

# ALL Advisory Leadership Letter



FALL 2009

Newsletter  
of the  
American  
Orff-Schulwerk  
Association  
Advisory Board

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## Greetings to all Chapter Presidents!

We have just come out of a very successful NBT Meeting weekend and there are several things to pass along!

### Conference Reminders

- Please encourage your members to register! Sessions fill up fast and hotel rooms need to be booked! Insider Tip! The Hyatt is almost the same cost as the Hilton – but they have FREE WI-FI!
- Advisory Board I Session – Thursday Morning at 7:00 – Hilton Wright Ballroom – Please remember that this gathering is limited to only one person from each chapter. If you are unable to attend, please let Debbie or Ruth at AOSA headquarters ([avlib@aosa.org](mailto:avlib@aosa.org)) know who will attend in your place, so that they may include the correct name for the banner roll call.

The Banner Roll Call will follow immediately after the breakfast, as part of the Opening Session. Tables, numbered by region, will be available at the Advisory Breakfast for storing your banner while you eat! Banners should be returned to these tables after the roll call – they will then be put on display in the conference center.

Breakout Topics for this year's Advisory Board I meeting include ideas for retaining and increasing local and national membership, as well as financial incentives and scholarships.

- Advisory 2 Meeting – Saturday morning at 9:45 – 11:00 in MAC, Room #102. Don't forget to sign up for this special session led by Jacque Schrader, just for YOU!
- 
- There will be a Treasurers' Breakfast at the Hilton Coffee Shop on Saturday morning at 7:00 a.m. Kate Johnson, AOSA Executive Director, and Corbin Trimble, AOSA Treasurer will lead this meeting. All chapter treasurers are welcome! Please bring your questions, concerns, and your money for breakfast!



## THE ANNUAL FUND NEEDS SUPPORT!

*By Sally Trenfield, Region III Representative*

*If you have been around AOSA awhile, you are familiar with our scholarship funds. We are fortunate that we have many generous donors, so our scholarship funds are currently very healthy. The recipients listed in Reverberations each year put a face on the importance of giving*

*The Annual fund may be less familiar. This is the fund we use to pay the bills, similar to our own household budgets: electricity, postage, and salaries for the skeleton crew that keeps AOSA functioning. Without the Annual Fund, there is no organization to support the work of AOSA.*

*We need your help!*

*This year, please consider donating to the Annual Fund. If your chapter makes an annual contribution to AOSA, please encourage it to donate to the Annual Fund. This ensures that we have the resources necessary for the valuable work of AOSA.*

## How to Find Quality Presenters

*By Amy Fenton, Region VI Representative*

In reviewing this year's annual reports, your regional representatives noticed that many chapters are asking for help in finding quality presenters. AOSA cannot personally endorse one presenter over another. However, there are quite a few resources available to help our chapters find the information they are looking for.

The AOSA Web site can be a valuable tool in finding presenters

- Chapter Websites and newsletters can provide a wealth of ideas. You can find a list of chapters by region on the Membership & Local Chapters area of the AOSA Web site ([www.aosa.org/localchapters.html](http://www.aosa.org/localchapters.html)). If a chapter has a Web site there will be a Web site link to the right of the chapter name. Many chapter web sites have detailed information on their upcoming presenters.
- Networking with other chapter presidents will allow you to ask questions about presenters who have visited their chapter. The Membership and Local Chapter page of the AOSA Web site ([www.aosa.org/localchapters.html](http://www.aosa.org/localchapters.html)) will lead you to a list of chapters by region. Clicking on a chapter president's name will provide you with their email address.
- Check out the Approved Teacher Educator List on the Professional Development page of the AOSA Web site ([www.aosa.org/professional.html](http://www.aosa.org/professional.html)). Many of the educators on this list are also workshop presenters. You will then be able to find contact information in the directory on the Members Only portion of the Web site.

Attending the 2009 AOSA Professional Development Conference in Milwaukee is an excellent way to get first hand experience with prospective presenters. Some local chapter board members coordinate their schedules prior to registering so that they might see a more extensive variety in presenters and topics. If you are a chapter president, don't forget to attend the Advisory Board Breakfast, as it will give you the opportunity to meet and confer with other chapter presidents in your region.

## IRS 990N

Please be sure to file the IRS 990N Form (a.k.a the e-postcard). All chapter presidents MUST file this form. Just because it is an IRS requirement, it does not mean that it is a treasurer's job! The filing deadline is November 15. If it is not filed, you are in danger of losing your tax-exempt status! It is a very simple process – just a few very easy questions – NO MATH! Here is a link to the IRS page that explains the form and deals with FAQs.

