

## CHAPTER IV

### THE GROWTH AND EXPANSION OF THE GREATER CLEVELAND CHAPTER, 1970-1984

#### 1970-1973: The First Years of Growth

With a successful inaugural year behind them, twelve members of the Greater Cleveland Chapter gathered for the first workshop meeting of the 1970-1971 academic school year on October 4, 1970.<sup>1</sup> President Eva Haskin called the meeting to order and presented the treasurer's report due to the absence of chapter treasurer Grace Benes. The Greater Cleveland Chapter started out its second year with \$6.34 in the treasury. A motion was discussed and voted upon unanimously to increase local membership dues to \$1.50 for the coming year.<sup>2</sup> Nominations for new officers were presented and accepted, resulting in Elaine Shakley being voted in as new chapter president and Gretchen Garnett as new chapter vice-president. B.J. Lahman and Grace Benes retained their positions as secretary and treasurer respectively. It was then announced that the third AOSA national conference would be held in Memphis, Tennessee rather than in Cleveland, Ohio as was initially discussed and hoped for.<sup>3</sup>

Chapter members Dr. Margaret Stone from Kent, Ohio and Louise Jones from Rocky River, Ohio began the October workshop by sharing their experiences and

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<sup>1</sup> Cleveland Chapter American Orff-Schulwerk Association Board Minutes, October 4, 1970. Members in attendance at this workshop meeting included Evelyn Davis, Rudi Dreisbach, Gretchen Garnett, Eva Haskin, Louise Jones, B.J. Lahman, Lona LeZak-[Meister], Alice Luli, Linda MacNamara, Margaret Stone, and Avonelle Webster. It was noted that Ruth Pollock Hamm was absent due to out of town commitments she had as acting AOSA vice-president.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> Cleveland would not host a national AOSA conference until November 1983.

collected resources from their summer excursions in Hungary at the Kodály Summer School (Stone) and in Austria at the Orff Institute (Jones). At the subsequent workshop held on November 1, chapter member Rudi Dreisbach shared her experience from the ISME Conference in Moscow, Russia, and Louise Jones presented a song arrangement titled “African Rondo,” also acquired from her summer at the Orff Institute.<sup>4</sup> The third meeting of the year, held December 6, 1970, provided a workshop reading session of Gunild Keetman’s *A Christmas Story* that led to a performance of the piece by chapter members at St. Paul’s Church in Cleveland. The performance was led in part by Avonelle Webster with students from the Laurel School.

The December 6 meeting prompted discussion of continuing the course of workshops as working, sharing extensions of the Orff philosophy. Chapter member and future chapter president Marjorie MacNeal recalls:

I loved that the lesson presented was the “starting point” and then we all brainstormed or added our own successes using the material. What a wonderful way for a teacher new to Orff Schulwerk to learn ‘process.’<sup>5</sup>

Participants routinely reported on their use of workshop materials and ideas within their own teaching. Chapter co-founder Elaine Shakley remembers that “every meeting was a lesson to be learned” and was brought back to the classroom the following week.<sup>6</sup> It was subsequently agreed by the membership that the vice-president would take on the duties of the program chairman and continue the responsibility for planning and organizing the

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<sup>4</sup> Cleveland Chapter American Orff-Schulwerk Association Board Minutes, November 1, 1970.

<sup>5</sup> MacNeal, Marjorie, 2004. Interview by author, 1 November. Survey.

<sup>6</sup> Elaine Shakley, 2004. Interview by author, 1 November. Survey.

monthly workshops.<sup>7</sup> The treasurer's report at the December meeting additionally reported a growing chapter enrollment of twenty-seven paid memberships and a year end balance of \$43.74.<sup>8</sup>

At the January 10, 1971 workshop, Ruth Hamm presented Shaker songs as a basis for creative accompaniments and movement. Subsequent workshops held on February 7, March 7 and May 2, provided members and guests with Orff Schulwerk literature reading sessions from a variety of source materials including Orff/Keetman's *Music for Children* and Elizabeth Nichols' *Orff Instrument Source Book*. These and future workshops continued to demonstrate the lack of available Schulwerk materials and the resulting need for such resources.

New officers were elected for the upcoming 1971-1972 year at the May 2 meeting: B.J. Lahman, President; Grace Benes, Vice-President; Lona LeZak-[Meister], Secretary; and Avonelle Webster, Treasurer. The membership urged that meetings be planned in advance for the forthcoming year to avoid calendar conflicts.<sup>9</sup> Members were also asked to consider being available for college education students desiring field experience with Orff trained teachers.<sup>10</sup> Dr. Donald Shetler at CWRU continued to be an asset for the chapter by placing several of his student teachers with those having Orff training. B.J. Lahman remembers:

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<sup>7</sup> Cleveland Chapter American Orff-Schulwerk Association Board Minutes, December 6, 1970.

<sup>8</sup> Ibid.

<sup>9</sup> Cleveland Chapter American Orff-Schulwerk Association Board Minutes, May 2, 1971.

<sup>10</sup> Cleveland Chapter American Orff-Schulwerk Association Board Minutes, January 9, 1972, 1. By September 1973 the Greater Cleveland Chapter had established college field experience programs with Case Western Reserve University and Cleveland State University, and had active workshop participation with students from eight regional colleges and universities.

It was sometimes a stressful situation since most of the students were graduate students, having received music degrees in performance at the Cleveland Institute of Music. Needing employment, they turned to classes [at] CWRU to qualify for teaching certificates. Their enthusiasm was good, but a lack of background experience sometimes made our task difficult.<sup>11</sup>

Promotion of membership also began to take root during this time. Prior to the October 4, 1971 meeting, ninety letters were mailed out to encourage chapter membership.<sup>12</sup> Many area music teachers attending workshops for the first time were quickly inspired by the approach. Chapter member Marty Springer recalls:

Ruth Hamm was the Orff guru at that time. I remember her comment to me, said with a twinkle and a wink: “There are no discipline problems in Orff methodology – the students are too busy to get into mischief.” She was [and] is right!<sup>13</sup>

By the January 9, 1972 workshop, Chapter One totaled forty-nine members, with thirty-eight belonging to AOSA. It was also suggested at this meeting that a “hand-out sheet” be made available for distribution at the fourth AOSA national conference in Chicago, Illinois.<sup>14</sup> What materialized was a three-page packet titled “The Tooter.”

Although a one-time publication, “The Tooter” was a first for the chapter and the first of its kind at a national conference. The publication provided an overview of Chapter One’s brief history, accomplishments, college field experience program, workshops, and also demonstrated how AOSA chapters could effectively communicate and share ideas

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<sup>11</sup> B.J. Lahman, survey interview by author, November 3, 2004.

<sup>12</sup> Cleveland Chapter American Orff-Schulwerk Association Board Minutes, October 4, 1971, 1.

<sup>13</sup> Marty Springer, survey interview by author, November 1, 2004.

