

Performing Arts

Woodlands Show Chorus soars with win after win

Since its inception only five years ago, The Woodlands Show Chorus has seized top awards everywhere it goes.

Most recent prize was last weekend at the Great Gulf Coast Region 10 Convention comprised of choruses from Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama. The Woodlands' lady singers won the highest scores in Region 10 history.

With almost 80 performers, it's the largest, fastest growing chorus in Sweet Adelines International, the feminine counterpart to male barbershop quartets.

However, these energetic performers rise to the



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Performing Arts columnist

next level with some fancy stepping, as well as four-part a cappella harmony.

"We attribute much of our success to our director Betty Clipman," said member and publicist Brenda Anderson. "She came out of retirement to make her mark on The Woodlands, and reclaim her international position

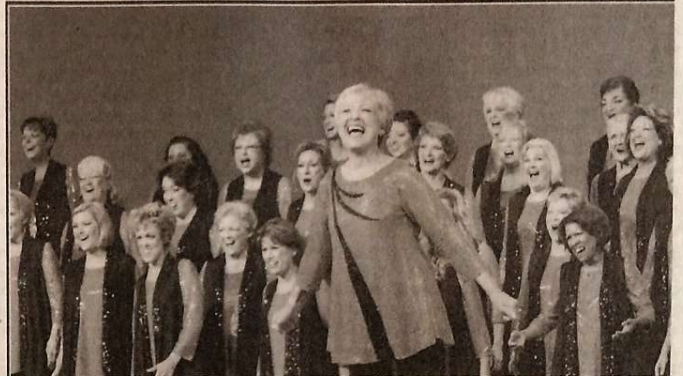
in Sweet Adelines International by becoming Master Director of TWSC. Betty's global experience and high honors span more than 40 years with SAI."

According to Anderson, the chorus chose The Woodlands because of its support of the arts. THSC is the only group of its kind in the area.

"But," Anderson continued, "if you ask any member why she sings, she will say it's for the absolute joy—the joy of striving for excellence through consistent education, training, and performance."

Membership in TWSC provides a strong purpose

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Members of The Woodlands Show Chorus, a chapter of Sweet Adelines International, earned recognition during the SAI competition last summer in Las Vegas. Director Betty Clipman came out of retirement to lead the group of lady barbershop singers which numbers close to 80 local members.

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for life outside the confines of family, work, and daily routine, Anderson noted.

The women have performed in numerous local venues that include the Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands Waterway Art Festival, the 105 Veterans and Lone Star Honor Flight, Bernhardt Winery, Ladies Association of Walden and that of April Sound, in churches, and in hospitals.

"My vision is for women of all ages to experience the joy of four-part a cappella singing," Clipman said. "Improved vocal and performance skills follow naturally."

After performing this week during The Woodlands Art Festival and National Barbershop Harmony Day, TWSC has a date scheduled at Bernhardt Winery on July 2; at The Star Spangled Extrava-

ganza in The Woodlands on July 3; and during "Revival!" Show and Supper at Christ Church UMC in Conroe on July 15.

International Sweet Adeline's competitions took place in Baltimore during 2014 and in Las Vegas last year. TWSC amassed high honors at both.

The performers expect to attain further awards next year during the 2018 international showdown in St. Louis.

Membership is open to area women who enjoy singing and dancing to arrangements of today's ballads, classic songs, show tunes, and mainstream music.

"A prospective member should have a desire to perform, and the ability to accurately sing a song and hold her part while singing with other parts," Anderson said. Weekly rehearsals are vital for participa-



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For more, visit www.thewoodlandsshowchorus.org. To pursue membership please call (713) 208-0863.