

the pipe line

A publication for Sweet Adelines regional leaders

REGIONAL LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE MISSION STATEMENT

We recognize that happy, successful members and chapters are the foundation of Sweet Adelines International and that Regional Management Teams (RMTs) play a vital role in achieving this outcome. To that end, the mission of the Regional Leadership Committee is to serve the members of the RMTs, enabling them to increase their leadership capabilities through education, communication and peer support.

OCTOBER 2011

HELLO AGAIN!

October was quite a month for our Regional Management Teams. You were the first recipients of the news that will shape the future of the organization. You are in the position now, with the full support of the international organization, to contribute to the transition that will enable us to continue along that path of greatness. We appreciate your respect and composure in your responses, and have been impressed with the overwhelmingly positive attitude that you have demonstrated. The task ahead of us will require careful coordination and we know we can achieve success by working closely with you to support your regional members.

Virginia Burden Tower, inspirational author, expressed the importance of the type of partnership we want to build with you: **“Cooperation is the thorough conviction that nobody gets there unless everybody gets there.”** At their education class in Houston, Scottsdale Chorus echoed that with their philosophy of ‘no singer left behind.’ That’s the way we feel too. We want every member in every chorus in every region to know how important she is to our future, and we know that you are the right people to deliver that message. You already began your role at our meetings in Houston by providing us with your feedback, questions, and ideas. It’s our turn now to compile that information and we are working hard to determine how we can best support you in working through the changes.

FOR THOSE OF YOU WHOSE REGION NUMBERS DON’T APPEAR ON OUR FUTURE MAPS, we appreciate that there is a loss you are feeling. You are also faced with the greatest change as Regional Management Teams as the individual members of your team move into new regions and find new places within the organization. You may be moving to regions that have on-going coordinators in the position you now hold. In no time at all, you will have the opportunity to apply for this new team and provide your valuable input in that capacity. One important thing for you to remember is that to the members of your regional choruses you will continue to be seen as leaders, and your greatest contribution will be to continue to support them as they go through the changes with you. You have a great legacy in the unique lessons you have learned in your experience on your teams, and sharing that with the leadership in your new region that can only serve to make it better for ALL of its members.

FOR THOSE OF YOU WITH CHANGES TO THE NUMBER OF CHORUSES AND MEMBERS IN YOUR REGIONS, your challenge will be different. Your change will require careful planning and management. You will have to consider all aspects of what you offer as a Regional Management Team, from your educational offerings to your location and funding for regional events. You will have a new profile and along with that will come new opportunities to explore who you are, and to re-establish who you want to be. If you are welcoming new members into your region, be sensitive to the fact that they have had to leave a familiar environment to join you and remember that some of them will have excellent leadership skills to share. If you are saying good-bye to existing members, take the time to let them know that you will miss them and that you wish them the best in their new homes.

FOR THOSE OF YOU WITH NO CHANGES TO YOUR REGIONS, it may seem like there is no transition for you. You will continue to face the challenges you have been facing, and your identity and geographical situation remain the same. While the world around you is changing, though, watch with curiosity and wonder. We know those Regional Management Teams will be coming up with creative solutions to new challenges, and there will likely be some great ideas that you can also tap into. Your region's future depends on your leadership as much as the changing regions, so continue to lead with innovation in mind.

Whichever group you are in, the **Regional Leadership Committee is committed to being a strong partner with you during this transition period.** We are committed to providing you with the information and tools that will enable the Harmonic Progression to reach its ultimate resolution – a thriving, vibrant organization that women from around the world are excited to be a part of.

THÉRÈSE ANTONINI,
FOR YOUR REGIONAL LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

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