<sup>14</sup> It was at the fourth AOSA national conference business meeting, held on April 15, 1972, that Ruth Hamm was nominated and voted in as the next president of the American Orff-Schulwerk Association. Ruth would serve as president of AOSA from 1972-1974, during which national membership in the organization would rise from 817 members to 1,043.

with each other and the collective membership. Grace Benes and Avonelle Webster were acknowledged and promoted in the conference publication along with their session “Classroom Recorder Techniques for Beginners.” The Benes/Webster session marked the first time chapter members other than Ruth Hamm presented at a national conference.<sup>15</sup> The session was an extension of a prior chapter workshop presented by Grace, Avonelle, and B.J. Lahman on November 7, 1971. Detailed session notes from this workshop also appeared in the February 1972 issue of *The Orff Echo*.<sup>16</sup>

New officers were elected for the upcoming 1972-1973 year at the May 7 meeting, and included Grace Benes, President; Rudi Dreisbach, Vice-President; and Louise Jones, Secretary. Avonelle Webster continued as chapter treasurer. The need to provide a variety of workshops to satisfy both new members and those well trained in the Schulwerk approach was discussed at an executive board meeting held August 22, 1972.<sup>17</sup> This discussion was expanded at a year-end board meeting held on July 2, 1973, with more emphasis placed upon materials and activities suitable for both lower and higher grade levels.<sup>18</sup> Additionally, in an ongoing attempt to increase membership, the chapter frequently co-sponsored events with outside music education organizations. One such event was a luncheon as part of the 1973 Ohio Music Educators Association

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<sup>15</sup> During this period, Cleveland Chapter member Gretchen Garnett would present an “Intermediate Recorder Playing” session at the fifth AOSA national conference held April 5-8, 1973 in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

<sup>16</sup> Louise B. Jones, “Chapter and Local News: Greater Cleveland Chapter,” *The Orff Echo* 4, no. 2 (February, 1972): 7.

<sup>17</sup> Cleveland Chapter American Orff-Schulwerk Association Executive Board Minutes, August 22, 1972, 1. Planning a variety of workshops and clinicians to accommodate the multiple experience levels and needs of the membership continued to require carefully balanced programming through to the present day.

<sup>18</sup> Cleveland Chapter American Orff-Schulwerk Association Board Minutes, July 2, 1973.

convention held in Cleveland, February 1-3.<sup>19</sup> Such associations proved effective, as membership within the organization rose to fifty-eight by the end of the season, thirty-six of whom also belonged to AOSA. Chapter enrollment numbers reflected a rapid growth pattern expected to continue, along with a diverse membership, even at this early stage in the organization's history.

#### 1973-1980: *Orff at Orange*

Despite growing numbers, increasing and encouraging membership was a constant goal of Chapter One. It was decided at the August 7, 1973 meeting to have a social time after the workshop in an effort to interest new people.<sup>20</sup> Signs of a chapter loaning library for the growing membership was also discussed, and established with the purchase of materials including a four volume series recently published by Arnold Burkart.<sup>21</sup> Past-President Grace Benes took charge of maintaining the loaning library, and additionally began to chronicle the history of the chapter, a duty she would continue for the next eighteen years. The growth of the organization also required that the duties of corresponding secretary, recording secretary, and scribe become more defined. The corresponding secretary notated executive board minutes, the recording secretary notated workshop sessions, and the scribe notated and sent chapter contributions to the national AOSA journal, *The Orff Echo*. At the August 7 meeting, consideration was also given to

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<sup>19</sup> Grace Benes, "Chapter News: Greater Cleveland," *The Orff Echo* 5, no. 1 (November, 1972): 3. In addition, Ruth Hamm presented three sessions on the interrelationships of Schulwerk and Language Arts at the Ohio state convention of the International Reading Society during the fall of 1973. The November 4, 1973 chapter workshop presented by Grayce Dolesh would also involve a collaboration with several members of the Cleveland Modern Dance Association.

<sup>20</sup> Chapter socials would continue to act as a means of welcoming and recruiting new members through to the present day.

<sup>21</sup> Cleveland Chapter American Orff-Schulwerk Association Board Minutes, August 7, 1973.

the idea of having a workshop some place other than at Laurel School. Implementing this idea led to the first *Orff at Orange* workshop located at Orange, Ohio, High School, held on March 2, 1974.

Planning the *Orff at Orange* event (titled *Accent on Orff: Orff for all Seasons*) was no small task. Grace Benes, B.J. Lahman, and three other members volunteered fifty dollars each to underwrite the expenses of national clinicians, uncertain as they were about attracting paid workshop participation.<sup>22</sup> Initial discussion and planning for the workshop started at the August 7, 1973 chapter meeting and continued throughout the year. By the November 4 meeting, plans to have three concurrent hour-and-a-half sessions during the event were established. The sessions would be led by Ruth Hamm and recognized clinicians Jacobeth Postl and Evelyn Carter.<sup>23</sup> Hamm's presentation, titled "Feather Your Nest," provided techniques for primary-age children. Postl's presentation was titled "Soundposts in Orff for Middle Grades," and Carter's was "Creative Movement." The workshop also featured four films, shown between sessions, including: "Discovering the Music of Latin America," "New Sounds in Music," "Discovering the Music of South Africa," and "Movement in Time and Space."

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<sup>22</sup> B.J. Lahman, "In Memory, Grace L. Benes," *Chapter One News* 14, no. 2 (winter, 2003): 8.

<sup>23</sup> Cleveland Chapter American Orff-Schulwerk Association Board Minutes, November 4, 1973. Jacobeth Postl was a founding member of the national AOSA and the Greater Chicago Chapter AOSA (Chapter #4) and was also a long time friend of Hamm. Evelyn Carter was the first president of the Central Ohio, Columbus Chapter AOSA (Chapter #29). This chapter originated in the spring of 1972 when a group of people interested in starting a Columbus area chapter met at the Worthington Hills Elementary School in Worthington, Ohio. The meeting was organized by Judy Zang who had attended an Orff workshop at Capital University conducted by Avon Gillespie. At the meeting, a presentation was given by Evelyn Carter, who at that time was an Orff teacher at the St. Joseph Academy. Four meetings were scheduled for the following year and a decision was made to apply for affiliation with the AOSA National Board. The Central Ohio, Columbus Chapter, under the leadership of its first president, Evelyn Carter, was formally chartered at the sixth annual AOSA national conference in Boston, Massachusetts on March 29, 1974. A brief history of the Central Ohio Chapter appeared in the fall 1976 publication of *The Orff Echo*.