<http://www.irs.gov/charities/article/0,,id=169250,00.html>

Please don't delay! Contact Kate Johnson (AOSA Executive Director) if you have any questions.



## TWO STORIES

### Establishing College Liaisons: An Investment in the Future

*By Judy Sapegin, Region I Representative*

One of the most important resources for new members in AOSA and our local chapters are our college and university communities. The Rocky Mountain Chapter in Colorado is fortunate because we are located in an area where there are several sizable colleges and universities within an hours drive from metropolitan Denver. Several of our members either live in the immediate areas of these institutions, or have close connections with members of the faculty. Several years ago, our Board decided to build a liaison connection between our members and these colleges and universities. The first step was to establish a board policy that full time college students would be able to participate in chapter workshops free of charge. The institutions were already receiving our annual summer mailing, with information about our schedule for the year, our board, and contact information and location for each workshop. Volunteer members would then open a line of communication with the faculty member in charge of music education courses at the various universities, making them aware of regularly scheduled workshops as well as special presenters sponsored by our chapter at the state CMEA conference in January. Sandy Lezotte and I were the first members to become college liaisons. Together, we went to the University of Colorado at Boulder each year and presented workshops for the General Music Ed. students there during one of their class periods. At other times during the year, I went to the University of Northern Colorado, and Sandy went to Colorado State University for workshops on a variety of subjects, and took time to talk with the students about the philosophy of the Schulwerk and our Rocky Mountain Chapter. The RMC paid for our substitutes in our time away from our own classrooms. Sandy also hosted students in her elementary classroom from Metropolitan State College of Denver. Many of the faculty members at our local universities have had Orff training and were very receptive to our connection. Dr. Martina Miranda, from the University of Colorado, has come to several workshops and brought her students. Last October, she hosted our RMC workshop on the CU campus. The liaison connection has also brought a number of student teachers into our classrooms, and those of other Orff teachers. Many have gone on to careers in our local school districts, have begun Teacher Education courses at UNC, and have been awarded scholarships from our chapter, which pay membership dues and workshop fees for a year.

Now that I am retired from the classroom, my “new” career is that of an adjunct faculty member at UNC and Metro. My students there are given the opportunity to attend chapter workshops for extra credit. Sandy is still hosting the students each year from the Introduction to Music Ed. course, and she and RMC members Susan Cicirello have trained several of our student teachers. We have seen the investment in our students pay off with our membership, as they now are assuming active leadership roles in our chapter.

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## TWO STORIES *continued*

### Establishing College Liaisons: An Investment in the Future

*By Tiffany English, Region IV Representative*

The Atlanta Area Chapter has a different take on building relationships with college students and professors. Three years ago, the Atlanta chapter's board took a long look at what was really happening at the yearly Introduction to Orff Schulwerk workshops that were being given for college students. Chapter members had given these workshops annually at a central location. However, the attendance was becoming sparser as the years went by. After discussing the attendance issues, the board decided to "take the show on the road". For the past three years, board members have been traveling to colleges and universities to teach a Saturday workshop for music education majors and local music teachers. This has grown into a series of six workshops around the state of Georgia each year. As a result, the Atlanta chapter is seeing many new young members and seeing interest in the Schulwerk grow among young educators. This workshop series gives college students a more intimate workshop where they can feel free to ask questions and participate more fully. This approach has given these college students contacts in the Atlanta chapter who can give support in student teaching experiences as well as when the job search begins. The Atlanta chapter also feels that taking "the show on the road" builds a more personalized relationship with college professors and allows the Schulwerk to become more of a valued approach in the college methods classes. For further information on this initiative, contact Tiffany English at [englishtiffany@hotmail.com](mailto:englishtiffany@hotmail.com)

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### National Board of Trustees Meeting Highlights

*Rhonda Greeson and Paula Ludwig Van Houten, Region II Representatives*

The AOSA National Board wrapped up their fall session in Cleveland, Ohio, meeting September 10-13, 2009. Although a great deal of our work is done between meetings, there is much to do when we all get together, and in a very short time! As a whole group, we met for voting, strategic planning and open forum time to discuss many opportunities and challenges that face us as an organization.

