



July / August 2007

The Journal

PRESIDENTS CONVENTION REPORT

by: **Cortlandt Bender, Past President**



Camarillo, California provided a balmy and relaxed atmosphere for an invigorating Convention this past July. With many of the evaluations in as I write this last column as President, I am gratified to report this as

a real success. People received value for their money and food for their souls.

David Morales was an outstanding headliner for us. His winning, yet demanding approach gave us an insight into working with our own choirs, and with other people regardless of their position within the church. His packet was varied and a real winner. We were challenged to sing well both vocally and as musicians. He had pieces that ran the gamut from very accessible to ones that required some real work, but weren't out of the realm of possibility for use in a weekly church service.

The people who ran the breakout sessions were incredibly well prepared and gave most participants in their sessions more than they could use. As always, when providing more than one opportunity, many were torn as to which session would be best for them, but they weren't disappointed in their choices.

There were standing ovations galore Friday night. First for Albert McNeil, who received the Fred Bock Award for Lifetime Achievement in Sacred Music. Past President, Jan Sanborn presented the award. We give thanks to the Bock family for their continued support of the mission of NACM and for continuing to expand our thinking.

David Feit-Pretzer was installed as the new President of NACM for 2007-2009. President-Elect Linda Duffendack Mays and Secretary Ruth Elin Drossel were also installed. The Executive Board of the NACM is very strong and will provide excellent ongoing and vibrant leadership.

The Friday night concert was filled with cheers and appreciation for Alchemy, a stunning hand

bell group of five or six playing 5 octaves +, depending on the musical number being played. Their founder and director, Boude Moore brought the group to play *The Nutcracker* by Tchaikovsky. We were astounded at the beautiful tone and sheer virtuosity of the work.

The second half of the concert featured the Camarillo United Methodist Church Choir, directed of Dr. Lynn Decker Mahin. The breadth of their offering delighted us. We were amazed and appreciative that their choir turned out in such a large number for this concert in July. Not only did they sacrifice their summer vacations to sing, play instruments, they gave us insight in the use of visuals with two of their anthems. Their organist treated us to a virtuosic performance of the *Prelude, Offertory and Postlude*.

Our worship on Saturday utilized the music from our work with David Morales. It is amazing how much was accomplished and how wonderful it was to lift our voices in praise and worship to our Lord.

The Passing of the Baton: I would like to thank all of you for your support of my leadership during the last two years. I am proud to be a part of NACM. I am grateful for what has been a smooth transition from Vern Sanders to Jim Person. The board has asked Jim to be permanent Executive Administrator. He has accepted. This will be on a year-to-year basis. The board has been strengthened in its commitment to the ongoing work of our organization. We have new faces and new ideas coming forth and we have strong plans for the future. Read the coming issues of the *Journal*. Each will have articles that will inform you of the past, keep you abreast of the current goings on, and articles about our future. Finally, I want to encourage you to become a user of the list serve to share ideas and solve problems, when appropriate, that come to light in your ministry with your choir. Thanks again. May God bless you in your Church Music . ♦

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PRESIDENTIAL PERSPECTIVE

by: David Feit-Pretzer, President



I want to let you know how proud and honored I am to be the president of NACM and to share with you the following thoughts.

When this organization was formed as CCG, it was by a group of choral directors who met together (I'm sure they didn't call it networking) to discuss the how-to's of their profession. We have become NACM but are still basically choral directors who face the same challenges as the founders did...that is, how to make it from week to week and provide the best possible worship experience we can for our congregations. Many of us deal with children's choirs, praise bands, worship music and handbells, however, we're mostly choral directors working week to week.

I saw in an article just recently that the golden age of choral music is past...I take exception to that statement. Certainly the time when it was taken for granted that the church would have a choir singing for the service is gone...however...that doesn't mean that the choral arts in the church have died. We have all experienced church choirs that provided good reason to euthanize choral music. I have many times heard colleagues in academia decrying how "schlocky" church choral music is. In many instances they are correct. If this be the case, then it is incumbent upon us to see that situation corrected. Whether your church embraces choral anthems, choral praise music or Brooklyn Tabernacle tunes...if we work diligently to present our music excellently and with integrity then we have presented to God the best we have.

I hope that each of us left the 2007 convention with a renewed energy to make choral music live and have relevance in the 21st century church. Whether its B-A-C-H Bach or B-O-C-K Bock, Brooklyn Tabernacle or Hillsongs, let us covenant to do it to the best of our ability and with the utmost integrity.