Approximately one thousand copies of a publicity sheet for the event were mailed and distributed at the December 2 workshop after a reading session of Orff/Keetman's *A Christmas Story*.<sup>24</sup> By the January 13, 1974 meeting, registration brochures and information had been mailed out to numerous professional organizations and respected journals including: the Greater Cleveland Arts Council, Magna Music Baton publishers, the OMEA *Triad*, *The Orff Echo*, *American Recorder*, and *Music Educators Journal*.<sup>25</sup> As part of the promotional campaign, oranges printed with the date of the event were also handed out at the Columbus OMEA conference held February 7-9.<sup>26</sup>

The atmosphere of the highly publicized March 2 event was that of sheer excitement and energy amongst the participants. The success of *Orff at Orange* marked a new beginning for the chapter, resulting in growth, expansion and financial stability. Many Chapter One members played a vital role in the success of the event, including: Grace Benes (Workshop Committee Chairman); Louise Jones (Hostess Committee Chairman); B.J. Lahman (Publicity); Marty Springer (Registration); and Marguerite Salisbury and Ruth Hamm (Films). Evelyn Carter was the Columbus representative and promoted the event in the central Ohio region. Grace Benes reported at the subsequent May 5 chapter meeting that the financial gain of the *Orff at Orange* workshop totaled \$372.26. It was determined that from that point on, all workshops be financially managed without subsidy and any additional funds be added to the chapter savings account and

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<sup>24</sup> Cleveland Chapter American Orff-Schulwerk Association Board Minutes, December 2, 1973.

<sup>25</sup> Cleveland Chapter American Orff-Schulwerk Association Publicity Report, March 2, 1974.

<sup>26</sup> Alan Purdum, survey interview by author, October 9, 2004. Future chapter president Alan Purdum was drawn into the "orange" advertising scheme which marked the beginning of his association with the chapter to the present day.



earmarked for special uses and future events.<sup>27</sup> Only in an extreme emergency situation could the savings be used for balancing the chapter budget.<sup>28</sup>

The success of *Orff at Orange* also paved the way for similar all-day workshops to come, and generated an increase in both membership and attendance at subsequent chapter events.<sup>29</sup> The October 6 workshop featured improvisation and movement presented by Louise Jones and witnessed no less than sixty-five participants, including teachers, professors, and college/university students from four higher education institutions in the northern Ohio area.<sup>30</sup> Promoting the Orff approach and recruiting membership continued to drive the chapter, and workshops were placed in various locations to aid this cause. The November 3 workshop was held at Green Valley Elementary School, Parma, Ohio, City School District in order to aid Parma teachers in the Orff program already started there by chapter member Jane Frontone.<sup>31</sup> During this time, a second *Orff at Orange* had already been discussed in depth and was being announced and promoted at workshops.

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<sup>27</sup> Cleveland Chapter American Orff-Schulwerk Association Board Minutes, May 5, 1974.

<sup>28</sup> B.J. Lahman, "In Memory, Grace L. Benes." The savings account continued to grow after the first *Orff at Orange* event, eventually becoming a restricted financial assistance fund for chapter members.

<sup>29</sup> Notices sent to area schools promoting forthcoming chapter workshops attracted many new members during this time, including future chapter president Betty Gold in 1974.

<sup>30</sup> Cleveland Chapter American Orff-Schulwerk Association Board Minutes, October 6, 1974.

<sup>31</sup> Cleveland Chapter American Orff-Schulwerk Association Board Minutes, November 3, 1974, 1. Notwithstanding the *Orff at Orange* workshop presented on March 2, few chapter events had strayed from the Eastside Shaker Heights Laurel School location. The Parma site on November 3 that same year prompted the workshop to be titled "The Westside Story" implying a location on the Westside of Cleveland.

The second *Orff at Orange*, March 8, 1975, featured clinicians Sister Marcia Lunz and Avon Gillespie.<sup>32</sup> Lunz's presentation was titled "Creative TNT: Tambours 'N' Timbres" and focused on utilizing an array of unpitched percussion. Gillespie's presentation, titled "How 'Suite' It Is," focused on the development of metric concepts. Two hundred and nineteen participants attended the all-day workshop, including seventy-two area college students, eighty music and classroom teachers new to the Orff approach, and sixty-seven others with more advanced Schulwerk training and experience.<sup>33</sup> Each workshop participant had the opportunity to attend a session with both Lunz and Gillespie and one elective session with either Ruth Hamm (poetry), Louise Jones (creative movement), Gretchen Garnett (ensemble playing), Ortrun Gauthier (advanced recorder) or Avonelle Webster (beginning recorder). Louise Jones, deciding that the show must go on, left a hospital bed early and presented her session with a badly broken arm!<sup>34</sup> Films were also once again featured between sessions and included: "Music to Express Ideas," "Synchromy," "Sound and Movement," and "Percussion Sounds with Record." Once again the efforts of Grace Benes and co-chairperson Marty Springer, among others,

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<sup>32</sup> At the time of the second *Orff at Orange*, Sister Marcia Lunz had been active as an Orff Schulwerk clinician around the country as well as at the Orff Institute in Salzburg, Austria. Avon Gillespie had a comparable reputation and was teaching at Capital University in Columbus, Ohio. Gillespie would subsequently accept an invitation to teach at the Orff Institute during the 1975-1976 academic year.

<sup>33</sup> Cleveland Chapter American Orff-Schulwerk Association Board Minutes, March 8, 1975, 1.

<sup>34</sup> Conference registration chairperson, Cindi Wobig also attended and worked with a broken arm. Wobig became acquainted with Chapter One and the Orff Schulwerk approach upon moving to the Cleveland area in 1969. Wobig met AOSA charter member Grace Benes, and through Grace's encouragement as her mentor in the Orange City Schools, Cindi attended all subsequent chapter workshops and AOSA conferences, and would go on to serve the chapter as vice-president (1979-1980) and president (1980-1981).

paved the way for a successful workshop.<sup>35</sup> As Chapter One continued forward, plans for a third, even larger *Orff at Orange*, were being discussed as early as September, 1975.<sup>36</sup>

Unexpectedly, membership during the 1975-1976 year decreased despite the successes of the first two *Orff at Orange* workshops. As the year progressed, it was also determined that a minimum of fifty participants were needed at the March 27, 1976 *Orff at Orange* workshop for the chapter to financially break even.<sup>37</sup> The membership decrease and financial apprehension were large challenges for the young organization. Helping to publicize the chapter, B.J. Lahman contacted her neighbor and friend Robert Conrad, announcer and owner of WCLV, northeast Ohio's leading classical music radio station.<sup>38</sup> The radio station had been using Carl Orff's Schulwerk piece "Gassenhauer" ("Street Song") as the theme for one of its afternoon programs. Lahman's correspondence prompted Conrad to publish an article about the Schulwerk approach in WCLV's monthly program guide, and he also set up studio time for a live recording of

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<sup>35</sup> Cleveland Chapter American Orff-Schulwerk Association Board Minutes, March 8, 1975, 3.

