

# ACDA Cantabile



The Newsletter of the Connecticut ACDA  
Fall 1990

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome back all! I hope that your summer was restful and that you are returning to your choirs with fresh ideas and spirit to make music for your communities.

We have a new editor of CANTABILE. Robin Aubin takes over from Dick Erickson to continue our fine newsletter. Russell Hammond is also coming in as our new treasurer. Dorothy Mutkaskis is our new Ethnic Choirs Repertoire and Standards chairperson. Carol Gustafson will serve as secretary this year.

This issue of CANTABILE is loaded with information for you for the year. You will find reports from the various chairmen who are planning our annual

events. Please mark your calendars so that you and your choristers are able to take full advantage of Ct. ACDA. Certainly don't forget to reserve March 13-17 for National ACDA in Phoenix.

Claire Conklin, your VP, has outdone herself in planning a wonderful Fall Conference. The only thing that can make it better is your attendance. There is no longer a conflict of dates between the Massachusetts ACDA Conference and our own. If you can't schedule one, consider attending the other, or better yet, do both!

How our Honors Choir has grown! This year we have two choirs! What a spectacular ending to our professional day! Michelle Holt has organized an SSAA and a TTBB Honors Choir with great guest conductors. Bring your students to hear it!

See you in October-Jim.

## In this issue:

*President's Message*  
page 1

*V.P.'s Fall Conf.*  
*Preview-page, 2 & 5*

*20 Ways to Irritate a*  
*Singer-page 6*

*Communication: Am I*  
*Effective-page 6*

*also:*

*Dates to Remember- page 2*

*High School Forum- page 4*

*Middle School Forum- page 3*

*Choral Review- page 4*

*Ct/ACDA Offices- page 7*

## DISCLAIMER

The National office has requested the accompanying disclaimer be carried on all ACDA publications:

ACDA reserves the right to approve all materials proposed for distribution.



## From the Vice-President

The 1990 CT. ACDA Fall Conference, to be held at the University of Connecticut in Storrs, will feature the performance and rehearsal of two high school honors choirs, one for boys and one for girls. The membership of both choirs is comprised of high school singers from public and private schools in Connecticut and Rhode Island.

The boys choir will be a TTBB group lead by Lieutenant A. Phillip Waite, director of the United States Air Force "Singing Sergeants". Most recently Lieutenant Waite held the position of Director of Choral Activities at Western Illinois University in Macomb, Ill. Lieutenant Waite performs frequently as guest conductor, clinician, and judge in both traditional and jazz choral idioms, and is an active arranger and composer of choral music. He is near completion of the doctor of musical arts degree from Arizona State University.

The girls choir will perform SSAA music under guest conductor <sup>male</sup> Gail B. Poch. As professor of Choral Music at Temple University's Boyer College of Music, in Philadelphia, his career has included preparing that school's various choral organizations for performances with world-famous orchestras and conductors. In addition to his teaching responsibilities at Temple, he has also been researching and developing a new method of teaching conducting. This unique approach is based on the movement analysis and choreographic techniques of Rudolf Laban, who originated the notation system now used for the description of ballet. Poch is currently completing a book based on this new pedagogical method technique.

Frauke Haasemann, Professor of Choral Music at Westminster College in Princeton, N.J., will be the guest clinician for the general interest session. Her session will focus on rehearsal techniques for music of four different stylistic periods. Professor Haasemann will begin with special warm-ups using vocal problems from the selections and lead participants in a rehearsal of the pieces, showing how the warm-up techniques can be incorporated. The Music to be rehearsed is:

For Unto us a Child is Born, G.F. Handel  
Praise Ye the Lord, H. Distler  
Locus Iste, A. Bruckner  
Seven Last Words of David, R. Thompson

Participants are asked to bring scores, additional scores may be available to borrow.