Much of the NBT work is done in committee. Your Regional Representatives are members of three committees, in addition to representing the chapters and members. Most committees reviewed and revised job descriptions. Highlights of our other committee work include:



## **Regional Representative Committee**

- Discussed the Chapter Annual Reports and the challenges that face the chapters and the implications for future committee work
- Determined articles, including conference information, for the Fall *Advisory Leadership Letter* and the Fall e-mail correspondence to Chapter Presidents

## **Professional Development Committee**

- Prepared and presented a motion that AOSA develop an official certification program for the successful completion of the AOSA approved Teacher Education program levels. This motion was approved unanimously.
- Reviewed scores and comments from the Apprentice Review Panel recommending the candidates that will move forward in the process
- Revised the Apprentice Application process including the review rubrics, the timeline, and the communications contact personnel.
- Appointments to the Guidelines Review Task Force were made upon recommendation of the Teacher Education Guidelines Revision Steering Committee, Carol Erion, Chair
- Force were recommended to the NBT, with full approval

## **Leadership Development and Nominations**

- Prepared slate of candidates for 2010 elections for Regions III, IV, V, and VI, as well as Recording Secretary, for board approval
- Recommended that Carol Erion be awarded the AOSA Distinguished Service Award and Laura and Bob Bergin be awarded the AOSA Industry Service Award to be presented at the 2009 AOSA Professional Development Conference

## **Financial Assistance Committee**

- Selected the TAP Fund to receive the AOSA portion of the profits from the AOSA Boutique at the 2009 Professional Development Conference
- Revised the application process for the year 2010

## **Membership Committee**

- Developed initial plans for collegiate chapters of AOSA
- Prepared to launch AOSA Facebook page in the near future

## **Publicity and Public Relations Committee**

- Planned further development of the AOSA Advocacy Program

## **Research Committee**

- Planned to assist the Research Interest Group (RIG) Panel Chair in updating the newsletter on the AOSA Web site, including the posting of possible research topics
- The needs of the Conference Poster Session presenters were discussed
- Two grant applications were reviewed, but the committee agreed not to fund the grants at this time, based upon the recommendations of the RIG

## Meet the Nominees: Regional Representatives for Regions III, IV, V, VI and Recording Secretary

*Cora Bigwood, Region III Representative*

As chair of the Leadership Development and Nominations Committee, I am very excited to present to our membership a slate of talented and innovative candidates for positions of Regional Representative for Regions III, IV, V, VI, and Recording Secretary.

As you know, the AOSA Chapter Annual Report form asks Chapter Presidents to suggest potential candidates for national leadership. If you are interested in becoming a servant leader for AOSA, I encourage you to visit with an NBT member during the AOSA 2009 Professional Development Conference. AOSA needs servant leaders. AOSA needs YOU. I challenge you to step forward.

The following candidates for 2010 have a wide range of musical interests and experiences. Read ahead to find out who is an adjunct instructor for Northeastern State University; a member of Cor Musica Vocal Ensemble; performs on string bass in the Walt Disney World Orchestra; author of "Teaching Blues and Jazz In Middle School Classroom Music," developed lesson plan for Intermediate Level Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra Concerts; and was awarded AOSA JeSeSoi ry World Village Scholarship. Read further to find a member of the Cincinnati Camerata; minored in English literature; was a Hilton Central Schools Teacher of the Year; is a Ph.D. candidate; and has a master's degree in School Counseling.

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### **Dana Crow - Candidate for Regional Representative for Region III**

Dana teaches Pre-K-5 general music at Celia Clint Elementary School in Tulsa, OK. He holds a BME and MM from Pittsburgh State in Pittsburgh, Kansas. He has also completed Level III in Orff Schulwerk Teacher Education from Southern Methodist University in Dallas, TX.

Dana is an adjunct instructor at Northeastern State University in Tahlequah, OK where he teaches Music in the Elementary Classroom. He is a member of Green County Oklahoma Orff and is completing his term as president.



**Sarah Bobenhouse Fairfield – Candidate for Regional Representative for Region III**

Sarah has been an active music educator in the elementary general music classroom for many years. Her undergraduate degree is from University of California in Irvine, California, where she graduated with a degree in Vocal Performance. She holds a Masters of Music Education, and is currently working on her Ph.D. in Music Education at University of Iowa in Iowa City, Iowa.

Sarah completed her Levels I, II, III, Curriculum Development for Orff Teachers and Master Class at University of St. Thomas in Minneapolis, MN. She also participated in an Orff Master Class at the San Francisco School in CA. She is a member of First Iowa Orff, and has served as Member-at-large, Recording Secretary, President Elect and Chapter President.

As a General Music Teacher in Iowa City Community School District, Sarah has experience as an Early Childhood Music and Movement Instructor, and Music Theory Instructor. In her spare time she sings with Cor Musica Vocal Ensemble, and is a choir director for First Baptist Church.



