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The Official Newsletter for the Arkansas Chapter of  Spring 2011

UNRAVELING THE ARKANSAS ACRONYMS

OR “WHY ARACDA”

An unnatural number of acronyms occupy our choral attention in the Natural State, and a number of us, especially those who have recently immigrated to our land of opportunity, are a bit bewitched, bothered, and bewildered by them.

Let's see if we can sort some of them out and, in so doing, draw a certain amount of attention to an important organization and upcoming event.

ARKCDA

Most school choral directors are familiar, of course, with ArkCDA (Arkansas Choral Directors Association), which organizes and sanctions all-region and all-state activities, the latter in conjunction with ASBOA (Arkansas School Band and Orchestra Association). Tom Street is the Executive Director of ArkCDA, which is funded by fees paid by member schools. Membership is required in order for a school's students to participate in the group's activities, which are overseen by an elected president and area chairs. This, the most substantial of Arkansas' choral organizations, was formed in 1967 and is not affiliated with any national association.

MENC AMEA AEMEA

Before 1967, the Arkansas All-State Choir was overseen by a state vocal association affiliated with MENC (Music Educators National Conference, now the National Association for Music Education) and AMEA (Arkansas Music Educators Association). The MENC, with approximately 60,000 members and

a headquarters in Reston, Virginia, is a powerful advocate for music in schools. The AMEA organizes a conference (including choral sessions) each November and publishes the SEGUE magazine. Also affiliated with MENC is the AEMEA (Arkansas Elementary Music Educators Association).

ARACDA ACDA

Which brings us to the organization that produces this newsletter—ArACDA (the Arkansas Chapter of the American Choral Directors Association), our state's ACDA affiliate. The primary activity of ArACDA is to present a conference each August, investigating a range of choral literature and inviting nationally known headliners. AEMEA cooperates in this conference, and hundreds of choral and elementary musicians will converge in Hot Springs this year to enjoy fellowship, music, continuing education, golf, repertoire, and new ideas.

Some of you who receive this newsletter are not ArACDA members. Which means you're not ACDA members, since national and state membership are connected. If you're in that unattached group, we encourage you to join. Here's why.

- We speak together on behalf of choral music throughout the country, representing school, church, professional community. The larger the community, the louder the advocacy. The larger the community, the greater the wealth of shared knowledge. Nationally, ACDA has about 18,000 members. Add yourself to that number.

- National, divisional, and state publications enable us to share a range of information and experience. You may find an answer to your questions or a solution for your ennui.

- Many resources are available to ACDA members, including ChorTeach, an on-line journal, on-line choral “radio” stations, archives, and repertoire lists.

- ACDA conferences and conventions can change your choral life. Plan to come to this summer's event in Hot Springs. Attend next February's regional conference in Dallas and the March 2013 national conference in Dallas. Aren't we well located! Begin making arrangements now for your school or your boosters club to help finance attendance by you and your students.

That's enough about acronyms for now.

CU @ HS
8/1-4/2011

See the summer
convention schedule
on pages 2 and 3

ARKANSAS ACDA SUMMER CONFERENCE

AUGUST 1-4, 2011

AUSTIN HOTEL/HOT SPRINGS CONVENTION CENTER

SECONDARY

Monday, August 1

| | | |
|------------|---|------------------------|
| 12:00 pm | Honor Choir Registration | |
| 1:00 | Golf Tournament | Belvedere CC |
| 1:00 | New Directors orientation sponsored by ArkCDA | Lakeside High School |
| 1:00 | Honor Choir rehearsals begin | |
| 6:00 | BBQ Social with entertainment and fun! | Lakeside HS |
| *8:00-9:00 | registration open | Austin Hotel mezzanine |

