

New director blows the pitch pipe for Farmington's Sweet Adelines

By Lorraine McClish
staff writer

'I'm still playing catch-up in this job because the whole format was already set when I met the chorus. But they are a group with both great spirit and determination and that is the biggest reason I had for taking it on.'

—Julene Fabrizio
Sweet Adelines director

Julene Fabrizio takes on the job as director of Farmington Hills Chapter Sweet Adelines as the 90-member women's chorus works toward its winter show, "Foto Folies," in February.

The West Bloomfield resident who accepted the position in mid-rehearsals for the fund raiser said, "There was no time for a honeymoon; no time for a get-acquainted period. We jumped into serious work right away."

The serious work of rehearsing for the show will move simultaneously with rehearsals for the chorus competition in the Johnny Mann American Chorus Festival, scheduled for Feb. 11 in Plymouth.

It will continue with preparations for Sweet Adelines regional competition, scheduled for the second weekend of April in Flint.

Then the singers will act as co-hosts for Sweet Adelines International competition, scheduled for the last weekend of October in Detroit.

"A lot of us have already offered housing, mostly for the Sweet Adelines who will be here from Sweden, Finland and Wales. And the ethnic clubs here have already offered interpreters if we need them," Fabrizio said.

FABRIZIO HAD her work cut out for her for the most part by Jim Pollard, the chorus's former director who left that post to return to school.

"He brought the chorus to its regional championship status so they could compete in international competition, and he drew singers from 24 communities to be part of our chapter."

"But he also left me with this show to do and entry into the Johnny Mann festival that I'm now responsible for," she said.

"Foto Folies" will be chapter's major fund raiser for the year. "It's a pretty standard way most

Sweet Adelines use to make money," Fabrizio said. "A lot harder than putting on a talent or a rummage show, but I have to admit, more fun."

All Sweet Adelines chapters are self-supporting, earning their own money to pay for their director, rehearsal halls, music and arrangements to teach and train women in the art of singing four-part harmony, barbershop style. Then they prepay the art through chorus and quartet performances.

SHOW TIME for "Foto Folies" is 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Feb. 4-5 in Clarenceville High School, 21055 Middlebelt.

Guest singers in the show come from Sweet Adelines East Pointe Chapter, 1982 chorus champions; and the Tri-County Connection, who hold the title of 1982 Men's Novice Quartet Champions.

The show is made up of skits and vignettes, interspersed after the Zigfield Folies of the 1930s. Tickets are \$5, at the door, or \$3 for seniors and students Friday only.

Advance tickets can be purchased by calling Sweet Adelines, 490-0555. "I'm still playing catch-up in this job because the whole format was already set when I met the chorus. But they are a group with both great spirit and determination and that is the biggest reason I had for taking it on," Fabrizio said.

Directors for Sweet Adelines are not easy to come by. "You have got to have a Sweet Adelines background to even interview because the music is a whole different bag for those who have had traditional choral experience," Fabrizio said.

"It is a folk art and the only music where the lead line is placed under the harmony part, so it's a whole new sound. Yet we sing the whole gamut of music, modern, ballads, gospel, religious, patriotic."

Fabrizio has been playing the piano since she was eight years old, has been

in choruses all the way through school, and has been a Sweet Adeline for nine years.

She relinquished her membership with the Great Lakes Chapter when she took on the job of director.

She has served on Sweet Adelines administrative board as well as its director of music activities.

"I know the music well," she said. "And I also know the manual, very well."

WHETHER barbershop quartet singing actually originated in barbershops is open to question, but it is known that in the 18th through 18th centuries, music was a part of the barber's shop in Europe.

The music came to the U.S. with other old world customs and gradually acquired a unique American flavor. It is believed that because barbershops were favorite meeting places for many men, impromptu singing may have been part of those barbershop activities.

Barbershop is one of three native American forms of vocal music, along

with the spiritual and the cowboy ballad.

