

# The Conductors'

# Podium

Illinois State Newsletter of the American Choral Directors Association



Vol. VIII, No. 4

SPRING ISSUE

May, 1982

## Illinois ACDA Convention to be held October 22 & 23, 1982 at the Louis Joliet Renaissance Center in Joliet

### ...from The President Dr. William E. Schnell

Mark the dates of October 22 & 23, 1982 on your calendar NOW. Those are the dates you should reserve to attend the eighth annual Illinois A.C.D.A. State Convention, a workshop devoted to choral techniques and repertoire. As in the past this state convention will focus on "process" rather than "product." In order to make our state convention the most beneficial, each of you has been asked to submit topics and names of clinicians you would like to have appear at our convention. From your suggestions and from the recommendations of our district chairpersons, we'll select clinicians, topics, and demonstration groups to appear at the convention on the basis of their expertise in a given area and on their ability to share those ideas effectively. Sessions are being planned so that all interest areas in choral music—from pre-school thru adult—will be included in the workshop. This will be a workshop *for* choral directors *by* choral directors—for people who want to learn by people who want to share.

#### HONORS CHOIRS—JUNIOR HIGH & SENIOR HIGH

Highlighting this year's convention will be TWO Honors Choirs—a High School Honors Choir and a Junior High School Honors Choir. Dr. Daniel Moe, Director of Choral Activities at Oberlin College in Ohio will be the guest director of the High School Honors Choir, and Mr. Joe Grant from the University of Illinois will be the guest director for the Junior High School Honors Choir.

Junior High School and High School teachers who wish to have a quartet of students from their school participate in the Honors Choirs will have the opportunity to do so at the beginning of school next fall. The summer issue of *The Conductor's Podium* will be a special convention issue which will include the registration forms for both Honors Choirs and specific data on rehearsals and literature. Registration fees for these Honors Choirs will include the cost of the music to be performed and will be mailed to the directors upon receipt of the registration form and fees.

The High School Honors Choir schedule will include one mandatory pre-convention rehearsal to be held in each A.C.D.A. District, a mandatory sectional rehearsal at the convention on Thursday night, October 21st (with overnight lodging at the convention center, \$7.00/person), and rehearsals with Dr. Moe Friday morning and afternoon. The final concert will be held late Friday afternoon. The Junior High School Honors Choir rehearsals with Mr. Grant will take place on Saturday morning and afternoon, October 23rd, with the final clinic/demonstration in the mid-afternoon. This will be the concluding activity of the convention. It will be necessary that students par-

ticipating in these Honors Choirs be well prepared on their music prior to the convention. Quartets from schools will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis as registration forms and fees are received. Both Honors Choirs will be limited to 120 singers. Cheryl Hoffman of Highland Park High School, Highland Park, will serve as chairperson for the High school Honors Choir, and David Weck of Hope Publishing Company in Carol Stream will chair the Junior High Honors Choir.

#### SEVEN CHOIRS INVITED TO APPEAR AT IL-ACDA CONVENTION

This year there were twenty-six Illinois A.C.D.A.'ers who submitted tapes of their choirs for either the National and/or the State Convention. Seven tapes have been forwarded to the Central region audition committee for further evaluation, and seven directors and their choirs have received invitations to appear at the state convention this next fall. They are:

1. James Yarbrough—Plainfield, IL, Plainfield High School Treble Choir.
2. Harriet Ziegenhals—Chicago, IL, Community Renewal Chorus and All God's Children.
3. Robert Boyd—LaGrange, IL, Lyons Township High School Madrigal Ensemble.
4. Elvis Coble—Flossmoor, IL, Homewood-Flossmoor High School Viking Choir.
5. Robert Fuller—Oak Park, IL, Oak Park-River Forest High School A Cappella Choir.
6. Eva Wedel—Crystal Lake, IL, First Congregational Church: Vestry Choir.
7. William Olson—Urbana, IL, University of Illinois Varsity Men's Glee Club.

