



2020 Vision

I Can See Clearly Now... that the Battle of the Barbershop Stars will be a fun two-days of learning from and singing with the best.

June 19-20, 2020

**Muehlebach Marriott Downtown Hotel
200 West 12th Street, Kansas City, MO
(800) 228-9290 for Reservations**

**Diane Porsch
Master Director
Buffalo Gateway Show Chorus**

**Dede Nibler
Master Director
Sacramento Valley Chorus**

**Early Bird Registration - \$85 by May 1
Regular Registration after May 2 - \$99
Hotel Reservation Deadline - Friday, May 28th**



DIANE PORSCH

Diane Porsch, Master Director of the Buffalo Gateway Show Chorus since the fall of 2001, is a life-long musician. She joined Sweet Adelines in 1974, got hooked on barbershop music, and never left. In fact, she is such an avid and accomplished barbershopper it's how she makes her living! She spends most of her time focused on barbershop harmony as a Chorus Director, Coach, and Music Seminar Facilitator.

Diane's barbershop career began in 1974 when she was appointed Director of the Fox Valley Chapter of Sweet Adelines in her home town of Neenah, Wisconsin. She led the chorus to a regional championship in 1983 and an appearance on the International Competition stage in the fall of 1984. A career opportunity in 1985 brought about a move to southeastern Wisconsin and an invitation to direct the Riverport Chorus of Sweet Adelines. From 1985 to 1999 she led the chorus to five Regional Championships. In 1997, Riverport placed in the top ten at the Sweet Adelines International Competition in Salt Lake City.

In her work with Sweet Adelines, Diane has achieved many honors: she's a Certified International Faculty Member, a Certified International Showmanship Judge, past Moderator of the International Faculty Coordinators' Committee, Chair of the 2003 International Educational Symposium and served a three-year term as Secretary of Sweet Adelines' International Board of Directors. After coaching in the area for several years, Diane decided that Buffalo presented several musical opportunities that were worthwhile pursuing. As a result, she relocated to Orchard Park in the fall of 1999, assuming directorship of SPEBSQSA's East Aurora Friends of Harmony Men's Chorus in which she served as front-line Director until January 1, 2007. She was also the Lead singer in the comedy quartet, "Sitcom".

Diane's busy schedule is a breathless existence serving as a full-time director for the ambitious Buffalo Gateway Show Chorus, a chorus and quartet coach, voice teacher and musical faculty for regional seminars throughout the Sweet Adelines organization. Marketing, public relations, advertising and copywriting are her passions and (in her spare time!) she serves as a consultant in these areas as well.

DEDE NIBLER

I cannot remember a time in my life that I was not interested and involved with music and singing. Professionally, I was a music teacher and school administrator, serving Fresno Unified School District in Fresno, CA for 34 years after teaching for 4 years in the mid-west. I am originally from Chicago, Illinois and received my Bachelor's of Science degree (Voice and Piano) from the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana. My Masters in Administration/Supervision is from California State, Fresno..



I am a proud member of the Sweet Adeline International organization and am currently the Master Director of the Sacramento Valley Chorus in Sacramento after having proudly served as the Master Director of the Fresno area barbershop women's chorus, Voices United, for 33 years. Quartet singing, the Sweet Adeline International Faculty, Young Women in Harmony, arranging music, coaching and teaching occupy much of my life when I am not directing. And I have a loving husband, Tim, four adult children, five grandkids – and a black cat named Snow.

I recently retired as musical director/vocal director of New Wrinkles Senior Musical Showcase in Fresno, CA, a position I held for the past 13 years. The members of the cast are a perfect example of how staying active in the arts can keep a person youthful, involved and surrounded by friends. Music and singing can last a lifetime.

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Who, What, When, Where and Why's

The Battle is designed for ...

- Region 5 and ALL Sweet Adeline International members
- Other female singers who want to learn more about singing barbershop.
- Music Educators who want to learn more about the barbershop art form (male or female)

The Battle is ...

- 1 ½ days of Barbershop education
- An opportunity to sing in a Large chorus directed by the Best of the Best
- A chance to battle it out on stage and demonstrate what you have learned
- A fun time with other barbershop junkies

The Battle is being held ...

