



Georgia Newsletter

Number 3

January, 1983

FROM THE PRESIDENT

GA. ACDA CONVENTION

Hooray to each of you for the success of the 1982 Ga. ACDA Convention. A total of eighty-nine participants registered (i.e. 73 members, 12 student members, and 4 spouses). A special thanks to Alan McClung for being an exacting and gracious host. Thanks also to Michael Anderson, Co-program Chairman; Beth Brown, Registration; Susan Merritt, Coordinator of Mini-Reading Sessions; and all of the guest lecturers, conductors, and performers. The four choirs who presented us with concerts were honored with plaques denoting their superior choral accomplishments. I offer my sincere appreciation to all for your contributions.

We opened a savings account at Tucker Federal Bank in order to account for the monies generated by the convention. We received a total of \$1,138.50 which included the money for the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra tickets ordered by our members. After expenses, our balance amounted to a grand total of \$55.

SECRETARY-TREASURER NEEDED

All of our recent accounting activities have convinced me that we must have a Secretary-Treasurer to handle our financial affairs and to take notes

at Executive Board meetings. This person must be meticulous in matters of numbers and be willing to follow ACDA financial policies to the letter. Please write me of your interest if you would like to actively serve your state chapter as its first Secretary-Treasurer. The first term of office will be filled by presidential appointment, and it will last the duration of my term of office. After that time, the position will be by election concurrent with the presidential election. Please indicate your interest to me soon.

NEW CHURCH MUSIC CHAIRMAN

I am happy to announce that Roger Waters has accepted the chair of our chapter's Committee on Church Music. Roger is Minister of Music at High Point Baptist Church in Covington. It is our hope that more church musicians will learn of ACDA activities through this committee.

THE NASHVILLE EVENT

It is exciting to read in the Choral Journal about the upcoming National Convention. Several notables will be there. Erik Erikson, one of the world's greatest choral conductors and his fabulous choir; Robert Shaw on church music; distinguished college and public school choirs; Jester Harrison; Howard Swan;

and so on. National conventions happen only every other year. They nourish our bodies with "soul food." For those of you who want to be inspired, to meet new friends, to receive packets of complimentary music, or simply to get away and enjoy, make your plans to pre-register and to attend.

NEW CHORAL FESTIVAL

The first Georgia ACDA Invitational Choral Festival will soon be a reality (see editor's column). "Invitational" implies that it will be an honor to be selected to participate in this festival. It evolved because a group of conductors wanted to exchange performances with the best choirs in the state. If you see other areas of need for ACDA action, let us know. We are here to serve you.

FROM THE PRESIDENT-ELECT

THE GEORGIA ACDA CONVENTION

Always striving to be better.. ..always reaching for that pinnacle of excellence that stands the superb away from the ordinary. We find ourselves constantly in this battle. First, we have to justify, then we have to create and produce, and always it must be better than the time before. The musical art has no purpose if it doesn't exist at the very best level it can. And then we must justify again...and on, and on.

I becomes almost depressing sometimes when you think about all the work that we put in, and still the expectations come, and they come higher. Yet, when you observe an event such as the ACDA Georgia Convention held at Woodward Academy on November 13, 1982, it somehow seems that we must be on the right track, and that,

somehow, it will all be worth it once again.

The convention turned out to be the most meaningful and well-rounded that I have ever personally experienced, and certainly it had the most involvement and enthusiasm from colleagues around the state that I have ever witnessed. Thanks very much for the marvelous organizing talents of Alan McClung at Woodward Academy and his group of helpers and colleagues. It couldn't have run smoother.

What makes an organization run well is the capabilities of its members and their willingness to put in time to make that organization's existence worthwhile. This convention demonstrated that Georgia not only has the talent among its members and their students but also has that vital willingness. Thank you to Beth Brown for her receptive abilities; thanks to Jim Bohart for all of his hard work and clear insight; to Joyce Alford, Susan Merritt, Diane Woodard, Glynn Halsey, Elizabeth Kimble, Roger Waters, Ted Mathews, and Peter Smeallie for their very eloquent verbage; thanks to all the performing groups and lecturers without whom there would be no reason to hold the convention...Debbie English and the ACDA slide show; Stephen Ortlip and the Young Singers of Callanwolde, Janice Folsom and the Fayette County High School Select Chorus; Bruce Borton and the West Georgia Chamber Singers; Carolen Hansard and the four young barbershoppers; and Kathleen Vandenberg and her Westwood High School show choir, "Beach." Also, how could we forget the "solemn text" as delivered by the droll Michael O'Neal and the beautiful singing of the Mercer University Concert Choir, the inspiring words of Carlton

Young and Larry Wyatt, and the sounds of the Eagle Revue Show Choir and their director, Alice Bochenko. And to those people who led us so well in our own artful mini-sings: Ira Pittmann, John Boehm, James Braswell, James McRaney, and Lee Barrow.

