



Georgia Newsletter

Volume 2

January, 1985

FROM THE PRESIDENT

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

We normally usher in each New Year with resolutions. I resolve, among other things, to bring singers closer to texts which contain basic truths. I resolve also to enable as many singers as possible to realize their full singing and artistic potential. Thirdly, I resolve to be aware of, and to interact with, the political forces which shape our destinies as musicians. Music is certainly a basic need of our society once it has been clothed and fed, and to be uninvolved politically is to allow for the possibility of an eroding support for the arts as we know them.

According to recent news reports, we are on the horizon of educational reforms. These reforms can be to our advantage if we play a part in their formation. Benny Grizzell, a Senior at Georgia State University and a student ACDA member, recently wrote a letter to Governor Harris and received a rather lengthy reply. I appreciate Benny's concern as a student and as a future choral conductor for the future of music in our schools. I have asked our ACDA Newsletter Editor, Ted Mathews, to reprint Benny's letter and Governor Harris's response. (Directly following). I encourage you to respond to them in accordance with the dictates of your own conscience.

Speaking of politics, our state ACDA chapter has an election every two years, and now is the time for that election. Two well known and active members have placed their names in nomination. Beth Brown is nominated for President-Elect, and Roger Waters is nominated for Secretary-Treasurer. Please see their vitae and the ballot in another section of this newsletter. No one else has expressed an interest in serving our state chapter at this time. However, the election ballot contains a place for those of you who may wish to write in a vote. Please mark your ballot, place it in an envelope, and send it to me, John Haberlen, President Ga. ACDA, 2212 Eldorado Dr. N.E., Atlanta, Georgia 30345, no later than February 15, 1985.

Please make note of the following special events: The GMEA State Convention which will be held in Columbus on January 30 to February 1. Many ACDA'ers will present concerts or lectures at this important event. Give them your support! The second ACDA Collegiate Choral Festival will be held on February 9 at Agnes Scott College. Interested conductors should register as soon as possible through Dr. James Braswell, Georgia Center for Continuing Education, The University of Georgia, Athens 30602. The ACDA National Convention will be held in Salt Lake City on March 7-9. GMEA All-State Choruses will be held in Savannah on April 25-27. The ACDA Southern Division Summer Reading Session will be held in Atlanta on June 28-29 (Hotel to be announced).

Let us all resolve to make 1985 a prosperous and productive year for the choral arts!

LETTER TO GOVERNOR HARRIS

Dear Governor Harris:

It has been brought to my attention that you are presently reviewing the report given to you from the Governor's Education Review Commission. In that report, there is a recommendation to limit the study of music in our public schools. This recommendation is what bothers me and many others.

Music, as an integrated subject in the elementary schools, enhances the learning process in many areas. Reading is aided by vocabulary usage and through the reading of musical texts in grades two through six. Basic mathematical concepts, such as grouping and ordering, are enhanced. General history and social studies are enhanced through the history of music and of composers of many different cultures. In a state such as Georgia, which is constantly striving to become a more international one and more active in foreign trade, it is imperative that our children understand the cultures of the peoples they will be dealing with in future decades; and music can be an integral part in that cultural awakening.

Music in our high schools is a must if we wish to propagate this most wonderful part of our culture. Music has the ability to touch our spirit, soul, and emotions as well as to communicate. Our ability to continue the outstanding musical programs in our high schools is contingent upon our continuing music education in the earlier years. As it has in years past, this will continue to take Atlanta to the forefront as a cultural center, not only in the South but also in the world as well.

I ask you to please rethink what damage would be done should this

part of our culture be removed from our children's education.

Sincerely, Benny Grizzell

LETTER FROM GOVERNOR HARRIS

Dear Mr. Grizzell:

Thank you for the letter regarding the effect of the Governor's Education Review Commission's report on music in our public schools. I appreciate your sharing your concerns with me.

The Commission originally recommended a middle school concept that called for students to take a curriculum of basic topics, and, in addition, to sample a variety of electives or preparatory areas. This was in keeping with the notion that a middle school should be a transitional school that encouraged a student to broaden his or her interests. To ensure that a student would not take all of his electives in one area, the Commission recommended that, with the exception of physical education, a student not have more than 110 contact hours in any of 14 listed preparatory areas, including music.

In response to input from individuals throughout the state as to the effects of this limitation in instrumental music programs, the Commission revised its position. As it now reads, the recommendation on middle school preparatory courses no longer includes a 110-hour cap on instrumental music. No limitations on music were suggested for elementary or high school.

You will be pleased also to know that the Commission affirmed the importance of music as a basic competency that should be part of a statewide core curriculum. They further recommended that the state move toward funding music specialists in grades one through eight.

