

the SingOut



Sweet Adelines International New Zealand Region 35

Top Class Education Opportunities

As well as the fabulous classes on offer at Convention this year (see the March Addaline for more), we're also planning some specially focused coaching for our small and mid-sized choruses this year. Dede Nibler, the only Master Director of a small chorus, is coming to NZ in early November. This dynamic coach has already worked with Sounds of Hawkes Bay, Greater Auckland and Australian choruses. Dede's two weeks here will conclude in Wellington with a weekend workshop on November 13 - 15, on ways to get your chorus to the next level. This will be a hands-on workshop, with Faultline as the demo chorus. Anyone can attend, so start planning now to have as many of your chorus members there as possible.

Levies In Perspective

Ah, that lovely phrase: "discretionary spending" - time to put yours into perspective? Here are a few facts to help: The new Regional levy nets a *saving* of \$10 a year on previous years if you attend Convention, and regional levies are halved for youth members. Annual membership costs (typical Chapter \$140 + Regional \$115 + International \$160) total \$415 a year, OR \$35.00 a month, or \$8 a week - about the same as two lattes or 1.5 glasses of wine! Other similarly time-consuming pastimes and their typical costs:

- Golf Club membership \$1200-1800 a year
- Gym membership (Curves) \$60 a month
- Pool membership (swimming/aquarobics) \$50 a month
- Private music lessons (voice, guitar, piano) \$60 a week.

What other hobby offers such great value for money, with the added benefits of education, personal development, mood-enhancing brain chemicals, appreciative applause, friendship, laughter and travel opportunities?

Take The Plunge!

It's time to decide if you can give something back to Sweet Adelines NZ. The search has begun for people to fill four positions on the Regional Management Team - **Membership, Marketing, Education and Events**. These positions will begin from **May 2010**, after the 2010 convention. Please think about anyone in your chorus who could have the right skills and personal attributes for any of these positions. Details of what's required, a job description and an application form are on the website in the Downloads section of the Members section (password is 'sweetas'). If you'd like to know more, you can email the incumbents to find out what's involved, or email me and I can talk you through the various positions. Applications close on **July 31**, so please don't leave it to the last minute to get an application in!

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Got a Video Camera?

If you've got a video camera that organisers can borrow for the Auckland convention in May, please let Events Co-ordinator Miriam know, or contact the Convention Committee. We want to video each of the fabulous education classes so that those who can't be present will be able to borrow a DVD and soak up the learning. A valuable resource!

Get Your Sweetas Stuff

Remember you can buy all our great SANZ merchandise any time throughout the year online. Take a look at what's available in the Resources section - everything from the pink and black shirts, number plate surrounds, pink and black tote bags for all your chorus music, tapes etc, umbrellas and pens designed to give you that "a cappella with attitude" look. You don't have to wait for convention to stock up.

Calling All Teachers

San Diego Chorus member Susan Winebrenner is coming to NZ in April and wants to get in touch with any teachers by email to find out more about current educational practices here. She's particularly interested in gifted education and literacy issues. Susan's an educator, author and staff development specialist, running workshops for teachers and administrators all over the US. If you're a teacher and would like to contact her, email her at susanwinebrenner@yahoo.com by end of this week.

Email SingOut Snippets to Communications Co-ordinator Linda Thompson at thompsonassociates@extra.co.nz.

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