

From Your President

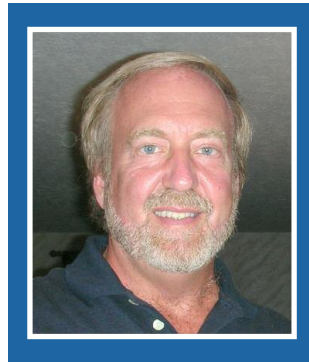
AS I SIT DOWN TO WRITE my first column as president, I am truly thankful for the opportunity to serve you for the next two years. I believe in this organization and the great tradition of creating a positive force for the pursuit of choral excellence. I have been a member since 1978 and now it's my turn to pay it forward. The new OCDA Board is also eager to serve you. We had our first meeting on September 10th where we assembled a board with amazing talent, dedication, and a sense of humor. What more could you ask for in a board.

Our newly appointed Repertoire and Standard Chairs will assemble a list of selections for the OMEA/OCDA Reading Sessions at the 2012 OMEA Professional Conference in Columbus next February. One of the most difficult aspects of a choral director's job is selecting music. Don't you wish someone would pick your music every year? This is one of the most time-consuming projects that we endure as choral directors. I go through stacks of music every summer, winter, spring, and fall. Teachers in other subject areas have the same syllabus year after year. However, we must design a new syllabus every year. We must pick music that stimulates our choir, music that covers all the major epochs in history, multicultural music, music that will give the choir immediate success, music that builds skills, music that immerses the choir in that unique state of aesthetic awareness. Where do we find this music?

OCDA is certainly a great place to begin. In addition to the 2012 reading sessions mentioned above, there is a repertoire listing on the OCDA Web site, ohiocda.org. This drop down list of Resources on the Web site will show a summary of all the music that has been selected by our R&S Chairs and presented at the OCDA or OMEA reading sessions since 2004.

Another great resource for literature can be found on choralnet.org. This drop down list from Resources includes literature with concert themes, lists by voicing, lists by instrumentation, lists by ensemble type, lists by country or culture, lists by style or source, Christian seasons and holidays, other occasions, church anthems, resources on individual compositions, getting choral music, and free download sites.

Another source can be found on the ACDA Web site, acda.org. Once you log in, go to the Members Only Resources. Here you can download choral programs from past ACDA performances. You can also click on Repertoire



OCDA President Bill Zurkey

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Suggestions and Reviews, and click on your interest area: Boychoirs, Children's Choir, College & University, Community Choir, Ethnic Multicultural, Jr High Middle School, Male Choir, Music In Worship, Professional, Show Choir, Sr High School, Two Year College, Vocal Jazz, or Women's Choir. There are 110 high school selections on this site and 166 college and university.

If you are a member of OMEA (omea-ohio.org), you can log on to the members only and go to large group contests. Here you will find the most recent OMEA Contest

Repertoire list for the upcoming contest season. Just click on Adjudicated events, then large group and current required lists. OMEA has also added to the site a new feature this year which is an archive of past contest lists and sight reading.

Another source for finding literature is the Choral Music Public Domain Web site, cpdl.org. Just typing in the composer Palestrina will bring up 265 selections that you can peruse and download. One of the perks of this site is the fact that the music can be duplicated for your choirs without depleting your

choral music budget.

Younger choral directors are very fortunate to have the Internet as a resource. In my early days, we had to actually go to concerts, festivals, and professional conferences to find resources for literature. I saved every program from every concert and conference for future reference in choosing literature. On second thought, maybe we were fortunate after all. There's nothing like conference camaraderie, commiserating afterwards over coffee or a cold one. ♦

Summer Conference 2011

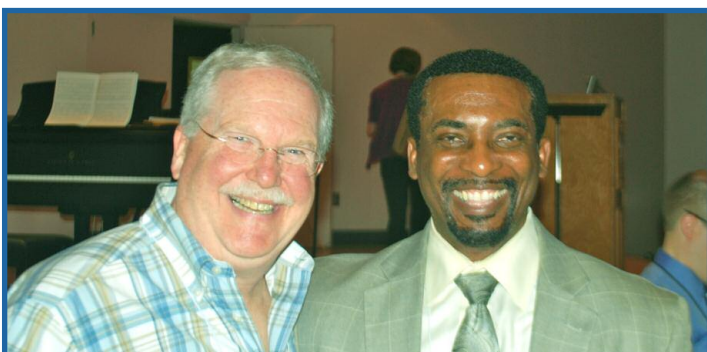
Brandon Moss, Summer Conference Coordinator

GREETINGS! I am so honored to serve you for the next two years as Conference Coordinator of the OCDA Summer Conference. I have attended and worked for the Summer Conference for most of the last 10 years, and it is always one of the highlights of my summer.