- A general welcome session on Friday evening, June 19th 7:00 p.m.
- Chorus members must be ready to attend the first rehearsal on Friday evening at 7:30 p.m.
- Chorus rehearsals will be held on Saturday, June 20th from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- The **Battle** will begin on Saturday at 8:00 p.m.

The Battle is being held at:

Muehlebach Marriott Downtown
200 West 12th Street
Kansas City, MO 64105
(800) 228-9290 for Reservations

Why you should attend ...

- To be part of this Astounding Region 5 **Battle of the Barbershop Stars**
- To learn from the best directors in the Sweet Adelines International organization
- To improve your vocal production skills
- To meet up with your friends in harmony
- To learn more about the unique American art form of barbershop harmony
- To have a great performance experience

Music and Learning Tracks...

- Once you are registered, within a few days, you will be sent a link to the music and learning tracks.

Other Battle facts...

- Chorus assignments will be made by the event team, based upon your vocal part.
- Music and learning tapes will be available on the Region 5 website (we will notify you after registration received)
- All chorus participants are responsible for learning the music prior to the event to be prepared for rehearsals and to experience the best education
- If chorus directors/choreographers request special attire for the evening show, chorus members will receive an e-mail prior to the event with the attire information
- Friday and Saturday Rehearsal top/blouse attire for part identification:
Tenors Pink
Leads Blue
Bari Green
Bass Orange

Registrations:

- Online registrations only at Region 5 website. Instructions are available on the website.”
<https://www.sairegion5.org/dbpage.php?pg=view&dbase=events&id=100446>
- Payment can be made by credit card (preferred) or check. Checks only mailed to: Beth Hager, 3559 Somerset Hills Dr., St. Charles, MO 63303
- Your registration will require your voice part, and email address. After registering, you will be assigned one of the choruses directed by Diane or Dede. Your specific learning track and music will be made available to you. After you register, an access code will be emailed to you.
- Register on Region 5 website, link above. Registrations are transferable but not refundable.
- **No partial weekend registrations allowed.**

Tentative Schedule of Events

Friday, June 19

9 am - 5 pm *PVI/ Coaching by appointment Trianon & Conference Room
 DCP testing all weekend Bev Hamilton
1 pm-5 pm Financial Leaders Training Beth Hager
5pm – 7pm Registration Trianon Room
7pm Welcome Trianon Room
7:30pm – 10:00 pm On the risers with Diane and Dede - Trianon Rooms

Saturday, June 20

8am – 8:30am Registration Trianon Room
8:30 am –11:30 Warmup and on Risers with Diane and Dede Trianon Rooms
11:30 am – 1:00pm Lunch on your own
1 – 5pm On the Risers with Diane and Dede Trianon Rooms
5 – 8 pm Dinner (on your own)
8:00pm "The "Battle" Trianon Room
8:30pm - ??? Trianon Room
Party, quartet and tag singing reception with refreshments and a cash bar.

* PVI/Quartet Coaching (30 minutes @ \$12.50 or one hour@\$25.00)
To Schedule, email Annette Wallace at reg5edudir@gmail.com

Hotel Facts:

The Battle of the Barbershops Stars will be located at the Reservations Link:

<https://book.passkey.com/e/50012424>

If members call in to make their reservations, the block name they will need to ask for is “Battle of the Barbershops” by calling the toll free reservations line at 1-800-228-9290.

Room Rate: Double Bed/ Double Occupancy \$169, total charge per night is \$201.36 (includes fees and taxes).

Reminder: The Region blocks a certain number of rooms for our weekend, if we do not meet that room block and do not meet our attrition numbers, we pay for the rooms not used. We ask all of you registering for the Battle to please stay at the Muehlebach Marriott. Thank you.

Room Reservations must be made by no later than Friday, May 28. If you do not meet this deadline, we cannot guarantee the nightly rate of \$201.36 so please make your reservations early.

Check-in and Check-out

Check-in: 3:00 pm

Check-out: 12:00 pm

Property Information

To learn of Services and Amenities at the Muehlebach Marriott in Kansas City - use the link below:

<https://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/mcidt-kansas-city-marriott-downtown/?scid=bb1a189a-fec3-4d19-a255-54ba596febe2>

Parking

Group discounted \$11 self-parking with in/out privileges over the event dates.

