

**WOMEN OF NOTE
ANNUAL CHORUS REPORT 2012-2013**

What another amazing year Women of Note has had since April 1, 2012. To start, we enjoyed our AC&C weekend over the border in Laval, Canada with a fun Hawaiian Tiki Party hosted by the Montreal City Voices. We competed with 27 members on stage and came in 3rd place. We also had some fun doing our "Come to Monte Carlo" song to introduce our AC&C weekend coming up soon. Then it was time to head down south for the winter to compete at our IC&C contest in the Walt Disney World resort area in Orlando, Florida. A lot of us were able to enjoy the park's amenities while there before we competed at the Hilton Hotel with 25 members on stage, coming in 7th place and keeping our average singing scores in the low 70s for the 2nd year in a row. :o) We've been working hard and bringing in Steve Tramack and Mike Garbiella to help us work on our vocal production skills and artistry of our songs throughout the year.

Since April, we currently stand at 34 members. We did have 4 members leave the chorus for various reasons, and we have 6 members on LOA now, but the chorus overall grew throughout the year, adding 7 members who were brand new to Harmony, Inc., plus 1 returning member, and 1 associate member to our ranks. With the new members, we have had success with the online MeetUp group (bringing in 4 women) and our ads on craigslist.com (1 woman), as well as 2 women from our last June and this January Guest Nights.

An important part of the chorus income is done through fundraisers. The total money we've earned through the Scrip gift card program is usually around \$1200 for the year. The Singing Valentines fundraiser was a big success and it was great to see so many quartets that were made available to sing this year, and we promoted them on the radio as well in Worcester and Fitchburg. Our Annual show in September at Brandeis University netted close to \$2000 for the chorus and Maria did a great job with the GEEK Book for IC&C. Then we've had some smaller fundraisers like wine tasting events at The Vin Bin and then we added the Jenny Boston fundraiser, which we tried for the first time this year, where we invited people in the store from 6-8pm after their normal business hours and got a percentage of whatever people bought from the store during that time.

We did 13 performances outside of our annual show. We started off with a fun performance for the Delta Kappa Gamma group, heading hundreds of miles to Hyannis, Cape Cod to sing at their International convention, where we had Foreign Exchange help us out, and the DKG International President from Tennessee was so impressed with our group and had a great time. We then did some local performances at the Solomon Pond Mall, supporting the Worcester Realtor's Association and Habitat for Humanity's "Dream Playhouse" contest and had a rainy performance this time at the Hudsonfest, which is an outdoor all day Saturday festival in Hudson, but those organizations that stayed with their tents/booths in the rain enjoyed having some entertainment during the day. We supported the Northborough Food

Pantry with a performance in the library, sponsored by a Northborough Cultural Council grant, and followed that by our wine tasting fundraiser at the new location of The Vin Bin in October. And we were invited in November for the Clinton Delta Kappa Gamma group.

We had 4 holiday performances this year starting with singing again at the Tower Hill Botanical Gardens during their “Holly Days” event. Then it was to the Clinton Historical Society followed by a repeat evening performance from last year at the Watertown Mall. We ended with a general performance again at The Vin Bin. The start to this year wasn’t great weather-wise, but we managed to get in a performance at the Mission Springs assisted living facility in Holliston in February, being invited back to sing for the 3rd time there.

And of course who could forget our fun Interchapter Party we hosted on July 9th last summer where we had around 90 members from (5) Area 2 choruses come together at the Church of the Nativity in Northborough to sing, play games, and socialize together, ending with an ice cream sundae dessert! It was a great night ladies – thanks to those who made it a success! :o)

Back to the chorus, we currently have 6 chapter quartets in the mix... “Foreign Exchange,” our lovely 2011 Harmony Queens, who are putting out their first CD this Friday and are also hosting the Boston Harmony Sweeps contests as well on April 14th. We also have “Songburst”, “Acappella 4”, “The Young and the Rest of Us”, who received the novice quartet award at AC&C last year, “Happy Hour”, and our newly formed quartet, “Life’s a Pitch”, who will be competing their first time in our AC&C coming up. We wish “Acappella 4”, “The Young and the Rest of Us”, “Happy Hour”, and “Life’s a Pitch” a great time on the contest stage at AC&C and wish them well in qualifying to head to IC&C in Windsor, Ontario in November.

Lastly, it truly has been a blast for me to be the President of WON these past 3 years and getting to meet all of you and working with the Area 2 Council. I am turning over the helm to Janet Billings this year. I know she will enjoy working with all of you as well!

SO, Women of Note is working diligently to host this year’s AC&C and we look forward to seeing you all in Leominster, MA at the “Casino Royale!” :o)

Respectfully submitted by:

Angela Dolber
President, Women of Note
4/8/13