<sup>36</sup> Cleveland Chapter American Orff-Schulwerk Association Board Minutes, September, 1975, 1. The success of the Greater Cleveland Chapter after the second *Orff at Orange* mirrored the achievements of members Ruth Hamm and B.J. Lahman. Cited within De Lois Wimmer's, *The Organization of the American Orff-Schulwerk Association from 1968-1980 and Its Influence upon Music Education in America*, (Ed.D. diss., University of Houston, 1993), at the March 27, 1974 AOSA executive board meeting, Ruth Hamm was directed by the board to consider filling the position of AOSA executive secretary. During the subsequent May 4-5 meeting, Hamm offered to act as interim executive secretary until the appointment could be made by the new incoming AOSA president. The board approved this offer and also accepted Hamm's recommendation to allow B.J. Lahman assist her in the role of membership chairman. An amount of \$1,000 was approved as working capital for the executive secretary, and during the September 14-15 executive board meeting, AOSA president Konnie [Koonce] Saliba officially confirmed the appointment of Ruth Hamm for the position.

<sup>37</sup> Cleveland Chapter American Orff-Schulwerk Association Executive Board Minutes, March 7, 1976, 1.

<sup>38</sup> WCLV was founded in 1962. Over the years, WCLV has established an international reputation as a leading classical music broadcaster and producer and distributor of culturally oriented programming in the northeast Ohio area. In 1965, the station began weekly Cleveland Orchestra radio broadcasts and was the first FM-only station to carry the Metropolitan Opera live from New York City.

“Gassenhauer” played by area Orff teachers.<sup>39</sup> Chapter member Lucile Soulé arranged and conducted a small ensemble that, in addition to “Gassenhauer,” performed and taped a recorder and barred instrument arrangement of the morning WCLV program theme composed by Praetorius. For years, the radio station played the recordings and made frequent mention of chapter workshops. B.J. Lahman recalls, “we were never able to assess the value, but certainly those who listened to WCLV were exposed to the music education in some of the schools. We felt it was of good educational value for adults.”<sup>40</sup> Ultimately, ninety-nine participants did turn out on March 27 for guest clinicians Lillian Yaross and Dalcroze specialist Virginia Mead. Yaross presented a session on improvisation titled “Do Your Own Thing” and Mead presented a Dalcroze session titled “More Music Learning through Eurhythmics.”<sup>41</sup> Chapter members Lona LeZak-[Meister] and Ortrun Gauthier lead the elective sessions, which focused on recorder and instrumental music respectively. While still profitable for the chapter, the third *Orff at Orange* event prompted the Chapter One board to redesign its workshop format and fee structure for the 1976-1977 year.

The new workshop format resulted in increased membership enrollment and workshop attendance. Workshops were held in alternate locations away from Laurel School for the first time. Further changes included decreasing the annual number of workshops to four, alternating Saturday and Sunday sessions, and scheduling the fourth

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<sup>39</sup> B.J. Lahman, survey.

<sup>40</sup> Ibid.

<sup>41</sup> Virginia Mead’s *Orff at Orange* session “More Music Learning through Eurhythmics” was first presented at the ninth AOSA national conference held November 12-16, 1975 in Detroit, Michigan.

*Orff at Orange* for the fall season rather than spring.<sup>42</sup> The November 7, 1976 *Orff at Orange* allowed Chapter One to share the AOSA national conference headliner, international Orff Schulwerk pedagogue and clinician Jos Wuytack.<sup>43</sup> The workshop proved to be one of the most successful, with one hundred and sixty educators and students attending. Participants came from Michigan, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio, with representatives from regional AOSA chapters including Greater Detroit (Chapter #2), Greater Rochester (Chapter #3), Greater Cincinnati (Chapter #7), and the Pittsburgh Golden Triangle Chapter (#35).<sup>44</sup> Wuytack presented two workshop sessions titled “Imitation to Creation” and “Form as a Norm.” The board minutes indicate that he “proceeded, in his dynamic manner, to develop these titles into fast-paced episodes of body-sounds, songs, Orff instrumental selections, and movement.”<sup>45</sup> The spirited sessions inspired many, and prompted the chapter to continue the redesigned workshop structure into the 1977-1978 year.

In May of 1977, AOSA executive secretary Ruth Hamm announced that her office would be moving to Cleveland State University, a move that strengthened the chapter’s relationship with the institution tremendously.<sup>46</sup> Undergraduate/graduate credit from CSU was also made available to participants enrolled in three out of four chapter

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<sup>42</sup> Cleveland Chapter American Orff-Schulwerk Association Board Minutes, May 2, 1976, 1.

<sup>43</sup> Wuytack had presented at the second and fourth AOSA national conferences in Cincinnati and Minneapolis respectively and was well known by Cleveland Chapter members and the Orff Schulwerk community at large.

<sup>44</sup> Cleveland Chapter American Orff-Schulwerk Association Board Minutes, November 7, 1976.

<sup>45</sup> Ibid.

<sup>46</sup> Wimmer, 189.

workshops, many of which would be held at CSU in the years to come. The fifth *Orff at Orange* remained at Orange High School, on October 2, 1977. The workshop featured percussion clinician Jean Wilmouth, Jr. and dance/movement specialists Paul and Carole Kantor. Despite a smaller attendance compared to previous years, the workshop still proved profitable for the chapter.

During the 1978-1979 year, the chapter again took advantage of the AOSA national conference headliner, international Orff Schulwerk educator and clinician Wilhelm Keller.<sup>47</sup> The sixth *Orff at Orange* workshop took place October 29, 1978. Keller also presented at the twelfth AOSA national conference in St. Louis, Missouri one week later. The success of the Wuytack workshop two years prior, and the anticipated success of the Keller workshop, prompted the chapter to plan a second *Orff at Orange* for the spring of 1979 that featured clinicians Tossi Aaron and Lois Birkenshaw.<sup>48</sup> The back-to-back headliner workshop format would not only prove successful for the chapter, but continue and expand through the present day. Three *Orff at Orange* headliner workshops

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<sup>47</sup> During this time, Wilhelm Keller was director of music therapy at the Orff Institute in Salzburg, Austria. He had collaborated with Dr. Orff and Gunild Keetman in the development of the Schulwerk since 1947. Keller wrote the valuable *Introduction to Music for Children*, which is considered a principal resource in the Orff Schulwerk body of literature.