While I know many of you, I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself to those of you whom I do not know. I hold a Bach-

elor of Music Education degree from Otterbein College (now University) and am currently working toward a Master of Music degree in Choral Conducting at The Ohio State University. I have taught at the middle and high school levels in Dover City Schools and Three Rivers Local Schools. I currently serve as Director of the Chalice Choir at First Unitarian Universalist Church in Columbus.

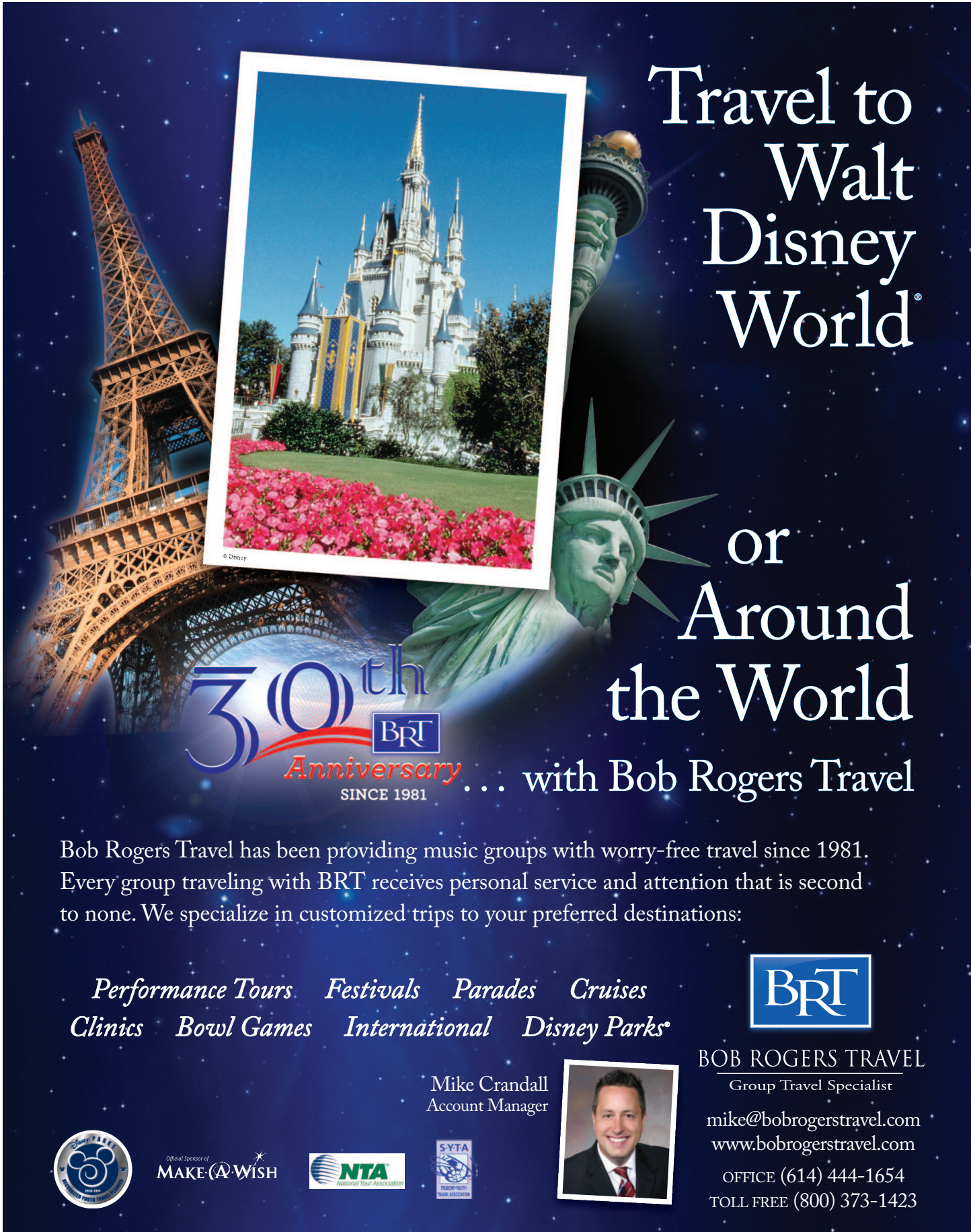
My involvement with the OCDA Summer Conference began when I was a college student, assisting Conference Coordinator Gayle Walker in the many details of its inner workings. Since graduating, I have also served as a Hospitality and Transportation Chair, attending to the needs of our guest clinicians. It has been a privilege to be part of such a consistently excellent conference that serves to refresh and foster the



