-Sharon Schulte & Trudy Morris
- YWIH/By-Laws-Trudy Morris
- Director-Barb Nigh

Welcome to our guests this month:

Nora Hufschmidt
Renate Fuchs-Butler

Upcoming Events:

February 13—Performance-
Calvary Baptist-Lompoc

February 14-Singing Valentines
10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

March 27-29-Competition-
Bakersfield

July 10-12- Summer Sizzler-
Faculty: Diane Porsch

February Birthdays:

1-Karolyn Addington
20-Alexis Van Natta

2009—Happy New Year!

After another successful Christmas season with a full house for our Family & Friends night and the fun of having Pacific Horizon chorus join us on the program as well as several guests from the community, we are now ready to prepare for another exciting year for the chorus.

Something new for us this year is to have eight of our members singing with the Pacific Horizon chorus for competition through the dual membership program, and to have nine of their members joining us as well. This will be a growing experience for all concerned. Several of us were privileged to be with PHC for their recent coaching session with Judy Ashmore.

Our January performance was



Christmas party at Klondike Pizza

on Sunday, the 11th for the Santa Maria Senior Citizen's Club Installation at the Mussell Center. A gracious thank you note and delicious See's candy from them was specially delivered by Connie on Thursday night.

The days are quickly passing by before competition. Make sure your costume is ready. We'll be having a costume check soon!!

Quick Quiz

1. How old is our chorus?
2. What was the name of our chorus before we became Tri City Sound?
3. What year was our name changed?
4. What year was this show performed? (px on right)?



Mystery Member

A long, long time ago in a land far, far away, I was born in a small town called Carlinville, Illinois. The middle child of Charles and Mary Crouch along with my older brother Stanley and my younger brother Donald, we lived happily in Merridosia, Illinois. Then suddenly, or so it seemed to me, my parents were divorced. After living with various members of my father's 10 brothers and sisters for a while, our family was reunited again when my dad met and married Clover Harding Hagen. I was approximately five years old. My "new" mom had a son named David who was three months older than me. So I grew up in a household with three brothers. In those days, women did "Women's work" and men did "Men's Work." In other words, women were stuck in the house with the cleaning, cooking, laundry, shopping, etc., etc., while the men got to work in the yard. Well as you know, the grass is always greener on the other side, so I longed to be outside doing yard work instead of stuck inside doing the cooking and cleaning. To this day I HATE cooking and cleaning.

My "real" mother had another child, a daughter named Tina. Then when I was approximately 9 or 10 years old, my "real" mother was killed in an automobile accident. My little sister went to live with an aunt on my mother's side of the family. I had no contact with her throughout our growing up years. Then when we became adults, my older brother got in touch with my mother's side of the family and introduced me to my sister for the very first time. We had very little contact in the following years because I am absolutely horrible at writing letters until someone invented the internet. Now Tina and I communicate regularly via e-mail. In fact, I was very blessed when she came all the way from Illinois to attend my son's wedding last June.

I met my husband through my high school friend, Monica. We were having a slumber party to celebrate my 17th birthday, when she suggested I come home with her to meet her older brother who was home on leave from the Air Force. Well one thing led to another... Now 43 years and two sons later we have been together ever since.

I have been a member of this chorus since 1998, and have loved every minute of it. Other than singing, my favorite hobby is painting.

Notes from Cindy—Ban Casual Singing

To ban casual singing means every note-filled word is sung with great intent. Resist the urge to "just sing"—always perform at your highest level. Why would you want to practice mediocrity??? That is what becomes your habit. Settle for nothing less than wonderful. The quality of time spent rehearsing is one of the most important factors determining the success of a performance.

Things YOU can do:

1. Work on your voice every day, even if just for 5 minutes.
2. Work on your chorus songs at least 1 time outside of rehearsal.
3. Work on your performance skills IN FRONT OF A MIRROR at least once a week.
4. Keep learning.
5. Go home and rehearse perfection!!
6. Sing a song you know well (i.e. Bandstand). Are you making the most beautiful sound possible? What is it you want to communicate? What is the overall emotion/character message of the song?
7. Sing it again...Has anything changed? Did you sense that the whole thing was somehow deeper, more complete? The thought of wanting to communicate and express something will help make vital changes in your general presentation, and bring about a different and easier use of your body to improve the quality of the sound you are making.

A desire to communicate is a great way to establish this connection with the world outside yourself!! That's when the magic really happens between a performer and an audience!!

If you don't include communication in the performance, it becomes very mechanical and doesn't touch the audience. All aspects of the performance should be rehearsed at the highest level possible—EVERY TIME—until they are automatic.