The qualities that define barbershop as a folk idiom include a simple, diatonic melody line which can be harmonized with a variety of four-part chords, and a clear overall form.

While it is often described as "close harmony," it actually includes a variety of close and open chord structures, and requires lead, tenor, baritone and bass voice parts.

Its distinctive quality is that the melody, sung by the lead voice, is below the tenor harmony, but this follows the pattern of many early American hymns.

From extemporized or improvised "woodshedding," barbershop has evolved into a highly stylized form of folk music which requires as much quality and control as is needed for singing any other type of music.

Sweet Adelines, Inc. started with one small group in Tulsa, Okla. 30 years ago. It now has chapters in every state, Canada, England, Republic of Panama, Japan, The Netherlands, Scotland and Sweden.



Special guest stars on the "Foto Folies" playbill are The Tri-County Connection, men's novice quartet champions for 1982.

Louise Kiehler models the turn-of-the-century costume that will be seen on stage when members of Farmington Hills and East Pointe chapters of Sweet Adelines present "Foto Folies." Curtain is at 8 p.m. Feb. 4-5 in Clarenceville High School.



Makeup artist gives advise about dressing for success

By Kathy Parrish
staff writer

When dressing for success, don't forget to apply a little foundation, contour, rouge, eye liner, mascara, lipstick — and three or four shades of eye shadow.

That's the advice businesswomen get from makeup artist Jeffrey Bruce, who knows it doesn't sound very liberated.

While raised by feminist parents to "treat people the same regardless of gender," the New Yorker still takes his cosmetics earnings to the most attractive banker on duty.

"I won't go to a person who is slumped in appearance," Bruce told the Rochester Business Women's Roundtable recently at a luncheon meeting in Rivercrest Manor.

"If you take pride in yourself, you

take pride in your work. You succeed a lot faster."

Winner of two Coty Awards and voted Top Makeup Artist in America six years straight by the Fashion Distributors of America, Bruce assures audiences there's "nothing wrong with being smart and looking terrific."

It's advice the beauty consultant to celebrities like Lauren Bacall and Kathy Ford takes seriously himself. After graduating from the University of North Carolina at 17, Bruce intended to paint portraits. Instead, a friend suggested he try out as a makeup artist for New York hairstylist Kenneth, who hired the teen despite his inexperience.

WORKING WITH clients like Jackie Kennedy Onassis and Dina Merrill led to jobs with makeup entrepreneurs Es-

tee Lauder and Charles Revson of Revlon.

Unhappy with the way Revlon operated, he went out on his own as personal makeup artist to movie stars Ann Margret and Raquel Welch.

"Ignorance is bliss," he said, talking about his rapid rise. "It's amazing when you don't know what you are doing and not aware of the consequences what you can do."

Bruce opened his own cosmetics firm three years ago and now hosts "Good Morning New York" twice a week and is a regular guest on "Kelly and Company."

But just turning 36 this month, the young executive admits to surgery on his nose ("I couldn't breathe"), ears and under his eyes where he sometimes covers up the circles.

Looking his age just wasn't good for the growing Jeffrey Bruce cosmetics business, which features non-allergic products made from the same plant. "I knew it worked because it helped my acne," said Bruce, whose daily skin regimen includes super lemon cleanser, dermal feeder, eye cream, night cream and a facial three times a week.

"I'M VERY pro plastic surgery. You can't go near me with a magnet — I've had everything done," Bruce kidded the delighted audience.

"I'm all for helping yourself if it doesn't look obvious."

Although he advocates using several cosmetics — including blending lipstick and eye shadows — the makeup artist believes in an understated look.

And he doesn't favor conventional beauty, but urges people ("skin doesn't have any gender") to make the most of what they have.

"I want to see you're taking care of yourself, but if I can see what you're doing it's too much," explained Bruce, who refuses to see \$200-an-hour clients if they arrive wearing any makeup at all.

