

The Conductors' Podium

Illinois State Newsletter of the American Choral Directors Association



Vol. II, No. 2

January 15, 1976

THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dr. Robert E. Snyder

A joyful and happy New Year to all!

I hope that all of you are ready to step back into the rigors and challenges of teaching and directing after the holiday break. The great year of 1976 is with us. Let's make the most of it.

It was a thrill to listen to the students who auditioned for the opportunity to be a part of the Interlochen chorus this coming summer. I believe that the judges made fine decisions in ordering the individual voices. The names of the winners are listed elsewhere in this issue. Congratulations to all. And thanks to the directors who sent auditionees.

I hope that many of you will make plans to attend the Interlochen festival, July 19-24th. There will be all types of accommodations available in the area, many outstanding concerts and lectures to hear, plus the commissioned work composed and directed by Lukas Foss. Why not make Interlochen your summer vacation. Its location on Lake Michigan makes it easily accessible from Illinois. If you have never been there, you'll love the whole area. 175 were already registered in November. Don't miss this great opportunity.

Be sure and plan to attend the North Central Division Convention in Columbus, Ohio, March 4-6th at the Columbus Sheraton. This could be our finest regional convention. Five Illinois choirs, as mentioned in the last issue, will be singing (see convention schedule in this issue). You will want to hear the commissioned work, "Lines from the States" by Alice Parker and directed by Robert Shaw on Saturday, March 6th. Let's make this the biggest and best N.C. regional yet.

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

A. Dennis Sparger

The past semester has been so full of great musical experiences that it's difficult to single out just one event to discuss. Certainly a highlight was the 17th Vocal-Choral

Clinic at the University of Illinois. Once again Dr. Harold Decker and his staff have done a tremendous service to the musicians of Illinois by assembling such a worthwhile clinic.

The performance by Eric Ericson and the Swedish Radio Choir was completely overwhelming. The audience response can be represented by quoting the distinguished gentleman I was seated next to: At the end of the first half William Warfield's jaw fell to his lap as he exclaimed, "My God!" A good portion of contemporary Swedish music was performed as well as a Bach motet and Schoenberg's *Friede auf Erde*. What a rare treat to hear a group of thirty professional singers. If they're ever in the country again. . . .

At the Saturday Luncheon we heard a delightful performance by the Morton High School Madrigal Singers. With less than two months of rehearsal the group of about twenty-four singers performed for almost a half hour from memory, and without a conductor. The group is rehearsed by Mrs. Barbara Mote, who is to be commended for such a fine accomplishment.

One of the most thrilling experiences was to be able to sing in the massed choir of participants under the direction of Mr. Ericson. The response and attentiveness of those in attendance was of such intensity to encourage Dr. Decker to return to that facet of the clinic that also found great favor many years ago. Nothing seems to be so inspiring as singing great music with a great choir directed by a great conductor.

We who are blessed with decreasing budgets are fortunate to have those around us who are able to offer excellent performances for us and our singers to hear. A few months ago we heard such a performance by the Gregg Smith Singers at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville. People like Leonard Van Camp who go out on a financial limb don't do it just for their own singers; they are anxious to share these events with all of us. And they are deserving not only of our appreciation, but our active support as well. How essential it is for our singers to hear other singers. But's that another editorial.

Other clinics, workshops and outstanding concerts are

going on all over the state and we would be delighted to report on them in the next issue. Let me close by adding my personal encouragement to attend the North Central Division Convention and especially the Interlochen Bicentennial Celebration. It appears that 75% of the Illinois Quartet consists of former students of Walter Rodby at Homewood-Flossmoor High School. And that can't be a coincidence!

ILLINOIS ACDA MEMBERSHIP UP 15%

We are happy to announce that the number of ACDA memberships in Illinois has increased nearly 15% this past year. Memberships have increased from 340 to 390. If you are not presently a member, please fill out the membership form and mail it now. Join us in Columbus and Interlochen this year. If you are a member, encourage your fellow director on any level to join. While the membership number is growing, we still have a long way to go. Our national membership dues are low for a professional organization. The *Choral Journal* alone is worth the cost of membership dues. Student memberships are also encouraged and are available for a nominal \$5.