I trust this will ease the apprehension which you have brought to my attention, and that you will re-

lay this news to others who may share your concern. Music and band have always been an important tradition in our schools and often represent our children's best exposure to the performing arts.

I look forward to working with you and other concerned citizens in the coming months and years to improve education in our state. I am confident that, working together with the Commission's report as a blueprint, we will make great strides towards ensuring a quality basic education for students throughout Georgia.

With kindest regards, I remain

Sincerely, Joe Frank Harris

FROM THE PRESIDENT-ELECT

1984 STATE CONVENTION

With the state of our art seemingly always in question and always under fire by others who are unaware or who don't care, I think it's important to reflect on our efforts for us.

The American Choral Directors Association is a support organization created to unify choral musicians and, therein, provide a means through which they can share, with one another, common problems and successes. It's not there to make money or to develop a power base. Just simply to help!

The efforts of the Georgia Chapter have been, and continue to be, centered around this ideal. The activities that we put together and attitudes that we exhibit are all reflective of this. This year's convention was designed to provide opportunities for everyone to experience something that would pertain to their particular situation or address their particular needs. There was a performance by a high school choir performing conventional literature - the Marietta High School Concert Choir (Jeff Johnson,

conductor) and another by a high school choir performing in a show choir genre - the Westwood High School's "Peach" (Kathy VandeBerg, conductor). The college choir was admirably represented by Mercer University of Macon (Michael Schwatzkopf, conductor), and the "Singing South" from Habersham Junior High (Earlene Rentz, conductor) showed us what good junior high singing is all about.

Clinician Tom Hall was invited from the Baltimore Choral Arts Society to share with us some of his experience in dealing with the music of Bach and Handel. Rhonda Fleming, from East Carolina University, helped us to understand better how seating a choir can make an enormous difference in the sound. She also showed us something of how to develop and shape the junior high voice.

Dr. Hal Shields, from Fulton County Schools, talked about how music can or cannot fit into a present day curriculum in light of new state requirements. Roger Waters exposed us to some new literature for the church choir and provided us with samples of music to take home and try.

All in all, the convention provided a variety of thought-provoking and enlightening experiences, and those that attended went away with smiles and, hopefully, inspiration. We shared with one another and renewed old acquaintances. The day was rewarding, educational and fun!

The means through which we can bolster each other are few, and perhaps that is why everyone holds so much importance. For those of you who did not or could not attend, I'm sorry you missed the experience--not just for the experience itself, but for you.

Michael Anderson, President-Elect

FROM THE GEORGIA CENTER FOR
CONTINUING EDUCATION

SECOND ANNUAL INTERCOLLEGIATE
CHORAL FESTIVAL OF GEORGIA

HAPPY HOLIDAYS! The second Intercollegiate Choral Festival will be held on Saturday, February 9, 1985, on the campus of Agnes Scott College in Decatur, Georgia. The Festival will feature a maximum of twelve of the state's collegiate choirs in performance. Featured will be a closing performance of the first movement of the John Rutter Gloria by the combined ensembles. The Festival was begun last year to provide an opportunity for our college directors and choral singers to hear and perform for and with other college ensembles from within our state. In addition, the Festival serves as an excellent forum for the exploration of choral repertoire and the diverse choral approaches and styles present in Georgia. Costs for the Festival are \$25.00 for each participating choir and \$10.00 per observing director. The 1985 Festival promises to be a very positive, exciting, and informative event for both the directors and the students involved. I invite each college and university director to consider joining us this year. Registration forms have been sent to all college and university directors within the state. We welcome observing choral directors and singers to share this learning experience with us by registering as Observing Directors. The Intercollegiate Choral Festival is made possible through the cooperation of the Georgia Chapter of the American Choral Directors Association, the Music Program of the Georgia Center for Continuing Education, and the Choral Department of Agnes Scott College. For further information or registration forms, please contact:

Dr. James A. Braswell

Festival Chairman
Georgia Center for Continuing
Education
University of Georgia
Athens, Georgia 30602
404/542-1735

or

Dr. Theodore K. Mathews
Festival Host
Music Department
Agnes Scott College
Decatur, Georgia 30030
404/373-2571

Festivals in our neighboring states have proved to be an excellent manner for sharing, learning and promoting the choral art. Help us serve our art and state by supporting this year's Festival.

NEW BOARD OF REGENTS ADMISSION
REQUIREMENTS AND BOARD OF EDUCATION
STANDARDS FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL AND MUSIC

This fall, the Board of Regents of the University Systems of Georgia passed new admission requirements for all of the state's thirty-three state institutions. At the same time, the State Board of Education and the Department of Education were enacting new standards for secondary, middle and elementary schools which impact directly the elective programs and thus our music education efforts. These several alternations coupled with the governor's Committee for Education Excellence have once more intensified the need for our profession to be informed and prepared for positive and effective action. The GMEA In-Service Conference scheduled for January 30 to February 2, 1985 has added a special General Session on Saturday morning to present both the realities and potential changes these actions could bring. I urge all choral directors, but especially collegiate directors, to be present for this important meeting.