(Continued on page 3)

### DATES TO REMEMBER....

Ct. ACDA Fall Conference \*\*\*  
 UConn, Storrs  
 October 20, 1990

New England Music Fest.  
 (Solo & Ens.)  
 Rutland, Vt.  
 December 8, 1990

New England Music Fest.  
 (Solo & Ens.)  
 Glastonbury, Ct.  
 December 15, 1990

Ct. ACDA Middle School Fest.  
 Danielson, Ct, (Tent.)  
 February 2

ACDA National Convention  
 Phoenix, Ar.  
 March 13-16

All New England Music Festival  
 Stonington, Ct.  
 March 14-16

OAKE Conference  
 San Francisco, Cal.  
 April 3-6

MENC Eastern Division  
 Pittsburgh, Pa.  
 April 18-21

CMEA All-State Festival  
 UConn, Storrs  
 May 22-24



# **ACDA National in Phoenix, Arizona!**

## **March 13-16**

3

### Fall Conference (Cont'd)

The American Music/Theatre Group under the direction of Neely Bruce will perform a program entitled "Hartford, Northampton, and Saybrook". The music was written, published, or performed in the Connecticut River Valley before 1825. The lecture/concert aimed at bringing the culture of the 18th and early 19th century New England into focus, will be preceded by an interpretive presentation by Mr. Bruce, and will have accompanying program notes. We feel that the concert, which was first produced at the Wadsworth Antheneum, Hartford, will be of great interest to our members.

Other clinicians presenting sessions are:

Scott Campbell, Farmington High School, "Practical Solutions to the Educational Quagmire", for ACDA student chapter members and newer teachers to help develop strategies to survive the administrative side of teaching.

Stanley DeRusha, Hartt School of Music, "Orchestral Conducting Techniques for Choral Directors", for those directors interested in using instrumental ensembles to accompany their choirs.

Walter Ehret, "Reading Sessions", music presented will include material appropriate for elementary, middle high school, church and community choirs.

The Guilford High School Madrigal Singers, under the direction of Tahme Adinolfi will also be performing during the concert hour.

I hope to see and greet many of our members at this year's conference and hope that the diversity of the program will attract you as well as some new ACDA members. It has been my pleasure to work with Michelle Holt, Honors Choir Chairman, and Dr. Peter Bagley, Site Chairman and Host, in the planning of this conference. We will be looking to you, our membership, to add your talents and skills to ACDA by agreeing to serve as chairman, executive board members and committee members in the future. Please, get involved!

Claire Conklin-Burnett  
Ct. ACDA Vice-President

### From the Middle School Chair....

Beginning in this Cantabile, we will be discussing topics dealing with choral activities involving children in grades 5-9. Teaching middle school is like our New England weather...the minute you seem to get comfortable your environment changes. In the teaching of adolescents, our situations rarely stay the same. Whether it's classroom space, schedule, or grade alignment, our responsibilities change as quickly as the students we teach. Hopefully as Middle School Chairperson I will be able to bring up answers to the problems of teaching adolescents in this column.

Two years ago at this time we were busily preparing our first Middle School Festival. Thanks to Jim Papp, who conducted a choir of 250 middle school students, and Claire Conklin-Burnett, our hostess, our festival was a success. The first festival is always tough, but the following schools and conductors made it seem easy.

East Granby Middle School- Marion Cook, dir  
Griswold Jr. High School- Claire Conklin-Burnett, dir  
Killingly Intermediate School- Robin T. Aubin, dir  
North Haven Jr. High School- Rich Nigro, dir  
Rochambeau Middle School- Brett A. Bernadim, dir  
Saxe Middle School- Anna Montero, dir

Each school's performance was as varied and inspiring as middle school students themselves. Special thanks to Jon Noyes, Sarah Ferrebee, and Laurie Cetto for their refreshing comments as adjudicators.

It was our decision to try the festival every other year, instead of annually. So, we are now preparing this year's festival. More details will follow in a separate mailing. It is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, February 2, 1991 at the new Killingly Intermediate School, in Danielson Ct. If interested, you can call me at 774-1933.

Have any interests in middle school choral music? Let me know....I'd love to hear from you.

Robin T. Aubin  
29 Cheryl Ave.  
Dayville, Ct. 06241

**Next Deadline  
For Cantabile is  
DECEMBER 1st!**



## **CHORAL REVIEWS**

World Music Press  
P.O.Box 2565  
Danbury, Ct. 06813

Usually, a choral review is concerned with one piece of choral music. However, after attending the Ct.-R.I. Fall Conference last year at the University of Hartford, I decided to review a few pieces at the same time. My hat's off to Judith Cook Tucker for a session at the conference that inspired this review.

