

# The Conductors' Podium

Illinois State Newsletter of the American Choral Directors Association

VOLUME XV, NUMBER 1

AUGUST 1988

## College of DuPage to Host State Convention *Weston Noble Will Headline*



Weston Noble

Illinois State ACDA will hold its annual convention on October 21 and 22, 1988 at College of DuPage in Glen Ellyn. The two-day event will feature concerts and reading sessions and will be highlighted by a workshop and master class led by Weston Noble, Director of Musical Activities at Luther College and conductor of the world-renowned Nordic Choir.

The convention will actually kick off on Thursday evening, October 20, with a meeting of the Executive Board. A full slate of activities begins on Friday morning at the College's spectacular Arts Center. Completed in 1986, the Arts Center houses instructional facilities, an art gallery, and three performing spaces. Concerts at the convention will be held in the Mainstage, an elegant 800-seat theatre.

Among the concerts scheduled at this year's convention are performances by Quincy High School Madrigals, Dan Sherman, conductor; Nova Singers, a community chorus from Galesburg, Laura Lane, conductor; Oak Park-River Forest High School 10th Grade Treble Choir, Anne Reisner, conductor; Illinois State University Concert Choir, Mike Schwartzkopf, conductor; and the Windy City Gay Chorus, Richard Garrin, conductor. In addition, the New Classic Singers from College of DuPage, conducted by Lee Kesselman, will perform as "host choir," and there will be a workshop featuring the Central Illinois Children's Chorus and led by their conductor, Carolyn Paulin.

A number of interest sessions have been scheduled to meet the needs of virtually every member who attends, regardless of your specialization. Four choral reading sessions will be held as well: one for elementary and children's choir literature, one for junior high/small high school, one for large high school/college, and a fourth for SSA and TTBB literature. Music packets will be furnished at the convention at no additional charge.

Several events have been scheduled at the Glen Ellyn Holiday Inn. On Saturday morning, interest breakfasts will be held. These are a perfect opportunity for you to meet and exchange ideas with others who do the same kind of work that you do. You may register for these when you arrive at the convention on Friday. Also on Saturday, a

luncheon honoring this year's Harold Decker Award winner, Elvis Coble, will be held. (Reservations for the luncheon must be made in advance on the pre-registration form.) And on Friday night, following the official activities on the day, which will include a special evening concert, we will gather at the Holiday Inn for Gemütlichkeit.

Saturday's exciting activities will feature Weston Noble, who will work with a special "Workshop Chorus" made up of students from junior colleges and community colleges from across the state. The sessions will focus on rehearsal techniques, especially in light of the great turnover of students in the junior/community college situation. There will also be an opportunity for ACDA members to work with Weston Noble in a master class. This will be a special chance, particularly for those conductors who spend a lot of time behind the piano, to brush up on conducting skills, as well as for conductors of all kinds of groups to develop their conducting and rehearsing skills with the aid of one of America's foremost choral pedagogues.

A pre-registration form for the convention can be found elsewhere in this issue. Be sure to send it in, as well as the housing form, right away. Don't miss this exciting convention!

P.S. Anyone interested in participating in the Master Class with Weston Noble should contact Mona Quinn at the Music Department, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL 60115, or call her at 815-753-1551.

## From The President

As you will become acutely aware upon reading this edition of *The Conductors' Podium*, our Illinois State ACDA fall convention is coming up in October. This year we are pleased that the College of DuPage has offered to host the activities of the convention. A number of outstanding Illinois choral ensembles are busy preparing wonderful performances for our enlightenment and enjoyment. A wonderful convention committee, headed by Mona Quinn, is working diligently to prepare a program worthy of our attendance.

So the only thing missing at this point is YOU. If past experiences hold true, about one third of us will gather in Glen Ellyn for this year's convention. Those of us who go will undoubtedly come back to our respective choral activities with new ideas for literature, as well as new teaching techniques and choral "tricks." We will have had the opportunity to watch a master conductor as he rehearses with a group, and we will undoubtedly have chances to learn new conducting styles and techniques as we watch other conductors. Possibly most important of all, we will be surrounded by others in our profession for two days of immersion in our art. What could be more useful and productive than this ADCA convention to each one of us--professionally young or professionally mature?