The General Session will be led by Dr. James A. Braswell, College and University Representative to our Georgia ACDA Board and Director of the Music Program at the Georgia Center for Continuing Education. Any member with specific information of local events or questions concerning any or all of these issues is urged to contact Dr. Braswell at the University of Georgia. 404/542-5254 School of Music or 404/542-1735 Georgia Center.

Dr. James A. Braswell

1985 NATIONAL CONVENTION

The 1985 National Convention of the American Choral Directors Association will be held March 7-9, 1985, in Salt Lake City, Utah, at the foot of the majestic Rocky Mountains. Convention plans include the use of Symphony Hall, the Mormon Tabernacle and other concert facilities on Temple Square. Appearing on the convention program will be thirty performing choirs from schools, churches and civic communities throughout the United States. In addition to these choirs, convention participants will have the unique musical experience of hearing The King's Singers from England, The Elmer Iseler Singers from Toronto, Canada, and the Mormon Tabernacle Choir from Salt Lake City.

Program planning includes interest sessions in a variety of musical areas including: "Creative Programming" featuring Frank Pooler and the California State University at Long Beach Choir and Ed Thompson and the University of Utah at Salt Lake City Choir; "Heinrich Schütz-Performance Practices" with Lynn Whitten from the University of Colorado using the South West Texas Choir conducted by Ken Fulton; Bev Henson in a session with the Concert Choir of the University of North Dakota directed by Terry Eder

entitled "Developing the Vocal and Interpretive Potential of Your Choir"; Charles Nelson from Christian University, Abilene, discussing, the "Voice Teacher-Choral Director"; and Dan Schwartz presenting a session on Jazz and Show Choirs. This particular session will have an after-hours follow-up session in the hotel's main ballroom with two show choirs performing: the Young Ambassadors from Brigham Young University and The Scarlet & Cream Singers from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. The reading session initiated at the 1983 convention will be repeated in Salt Lake City in a variety of specific vocal areas.

Special exhibit hours that do not conflict with any convention sessions will be held each day giving all conventioners ample opportunity to visit the outstanding array of exhibits being prepared by firms in the music industry throughout the country.

The convention members will be utilizing five luxury hotels and one Inn in the Temple Square area, with the convention headquarters located in the beautiful Westin Hotel Utah. The Salt Lake City Sheraton Hotel and Towers, the Hilton Hotel, the Marriott, the Temple Square Hotel and the Shilo Inn will provide deluxe accommodations and unique facilities characteristic of the names in the hotel industry. All hotels offer complimentary shuttle service to and from the S. L. C. airport. The deadline for housing registration is February 7, 1985.

A special service, highlighting the world-famed Mormon Tabernacle Choir, has been designated for Saturday evening, March 9, in the Mormon Tabernacle and will serve as the culmination of all convention activities.

AMERICAN CHORAL DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION
GEORGIA CHAPTER

WE NEED YOUR HELP

For the first time, our state convention did not make budget.

When planning the convention, a budget based on a projected attendance of one hundred (100) members was formulated from past growth patterns. The actual number of registrants was only forty nine (49) which resulted in a deficit.

We are hoping that, as a state organization, we can alleviate this deficit through individual contributions and thus avoid borrowing the moneys from the national office at current interest rates.

Please make your check payable to Ga. ACDA and mail your tax-deductable contribution NOW to:

Michael Anderson, President-Elect
c/o Tucker High School
5036 LaVista Rd.
Tucker, Georgia 30084

Any member of your executive board would be happy to answer any questions you may have concerning this matter.

John B. Haberlen, President
Michael Anderson, President-Elect
Jim Bohart, Vice-President

GEORGIA ACDA CANDIDATES

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Susan Elizabeth Brown

EDUCATION

1977
Bachelor of Music Education
Belmont College, Nashville, Tenn.
1979
Master of Music, University of
Tennessee in Knoxville

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

1978-1981
Towers High School, Decatur, Ga.
Director of Choral Music
1981-present
Wills High School, Smyrna, Ga.
Director of Choral Music
Chair, Department of Fine Arts

CHURCH MUSIC EXPERIENCE

1981-1982
Memorial Presbyterian Church,
Clarkston, Georgia
Director of Youth Choir
1982
First Baptist Church, Decatur, Ga.
Interim Minister of Music
1984-present
Oakhurst Baptist Church, Decatur
Interim Minister of Music

