

**Tanya Briley, Bass, Board Member**

**# of years in Sweet Adelines:** 24 years

**# of years in Pride:** 24 years

**What attracted you to the chorus:** singing in a ladies' chorus

What do you like about being a member: singing with other ladies and friendships made along the way

**What do you do outside the chorus (job, family):** retired now, formerly executive secretary to superintendent of JCPS; being a grandma is one of the highlights in my life; volunteering at my church and in my community (Actors Theatre, Meals on Wheels, Kentucky Derby Festival events to name a few); traveling within the US and internationally as often as time and money allow.

**How do you balance life/chorus:** It's easy. Tuesday nights are marked on my calendar, and I look forward to rehearsals each week. I believe singing is excellent for my physical and mental health. While at rehearsals, the rest of my world doesn't exist in my mind. My week doesn't seem complete unless I have sung with my wonderful friends.

**What would tell others who think they couldn't manage to find time for membership:** I would recommend they rethink that decision. I believe everyone should find time to do something for themselves. It's amazing how wonderful you feel when you take care of yourself, instead of denying yourself the pleasure and joy of singing.

**What keeps you as a member:** The opportunity to sing with my lifelong friends every week.

**What would you tell others about your experience as a member:** Pride of Kentucky Chorus is a very valuable part of me. I joined to sing with other ladies. Little did I know it was going to change my life forever in a way I could not have even dreamed or imagined. In addition to the opportunity to sing on a regular basis, I met and made lifelong friends along the way who are now a part of my life outside of chorus too. After a few years of membership, I was elected to the board of directors giving me an opportunity to branch out in other areas of interest and giving back to the chorus. Then I served as president of the chorus for two years, and am currently the financial secretary. Joining Pride of Kentucky Chorus is one of the best things I ever did just for ME! As I type the answers to these questions, it brings tears of joy and gratitude to my eyes and my heart. Pride of Kentucky Chorus, I love you!