#### CONVENTION SITE

The Louis Joliet Renaissance Center in downtown Joliet is a unique facility in that there are ample rooms for meetings, a ball room for concerts, and eating and sleeping accommodations in the same building. There are also several churches within a 2-to 3-block area which have offered their facilities to us. In August check your mail carefully; you'll be receiving the special convention issue of *The Conductor's Podium* which will outline the convention program and will contain all registration and hotel accommodation forms. The entire convention is going to be a good one. Those of us who are doing the planning for it are excited about it. We hope that you will be there; it is being planned for YOU!

## ...from The District Chairpersons

### DISTRICT 2, Ron Pexton, Chairperson

At the last meeting of the state officers, it was decided to change the boundaries of three districts, all of which converge at a point near Peoria. These boundaries in the past have divided the metropolitan area of Peoria into three different districts. With the new alignment of district boundaries, this area will be within one jurisdiction, and it will enable members to have more activities together. The change now brings Woodford County (formerly in District 3) and Tazewell County (formerly in District 4) into District 2. Welcome to the new District 2 members.

Illinois Central College was host for the Community College Choral Festival, held in its Performing Arts Center on Saturday, April 3. This is the thirteenth year of the festival, and there were eight colleges performing. There was good representation of the north and central parts of the states. The participating colleges and their hometowns are: Carl Sandburg College, Galesburg; College of DuPage, Glen Ellyn; Danville Community College, Danville; Illinois Central College, East Peoria; Lake Land Community College, Mattoon; Morton College, Cicero; Sauk Valley College, Dixon; and Waubesa College, Sugar Grove.

### DISTRICT 3, Leonard Rumery, Chairperson

On April 9, The University of Illinois Symphony, Oratorio Society, Concert Choir, and Graduate Chorale performed *Belshazzar's Feast* by Sir William Walton. The concert was conducted by Leonard Rumery.

On April 24, the Graduate Chorale gave a concert conducted by guest artist Miklos Szabo, from Hungary. The concert included *Missa Choralis* by Franz Liszt and *Four Slovak Songs* (continued on page 6)

## IS IT FINALLY YOUR TURN?

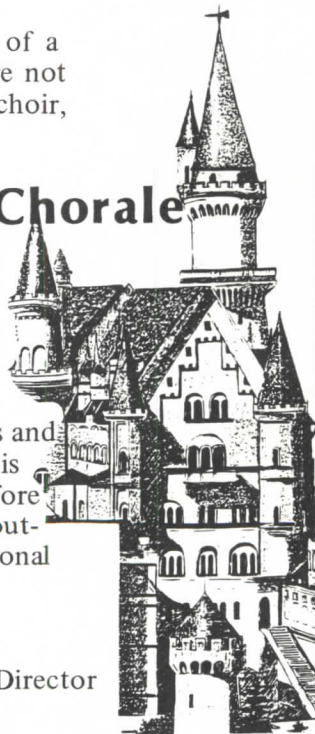
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planning now  
for Summer 1983

## ...from The Editor Walter Lamble

The time has come for all of us to sit back, relax, take stock of 1981-82, and plan 1982-83. Of course, the summer vacation is never long enough to do enough relaxing, but it is important that we not let those months slip by without taking the opportunity to improve ourselves and our teaching / conducting abilities. There are literally hundreds of exciting workshops and clinics available to us in almost every discipline within the area of choral music. Your ACDA *Journal* as well as the other professional journals you no doubt receive are filled with notices advertising these various summer activities. Some are expensive; some are not. Some involve study and performance abroad; some are as close as your back door. Some offer college credit; some are purely for self improvement. Don't overlook these clinics sponsored by universities and organizations here in Illinois. As Dorothy says, "There's no place like home."

And while we're thinking about summer, don't overlook the summer camps available to your students. Many summer camps are taking place in your area, and no student ever fails to come home from music camp fired up for a great year.

My final thought for the school year is in the form of a poem written by a Glenbrook South student, Ms. Ava Grover, after a recent choral concert Bill and I conducted. It touched the two of us greatly, and I hope it speaks to you as well.