Tuesday, August 2

| | | |
|------------|--|------------------------|
| 8:00 a.m. | registration | Austin Hotel Mezzanine |
| 9:00-12:00 | Honor Choir rehearsal | |
| 9:00 | SATB Sacred/Secular Session I, Krissie Holmes directing | |
| 10:00 | SSA/SSAA Tina Niederbrach, director | |
| 11:00 | “Technology in My Music Classroom: More Than Just My CD Player” | |
| 12:00 | LUNCH/Visit the exhibits | |
| 1:30 | SATB Sacred/Secular Session II Clint Pianalto, director | |
| 2:30 | Panel Discussion: “I Teach Choir Tomorrow...Help. Ideas for new AND experienced teachers!” | |
| 3:30 | Christmas/Holiday Cynthia Outlaw, director | |
| 4:30 | ArkCDA region meetings | Rooms TBA |
| 6:30 | Honors Choir Concert | First Baptist Church |

Wednesday, August 3

| | | |
|-------|---|------------------------|
| 8:00 | registration continues | Austin Hotel mezzanine |
| 9:00 | Unison/2-part Angie Weaver, directing | |
| 10:00 | KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Dr. Steven Zegree, W. Michigan University: “The WOW Factor-Part I” | |
| 11:00 | “The WOW Factor” Part II Dr. Zegree | |
| 12:00 | LUNCH | |
| 1:30 | Interest Session: “Vocal Jazz Rehearsal Techniques: How do they differ from Traditional Concepts?” Dr. Steven Zegree | |
| 2:30 | Breakout Roundtable Discussions: Women’s Choirs, MS/Jr High, Worship Music, Show Choirs. Potporri of topics from music selection to general discussion. Bring music and ideas to share!! | |
| 3:30 | TTB/TTBB Bill Cromer, directing | |
| 4:30 | ArACDA general business meeting, Carrie Taylor presiding | |

Thursday, August 4

| | |
|------|--|
| 8:30 | Pop/Show Choir, Retha Kilmer, director |
| 9:30 | ArkCDA general meeting, Mark Langley presiding |

ArACDA Conference next year: July 30-August 1, 2012

ARKANSAS ACDA SUMMER CONFERENCE

AUGUST 1-4, 2011

AUSTIN HOTEL/HOT SPRINGS CONVENTION CENTER

ELEMENTARY SESSIONS:

Monday, August 1

| | | |
|----------|--|------------------------|
| 12:00 pm | Honor Choir Registration | First Baptist Church |
| 1:00 | Golf Tournament | Belvedere CC |
| 1:00 | New Directors orientation sponsored by ArkCDA | Lakeside High School |
| 1:00 | Honor Choir rehearsals begin | |
| ? | ArACDA and ArkCDA jointly sponsored BBQ Social | Lakeside HS |
| | Food, Fun, Fellowship, Entertainment | |
| ? | registration open | Austin Hotel mezzanine |

Tuesday, August 2

(Today's sessions are with Cristi Cary Miller and are in the Convention Center Rooms 104 & 105)

| | | |
|-------|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
| 8:00 | registration | Austin Hotel mezzanine |
| 9:00 | "All in a Day's Work- Session I" | |
| 11:00 | "Reading Session" | |
| 12:00 | LUNCH/ visit the exhibits | |
| 1:30 | "All in a Day's Work" Session II | |
| 3:00 | "All in a Day's Work" Session III | |
| 4:30 | ArkCDA region meetings | Rooms TBA |
| 6:30 | Honors Choir Concert | First Baptist Church |

