

Cantabile

The Newsletter of Connecticut ACDA

Volume 5

Fall, 1991

No. 1

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Are your summers anything like mine? Has it ever occurred to you that they closely resemble the phases of the space shuttle - in reverse! The first phase, re-entry and repairs, is the two week period all choral directors need to depressurize - return to "normal atmospheric conditions", and/or body repair. The second phase, refueling, is spent reading, listening, studying scores or perhaps taking a summer workshop, that is if you are one of the lucky ones whose workshop wasn't cancelled due to the budget crisis! If you summoned the energy to conduct or teach - bravo! The last phase is the launch, the commencement of a new journey, new works to explore, a new crew....

As I begin my tenure as your state president, I would like to thank several board members and chairpersons retiring this year who have given much to Ct. ACDA. Jim Papp retired as president on July 1st. Under his capable leadership Ct. ACDA membership has increased by 27%, he founded the annual Ct/RI High School Honors Choir, and has initiated a scholarship for high school seniors which we hope to award for the first time this coming year. Jim will remain on the board as past-president (vice-president). I would like to personally thank Jim for his support, encouragement and friendship over the past two years. Also retiring from the board after many years of service is Carol Gustafson, executive secretary. Carol was the recipient of the Outstanding Choral Director Award in 1989. Finally, Mike Gosselin will be stepping down as chairman of the High School Choir Festival. On behalf of the membership of Ct. ACDA, thank you and best wishes to Jim, Carol, and Mike.

At the same time I would like to welcome and congratulate new board members. Russell Hammond is your president-elect and Chris Shepard, your treasurer. Chairpersons new to the board are Michelle Hammond, Honors Choir chair, and Bob Beckwith, Chamber Choir Festival co-chair. All of these new board members are outstanding conductors and will also bring the benefit of experience and new ideas to our organization. Thanks to all of their combined efforts, I expect Ct. ACDA to continue to grow and prosper.

I am delighted that Robin Aubin will be continuing to serve as editor of Cantabile. Robin has come up with some wonderful ideas to improve what is already a outstanding publication. Please assist him by submitting important dates and articles for publication, and above all please read and use the information it contains.

Last spring, Ct. ACDA sponsored several very successful events, The presenters and organizers of these events deserve special recognition and our appreciation. There were two choral festivals; the High School Chamber Choir Festival at Wesleyan University, organized by Mike Gosselin, with guest adjudicators Paul Althouse (combined conductor), Larry Allen and Rick Coffey, and the Elementary Honors Choir at Rocky Hill High School, organized by Kimberly Quinn, with guest conductor Mary Ellen Junda. We also sponsored two workshops for the CMEA In-Service Conference at the University of Connecticut. These were "Tonal Concepts", presented by Guilford High School's Shiptones, Madrigal Choir, and their director, Tahme Adinolfi, and "Pragraming Mozart", presented by Kevin Mack. Thanks to all of these Ct. ACDA members for their dedication and commitment. *(Continued on Page 2)*

IN THIS ISSUE:

Executive Chair Reports-

Elementary- p4

Chamber Choir- p4

High School- p4

**Ethnic &
Minority- p5**

JHS/Middle- p5

**Calendar of
Events- p6**

**Fall Conference
Preview &
Registration
Form- pp7 & 8**

**CT. ACDA
Officers & Chairs-
p8**

INCLUDING:

**Membership
Listing of CT.
ACDA**

From the President (Cont'd)

Please make plans to attend the Fall Conference at Mattatuck Community College, in Waterbury on Saturday, October 19, 1991. Conference organizer Russell Hammond has devoted many hours to planning and you won't want to miss it! The featured performance will be by the Ct/RI High School Honors Choir under the direction of Dr. Pam Perry and Dr. Dennis Cox. Michelle Hammond has done a tremendous job organizing choirs. Stuart Gillespie, director of music at Mattatuck, will be our host in Waterbury and is eager to show off his brand new facility at the Higher Education Center. Please make Russ and Michelle's jobs easier by mailing in your registration forms and fees early!

