

**AREA 4 COUNCIL MEETING
September 15, 2018**

Area 4 Director Betty Gunterman called the meeting to order at 9:12 AM and welcomed participating Council Members. The meeting was held at St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Glen Ellyn, IL. Present were the following Council Members, Chapter Presidents, and Committee Chairmen:

Council Management

Betty Gunterman – Area 4 Director
Denise Struve - Secretary
Linda Bloch – AC&C and Area 4 Treasurer
Sara Stone - Convention Manager

Not present:

Melanie Concklin – Website
Cookie Crews/Maria “Ria” Bunte - ACJC
Linda Kersey - Associate Member Coordinator
Beth Montgomery – Membership
Janice Westphal – AC&C Education

Voting Members of the Council (Chapters officially represented) in this meeting:

Covered Bridge Harmony (Greencastle, IN) – Kathryn Dory
Harmony Magic (Central Indiana) – Patti Goesch
Misty River Music Makers (Geneva, IL) – Barb Ries
St. Louis Chordinals (St. Louis, MO) – Linda Wehmeyer
Sound Celebration (Plymouth, WI) – Kerry Wilson
Village Vocal Chords (Metro-Chicago, IL) – Denise Struve

Not Present:

Bluegrass Harmony (Louisville, KY) – Angie Beatty (via Zoom until difficulties occurred)
California Note Catchers (San Diego, CA) – Annette Draper
Wolf River Harmony (Shawano, WI) – Kris Tetting

Copies of this meeting's Agenda and Treasury Reports were distributed via email prior to the meeting.

Welcome	Betty welcomed Council Members and led them in reciting the Harmony Creed, then shared general information:
June Meeting	✓ Minutes of the June, 2018 meeting were approved via email and posted to the website
Resignation of Treasurer	Betty announced that she had regretfully accepted the resignation of Mary Ross, who resigned due to personal family difficulties. Betty thanked her for her 7 years of service as Treasurer and wished her a speedy return to the Area 4 family.
New Area 4 Treasurer	Betty welcomed the new Area 4 Treasurer, Linda Bloch. Linda will hold the position of Treasurer for AC&C as well as Area 4. She will maintain separate accounts at a single bank and currently will be holding both checkbooks.

<p>New ACJC</p> <p>PR Coordinator</p> <p>IBOD Retreat</p>	<p>Betty announced that Maria “Ria” Bunte will be the new Area 4 ACJC. She will take over ACJC duties following AC&C 2019, when we will say thank you to Cookie Crews for her 10 years of service.</p> <p>Betty stated that she may possibly have a PR Coordinator soon.</p> <p>Sara Stone asked if Betty had anything to share about the IBOD Retreat. Betty stated that the primary purpose of the Retreat was for Strategic Planning.</p>
<p>Education</p>	<p>Area 4 Education day will not take place next year. We will be taking a break from this activity until there is greater interest and financial support from the Area.</p> <p>Education classes at AC&C will continue under Janice’s leadership.</p> <p>The IBOD is looking at the possibility of online classes.</p>
<p>AC&C 2018 Final Budget</p> <p>Area 4 Financial Reports</p> <p>Area 4 2019-20 Budget</p> <p>Location of AC&C</p>	<p>During review, some concerns were expressed about the seating at the Moonglow; some of our most honored guests had poor seating because they were displaced by others who purchased their tickets on site, and some choruses commented that they seem to get the same seating with less than desirable view each year. There was a suggestion that seating be rotated from year to year. This will be taken into consideration for 2019.</p> <p>MOTION by Linda Wehmeyer, seconded by Patti Goesch, to approve the AC&C 2018 Final Budget as presented. Motion carried.</p> <p>The 2018 AC&C resulted in a net profit of \$1,467.52.</p> <p>Linda Bloch reviewed the Area 4 financial statements (Income and Expense, Balance Sheet, Budget vs Actual year to date). There is approximately \$10,585 in the Area treasury.</p> <p>MOTION by Kathryn Dory, seconded by Kerry Wilson, to accept the Area Financial reports for this quarter. Motion carried.</p> <p>Following review and discussion, MOTION by Kathryn Dory, seconded by Patti Goesch, to approve the Area 4 2019-20 Budget as presented. Motion carried.</p> <p>Various locations had been investigated taking into consideration the distance our farthest apart choruses (Wolf River Harmony and Bluegrass Harmony) must travel, and it was determined that Bloomington is still the most central location. Holiday Inn, Bloomington, has offered us the same rate for the next two years, so they have not increased their rates in the 4 years we’ve been dealing with them. All things considered, Council agrees this is the best location/venue.</p> <p>MOTION by Barb Thies, seconded by Kerry Wilson, to approve the</p>

