It was Kipling who wrote in one of his books this sentence: "He fell to work, singing softly, and was swallowed up in the clean, clear joy of creation."

Barbershop harmony means creation. It means the taking of any well-loved familiar song and working around its melody, beautiful new chords. No matter what it is, there is real joy in creation and every human mind is just naturally creative when it is kept active.

By forming this organization we are creating a new kind of fun for ourselves. Strangely enough, whenever a person experiences joy in what he is doing, his enthusiastic pleasure passes on to create joy for those with whom he comes in contact, and so new things grow.

One can find delight equally fast in the creation of new friendships, and move and live and share the happiness of each other, together.

It is my hope that all members will experience a gratification in the starting of something new; watching it grow and develop; and may the fun of it all bubble in your hearts.

Edna Mae Anderson, Founder
Sweet Adelines, Inc.
August 6, 1945

1945-46 Edna Mae Anderson *Founder*

TULSA DAILY WORLD

TULSA, OKLAHOMA, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1946

Sweet Adelines Vow to Find Six Feminine Bassos or Else

TULSA SUNDAY WORLD

TULSA, OKLAHOMA, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1946

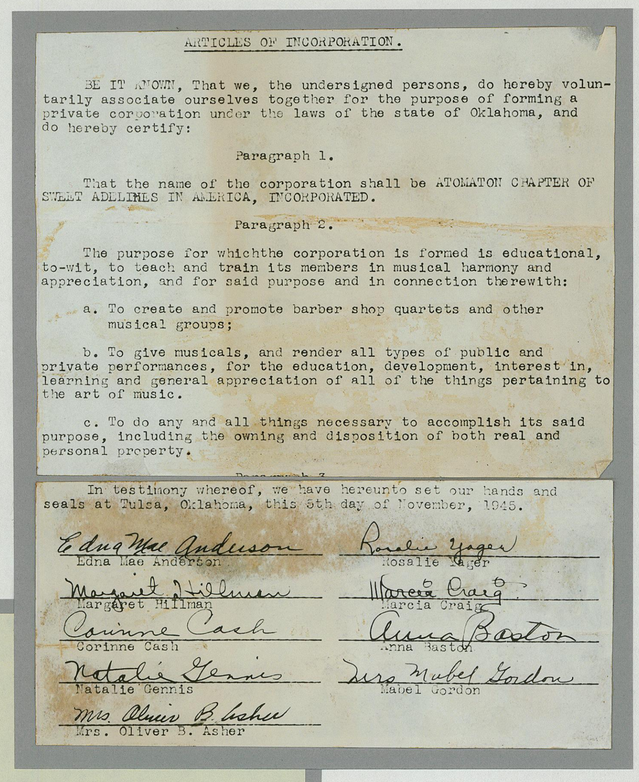
Mrs. Mary (Tex) Trippet strums a mandolin; Mrs. Louise (Rusty) Russell picks a guitar, and Mrs. Margaret (Shorty) Hillman plays the accordion under the direction of Mrs. Margaret (Slim) Gilbert, director, at a meeting of the Sweet Adelines, Inc., in the recreation room of the First Christian church. "Tex," "Rusty," "Shorty" and "Slim" are members of the newly organized "Sunbonnet Sues," women's quartet of the Sweet Adelines. In their bonnets, they sing and play songs like "Put on Your Old Gray Bonnet" and "When Irish Eyes Are Smiling" and have even composed a parody on "Sunbonnet Sue," setting their own words to the tune of Hinky Dinky Parlez Vous. Sweet Adelines, Inc., hold their next meeting Monday night, February 18.

STATE OF OKLAHOMA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION

"SWEET ADELINES"
Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Harmony Singing and Good Fellowship, among Women

This certifies that:
NAME Mrs. Mary E. Trippet
MEMBER OF Atomaton CHAPTER
has paid the initiation Fee, plus dues for the fiscal year ending December 31, 1946



ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION.

BE IT KNOWN, That we, the undersigned persons, do hereby voluntarily associate ourselves together for the purpose of forming a private corporation under the laws of the state of Oklahoma, and do hereby certify:

Paragraph 1.