The Eastern Division Convention will be held at the Marriot/Copley Plaza, in Boston, Massachusetts, February 13-15, 1991. There will be three honors choirs performing at this event - the Elementary Children's Honors Choir conducted by Barbara Tagg, the Middle School/ Junior High Honors Choir conducted by Lynne Gackle and the High School Honors Choir conducted by Paul Salamunovich. I hope you will save these dates and that there will be a huge contingent from Connecticut at the convention.

There will be three executive board meetings this year. The meetings will be held at Rocky Hill High School on September 27, January 4, and June 6 and will run from 10:00 am - noon. Agendas/maps will be mailed to all board members and chairs prior to each meeting. All members are welcome to attend these meetings; please call me at (203) 678-8961 to receive an agenda/map.

Please be forthcoming with your ideas and concerns these next two years. It is my hope that the events and activities of Ct.ACD A will be beneficial to all of our members and that you will let me know if there is any way that the board and I can better serve you.

Have a great year!

Claire Burnett
2K Talcott Glen Road
Farmington, Ct.

From the Editor...

Welcome back! I hope your summer was as relaxing and rejuvenating as mine. I'm sure there will be some different, new, and exciting opportunities waiting for all of us to build upon and enjoy in the coming year!

You've probably noticed that there are a few changes in this edition of Cantabile. Probably the most noticeable is the smaller print. If you have any suggestions, or complaints, please send me a line. My staff (ha,ha) and I are always open to new old and new ideas, as well as compliments!

Please read and note the numerous important dates for meetings and deadlines. Conference dates, as well as other notable times are also included on a regular basis. Whether you have a momentous event, or a simple little program, send us the information and we will be happy to include it in our next publication.

Remember....Cantabile has deadlines that are determined by the dated information the membership needs to receive. There is some flexibility, so if you have a late article or information to add, just call.

A special addition this year in Cantabile will be advertisements. We will start with reduced advertising for the remainder of this year, since we could not start in the summer. Please take the time to read the proposed guidelines below. I need the address of possible advertisers so that they may receive complimentary copies of Cantabile and ad information. Colleges, universities, music camps, tour bookers, music stores, recording studios, and especially music distributors should know about this opportunity. Help me out with a call and address, or just send me a business card with an address.

Included in this issue is the listing of all Ct. ACDA members. We want this list to be accurate, so if there is a mistake, please call and let me know so we can make the needed changes.

Good luck with the new year!

Robin T. Aubin
Editor

Executive Board Meetings

September 27, 1991

January 4, 1992

June 6, 1992

10:00 - 12:00 a.m. at
Rocky Hill High School
Rocky Hill, Ct.

Advertising Information

Deadlines: August 15 for Fall Newsletter
December 15 for Winter Newsletter
March 30 for Spring Newsletter

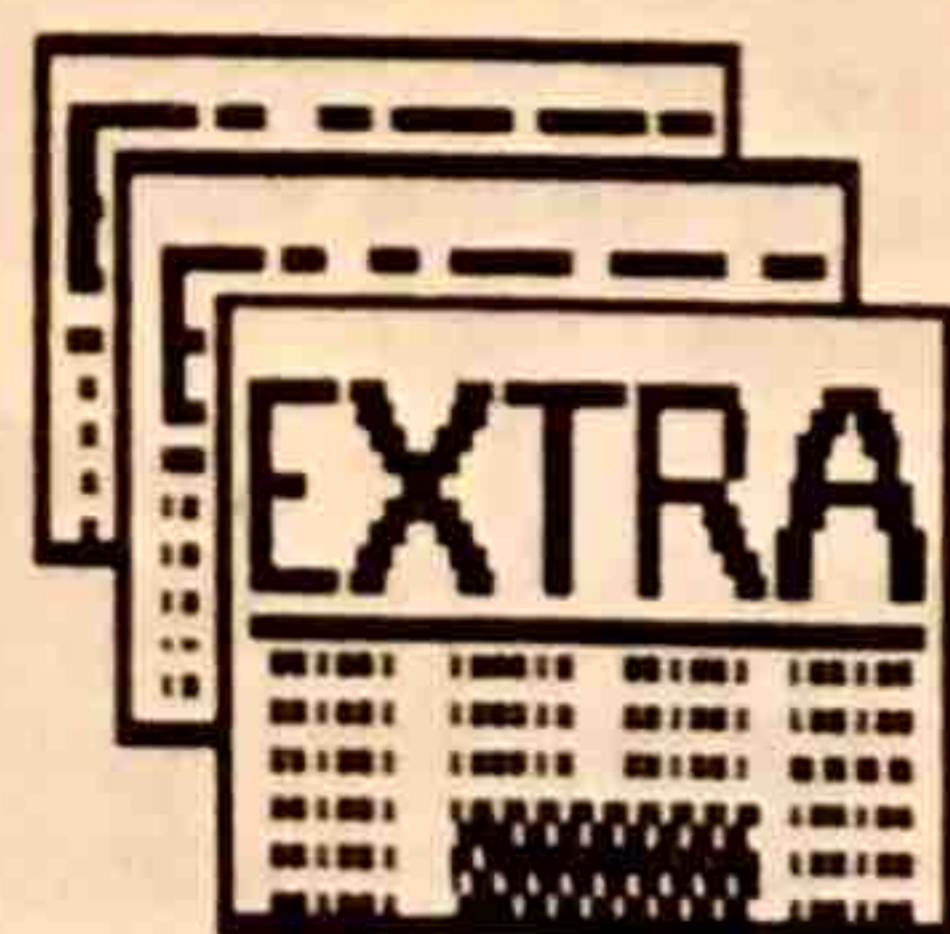
Rates: Full Page...\$60; 2/3 Page...\$50; 1/2 Page...\$35;
1/3 Page...\$25; 1/4 Page...\$20; 1/6 Page...\$15.