It is my goal to re-energize the chapters and from the chapter level build a strong and focused organization that will thrive and continue to be a resource for choral conductors and church musicians who are dedicated to keeping the choral arts alive in the church. ♦

CONVENTION COMMENTARY

by: Sherry Khlas

Our 2007 Convention has come and gone but the great memories of sharing information, camaraderie and wonderful music linger on. For those that were able to attend, it was a time of re-focusing and reminding ourselves of the basic foundations of our music ministry so that we might return to our choirs with fresh reminders of what makes for a solid music ministry and a new enthusiasm for doing this work we are called to do.

Camarillo United Methodist Church and their very gracious staff and volunteers provided a venue that allowed workshops, reading sessions and worship to be conducted with all the equipment and amenities needed. Their hospitality went far above our expectations making our time there very enjoyable.

Our headliner, David Morales shared his passion for excellence and for church music ministries. David encouraged all who attended to set the bar high for ourselves as well as for our choir members. The Convention Choir music chosen by David and used in our closing worship was as inspiring as it was challenging. We were truly blessed to spend time with such a dedicated and gifted musician.

Interest Session topics were varied and therefore covered a lot of ground. Paul Herman from CCLI shared information on publishing rules/issues, Paul Plew shared from his study of Wesley Hymns, Doug Lawrence shared trends and issues pertaining to the future of music ministry and worship, our hosts Rev. Jim and Dr. Lynn Decker-Mahin demonstrated their use of a Broadway musical to add a new twist to an age old parable,

Judy Bohlen shared her vast knowledge of summer children's music camps, Peter Bates demonstrated conducting from the organ bench and on and on it went. Every session was a winner and our biggest complaint – too many choices!

We were again blessed to have Jan Sanborn as our Convention Accompanist. Jan also did a marvelous job in honoring Al McNeil as the recipient of the Fred Bock Award at our Installation Banquet on Friday night. It was great to have Al with us and to be reminded of his many achievements and efforts in the field of church music.

All this and more happened at convention. If you weren't able to attend this year, I truly hope you will plan to be with us next year. It is a jam packed few days but filling with learning, laughter and inspiration that lasts well into our year. I have a feeling that I'm not the only one that needs that so do yourself a favor, put NACM 2008 Convention on your calendar now!

The Convention Planning Committee, our Headliner, David Morales, our Convention Accompanist, Jan Sanborn, Session Leaders, Executive Board, our Executive Administrator, Jim Person, our hosts Rev. Jim and Dr. Lynn Decker-Mahin, deserve our thanks and appreciation for their hard work and contributions to this year's convention. THANK YOU! ♦



Jan Sanborn presents Fred Bock award to Dr. Al McNeil

COMMENTARY CONTINUES . . .

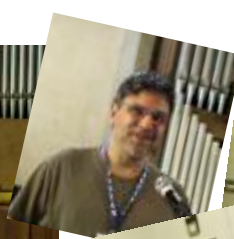
by: **Lea Ann Walker, San Diego**

Once again I was blown away by the great things this summer's NACM convention had to offer for me and my church music ministry. As I tell everyone I know, I don't bother to shop anywhere else for music for my choir; everything I could want or need has been anticipated for me, and magically appeared in one of my reading session or convention choir packets.

I attended three workshops in addition to the reading sessions, worship services and plenaries. They included *Understanding the Human Voice*, where Cort Bender helped us understand where the music comes from and how to make it more beautiful; *Discovering "Good" Contemporary Music*, featuring Chris Sillerud and

Bill Sperry and the praise band from 1st Pres. in Granada Hills (I came away with lots of good ideas from that one), and, *Copyright Law and the Church* by Paul Herman of CCLI, where I discovered that even though I know a lot about the subject, there's always more to learn, and that there are great new software programs becoming available all the time. The plenary sessions were every bit as informative, as well as offering an opportunity for people to meet and discuss things with David Morales, this year's headliner.

We had six people there from our San Diego Chapter and all went for different reasons and came away with different gifts. I wish all of our members could have been there – maybe next year! See you then. ♦



THANK YOU NACM

As a 15+ year member of CCG/NACM, but a first time convention attendee, I'd like to say how much I enjoyed the event. I especially liked the sessions with David Morales who spoke so eloquently about the state of our church music programs today and what we need to do to grow our programs in the era of "contemporary" music/church services. It was especially timely as I recently became director of music at a declining membership church. I came away with some good ideas on how to grow the music program and hopefully the church itself.

