

# Surprise Westwind Harmony Chorus seeks more members

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*Jacquie Godfrey of Surprise, lead bass and public relations manager for Westwind Harmony Chorus, submitted this article.*

Donna O'Hora, who had been singing with Sweet Adelines International for years, had a brainstorm in 2007 that the West Valley needed its own Sweet Adelines chorus.

Since then, Westwind Harmony Chorus has grown to 26 members ranging from their 30s to their 80s. The chorus continues to seek more ladies to join.

## ABOUT WESTWIND HARMONY CHORUS

**The director:** Westwind Harmony Chorus director Cathie Sturm of Surprise is a third-generation Sweet Adelines member. Her mother has been a member for 45 years and is in the Westwind Harmony Chorus. Her grandfather was the director of a Sweet Adelines chorus in Minnesota, and her grandmother was a member.

Sturm has been a professional opera singer and is an elementary school music teacher in the Deer Valley Unified District. She teaches private voice lessons, sings in a quartet, "The Mix," and is an assistant director with Scottsdale's Sweet Adelines chorus.

**The chorus:** The chorus includes three quartets. They sing old-time classic barbershop songs as well as popular tunes in the barbershop style.

## REHEARSALS AND PERFORMANCES

Rehearsals are held at 7 p.m. Mondays at Word of Life Lutheran Church, 17525 W. Bell Road in Surprise. Ladies at least 18 years old are encouraged to attend a rehearsal. No experience is necessary.

Ladies can come get professional training and learn fun holiday songs, and then perform with the chorus in December. This year, the chorus will be offering singing holiday grams. On Dec. 18, the chorus will call and sing holiday songs to your favorite person for \$7.

## ABOUT SWEET ADELINES INTERNATIONAL

Sweet Adelines International, formed in 1945, is a worldwide organization of women singers committed to advancing the musical art form of barbershop harmony through [education](#) and performances. This independent, non-profit music education association is one of the world's

largest singing organizations for women. The international membership of nearly 27,000 women, all singing in English, includes about 600 choruses in most of the 50 states as well as around the world.

## **INFORMATION**

For more information, contact Sun City resident Jackie Bennington at 623-583-9218, 623-583-9218 or jacbeni@q.com or go to [westwindharmony.org/](http://westwindharmony.org/).

<http://www.azcentral.com/community/swvalley/articles/2010/09/16/20100916surprise-westwind-harmony-chorus.html#ixzz14d4QJaZ>