

**Harmony Heartland Region 4  
RMT August 2020 Report**

Board Meeting Date: **August 19, 2020**

Name: **Deb Bringman, Director's Coordinator**

**Actions Taken:**

1. Participated in Friendship 7 zoom rehearsal on August 3, 2020.
  - a. Good attendance. Nine members + Rita (director).
  - b. Education during warm-ups by assistant.
  - c. Going through songs with tracks.
  - d. Need a response from earlier concerns
  - e. Seem to be doing OK.
2. Participated in TuneTown zoom rehearsal on August 3, 2020
  - a. 30 members on the rehearsal.
  - b. First day of school a lot of concerns and stress.
  - c. Assistant director, Maggie McAlexander did warm-ups.
  - d. PVT's in sections – I even got one!
  - e. Talent video was a hoot!
  - f. Seem to be doing fine!
3. Had a FB Chat rehearsal scheduled for Unbridled Harmony. Was cancelled at the last minute because Betty's (interim director) sister was admitted into the hospital with Covid. Looking to reschedule soon.
4. Coordinated with Jennifer Cooke and Jeanne Delahunty on the directors' session at Leaders Workshop.
5. Read the SOR report. Some ideas that I thought were interesting (perhaps we do some of this already?) for Region 4.
  - a. As I was reading through the reports, whatever happened to designing a new, more exciting logo for Region 4?
  - b. Free Director classes.
  - c. Grants to choruses willing to host an educational event in the region. (Region 2)
  - d. Coaching Grants. (Region 2)
  - e. Succession plans for training new RMT members.
  - f. Coordination between Education and Directors Coordinators to mentor new directors. With many new directors in our region, this would be a good time to start it. Take into consideration Regional Faculty and proximity.
  - g. Virtual meetings monthly (Region 15)
  - h. Not charging Regional assessment to new members. If small choruses gain 5 people, they are not charged regional assessment or larger choruses who have a 20% increase. (Region 17).
  - i. Half membership and regional assessment to members 25 and under (Region 21)
  - j. RAVE (Regional Area Vocal Education) 2 weekends, 2 locations (Region 25)

**Actions Pending:**

1. Coordinate with Marsha Leistner on responding to Friendship 7 from earlier concerns.
2. Schedule another directors' zoom session to offer support to each other and build camaraderie.

**Items for Agenda:**

1. Any discussion on #5 above.
2. Jan Carley workshop for directors, regional management, etc.

After reading the Leaders Retreat survey summary and my own thoughts, here is some “food for thought”.

1. Positives
  - a. Loved the number of choruses represented.
  - b. The directors’ session was well attended. (2/3 were present)
  - c. Good job for our first time – felt good about what we did!
2. Improvement Ideas (not criticisms)
  - a. Virtual format even after pandemic. No expenses to members are a positive.
  - b. Possibly have different level classes.
  - c. Provide print info for those who want it. (they can print themselves)
  - d. Maybe 15- or 20-minute breaks instead of 30 minutes. (except for lunch which needs to be longer)
  - e. Stick to theme.
  - f. More publicity sooner.
  - g. Could the chat be open during breaks? I missed verbally processing what I had just learned and ended up calling people to discuss.
  - h. Perhaps small group discussions to connect with others and plan that small group work into the presentation if possible.
  - i. Check with other regions of what they’ve done that has been successful.
  - j. Is webinar the best format?