Thanks to all the NACM folks who put together this great 2 day event.

Polly Schiff

Palm Desert, CA

2007 REPERTOIRE FROM DAVID MORALES

- HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING - Staheli
 - HMC1591 (Hinshaw)
 MY GOD IS A ROCK - Berg
 - 36-20138 (Colla Voce Music)
 JUST AS I AM - Bob Chilcott
 - E162 (Oxford)
 IN THE YEAR THAT KING UZZIAH DIED - Williams
 - 4548251 (Alfred)
 A BETTER RESURRECTION - Stitt
 - HL08501579
 THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE - Work
 - 383406 (ECS)
 COME THOU FOUNT OF EVERY BLESSING - Wilberg
 - 94.259 (Oxford)

2007 CHILDREN'S READING SESSION

- CHARIOT'S COMIN'!, Don Besig and Nancy Price
 - Alfred 4751
 PIE JESU - Mary Lynn Lightfoot
 - Heritage 15/1227H
 TELL ALL THE WORLD, John. D. Horman
 - Choristers Guild CGA681
 HURON CAROL, Arr. Jill Gallina
 - Shawnee E0543
 LITTLE BABY YOU ARE GOD'S SON, Lynn Shaw Bailey
 - Glory Sound F6003

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F2338 – COME, YE THANKFUL PEOPLE, COME – arr. Sjolund/Bock – TTBB
 P1309 – BLESSED LAMB – Ron Kean – SATB
 JG2374 – MAY THE LORD GOD BLESS YOU REAL GOOD – arr. Walker – SATB a cappella
 P1318 – LONDONDERRY – Howard A. Walter/arr. Ken Berg – 2 part
 JG2377 MY SONG OF TODAY – Martin-Neufeld SATB, a cappella
 F2334 COME, CHRISTIANS, JOIN TO SING – arr. Thallander/Wilkin SATB
 BG2470 REVIVE OUR HEARTS – Williams/Sanborn SATB, accompanied
 BG2509 I'M GONNA RISE (When the Son Comes Down) Marsena/arr. Lucas SAB
 BG2502 HUNGRY, I COME – Craig Curry – SATB
 F2341 WHENCE IS THAT GOODLY FRAGRANCE FLOWING? – arr. Kaiser SATB
 BG2500- SING YE ALL NOEL – arr. Chuck Bridwell – SATB – a cappella
 JG2376- FIX ME, JESUS – arr. Jacquelin B. Hairston – SATB – a cappella
 BG2516- ALL HAIL THE POWER OF JESUS' NAME – arr. Dan Bird – SATB – a cappella
 P1314- UPON THE ROSE – Alan Smith – SATB – accompanied

EMERSON MUSIC

EECH1006 – ALLELUIA (2004) – Tom Benjamin – SATB

HOPE PUBLISHING

C5467 – ONE SMALL CHILD – David Meece/arr. Lloyd Larson – SAB
 C5473 – I GIVE YOU MY HEART – Rueben Morgan/arr. Lloyd Larson – SATB
 C5492 THE POTTER'S HAND – Darlene Zschech/arr. Lloyd Larsen SAB
 C5483 REJOICE, THE LORD IS KING! arr. Raney SATB w/ opt. organ and handbells
 C5485 TILL HE COMES AGAIN – Jack Schrader – SATB
 C5489 SURELY THE PRESENCE – Lanny Wolfe/arr. Jack Schrader – SAB

LORENZ (Monarch Music)

10-3285M – LIFT YOU LIGHT – Mary McDonald – SATB
 10-2807M – FILL-A ME UP! – Pepper Choplin – SATB – a cappella
 10/3278M – CHRISTMAS GRACE – Ruth Elaine Schram – SATB w/opt. string orch.

CANTUS QUERCUS PRESS

CQ2620 – SONG OF ISAIAH – Glenn Wonacott – SATB

SANTA BARBARA MUSIC PUBLISHING, INC.