<sup>48</sup> Prior to her arrival in Cleveland, Canadian Lois Birkenshaw served as chairman of Orff-Schulwerk sessions at the 13<sup>th</sup> ISME Conference in London, Ontario on August 12-20, 1978. Birkenshaw and Ruth Hamm presented sessions at that conference titled "Music and the Handicapped Child," and "Orff Schulwerk, Resource for Strengthening Language and Reading Skills" respectively. In attendance was B.J. Lahman who wrote a synopsis of the ISME conference for the winter 1979 issue of *The Orff Echo*. Lahman subsequently presented a November 3, 1979 chapter workshop titled "Basic Orff for Classroom Teachers and Music Teachers with Little Equipment." B.J. would present this workshop session at the thirteenth AOSA national conference in Phoenix, Arizona one week later.

were subsequently considered for the 1979-1980 year, pending the financial success of the back-to-back Keller/Aaron-Birkenshaw sessions.<sup>49</sup>

The first of the 1979-1980 *Orff at Orange* workshops took place on October 6, 1979 with international Orff Schulwerk clinician Trude Hauff.<sup>50</sup> One hundred and twenty persons attended and participated in the workshop, forty of whom were students from local area colleges and universities.<sup>51</sup> After the Hauff workshop, the chapter submitted a bid for Cleveland to host the seventeenth AOSA national conference. A packet of city information was presented to the AOSA National Board along with letters from Chapter president Marjorie MacNeal and the mayor of the city of Cleveland. The season continued with nationally well known Orff specialist and educator Phyllis Weikart presenting the January 26, 1980 workshop. The success of the Hauff and Weikart sessions prompted the chapter to program a third *Orff at Orange* workshop for April 26 with clinician Judith Thomas. The Thomas workshop, held at the Moreland Hills Elementary School on the Orange School District campus, marked the end of the *Orff at Orange* workshops, and brought a decade's worth of growth and proliferation for the Greater Cleveland Chapter to a close.

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<sup>49</sup> Cleveland Chapter American Orff-Schulwerk Association Board Minutes, June, 1979, 2.

<sup>50</sup> During the fall of 1979, Trude Hauff was a visiting teacher at Oakland University in Rochester, Michigan. Hauff taught at the Music Academy in Stockholm, Sweden and became well known as guest lecturer at the Orff Institute in Salzburg, Austria.

<sup>51</sup> Cleveland Chapter American Orff-Schulwerk Association Board Minutes, October 20, 1979, 2.

1980-1984: *Music in Mayfield* and the  
Seventeenth AOSA National Conference in Cleveland

The 1980-1981 year began with the summer publication of *Chapter One News & Notes*, a first attempt at a chapter newsletter. While “The Tooter” printed in 1972 proved an effective way to communicate at a national conference, *Chapter One News & Notes* established regular communication with the local membership. Chapter president Cindi Wobig took on the duties of editing and distributing the newsletter, which routinely consisted of a letter from the president, a listing and biographies of the chapter board members and officers, committee descriptions and announcements, chapter membership registration information, CSU credit and enrollment information, a calendar of upcoming national and local events, and workshop descriptions and schedules for the current year.<sup>52</sup> Headliners for the season, promoted within *Chapter One News & Notes*, included Jane Frazee on October 4, 1980 and Arvida Steen and Dr. Komla Amoaku on April 4, 1981.<sup>53</sup> Local presenters for the year included chapter members Carol Huffman, Tom Pollock, Marty Springer, Betty Gold, and Marjorie MacNeal.<sup>54</sup> A “space rental fee” implemented by the Orange City Schools prompted the chapter to establish Mayfield Center Elementary School, Mayfield, Ohio, City School District as the new headlining clinician

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<sup>52</sup> In addition to *Chapter One News & Notes*, further advertising and promotion of chapter events was carried out by Publicity Chairman B.J. Lahman who sent flyers to school systems, administrators, parent-teacher groups, neighboring state AOSA chapters, professional organizations, newspapers, and radio stations.

<sup>53</sup> Dr. Komla Amoaku, Jane Frazee and Arvida Steen contributed heavily to the body of Orff Schulwerk literature with the publications of *African Songs and Rhythms for Children: Orff-Schulwerk in the African Tradition* (Amoaku); *Discovering Orff* (Frazee); and *Exploring Orff* (Steen).

<sup>54</sup> Betty Gold and Marjorie MacNeal, colleagues within the Mayfield City Schools, helped establish an Orff-based curriculum within that school district.



workshop hosting site.<sup>55</sup> The location change ushered in the new decade and a new era for the Greater Cleveland Chapter.

A letter from chapter president Cindi Wobig printed in the premiere issue of *Chapter One News & Notes* also ushered in the new decade with the announcement that the seventeenth AOSA national conference was coming to Cleveland:

Our biggest news is the fact that national AOSA has accepted our chapter's invitation to hold a national conference in Cleveland. This will occur in November, 1983. In order to meet the demands that will be made upon the local chapter at that time, we are hoping that more members will be willing to ACTIVELY participate in the organizing duties of our local workshops so that we will be ready to assist in this large scale effort.<sup>56</sup>

As the 1981-1982 year began, Wobig found herself filling the role of AOSA executive director, vacated by Ruth Hamm.<sup>57</sup> Hamm was honored for her years of service at the fourteenth AOSA national conference in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.<sup>58</sup> A letter to the AOSA membership appeared afterward in the winter, 1981 issue of *The Orff Echo*:

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<sup>55</sup> Cindi Wobig, survey interview by author, October 25, 2004.

<sup>56</sup> Cindi Wobig, "A Letter from Your President," *Chapter One News & Notes*, vol. 1, no. 1 (summer, 1980): 2. The announcement to the national AOSA membership was published in the winter, 1981 issue of *The Orff Echo*.

<sup>57</sup> As cited within De Lois Wimmer's, "*The Organization of the American Orff-Schulwerk Association from 1968-1980 and Its Influence upon Music Education in America*," (Ed.D. diss., University of Houston, 1993), AOSA president Lillian Yaross, at the February 22-March 1, 1980 AOSA executive board meeting, announced the recommendation for Cindi Wobig to fill Ruth Hamm's vacated position of AOSA executive secretary, henceforth referred to as executive director. Wobig, in partnership with her husband Don and their joint venture Cy-Don Associates, streamlined the business details of the Greater Cleveland Chapter during her tenures as vice-president and president by organizing and computerizing membership, registration, and between 1000-1500 mailing addresses. Cindi's business and managerial skills proved useful in her new role as executive director, and continued to serve Chapter One until 2001.

<sup>58</sup> During the same year, co-founding chapter member Elfleda Seelbach, then an associate professor of music at Hiram, Ohio, College, was honored at the OMEA state convention for her thirty-seven years of service to music education. Additionally, co-founding chapter member B.J. Lahman was invited to present a session titled "Orff for Neophytes: Assembling the Wherewithal" at the fifteenth national AOSA conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico, held November 11-15, 1981.

The conference this past November in Pittsburgh was a tremendous success. It is one I shall never forget. Kindnesses and considerations are the greatest rewards one can receive, and I feel a great warmth and glow because of the Membership's expression of appreciation to me. My years of service were filled with so many happy times, and I have become richer for the fast and true friendships developed through AOSA. I worked with highly competent and dedicated people, and enjoyed the good fortune of seeing AOSA evolve and expand. The future surely holds greater growth and glory! I trust I may have opportunities for further service to the organization. Again, thank you so much for honoring me.<sup>59</sup>

Cindi Wobig would later reflect upon her start as executive director in the fall 1991 issue of *The Orff Echo*:

As I sat down at my desk on the morning of July 1, 1991, I took a few minutes to reflect upon the scope of executive headquarters as it was on July 1, 1980, the year I became executive secretary [director].