Wednesday, August 3

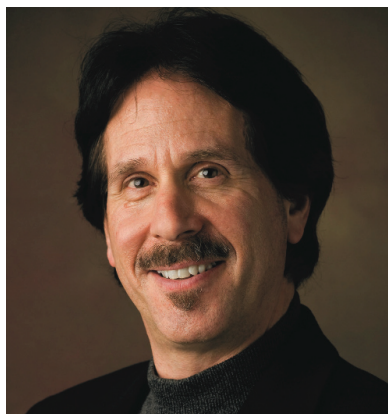
(Today's sessions will be in the Austin Hotel, 2nd floor)

| | | |
|-------|---|------------------------|
| 8:00 | registration continues | Austin Hotel mezzanine |
| 9:00 | Unison/2-part Angie Weaver, directing Ballrom | |
| 10:00 | KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Dr. Steven Zegree, W. Michigan University: "The WOW Factor-Part I" | |
| 11:00 | "The WOW Factor" Part 2 | |
| 12:00 | LUNCH | |
| 1:30 | Arkansas Children's Festival Chorus Reading Session (Lynn Brinckmeyer, past president of MENC, will be this year's director) | Mt. Tower Room |
| 2:30 | Potpourri Sessions (TBA) (These are rotating sessions in Mt. Tower, Pageant, and Tri Lakes rooms) | |
| 4:30 | Dismiss | |

There will be NO Thursday sessions this year.

ArACDA Conference next year: July 30-August 1, 2012

CONFERENCE HEADLINERS



Internationally recognized as one of the most respected vocal jazz conductors and educators in the world, Steve Zegree is also active as a pianist, conductor, clinician, and adjudicator. His career as a pianist and conductor includes performances on five continents. A renowned educator, his students are among today's leaders in jazz and pop performance, Broadway, recording studio production, writing, arranging, singing, and music education.

His internationally acclaimed vocal jazz ensemble, Gold Company, has won numerous "Outstanding Performance" awards from Down Beat magazine and has performed at MENC National Conventions, IAJE International Conferences, the World Symposium on Choral Music, and with recognized artists including Bobby McFerrin, Janis Siegel, Jon Hendricks, Darmon Meader, Mark Murphy, Don Shelton, and Bonnie Herman.

Dr. Zegree auditioned, arranged for and rehearsed Nick Lachey's "Team Lachey", the winning choir on NBC's "Clash Of The Choirs". He is the founder of The Steve Zegree Vocal Jazz Camp, held every summer at Western Michigan University.

Dr. Zegree's choral arrangements have been published by Hal Leonard, Warner Bros., Alfred Publications and Shawnee Press, and he has produced several recordings including Mark Murphy Sings the Nat King Cole Songbook, Vol. I and II, on Muse Records which received a Grammy Award nomination. His piano CD, "Steve Zegree and Friends" is released on the Sea Breeze Jazz label.

His widely praised recent book, *The Wow Factor: How to Create It, Inspire It and Achieve It* is published by Hal Leonard Music Publications



Cristi Miller, a teacher and published composer, graduated from Oklahoma State University with a B.M.E. and began her teaching career in Henryetta, Oklahoma instructing grades 7-12. She moved to the Putnam City Schools in 1989 and was selected as the Putnam City Teacher of the Year in 1992. She recently received one of the four Excellence in Education Awards given through the Putnam City Foundation. She has also been awarded several grants through this foundation to assist in various music teaching endeavors.

Cristi is a frequent clinician and director across the United States and Canada. She presently has over 50 choral pieces in publication through the Hal Leonard Corporation. One of her pieces was selected for the 1999 MENC World's Largest Concert.

Along with her teaching responsibilities, Cristi is the co-director of the Joyful Sound Singers at the United Methodist Church of the Servant in Oklahoma City, as well as a member of the adult choir. She and her husband, Rick, are the proud parents of Luke, Ashley and Christopher.

EINE KLEINE MUSIKGESCHICHTE

CONSISTING OF RECENTLY “DISCOVERED” CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN W. S. GILBERT AND RICHARD WAGNER

Hampstead, London March 3, 1875

Dear Mr. Wagner,

As you know I often collaborate with Arthur Sullivan in the writing of comic operas which have been performed with some success in England in recent years. Unfortunately, Sullivan is a man of uncertain temperament, and has refused to write the score of my next opera on the grounds that he is going to be engaged for the next three years on a vast oratorio (he does have ambitions to make a name in serious music). I am therefore enquiring if you would like to undertake the task? I enclose a copy of the first draft.