World Music Press is a Connecticut music publisher that middle and elementary school music educators should know more about. Judith Cook Tucker's company serves to meet the needs of students and teachers, as well as ethnomusicologists by offering authentic, well-researched music, books, and recordings of multicultural music. Here are a few pieces that middle school general music teachers and choir directors should be aware of:

"Amigos" - words and music by Judith Cook Tucker  
(for 1, 2, or 3 parts, accomp., World Music Press #ML-001)

This is an easy song based on a Ghanaian tune. It is a song of friendship in four languages and even includes the possibility for sign language. It is suitable for any community's ethnic background. The melody has a range of an octave with an easy 3-part repeating chorus. Whether you open your choral program with it, or incorporate it with your music class, you will find success with this one.

"Yonder Come Day" - arr. Judith Cook Tucker (for 2 or 3 parts, a cappella, World Music Press #AM-001)

Have you ever wanted an interesting canon or round that the students could get excited about? "Yonder Come Day" is a fun selection that moves with the subtle energy of the Georgia Sea Islands. It incorporates an additional rhythmic speech section. Although it is easy, grades 5-8 will definitely enjoy this piece.

"La Paloma Se Fue" - arr. Alejandro Jimenez  
(for unison or two parts and piano with simple percussion, World Music Press #001) It's your first rehearsal with a new elementary choir. Here is a song the students will learn in one sitting for either chorus or general music. Orff and percussion instruments easily lend themselves to the simple melody and harmony of this traditional Puerto Rican song. Suggestions for performance, hand gestures, translation and pronunciation are included.

World Music Press has many materials for all situations. Their Choral Series includes a few SATB pieces that are wonderful. Send for a free catalog. You may be surprised at what you have been missing!

Robin T. Aubin  
Killingly Intermediate School

## **Request For Calender Events**

*It is our intention to publish  
a list of upcoming concerts for  
all ACDA members' choirs....*

*but we need your help!*

*Please take some time  
this month to send us the  
following information:*

- Choir's name
- Director's name
- Theme (if any)
- Date & Time
- Place
- Phone # for info.

**Send to:**

**Robin T. Aubin, Editor  
29 Cheryl Ave.  
Dayville, Ct. 06241**

## **A Tight Situation...**

How can I get six men to sing and drink wassail...while wearing tights? This was my dilemma. I'd searched for male voices, but had little luck finding any. It was much harder than I had imagined. The solution to my male problems happened almost by chance.