Ben Ayling with presenter André Thomas



Chris Venesile with North Olmstead Vocal Jazz Ensemble members



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Ben Ayling with 2011 Coordinators Sara and Brian Potts



Robyn Lana with the Children's Honor Choir

professional lives of hard-working choral music educators like all of you.

Last summer's conference, featuring Judy Bowers, Jerry McCoy, André Thomas, and Robyn Lana, was yet another great success. Total registration for the conference was 165, which was an increase from the 2010 Summer Conference. Of those attending the conference, 18 were new members, and participants came not just from Ohio, but from Indiana, Michigan, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia as well! Of course, I owe a great deal of gratitude to Brian and Sara Potts, whose hard work and dedication in coordinating

the last four conferences will make my job much easier!

I hope that all of you are looking forward to the 2012 Summer Conference to be held on the campus of Otterbein University June 18–20. The 2012 conference will feature guest clinicians Charles Bruffy, Director of the Kansas City Chorale and Phoenix Chorale; Paul Oakley, from Kentucky Wesleyan College; and Rollo Dilworth, from Temple University, who will direct the Children's Honor Choir. Please reserve these dates on your calendar now,



Ben Ayling and Bill Zurkey

and, as always, if you have any questions or suggestions, please contact me at ocdaconference@gmail.com. I look forward to working with and for you! ♦

OCDA Distinguished Service Award

ON TUESDAY, JUNE 21, 2011, at the annual Summer Conference, the Ohio Choral Directors Association prestigious Distinguished Service Award was presented to Ernest L. Hisey. Those who are honored with the annual OCDA Distinguished Service Award are selected based on the following criteria:

- a high standard of musicianship,
- a high standard of professionalism,

- a record of service to choral music in Ohio, and
- a record of active service to OCDA.

Professor Emeritus Ernest Hisey has had 33 years of service in educational institutions, with 17 years in high school, 6 years in community college, and 16 years at Cleveland State University, where he held the position of Vocal/Choral Music Department Chair. He has conducted



OCDA President Bill Zurkey presents a plaque to Ernest L. Hisey.

professionally for 50 years, with 35 years as a church musician. He holds degrees from Capital University in Columbus, OH, and Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland. Professor Hisey conducted premier performances of compositions by Donald Erb, John Rutter, Daniel Pinkham, Vaclav Nehlybel, and Frederick Koch and his ensembles performed at professional conferences of the American Choral Directors' Association

and Ohio Music Education Association. Concert tours he performed in Romania, Israel, Canada, Northern Poland, Southern Poland and Germany led to additional invitations to perform in Lithuania, Latvia, and again in Poland.

Additional music positions held by Prof. Hisey include: Head of Music Department at Bay Presbyterian Church, Chorus Master of the Cleveland Opera Theatre, director

of the Cleveland Chamber Singers, founder of the Lorain County Community College Civic Musicum, and founder/conductor CleveWest Music Consorte. Broadcasts of his performances have aired on Radio Bavaria, Israeli TV, and on the WVIZ-TV PBS Network in 1990-91.

Prof. Hisey has served as President of Ohio Choral Directors Association and President of the ACDA North Central Region. ♦

Expanding Our Choral Community into the "Cloud"

Tim Unger, Youth and Student Chair

AS CHORAL DIRECTORS we benefit greatly from involvements with the greater choral community. OCDA and ACDA, in particular, help ex-

pand our horizons. Think of all the contacts, choirs, repertoire, and methods you have been exposed to through these two organizations!