Dining and Lounges

Room service, 24-hour

Sundry/Convenience store

Buffet breakfast, Continental or Full American Breakfast

MetropolitanKC - Sample delicious American cuisine at MetropolitanKC, our signature all-day restaurant. <https://www.marriott.com/hotels/hotel-information/restaurant/mcidt-kansas-city-marriott-downtown/>

BARCENTRAL - Our sleek restaurant and lounge. Featuring a relaxed atmosphere and innovative cuisine, our contemporary lounge is the ideal spot for lunch, Happy Hour and post-theater cocktails.

CoffeeCentral - Rise and shine in downtown KC with freshly brewed specialty coffee and a melt-in-your-mouth, house-made pastry at CoffeeCentral, our full-service coffee house.

Driving Directions

Take Interstate 29 South to the exit for Broadway/Highway 169. Follow Broadway to 12th Street and turn left. Travel one block east and the hotel will be on the left.

Close By

- Power and Light: <https://www.powerandlightdistrict.com/eat-and-drink>
Located just a block or more away from the hotel
- River Market can be reached via a 3 min streetcar ride and a one-block walk: <https://kcrivermarket.com/explore/dine/>

History of the Muehlebach

The property, then the site of the First Baptist Church, was acquired in 1914 by the Muehlebach Estate Co., owned by George E. Muehlebach, whose father, George E. Muehlebach Sr., founded the Muehlebach Beer Company.

Muehlebach demolished the church and built a 12-story, 144 foot (44m) high brown brick hotel building designed by Holabird & Roche at a cost of \$2 million. It opened as the **Hotel Muehlebach** in May, 1915. The younger Muehlebach also built Muehlebach Field.

On December 5, 1922, the hotel was the location of the first regular radio program broadcast by a band, when Carleton Coon and Joe Sanders began broadcasting the performances of their Coon-Sanders Original Nighthawk Orchestra nationwide.

Manager Barney Allis took over the hotel in 1931, and during his lengthy tenure, the hotel welcomed celebrities including Helen Keller, Ernest Hemingway, Babe Ruth, Frank Sinatra, Bob Hope, Elvis Presley, and The Beatles.^[1] The hotel also hosted Presidents including Theodore Roosevelt, Woodrow Wilson, Calvin Coolidge and Herbert Hoover, while Missouri-native Harry S. Truman stayed in the hotel's Presidential Suite so frequently that the Muehlebach became known as *White House West*.

In 1952, a 17-story western annex, called the Muehlebach Tower, and a parking lot, were added to the hotel. Allis later sold the hotel in the 1960s. The Radisson Hotels chain acquired the hotel in 1976, making it their flagship property at the time. As a result, it underwent a major six million dollar renovation, and began operating as the **Radisson Muehlebach Hotel** before closing a decade later in 1986.

Operation as a wing of the Marriott Kansas City Downtown

In 1996 Marriott Hotels bought the Muehlebach and made it into an extension of the **Kansas City Marriott Downtown**, a huge adjacent hotel originally built in 1985 as the **Vista International Hotel**. They imploded the 1952 Muehlebach Tower annex building and in 1998 built a new, modern Muehlebach tower, with a similar facade, in its place that met current building code standards. A "skybridge" was also built that connects both hotel buildings on their second floors. The original 1915 Muehlebach building's lobby and ballrooms were restored to period and are

now used as banquet and convention facilities by the Marriott; the original hotel room floors above have been gutted and remain unused.

Barbershop Harmony Society

The Barbershop Harmony Society (SPEBSQSA, Inc.) traces its beginnings to a chance meeting in 1938 in the Muehlebach's lobby between two businessmen from Tulsa, Oklahoma. The two found two other men and sang their way through a snowstorm that had marooned all four at the hotel. A few weeks later, they convened several like-minded singers at a meeting in Tulsa, and from that the 25,000 member international organization was founded. **The two businessmen's original meeting is now commemorated on a plaque in the restored original lobby of the hotel.**

Worlds of Fun

During your stay in KC, Worlds of Fun will be debuting Summer Nights, which is like a huge Backyard BBQ with live music. It is included in the cost of admission.