COLLEGE CHOIR FESTIVAL SET FOR FEBRUARY 21st

The Eighth Annual Illinois Invitational College Choir Festival will be held on February 21st at Eastern Illinois University in Charleston. The festival will begin at 9:30 a.m. with all of the choirs singing "Let Your Mind Wander Over America" by Cecil Effinger.

The Indiana State University Singers, directed by Ramon E. Meyer, will be joining the festival this year, as a guest choir. Other choirs will be from Bradley, Eastern Illinois, Greenville College, Illinois State, Millikin, Northern Illinois and the University of Illinois. The festival is open to any directors who would like to attend. If you would like to join the directors for lunch, please notify Robert E. Snyder at Eastern by February 16th.

JUNIOR COLLEGE FESTIVAL SET FOR APRIL 10

The Seventh Annual Illinois Junior College Invitational Choral Festival will be held on April 10th at Prairie State College in Chicago Heights. This year's host will be Mr. David Carrithers. Additional directors wishing to bring their choirs are invited to contact Mr. Carrithers at 312-756-3110.



Tacet

DISTRICT NEWS

DISTRICT 2

The choral directors of District 2 are being polled to express their interests in several ACDA events. Under consideration are festivals within each conference, reading sessions, workshops, a college festival in the quad-city area involving choirs from Illinois and Iowa, and the maintenance of a choral file that would contain individual solutions to choral problems. Other ideas are also solicited. More to follow in the next issue.

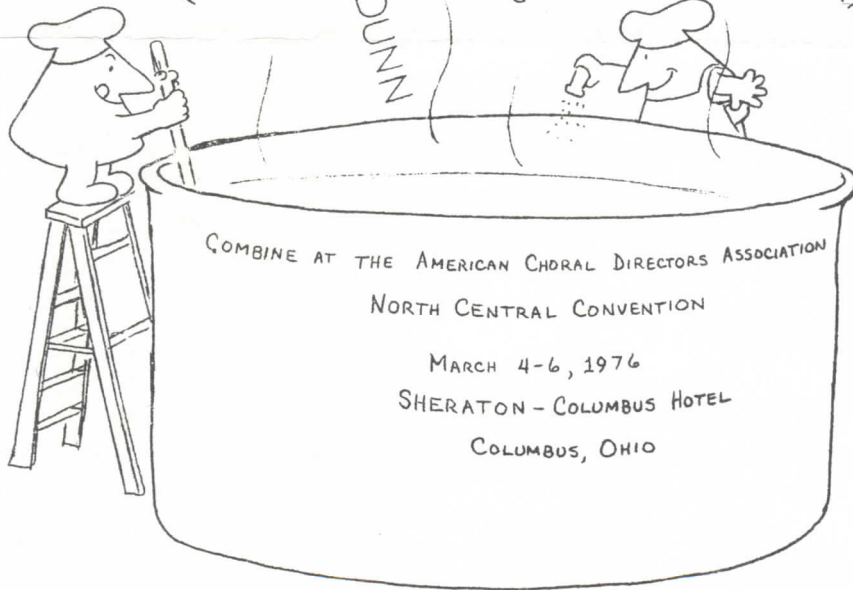
Dale Morgan

DISTRICT 6

Plans are underway for a Church Choir Festival to be held on Sunday afternoon, March 14, at Zion Lutheran Church in Belleville. Participating choirs will each present one anthem of the "chorale concertato" variety that will involve all the singers in at least one verse. Available to assist are an organist (with a 49-rank organ) and a brass ensemble. There will be no audience other than the participants, but area conductors are invited to observe. The purpose of the festival is to experience the joy and sense of fulfillment that comes from uniting to praise God through meaningful music. Conductors interested in bringing their church choirs are invited to contact me for further information and to register their choir by February 27; office phone - 618-235-2700, ext. 249 (call person to person). A Dennis Sparger

RECIPE :

JACKSON CHORALE
 WESTERN MICHIGAN U. CHORALE
 KENT STATE CHORALE
 HIGH SCHOOL CHOIRS
 ROBERT SHAW
 arpad darazs
 CHICAGO CHILDREN'S CHOIR
 JOHN YARRINGTON
 So. DAKOTA U. MADRIGAL SINGERS
 EXHIBITS
 the singing hoosiers
 WHEATON COLLEGE WOMEN'S GLEE CLUB
 FELLOWSHIP
 THOMAS DUNN
 FUN
 ALICE PARKER
 GEMÜTLICHKEIT!
 ILLINOIS STATE MADRIGAL SINGERS
 BRADLEY UNIVERSITY CHORALE



DEADLINE FOR
 PRE-REGISTRATION:
 FEB. 1, 1976

YES, I WANT TO PARTAKE OF THIS FEAST...