Our singers have just as much to gain, albeit in different ways, from seeing what is happening in the Ohio choral community. In an effort

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to connect singers across Ohio, OCDA continues to develop initiatives for engaging your singers in the larger choral community of which they are (sometimes unknowingly) a part.

A familiar initiative is the Honor Choir program for children and high school students, available through the OCDA Summer Conference. A more recent action plan involves meeting the younger generation of singers on their own level—in “the cloud.” Admittedly, a full definition of the “cloud” may be a bit “over my head,” but suffice it to say that the “cloud” refers to the digital world of the Internet, where content and information is posted, exchanged, accessed, and manipulated.

I believe that the younger generation of singers increasingly wants not only to absorb information, but also to interact with it. If you have choir members between the ages of 13 and 30, you will be hard pressed to find a single one who is not involved with social media. In response to this reality, OCDA has launched Facebook and Twitter accounts, which can be followed by anyone interested. I am committed to increasing the interactive elements of the OCDA Web site even more. In addition to social media sites, our support of on-line interaction and communication will hopefully soon incorporate wikis, where singers can contribute to collected lists of repertoires and/or add video links. (Wikis are webpages whose content can be edited by any visitor. The best known of these, Wikipedia, just celebrated its 10th anniversary, demonstrating that the idea of collective content is alive and well—despite the often-repeated criticism that such content is unreliable for formal research.) We also want to develop useful and interesting resources that will be more directly available to singers by means of social bookmarking applications. Think cpdl and choralnet. Social bookmarking applications like Diigo allow users to create lists of bookmarks that can then be

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Dr. Jeremy Jones joins Dr. William Bausano on the choral and music education faculty at Miami University. Dr. Jones is the conductor of the 100-voice Men’s Glee Club and the Collegiate Chorale and teaches courses in music education. He is a graduate of the University of Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music (D.M.A.), with additional degrees from East Carolina University and Middle Tennessee State University.

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shared with other Diigo users.

Why engage singers in this way? Because it not only piques their curiosity and helps inform them, but also because it contributes to a sense of belonging and identity. If our choir members identify themselves as members of the larger choral community, they will be more likely to continue their choral music experience in their individual futures. Furthermore, online interaction allows us, the choral directors, to reach out to singers throughout Ohio. Imagine a wiki

site that includes not only posts from singers listing repertoire or providing interesting links and video, but also posts from conductors and organizers that provide a consolidated list of summer camp opportunities, honor choir experiences, and conducting masterclasses! If our choir members got in the habit of visiting such a site regularly and interacting with its content, we could then also begin to use it as a vehicle for sharing our own information with them.

The initiative I'm describing is

largely grassroots-based. It needs your involvement! You are the primary conduit between your singers and the Ohio choral community. In order for this initiative to be successful, we need you to encourage your singers to "like" the OCDA Facebook page, follow the OCDA Twitter account, and get involved with the wikis and applications that will soon appear on the OCDA Web site. And if you don't know what any of this means, don't worry. Your singers will! ♦

An Evolving Newsletter

Tim Cloeter, editor

EVER SINCE the Ohio Choral Directors' Association was founded, we have invested in a newsletter. For many years, in fact, the costs of printing and mailing the newsletter exceeded the revenue from advertising, and yet we made that investment because we believed that communication and the sharing of resources and insights were important to our organization. Although the medium of the newsletter has evolved, our philosophy remains the same: the real strength of OCDA can be measured by how connected we are, how accessible our leaders are, and how freely ideas and inspiration move among us. Our newsletter should be a critically important tool for building this connection and accessibility and flow of ideas.

Just as the printed version was before, the now strictly electronic

OCDA News is an important visual representation of our organization, and its design is intended to make the document inviting, to make the information in it easy to obtain, and to communicate a professional tone. In addition, this PDF file that is now e-mailed and posted on our Web site rather than printed and mailed offers us a number of new features:

- increased distribution for no extra cost,
- the use of full color for no extra cost,
- the freedom to include more content and more advertising for no extra cost,
- live Internet links embedded in articles and ads, and
- a clickable table of contents. (Try also the "table of contents" link atop each page, the links to ads in the Contents pane on the first page, and any e-mail address you find.)



