

Charlie's Place

A Sweet Adelines Reunion

On September 26, 2010, the Baton Rouge Chorus of Sweet Adelines held its 50 year anniversary party. Several former and current members, directors and friends attended. On Friday, May 27, 2011, at Charlie's Place, the Sweet Adelines held another reunion of sorts ... that of reuniting with former chorus member and Charlie's Place client, Bettie Culpepper. Amid tears of happiness and joy, much clapping and excitement, Bettie sang along with some of her old friends in the Chorus, while watching them perform. Donning a fresh red rose corsage and holding a tissue in her hands, Bettie could hardly contain herself as she watched her singing friends belt out "In the Jungle" and other songs as they entertained her and other clients. The most poignant moment came at the end of the group's performance, when members invited Bettie to join them in the finale. After singing their signature song, "Harmonize the World," Bettie was presented with a special memento, the sheet music to that final song.

Bettie was one of the original members of the Baton Rouge Chorus Sweet Adelines, and they brought a black and white group photograph taken over forty years ago to reminisce with the group. Bettie's daughter, Sherry Russell, was in attendance for the reunion and commented that her mom has always loved music and liked to perform. The 50th Reunion in September may have been a milestone for the Chorus, but the members made another milestone that day - bringing joy to a former member who always has a song in her heart.



Pictured (left to right): Janet Daly, Bette Theis, Bettie Culpepper, Gloria Jones & Virginia Simoneaux seated



Pictured are members of the Sweet Adelines



Pictured (left to right): Margaret Beverly & Bettie Culpepper, enjoying the music



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