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE _____ ZIP _____

PLEASE ENCLOSE PRE-REGISTRATION FEE (\$10)

MAIL TO: George Wilson, Registrations
 3451 Rolling Hills Lane
 Grove City, Ohio 43123

I AM A MEMBER OF ACDA _____

I AM NOT YET A MEMBER _____ (DUES ARE \$15)

ACDA BICENTENNIAL QUARTET RESULTS
FOR INTERLOCHEN — 1976

The following persons were selected to represent Illinois at the ACDA festival in July:

QUARTET 1 (Listed in S.A.T.B. order)

Patricia Ludvigson	Flossmoor Univ. of Ill.
Lynn Peterson	Homewood Univ. of Ill.
Thomas Birkner	Belleville Eastern Ill. Univ.
Robert Knight	Homewood Illinois State Univ.

The following will serve as alternates:

QUARTET 2

Linda Johnson	Normal Illinois State Univ.
Sheryl Melzer	Glenview Univ. of Ill.
James Harbaugh Jr.	Tuscola Eastern Ill. Univ.
Paul Ludden	Sterling Univ. of Ill.

QUARTET 3

Mary Davison	Flossmoor Univ. of Ill.
Rosalind Onyun	Peoria Illinois State Univ.
Terence Kelly	Charleston Eastern Ill. Univ.
Charles Barnes	LaGrange Lyons Twp. High School

QUARTET 4

Barbara Young	Park Ridge, Bradley University
JoAnn Pottorff	Olney Eastern Illinois Univ.
Steven Morgan	Farmer City Univ. of Ill.
Paul Crawford	Plano Plano High School

Honorable mention:

Lesley Goodman, Sop.	Morton Grove Maine East High School
Joseph Morgan, Ten.	Countryside Lyons Twp. High School

Our thanks to all who participated in the auditions, to ISU for hosting the auditions and to the three judges, 2 high school teachers, and one college teacher, who volunteered their time. We will be very well represented this summer. Plan to attend the festival yourself.



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NORTH CENTRAL DIVISION CONVENTION

The ACDA North Central Division Convention, including 1800 members in ten states, will be held March 4-6, 1976, at the Sheraton-Columbus Hotel in Columbus, Ohio, as announced by Dr. Karle Erickson, N.C. Division President. Convention chairman is John Williams, Ohio ACDA President.

Choral organizations selected to perform at the convention are as follows:

Chicago Children's Choir, Christopher Moore
Illinois State U., Normal, Ill., **Madrigal Singers**, John V. Ferrell

U. of South Dakota Madrigal-Chamber Singers, K. Larry Torkelson

Avon Lake, Ohio, High School Chorale, Ernest L. Hisey
Lyons Township, Westmont, Ill., High School Treble Choir, Lynne Bradley

Wheaton College, Illinois, Women's Glee Club, Rex D. Hicks

Kent State U., Ohio, Chorale, Vance George
Bradley U., Illinois, Chorale, John Davis

Indiana U. Singing Hoosiers, Robert E. Stoll
Western Michigan U. Chorale, Mel Ivey

Jackson Community Chorale, Pontiac, Michigan,
Gilbert O. Jackson

Franklin Junior H.S. Choir, Cedar Rapids, Michigan,
John N. Ryal

Whetstone H.S. Senior Choir, Columbus, Ohio, James Gallagher

North Central All Boy Choir, Jerome L. Wright, guest conductor from Woodinville, Washington

Principal clinicians for special sessions:

Arpad Darazs, U. of South Carolina "Vocal Techniques for High School and College Choirs"

Thomas Dunn, Boston. . . . "Voices and Instruments"

John Yarrington, Norman, Oklahoma. . . . "Methodology and Materials for Elementary and Junior High School Voices"

Alice Parker, New York City. . . . "Church Music"

The final session of the convention will be a Lecture "The Composer Speaks" by Alice Parker, followed by a performance of the ACDA-commissioned work "Lines From the States" by Alice Parker. This will be conducted by **Robert Shaw**, with singers from Ohio State U. (Maurice Casey, conductor) and the U. of Cincinnati (Elmer Thomas, conductor) with the O.S.U. Symphony Orchestra.

