

# OHIO CHORAL DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION NEWS

WINTER ISSUE 1983 (1984)



## President's Letter Winter Issue

January is a time for New Year's resolutions. Here is a list of resolutions for the Ohio Choral Director, for 1984:

1. I will attend the Central Division Convention in Chicago, February 23-25. Conventions of ACDA are such a source of inspiration and such a resource of materials and ideas no self-respecting choral director should miss one.
2. I will also attend the Ohio Choral Directors annual Summer Convention at Cleveland State University, July 12-14. Same reason as #1.
3. I will make long range plans, so I make sure my singers will experience a variety of styles and quality composers.
4. I will buy no trite arrangements, no matter how much PR I receive from a publisher and no matter how many times I see it on a reading session. I resolve to offer my singers only quality literature.
5. I will make sure all my singers know what they are singing about, when they are singing in a foreign language. (How many of us are guilty of this one?)
6. I will make sure all my singers know who the composer is. How many times have you asked a singer who wrote a particular piece and they don't know? Perhaps we could help our students learn who composed each piece by listing what we are going to rehearse on the chalk board each day, by composers names, rather than by title.
7. I will try to let my choir know as much as I know about the music we are preparing. A good point made by Robert Page at last summer's convention. Tell your choir what phrasing you want them to use, what kind of vowel sound you want at a particular point, how you are going to conduct something. Don't keep it a secret from your group.
8. I will insist my choir members sing with pencils in their hands.
9. I will insist my choir members be on time for rehearsals. A conductor I once knew always said, "There's no excuse for being a minute late." There may be an excuse for being an hour late - like you got a flat tire - but there's hardly ever an excuse for being a minute late.
10. I will always be considerate of my accompanist. If you are an accompanist yourself, you know how important this is, because a good accompanist can really make a rehearsal. Giving an accompanist a clear beat, exact instructions as to where one is starting in a score and giving an accompanist the music far in advance could make your rehearsals more provitable for all.

Continued next column

## Calendar

FEBRUARY 2, 1984 - OCDA Reading Session at OMEA, Dayton; B. Neal Davis in charge.

FEBRUARY 23, 24, 25, 1984 - Central Division Convention (Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and Michigan) Hotel Continental, 505 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60611. Pre-registration for convention and hotel due now. Pat Densford, 1017 59th St., Lisle, Illinois 60532

JULY 12 - 14 - OCDA Summer Conference, Cleveland State University, Cleveland, Ohio - Ernie Hisey, Chairman.

OCTOBER 1984 - Fall Conference -- Time, Place, and Chairman needed! Contact John Drotleff! Volunteer!

*The Ohio News is published four times a year: Fall, Winter, Spring, and Summer - Deadline for copy for the Spring Issue will be March 1, 1984; for the Summer Issue will be May 1, 1984.*

*Beverlie B. Mayer, Editor  
Mildred McCrystal, Assistant Editor*

Continued from Column 1

Have I been presumptuous in making resolutions for everyone? Well, I'm making them for myself, too! January is a good time to think about what we are teaching our singers. My very best wishes to each of you in 1984. See you in Chicago! (See #1).

## Chicago Calls!

There is still time to get your Regular Member \$25.00 registration (\$10.00 for Retired, Student, or Spouse) into Patricia Densford, 1017 59th St., Lisle, Illinois 60532 for the Central Division Convention, February 23 - 25, to be held at the Hotel Continental, 505 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, Illinois 60611.

The Glen Ellyn Children's Chorus which is featured in the 1982 Grammy award winning London-Decca recording of Berlioz's *Damnation of Faust* with Solti and Chicago Symphony, will appear under the direction of Doreen Rao, highly acclaimed clinician. This tuition-based ensemble is composed of auditioned 8 to 14 years olds. The Training Chorus of this organization will be used for demonstration in Diane Lewis's *Beautiful Singing* session.

Continued next page

*Seat Singing and Jazz Choir Techniques* is the title of Jim Parks session. Another hour will feature the Carmel High School Ambassadors, winner of 2 International Music Festival Gold Medals, and 5 times Grand Champions of Luers-Midwest Invitational Show Choir Contest.

The Classic Chorale of Evanston, Ill., which performs new and unusual musical works is directed by Lee M. Jacobson, director of the first and third Polychoral Festival at St. Marks Cathedral, Venice, Italy.

Elwood Smith will direct the Northern Illinois Concert Choir, which is also scheduled to appear at national MENC Convention.

These are just a random pick of some of the performing groups. The frosting on the convention will be Margaret Hillis conducting the J.S. Bach *Magnificat* featuring outstanding singers from the four Central Division States.

## More States Publishing

Through the efforts of Ohio's John R. Van Nice many states have upgraded their news for members; some have just begun to issue regular news bulletins. John is Editor of *Resound*, the Central Division ACDA News. He organized a meeting of all state editors at Nashville where problems, methods, and ideas of publications were discussed. We found out that COMMUNICATION is our life and our lifeline. Each state has different problems, but the main one for all is getting material that would make good copy and interesting reading into the editors.

