

OHIO CHORAL DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION

AOCDA NEWS

WINTER ISSUE 1981

OCDA PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Dear Members,

First, I would like to call your attention to a very important event for every choral director in Ohio. The Central Division of A.C.D.A. will hold its first convention in Kalamazoo, Michigan, on March 4, 5, and 6, 1982. It may sound like a long way off but it's not too early to make arrangements to be there. Kalamazoo is within driving distance, which should make the location attractive for OCDA members.

If you have never been to a divisional or national convention I strongly urge you to try to attend. Words really can't describe what you get out of one of those conventions; you really must go to appreciate it. Do anything you can to get those days off. Make the effort. Believe me, you will be rewarded by hearing outstanding choirs (about 16 of them), clinicians, special interest sessions and so much more. National and divisional conventions are much different from our state conventions. These conventions are big enough to offer something for everyone. Also, because of the time of year, these conventions can have so many performing groups, which we really can't do in the summer conventions. I like to think the state convention and divisional conventions complement each other well. What you don't get from one, you most surely will get at the other.

That brings me to my second item. Plan now to attend our annual state convention which will be held during the first week of August at the College-Conservatory of Music, University of Cincinnati. The choral staff at Cincinnati is planning a fantastic time. More on this later, but get the time reserved in you '82 calendar.

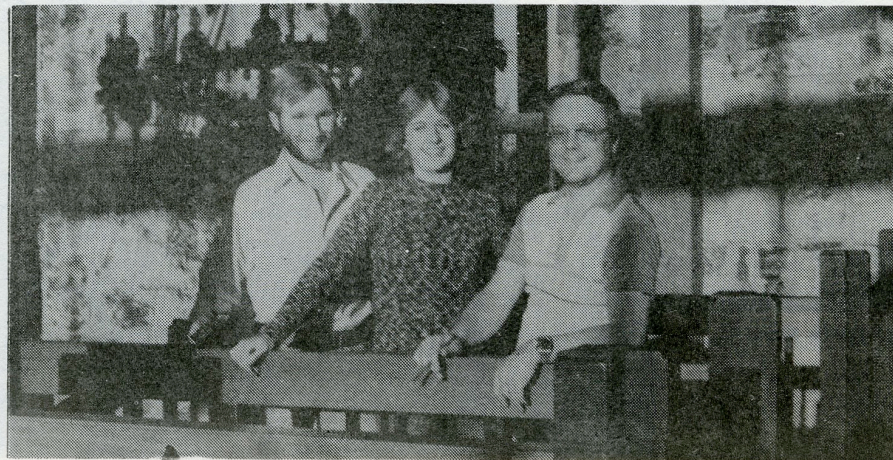
I'm sure many of you are eager to hear what happened at Salt Fork First, let me tell you that we had cool but beautiful weather for the weekend. We had about 65 members and family members present. Those members present represented just about every area of choral music and almost everyone present contributed to the discussion. In my opinion, the whole weekend was a tremendous success! My thanks to John Matheny for his help organizing the conference and especially to Mary Frances Ward and Nancy Lewis for one of the best "Gemutlichkeits" ever. Also our appreciation to Lloyd Savage for bringing his accordion and original OCDA "compositions" along.

A detailed report will come later on Salt Fork because there is just so much to say. But I will try to touch on one or two items. Some of the items discussed included: the structure of OCDA, our relationship to OMEA, the format of our conventions, honors choir, conducting and composing competitions, younger members, church musicians, and a lot more. Time and again the question kept coming up, "What do we (the members) want from OCDA?" Bill Kraus with the help of Kathy Barrett and James Moore conducted a survey of those present to help answer this question. There were more than 26 items compiled with the following areas listed in priority: 1. exchange of ideas among directors, 2. literature— old and new, 3. conducting techniques, 4. performance practice, and 5. vocal techniques.

The conference generated many ideas. One in particular which seemed to interest many was to have an "Honors Choir" or clinic choir at our summer convention for church or community choir members. Another was to establish a "buddy" system for younger members. This would enable a young OCDA member to have an "experienced" (I hate to say *older*) OCDA member as their "big buddy"— someone who could help them with all sorts of problems. Everyone at the conference agreed to be put on the "buddy" list so if any of you "younger" members want a friend, just write and we'll get you in touch with someone.

There's much more to say about Salt Fork, but that must wait. May I take this opportunity to wish all of you the best during the coming holiday season and for the New Year.

Bill Boggs, Chairman of Youth and Student Activities, Kathy Barrett, choral, Springfield Schools, and Pres. John Drotleff, choral, Avon Lake High School.



FUTURE DATES TO NOTE

(ED. NOTE: If you will send me your dates far enough ahead we will run this column every issue. It's up to YOU.)

OHIO UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Sunday, 3 P.M., March 7, in Memorial Auditorium, Athens Campus. University Choral Union and University Symphony Orchestra will perform Handel's *Israel in Egypt*.

Margaret Hillis will guest conduct the Friday (5th) and Saturday (6th) rehearsals as well as the performance on Sunday.

OCDA members interested in participating in final rehearsals and the performance should contact Ira Zook, School of Music, Ohio University, Athens, Ohio 45701.

Grove City High School

Saturday, 7:30 P.M., March 27

Copley, Westerville North, and Grove City High School Choirs will present a combined concert.

DATES PAST— OR ALMOST

The Magic City Singers of Barberton, director Elizabeth Crater, presented Handel's *Messiah* Dec. 6.

The Wright State University Chorus, Paul Magill, Director, presented the Berlioz *L'Enfance du Christ* with the Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra, December 8 and 9. This followed a fine concert in conjunction with the Wright State Chamber Singers, Dr. Martha Wurtz, Director.

The Sandusky Choral Society, William Kraus, Director, gave the R. Vaughn Williams *Hodie* with soloists Jane Casey, Al Adcock and Richard Mathey, December 6.

George Zimmerman and Friends had a great Old Fashioned Christmas Sing, December 1, and Larry Tagg conducted Christmas on Campus, December 8, at Dayton University.

The Firelands Chorus annual Christmas show, entitled "Home for the Holidays," is directed by Beverlie Mayer at 1:30, December 13 in Sandusky Adams Jr. High. Excerpts will appear on Cable TV, Channel 7, over the holidays.

BEV'S BRIEFS

The second issue is finished. The reason issues are slow is that they lie in the local post offices. You and I can't do anything about that, but you can do something about getting your copy to me in time. The next issue deadline is February 10. I expect a contribution from each chairman for the spring issue. Please remember so I don't have to call you.

To all of you, Happy Holidays!

Bev

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