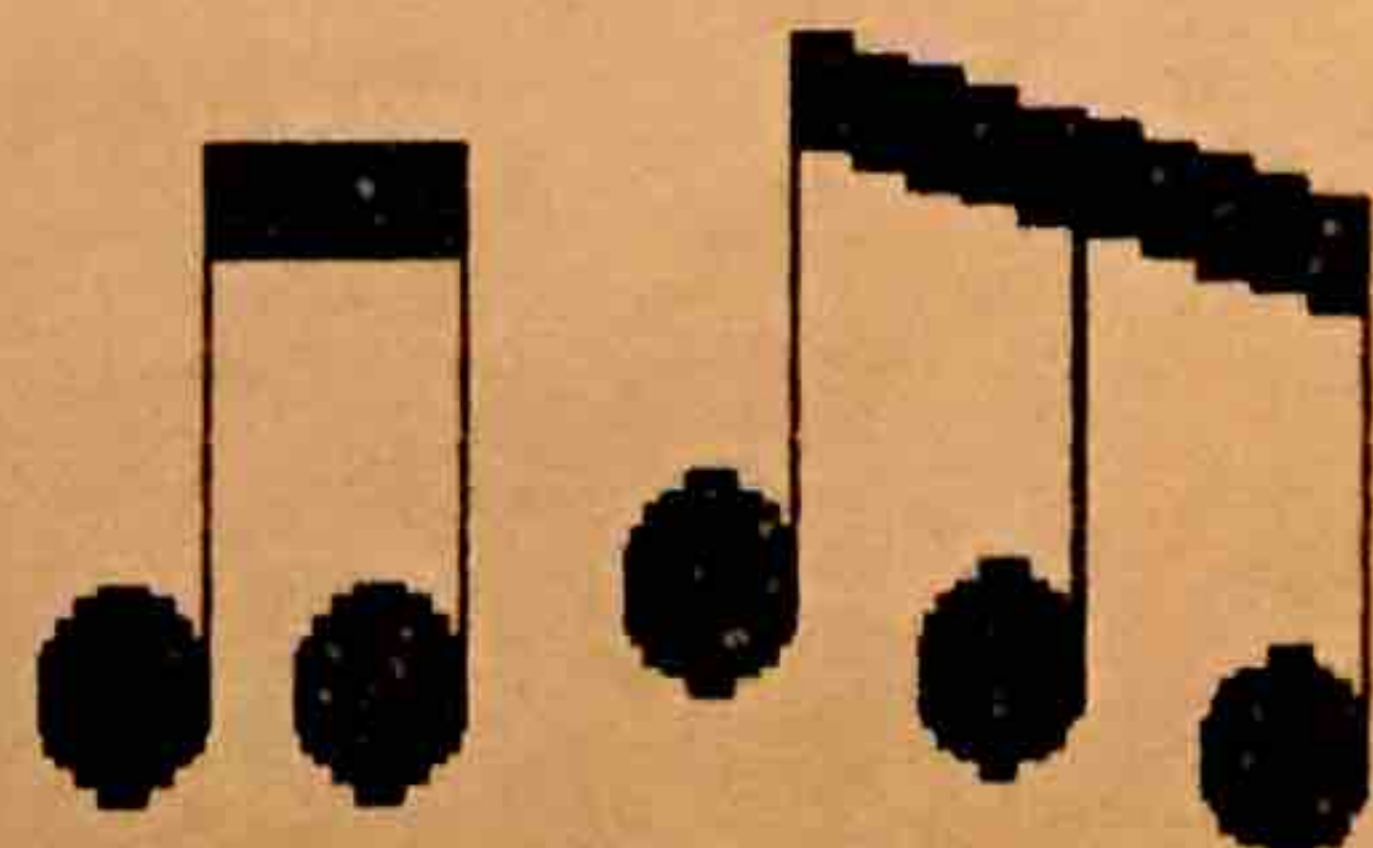
What would a Madrigal Dinner be without male voices? No one in my Kodaly Institute Chamber Singers at Hartt(SSA) wanted to find out. In my search for a few good men, I proposed the following agenda:

- Attend six rehearsals
- Learn three madrigals and eight carols and canons
- Perform twice with Kodaly Choir and High School Madrigal Singers
- Wear medieval costumes for performance