The two-thirds of you who are members of ACDA who do not attend the convention are cheating yourselves of the opportunities discussed above. You have acknowledged the desirability of membership in ACDA, but you are taking advantage of less than what is being offered. If it is at all possible, please come to this year's convention. We're only half the group we can be when so many of our members aren't able to join us in our activities. We really do need you to make the most of our organization. If you are one of those whose employer does not support your attendance at these conventions, try once more to convince him/her that this investment in your musical maturity is one which will pay off not only in the performance of your musicians,

but also in your ability to teach those performers at the very highest level. Keep trying; we need you and we all need the mountaintop experiences that the conventions afford us.

If you are a non-member of ACDA, obviously we urge you to join and become an active participant in the only professional organization devoted solely to choral activities. The easiest way to join is to attend the fall convention; your convention fees include a one year membership. That membership entitles you to membership in three levels of ACDA: 1) State, 2) Divisional (5-state area), and 3) National. Each of these levels sponsors conventions, workshops and other activities, and each sponsors an informative publication.

**ONE AND ALL: YOU ARE INVITED TO AND SINCERELY WANTED AT THE 1988 FALL CONVENTION OF ILLINOIS ACDA. PLEASE ATTEND.**

One notice to all ACDA members: Pat Densford, who has served a Secretary/ Treasurer of Illinois ACDA for many years, has submitted her resignation as of July 1989. Anyone who is interested in fulfilling this thankless but terribly important position, please make yourself known. In many ways, Pat has run ACDA almost since its beginnings here in Illinois. She can never be adequately thanked, but let's all try to think of ways. And the best way will be to find a suitable replacement for her ASAP. It would be ideal if the new person could work with Pat at registration for the fall convention.

--Walter Lamble

## From The Editor

As I write this, on July 28th, I am celebrating the one-year anniversary of my move from Colorado to Illinois to begin my duties as choral director at Eureka College. Needless to say, between getting settled in a new home and beginning a new teaching position, the first few months I was here were extremely busy, and I don't recall that my load got any lighter as the school year went on. In addition to my teaching duties, I started a community chorus and I became conductor of the Peoria Civic Opera Chorus. Plus I am trying to finish up my D.M.A. from the University of Colorado and that is no minor chore either.

So what do you suppose was my first reaction when I received *The*

*Conductors' Podium* and read the little note on the back cover under "Editor: Unassigned. If interested contact Ted Klinka"? If you are thinking of how you would react if you were invited to teach three Math classes in addition to your current teaching load, you are probably on the right track.

Well, here I am, one year and three issues later. And you know what? This is the best investment of time I've ever made. When I attended the state convention at the University of Illinois as the new *Podium* editor last fall, I was also desperately concerned about how I would come up with costumes for Eureka College's first Christmas Madrigal Dinner without anyone who could sew and without a budget. At some point I mentioned this to Walter Lamble, whom I had just met and who was just taking over his duties as state president. And he said, "Oh, I've got loads of costumes that we won't be using, come up anytime and borrow whatever you need." And our Madrigal Dinner was a rousing success.

That's what ACDA is all about. Yes, there is *The Choral Journal* and *Resound* (the central division newsletter) and *The Conductors' Podium*. And there are conventions, like the one coming up in Glen Ellyn in October, the national convention in Louisville next March, and the divisional convention in Grand Rapids, Michigan in 1990. But mostly, there are people willing to help each other.

I don't know how I would survive if I weren't a member of ACDA. I joined ACDA in 1977, right after I graduated from Syracuse University and took a job teaching high school in New Rochelle, New York. Since then, I've lived in New Jersey, Louisiana, Colorado, and Illinois. I've been an adjudicator and a guest conductor; I've attended conventions and reading sessions. Most of the literature I do with my choirs is music I have heard performed by other choirs at conventions, have sung through at reading sessions, and have seen advertised or reviewed in *The Choral Journal*. Most of the best work I do is work I am empowered to do by attending interest sessions, watching clinicians, and reading articles. And most of the best ideas I

(continued on page 5)

(continued from page 2)

get, most of the inspiration that nourishes me from day to day when I don't know how I'm going to make it through the week, most of my sanity, comes from interacting with the terrific people who make up Illinois ACDA.

This issue is being sent to the 673 members of ACDA in Illinois. In addition, it is going to vocal music teachers in every school in the state—some 6000 persons who could be members of ACDA and are not. Why would we go to the trouble and expense of contacting so many non-members? Well, of course, to try to convince you that membership in ACDA is worth twenty-five dollars per year.

We're not all that interested in your money (most of it goes to the national office anyway). Yes, the more dues-paying members we have in Illinois, the more we can spend on having excellent conventions and other events. But what is far more important is having more people to share their knowledge and expertise with each other. More people to attend convention and meet other people and exchange ideas and pick up new ideas and bring them back and share them with students who will learn from them and become better musicians because of them and go out into the world and be better off—because of YOU!!