Terms: No agency commission; 10% discount on all ads pre-paid or within 30 days of billing (starting June, 1992)

Copy and Contract Regulations: All copy subject to approval of the publisher.

NEWS

Mattatuck Sends Seven to National

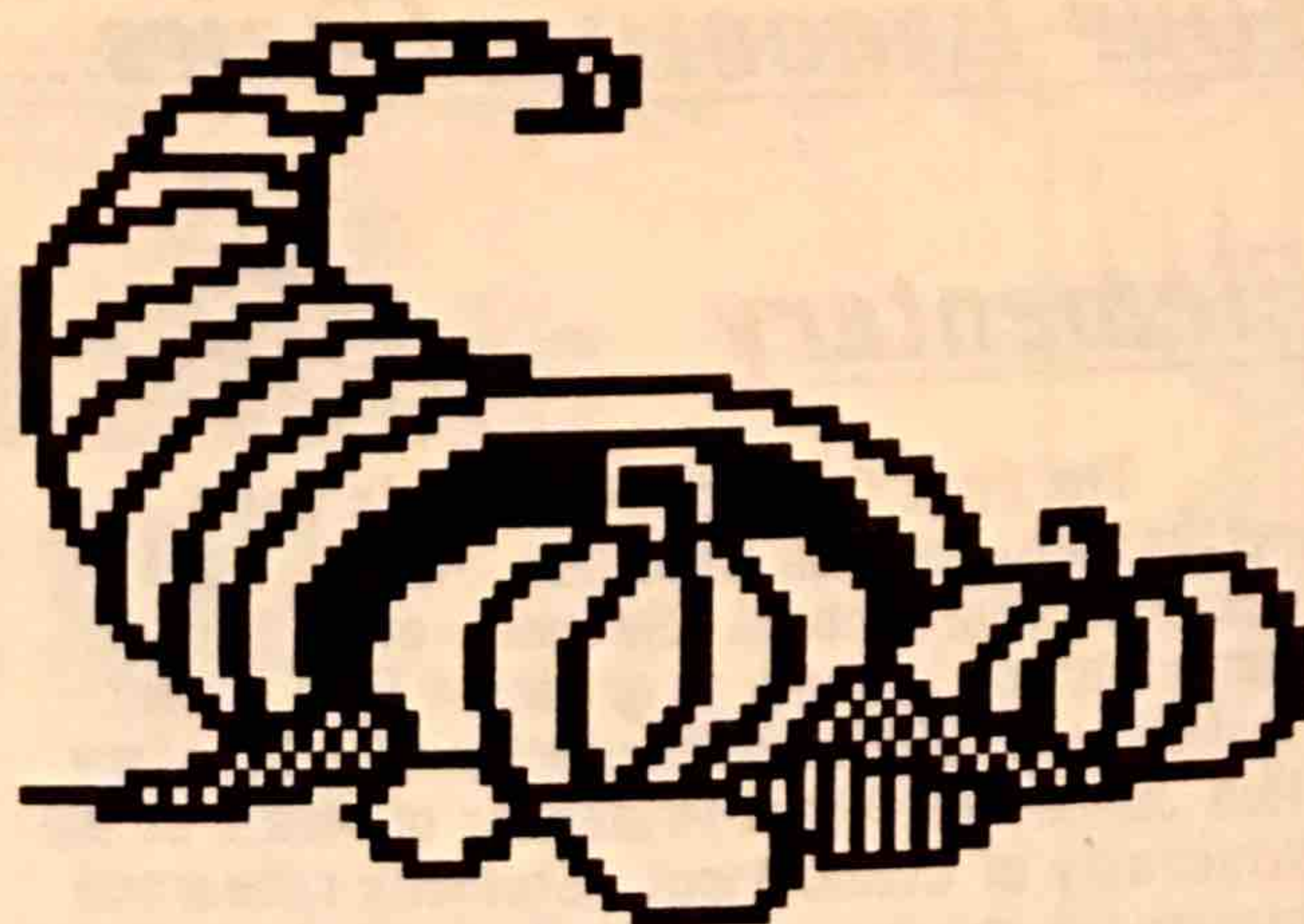


Mattatuck Community College Director, Stuart Gillespie traveled with seven National Honors Choir participants to the ACDA National Honors Convention in Phoenix, Arizona last March to perform Beethoven's "Mass in C". The seven students, selected by a selection committee last fall. MCC had the distinct privilege of having seven students chosen from its choir of seventy.

The National Honors choir was directed by Dr. Douglas McEwen, a director from Phoenix who put together the Honors Choir and the Arizona State University Symphony Orchestra in the short span of four days and finished the preparation the 194 singers had begun on their own. (Music had been distributed a few months before the convention and Honors Choir members were charged with the task of knowing their scores before reaching the Arizona convention's first rehearsal on the evening of March 12.) Fine tuning and finishing touches took place at some very exciting rehearsals before the production took place. Students were treated to a rehearsal at Arizona State University and had the opportunity to look over the University and receive information that might be used in their future college careers.

It was a very exciting, exhilarating trip. For most it was the first convention ever and a thrilling, rewarding experience. The students worked hard and learned a lot from Director Ewen and the ASU orchestra. They savored the musical presentations, had a fabulous time visiting the city of Phoenix and ASU. They returned exhausted, but inspired and were very grateful to be part of the convention.