### THE CONDUCTOR

*He ascends the platform in silence,  
A solitary silhouette—  
Arms raised in poised anticipation.  
He draws the harmonious strains out  
With a miniscule movement of his left hand.  
Arms flailing into crescendo  
He makes the air come alive with sound—  
A symphony so vivid, so colorful, so vibrant  
You can see it sailing around him.  
At last the piece slows to conclusion,  
Close harmonies now replaced by the singular force  
Of a unison melody  
Led by hushed, tentative treble tones.  
And the conductor, drained,  
And waiting to wipe his brow  
Brings it all to a close  
With one final, sweeping gesture of his left hand.  
As an afterthought, that expectant pause—  
Before the audience breaks into applause  
During which the conductor strains his ear to find  
The intense feeling of accomplishment  
So adequately expressed in silence.*

Watch for the summer issue of the *Podium*; it will contain news of our fall A.C.D.A. State Convention in Joliet.

Walter Lamble  
Editor

Due to circumstances beyond my control, this issue of the *Podium* is several weeks late, making some announcements contained herein outdated.

I sincerely apologize.

—Walter Lamble



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## **Indiana Choral Directors Association Summer Workshop**

Indiana Choral Directors Association will sponsor a Summer Workshop on July 23-24, 1982, in Lily Hall on the Butler University campus, Indianapolis, Indiana. Primary topic of study will be "The Choral Director As Voice Teacher." Other activities include repertoire reading sessions and a concert by the Central Indiana Youth Chorale, James Mulholland, conductor.

Presenting sessions on "The Choral Director As Voice Teacher," will be Dale Moore, reknowned baritone soloist, teacher of voice, and choral conductor. Topics for discussion and demonstration include:

- Solo tone vs. choral tone
- What is blend?
- Blend and vowel
- Warmup
- Posture, breathing, the singing act
- A consistent vocal approach
- Vocal health

Dale Moore has had extensive choral conducting experience, having taught at Souther Illinois University, Washington University, St. Louis Conservatory Denison University and the College of Wooster, where he presently is professor of music. His choral experience includes mixed choirs and glee clubs in college and church.

In addition, repertoire reading sessions will be presented in the following areas:

- Junior High—mixed choir and girls' voices
- Senior High—mixed choir and male chorus
- Women's Chorus—advanced repertoire
- Church Music—youth and adult
- College/Community

Registration will begin at noon on Friday, July 23, and the session will continue through Saturday afternoon, July 24. For further information and pre-registration, contact:

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## Homer Junior High Commissions Work by Composer Phillip Hageman

New York composer and conductor, Phillip Hageman will be visiting in the Lockport area on Tuesday and Wednesday, May 18 and 19. The occasion will be the premiere of his "De Gustibus" which has been commissioned by the choruses of Homer Junior High School. Mr Hageman will be present for the final rehearsals of the work, which he will conduct.

On the evening of May 18, Mr. Hageman will present a reading session of his compositions with free packets of music provided by his publishers. This music will represent the various styles of Mr. Hageman's music and will cover all age and ability levels.

The concert on May 19 will feature the new work as well as several other Hageman compositions. There will be a reception in his honor following the performance.

In addition to composing, Mr. Hageman is also the conductor of the County Choral Society and the Rockland Childrens Chorus.

All choral directors are cordially invited to attend the reading session on May 18 and the premiere on May 19, both at 7:30 p.m. Homer Junior High School is located at 159th and Bell Road, Lockport.

Call Sandy Stoneham for further information:  
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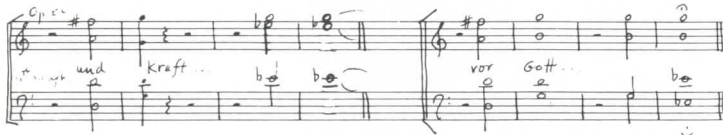
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## NOTES: ANCIENT AND MODERN

by Leonard Rumery

Choral conductors preparing the Finale of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony will someday be called upon to prepare his Choral Fantasia, Op. 80, as well, since this earlier short work is often considered a good curtain-raiser for the Ninth. The Fantasia is scored for piano, orchestra and chorus and consists of a set of variations on a theme reminiscent (because of its meter, conjunct motion in equal notes, four bar phrases and harmonic plan) of the famous theme of the Ninth's finale. Here are the two melodies for comparison.