Most states publish a directory, publicize state and national ACDA events and some events not connected with ACDA, have an editor's comment column and a president's column, have special interest columns, reproduce photos; review books and music.

In some papers each Region Chairman and each Committee Chairperson is responsible for regular input. Some papers try to have a "how-to" article or a motivational story in each paper. Here are ideas that OCDA News has not tried very often. These are fields that any one of our membership could give help and input into our NEWS. That mean YOU! Pick a subject! Or send in your news or thoughts!

## Pay for Professionals

An area of exploration for OCDA members has been suggested several times in the last two years. The NEWS SEEMS TO BE THE VEHICLE FOR MAKING THIS SURVEY. The problem is to try to find out something about the Ohio pay scale for accompanists and choral directors. This will take consideration and response from OCDA members. We'd like a good cross section of replies to make the survey meaningful.

If you conduct or play for a chorus, not connected with a school-employment contract, will you take time to answer these questions and mail your response to your editor, 1625 Columbus Ave., Sandusky, Ohio 44870. We would like to have your name and address, so that any questions may be clarified. However, all reports will be confidential.

Continued next column

1. Do you conduct or accompany a chorus?
2. What kind of a chorus do you direct or accompany? (Community, Male, Women's, Elderlies, Youth, Church etc.)
3. How many in it and how often do they rehearse?
4. Are you paid by the hour, the rehearsal, or the total job?
5. How much!
6. Does the chorus charge dues, charge for concerts. get help from Arts Councils or civic organizations etc.,?
7. How much are you paid for rehearsals of other than full chorus (ie. sectionals, ensembles, solos)?
8. What are you paid for a full concert performance?
9. What are you paid for mini-performances or partial programs (clubs, radio, TV, or party entertainments)?
10. If you have to drive a distance do you receive mileage reimbursement?

## Ohio Hi Lights of Chicago Convention

The Knox Presbyterian Choir of Cincinnati will represent the adult sacred choral community at the ACDA Divisional Convention in Chicago. With soloists and orchestra they presented in mid-December parts V and VI of Bach's *Christmas Oratorio*. They performed Bach's *Cantata 140* and Haydn's *Missa Sancti Nicolai* over Public Radio Station WGUC-FM recently. The Choir is directed by Dr. Earl Rivers, well known member of the music department of the College-Conservatory of Music in Cincinnati.

Dr. James Major of OSU is joined by Dr. Pat Gardner of the U. of Michigan to discuss *The Preparation of Choral Conductors in Higher Education*.

Junior High Interests will be well represented by Ohioans. Beverlie Mayer, who is Divisional Chairperson for the Junior High Committee will be on the panel which will propose questions and answers on trends in the Jr. High area. This will be Friday, Feb. 24, 7:30 to 8:45 a.m. at the Interest Breakfast. Reservations should be made with Pat Densford, 1017 59th Ave., Lisle, Ill. 60532. Cost is \$5.25.

Robert Mix, Lima, Ohio Jr. High Chairperson, will team up with Sandra Stoneham of Illinois for a double session on "Aspects and Expectations of a Quality Junior High School Choral Experience".

Nancy Davis, an OSU graduate and first year teacher at Norwalk, will be on the panel which will delve into "What You Were Never Taught in Methods and Didn't Know to Ask".