During my tenure as editor, I would like to see the OCDA News grow as a dynamic resource for members. Let's make our newsletter relevant, useful, and engaging! If you think of a topic we ought to address, or if you are inclined to write an article or a letter to the editor, please do contact me at cloetet@bgsu.edu or 419-372-8288. I would very much like to expand the upcoming events section, so send your concert or workshop information to me for inclusion in the next issue. If you identify a vendor whose services or products would be useful to OCDA members, alert me and, if you'd like, forward this issue to that vendor yourself with an invitation to advertise. (The OCDA Board is also looking for someone to share with me the responsibility of selling advertis-

ing space; please contact me if you are willing and interested to serve the organization in this way.)

I would also like to see the *OCDA News* grow as a tool for recruiting and retaining members. If we succeed in creating a publication that fosters connection and facilitates the sharing of ideas and inspiration, then we'll definitely contribute to retention. For recruitment, consider forwarding the *News* to a colleague who has not yet joined ACDA with a personal invitation to

join. Sharing the *OCDA News* with college students aiming for the choral profession is also as easy as clicking your mouse.

What is the most valuable resource the OCDA has? You! Our collective experience, intelligence, wisdom, passion, wit, and love for choral music overshadows even our great summer conference, our valuable OMEA reading sessions, our outstanding honors choir experiences, and our critical support for special choral initiatives state-wide.

Let's use the *OCDA News* to inform and inspire each other, to commiserate and rejoice with each other, to support and re-ignite each other, to share philosophy as well as practical advice. If we all contribute to the *News* in some way, it will continue to evolve into an ever more vibrant and meaningful forum within a healthy and active organization. I'm pleased to be able to serve you as editor this year, and I look forward to contributing positively to this evolution. ♦



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Treasurer's Report

Kent Vandock, Treasurer



2011 OCDA Newsletter Report - YTD:2 1/1/2010 through 9/17/2011

Category Description	1/1/2010- 12/31/2010	1/1/2011- 9/17/2011	Amount Difference
INCOME			
Advertising	947.00	560.25	-386.75
Children's Choir Income	22,134.10	30,434.00	8,299.90
Int Inc	17.83	5.35	-12.48
Member Deposits	9,851.00	6,335.00	-3,516.00
Other Inc	100.00	0.23	-99.77
Summer Conference Income	27,064.75	28,180.40	1,115.65
TOTAL INCOME	60,114.68	65,515.23	5,400.55
EXPENSES			
ACDA Membership Dues Transfer	4,139.00	2,166.00	1,973.00
Awards	228.00	282.90	-54.90
Bank Charge	73.63	90.00	-16.37
Board Meetings	638.83	976.76	-337.93
Children's Choir Expenses	20,811.63	23,953.10	-3,141.47
Elections	264.55	207.35	57.20
Fees	0.00	150.00	-150.00
High School Honors Choir	0.00	134.99	-134.99
Membership	383.53	337.50	46.03
Misc	0.00	50.00	-50.00
Newsletter	3,103.21	773.00	2,330.21
Office	229.62	112.10	117.52
OMEA	4,139.74	4,505.37	-365.63
R & S Area	26.46	13.07	13.39
Sponsorships	1,100.00	500.00	600.00
State Officer Travel	669.65	0.00	669.65
Summer Conference Expenses	23,485.56	28,605.59	-5,120.03
Taxes	275.00	275.00	0.00
Travel	1,083.20	1,685.04	-601.84
Website expenses	279.80	0.00	279.80
TOTAL EXPENSES	60,931.41	64,817.77	-3,886.36
OVERALL TOTAL	-816.73	697.46	1,514.19

Thank You, Mr. Wesp: A Student's Perspective

Sara Potts, SW Region Chair

ON JUNE 27, 2011, at the last possible minute and as quietly as possible, Dick Wesp retired from Anderson High School at the Forest Hills School District Board of Education Meeting. The retirement was surprising, but the way he went about it was not. Mr. Wesp is humble and quiet; he was a teacher in the profession for all the right reasons—for the students, for the music, never for the recognition. Thankfully, the people around him feel differently. After a 57-year teaching career in the same school district, going quietly was not an option. The morning after the meeting, news of Mr. Wesp's retirement was already flooding news feeds on Facebook. Soon after, a community page was started to share pictures and stories to celebrate the career of this phenomenal teacher, and planning was underway for a celebration.

