



## *The Sky's the Limit When You Dream!* **56th Annual Great Gulf Coast Region #10 Convention & Competition**

### **It is time to plan for our 56<sup>th</sup> Annual Regional Convention and Competition!**

Happy New Year to Great Gulf Coast Region #10 Chapters and all Members! It is 2017 and time to start preparing for our big spring event: the **56<sup>th</sup> Annual Great Gulf Coast Region #10 Convention and Competition!!!**

We recommend that each chorus appoint a Competition Coordinator who is responsible for making sure your chorus handles all required details and makes sure all forms and money are submitted by the deadlines given in this handbook. There is a handy checklist of all tasks to be handled in the next couple of months. Any changes/updates will be posted on the Region #10 website and also distributed through the Region #10 mailing lists. Deadlines for each of the forms are clearly indicated. Please make the deadlines a priority on your calendars. For everything to run smoothly, all forms and money need to be in on time. You may copy the forms printed in this handbook, or download the complete handbook and/or individual forms at the Region 10 webpage: [www.region10sai.org](http://www.region10sai.org).

Convention weekend officially starts with our Thursday night ***The Sky's the Limit When You Dream!*** Kick Off held on the 2nd Floor in the Donatello Ballroom. Everyone is invited to join competing quartets and Winners Circle members for this special event. You'll have the opportunity to meet all our competing quartets and wish them well. It's a standing room only event, so don't be late!!!! We'll have a photo backdrop set up in the foyer of the Donatello Ballroom and you can take as many pictures as you would like with your chorus, quartet and/or singing sisters. You can post to Facebook and share with everyone both at the convention and back home!

#### **SPECIAL NOTES FOR THIS YEAR:**

- The official drawing for order of appearance is done at SAI Headquarters and this year open division participants will be interspersed among all competitors. We won't know who has chosen which option until you have registered to compete and it is noted on our order of appearance!
- Audience Choice Award will be presented to the most entertaining performance in the OPEN DIVISION ONLY for both the quartet and chorus contests. If there is only one competitor in the Open Division in either contest, that competitor will be declared the Bravo Award winner.
- Again this year we will only have ONE riser configuration, so be sure to select the ALTERNATE riser configuration when you register with SAI to compete as a chorus. We will be using seven 6' riser sections, with NO inverted center section. See diagram of this year's riser set up on Page 32.
- Pictures for Chorus Competitors will be taken on stage immediately following your contest set again this year. We will work with the official photographer to make sure you have time to check "windows" and you will hear a signal as the 4 photos are taken so you'll know when the picture-taking is done.
- Our Mass Sing on Friday will be held in the middle of the Atrium which seemed to work very well last year. Listen for the music and join your chorus and regional friends for this bonding event. Immediately following the Mass Sing, we invite all First Timers (members who have never attended a Region #10 competition/convention before) to move to the front of the crowd for a group photo. The First Timers photo(s) will be available on the Region #10 website along with all the other candid photos done by our professional photographer during the convention weekend.
- Back by Popular Demand!!! **STARS DREAM WHILE ON PARADE REGION-WIDE MEMBERSHIP GATHERING!!!** Immediately following our Mass Sing and First Timers Photo, we invite everyone to join us in the second-floor Donatello Ballroom for a region-wide membership gathering. We will start with a parade of chorus flags (We'll display them during the Mass Sing and then parade with the flags up to this event before displaying them in the atrium for the weekend. If you need details about flag suggested sizes, let me know and I'll get those to you.) You'll want to be there to cheer on your chorus representative. Then we will present most of the awards formerly given at the Show of Champions including the Marketing Awards, the Nancy Carter Community Service Awards, recognition of the Sweet Adeline Extraordinaire from each chapter, door prizes from many of our vendors and who knows what else?!?!?! This membership meeting is a great way to have some social time with your regional singing sisters and still leave plenty of time for you to be there for contestant #1 in the Quartet Competition. If you have any brilliant ideas about what you'd like to see at the STARS DREAM WHILE ON PARADE membership meeting, please let our RMT Team Coordinator, Gail Eltgroth, know as soon as possible.
- If your chorus is not having a Saturday Night Dinner, you can join Regional Friends for dinner together without leaving the Hilton. See Page 40 for more information.
- Show of Champions will start at 8 p.m., giving you plenty of time to enjoy dinner.
- We'll have a bulletin board to post locations of choruses' parties being held Saturday night following the Show of Champions.

The Competition Steering Committee is here to serve and help in any way possible to make your contest experience enjoyable. We look forward to seeing you!

***Yours in Harmony,***

***Cheryl*** Cheryl Pyle, Chair of the Regional Convention