Stuart P. Gillespie
Director of Choral Activities
Mattatuck Community College



Ct ACDA welcomes new Treasurer

Chris Shepard has taken on the position as treasurer for our ACDA family. Christopher P. Shepard is a native of Montpelier, Vermont. He holds a bachelor of music in Music Education from Hartt School of Music and will complete a master of music in Choral Conducting from Yale in 1992. He is currently director of vocal music at the Taft School in Watertown where he conducts several ensembles including the Taft Collegium Musicum and the Taft Children's Choir (community children). In addition to his work at Taft, Chris is the music director of the Stamford MasterSingers and organist at Christ Church Episcopal, Watertown. Welcome!

DISCLAIMER: *The National Office has requested the accompanying disclaimer on all ACDA publications.*

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

Join Dr. Gillespie and Ct. ACDA
at

MATTATUCK COMMUNITY
COLLEGE

for the 1991 FALL CONFERENCE

"If you can walk,
you can dance.
If you can talk,
you can sing."

-a old saying from Zimbabwe

Your Executive Chairs...

Elementary



The first Ct. ACDA Children's Choir Festival was held on Saturday, May 4, 1991 at Rocky Hill High School. Seventy-eight children from nineteen schools in grades 4, 5, & 6 participated. Our clinician/conductor was Dr. Mary Ellen Junda, Assistant Professor of Music at the University of Connecticut. Students rehearsed throughout the day and then performed a half-hour concert at 3:00. Teachers attended a workshop with Dr. Junda and also gathered for a reading session to exchange music and ideas.