If you are already a member, attend the convention. Make full use of the privileges of membership. Participate.

If you are not a member, attend the convention. Discover what the value of ACDA can be for you. And discover what you can offer other members of our profession.

You can't make a difference if you aren't involved.

--Lane Galloway

### Paul Steg Wins Composition Contest

Illinois ACDA is pleased to announce the winning composition in the 1988 Choral Competition for Illinois Composers.

The judging committee has selected "Vocalise," by Paul Steg. Written in 1987 for Dr. Lee Cloud, conductor of the Northern Illinois University Chorus, "Vocalise" employs no verbal text, but exploits a varied array of vocal and non-vocal sounds.

Paul Steg, Emeritus Professor of Music at Northern Illinois University, is the the composer of more than forty works for solo instruments or voice, chamber ensembles, orchestra, wind ensemble, choral groups, and the musical theatre. Nearly all have received public performances at university campuses or in metropolitan areas, including Boston's Jordan Hall, Washington's Smithsonian

Institution, and New York's Town Hall and Carnegie Hall.

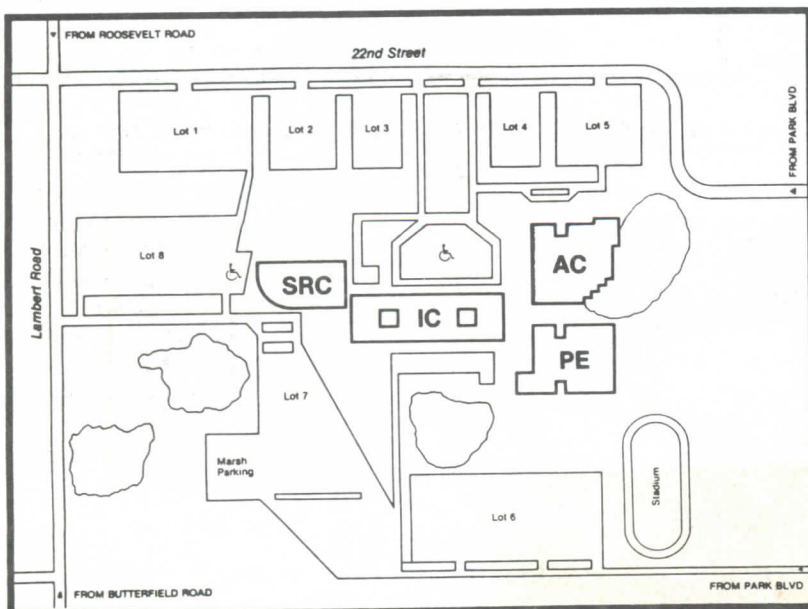
Born in Kansas, Steg has a bachelors degree form Kansas State Teacher's College, a masters from the University of Wichita and a doctorate in composition from Boston University where he studied composition with Gardner Read.

Steg served for several years as Assistant Director of the Oberlin conservatory of Music, where his duties also included opera and orchestral conducting. He joined the faculty of NIU in 1961, serving as Department Head until 1965, when he returned to a teaching assignment in order to devote more time to composition. He held that position, teaching composition and music history, until 1986.

In addition to "Vocalise," Steg's compositions include "Five Pieces for Piano," two song cycles, "Symphony for Chamber Orchestra," a chamber opera entitled "The Hunting of the Snark," "The Visions of Black Elk" for speaking chorus, flute, and percussion, and "Viols of the Night" for four violas or viola and electronic tape.

Among Steg's honors are an Excellence in Teaching Award and composition grants from NIU, performances at several midwestern music festivals, and a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

## Directions to the College of DuPage Campus



The college is located south of Roosevelt Rd. and north of Butterfield Rd. between Park Blvd. and Lambert Rd. in Glen Ellyn.

From the east or west: East-West Tollway to Route 53 (Bryant Ave.) north to Park Blvd. (first left) north to 22nd St.; left on 22nd St. to campus.

From the north or northwest: I-90 or I-94 south to I-294 south to Route 38 (Roosevelt Rd.) west to Lambert Rd. (4th traffic light) south to 22nd St.; left on 22nd St. to campus.

From the south: I-55 north to I-294 north to Route 38 (Roosevelt Rd.) west to Lambert Rd. (4th traffic light) south to 22nd St.; left on 22nd St. to campus.

The AC Building is the Arts Center.