In addition, there is an arresting moment toward the end of the Fantasia which is strikingly like an even more arresting moment in the Ninth:



On the whole the Fantasia is an enjoyable warmup for all participants, and pretty easy for the chorus. I hope that the following review of the 1808 premiere (from *Musikalische Zeitung*, January, 1809, pp. 267-269) will provide a sense of "brotherhood in adversity" with Beethoven as we chorusmasters cope with wrong notes and missed cues. (In the translation, parenthetical comments are the reviewer's; bracketed comments are mine.)

"Concerning the musical concerts given in the theatres during Christmas week, the one which Beethoven gave on December 22 in the *Theater an der Wien* is by far the most remarkable. It contained only pieces of his own composition and quite new ones, which had not yet been heard in public and most of which have not yet been published. The order in which they followed each other was as follows.

### First Part

- I. Pastoral Symphony [here the editor gives the movements with their titles]
- II. Aria sung by Dam. Killitzky
- III. Hymn with Latin text, written in the church style with chorus and soloists. [Thayer identifies this as the gloria from the Mass in C and says it was poorly performed.]
- IV. Piano concerto, played by himself. [i.e., by Beethoven]

### Second Part

- I. Great Symphony in C minor
- II. Heilig [Sanctus from Mass in C] with Latin text, written in the church style with chorus and soloists [also poorly performed, according to Thayer].
- III. Fantasy on the piano alone.
- IV. Fantasy on the piano which ends as the finale, with the gradual entrance of the orchestra and finally of the chorus [the Choral Fantasy, Op. 80].

To review all of the works performed, after the first and only hearing, is impossible, especially since we are speaking

of Beethoven's works, of which many are here given one after the other and which are mostly so large and long.

I make these short inconsequential remarks because I hope that you will all soon hear them yourselves and will share your judgments with the readers of the *Musikalische Zeitung* because some of these works are already engraved [for printing] and others will soon be so. As concerns the execution of this concert, it was deficient in every respect. Killitzky has a very pleasant voice, but he gave us few secure and more false notes. This seems to be the result of shyness, which will certainly pass with experience. The most astonishing thing was however the blundering which occurred in the last Fantasy. The winds varied the theme which Beethoven earlier had displayed on the piano. Then it was the oboes' turn. The clarinets—if I do not err—miscalculated and came in as well. [This must have occurred around m. 66 of the finale, marked allegro.] A curious mixture of tones resulted; Beethoven sprang up, tried to silence the clarinets: he could not succeed until, quite loudly and angrily he called out to the whole orchestra: "quiet, quiet, this won't do! Once again—once again!" and the commendable orchestra had to condescend to begin the ill-fated Fantasy again from the beginning. The effect of all these pieces on the mixed audience, and especially of these pieces in the second half, was damaged by the abundance and the length of the music. It is well-known everywhere that the axiom from the Gospels concerning a prophet in his own land prevails in Vienna, more than in other cities.

At the same time one of the oldest Haydn oratorios was performed: The Return of Tobias. The choruses seem to have made the greatest effect. [And so they should, since they are excellent pieces!]

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...from the District Chairpersons (continued from page 2)  
by Bela Bartok. Professor Szabo is the conductor of the inter-  
nationally known Gyor Girl's Choir.

The annual University of Illinois Chamber Music Sym-  
posium of Vocal Ensembles was held on March 26 and 27 at the  
Allerton House in Monticello, Illinois. High School chamber  
choirs taking part were Oak Park/River Forest High School,  
Robert Fuller, conductor; Willowbrook High School, Kenneth  
Greenhouse, conductor; Harlem North High School, Rulee  
Stallman, conductor; Thornton High School, Richard Camp-  
bell, conductor; York High School, Robert Stone, conductor.  
Coaches were from the staff at Illinois were Richard Palmer,  
David Castonguay, Sister Joan Whittemore, Steven Edwards,  
and Nina Monahan.