On a personal note I would like to congratulate all students who participated in the festival. Their work resulted in an excellent concert. Thanks to the West Hartford Fine Arts Dept. for providing music, and Claire Burnett for her assistance during the festival. Special thanks to Dr. Junda for providing the students with a wonderful and musical experience.

Kimberly Quinn
Elementary School Chair

Chamber choir

The 1991 Chamber Choir Festival was held at Wesleyan University's Crowell Concert Hall on Friday, March 22, 1991. Ten groups were slated to attend and nine participated. Adjudicators included Dr. Paul Althouse of Ct. College, who also directed the combined choir selection "He Watching Over Israel", Dr. Pam Perry of Central Ct. State University, Richard Coffey of CONCORA and South Church in New Britain, and Larry Allen who is director of the Greater Middletown Chorale, a member of TRE VOCES, as well as music director at Immanuel Congregational Church of Hartford.



Students spent the day rehearsing the massed choir piece, performing for one another, working with the adjudicators, and enjoying Wesleyan campus.

So, if you're looking for a place to showcase your small ensemble (30 or less), the ACDA Chamber Choir Festival may just be the place for you. Generally, there are 10 to 12 openings for high school choirs at the festival. Groups perform anything from madrigals to spirituals. The variety heard and the ideas shared make it a worthwhile experience for all.

This year's festival will be moved to the end of April so as not to conflict with the CMEA All-State Festival that is moved from May to March. There should be no conflict with vacations

because most schools will already have had theirs earlier in the month. If you're already planning a trip during vacation, why not show off a little at home, too?

The Chamber Festival is held on a Friday from approximately 10 am to 9 pm. There is sharing, caring, and positive reinforcement for all with the noncompetitive adjudication format. The adjudicators are quality artists from the area and are coached in advance by each director concerning their group. The cost is \$125 for the day plus additional costs for meals. More details will be upcoming in the next edition of *CANTABILE*.

Mike Gosselin
Chamber Choir Chair

High School

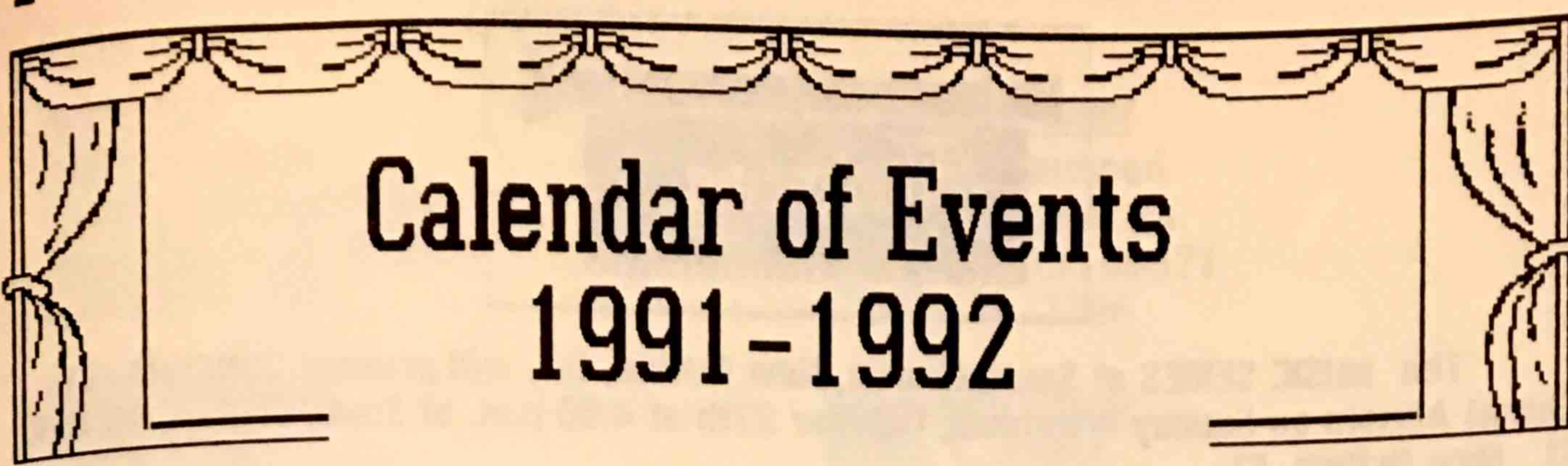


As the summer slips blissfully by, I offer a few ideas that I will continue to implement at my high school this coming year. I am incorporating some ideas of Scott Schuler, Music Consultant for the State Department of Education. As arts programs are being slashed throughout our region, Mr. Schuler suggests that unless we become more accountable in the curricula of our classes and rehearsals, then administrations may consider us to be extra-curricular and therefore, expendable when budget cuts are necessary.