SBMP 668 – I WILL COME TO YOU – David N. Childs – SATB a cappella

BECKENHORST PRESS

BP 1772 – JOSHUA FIT DE BATTLE OF JERICHO – arr. Howard Helvey – SATB
 BP1764 – THE LORD IS MY LIGHT – Craig Courtney – SATB
 BP1759 – MAKE MY LIFE A BETHLEHEM – Craig Courtney – SATB

OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS

ISBN 0-19-343274-9 NOEL! – Gordon Thornett – SATB
 ISBN 0-19-386960-8 A LA NANITA NANA – Christopher Azzara – unison choir & piano
 ISBN 0-19-386970-5 JESUS THE CHRIST SAYS – David Schelat – SATB
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 ISBN -0-19-386968-3 - WHATEVER BE THE LOVE – Howard Helvey – SATB & piano

SHAWNEE PRESS (Malcolm Music)

A8588 – DECLARATION OF PRAISE – Joseph Martin – SATB accompanied
 D5803 – I SURRENDER, LORD – Ovokaitys/Austin – SAB
 EA5189 – WONDERFUL LIGHT! – Karen Crane – 2 part mixed, accompanied

CONCORDIA

98-3888 – THE LORD BLESS YOU – Johannes Matthias Michel – SATB

MORNINGSTAR

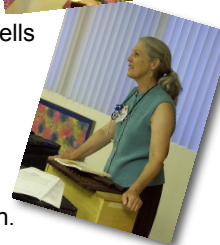
MSM-50-6040 – MY HOPE IS ARISEN – Peter Latona – SATB

GIA PUBLICATIONS

G-5851 – LAZURUS – Robert Tanner – SATB & tenor solo

ECSPUBLISHING

No. 5865 – NEW MILLENNIUM SUITE, 1, SINNER MAN – Gwyneth Walker - SATB



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CHAPTER NEWS**San Fernando valley and Los Angeles Chapters**

"Anthems That Work"

Monday, September 24, 2007

6:30 p.m. dinner (\$8/person, \$4/student) - 7:30 p.m. program

Scheduled presenters: Lynn Verdi, Ralph Williams, Nancy

Campeau

Little White Chapel

1711 N. Avon St.

Burbank, CA 91505

For information and dinner reservations, Judie Stroh (818) 989-3559

San Fernando valley Chapter

Adult Choir Festival

Sunday, April 27, 2008

4:30 p.m.

Guest Conductor: David Feit-Pretzer

Festival Works:

"Gloria" from the Twelfth Mass by Mozart

"Praise God" by Fred Bock (Sacred Music Press, S-

113)

"To Love Our God" by Mark Hayes (Hinshaw, HMC-

1576)

First Presbyterian Church, Granada Hills

10400 Zelzah Ave.

Northridge, CA 91326

For information, Ken Rappe (818) 887-5328.

Orange County Chapter

Adult Choir Festival

Saturday, May 17, 2008

8:30am-6:00 p.m.

Guest Conductor and Clinician: Mark Hayes

First Presbyterian Church of Orange - 191 N. Orange - Or-

ange, CA 92866

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Be sure to include the title, the name of the group, the location, salary and requirements and contact information.

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Whittier, CA

Sophia singjoyfully04@yahoo.com**Music Director**

Charles Wesley UMC

McLean VA

www.charleswesleyumc.org or call 703-356-6636**Chancel Choir Director**

First UMC San Gabriel, CA

fumcsg@earthlink.net or call Tom 626-286-3111**Music Director**

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Flat Fee: \$25/choir - Interested choirs should send a video tape or CD attn: Francisco Calvo at the above address. Due to the popularity of this clinician, there will be a 10 choir limit for performances only. Please check the next Journal for more information or contact:

Priscilla Silver, Festival Chair at priscilla.abby@sbcglobal.net, 714-893-5183

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Co-sponsored by the Long Beach Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

Saturday, January 19, 2008 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**Covenant Presbyterian Church
607 E. 3rd St., Long Beach, CA 90802**

9:00 am Registration & Refreshment

9:25 am Welcome David Feit-Pretzer, President NACM & Leroy Pabst, Dean LBAGO

9:30 am "What's in Your Blender" a session on Blended Worship By Mark Thallander

10:30 am Break and Visit Church Music Supply Exhibit

11:00 am Choral Music Reading Session

12:00 pm Lunch (included with registration)

12:45 pm Plenary Session - "Care & Feeding of Choir Members" By William Hatcher

1:45 pm Break and Visit Church Music Supply Exhibit

2:00 pm Organ Music Reading Session

3:00 pm Visit Church Music Supply Exhibit

Send your pre-registration of \$20 by January 10, to: NACM, 67805 Reed Circle, Cathedral City, CA 92234 (lunch included)

Registration at the door \$25. Info: 760-992-7947 or nacmhq@dc.rr.com

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