Let me not conclude without a special word about John Haberlen. If ideals are what gives an organization its life-blood, then certainly the Georgia Chapter of ACDA is in a healthy state thanks to the "Haberlen ideals." Thanks John!

FROM THE EDITOR

A DIFFERENT KIND OF FESTIVAL

The Georgia ACDA and the Georgia Center for Continuing Education will be sending announcements to you soon about the first annual Georgia ACDA Invitational Choral Festival. The festival will exist to promote excellence and appreciation of choral literature and performance as do all festivals. The difference between this one and others is that it is designed more as a forum for learning than are others. It is open, first of all, only to better choruses a limited number of which will be selected and invited through audition procedures requiring the submission of application and tape. All participating groups are encouraged to be present for the entire festival--not just their portion of it. Each group will provide a fifteen minute program after which it will be rehearsed by a guest clinician who will be a recognized choral conductor. Hence, each group benefits not only by hearing other excellent groups but also by observing a master conductor who will work with all groups individually.

The circumstances cannot help but be profitable to all participants.

The festival will be held on April 23 on the beautiful campus of the Westminster School (1424 W. Paces Ferry Rd.). It is open this year only to public and private middle and secondary school choral ensembles, but there is every intention of expanding the scope in future years. Individual choral conductors also are encouraged to attend as observers. All conductors must, of course, be ACDA members.

There will be a fee required of all participants to cover the cost of registration and lunch (\$6.00 per singer and \$10 for independent choral conductors). The conductors will have additionally a special session with the guest clinician. Applications will be due March 1, and all choirs will be notified of their acceptance by March 15.

We believe that this festival should provide an extraordinary learning opportunity for both participants and observers. It is being developed at the request of many who have advised us of the need for such a forum. Now that we have it, let us support it! You should be receiving detailed information soon. If you should want early information or additional information, contact either Jim Bohart, 3903 Ensign Court, Chamblee, 30341, or Jim Braswell, Ca. Center for Continuing Education, University of Georgia, Athens, 30602.

CHURCH MUSIC INSTITUTE IN GAINSVILLE

There will be a Church Music Institute on February 25-26 at the First Presbyterian Church, 800 Enota Drive, Gainesville. Clinicians for this weekend Institute include Sue Ellen Page, Children's Choir Authority from Westminster Choir College;

Dr. Bert Taylor, Faculty Member at Columbia Seminary; Margaret Hanson, Vocal Techniques; David Lee Johnson, Choral Techniques. The Institute will feature three reading sessions of new choral music from Brodt Music Co. of Charlotte, N. C. It sounds like a must for church musicians-- especially those in the northern part of our state. For more information regarding registration, contact David Lee Johnson, Brenau College, Gainesville, Georgia 30501, or call (404) 532-0136.

SPECIAL GUESTS IN GEORGIA

The first few months of 1983 will witness several guests to our state which should be of some interest to our choral conductors. Below are mentioned a few of which we have knowledge.

On Sunday, February 13, the St. Olaf Choir, Kenneth Jennings, Conductor, will appear at the Glen Memorial United Methodist Church on the Emory University Campus (1652 N. Decatur Rd. N.E.). The performance is scheduled for 3:00 PM and tickets are required (\$6.00 for adults and \$4.00 for students). To order tickets in advance, send check and stamped self addressed envelope to: St. Olaf Choir Concert, P. O. 77093, Atlanta, Georgia 30357.

On Saturday, March 12, the National Swedish Radio Choir, Eric Ericson, Director, will perform at the Cathedral of St. Philip, 2744 Peachtree Rd. N.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30363. The concert is scheduled for 8:15 PM and is free to the public. For more information, contact Robert Simpson, Organist-

Choirmaster, The Cathedral of St. Philip, 2744 Peachtree Rd, N. W., Atlanta, Georgia 30363.

On Sunday, March 27, Dr. Daniel Moe, from Oberlin College, will conduct the Gainesville Chorale's "New" Chamber Singers, David Lee Johnson, Director, the North Hall High School Choir, Lynn Welchel, Director, and the Johnson High School Concert Choir, Van McCollum, Director, in Schubert's Mass in G and the conductor's own Cantata for Peace. The concert will be at 3:00 PM at the First Presbyterian Church, 800 Enota Drive. For more information, contact Dr David Johnson at Brenau College in Gainesville, 30501.

We hope that all of you who attended the GMEA Convention in Columbus last week took advantage of the opportunity to watch Weston Noble at work. Mr. Noble is Director of Music Activities at Luther College, Decorah, Iowa and is renowned as a choral conductor in the United States, Canada, and Europe. He prepared and conducted the All-College Chorus at the convention.

SEND US YOUR INFORMATION

If you have information of other choral activities within our state which you think might be of interest or importance to the general membership of ACDA, please submit this information to us so that we can make it more widely known. All announcements are, of course, subject to editorial review, but we want to help if the event seems to serve the general good.

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