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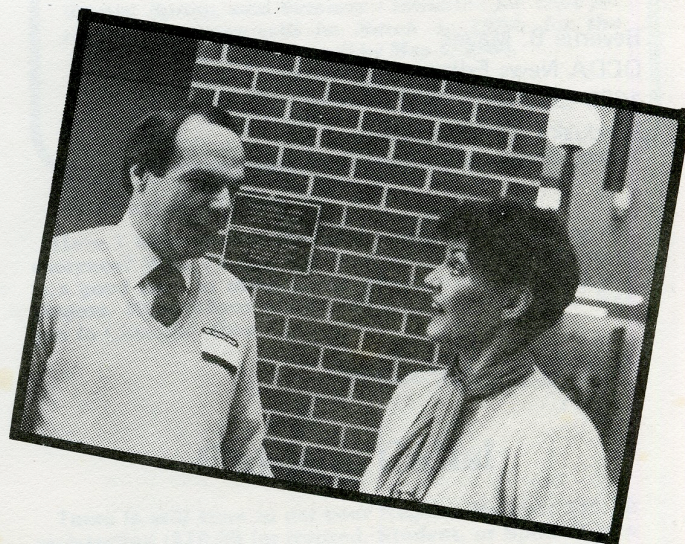
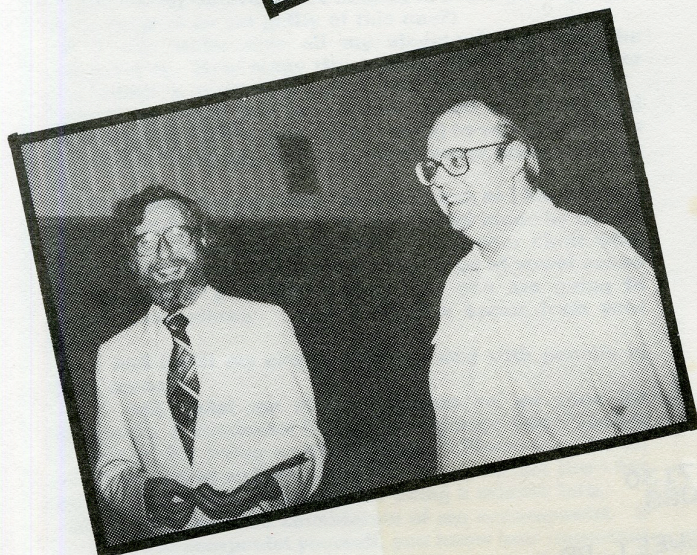
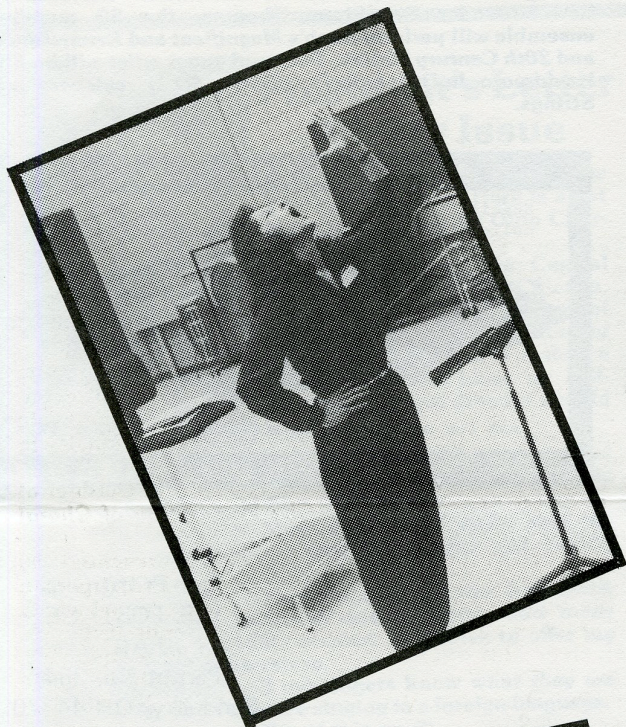
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Annex Hours: Tues., Wed., Fri., Sat. 9:30 to 6:00  
Mon. & Thurs. 9:30 to 9:00

Phone 216/226-6780

## "The Young Voice" Fall Conference

The Fall Conference on the *Young Voice* was one of our most informative conferences. Joel Hardyk, Defiance College and Robert Mix, Lima West Jr High put together a program featuring four outstanding clinicians; Doreen Rao, national chairperson of Children's Choirs, Dr. Helen Swank, Ohio State School Music authority on vocal development; Dr. Kenneth Phillips, children's voice specialist; and Diane Marshall, originator of new vocal warm-ups.



## Bev's Briefs

Dear Colleagues,

My question about 50 year A Cappella Choirs brought two responses. From Elyria, where Tim Masten is Choral Director, I received a beautiful letter and many clippings from one of the choir's former members. The high light of their fifty year celebration was a big alumni chorus which Martin Beck came back to direct. The committee in Sandusky appreciated all of the news because it helped with their plans. Then B. Neil Davis called to say that they are also celebrating their 50th, and that Sandusky's activities have inspired him to set up a similar celebration in Lakewood. Thanks, Elyria and Lakewood, and congratulations to you both!

Now I am off on a financial kick! See the article about pay for professionals and help me get some figures together.

See you in Chicago!

Bev Mayer



Beverlie B. Mayer  
OCDA News Editor  
1625 Columbus Ave.  
Sandusky, Ohio 44870

## Concerts of Note

On January 29 Cantari, the central Ohio professional chorus directed by Maurice Casey, will present a commissioned work by Columbus composer Marshall Barnes. On the same program will be the rarely performed 16-part a cappella number by Richard Stauss, *DEUTSCHE MOTET*, Brahms' *ZIGEUNERLIEDER*, and Frank Martin's *SONGS OF ARIEL*. Cantari performs in Weigel Hall at OSU. Tickets may be obtained from their office at University Music House, North High St.

Another elite professional group, the Vocal Arts Ensemble of Cincinnati, will present its winter concert on Sunday, Feb. 19 at 2 p.m. in Corbett Auditorium, College-Conservatory of Music, Cincinnati. Directed by its co-founder Dr. Elmer Thomas, the 20 member ensemble will perform Bach's *Magnificat* and *Renaissance and 20th Century Motets*. Featured guest artist will be Eiji Hashimoto, in *Dittersdorf's Concerto* for Harpsichord and Strings.

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