Hello, Area 6 and friends!

Only **8 weeks** from Wednesday, we'll all be packing our contest finery, stowing enough snacks to keep a small herd of llamas alive for months, putting the finishing touches on our hero or villain costume and going over music on our trip to Jacksonville for the first live AC&C and the first live Harmony, Inc. event since 2019. Your Convention Team as well as the Communications Team and many other behind



the scenes folks have been working hard to make our reunion a wonderful event! Here are some things you should know, as we get closer to the big weekend.

- Cutoff for contest entry is **TODAY** Tuesday, February 1<sup>st</sup>. Late cutoff for contest entry is Wednesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>. No entries can be accepted after that date.
- If you're considering competing out of area, you still must have your Contest Entry Form in by the Area 6 cutoff dates and have prior approval from the ICJ Committee.
- Please note, absolutely NO political costumes. Keep it fun and lighthearted as intended.
- Friday, the hotel offers a soup and salad bar option for us to save time, due to the busy schedule. (11am – 2 pm) The cost is \$9 per person plus tax/tip, etc. We'll be taking a poll to see how many will be taking advantage of this option.
- The hotel can also offer an Italian Buffet with meat sauce, alfredo sauce or chicken parmesan and seasonal vegetables (including a gluten free pasta option) with salad and breadsticks. The cost is \$13.50 per person plus tax/tip, etc. While most choruses will not take advantage of this due to the timing of contest, please ask how many family members would be interested so I can let them know if it's worth it or not. It would be available from 11am – 2pm as well.
- If your chorus or quartet is interested in having a table in the hospitality room to sell items as a fundraiser for your group, please let the convention team know ASAP. There is very limited space for this, and it will be first come first served.
- All choruses, quartets, and individuals are welcome to donate a basket to the basket raffle. You can include anything you like (as long as it's in good taste) and do any size basket. Just keep in mind; someone must

transport it home. Watch for an email from Cathie Brenner soliciting baskets and please reply promptly.

- We will have a room reserved for Saturday evening after the banquet and show to celebrate and welcome our newest chorus, Coastal Voices, and to enjoy a little down time at the end of the weekend. Bring your own snacks and drinks.
- Have you already registered for your AEP and made a hotel reservation?
  No? Well, here are the links:



- For those of you new to the area, Saturday prior to the banquet, we have a "pre-dinner event" (in keeping with the theme) that will likely take place outside by the pool. Watch for more information on that.
- After the pre-dinner event, there is a cash bar in the banquet hall, and you're welcome to grab a cocktail or a glass of milk and mingle with your friends.
- After dinner, Coastal Voices Chorus will receive their Charter from International Vice President and friend of Area 6, Gaye LaCasce. Next up: the show and basket drawing will take place followed by the hospitality room party to welcome Coastal Voices and get your tag on.
- Questions? Please check the Area 6 website or contact a member of the convention team.
- Complaints? Please exercise a little grace. We are all doing everything we can to make sure everyone has a great contest.

