

The

Conductors'

Podium

Illinois State Newsletter of the American Choral Directors Association



Vol. II, No. 1

September 15, 1975

PRESIDENT'S LETTER Dr. Robert E. Snyder

Your Illinois ACDA officers and district chairpersons wish you success as we enter into a new academic year. We hope that it will be a meaningful one for you and the ensembles that you conduct.

I hope that this past summer provided some respite for you and that you attended at least one or more choral workshops. Besides directing two high school choir camps, I attended the Christmas Madrigal Dinner Workshop at Thornton Community College; the S.E. Missouri State Choral Workshop, which featured Dr. Charles Hirt; and the Choral Institute at Aspen, Colorado. Illinois choral directors were at all three, I am happy to report.

Dr. Al Kindig is to be congratulated on the fine conference on madrigal dinners that he organized. Over 125 attended from all over the U.S. Dr. John Ferrell of ISU was one of the main contributors. Stephen Parker, Missouri ACDA State President, and Dr. Robert Baar, Kentucky ACDA State President, conducted reading sessions at the S.E. Missouri conference, which was organized by Dr. Doyle Dumas. Dr. Hirt presented excellent sessions on style and choral techniques.

Dr. John Davis, past Illinois ACDA State President, and I are attending the Aspen Choral Institute as I write this letter. Dan Spreckelmeyer, district chairman from Springfield, and a past Aspen participant, visited here this past weekend for a Bach

concert directed by Richard Westenburg of N.Y.C.. Dr. Fiora Contino recently conducted Mozart's Mass in C and Dr. John Nelson is now preparing a performance of Berlioz' Damnation of Faust. I am sure that many of you have had similar stimulating experiences.

Of particular concern to me as we begin this fall is that each of us keep in mind in our programming that this is the bicentennial year. I have the feeling that some directors are assuming a somewhat "ho-hum" or "so-what" attitude towards this moment in the history of our nation. It seems to me that as choral directors we have the opportunity of fostering a greater appreciation of and respect for the freedoms that are ours as Americans. Is "Tradition" only a song from Fiddler on the Roof? I feel we have a responsibility to help set some more positive attitudes towards our country through the music that our choirs will sing this year. Can we not all help by doing our part? If music can stir the emotions and arouse our inner passions, certainly we can motivate our choir members to work towards the goal of "one nation, under God, with liberty and justice for all." Have a great "American" year.

A MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR
A. Dennis Sparger

Never have I attended a conference

that was so carefully and completely planned as the Madrigal Dinner Conference, sponsored last July by Thornton Community College. Dr. J. Albert Kindig has earned for himself the distinction of being a master of organization. It was obvious to everyone in attendance that every detail was under Kindig's fingertips.

The conference attracted 128 registrants (with 275 attending dinner) from churches, high schools, colleges, universities, and choral societies from 16 states, as far as New York, Texas, and North Dakota. While a great many participants had already presented dinners of their own, everyone received all the basic information necessary to either prepare a "first" dinner or elaborate on the next dinner. Recognizing the financial limitations of many institutions, many suggestions centered around modest beginnings that could be gradually expanded upon each season.

Several experienced and successful clinicians discussed the different aspects of presenting a madrigal dinner. Of particular value was that Kindig found authorities outside the musical world to discuss the non-musical aspects. The organizational structure was presented by a student union activities director (Dr. Jim Holland, Indiana University). Public relations was discussed by a public relations director (Richard Niremberg, Thornton Community College) and news releases and feature articles were discussed by a member of the Chicago press (Ms. Vicki Giammona, Chicago Sun-Times and Chicago Daily News). While several conferees contributed fine examples of costuming, two professional costumers (James Campbell and Ms. Sandra Tignor, New York Costume Company, Chicago) commented on a variety of costumes modeled at the Luncheon-Style Show and offered many excellent and money-saving suggestions. A technical director (Todd Harrison, Thornton Township High School) and a professional artist (Frank Pavelin) discussed staging, lighting and hall decorations.

In three reading sessions Dr. Kindig presented nearly fifty compositions suitable for madrigal dinners. Noting that dinners are held by various institutions, the diverse settings were discussed by a

high school director (Carl Johnson, Edison High School, Gary, Indiana), a university madrigal director (Dr. John Ferrell, Illinois State University), and a pastor (Rev. Joseph Ledwell, First Presbyterian Church, Homewood). Additionally, many helpful comments and questions were contributed from the floor.