My family feels a special connection to Mr. Wesp because my grandfather, E. Wayne Titus, former principal of Anderson High School, was the genius who hired him. My mother and two uncles had Mr. Wesp in their high school days, and although my sisters and I should have attended the other high school in our district, my mom made sure we went to Anderson so we could have Mr. Wesp as well. If my grandfather were still alive today, he would be so proud of the program Mr. Wesp built and nurtured, and the enormous number of students he inspired.

Being a student of Mr. Wesp can make you feel pretty important.

When I went off to college and arrived at Otterbein as a music major, everyone knew Mr. Wesp. I couldn't believe it! It turns out that my high school choir director has been an integral part of the choral and music education scene in Ohio and beyond for years. He attends every conference, has chaired exhibits at ACDA division conferences, headed registration at OMEA conferences, organized honor choirs, mentored

students and new teachers, and so much more. It is my understanding that he has received Distinguished Service Awards from both OCDA and OMEA. Mr. Wesp is an inspiration to us all and he is ultimately the reason I became a music educator and choir director. Most importantly, he has an incredible way of instilling a love of music in his students, something I aspire to do every day in my classroom.

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On September 3, Brian and I attended a retirement celebration dinner for Mr. Wesp. It was a beautifully planned evening with over 200 guests—mostly former students, a few current students, colleagues, friends, and family—only a fraction of the people he reached during his tenure at Anderson High School. The evening included wonderful spoken tributes, a beautiful slide show, Richard Wesp Trivia, and of course, a performance by the “Richard Wesp Chorale,” composed mostly of former students. It was truly an amazing tribute to an amazing teacher and musician. If

you happen to be on Facebook, check out “Dick Wesp’s Retirement Celebration” page and browse the pictures and tributes left by so many of his students. If you have a story to share, feel free to share it! With a career this long, the celebration is going to last a while.

It was an honor to be one of Mr. Wesp’s students and an even greater honor to join him as a colleague in choral music education. He exemplified for so many of us what teaching should look like, and inspired many more to make music a part of their everyday lives. There are always people who are sad when

someone so respected retires, but Mr. Wesp’s retirement is certainly well deserved. And now that he’ll have some extra time on his hands, I look forward to bringing him in to work with my choirs!

Happy Retirement, Mr. Wesp. You touched more lives than we can ever fathom in your 57 years of teaching at Anderson. Thank you for the encouragement, the passion, the life lessons, and most of all, the music. I am proud to be your student, and proud to say that you inspired me to become a choir teacher to share this crazy love of music that you instilled in me. ♦

Upcoming Events

November 2011

Bowling Green State University Men’s Chorus Fall Tour (*works by Handl, Poulenc, Beethoven, Wagner, Chatman, and Khataleshvili*)

Nov. 9, 7:30 PM—Trinity UMC, Mansfield, OH
(for more information, call 419-564-8041)

Nov. 10, 7:30 PM—Trinity UMC, Columbus, OH (with the OSU Women’s Glee Club and the Upper Arlington H.S. Vocal Ensemble)
(for more information, call 614-488-0695)

Nov. 11, 7:30 PM—Graham M.S., St. Paris, OH
(for more information, call 937-652-3671)

March 2012

Central Division ACDA Conference
March 7–10, Fort Wayne, IN

June 2012

OCDA Conference
June 18–20, Columbus, OH

National Symposium on American Choral Music
(*co-sponsored by ACDA and the Library of Congress*)
June 29–30, Washington, D.C.

July 2012

World Choir Games
July 4–14, Cincinnati, OH

OCDA News, the official publication of the Ohio Choral Directors Association, is published three times annually and is distributed without charge to members of the Association as well as to selected members and officers of the American Choral Directors Association. Distribution is by PDF file that is e-mailed and posted at ohiocda.org. OCDA reserves the right to determine inclusion of materials submitted and to edit all materials proposed for distribution.

Copy and Ad Submission Deadlines: September 15 for the Fall Issue, January 15 for the Winter Issue, and April 15 for the Spring Issue.

Advertising Rates: a full page ad is \$135 per issue, a half-page ad is \$80 per issue, and a quarter-page ad is \$45 per issue. A 15% discount is offered on the purchase of three consecutive ads; other discounts are available. Please contact the editor for exact ad sizes and other specifications.

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