

# AHDA NEWS

WINTER ISSUE 1985 (84-85)



## President's Letter Winter 1985

Imagine this! A "typical" senior in high school goes through a "typical" day: period one he goes to Western Philosophy where he is studying the ideas of Freud, St. Augustine, Erasmus and Darwin. Period two he goes to TV and Film where he is writing and producing his own TV program. Period three he goes to his Advanced Math class where he is currently having to deal with polynomial functions. Period four he goes to Computer where he is debugging a Fortran program. Period five he is studying photons and matter waves in Physics and then he goes to the choir room where he is "studying" Michael Jackson, Prince, Twisted Sister and Boy George. What does this high school senior think about this choir? Twenty years from now will it make any difference? What do your students think about your choir?

Isn't the above scenario a bit absurd? Yet this is what is offered as music education for "choral" groups all over this state. The rationale is that this is the only way to interest students in music because this is the music they know and love and we also must have something to please an audience. But is this what you want? Donald Barr says, "When the sheep can overrule the shepherd, the sheep suffer; and if, out of affection (which is different from love), the shephard is guided by the sheep, the sheep suffer."

Twenty years from now will your former students remember singing a medley of Michael Jackson hits as one of the high points of their lives? Even though your students seemed to like it and your audience seemed to like it, have you as a music educator fostered an attitude of cultural growth in your students which will last for twenty years or longer? By spending time teaching that medley of Michael Jackson hits (and probably the dance steps to go with it) are you denying your students literature of more lasting value? By subscribing to the popular fad culture are you really educating your students? Are you enriching their lives in any significant way?

## Calendar

FEB. 7, 1985 - OCDA Reading Session at OMEA Convention, Cleveland

MARCH 7-9, 1985 - ACDA National Convention, Salt Lake City, Utah

JULY 11-13, 1985 - OCDA Summer Convention, Capital Univ., Bexley, Ohio. Richard Shoup & B. Neil Davis in charge.

FALL, 1985 - OCDA Fall Conference, Salt Fork State Park

*The Ohio News is published four times a year: Fall, Winter, Spring and Summer*

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*Beverlie Mayer, Editor*

*Mildred McCrystal, Assistant Editor*

*1625 Columbus Ave., Sandusky, OH 44870*

Continued from column 1

Mike Shannon-Thornberry writing in the Fall, 1984, issue of "Alternatives" says one "reason our children are such effective defenders of the status quo is that they are under enormous pressures at school to espouse society's popular values. Public schools are almost by definition-the repositories and purveyors of society's lowest-common-denominator values". How does that make you feel?

Maurice Casey writing in the October, 1984, Choral Journal asks, "Are we operating in an arena of aesthetic education or have we created a service organization which does little more than answer to the short term needs of parents, administrators, and social or civic organizations?" In other words are we educating or entertaining?

I have nothing against popular fad music. I just can't understand how any music educator can justify using this material as the basis of what they are teaching or having groups who do nothing but this type of music. There is no permanence in fad music. It occupies such a tiny fraction of the total scope of music literature that it should only be represented by one or two selections in the course of a year. And worst of all fad music is seldom idiomatic to a choral group and thus sounds ridiculous when performed by a choral ensemble.

Do you have students whose only contact with music education is in a group that does fad music? Or do all your groups do a lot of fad music? (Check your programs from last year-are there more arrangements than compositions listed on your programs?) Would you feed your own children only candy or would you see that they got a well balanced

diet which nourishes the body for the future? Are you nourishing your students' minds for their aesthetic future?

Someone has said students don't know what they like, they only like what they know. The responsibility is on you as a music educator to teach your students new things not simply reinforce what they already know. I'm beginning to think that many music teachers either have bad taste or they are philosophical wimps who let students, parents or administrators manipulate them. There are also a few, unfortunately very few, who are offering students a valid course in music education through the medium of choral music.

Twenty years from now will your former students have a passion for great choral music or some vague warm fuzzy notion about their high school choir? You and you alone are responsible for their aesthetic future.

*John Drotleff*

## National Convention at Salt Lake City

Salt Lake City, Utah, the home of some of the most fabulous music halls in the U.S., is hosting the 1985 national convention of ACDA, March 7-9. It promises to be a convention worthy of Ohio's national president, Maurice Casey.

Each evening will feature a unique musical experience with the King's Singers from England and The Elmer Iseler Singers from Toronto, Canada. On Saturday evening the Mormon Tabernacle Choir under the direction of Dr. Jerold Ottley will be performing in the Tabernacle, which was finished in 1867 and is considered one of the finest on the globe just as the choir is the largest selling recorded choir.

This is just part of a carefully planned program featuring 30 performing choirs from all over the U.S. and a great variety of interest areas with some of the outstanding choral men and women of America. Each of the last three Choral Journals have covered some of the events planned.

