



Greater Nassau Chorus of Sweet Adelines International

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

In Tune with Greater Nassau Chorus and Jenn Sommermann

by Merrill Weiner



Jenn Sommermann (center) performing with Greater Nassau Chorus at the Region 15 Sweet Adelines International Chorus Competition in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in March 2009

When Greater Nassau Chorus performs this Thursday at 7:30 p.m. (July 9th) at the Freeport Nautical Mile Esplanade, be prepared! This is a women's chorus that frequently arouses goose bumps in its audience with a sound that rings and soars. They are a treat for the eyes and the ears, combining exquisite a cappella barbershop harmonies with finely executed choreography. As the 2008 Regional Champions, they are currently preparing to compete in Nashville, Tennessee at the Sweet Adeline International Competition against award winning choruses from around the world. So come ready to enjoy and get to know these fabulous chorus members!

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1375 N. Grand Ave., Baldwin, NY 11510

www.greaternassauchorus.org



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Each member of course has a story, but perhaps none is more compelling than the story of Freeport resident, Jenn Sommermann. Stricken with Stage 3 ovarian cancer at the age of 42, Jenn underwent three surgeries and six months of chemotherapy. Enough to drain the average person, right?

But Jenn is anything but average. Four weeks after completing chemotherapy, Jenn decided to compete in the NYC Nautica Triathlon. A triathlon? Those races where they combine swimming, biking and running in a contest that tests endurance, strength and power? Yup, a triathlon. And Jenn not only competed, she completed it! “I was completely bald,” Jenn recalls, “but it felt good – at least I didn’t have to worry about my hair!”

Wait, there’s more. Out of that experience came Jenn’s project, “50x50x100.” Dedicated to helping fund research for early detection, Jenn has committed herself to a daunting task. “I am going to compete in 50 states by the age of 50 and raise \$100,000 for the Ovarian Cancer Research Fund,” Jenn declares. Now 45, she has already competed in 10 states and raised \$25,000. For those who wish to follow her progress, log onto www.JennSommermann.blogspot.com. Oh – and she is already the top single fund raiser for the Ovarian Cancer Research Fund (www.OCRF.org).

Did we mention that she has also finished first in her age class this year in two separate Triathlons, one in North Carolina and one in Islip?

And then there’s the singing. “I love to sing,” Jenn smiles. “When I first heard the chorus, I fell in love. The women looked like they were having so much fun – and that incredible sound. I knew I had to do it.” For Jenn, the chorus has been the heart and soul of her support system, a vital part of her commitment to live each day. “And I still don’t read even one note of music,” Jenn delights in mentioning. “But those friendships and the music are the best!”

For Jenn, singing with Greater Nassau Chorus and competing in triathlons are all about the same thing. “I love to sing. I love to race. You just let it go and then you let it fly.”

For more information about the Greater Nassau Chorus, please visit the website at www.GreaterNassauChorus.org. Potential singers are always welcome. Check the website for the local Long Island rehearsal schedule.

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