



SOUNDS OF SUMMER

by Elaine Martin

On July 24th, we welcomed former GRSA Director Ann Jarcow as a guest coach. She helped to get us moving on new Disney songs. It was a fun and productive session!

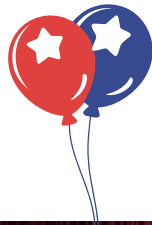
Aug. was filled with cancellations. Our Sweet Adelines had a chance to shine by singing the National Anthem at a Whitecaps baseball game on Aug. 6th. Too bad the weather didn't shine as brightly as we did. The game ended up being canceled due to rain...but you can't keep us from singing! We gathered under the awning and sang for the staff and fans heading out the gates! We returned to the ballpark on Sept.10th and performed the anthem before a sold out crowd at the last home game of the season.



An outbreak of Covid near the end of Aug. caused more cancellations. We rescheduled performances and returned to ZOOM rehearsals until after Labor Day.

However, Aug. was not without some good news! On Aug. 21st, an agent from Witte Travel shared information about an exciting opportunity for us to tour in Ireland Sept. 20-30, 2024! The Greater Cleveland Chorus will join us as we travel and perform in this lovely country. There is so much excitement as we wait for final details.

Sept. found us back at the Forest Hills Fine Arts Center to sing at another new citizens naturalization ceremony. These performances are becoming one of our GRSA favorites! The auditorium was filled with over 200 new citizens, their families, and friends. Several of the new citizens asked to capture their special day by getting a photo with our chorus after the ceremony! We may even have gained a potential new member from the audience.



COSTUME CORNER

As Halloween approaches, it's fun to look back at these amazing Disney themed costumes from 1994. They even went on tour all the way to Italy in 1996! That is our Judy Herrick in the red Sebastian the crab costume that she designed and made. Can you recognize any of the other characters? Maybe some of these costumes will make an encore in our new Disney show package!



VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE NEWS, HIGHLIGHTS, & VIDEOS!!

KEEPING UP WITH OUR QUARTETS

Written by Elaine Martin w/ Jessica Van Beek

The GRSA has a history of fabulous quartets dating back to 1951 with our first quartet, the Feminaires. More recently, GRSA members have been performing in quartets with fun names like Java Jive, Sticky Notes, Chime In, All In A-Chord, Joyride, Zenith, Sublime & Painted Lips, just to name a few. Many talented quartets have come together to perform over the 70+ year history of GRSA. In fact, if you take a detailed look, you will find that many of our members were part of more than one quartet, often switching from one part to another to complete a foursome.

One quartet that has recently made it's mark is Clefhanger. Featuring current GRSA associate member Jessica VanBeek (Lead), Jeff Opperman (Bass), former GRSA member Jen Nolte (Tenor) and her husband Paul Nolte (Bari); Clefhanger is a mixed quartet. These talented singers met in Dec. 2018 at the GRSA & Great Lakes Men's Chorus Holiday Show. They got together after that show and Jessica says "we liked how we sounded"! They joined the Mixed Barbershop Harmony Association and started performing together at local venues like the Grand Rapids Festival of the Arts and Rosa Parks Circle. After taking 2 years off during the Covid epidemic, Clefhanger joined the Barbershop Harmony Society and competed for the first time at their spring convention this past April, here in Grand Rapids at the DeVos Center for Arts and Worship. They placed 9th in their division which entitled them to be the official "mic testers" at the Saturday night finals.

In August, Clefhanger traveled to Cadillac to compete in the 76th Bush League Barbershop Contest where they were awarded **FIRST PLACE** in the mixed quartet division! This award winning quartet most recently sang at the Great Lakes Chorus Caberet on Sept. 30th at the Forest Hills Presbyterian Church with many of our GRSA sisters in the audience. They will be competing again in Muskegon this October at the Barbershop Harmony Society Fall Convention. They are sure to have another great performance! Best of luck Clefhanger!



Feminaires Quartet



Clefhanger Mixed Quartet

COMMUNITY EVENTS



- 10/30-11/4 SAI International in Lexington, KY
 - 11/8 GRSA performs at the Harmony Inc. Convention
 - 11/18 DownTown Market performance
 - 11/18 Sentinel Point performance
 - 11/21 Sunset Manor performance
 - 12/1 New Amsterdam Village performance
 - 12/2 "A Simple Holiday" show with GRSA w/ GLC
- 2024:
- 1/26-27 Winter Harmony Weekend
 - 5/9-12 Region 17 Convention
 - 9/13-14 Fall Harmony Weekend
 - 9/20-30 Performing tour in Ireland
 - 10/28-11/30 SAI International in Kansas City, MO

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