As you will see, the plot concerns a group of pirates at Penzance, a fishing port in Cornwall, England, one of whose number, named Frederick, leaves them and falls in love with the beautiful daughter of a major-general. Various complications ensue, which you will see from the manuscript, but in the end all are reunited and everything ends happily.

I particularly draw your attention to the chorus of comic policemen in the second half of the piece, which should give great opportunities for the exercise of your musical genius, knowing your talent and skill in choral work. Perhaps you would be kind enough to read the draft and give me your opinion. I might add I am a great fan of your work. I often hum “The Ride of the Valkyries” in the bath.

Yours sincerely,

W.S. Gilbert.

Bayreuth March 19, 1875

Dear Mr. Gilbert,

I am thanking you for your letter and the manuscript which I enjoyed very much. My wife Cosima says I have not laughed so much since her father died.

Yes, I believe I could undertake the task

of writing a score but first, let me offer some suggestions. I take it that Frederick, the central figure, represents the eternal Wanderer or Vogelgeist and that the daughters of the Major General are Sea Maidens or Wasserleitung. This I shall explain with a short song by Frederick in Act One, “Himmel, Wo Ist Mein Doppelgänger?” This will take up most of Act One, about three-quarters of an hour, and then the Wasserleitung appear and render a spirited chorus of “Du Bist Ein Klott.”

But do not fear—I shall not neglect the humor in this part. As Frederick is singing, an old woman (Mathilde) appears in the background and tries to climb up the cliff. We shall have much mirth watching her pitiful efforts to climb the rocks and then just when we think she has succeeded she falls off the top and is killed! When I read this idea to Cosima she could not stop laughing.

Now for the pirates. I think it would be better if they were all dwarfs (Nibelung), symbolising the underworld. They should wear gnome’s hats and have long beards down to their waists as then the audience will know they are dwarfs. They will naturally sing a merry chorus every time they appear: “Ho ho ho ho ho ho ho! Curses on everybody. Ho ho ho ho ho ho ho! Curses on everybody.”

(I have given the English version as the German is a little difficult.)

And so we come to the policemen. I am afraid that here, Mr. Gilbert, I am finding myself in slight disagreement with you. It is most important that these jovial fellows have a mirth-making chorus but I find your version rather sad. It is not very merry, is it, to suggest the life of a policeman is not a happy one? I would suggest instead a new chorus for the police, viz: “Leb’ wohl, leb’ wohl, leb’ wohl, hier ist das Krankenhaus.” This will make much mirth.

However, the climax of the opera, which is the clash between the pirates and the policemen, is a magnificent piece of writing, symbolising the eternal struggle between the forces of Evil Dominant, represented by the pirates, and Right Triumphant, represented by the police. Would

it not, incidentally, be better if the police were giants? I am merely making the suggestion.

But let us not be too serious, Mr Gilbert. I would suggest that the pirates gain their victory over the police by putting out their eyes with tiny arrows! I can almost see you laughing at this idea.

Thus it appears that Evil has triumphed, but then the Gods cause an earthquake in which all the dwarfs are killed (that is because being so small they slip down the cracks in the earth—I have thought out the details, you see) and the opera ends with Frederick and the Wasserleitung singing “Donner und Blitzen, mein Vater ist ein Feuerwerk” while the maiden’s father, the Major-General, commits self-immolation (Purification by Fire). This I think will be a most amusing opera and if you like I will add some risible jokes to the libretto.

With best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

R. Wagner

Hampstead Friday

My Dear Sullivan,

Please forgive me for those harsh words the other night. For various reasons which I will not go into, I implore you to return to our partnership on any terms you want to lay down.