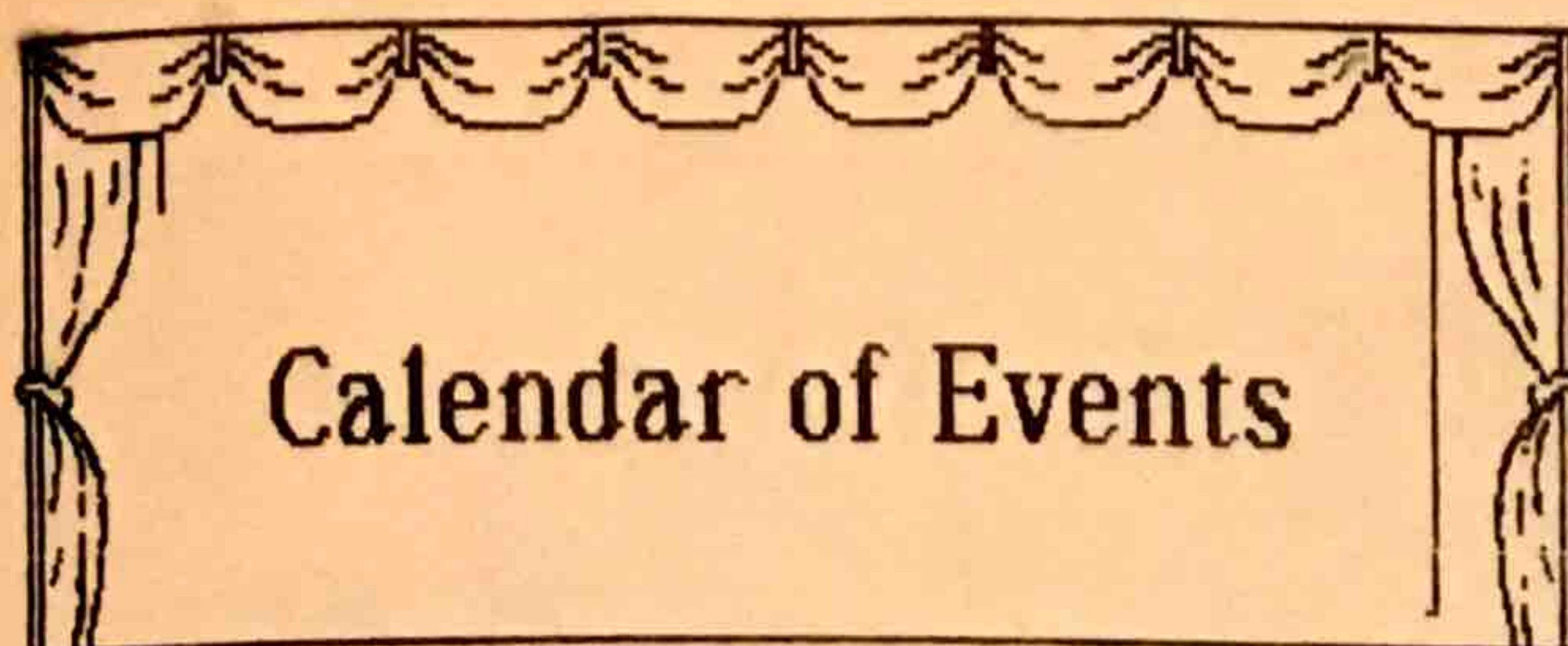
Nearly desperate one day, I asked my madrigal singers at the high school for their ideas on the problem. One singer half jokingly said, "Ask my Dad to sing". With that my search for men regained momentum and by the next rehearsal the fathers of five high school singers were rehearsing with the Kodaly Choir. To the fathers, the idea of performing with their children had strong appeal. Another reason they agreed to sing was the short amount of time they were asked to commit.

My experience showed me that fathers may sometimes be willing to participate in short-termed projects with their children. This awareness of fathers as singers has led me to another discovery....but more on that later. Meanwhile, if you have ideas or solutions you'd like to share, please write to me....I'd like to hear from you.

Lori Cetto, High School Chairperson  
Hall High School  
975 North Main Street  
West Hartford, Ct.  
06117







## Calendar of Events

### Festivals

#### Ct. ACDA Children's Honor Choir Festival

Rocky Hill High School Rocky Hill, Ct.  
Saturday, May 2, 1992

### Other Dates to Consider:

#### CT. ACDA Fall Conference

October 31, 1992  
Hartt School of Music, U of Hartford.

#### ACDA National Convention

March 3-5, 1993  
San Antonio, Texas

#### MENC Eastern Division Conference

March 18-20, 1993  
Springfield, Mass.

### Advertising Information

**Dead lines:** August 15 for Fall Newsletter  
December 15 for Winter Newsletter  
March 30 for Spring Newsletter

**Rates:** Full Page....\$60      2/3 page....\$50  
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1/4 page....\$20      1/6 page....\$15

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### From the President(cont'd)

David Spicer, Music and Worship Chair, has been working to increase church choir membership and participation in CT.ACDA. With the assistance of Barbara Bayers and Jimm Papp, David and I set up an information board at a recent AGO event hoping to spur some interest. Several people did express an interest in joining. David will continue to devise ways to reach this important area of membership. Anyone willing to assist is asked to call David, his number is listed in the board roster in this issue.

Former CT. ACDA President, Sal Ciciarella has recently undergone surgery. He is feeling much better and expects to return to school soon. Please keep in your prayers, I know he would appreciate hearing from you.

The next executive board meeting will take place on Saturday, May 2 from 10:00 AM - Noon at Rocky Hill High School. All CT. ACDA members are welcome to attend. I would like to take a moment to thank the executive board for all their help and hard work this year. It has been a pleasure and a privilege serving with you.

I plan to spend time this summer working on a draft for a CT. ACDA State By-Laws Constitution Handbook, none of which currently exist. The reason for such a document is to aid the executive board and president in carrying out their duties and to provide a means for easier transitions between terms of office for future boards. I welcome your input on these documents. If there are any present or past board members who would like to assist, please give me a call.