**Lisa Hewitt – Candidate for Regional Representative for Region IV**

Lisa is an elementary music specialist K-5 including Chorus and Orff Ensembles for Westbrooke Elementary in Orange County Public Schools in Orlando, FL.

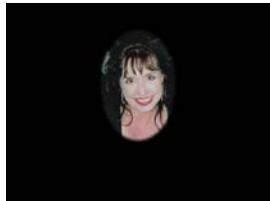
Lisa is a member of Central Florida Orff Chapter in which she is an inaugural member and has served as Treasurer, Secretary, President-elect and President. She established the Mary T. Gibson Scholarship Fund for Teacher Training and is the course co-coordinator for summer Orff Teacher Education for the University of Central Florida. Her undergraduate degree was obtained at Stetson University, DeLand, FL. She completed Orff Schulwerk training at Trinity University in San Antonio, TX. Lisa is a multiple year recipient of Teacher of the Year 1994, 1998, and 2004.



**Jane Hoch – Candidate for Regional Representative for Region IV**

Jane is a K-5 Elementary Music Specialist for Lincoln Heights Elementary School in Fuquay-Varina, NC. Her Bachelor of Science in Education degree is from Tennessee Technological University where she also minored in English Literature. She has a Master of Arts in Teaching Education and Curriculum Supervision with a performance focus in Recorder Ensemble from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill.

In her spare time, Jane is a writer and workshop presenter for the North Carolina Symphony Children’s Concert Series. Jane earned her National Board for Professional Teachers Certification in 2002. She is a charter member of the Central Carolina Chapter and has held the offices of Vice-President and President.



**Ruth Debrot – Candidate for Regional Representative Region V**

Ruth is currently the Music Specialist for grades 6-8, choral and classroom music for Sharon Middle School in Sharon Public Schools in Sharon, MA. She is also in the Ph.D. in Music Education program at Boston University. Her BA in Music Degree with a theatre minor is from the University of Mississippi and her MA in Voice Performance is from The City College of New York. Ruth has also taken recording and production courses.

She is an avid spokesperson for the Orff approach in secondary schools and is the author of numerous articles ranging from “Differentiating Instruction in the Music Classroom” to “Music and Art in the Writing Class: Creating Integrated Units Through Orff- Schulwerk”. Ruth is a member of New England Orff-Schulwerk Association and has held offices as Editor of “The Broadside”, President, and Board Member.



### **Al Heary – Candidate for Regional Representative for Region V**

Al is Lead Teacher for Elementary Vocal Music Teachers in the Webster Central School District in Webster, NY. He teaches elementary vocal music to grades 1-5. In his spare time, Al is Vocal Director/Accompanist for Webster Theater Guild as well as the conductor of the Webster Elementary Boys' Choir. He is the cooperating teacher for junior and senior student teaching placements at Nazareth College.

Al was on the planning committee for the Greater Rochester AOSA's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration in Rochester, NY. He has held the office of Treasurer, Vice President, Co-President, and President of the Greater Rochester AOSA. He completed his Orff Teacher Training at the Eastman School of Music in 1999. He has completed Level 3 coursework of Kodály training at Nazareth College. His BM Education and Performance Degrees are from Ithaca College and his Masters in Music Education is from SUNY at Fredonia.



### **Lissa Ray – Candidate for Regional Representative Region VI**

Lissa is a Music Specialist in the Sycamore Community School District at Montgomery Elementary School K-4 in Cincinnati, Ohio. She is also the Children's and Youth Music Director for Northminster Presbyterian Church. Her Orff Teacher Training was completed at University of Northern Colorado. She has taken Curriculum Development for Orff Teachers as well as Orff Master Class at St. Thomas University. Lissa also participated in the International Summer Course at the Orff Institut in Salzburg, Austria.

Lissa has a Bachelor of Science degree from Western Michigan University and a Master of Science degree from Indiana University. She has participated in Education Through Movement: Building the Foundation Institute with Phyllis Weikart and has fifty graduate hours of music education courses beyond the Master's degree.

Greater Cincinnati Chapter is where Lissa has held the offices of Program Chair, Scholarship Committee member, Hospitality Chair, Membership Co-Chairman, President and Past-President.