Thanks to the sharing of ideas on the secondary level in West Hartford, I have started teaching about a composer each term. I pick out a piece of music that students will study and perform. I write a short biography about the composer and include a few other works that the students listen to in class, and are responsible for recognizing. After the initial presentation of information, I refer to the composer of the works every few days in class. Every other week I give a short quiz with questions from the biography. This past term four of my classes worked on Beethoven "Hallelujah" from the Mount of Olives. I also played excerpts from Symphony #5, the first movement, Symphony #9, fourth movement, and "Für Elise." With my freshmen choir, we worked on a piece from "Phantom of the Opera", studied the story, and learned information about Andrew Lloyd Webber. In addition to learning about composers, I also have a short 5 to 7 minute period of sight reading at the beginning of each class before I start rehearsing. This approach of teaching the students more than just the notes on the page may also be helpful in ensuring the viability of our programs.

"Making Arts Education Curricular", Scott Schuler, Words of Note, Music Educators National Conference, 1990

Lorri Cetto
High School Chair



Calendar of Events 1991-1992

Festivals

Ct. RI ACDA High School Honors Choir
Mattatuck Community College
Waterbury, Ct., Sat. Oct. 19, 1991

New England Music Festival
Peterborough, N.H. (tentative)
March 12-14, 1992
auditions: December 7, 1991

All-State Music Festival
Sheraton Hotel, Waterbury, Ct.
March 19-21, 1992
auditions: November 15-16, 1991
Concert: March 21, Bushnell Memorial,
Hartford, Ct.

Ct. ACDA High School Chamber
Festival
(site to be announced)
Saturday, April 25, 1992

Conferences

Ct. ACDA Fall Conference
Mattatuck Community College;
Waterbury, Ct.
Saturday, Oct. 19, 1991

American Orff-Schulwerk Assoc.
National Conference, San Diego, Ca.
November 13-17, 1991

ACDA Eastern Division Convention
Marriott/ Copley Plaza; Boston, Mass.
Feb. 13-15, 1992

CMEA In-Service Conference
Sheraton Hotel, Waterbury, Ct.
March 19-21, 1992

Organization of American Kodaly
Educators Annual Conference
University of Oklahoma, Norman Ok.
April 2-5, 1992