There will be exhibits at non-conflicting hours. There are five hotels who have special convention rates and the airlines have cooperated with attractive special prices. These are best if you stay until Sunday.

A beautiful Silver Anniversary program booklet will be given each person attending. Robert Mix of Lima has been busy with plans for the national Junior High Chorus which will perform. It's a tremendous opportunity for all.

## OCDA at OMEA

Once again OCDA is in charge of the opening reading session at the OMEA Convention in Cleveland, February 7. Thursday evening at 7:10 - 8:15. Neil Davis has selected a packet of 50 copies of music for every conceivable voicing. John Drotleff has found some fine directors to lead us rapidly through the perusal. Don't miss this one.

## Educator's Music

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## Van Nice Appointed by Maurice Casey

Throughout my tenure of ACDA "officialdom", a number of matters related to appointed offices, committee assignments, etc. have needed clarification from time to time in order for our ship to remain on course. Among these appointments has been the office of newsletter editor. Who appoints and for how long? What are the duties or the parameters of the office? In short, the appointment of a newsletter editor became a matter of confusion, often going by the wayside, being appointed late, etc.

In an attempt to bring a clarity to this appointment, I have named John Van Nice, current editor of Central Divisions' *Resound* to assume the new post of Coordinator of Newsletter Editors. This assignment begins immediately and will last until June 30, 1987, through the Presidency of Hugh Sanders. The office, if at that time, is perceived to be helpful, will then be reappointed for a period of two years at the discretion of the national president elect.

This office is intended to be strictly advisory in essence. John will be in a position to clarify matters of who appoints newsletter editors, for how long, at what time is most beneficial to make the appointment. He can also assist, when requested, to advise potential editors how best to carry on his/her responsibilities. He hopefully will motivate state organizations to initiate newsletters where none currently exist. John brings to this position more than eight years of valuable experience, as well as a delightful demeanor and sense of humor. If you wish to contact him the address is 227 Davis St., Findlay, Ohio 45840.

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# Constitution Revisions Save!!!

The Board of Directors has initiated the following revisions to our Constitution and By-Laws. Most of the revisions are needed because there were typing errors or omissions in the last Constitution. According to our Constitution these revisions must be presented 60 days prior to voting on them. A ballot will be included in the next issue of the Ohio News. Please keep these revisions until you vote.

## Constitution

1. Page one - after the word "revised" add: 1985. (There should be a date for any revision of a constitution).
2. Page two - Article V, Sections 2, 3 and 4...remove the words *during a business meeting or by mail*. (This refers to our method of electing officers. With the removal of these words, the various officers will be elected as provided in the By-Laws which is by mail ballot, otherwise this section is in conflict with our By-Laws).
3. Page two, Article V, Section 5 - remove the word *mail*. (Same reason as number 2).
4. Page three - Article V, Section 6: Remove the sentence *The immediate past Vice President shall chair the Past Presidents Advisory Council for a term of two years. (We did away with this council and thus need to eliminate this sentence.)*

## By-Laws

1. Page four, Article I, Section 1, - second paragraph, second sentence to read: *In addition active members shall receive all benefits of the National Association, Divisional Association and State Association of ACDA including all their publications.* (Clarifies the section.)
2. Page five, Article I, Section 4 - This section to read: *Student memberships may be submitted by individual students or by the ACDA sponsor-teacher for a student group. The student shall be a non-voting member, ineligible for office, except in a student capacity or in a local student chapter. Student members shall receive all other membership benefits and publications. Students actively engaged as choral directors are eligible for active membership in ACDA.* (Clarifies this section).
3. Page five Article I - Add: *Section 6: Retired. ACDA members attaining retirement status may maintain membership in ACDA by payment of reduced annual dues. Privileges accorded retired members will be the same as those for active members.* (A typing omission in the last constitution).
4. Page five, Article II, Section 4; to read: *The prerequisite for attendance at the conventions of OCDA shall be membership in ACDA and payment of registration fees. Exceptions shall be at the discretion of the Executive Committee.* (The last line was added for special circumstances).

5. Page 6, Art VI, Section 3: Remove the words *county and*. (This refers to membership collocation which we do on a regional rather than county basis).

6. Page 6, Article VI, Section 6, remove the sentence: *He/She also shall promote recruitment of members by appointing a county chairperson of each county in his/her region.* (Same reason as number 5).

## Some Causes of Poor Intonation

from Peter Jarjisian  
Director of Choral Activities  
Ohio University - Athens

### POOR OR FAULTY VOCAL TECHNIQUE

Constriction of the vocal mechanism. Tension in the throat, abdomen, shoulders, etc.

Misunderstanding of correct vocal technique. Lazy, sleepy, languid breathing. Overly relaxed. Free of tension, but not ready to produce the energy required for an active tone.