Perhaps the most valuable part of the conference for one who had never attended a dinner before was the opportunity to actually see not one, but two madrigal dinners. A video-tape of last year's dinner at Illinois State was presented to the participants and for the evening banquet, Kindig presented an impressive Christmas dinner, complete to the last detail, with his Madrigal Singers.

Rarely does one have an opportunity to collect so much pertinent and usable information in two days. Involved productions such as these are significantly simplified when one is exposed to a variety of "tricks of the trade"; for example, how to make flaming pudding really flame, where to get a papier mache boar's head, or how to make realistic Elizabethan shoes. Kindig planned the conference for a maximum of sharing of knowledge and experience from all the participants, conferees as well as clinicians. A most complete handbook was given to all registrants that gathered together source materials, menus, recipes, program samples, art work, bibliography, addresses, etc..

If you have any interest in ever presenting a madrigal dinner in the future, you simply must make every effort to attend the next conference. And judging from the excellent response to this conference, Kindig will surely offer a "second edition".

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APPLICATION FORM FOR ACDA BICENTENNIAL CHORUS

"Bicentennial Celebration 76" – July 19-24, 1976
National Music Camp, Interlochen, Michigan

(Print or Type)

Name _____
Last First Middle Initial

Local Address _____ Phone _____

Permanent Address _____ Phone _____

Voice Classification: SOP. I ALTO I TENOR I BASS I
 SOP. II ALTO II TENOR II BASS II

Status: _____
(High School Senior 75-76, College, Community Choir, Church, etc.)

Name of Choir _____

Choir Director's Name _____

Address _____ Phone _____

Is your director a member of ACDA? _____

Previous Choral Experience:

List Major Works Performed:

Have you studied voice privately? _____ How long? _____

Instrumental Background (include years of study):

This form is to be submitted to your State ACDA President ^{by October 17,} ~~prior to the State's selection process during the fall of 1975.~~ Applicants accepted for the Chorus will receive a full scholarship of room and board at "Bicentennial Celebration 76" and admission to all sessions. The Chorus will rehearse and perform with the National Youth Orchestra at Interlochen a commissioned work composed and directed by Lukas Foss. Transportation to and from Interlochen is the responsibility of the applicant or a sponsoring organization.

Director's Recommendation:

Date _____

Signature _____

STATE NEWS

Illinois will be amply represented at the ACDA North-Central Regional Convention this year. Of the fourteen choirs selected to appear on the convention program, no fewer than five will be from our state.

Plan now to attend and hear some of Illinois' finest choirs. Performing are the Chicago Childrens' Choir, Christopher Moore; Lyons Township High School Treble Choir, Ms. Lynn Bradley; Wheaton College Women's Glee Club, Dr. Rex D. Hicks; Illinois State University Madrigal Singers, Dr. John Ferrell; the Bradley University Chorale, Dr. John Davis. The convention will be held at the new Sheraton Hotel in Columbus, Ohio, on March 4 - 6.

NATIONAL NEWS

A National ACDA Bicentennial Convention will be held at the Interlochen Arts Academy, July 21 - 26. Dr. Harold Decker and Dr. Morris Hayes are laying plans for a most exciting week not only for the chorus of 200 that will perform the commissioned work by Lukas Foss, with Dr. Foss conducting, but for the many choral conductors who will be attending and participating in sessions by Dr. Charles Hamm and in reading American music related to these lectures. Plan now to attend.

Auditions will be held this fall to select the quartet of voices from Illinois for the Bicentennial Chorus (4 from each state). Singers must be recommended by an ACDA member. More than one singer may be entered, but please be selective. Voice quality, experience and excellent sight reading ability are essential. Enclosed is the application blank, reprinted from the April issue of The Choral Journal. Please send these by October 17, to Dr. Robert E. Snyder, Music Department, Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, Illinois, 61920. Applicants will be informed of place and time of audition. Several applications are already in.

DEADLINE FOR NEWS ITEMS AND ARTICLES FOR THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE PODIUM IS OCTOBER 20TH, 1975.

RATES FOR ADVERTISING IN SUBSEQUENT ISSUES OF THE PODIUM MAY BE OBTAINED THROUGH THE EDITOR.