At that time, executive headquarters consisted of a 7'x10' office and a small section of a storage room at a local university. The "vital" part of headquarters was stacked on my dining room table and consisted of two boxes containing information on 53 chapters, three envelope boxes of membership information and a box of miscellaneous correspondence and files....

The outgoing executive secretary [director] and former president, Ruth Hamm, had assured me that this "part-time job" would involve steady work in the summer, a great deal of work in the fall with plenty of time off in January, April and May....

During the course of the next year, I found that the work was not as "part-time" as anyone thought it would be. AOSA was growing. In Ruth's final report to the National Board of Trustees, she listed "membership – 2945 – ARE WE EVER GOING TO REACH 3000?" This year, with a membership of 4654, a question often asked of me was "will we ever reach 5000?"<sup>60</sup>

The start of the 1981-1982 season also brought with it an announcement that the Greater Cleveland Chapter had been awarded a Chapter Workshop Grant based on over

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<sup>59</sup> Ruth Hamm, "A Letter to the Membership," *the Orff Echo* 13, no. 2 (winter 1981): 4.

<sup>60</sup> Cindi Wobig, "Cindi Speaking....," *the Orff Echo* 24, no. 1 (fall 1991): 27. AOSA National headquarters eventually moved from Cindi Wobig's "dining room table" to its permanent home in Bainbridge, Ohio, a suburb of Cleveland, on June 3, 1999. The grand opening ceremony included chapter members Betty Gold, Carol Huffman, Alan Purdum, and AOSA/Chapter One charter members Grace Benes, Ruth Hamm, and B.J. Lahman, among others.

75% of the local members having concurrent membership with the national AOSA.<sup>61</sup> The grant paid for national headlining clinician, Konnie [Koonce] Saliba, slated for the September 19, 1981, *Music in Mayfield* workshop. Virginia Mead returned to Cleveland for the January 30, 1972 *Mayfield* workshop, followed by an April 24 chapter/workshop exchange arranged with the neighboring Pittsburgh Golden Triangle Chapter (#35). The exchange, titled “Pittsburgh Sounds,” consisted of a workshop in Pittsburgh presented by Cleveland Chapter members Betty Gold, Carol Huffman, Marjorie MacNeal, and Tom Pollock; and a workshop in Cleveland presented by Pittsburgh Chapter members Marilyn Egan, JoAnn Hydo Geusic, and Cak Marshall.<sup>62</sup> The Cleveland/Pittsburgh swap would come to pass three years in a row, bringing past *Orff at Orange* presenter Jean Wilmouth back to Cleveland. During the course of the busy workshop season, preparation for the 1983 AOSA national conference in Cleveland was also underway.

The 1983 Cleveland conference theme, as well as ideas for clinicians, facilities, and busing, were discussed during the October, January and February Chapter board meetings. B.J. Lahman had been officially elected as Cleveland conference chairperson and quickly set up committees for publicity, registration, hospitality, equipment, films,

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<sup>61</sup> Cleveland Chapter American Orff-Schulwerk Association Executive Board Minutes, October 12, 1981, 1.

<sup>62</sup> Elizabeth Nichols, “Chapter News,” *The Orff Echo* 14, no. 4 (summer, 1982): 24. To help keep chapter expenses down, the chapter would participate in chapter workshop exchanges for many years to come. Ruth Boshkoff presented for the Cleveland Chapter on September 25, 1982 in exchange with chapter member Carol Huffman who presented a session for the corresponding Indiana Chapter (#15). The December 2, 1982 issue of *Chapter One News & Notes* makes mention of “several other chapters [expressing] interest in exchanging workshops.” B.J. Lahman soon after led a session for the Greater Cincinnati Chapter (#7) on February 19, 1983, titled “Orff for Neophytes.”

and a “Keetman” sales boutique.<sup>63</sup> A banner for conference opening ceremonies that incorporated the chapter logo was also “under construction” by chapter member Nancy Tuttle. The Chapter One logo, created by Robert Fildes, brother-in-law to chapter member Linda Hill, was presented to the chapter membership in the February 13, 1983 issue of *Chapter One News & Notes*. In her lighthearted article “The Banners That Waved,” contributing author Beth Miller wrote in the spring 1982 issue of *The Orff Echo*:

Several brave souls whose [banner] dowels were too long to pack carried them on to the plane in spite of disapproving flight attendants. The Cleveland Chapter solved this problem cleverly by commissioning a member’s husband to construct the stick so that the ends could be screwed on and off.<sup>64</sup>

Miller highlights for her readers the grass-roots efforts often exhibited by both members of AOSA and the Cleveland Chapter:

So ends our collection of banner stories. But why, you may ask, is this the subject for an article in *The Orff Echo*? Originally, it was for fun, but the longer I worked on the story, the more I realized a deeper significance! These banners and their accompanying stories seem to symbolize the spirit of Orff Schulwerk and the dedication of its teachers, a group of hard-working, creative people who use the materials at hand to improvise art works which both involve and enrich the people around them. Long wave the banners!<sup>65</sup>

The “spirit of Orff Schulwerk” referred to by Miller strengthened as a result of the death of Dr. Carl Orff, who passed away on March 29, 1982. A telegram was sent to Frau

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<sup>63</sup> Cleveland Chapter American Orff-Schulwerk Association Executive Board Minutes, April 19, 1982, 2. Organized in part by chapter member Grace Benes, proceeds from the Keetman boutique would be shared by the chapter and the AOSA Gunild Keetman Assistance Fund. The Keetman Assistance Fund was established in 1975 to honor Gunild Keetman’s work in Orff Schulwerk, and provides financial aid for AOSA members wanting to further their studies or develop creative projects related to the Schulwerk approach.

<sup>64</sup> Beth Miller, “The Banners That Waved,” *The Orff Echo* 14, no. 3 (spring, 1982): 14.

<sup>65</sup> Ibid.

Liselotte Orff expressing the chapter's condolences. A thank you note was received in response and read at the June 24 Chapter board meeting.<sup>66</sup>

The June 24 board meeting was held at the residence of B.J. Lahman, with twenty-five enthusiastic workers in attendance. One goal agreed upon at the meeting was that the conference emphasis at the local level must result in administrators discovering "the value Orff Schulwerk has for school systems."<sup>67</sup> To assist this goal, at the Cuyahoga County Superintendents' meeting, B.J. Lahman presented an information session about AOSA, the Greater Cleveland Chapter, and the national conference coming to the city.<sup>68</sup> Chapter members also provided names and addresses of local key administrators, PTA presidents, and colleagues to help meet this goal. The address list was later expanded through some friendly politics by obtaining lists of northern Ohio elementary music educators and administrators who represented OMEA, the Ohio Department of Education, and statewide arts and administrator associations.<sup>69</sup>

Not long after the June board meeting, Judith Thomas, AOSA vice-president and conference chairperson at the national level, visited Cleveland on August 17 to familiarize herself with the city and conference facilities, and to have an informal chat with local members to address any questions or concerns regarding the event. In a letter

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<sup>66</sup> Cleveland Chapter American Orff-Schulwerk Association Executive Board Minutes, June 24, 1982, 1.

