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The

Conductor's

Podium

State Newsletter of the Illinois Members of the American Choral Directors Association

Vol. I, No. 1

November 25, 1974

A MESSAGE FROM THE STATE PRESIDENT

Dr. Robert E. Snyder

This is the first Illinois ACDA Newsletter, appropriately named *The Conductor's Podium*. Dennis Sparger, who is Director of Choral Activities at Belleville Area College, has agreed to serve as editor. Not only is Dennis working on his doctoral dissertation at the University of Illinois, but he is also serving as ACDA District 6 Chairman. Our thanks to you, Dennis, for undertaking a sizeable task in addition to your many other obligations. This type of spirit is what will make ACDA an even better organization.

I hope that you will consider this vehicle YOUR paper. If there are items that you would like to include about anything unique or special in your program, wherever you are teaching and directing, I hope that you will send it to Mr. Sparger at Belleville Area College. It is our hope to issue at least three newsletters this first year. Ohio, Wisconsin, South Dakota, and Iowa have similar publications already, so we are catching up a bit.

We are going to send this first newsletter to all high school and college directors in the state, whether they are presently ACDA members or not. We hope that when you read about some of the ACDA activities that are planned for the next two years you will strongly consider joining our exciting, growing organization. There are over 5,000 ACDA members nationally and 250 in the state of Illinois. The national publication, *The Choral Journal*, which is published monthly, is worth the membership fee in itself, since it keeps us very much aware of what is happening in choral music on national and international scenes. Please fill in the membership blank and join us, if you are not now an ACDA member. I am sure that a number of you have considered joining ACDA. Why not do it TODAY. National membership is up over 10% this year.

As ACDA Illinois state president, I am interested in serving you in as many ways as possible. If you have suggestions as to what might be of help in your district, please contact your district chairperson or myself. We are here to serve.

A MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

A. Dennis Sparger

Share with us in our excitement in opening a state-wide channel of communication within our profession. While we all have many ideas and goals in common, we are also distinguished by our individual differences. This newsletter is a place to share our specialities. There is something about your own philosophy or choral program that is particularly noteworthy and there are many who are anxious to learn from your experience.

An important mark of a member of any profession is his strong desire to continue to improve his abilities and (not or) to help his colleagues improve themselves. And through a professional organization such as ACDA we have the medium through which we can give and receive in a spirit of mutual concern.

You are encouraged to submit articles and items of interest to be included in subsequent issues. We are anxious to quickly develop our newsletter and are dependent on your response. Deadline for the next issue is January 15. Write something during the Christmas vacation!

We are indebted to Dr. James McKelvy, of the Mark Foster Music Company, for his invaluable assistance in printing this newsletter. Jim volunteered to provide not only his press, but paper and labor as well. Jim, we all appreciate your support of this endeavor.

Box 4012, Champaign, IL 61820



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MEET YOUR STATE OFFICERS & CHAIRMEN . . .

Serving as ACDA State President of Illinois for the 1974-76 term is Robert E. Snyder. Bob has previously served as District 5 chairman and vice-president for ACDA in Illinois. This is his sixth year as Director of Choral Activities at Eastern Illinois University, where he teaches choral conducting, voice, and directs the Concert Choir, Chamber Singers, and Oratorio Chorus.

Bob has degrees from Capital University in Columbus, Ohio; the Ev. Lutheran Theological Seminary in Columbus; a M.M. from the University of Colorado; and a Ph.D. from the University of Iowa, where he studied choral literature and conducting under Daniel Moe. He served as a pastor and minister of music in Detroit for nine years before beginning doctoral studies.

Bob is also a member of NATS, MENC, and the Lutheran Society for Worship, Music and the Arts, and has served as high school chorus director for IMEA Festivals in Districts 1, 3, and 5 for the last three years.

The Vice-president for Illinois ACDA is Theodore Klinka. This is Ted's twelfth year as Chairman of the Music Department and Director of Choral Activities at New Trier High School West in Northfield. He has also taught in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, LaPorte, Indiana, and at Northwestern University-Chicago Campus.

Ted has a bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee; a master's from Western State College in Gunnison, Colorado; and is a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Iowa.

Active as a director of church choirs and community choruses, Ted has also written articles for Illinois and Indiana state music journals, as well as the *ACDA Journal*. He is also a member of the American Choral Foundation, MENC, and NEA.

DISTRICT 1 — JOHN PEARCE **Naperville Central High School** **Naperville, IL 60540**

John is currently Music Department Chairman for the Naperville high schools, and K-12 Vocal Music Coordinator. He did his undergraduate work at Indiana State University in Terre Haute, and continued his studies in Chicago at the American Conservatory of Music where he earned a second bachelor's and a master's degree. He was a member of the Lyric Opera of Chicago for six years and was a finalist in the Chicagoland Music Festival. He has interlaced his professional career with related business activities, serving as Sales Manager and Educational Director for the Summy-Birchard (Music) Publishing Co., and still serves as one of their Choral Consultants.