That the name of the corporation shall be ATOMATON CHAPTER OF SWEET ADELINES IN AMERICA, INCORPORATED.

Paragraph 2.

The purpose for whichthe corporation is formed is educational, to-wit, to teach and train its members in musical harmony and appreciation, and for said purpose and in connection therewith:

a. To create and promote barber shop quartets and other musical groups;

b. To give musicals, and render all types of public and private performances, for the education, development, interest in, learning and general appreciation of all of the things pertaining to the art of music.

c. To do any and all things necessary to accomplish its said purpose, including the owning and disposition of both real and personal property.

In testimony whereof, we have hereunto set our hands and seals at Tulsa, Oklahoma, this 5th day of November, 1945.

Edna Mae Anderson — Edna Mae Anderson
Rosalie Yager — Rosalie Yager
Margaret Hillman — Margaret Hillman
Marcia Craig — Marcia Craig
Corinne Cash — Corinne Cash
Anna Baston — Anna Baston
Natalie Gennis — Natalie Gennis
Mrs Mabel Gordon — Mabel Gordon
Mrs Oliver B. Asher — Mrs. Oliver B. Asher

THE EVENING INDEPENDENT, MASSILLON, OHIO

ANOTHER MASCULINE STRONGHOLD FALLS

Women Form Barber Shop Quartet

By KEN HARTWICK

Another masculine stronghold has fallen before assaults of the

From Peoria, Illinois, the Keystone Barberettes. *The quartet made radio commercials and public appearances for the Keystone Steel & Wire Co. They placed Third in 1947 and never competed again.*

The Tulsa Tribune

ALL DRESSED UP in their fancy clothes reminiscent of the "good old days" are these members of Massillon's first and only feminine barber shop quartet, the Melo-Dears. They are, seated, Vi-

The Melodears of Massillon, Ohio. — Used with permission of the Massillon Evening Independent.

The Chordettes from Sheyboygan, Wisconsin went on to fame on the Arthur Godfrey Show on television in 1949. Although a popularly featured barbershop quartet, they never joined Sweet Adelines, Inc. — Used with permission of the Tulsa Tribune.

The Decaturettes at a Decatur, Illinois SPEBSQSA show in 1946.

Down Memory Lane

"Among my many valued memories are those of things which happened during the first few months and on through the more than two years previous to Sweet Adelines, Inc. expansion into a national organization and now, inter-national in scope.

Any society is born the night of the first organization meeting. For Sweet Adelines, Inc. that birth date was Friday, JULY 13th, 1945. Newspapers, magazines, and radios were interested in our new style of organization for women and were more than generous with publicity and time on the air when we started. Taking you with me into that memory of 'the beginning' let us read, together, some of the newspaper items which were bringing publicity to Sweet Adelines, Inc. back in 1945.

JULY 22, 1945 – "No prima donnas are wanted; but any woman interested in honest to goodness old fashioned barbershop singing is invited to attend the organization's meeting on Monday night at 8 P.M. There will be only two requirements for admission, the meetings will be for women, only, and no prima donnas are wanted. The organization is going to be all for fun, and we want plenty of members who are interested in having a good time and who enjoy singing. There will be the 'crow members' just like the men have. Women who can't carry a tune in an oversized wash tub will be just as welcome as the best of singers."

AUGUST 13, 1945 – "Feminine barbershop singing devotees of Tulsa decided that they will henceforth be known as 'Sweet Adelines'. The momentous decision was made at a meeting where members wrote suggestions for names and the reason for the decision – so many suggested 'Sweet Adelines' that the board of directors made it official."

SEPTEMBER 16, 1945 – "To sing and have fun together is the primary purpose of this newly organized group. However, officers realize that a few rules are necessary if only to have the right to tell a sister member that she is off pitch or out of key when singing in the group or in one of the quartets. Books on organization law have been read and discussed and legal advice has been obtained, and as a result a constitution has been drawn up."