<sup>67</sup> "1983 Cleveland Conference Meeting Well Attended: Enthusiastic Workers & Ideas Abound!," *Chapter One News & Notes*, vol. 3, (summer, 1982): 3.

<sup>68</sup> "Superintendents to Hear of AOSA," *Chapter One News*, (summer, 1983): 2.

<sup>69</sup> Lahman, survey. Collected addresses were entered into an early computer database program by Patricia Koerner-Bailey. Cindi Wobig and her husband Don provided the program and computer at their home. The chapter has maintained and updated the address list since its creation during this time.

to the chapter membership reprinted in the December 2, 1982 issue of *Chapter One News & Notes*, Thomas for the first time announced the theme of the upcoming conference – appropriately “North Coast Soundings.”<sup>70</sup> The same newsletter issue announced that:

Everyone at Portland, [Oregon] is anxious to visit Cleveland '83. The North Coast Soundings was very well advertised. We passed out pencils, sailboat stickers, buckeyes (that Beth [Iafigliola], Grace [Benes], and George Benes drilled and tied with ribbons), and “Captain Cleveland” caps which will be forever cherished by National Board members. Much thanks to B.J. [Lahman] and the Cleveland Convention Center.<sup>71</sup>

*Chapter One News & Notes* had quickly become the primary means of communication with the membership, and provided ongoing contact with individuals on the conference “VIP” list.<sup>72</sup> Promoting and planning the conference continued to gather momentum during the spring of 1983.<sup>73</sup>

The enthusiasm surrounding the conference was shared in response to international Orff Schulwerk pedagogue and clinician, Richard Gill, presenting for the chapter. Gill was the first international headliner to come to Cleveland for a workshop since Jos Wuytack (1976), Wilhelm Keller (1978), and Trude Hauff (1979). Gill presented the weekend of February 11-12, 1983. Those in attendance included twenty-eight music and classroom educators and fifty-one college/university students from New

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<sup>70</sup> Judith Thomas, “Letter from Judith Thomas,” *Chapter One News & Notes*, (December 2, 1982): 1.

<sup>71</sup> Ibid., 2. Thomas would promote and outline the Cleveland conference highlights in the summer, 1983 issue of *The Orff Echo*.

<sup>72</sup> Patricia E. Koerner-Bailey, survey interview by author, November 10, 2004.

<sup>73</sup> During this time, Cleveland Chapter past-president Carol Huffman was elected as AOSA Region III Representative.

York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Japan. A response to the workshop appeared in the February 13, 1983 chapter newsletter:

Our chapter has sponsored some outstanding workshops during the past several years. However, our growth experience with Richard Gill will long have its effect on our chapter and its individuals. He challenged, educated (drew out), both our musicality and our philosophy of music education. Richard is a warm and sincere person and a true musician, and we are certainly grateful for his inspiration. Richard's hope was that his visit, though whirlwind, would have some small impact on the lives of children in Northeast Ohio. With his personal efforts and example and our motivation, lives will change. We Orff teachers hold the key to education.<sup>74</sup>

The excitement evoked by Richard Gill was matched nine months later by the long awaited arrival of the seventeenth AOSA national conference, with headliner Barbara Haselbach and honored guests Frau Liselotte Orff, Margaret Murray, and Doreen Hall.<sup>75</sup> The conference took place November 2-6, 1983, at Stouffer's-Inn-On-The-Square, Cleveland, Ohio. Opening session dignitaries included Dr. G. Robert Bowers, Assistant Superintendent of Public Instruction at the Ohio Department of Education; Thomas H. Pickering, President-Elect of the Ohio School Boards Association; and Paul E. Thoms, President-Elect of the Ohio Music Educators Association. On November 2, Cleveland Mayor George V. Voinovich signed a proclamation designating October 31-November 6, 1983 "American Orff Schulwerk Week." The chapter goal of exposing area administrators to the Schulwerk approach was met successfully as exemplified in a memorandum sent to all national AOSA members prior to the conference:

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<sup>74</sup> *Chapter One News & Notes*, (February 13, 1983): 1.

<sup>75</sup> Barbara Haselbach received her Orff Schulwerk diploma at the Orff institute where she specialized in modern educational dance, historical dance, and dance improvisation. Haselbach was director of the Institute from 1979-1982, and continues to teach there part time, though officially retired.

We have invited close to 75 VIP's from various educational and civic organizations across Ohio, who will introduce our clinicians and performing groups. Our motives for inviting these individuals for this honorary function are two-fold:

1. Provide public exposure for music education in general and the Orff Schulwerk in particular, and
2. Provide an opportunity for AOSA members to meet, have dialogue with, and create networks with key individuals who represent other parts of the educational and arts community.

It is essential that these persons be cared for "royally," as they carry great influence in the organizations and groups which they represent.<sup>76</sup>

The arrival of the 1983 conference marked three years of intense planning, labor, and promotion on the part of the chapter, all of which intensified as the event drew closer.

Future chapter president Patricia Koerner-[Bailey] recalls:

For almost a year my home office was lined with boxes of AOSA related printed materials, my desk was stacked with AOSA files, and the wall behind my desk was papered with a ceiling-to-floor, tattered, mended spreadsheet tracking all the sessions and their VIP hosts. It was cluttered with detour arrows, cross outs, erasures, margin memos, phone notes, and... oh, the work a Microsoft Office Program could have saved me! But that's how it was then. And everybody's home looked the same. At that time, almost everyone in the chapter had a major responsibility for the Conference. The invasion of the Orff Schulwerk Conference into my home was minimal compared to that of the Chapter and Conference leadership.<sup>77</sup>

The "chapter and conference leadership" referred to above consisted of seventeen sub-committee chairpersons: Grace Benes, Betty Gold, Linda Hill, Barbara Hise, Carol Huffman, Beth Iafigliola, Ella Lee, Jeanne Lyons, Marjorie MacNeal, Lona LeZak-Meister, Tom Pollock, Alan Purdum, Elfleda Seelbach, Lucile Soulè, Nancy Tuttle, Cindi Wobig, and Koerner-[Bailey] herself. Chapter members Betty Gold, Virginia Mead,

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<sup>76</sup> Sessions Chairperson Committee, "Volunteers Needed to Serve as Back-up Session Chairpersons," file 1983-1984, Greater Cleveland Chapter AOSA Archives.