6

**OFFICERS**

**President**

Walter Lamble  
870 Old Willow Road  
Prospect Heights, IL 60070  
312-729-2000 (w)

**Vice-President**

Ted Klinka  
268 8th Street, #3A  
Wheeling, IL 60090  
312-446-7000(w)

**Vice-President**

Joe Grant  
University of Illinois  
School of Music  
1114 W. Nevada  
Urbana, IL 61801  
217-244-2669 (w)

**President Elect**

Chester Alwes  
University of Illinois  
School of Music  
1114 W. Nevada  
Urbana, IL 61801

**Secretary/Treasurer**

Patricia Densford  
1017 59th Street  
Lisle, IL 60532  
312-971-4370 (w)

**Editor**

Lane Galloway  
Eureka College  
Eureka, IL 61530  
309-467-3721 (w)

**DISTRICT CHAIRPERSONS**

**District 1**

Elvis Coble  
2653 Debbie Court  
Joliet, IL 60435  
312-799-3000 ext. 208 (w)

**District 2**

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

**District 3**

Carolyn Paulin  
1502 Maplecrest Drive  
Champaign, IL 61821  
217-398-1038 (w)  
217-359-0988 (h)

**District 4**

Kari Knudtson  
1111 W. Morton  
Jacksonville, IL 62650  
217-243-4384 (w)

**District 5**

Unassigned  
If interested,  
contact Walter Lamble

**District 6**

James Wilson  
Greenville College  
Greenville, IL 62246  
618-664-1840 (w)  
618-664-1045 (h)

**District 7**

Jennie Saunders-Brown  
Aurora West High School  
Aurora, IL 60506  
312-844-4602

**District 8**

Elwood Smith  
200 W. Locust  
DeKalb, IL 60115  
815-753-1841 (w)

**Chicago**

Lynne Aronson  
2729 West Jerome  
Chicago, IL 60645  
312-743-5516 (w)

**STATE INTEREST  
CHAIRPERSONS**

**Higher Education**

Mike Schwartzkopf  
Illinois State University  
Department of Music  
Bloomington, IL 61701  
309-438-2012 (w)  
309-452-2761 (h)

**Junior College**

Thomas Stauch  
Algonquin & Roselle Roads  
Palatine, IL 60067  
312-397-3000 (w)

**High School**

Robert A. Boyd  
406 N. Beach, #1A  
LaGrange Park, IL 60525  
312-579-6369 (w)

**Junior High School**

Dennis Morrissey  
103 Indiana, Apt. 4  
Pontiac, IL 61764  
815-945-2361 (w)

**Children's Choir**

Donald Roach  
Western Illinois University  
Macomb, IL 61455  
309-298-1163 (w)  
309-837-5394 (h)

**Community Choir**

Richard Garrin  
4051 N. Sheridan #1F  
Chicago, IL 60613

**Male Choir**

John Wahquist  
5220 Welsh Road  
Rockford, IL 61107  
815-874-9536 (w)  
815-633-5859 (h)

**Treble Choir**

Robert Drafal  
938 North Blvd. #307  
Oak Park, IL 60301  
312-446-9106 (h)

**Youth and Student Activities**

Mona Quinn  
Music Department  
Northern Illinois University  
DeKalb, IL 60115  
815-753-1551 (w)

**Ethnic and Minority Concerns**

Janet Underwood  
8316 North Ada  
Chicago, IL 60620  
312-723-0263 (w)

YOUR STATE WILL GAIN RESOURCES FROM A YES VOTE ON DUES

Now	After
\$7.50 per member returned	\$12.00 per member returned
\$0.00 per member for a state project fund	\$3.00 per member set aside for a national state project fund

--- 100% increase in funding for state use ---

Your Division will receive a budget based for the first time on memberships paid. \$4.00 per member.

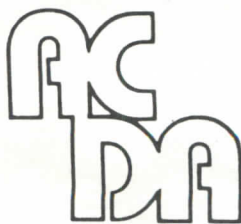
National monies are desperately needed for salaries, WATS line, added personnel, etc.

A state will receive \$18.00 for each brand new member joining ACDA.

I encourage your support,

Ernest L. Hisey, Division President

"ACDA reserves the right to approve any applications for appearance and to edit all materials proposed for distribution."



**THE CONDUCTOR'S PODIUM**

Illinois State Newsletter of the  
American Choral Directors Association  
Lane Galloway, Editor  
504 Jones Street  
Eureka, IL 61530

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Permit No. 8  
Eureka, IL

09350 060 7000 9999/99  
Gene Brooks  
Executive Secy./ACDA  
P.O. Box 6310  
Lawton OK 73506