Heavy, weighty concept of singing which pulls down the tone and sounds flat, even when it isn't.

Vowel discrepancies. The choice may be incorrect or the formation may be impure, dull, saggy or stale.

Excessive vibrato.

### EXCESSIVE DEMANDS OF THE MUSICAL SCORE

Very slow tempo  
Extremes of range  
High or low tessitura  
Extended repetitions of the same pitch  
Extremes of dynamic, especially for extended periods

### INSUFFICIENT PREPARATION OR THINKING

Insecurity with the part. Hesitancy about rhythm, pitch, pronunciation.

Absence of specific concentration on pitch, of the intention to sing the approaching phrase in-tune, or of the remembrance of the aesthetic rewards for having sung it in-tune as compared to out-of-tune.

Misunderstanding of, or inattention to, a particular pitch's function.

### OTHER

Fatigue  
Boredom  
Acoustical properties  
Environment-room temperature, lighting  
Poldergeists

# ASIA CONTAT

ACDA President Maurice Casey led a 14-voice ensemble of Cantari Singers, Columbus' professional chorus, on a two-week tour of Japan in July. The group was the sole representative from the United States to participate in the first Asia Cantat, a festival for singers, held in Nagano, Japan. The Cantat was co-sponsored by the International Federation of Choral Music and the Nippon Chorus League. The trip was coordinated for Cantari by Gene Brooks, Executive Secretary of ACDA.

Cantari sang a diversity of repertoire on the tour ranging from European classics like Vittoria's *Vere Languores* and Brahms' *O Heiland Reiss* to American folksongs and spirituals. The chorus sang a total of eight concerts in Tokyo, Matsumoto and Nagano during the two-week trip.

Currently in its third concert season, Cantari will present four programs this year culminating with a performance of J.S. Bach's *B Minor Mass* on May 19, 1985. Thomas Dunn, Artistic Director of Boston's Handel and Haydn Society, will guest conduct the Cantari Singers, The Pro Musica Chamber Orchestra and a cast of internationally acclaimed soloists. The concert will be presented at Weigel Hall on the Ohio State Univeristy campus in Columbus. Tickets for this premier choral event can be reserved in advance by contacting the Cantari office, 4290 North High Street, Columbus, 43214, or by calling (614) 262-1594.

Tickets are also available for the Birthday Bash featuring works of Schutz, Handel, Bach, and two World Premiere of a Daniel Pinkham composition, Jan. 27 at the First Congregational Church.



## Dates

### Cantari

Jan. 27 - 7:30 p.m. - "Birthday Bash" - Shutz, Handel, Bach, Pinkham; First Congregational Church, Columbus.

May 19 - 7:30 p.m. - *Bach Mass in B Minor*, Thomas Dunn, conductor; Weigel Hall, OSU, Columbus.

### Robert Page Singers

March 19 - 8:00 p.m. - Foss, Penderecki, Honegger; Beck Center for the Cultural Arts, 17801 Detroit Ave., Lakewood.

May 14 - 8:00 p.m. - Brahms, World Premiere of Richard Handley's *Ball* and Purcell.

### Dayton Bach Society

March 17 - 3-6 p.m. and 7-10 a.m. - Bach Birthday Marathon, organ, choral and instrumental; Seventh-Day Adventist Church, Dayton

May 5 - 7:30 p.m. - Bach - *Mass in B Minor*; Seventh Day Adventist Church.

## Tape Dates for 1986 Central Division Convention

Indianapolis will host the 1986 divisional convention on April 3, 4, 5, 1986 at the downtown Hyatt Regency Hotel. Central Division includes Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Michigan. Plans for an exciting three days are now being formulated. The steering committee hopes that all of our areas of expertise will be represented in the program. Directors should begin to plan their audition tapes now in order to be considered for a convention appearance. Watch the Winter issue of *RESOUND* for official application forms.

The timeline for submitting tapes is as follows:

**MARCH 1, 1985** - All audition tapes must be received by the Central Division President-elect. The will then be forwarded to State Presidents for the first step of the audition process.

**April 1, 1985** - State Presidents return all tapes and the results of the first audition to the divisional president for final audition/selection.

**May 1, 1985** - Notification to all persons submitting tapes of audition results.

*All tapes should be mailed to:*

Michael S. Wade, ACDA  
Central Division President Elect  
401 West Joliet Street  
Crown Point, Indiana 46307

Tapes must include selections from the current year and the past two years. Directors should include printed programs from previous years and a tentative convention program. YOU should send a tape. Take the initiative and encourage colleagues you respect to also submit tapes of their work.