NOVEMBER 9, 1945 – "Barbershop quartet singing got an 'official' lift, today, from the ladies. The secretary of state's office (Oklahoma) issued a charter of incorporation to Sweet Adelines of America, with headquarters in Tulsa. Directors of the new music organization – which listed no capital – include President, Edna Mae Anderson; Vice President, Rosalie Yager; Secretary, Margaret Hillman; Treasurer, Marcia Craig; and the following committee chairmen – Corinne Cash, Natalie Gennis, Mrs. Oliver B. Asher, Anna Baston, Mabel Gordon.' Everyone was thrilled with that news!

NOVEMBER 29, 1945 – "Mayor Olney F. Flynn will present the official charter for Sweet Adelines, Inc. on Monday, in the junior ballroom of Hotel Tulsa to Mrs. W. H. (Edna Mae) Anderson, President of the Tulsa Chapter. O. C. Cash, Founder, and other members of the SPEBSQSA, men's barbershop singing group, will be present."

Natalie Gennis *President of Atomaton Chapter*

TULSA DAILY WORLD, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1946

Sweet Adelines Singing Low, Will Entertain SPEBSQSA

By YVONNE LITCHFIELD
Of the World Staff

Close harmony now exists between the Sweet Adeline's, Inc., and the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America.

The female barber shoppers will entertain the membership of the SPEBSQSA for the first time in the history of the two organizations on Feb. 3.

The girls feel that the undertaking, which will include a singing among the male and female quartets, will put them on an equal footing with the male organization.

The year-old woman's organization has been waiting for the moment when the men would have to eat all the sour notes they have produced over the founding of the female society.

In the beginning the SPEBSQSA admitted that the women could sing but they quietly laughed at the idea of a female quartet with a "skirt" for a bass and boasted that the "little women" would soon be coming to them to borrow real "men" to sing the low-down notes.

After a year of feminine perseverance the female barber shop singers have succeeded in producing 8 quartets all fully equipped with female bass singers. The SPEBSQSA has entertained the Sweet Adelines but the girls were waiting until they could really put on a show before they entertained the men.

The singing bee will be open to the public and members of the Sweet Adelines have expressed the belief that they will out-shine the male quartets.

"There is only one problem in organizing a female quartet," one member explained, "and it is a problem which we are unable to solve. Just when a good quartet is about to reach the tops in barber shop singing some member finds that her motherly duties prevent her appearance in public. We get a lot of new voices that way, but it really breaks up a quartet."

Offices for the coming year were recently elected at the home of the retiring president, Mrs. N. H. Gennis, 2657 S. Trenton. Mrs. Laura Ford was elected president; Mrs. Ray Hillman, vice president; Mrs. C. S. Buxton, secretary, and Mrs. Ruth F. Bartley, treasurer.

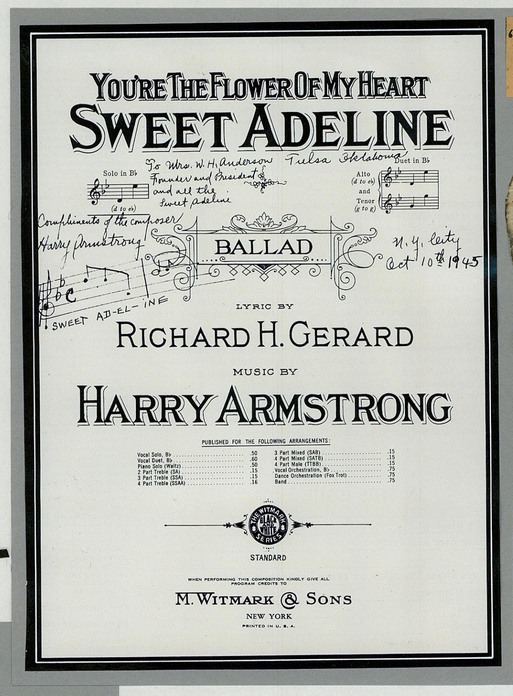
New board members include Mrs. Jack Wise, Mrs. Dwight Olds, Mrs. Florence Craig, Mrs. Gennis, Mrs. Thelma Larkin, Mrs. Georgia Davis and Miss Jane Pfeiffer. Miss Pfeiffer will serve as program chairman and Mrs. Fillman as outside program chairman. Other chairmen include: Mrs. Craig, welfare; Mrs. Bartley, librarian; Mrs. Buxton, publicity, and Mrs. Davis, hospitality.