"People should not notice the makeup. They should see you."

While he attacks cosmetics companies for aiming at the masses and assuming "every woman in America is 35 and Caucasian," he also believes consumers must be more aware of what

they're buying.

"When cosmetics firms rip off people, the people who are to blame are the women who buy those products," he told his listeners. "If something costs \$2, how much research could have gone into it?"

BRUCE BELIEVES part of his job has to educate consumers, who he said have not been taught how to care for skin and apply makeup properly.

He ranked some members of his audience when he told them that Michigan women get more careful instruction than some of his other clients.

The makeup artist said one reason he came to this area was at the request of Judy Hepler of Livonia, who met him when he designed a look for her daughter Heidi's trip to Atlantic City as Miss Michigan.

"She said 'Women are uneducated in Michigan. We need you,'" said Bruce, who hired Mrs. Hepler to be his Michigan representative.

"How many of you have gone into a department store and been made up by someone selling negligees two days before? We treat you individually and teach you to do it yourself."

Admittedly honest to a fault, Bruce took potshots at several celebrities who he feels aren't living up to potential.

In his opinion, Lana Turner "is becoming ET" because of new makeup on Falcon Crest. "I'm going to have a party for Suzanne Somers and introduce her upper lip to her lower," he added with a smile.

HIS UPCOMING book "Beauty and the Best" will feature celebrities wearing "before" makeup ("I don't like naked faces") and after they've been "Jeffrey Bruce'd to death."

Building a house in Woodstock, N.Y., the makeup artist hopes to retire when he's between 40 and 45.

In hopes of changing careers someday, he's going to start taking courses this spring at the New School for Social Research in New York City.

"I've been very lucky in business, but I've worked very hard," said Bruce, who's always wanted to be a veterinarian or marine biologist.

Meanwhile, he is traveling around

the country training representatives who will pass on his techniques. Locally, his representatives are in LeSalem, Avon Township, Hair Tine, Southfield, George Paul Salon, Dearborn; Sandy Graham, Grosse Ile; and Ginger Group, Birmingham.

And he's educating consumers, who he says are growing more aware of

makeup. But sometimes teaching isn't easy.

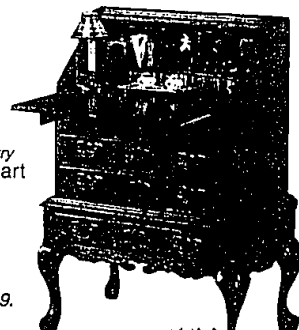
When asked for shortcuts to help busy women find time to apply his makeup, Bruce showed no mercy.

"Honestly, it's 15 minutes too much time? When you're made up, you feel better and know it," Bruce said firmly. "Go to bed 15 minutes earlier."

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DAVID FRANK/staff photographer

New York makeup artist Jeffrey Bruce believes that those who take pride in themselves will take pride in their work and succeed faster in whatever their pursuit.

Fruit sale aids band on way to competition

North Farmington Band and Orchestra Boosters are taking orders for cases of Texas Ruby Red grapefruit and oranges to help the high school's marching band get to Canada for a competition.

Erlaine Scherl, speaking for members of the music boosters club, called the

competition "The Olympics of marching bands. This is a biggie for us. Other U.S. bands have been invited, but none in this immediate area."

North Farmington High School's marching band was accepted into the Toronto International Music Festival

through a recording sent for entry into the competition. The band is led by Doug McQueen who will accompany the 112 musicians to Toronto in May.

The fruit sale runs through Feb. 7. Grapefruit or oranges sell 40 pounds for \$20 pounds for \$15.25 and can be ordered by calling Scherl at 471-

4109 or Emily McSweeney at 626-8767.

"If someone wants a mixed box, I'll find a way to do it," Scherl said. "It would be ideal to raise \$20,000 for the band, so there will be other fund-raisers coming up running right up to the time they leave."