John has also acted as Administrative Assistant to Elaine Brown of the Singing City Choirs of Philadelphia. He is a member of Blue Key, Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia, and MENC. He has served as Choral Chairman for the Fox Valley MEA, served on the Board of Directors of the DuPage (County) Symphony, and been a Visiting Lecturer at Rock Valley and North Central colleges.

DISTRICT 2 — DALE MORGAN **Riverdale High School** **Port Byron, IL 61275**

Dale is beginning his first year at Port Byron where he directs choral groups at the junior and senior high school. He received his bachelor and master's degrees from Eastern Illinois University. Dale is also a member of MENC.

DISTRICT 3 — LARRY VOORHEES **Hoopeston-East Lynn High School** **Hoopeston, IL 60942**

Larry is presently serving his tenth year at Hoopeston. He received his bachelor and master's degrees from Eastern Illinois University. Larry is also serving a three-year term as State Choral Division Vice-president of IMEA and has previously been the Choral Chairman for IMEA District 3. He is a member of MENC, IMEA, NEA, and the National Association of Jazz Educators.

Plans are underway in District 3 to contact every director by phone or mail in an effort to increase membership. A clinic session in conjunction with the District 3 IMEA Festival is being considered.

DISTRICT 4 — DAN SPRECKELMEYER **Springfield High School** **Springfield, IL 62704**

Dan has been chairman of the Music Department and vocal music teacher at Springfield for the past seventeen years. He received his bachelor and master's degrees from Illinois Wesleyan University and has completed further study at Indiana University, Oakland University, Oberlin College, and the University of Colorado. Dan has worked with conductors Lloyd Pfautsch, John Nelson, Robert Fountain, Robert Shaw, Fiora Contino, and Norman Luboff.

In addition to his work at the high school, Dan is Manager of the Springfield Symphony Orchestra, directs a church choir, teaches voice at Lincoln Land Community College and appears as oratorio soloist in the central Illinois area.

Dan is also a member of MENC, ACDA, IEA, Phi Mu Alpha, and Phi Delta Kappa.

DISTRICT 5 — JOHN CHAFFIN **Charleston High School** **Charleston, IL 61920**

John is beginning his first year at Charleston, where he is Director of Choral Activities. Previously he had taught in Hinsdale and Paducah, Kentucky. John has a bachelor's degree from Murray State University and a master's from the University of Illinois.

He is also a member of MENC and the American Choral Foundation. Under consideration for District 5 are plans for a reading session and a clinic on swing choirs.

DISTRICT 6 - A. DENNIS SPARGER

**Belleville Area College
Belleville, IL 62221**

Dennis has been Director of Choral Activities at Belleville Area College for nine years, and previously was choral director at Urbana High School. He received his bachelor and master's degrees from Eastern Illinois University and has recently completed course work for a doctorate in choral conducting at the University of Illinois where he was a student under Harold Decker. Dennis has conducted church choirs and community choruses, and is also a member of NATS and AFM.

At the District 6 IMEA meeting in Carbondale on November 23, Dr. James Brinkman will present an ACDA session on selected music for boys' and girls' chorus.

DISTRICT 7 - NORMA RAYBON

**Oak Park and River Forest High School
Oak Park, IL 60302**

Norma has been at Oak Park for three years where she is Head of the Choral Department. Previously she was assistant to Dr. Colleen Kirk at the University of Illinois. Norma has a bachelor and master's degrees from the University of Illinois and post-graduate study at Saratoga Springs.

Plans are underway in District 7 for a Children's Choral Festival and Workshop, to be held in the spring.

STATE NEWS

The IMEA State Convention will be held at the Arlington Park Towers in Arlington Heights on January 23-25. ACDA will host a reading session, Larry Voorhees, chairman.

The seventh annual Illinois Invitational College Choir Festival will be held on February 15, at Northern Illinois University, DeKalb. Dr. Elwood Smith is this year's host and coordinator.

The sixth annual Illinois Junior College Invitational Choral Festival will be held on April 25-26 at Belleville Area College. Dennis Sparger is this year's host and coordinator.

NATIONAL NEWS

The third National ACDA Convention will be held March 6-8, 1975, at the Chase-Park Plaza Hotel in St. Louis. The previous two conventions in Kansas City produced many stunning programs and clinic sessions that thrilled over 2,300 registrants. This convention should prove just as interesting. Participating choirs will be announced in the next ACDA *Choral Journal*. Dr. Howard Swan, one of the most respected "deans" of American choral conductors, will direct the "Directors' Chorus." It is also very possible that a Brazilian choir will appear on the program.

Registration fees are \$15 for active, associate, and life members; \$5 for spouse and family members, student and retired members; \$10 each day for non-members (\$3 each for morning or afternoon, and \$4 for evening).