The first session is March 4 at 1:30 pm. The final session will be finished by 5:00 p.m. March 6. We hope to have transportation available from the concert to the Columbus airport.

All sessions are at the Sheraton Columbus Hotel in downtown Columbus, with the exception of the final concert at the Ohio State U. campus.

NEW TRIER INVITED TO WASHINGTON

The New Trier West Choir, directed by Theodore Klinka, has been selected to perform in Washington, D.C. this spring during the Bicentennial festivities. An official invitation was extended by the National Bicentennial Hospitality Alliance and the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration, which is the official government organization that is coordinating all Bicentennial events.

Selected as one of the few musical organizations representing Illinois, the choir will perform at a special concert site located on the Elipse of the White House lawn. The choir has also been asked to perform on the steps of the Capitol, at Mount Vernon and at Liberty Hall in Philadelphia. All Illinois choral directors salute this fine group of singers for receiving such a distinct honor.

SWING YOUR PARTNER

Last month at the request of a newly-formed swing choir organization from Iowa, we included information on its formation. Simultaneously it was announced in the *Journal* that at the summer interim meeting of the Board of Directors a new **Committee on Vocal Jazz and Show Choirs** was added to the list of active committees. Members who are interested in this aspect of choral music are encouraged to actively work within the scope of the ACDA committee.

Serving as chairman of the new group is John A. Smith, School of Music, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, 48105. Members serving with him are Doug Anderson, author of *"The Swing and Show Choir and Vocal Jazz Ensemble"*, McMinnville, Oregon; William V. Estes, Director of Choral Activities at La Crosse; Gene Grier, Manager, J.W. Pepper of Detroit, and author of *"A Conceptual Approach to Bach Music"*; and Earl Rivers, University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory and musical director for several major performances of the Bernstein Mass in cities throughout the country.

ACDA HOLDS TWO SESSIONS AT IMEA

ACDA will sponsor two sessions this year at the IMEA meetings at Arlington Heights this month. On Friday, Jan 23rd from 10:30 to 12 noon there will be a sight-reading session entitled "Effective Choral Teaching thru Music by the Masters". Several ACDA District chairpersons will be directing. On Saturday, January 24th at 10:30 a.m., Dr. Frederick Swanson, of Moline, Illinois, will lead a session on "The Boy's Changing Voice". I am sure that we all have profited from Dr. Swanson's articles in the *Choral Journal*. If you are going to attend the IMEA All-state meetings, do join us.

PLANS FOR A STATE CONVENTION

The ACDA Illinois officers and district chairpersons will meet on Friday evening, January 23, in Arlington Heights, to plan the First ACDA State Convention. President Robert Snyder will announce the time and place of the meeting at the morning session of the IMEA Convention.

Deadline for news items and articles for the next issue of the *Podium* is March 1.

Rates for advertising in subsequent issues of the *Podium* may be obtained through the editor.

The Conductors' Podium is printed courtesy of Dr. James McKelvy and the Mark Foster Music Company.

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

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Oak Park, Illinois 60302

FAVORITE CHORAL WORKS

For this issue's column of favorite choral works we offer a list of lesser known musicals that are suitable for production by high schools. The list was prepared by Dr. Elwood Smith, Director of Choral Activities at Northern Illinois University, who is widely recognized for his expertise in musical comedy. If you traditionally present musicals and have exhausted the most popular shows, look at these next:

Anything Goes, Cole Porter (Tams Witmark)
Apple Tree, Bock-Harnick (Music Theatre)
Boys from Syracuse, Rodgers-Hart (Rodgers & Hammerstein)
Damn Yankees, Adler-Ross (Music Theatre)
Fiorello, Bock-Harnick (Tams Witmark)
George M., George M. Cohan (Tams-Witmark)
110 In The Shade, Schmidt-Jones (Tams-Witmark)
Little Me, Simon, Coleman, Fields (Tams-Witmark)
Plain and Fancy, Hague (Samuel French)
She Loves Me, Bock-Harnick (Tams-Witmark)
Take Me Along, Merrill (Tams-Witmark)
Where's Charley, Loesser (Music Theatre)
Wonderful Town, Bernstein, Comden, Green (Tams-Witmark)

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