VOCAL-CHORAL CLINIC AT U. OF I.

The 1975 Vocal-Choral Clinic will be held at the University of Illinois on Friday and Saturday, October 24 & 25.

The production of Broadway musicals will be discussed on Friday by Joseph Anthony of New York City. Mr. Anthony is the noted producer and director of such productions as "Most Happy Fella", "The Taming of the Shrew", "The Rainmaker", "Under the Yum-Yum Tree", and "Mary, Mary". He is also noted for the distinction of having been a dancing partner of Agnes de Mille.

On Friday evening there will be a performance of La Boheme in the Festival Theater of Krannert Center for the Performing Arts. University of Illinois student members of the Illinois Opera Group will perform under the direction of David Lloyd.

Saturday will feature a concert by the Swedish Radio Choir of Stockholm, Sweden, under the direction of Eric Ericson. During the afternoon program Mr. Ericson will also present a demonstration of his choral techniques and discuss choral music in Sweden today. His outstanding choral conducting has been demonstrated to American audiences through recordings and concert tours. Last summer he presented several very successful workshops with choral conductors in California and New York.

In addition, Saturday morning will be devoted to choral sessions conducted by members of the University of Illinois Choral Division. A noon day luncheon will feature a prominent Illinois high school choir.

For further information write to: Arthur Johnson, Continuing Education in Music, 608 South Mathews, Urbana, Illinois, 61801.

MEETING OF DISTRICT CHAIRMEN

A meeting of all district chairmen has been called by Illinois State President Dr. Robert E. Snyder to plan the first ACDA state convention. The planning session will be held at the University of Illinois on Saturday, October 25, immediately following Eric Ericson's afternoon lecture. Conductors wishing to contribute suggestions are urged to contact their district chairmen prior to the meeting.

SWINGERS UNITE

An organization named the Midwest Swing Choir Association has recently been formed as a result of a successful workshop held at the Morningside College this past summer. The purpose of the organization is to promote and establish "the highest calibre of musicianship, interest and participation for the young jazz or swing musician." President of the Midwest Swing Choir Association is Gary Leatherman of Cherokee, Iowa. Prospective members or interested persons are directed to write: Secretary Barb Votrobeck, Carroll Community Schools, Carroll, Iowa, 51401.



DO NOT FOLD THIS CARD

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)

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.....

STATE OFFICERS & CHAIRMEN

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Dr. Robert E. Snyder, Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, IL 61920

Vice-President

Theodore M. Klinka, New Trier High School West, Northfield, IL 60093

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District 2

Dale Morgan, Riverdale High School, Port Byron, IL 61275

District 3

Larry Voorhees, Hoopston-East High School, Hoopston, IL 60942

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Dan Spreckelmeyer, Springfield High School, Springfield, IL 62704

District 5

John Chaffin, Charleston High School, Charleston, IL 61920

District 6

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

District 7

Norma Raybon, Oak Park & River Forest High School, Oak Park, IL 60302

FAVORITE CHORAL WORKS

Richard Hoffland, Director of Choral Activities at Millikin University, Decatur, Illinois, is a past state president of ACDA. He has shared with us a list of some of his favorite works.

SIXTY SEVENTH PSALM, (Associated A-274)

Charles Ives

THE CREATION, (Walton 2186)

Michael Hennagin

SING JOYFULLY UNTO GOD, (Novello 1108)

William Byrd

EXULTATE DEO, (Bourne ES 37)

Alessandro Scarlatti

AIN'T GOT TIME TO DIE, (G. Schirmer 10301)

Hall Johnson

JOHNNY HAS GONE FOR A SOLDIER, (G. Schirmer 502) Arr. Parker-Shaw

SAUL, (Walton M 126), Egil Hovland

O SAVIOUR THROW THE HEAVENS, (G. Schirmer 8545) Johannes Brahms

I WILL ARISE, (G. Schirmer 905)

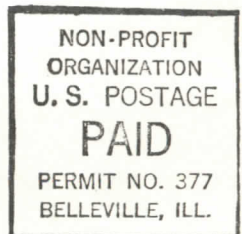
Arr. Shaw-Parker

PRAISE TO GOD, (Associated A 597)

Knut Nystedt

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