Gregg Smith will appear at two of the four ACDA sessions at the bi-regional MENC meeting in Omaha, April 3-6. The title of his sessions is "The American Choral Tradition."

The dates for the next ACDA North-Central Regional Convention have been changed slightly to March 4-6, 1976. The site will be the new Sheraton Hotel in Columbus, Ohio. Alice Parker is being commissioned to write a sectional work on an American theme that will be appropriate for the Bicentennial. Robert Shaw will direct the premiere performance at the convention. Save the dates!

Dr. Harold Decker announced that plans are well underway for a National ACDA Bicentennial Convention that will be held at the Interlochen Arts Academy, July 21-26, 1976. Lukas Foss has agreed to compose and direct the premiere performance of a work for the occasion. A 200-voice choir (quartet from each state) will be the chorus. Dr. Charles Hamm, noted musicologist, will present five sessions, each on a segment of the history of choral music in the United States. Choral music related to his lectures will be sung at other sessions by convention registrants. Plan now on Interlochen - 1976.

APPLICATION for MEMBERSHIP in American Choral Directors Association

NOTE: ACTIVE Applicants include brief resume of career, if available, for your Personnel File.

Make check payable to:
American Choral Directors Ass'n

MAIL TO: R. WAYNE HUGOBOOM,
Executive Secretary, ACDA
P.O. Box 17736, Tampa, FL 33612

Please accept my application for membership in ACDA as checked:
() ACTIVE - \$15.00 () ASSOCIATE - \$15.00
() LIFE MEMBERSHIP - \$200 (payable in installments of \$20.00 or more)

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE

Please Indicate Areas of Activity:
Elem () ; Jr HS () ; Sr HS () ; Coll-U () ;
Comm () ; Church ()

MEMBERSHIP CLASSIFICATIONS AND PROCEDURES

For complete information on Membership Classification please refer to MEMBERSHIP section in the Bulletin of Information.

INDUSTRY ASSOCIATE, INSTITUTIONAL, CONTRIBUTING MEMBERSHIP Applications and other information available on request from the Executive Secretary's office.

Check appropriate blank: MR (), MRS (), MISS ()

APPLICANT'S NAME
(Type or Print)

Title and Position

Institution

Street Address
(IMPERATIVE if used as Mailing Address)

City..... State..... Zip.....

PREFERRED MAILING ADDRESS

City..... State..... Zip.....

FAVORITE CHORAL WORKS

The two immediate Illinois past-presidents have submitted a few of their many favorites.

John Davis, Director of Choral Activities
Bradley University
President 1972-74

Musicians Wrestle Everywhere, Elliot Carter (Mercury).
To Be Sung On The Water, Samuel Barber (G. Schirmer).
A Jubilant Song, Norman Dello Joio (G. Schirmer).
Sing Unto God, G. F. Handel (Carl Fischer).
Matra Pictures, (IV, Summer Time; V, Stealing Chickens)
Zoltan Kodaly (Universal).
Six Folk Songs, Brahms (Marks).
Selections from *Porgy and Bess*, arr. Warnick (Chappell).

Dr. Leonard Van Camp, Director of Choral Activities
Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville
President 1970-72

"Brief Works with a Few Instruments"

Cantata 118, "Oh Jesus, Lord, My Light and Life", J. S. Bach (Marks 12576-8). SATB, can be performed with piano or organ or with wind ensemble.

Rejoice, Earth and Heaven, Dietrich Buxtehude (C. F. Peters 6633). satb/SATB, Vol. I & II, 2 tpt., timp., continuo.

Lo, I Bring Tidings, (Christmas Concerto), Johann Vierdank (J. Fischer 9156). 2 equal voices, can be performed with 2 vl., fl. or recorders, and cont.

O Beloved Shepherds, Andreas Hammerschmidt (Concordia 97-6332). SATB with 2 treble instr. and cont.

O Praise the Lord, All Ye Nations, Georg Phillippe Telemann (Concordia 97-4838). SATB, vl. and cont.

Missa Brevis in F Major, W. A. Mozart (G. Schirmer 2183). satb/SATB, 2 vl. and cont.

Christmas Cantata, Daniel Pinkham (Robt. King 602). Chorus and Double brass chorus; or Chorus, brass quartet and organ.

Laud to the Nativity, Ottorino Respighi (Franco Colombo). smt/SATB, 2 fl., ob., Eng. hn., 2 bsn., triangle.

O Clap Your Hands, Ralph Vaughan Williams (Galaxy 2222). SATB, 3 tpt., 3 tbn., tb., timp., cym., and organ.

Psalmkonzert, Heinz Werner Zimmerman (Concordia 97-4854). 5-part mixed choir, unison children's voices (or unison women), bar. solo. 3 tpt., vibraphone, and string bass.

A. Dennis Sparger, Editor
Belleville Area College
Belleville, IL 62221



Dr. Walter S. Collins
College of Music
Univ. of Colorado
Boulder, Colorado 80302