'Sweet Ad-uh-line, My Ad-uh-line'

MALES HECKLE FAIR BARBERSHOPPERS

Men Call on Former Champs To Meet Adeline Challenge

The Johnson Sisters entertaining at a Chicago USO Canteen with members of the Cicero-Berwyn SPEBSQSA Chapter in 1942.



YOU'RE THE FLOWER OF MY HEART
SWEET ADELINE

To Mrs. W. H. Anderson Tulsa Oklahoma
Founder and President of Sweet Adeline
and all the
Compliments of the composer
Harry Armstrong
N. Y. City Oct 10th 1945

Solo in B♭ — Duet in B♭ — Alto and Tenor

BALLAD

SWEET AD-EL-INE

LYRIC BY
RICHARD H. GERARD

MUSIC BY
HARRY ARMSTRONG

PUBLISHED FOR THE FOLLOWING ARRANGEMENTS:

Vocal Solo, B♭	.50	3 Part Mixed (SAB)	.15
Vocal Duet, B♭	.60	4 Part Mixed (SATB)	.15
Piano Solo (Waltz)	.50	4 Part Male (TTBB)	.15
2 Part Treble (SA)	.15	Band Orchestration, B♭	.75
3 Part Treble (SSA)	.15	Dance Orchestration (Foxtrot)	.75
4 Part Treble (SSAA)	.15	Band	.75

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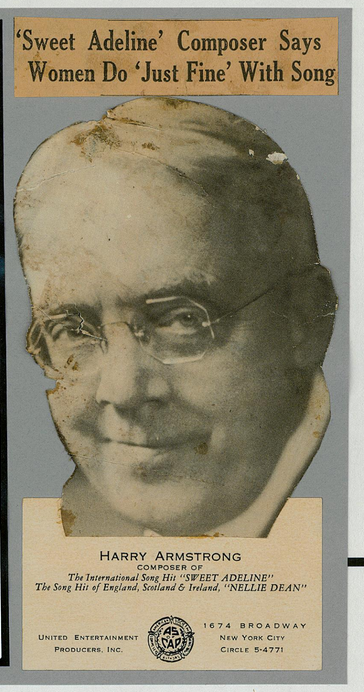

'Sweet Adeline' Composer Says Women Do 'Just Fine' With Song

HARRY ARMSTRONG
COMPOSER OF
The International Song Hit "SWEET ADELINE"
The Song Hit of England, Scotland & Ireland, "NELLIE DEAN"

UNITED ENTERTAINMENT PRODUCERS, INC.
1674 BROADWAY
NEW YORK CITY
CIRCLE 5-4771

Some of our first quartets...

1945-46
The Floradora Girls: Anna Marie Hearn, tenor; Joanne Williams Lemcke, lead; Louise Mason, baritone; Allene Babbitt, bass. They appeared on a national CBS Radio broadcast, "We the People," in June 1946, in New York City.

1945-46
The Harmo-Donnas: Marie Gebo, tenor; Faye Parker, lead; Opal Leib, baritone; Marguerite Yirsa, bass.

1945-46
The Sun Bonnet Sues: This Tulsa quartet received national publicity through the July 1946 issue of a popular magazine called *She*. Bottom row, center: Margaret Hillman. Top row, from left: Margaret Gilbert, Mary Trippet, Louise Russell.

1945-46
The Four Naturals: Anna Marie Nilson, Arlita Wood, Jane Pfeifer and Francis Donnell. The idea of a national organization was proposed by Francis Donnell. She was appointed chairman of the committee which started Sweet Adelines moving in that direction, March, 1946.