Professor Harold Decker, who retired from the University of  
Illinois in the spring of 1981, is pursuing an active retirement  
by teaching choral literature at California State University at  
Fullerton. He will conduct the Summer Chorus at Illinois this  
summer and return to Fullerton next year.

#### **DISTRICT 4, Dick Hanson, Chairperson**

The MacMurray College Choirs under the direction of Dr.  
Richard Hanson just completed their annual spring tour. The  
concert consisted of selections by the Men's Choir, Women's  
Choir, Madrigal Singers and Concert Choir. Repertoire includ-  
ed "Glory to God," from *Christmas Oratorio* by J.S. Bach;  
"Haste Thee, Nymph," from *L'Allegro* by G.F. Handel;  
"Gloria Tibi," from *Mass* by Leonard Bernstein, and  
numerous madrigals, anthems and spirituals. Concerts were  
given in Illinois, Georgia, and Florida.

#### **DISTRICT 8, Elwood Smith, Chairperson**

Combined concerts are the order of the day this spring in  
District 8. NIU Chorus and Concert Choir performed with the  
North Shore Concert Band under the baton of John Paynter at  
Pick-Staiger Concert Hall in Evanston on April 18. These same  
choral groups performed with the NIU Philharmonic with Carl  
Roskott conducting on April 28 in the NIU Concert Hall. And  
the Rockford Chorale (Andrew Koebler, conductor) and the  
Rockford College Choir (Walter Whipple, conductor) per-  
formed in the Maddox Theatre at Rockford College on April  
30 and May 1.

On April 22 the Rockford All-City Choral Festival was held  
at Jefferson High School. Guest conductors were Woody  
Smith and Andrew Koebler. As most of you know, Jester  
Hairston has been in residence at Rock Valley College in  
Rockford recently. He gave several lectures and conducted  
concerts with the Rock Valley College Choirs and Madrigal  
Singers from Harlem, East, and Guilford High Schools. The  
Director of Choral Activities at Rock Valley is Dean Durst.

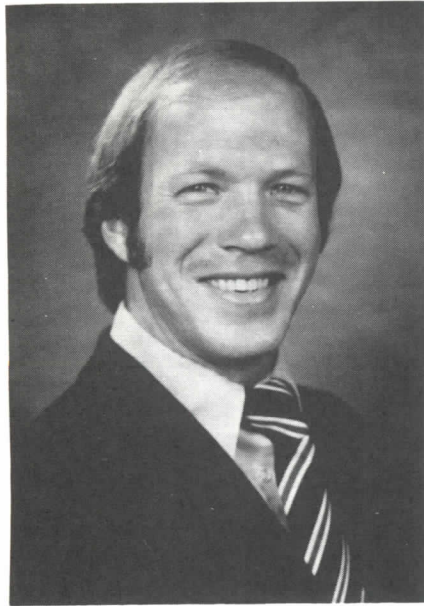
Don't miss Northern's summer workshop in Swing Choir  
Choreography with Linda Anderson from Buffalo Grove High  
School from July 12 to 15 on the NIU campus.

#### **CITY OF CHICAGO, Irving Bunton, Chairperson**

The Chicago District recently sponsored what they called a  
Dinner-Rap. All district members were invited to a dinner, a  
choral concert, a tour of the facility where they met, and a brief  
educational presentation. How about that for an idea for other  
districts.?

Six celebrated Chicago church choirs presented an  
ecumenical choral festival on March 16 at Holy Name  
Cathedral. The choirs were from Rockefeller Memorial  
Chapel, Fourth Presbyterian Church, Church of the Ascen-  
sion, Chicago Temple, Holy Name Cathedral, and St. James  
Cathedral. Each choir gave about 15 minutes of music, in-  
cluding such works as *Lobet den Herrn* (Bach), *Festival Te  
Deum* (Britten), three Stanford motets, and *Jesus and the  
Traders* (Kodaly).

# CHORAL READING SESSION



with  
ROGER EMERSON

**WHEN:** Friday, August 27, 1982 7:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.  
Saturday, August 28, 1982 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

**WHERE:** Ramada the O'Hare Inn  
Mannheim and Higgins Roads  
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Friday's session will cover sacred music.