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**LuAnn Hayes – Candidate for Regional Representative Region VI**

LuAnn is *the* Music Specialist for Jr. Kindergarten through Second Grade Extracurricular Music Program for Parents and Preschoolers for the Kentucky Country Day School in Louisville, KY. She was the 2009 AOSA JeSeSoi ry World Village Scholarship recipient participating in the workshop in Finland. Other honors for LuAnn include 2009 Kentucky Country Day School Alumni Association Exceptional Teaching Award and the Award Endowed Chair for Distinguished Teaching, Kentucky Country Day School in 2003.

LuAnn received her Orff Teacher Training from the University of Kentucky and has served her chapter, the Kentucky Orff- Schulwerk Association as Secretary, Vice President, President and Past President. She was Local Committee Chair (Room Hosts) for the AOSA Professional Development Conference in Louisville, KY 2003 and was Committee Member, AOSA Executive Director Search Committee 2005-2006. Her BA in Music Education and Elementary Education is from Albion College and her MS in Music Education is from University of Illinois.



**Kay Lehto – Candidate for Recording Secretary**

Kay is currently serving AOSA as Recording Secretary. She is a K-6 Music Specialist at Gilbert Magnet School for Communication and Creative Arts for Clark County School District in Las Vegas, NV. Kay completed her Orff Teacher Education as well as a Master Class at the University of Memphis. She apprenticed Level I at Samford University.

Kay's BA in Music Education and Masters Degree in School Counseling are from Michigan State University. She has served Nevada's Desert-Valley Chapter as Secretary and President. She has served the National Board of Trustees as Co-Chair of the 2000 and 2004 Professional Development Conferences. Kay is an active Orff Teacher Educator and staff development clinician.

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### **Charles Palella – Candidate for Recording Secretary**

Charles is currently serving AOSA as Contributing Editor for Chapter News, *Reverberations*. He teaches general and vocal music for grades K-6 at Village Elementary School, Hilton Central School District in Hilton, NY. He has served Greater Rochester AOSA as Public Relations Chair, Membership Chair, President and Past President. Charles completed his Orff Teacher Education at Eastman School of Music with participation in Master Classes at University of Memphis, UMass at Amherst and at The San Francisco School.

Charles' Bachelor of Science Degree is from Nazareth College of Rochester with majors in Music and French. His Master of Science in Education Degree is from State University of New York at Brockport with focus on Interdisciplinary Arts for Children. He is active in New York State School Music Association Classroom Music Committee as Secondary Assistant and the Winter Conference Chair beginning in 2010. Charles presents workshops for local and state organizations and was Hilton Central Schools Teacher of the Year, 2007-2008.

## **AOSA Membership Directory Goes “Paperless”**

*By Karen K. Benson, AOSA Vice President*

In an environmentally friendly and cost-saving effort, the AOSA Membership Directory is now available online at the AOSA Web site. Eliminating the printing and shipping costs of the directory is just another way that AOSA strives to efficiently and effectively provide services to our membership while avoiding raising membership dues.



# SHOW ME THE MONEY!!

*By Sharon August,  
Region IV Representative*

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## AOSA'S Scholarships and Grants

Things to know:

- ✓ **The Gunild Keetman Scholarship** is for those persons with financial need and should be used for purposes of study or a special project. It can be applied toward Levels courses, study at the Orff Institut, for taking the Into to Schulwerk Course at conference for a first time attendee, or for other courses related to the Schulwerk. A confidential financial statement must be included.
- ✓ **The Barbara Potter Scholarship** is offered every other year and is for specific study at the Orff Institut.
- ✓ **The TAP Grant** is for teachers who teach elementary age to middle school age students of low-income populations. Most people use this grant to purchase instruments for schools that have limited budgets. It can also be used for study or projects. Proof of the school's status as an educational provider for a low-income population must accompany the grant request. A current inventory of equipment available in the music room is also required.
- ✓ **The Shields-Gillespie Scholarship** is for Early Childhood teachers who work in schools with a low-income population. The same parameters and requirements of the TAP grant apply here as well.
- ✓ The amount of money available to award is based upon interest earned from the principle of the invested monies.
- ✓ The Scholarships and Grants link on the Web site [www.aosa.org](http://www.aosa.org) is the source of information about the grants and scholarships as well as the source for the applications themselves.
- ✓ **The applications are due on January 25, 2010.** Those submitted after that date will be considered in the following year.
- ✓ All scholarship and grant applications must include three letters of recommendation on the teacher's behalf.
- ✓ The grant review takes place at the March meeting of the National Board of Trustees. The Financial Assistance Committee reviews the applications. The application process is confidential and anonymous. All applicants are notified of the results in April. Questions? Contact Sharon August at [sharonaug@gmail.com](mailto:sharonaug@gmail.com)