

# CANTABILE

Connecticut American Choral Directors Association

June, 1989

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Connecticut ACDA serves its membership with many activities and endeavors to deal with many of the professional problems that we encounter in our various choral situations. During my past two years as President of our great state organization, I have had the privilege of meeting the outstanding conductors, teachers, and performers who make up the vast population of our membership. The opportunities, expressed in the goings on of state, divisional, and national conferences uphold the ideals of what a thriving organization should be.

In our own state, our membership has been treated to exceptional functions and activities focusing on the importance of great choral traditions within our state performance schedule. This year alone President-Elect Jim Papp organized an outstanding Fall Conference at Central Connecticut State University. Later in the year, the very first state Middle School Choral Festival was held in Rocky Hill with great success. Our National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky in March was musically uplifting for those of us who attended the three day event. I indeed was proud to witness the performances of some of the world's great choral ensembles. In that same month, Gordan Adams coordinated our annual High School Chamber Choir Festival which continues to be a valuable experience to all who participate.

On July 1, Jim Papp will take office as our new state President. At the same time, Claire Benoit will begin her duties as President-Elect. I would like to thank my Executive Board for a Bravissimo job!. To Richard Erickson, editor of *Cantabile*, thank you for making our publication one of the best of the state ACDA newsletters. I know that we experienced many levels of cooperation from those who worked for our cause and that the same level of cooperation will continue to develop from within the ranks of our membership so that CT ACDA will continue to strive towards one common goal: excellence in choral music.

Best wishes for many happy years and a most restful summer.

Sal Cicciarella

## THANK YOU!

On July 1, the leadership of CT. ACDA will once again change hands. Jim Papp will assume the duties of President and Claire Benoit will become President-Elect.

The membership owes a warm, heart-felt thank you to outgoing President Sal Cicciarella. For the past two years Sal has spent a great deal of time and energy guiding our state organization. During his administration we have seen a continued quality High School Chamber Choir Festival, a bigger and better Fall Conference, and the first annual Middle School Choral Festival. In addition, our membership has continued to grow in number and there has been an increase in those members willing to help with our various activities.

Anyone who has had dealings with Sal knew that he would be treated courteously and with respect. A caring individual, devoutly dedicated to the cause of choral music, he always has made everyone feel that their contribution to ACDA was important. Our state organization is a better one because of the work of Sal Cicciarella.

The Editor

SAVE-A-DATE

CT ACDA  
ANNUAL FALL CONFERENCE

Saturday, October 14, 1989  
Hartt School of Music  
West Hartford



## FROM THE PRESIDENT-ELECT

The 1988-89 year is winding down. Singers are preparing final concerts. A long deserved vacation is over the next horizon: but not quite yet. I urge you to take care of the following business before you cash it in for the year:

- Urge all choral directors you know, especially elementary and middle school people to attend our Fall Conference on October 14. It will be held at the Hartt School of Music.
- Complete and return the Honors Choir application. Your efficiency now will hopefully mean that the music will be on your desk to greet you when you return in the Fall.
- Plan a musically productive thing for the middle of your summer. Enjoy the vacation but revitalize yourself intellectually also.
- Take time to thank all those people who made your job just a little easier this year; think about how you can make the responsibilities of others go more smoothly and forget the rest!!!

Jim Papp

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## MESSAGE FROM THE IN-COMING PRESIDENT-ELECT

As the summer is fast approaching and this being the last issue of *Cantabile* before the break, I would like to take a moment to say "Hi" and let you know that I will be hard at work for the next few months. One of my new duties will be the planning of our next Fall Conference. I have been making contact with guest clinicians, speakers, and performing groups, many of whom were recommended by CT. and R.I. ACDA members. If you have the name of an individual or group that you would like to recommend, please contact me as soon as possible. I will be in the area during the summer months at the following address:

Claire Benoit  
217 B So. Main Street  
Suffield, CT 06078  
(203) 668-1782

The 1989 CT/R.I. ACDA Fall Conference will be hosted by the Hartt School of Music, West Hartford, CT. on Saturday, October 14. Further details regarding the conference will be mailed to all ACDA members this August.

I would like to thank Sal and Jim for their support and patience during the last few months and during the transition period of the new Executive Board. To all of you, best wishes on your end of year programs and have a very pleasant and relaxing summer.

Claire Benoit

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## WHAT CAN I DO MONDAY MORNING?

(To make things better in my  
elementary school chorus rehearsal)

by Nancy Krestic

1. Go into a small room and scream!
2. Look through your folder. Don't be afraid to say you've made a mistake and the piece is a dud. It happens you know. Toss it!
3. Pick a *new* unison piece—and work on it *very carefully* for tone quality.
4. Do *physical* warm-ups for early morning rehearsal—from bends and stretches to gentle circular rubbing of the sinus cavity area.
5. Get a *new* accompanist!
6. Get an *accompanist*!
7. Change the physical arrangement of the group. Circle the room with bodies, even for one number.
8. Always have a canon or round in your repertoire for warm-up.
9. Posture: have singers stand more. Don't sit (or stand) for an entire rehearsal.
10. When sitting—front edge of the chair, music up, feet on the floor, back straight. *No exceptions!*
11. Sing row by row, one section of a piece that's weak. Then put it together. This makes a tremendous improvement in sound.
12. Expect great things. Kids will give you anything you ask.
13. Schedule another concert—motivation works wonders!
14. Take stock of *yourself*. Are you setting a good example—vocally, in your attitude, in your appearance? Are you being professional?
15. Announce that you've decided to retire from teaching and raise sheep!

Good Luck!



**CONNECTICUT ACDA OFFICERS***President*

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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 \_\_\_\_\_