Saturday's session will be devoted to educational material.

All publishers will be represented.

Refreshments will be served. Lunch will be provided on Saturday.  
Participants will receive a packet of all materials covered (retail value \$100.00)

Registration and refreshments 1 hour prior to session.

PRE REGISTRATION REQUIRED

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## York Community High School Announces Commercial Vocal Music Symposium

The York Community High School Choral Area, through the sponsorship of the York Choral Parents Association, announces the presentation of the second annual YORK COMMERCIAL VOCAL MUSIC SYMPOSIUM, Tuesday, May 18, 1982.

Professional clinician/performers for this year's event will be THE ARBORS, a Chicago-based male quartet legendary in the popular and commercial vocal music field. The afternoon clinic session (12:30 p.m.—3:15 p.m.) will provide an opportunity for the quartet to discuss and demonstrate the development and maintenance of vocal/choral skills necessary to sustain a career in today's commercial music field. The evening public concert provides all participants the opportunity to observe the professional execution of these skills in a formal concert setting.

Both events will be held in the York Community High School Auditorium, 355 East St. Charles Road, Elmhurst, Illinois (approximately ¼ mile east of the intersection of Rt. 83 and St. Charles Rd.)

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*IL-ACDA mourns the death of former National ACDA Treasurer and former North Central ACDA President, Phil Mark.*

*Mr. Mark was choral director at Barrington High School.*

*Both Mr. and Mrs. Mark were killed in an automobile accident on March 5, 1982.*

# ILLINOIS ACDA OFFICERS AND CHAIRPERSONS

The officers listed below are people who want to be of help to you in your work in any way they can. Contact your District Chairpersons and send them information about what you're doing—special programs, workshops and festivals in your area, teaching techniques that work for you—any and all news. They will include as much of this news as they can in their District News Reports which will appear in the next three issues of the *PODIUM*.

## **PRESIDENT**

Dr. Wm. E. Schnell  
Glenbrook South High School  
4000 West Lake Ave.  
Glenview, IL 60025  
(312) 729-2000, Ext. 266

## **DISTRICT 2**

Ronald D. Pexton  
Illinois Central College  
East Peoria, IL 61635  
(309) 694-5108

## **DISTRICT 7**

Mrs. Judy Lynn Moe  
Glenbrook North High School  
2300 Shermer Road  
Northbrook, IL 60062  
(312) 272-6400, Ext. 262

## **VICE-PRESIDENT**

A. Dennis Sparger  
Belleville Area College  
Belleville, IL 62221  
(618) 235-2700, Ext. 249

## **DISTRICT 3**

Dr. Leonard R. Rumery  
Choral Music Office, KCPA  
University of Illinois  
Urbana, IL 61801  
(217) 333-3206

## **DISTRICT 8**

Dr. Elwood Smith  
Northern Illinois University  
De Kalb, IL 60115  
(815) 753-1551(2)

## **TREASURER**

Mrs. Patricia Densford  
Lisle High School  
Lisle, IL 60532  
(312) 968-7368

## **DISTRICT 4**

Dr. Richard D. Hanson  
MacMurry College  
Jacksonville, IL 62650  
(217) 245-6151, Ext. 260

## **CHICAGO**

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(312) 641-4080

## **PRESIDENT-ELECT**

Robert Fuller  
Oak Park-River Forest High School  
201 North Scoville  
Oak Park, IL 60302  
(312) 383-0700, Ext. 603

## **DISTRICT 5**

Alice Jayne Swikard  
Charleston High School  
Lincoln Highway  
Charleston, IL 61920  
(217) 345-2196

## **EDITOR,**

### ***THE CONDUCTORS' PODIUM***

Walter Lamble  
Glenbrook South High School  
4000 West Lake Ave.  
Glenview, IL 60025  
(312) 729-2000, Ext. 266

## **DISTRICT 1**

Mrs. Doreen Rao  
2506 Braeburn Road  
Flossmoor, IL 60422  
(312) 799-3177

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Bob Stone  
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