Yours sincerely,

W.S. Gilbert

**ARKANSAS ACDA ANNUAL SUMMER CONFERENCE AUGUST 1-4, 2011
AUSTIN HOTEL/HOT SPRINGS CONVENTION CENTER**



REGISTRATION FORM

Pre-register and save \$20.00. Registration at the door is higher

PRE REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS JULY 15TH, 2011

Please print plainly. ARACDA accepts **NO PURCHASE ORDERS**

Mail this form to Bennie Carol Dunavan 33 Harmony Road South
Sherwood, AR 72120

OR

You may register and pay online at <http://www.aracda.org/>

Name: _____ Date: _____ Home Phone: _____

Home Address _____ City _____ State _____ zip _____

Work phone _____ Email: _____

Place of employment (or, for students, school in which you are enrolled) _____

Work Address _____ City _____ State _____ zip _____

Areas of focus (please check all that apply)

student___ Church/Syn___ Elem ___ JH/MS___ HS___ College___ Admin___ Community___ Private___

ACDA Member? ___yes ___no Member number _____

| | Pre-registration | After July 15 (or at the door) | Amount Paid |
|--|------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| ACDA Member* | \$75.00 | \$95.00 | _____ |
| Non member | \$95.00 | \$115.00 | _____ |
| Retired ACDA Member | \$35.00 | \$55.00 | _____ |
| Student | \$10.00 | \$10.00 | _____ |
| Visitor/Spouse (sharing packets/) | \$10.00 | \$10.00 | _____ |
| Golf Tournament | \$45.00 | \$45.00 | _____ |
| ARACDA BBQ Social (August 1, 6:00 p.m.) | \$10.00 | \$12.00 | _____ |
| Voluntary Scholarship Contribution | | | _____ |

TOTAL: _____

NO Purchase Orders. PLEASE!!

Check Number _____ Other _____ (Credit cards are not accepted except for online registration)

* To join ACDA, log on to www.acda.org

WHAT CAN ACDA DO FOR YOU?

THESE ARE RECENT ARTICLES FROM CHORTEACH, ACDA'S ON-LINE JOURNAL

Vol. 3, Issue 3 - Spring 2011

Using Social Media and Technology to Strengthen Your Choral Program

Gibbon's The Silver Swan in the 21st Century - by Barbara Retzko

Singing Avant-Garde Compositions with Youth Choirs? Yes! - by Nancy Curry

Ten Positive Things to Do for Yourself - by Jo Anne Stoddard

Male Chorus: Recruit, Maintain, and Develop - by Mark Cotter

Choral Pedagogy in the 21st Century: Shared Control in College
and University Choirs - by Micah Dalbey

Vol. 3, Issue 2 - Winter 2011

Helping Corey Match Pitch - by Catharine Melhorn

Church Musicians and Inclusive Language: A Beginning - by Andy Call

First Thing First in Early Choir Rehearsals: Classroom Procedures that Get Results
- by Jason Sickel

What Do You Teach?... I Teach Kids! - by Katherine Kouns

A Broader View of Today's Choral Curriculum in Today's World - by Alan J. Gumm

ARACDA SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Please consider a donation as you register for the Hot Springs Convention.

The ArACDA scholarship fund will help to provide post-graduate education for deserving ACDA members. More information on how to apply will be on the website at a later time.

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HOT SPRINGS, AUGUST 1-4

SEVEN NEW MUSIC READING SESSIONS

WORKSHOPS FOR THE K-12 VOCAL MUSIC TEACHER

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT THROUGH THE ARKANSAS
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION DESIGNED FOR YOU!

EXHIBITS, EXHIBITS, EXHIBITS!

CONVENTION HEADLINERS: DR. STEVEN ZEGREE,
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TREBLE HONOR CHOIR PERFORMANCE

BBQ SOCIAL ON MONDAY NIGHT TO KICK OFF A GREAT
CONFERENCE

MUSIC, ENTERTAINMENT, FELLOWSHIP, AND BAR-B-QUE FROM
“SMOKIN’ WITH STYLE”!

BEAUTIFUL HOT SPRINGS, ARKANSAS!

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