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY

American Choral Directors Assoc.
Atlanta Symphony Orchestra Chorus
and Chamber Chorus
Georgia Music Educators Association
Music Educators National Conference
Sigma Alpha Iota

SECRETARY-TREASURER

Roger Allen Waters

EDUCATION

1973
Bachelor of Music,
Georgia State University, Atlanta
1981
Master of Music,
Georgia State University, Atlanta

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

1976-1982
Southwest Dekalb High School,
Dekalb County
Director of Choral Activities
Chairman of Fine Arts

CHURCH MUSIC EXPERIENCE

1973-1975
Chapel Heights Baptist Church, Decatur
Minister of Music
1977-present
High Point Baptist Church, Covington
Minister of Music

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY

American Choral Directors Association
Georgia Baptist Church Music Conf.
Music Educators National Conference
Georgia Music Educators Association
Ga. Association of Teacher Educators
Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia
Soloist with the Atlanta Symphony Orch.
Recitalist at Schools and Universities
Soloist with Church and Community
Choirs
Director of the Roger Waters Chorale
Guest Lecturer, Consultant, Conductor

OFFICIAL BALLOT

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Susan Elizabeth Brown



Other _____



SECRETARY-TREASURER

Roger Allen Waters



Other _____



Place ballot in envelope and mail to John B. Haberlen, 2212 Eldorado Dr. NE, Atlanta, Georgia 30345. Your ballot must be postmarked no later than February 15, 1985 to be counted.

longevity.

- 2. Avoid singing or speaking for excessive amounts of time. Keep in mind that voicing for long periods of time relates directly to the physical conditioning of the vocal muscles and also to the innate vocal capacity of the individual to endure the wear and tear.
- 3. Avoid singing in a tessitura which is continually near the extremes of your own vocal range, and carefully pace the use of register extremes such as "pushing the chest voice into the upper range." Over-use here can be vocal suicide.
- 4. Before singing or using the voice in unusual ways, always do vocal warm-ups. Exercises should begin with general muscle stretching and massaging, etc., and vocal exercises should proceed from less strenuous to more strenuous usage. Loud volume and high pitch are the most strenuous uses of voice, so begin warm-ups by exercising the mid and low range first, softly. Gradually include louder and higher pitched vocal usage with easy production. Warm up for about 7-10 minutes; 5 minutes should be the absolute minimum. Different voices have different needs, but every voice needs warm-ups.
- 5. Reduce general voice use before a performance. Reduce your mileage. Think conversation.
- 6. Avoid shouting, screaming, loud

- laughter, and heavy throat clearing.
- 7. Hold down coughing, and when sneezing, do it gently and non-vocally.
- 8. Avoid talking in noise, for example, in loud restaurants, at the Charity Ball or Junior League with band, and watch talking over motor noise in planes, cars and busses. Keep your vocal mileage, again, as low as possible.
- 9. Avoid making strange vocal noises and sounds.
- 10. Do not sing with a sore throat.
- 11. If it feels bad, don't do it.

Common Signs of Significant Vocal Abuse

- 1. Throat is tender to the touch after vocal use.
- 2. Hoarse voice at end of singing.
- 3. Need to clear throat for a period of time; frequent throat clearing which worsens after singing.
- 4. Throat is very dry, has a noticeable "tickle" that is persistent (check out dehydration).
- 5. Inability to produce your highest notes at pianissimo volume.
- 6. Persistent hoarseness or inability to sing or speak with a clear voice after 24-48 hours of voice rest.

Theodore K. Mathews, Editor

President:
John B. Haberlen
2212 Eldorado Dr. NE
Atlanta, 30345

Vice-President:
Jim Bohart
3903 Ensign Court
Chamblee, 30341

President-Elect:
Michael Anderson
1453 Camelot Lane
Tucker, 30084

Ed. of Newsletter
Theodore K. Mathews
Agnes Scott College
Decatur, 30030

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APPLICATION for MEMBERSHIP in American Choral Directors Association

NOTE: ACTIVE Applicants include brief resume of career, if available, for your Personnel File.

Make check payable to:
American Choral Directors Ass'n

MAIL TO: GENE BROOKS
Executive Secretary, ACDA
P.O. Box 5310, Lawton, OK 73504

Please accept my application for membership in ACDA as checked:

- () ACTIVE — \$25.00 () ASSOCIATE — \$25.00
() LIFE MEMBERSHIP — \$500 (payable in installments of \$50.00 or more)

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE _____

Please Indicate Areas of Activity:

- Elem (); Jr HS (); Sr HS (); Coll-U ();
Comm (); Church ()

APPLICANT'S NAME _____
(Type or Print)

Title and Position _____

Institution _____

Street Address _____

(IMPERATIVE if used as Mailing Address)

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

PREFERRED MAILING ADDRESS _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____