**Next
Cantabile
Deadline
is
December
15th!**

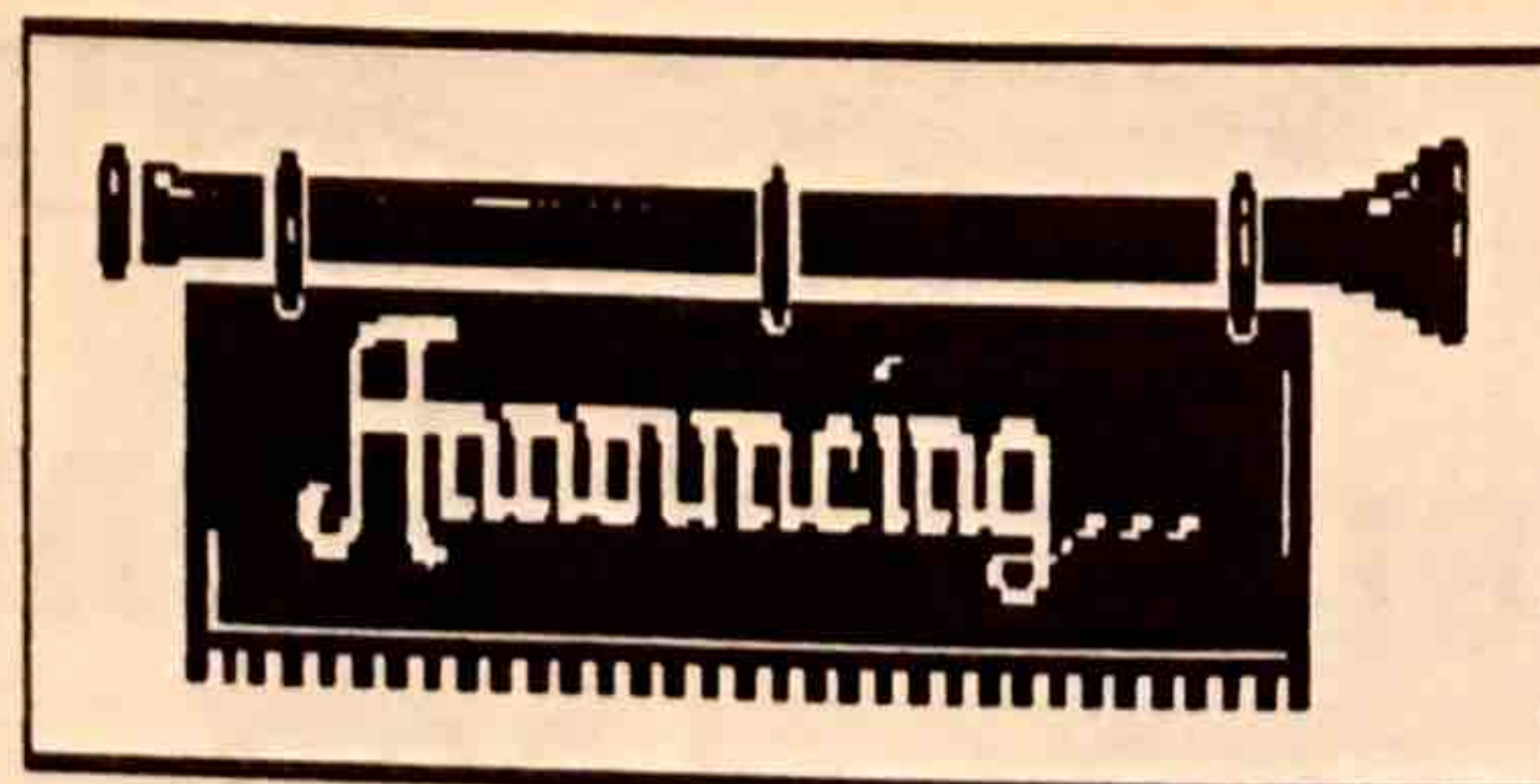
Each Issue of Cantabile
includes a list of Executive
Board Members.

Call them...

write to them...

They are professionals with
certain expertise who are
waiting to help and serve

you.!



The MUSIC SERIES at South Church, New Britain, Ct., will present CONCORA/Ct. Choral Artists on Sunday afternoon, October 27th at 4:00 p.m. at South Church, 90 Main St., New Britain, Ct.

This 32-member professional vocal ensemble, conducted by Richard Coffey, will present a concert entitled "The People's Choice," including works chosen by the audiences last season and by CONCORA members. The repertoire covers a wide range of choral repertoire, including works by Morley, Verdi, Palestrina, Rameau, Durufle, Messiaen, Debussy, Hindemith, Brahms, and others.

There is no admission fee for the concert; offerings will be received. The Church is handicap-accessible. Free parking is available in the church lot, municipal garage on Chestnut Street, and municipal lot on Arch Street. For information, phone (203) 223-3691

Ct ACDA Fall Conference Pre-Registration Form

Please register me for the Fall ACDA Conference at Mattatuck Community College on October 19, 1991

Name.....

Address.....

City.....St. & Zip.....Phone.....

	<u>MEMBERS</u>	<u>NON-MEMBERS</u>
Pre-registration.....	\$30.00	\$45.00
On Site.....	\$40.00	\$55.00

SPECIAL: Pre-registration & ACDA Membership (for Non-Members only).....\$60.00 !!!!

Make checks payable to: Ct. ACDA and send with form by October 1, 1991 to:
Russell Hammond
43 Boston Post Road
Old Lyme, Ct. 06371

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