Have a wonderful summer! See you at the 1992 CT. ACDA Fall Conference on October 31, at Hartt School of Music, University of Hartford.

Claire Burnett  
President

### ACDA FALL CONFERENCE

Plans are being made for the 1992 Fall Conference. This year the conference will be held on the Hartt School of Music campus with the conference hosted by Tom Nerbonne and the ACDA student chapter at Hartt. The conference will feature a day of workshops and concerts culminating with a performance, in the Lincoln Theatre by the 1992 CT/RI High School Honors Choir. Anyone with an interesting idea for a conference workshop please forward them to me. My address is at the back of this newsletter.

Russel Hammond  
President-Elect  
CT ACDA



## Your Executive Chairs...

### Elementary...

On Saturday, May 2, 100 children from across the state of Connecticut will participate in the second annual Children's Choir Festival to be held at Rocky Hill High School.

Guest conductor will be Dr. Janet Funderburk-Galvin from Ithaca College, Ithaca, N.Y. Dr. Galvin recently presented at the Eastern Division Regional Conference with her session "When Notes Become Art: Leading Singers to Sing More Musically". In the recent New York ACDA Newsletter, she was called "...a dynamo when she stands before a group of singers."

Students will rehearse during the day from 9:30-2:30 and present a concert at 3:00. The public is invited!

Congratulations to those students selected by their teacher! Bravo!

Kimberly Quinn  
Kimberly Quinn

### College and Community Choir ...

February's ACDA Eastern Division Conference proved to be enjoyable, well-organized, and inspirational for the attendees. It seemed that there was an especially fine representation of concerts and seminars that featured college, community, professional choirs; the unfair onus to some of ACDA's image as an organization preoccupied with K-12 issues is happily removed.

Indeed, one of the best-attended seminars dealt with current thoughts about eighteenth-century choral performance practice. We all include Mozart, the Haydns, and similar composers in concerts, and there are always questions of ornaments, articulation, group size, and tempo to be answered.

Few general answers were given as few generalizations work for latter-eighteenth-century music. Perhaps the best recommendation was to make sure the chorus and accompaniment use the same articulation and dynamics for a cohesive outlook.

Two handy books not mentioned during the seminar should prove helpful for those answer-seekers:

The Interpretation of Early Music, Robert Donington, Faber, 1989

Ornamentation and Improvisation in Mozart, Frederick Neumann, Princeton, 1986

These texts' best attributes are their extensive bibliographies, so the choral director can explore as deeply as he/she wishes. Good hunting!

Kevin Mack



### Ethnic and Minority Ethnic-Minority ...

My students are beginning to moan "Can we PLEASE sing a song in English!! I guess I'm getting a bit too enthusiastic about ethnic and minority music, but it has certainly been an interesting year for me. Here are a few thoughts and recommendations:

FREEDOM IS COMING - Songs of Protest and Praise from South Africa, Collected/edited by A. Nyberg  
Walton Music Corp. or World Music Press  
P.O. Box 470 P.O. Box 2565  
Chapel Hill NC 27514 Danbury CT 06813

Book: \$4.95 Cassette: \$9.00 Set: \$13.50

If you didn't hear Steve Barnicle's Simsbury Choir perform three songs from this collection at the October ACDA Ct. Convention or in Boston, you missed a real treat. The songs are wonderful and very accessible. Most are freedom songs from S. Africa collected and published in 1980 by a church group from Sweden that had visited there. My chorus is performing them this spring and we also used them to celebrate Black History month: We sent out fliers in our school and offered to perform in any class that was interested for five minutes. One English class wrote essays on the song lyrics and what they felt during our performance. The S. African Apartheid vote took place soon after our performance, thus the whole experience really raised the consciousness of my singers about an important issue.

I would also recommend listening to any LADYSMITH BLACK MAMBAZO tapes to help with the language and African style. They are a premier S. African men's a cappella group whose tapes are available from World Music Press.

EREV SHEL SHOSHANIM -by Jack Klebanow  
H-001 \$1.00

This is an old Israeli folksong wonderfully arranged by Klebanow which tells about the beauties of the desert and love. It is sometimes sung at Jewish weddings, according to my local rabbi who made a great diction tape for my group. Available from World Music Press.

Dorothy Y. Mutkoski  
Ethnic Chair