## Congratulations, Joan Meier!

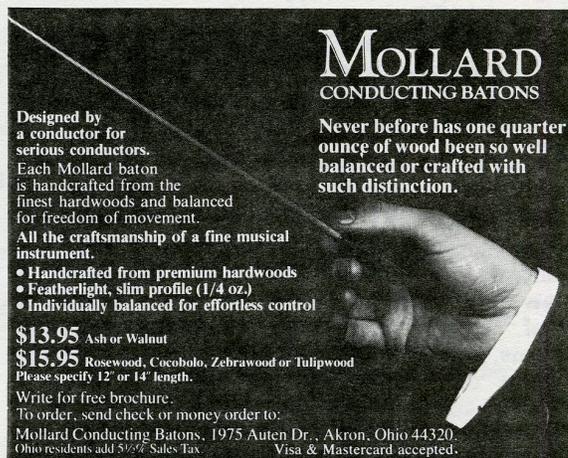
The Princeton City School District is *one of four* school districts in the UNITED STATES to receive the Music Educators' National Conference Exemplary Program Award for 1984-85. And who is the district Music Coordinator? None other than OCDA's Southwest Region Chairman - Joan Meier.

As Princeton School Supt. Richard Denoyer said, "The type of musical program offered the students of Princeton is second to none, as this award signifies. The board of education members and the administrators join me in commending the entire music staff for a job well done." And OCDA commends Joan Meier!

The award was announced by Paul R. Lehman, MENC president and presented by Paul Thoms, president of OMEA. Mr. Thoms said, "The MENC Award Committee was impressed with the materials submitted in support of your nomination for this award. You have our admiration for what you have achieved thus far and our best wishes for continued success." OCDA echos that!

## Correction!!

At the summer convention, Cleveland State University, Cal Rogers was surprised with a gift presented by OCDA for his many years of service to our organization. National president Maurice Casey and state president John Drotleff made the presentation of two beautiful, balanced matching batons in a gorgeous handfinished case of zebra-wood. In the *NEWS* write-up the wrong person was given credit for making the batons. We wish to correct that now. The creator is Bob Mollard whose home is in Hamilton and whose place of business is Akron. To set the record completely straight we are including a copy of his national ad in this issue. (If you don't have a Mollard--get one!)



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## Voice in Performance

The fifth Annual Interdisciplinary Conference on the Nature and Nurture of the Human Voice will be held July 24, 25, and 26, 1985 at the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN. For information write Donna Dacus, Program Director, 219 Nolte Center, 315 Pillsbury Drive S.E., U. of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN 55455.

### NEW OCTAVOS

Blessed Are They, Jean Berger SATB, opt. timp.	11-4627	.85
Sing to God Your Praises, David N. Johnson SATB, org., opt. trpt. & timp.	11-2171	.80
Nunc Dimittis, James Melby SATB	11-2265	.40
It Is to God I Shall Sing, Samuel Adler SAATBB, org.	11-0593	.95
We Will Rejoice, George F. Handel/Robert S. Hines SATB, keyboard	11-2253	.80

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## Bev's Briefs

SALT LAKE CITY! HERE WE COME!

Now is the time to make sure you have your pre-registration into ACDA, Box 6310 Lawton, OK 73506 and your housing form into ACDA Housing Bureau, 180 South West Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah 84101 and word that you are going to go to me so we can plan an OCDA party sometime during March 7 to 9. Here's my address: Beverlie Mayer, 1625 Columbus Ave., Sandusky, Ohio 44870. I hope you have been able to stretch the budget to include this fabulous convention and to support Ohio's contribution to ACDA, our national president, Maurice Casey. The chances of Ohio having another national president within our life-time are mathematically slim, so appreciate the honor that reflects on OHIO.

I need dates of concerts after March 15. Most of the winter dates arrived too late for the Fall edition and will be over by the time this one is printed. Any creative material will be welcome also.

### Words from N. Central Chairman-Michael Wade

It was a terrific summer convention! Choral music is definitely alive in Ohio! The amount and ability of "home state" Ohioans was terrific to see and be a part of. People were asking questions, isolating problems, and seeking "head on" solutions. The life blood of our marvelous association-its general working membership-was obvious in its interest, desire to learn, and depth of energy. In addition the hospitality and camaraderie was wonderful!

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

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## Prior & After Salt Lake City

For many musicians Wednesday March 6 will serve as the beginning of ACDA National Convention. At 2 P.M. there will be a meeting of all National Committee Chairpersons. At 3:30 there will be a Repertoire Reading Symposium which will involve conductors from South and Central America, Canada and the U.S. At 6:30 there will be a Leadership Assembly for all officers.

Beginning at noon on Sunday, March 10, and concluding by noon on Monday, March 11, the Board of Directors of the IFCM (International Federation for Choral Music) will meet. ACDA leaders are being urged to stay for this meeting by ACDA's Royce Saltzman who will soon succeed to the presidency of IFCM. He is now serving as IFCM vice-president.

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