Harmony Foundation	<p>on stage or on the chorus roster? Might it be time to retire this award? Should dual members be counted?</p> <p>Council members felt that since this is a memorial award (in memory of Nancy Stephenson, who was a member of the Great River Echoes Chapter of the Quad Cities, IL & IA) it should not be retired. Some believe that dual members should be counted but that female directors should not be; Others believe directors of both genders should be excluded. Betty will keep this on the agenda and will discuss it further with Linda Muise for clarification.</p> <p>Several Council members expressed concerns with and questioned the need for the Harmony Foundation. Following considerable discussion, it was agreed that Council members who feel strongly should express their concerns to Christina Lewellyn or Donna Clarkson.</p>
Next Meeting	The spring Council meeting will be a Zoom teleconference on Sunday, February 17, beginning at 5:00 PM CST.
Adjournment	<p>Council thanked Betty Gunterman for securing the meeting venue and for treating members to lunch, and Wanda Nelson for ordering and delivering it.</p> <p>The meeting adjourned at 2:20 PM.</p>

CHAPTER UPDATES

Presented as received...

Village Vocal Chords

The VVC are thrilled to have added three members who will be competing with us at IC&C. Teresa Kroculik is brand new to us and will be singing Lead; Debi (Besenhoffer) Chmura is a former member who returned and also sings Lead, and Holly Singer, who sings Bass, is a long-time member who was on leave and has returned to regular membership.

We are proud of our two quartets who qualified to compete in the Quartet Contest at IC&C; Friendzie and The Karamels will perform 4th and 10th respectively.

We had a new kind of Retreat experience this year. We chartered a bus and traveled to the St. Louis area the weekend of September 7-9. On the way down, we had a surprise “wedding shower on wheels” for two of our members, Jen Wheaton and Debi (Besenhoffer) Chmura. Jen was married in July and Debi was married September 22. It was a great way to pass some of the time! On Saturday we participated in a full-day coaching program put on by Sandi & David Wright and Gene “Doc” Spilker, involving a number of mens’ and womens’ choruses and quartets. On Saturday night and Sunday morning, we had private coaching sessions with Sandi, David and Doc. We worked hard, played hard, and are psyched-up to compete in Orlando in November.

We are also looking forward to our upcoming Show on October 20 at Barrows Auditorium in Wheaton. The theme is “Music, Music, Music,” and we are excited to have as our special guests the 2016 Harmony Queens Quartet, Taken for Granite.

California Note Catchers

This year has been a year of change. Having lost our Director of 20 years after our 2nd rehearsal of the new year we have all banded together dedicated to continue our goal of sharing our love of Barbershop with the community. Our assistant director, Lisa Hohman, stepped forward and has been doing a fantastic job with the assistance of our music team.

We are putting out feelers for a director. But as many of you know that can take some time to find the right fit.

Our chapter has also been involved with the other Barbershop choruses in San Diego in organizing a joint Youth Harmony Day. It has been a great collaboration and we look forward to the event on November 10th.

We are planning our annual Holiday Show which will be on December 16th. I'm so proud of our members for volunteering to take on the many tasks that need to be completed for such an event.

Covered Bridge Harmony

Covered Bridge Harmony welcomed eight new members this year and seven of them will be performing at IC&C with us in November. We have had several sing outs in the community and surrounding counties: Brazil Concert Band concert in August, Musicfest in Greencastle in August, concert at a member's church in August, and a BBQ in Fillmore for the volunteer fire department in September. We also had a very successful yard sale in September where we raised \$900.00. We will be having a Cabaret on Sept. 2

Sound Celebration

Sound Celebration is adjusting well after changing rehearsal locations in April.

We have been practicing regularly on Tuesdays in preparation for our Annual fund raising show, titled Halftime Harmony.

We'll be decked out in our Packer splendor and perfecting our look for IC&C.

Also, we are hard at work on our contest package and are still enjoying our selection of songs, especially Roll out the Barrel.

Holiday shows and music are just around the corner and performances start a short bit after IC&C. We are busy!

Wishing all the Best to all Area 4 choruses in the coming months.

Misty River Music Makers

Misty River welcomed 2 new members this spring. We held a four week session for the Fox Valley Park district. We had 5 attendees. Two of these are serious about becoming members of our Chorus. Maria, our director attended Harmony University and brought back much information. We are preparing for our Christmas Concert. It will be held at Mooseheart on December 8, 2018. We will sing at numerous venues during the Holiday season. Our favorite ones are the CSO and the Paramount prior to their holiday shows. We have a new app which we are excited about called chorus connection. It has been very useful with member communication.