<sup>77</sup> Patricia E. Koerner-Bailey, survey.



Evelyn Sabol, and Lucile Soulé would additionally present workshop sessions at the event.<sup>78</sup>

Two months before the start of the conference, twenty-five performing groups had also been confirmed and 750 participants had registered. Conference calls mailed by the chapter to both the professional and private community at large totaled over 1500, the largest amount sent by any chapter up to that time. B.J. Lahman remembers:

Asking for “in-kind” help from the school districts also served as a great communicator. We used PTA volunteers for some of our conference duties, and gave them tickets to sessions when they weren’t working. We tried to educate the general public. In a small way I think we did.<sup>79</sup>

Registration rose to over 1000 by the onset of the conference, and publicity for the event would cause membership for both the chapter and AOSA to increase considerably.<sup>80</sup>

As the conference began, Ruth Hamm acted as the official hostess to headliner Barbara Haselbach, escorting her upon arrival to the Cleveland Museum of Art for a gallery tour in preparation for her dance and movement sessions. An *Introduction to Schulwerk (IS)* session, initiated by B.J. Lahman and Judith Thomas, was also scheduled providing a framework of basic Schulwerk ideas for participants new to the approach. The *IS* session proved both valuable and popular and was programmed on all subsequent

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<sup>78</sup> Session titles for local presenters included, “Kids are Music (Gold); “Applying the Principles of Dalcroze Eurhythmics to Our Teaching” (Mead); “Renaissance Costume Making: Teaching the Arts Together” (Sabol); and “Alive and Breathing: Musical Direction, Its Sound and Feel through Black Composers Music” (Soulé).

<sup>79</sup> B.J. Lahman, survey.

<sup>80</sup> Cleveland Chapter American Orff-Schulwerk Association Board Minutes, September 15, 1983, 4.

national conferences to date.<sup>81</sup> Other areas of interest in Orff Schulwerk were represented extensively alongside intermittent sessions dealing with contemporary music education approaches. An Elizabethan Madrigal banquet with authentic performances of Renaissance dance and vocal and instrumental music brought the conference to a close. Detailed notes were kept in reference to planning, attendance, reported problems, and participant reaction to clinicians. Committee reports were in turn written and sent to Nevada's Desert Valley Chapter (#62), the host for the eighteenth national conference in Las Vegas the following year.

A post-conference celebration was held by the chapter that included backyard dulcimer making, recorder improvisation, singing, dancing, and dinner.<sup>82</sup> The time, effort and hard work of local conference chairman B.J. Lahman and fundraising chairman Grace Benes were recognized. Subsequently, on June 28, 1984, Benes and Ruth Hamm were nominated and unanimously approved as honorary chapter members for their "years of continuous service" to the organization and

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<sup>81</sup> Jessie Vance, ed., "Distinguished Service Award – Betty Jane (B.J.) Lahman," *Reverberations* (winter, 2002): 4. The popularity of the *IS* session grew tremendously after the 1983 Cleveland Conference, having as many as one hundred people participating each year to the present day.

<sup>82</sup> *Chapter One News & Notes*, (winter, 1983): 1. Beginning with the July, 1984 newsletter, *Chapter One News & Notes* was henceforth unnumbered and renamed *Orff News*. The renamed and redesigned publication continued until the third newsletter transformation published in September, 1989, and aptly titled *Chapter One News*, volume 1, number 1.

dedication as charter members.<sup>83</sup>

### Summary

If enrollment numbers are examined for the first fifteen years of the Greater Cleveland Chapter, the growth and expansion of the organization can be seen clearly. From 1970 to 1973, the chapter saw an increase in membership from 19 to 58. The *Orff at Orange* workshops helped raise this number to 82 members by 1980. Patricia Koerner-Bailey recalls:

The chapter membership was growing rapidly, and we were pleased with the broad base of interest as reflected in participation by church musicians, private teachers, [and] college students, as well as teachers employed in the public and private school systems. However, this brought new challenges to the chapter. The chapter was no longer a relatively small group of mutual friends and colleagues that could meet informally with minimal advance planning. Increased numbers in chapter membership meant more participants at chapter sharings and workshops. That often required multiple teaching spaces/set-ups and an expanded Instrumentarium as well as magnified planning by all of the support networks that facilitated accommodation of a large group of people for the day or weekend in a teaching-learning setting.<sup>84</sup>

Membership growth leveled out by the end of the 1984 conference year, but national AOSA enrollment within the chapter increased greatly during the same period.

National clinician workshops sponsored by the chapter played a predictably huge role in the expansion of the organization. Workshops with international presenters Wuytack, Keller, Hauff, and Gill provided the chapter with considerable publicity and

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<sup>83</sup> Beth Iafigliola, Letter to Grace Benes, 1 July, 1984, Chapter Archives, The Greater Cleveland Chapter AOSA, Cleveland, Ohio. Following the celebratory conference dinner and bestowed honors, the remainder of the 1983-1984 year rolled out with a chapter sharing workshop, a final workshop exchange with the Pittsburgh Golden Triangle Chapter, and a festival of music for children that included the University Schools Third Grade Boys Choir, the Maple Heights Fourth Grade Recorder Ensemble, the Mayfield City Junior High School Orff Ensemble, and the Grand Valley Elementary School Choir. Chapter members Rachel Hasse, Bruce Katz, Marge MacNeal, and Alan Purdum were the respective presenting directors.

<sup>84</sup> Patricia E. Koerner-Bailey, survey.

financial stability.<sup>85</sup> Local and national presenters, along with regional chapter swaps, also proved beneficial to the organization by connecting the chapter to the educational community at large. Area educators were drawn to the Orff approach in response to a variety of workshop themes, topics, and presentations that appealed to both novice and experienced participants.<sup>86</sup> In addition to workshops, links to the student community were established through the availability and encouragement of college/university credit and field experience opportunities consisting of observations and student teaching.

Helping forge strong community and educational associations was due in part to the exceptional leadership of Chapter One. Having local members Ruth Hamm, B.J. Lahman, and Cindi Wobig serving respectively in the positions of AOSA president, AOSA membership chairman, and AOSA executive director, was a distinct and notable feature of the chapter, further enhanced by the proximity of the national headquarters.<sup>87</sup> Acquiring a broad base of active members and leaders was an ongoing goal of the chapter, achieved in part by transcending the geographical east side/west side boundaries of Cleveland through varied workshop locations.<sup>88</sup> Tighter chains of communication, attributable in part to the distribution of an ongoing chapter newsletter, also strengthened and encouraged active membership and helped clarify the duties of chapter officers

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<sup>85</sup> Workshops Sponsored by the Greater Cleveland AOSA, file 1983-1984, Greater Cleveland Chapter AOSA Archives.

<sup>86</sup> Annual Chapter Report, file 1982-1983, Greater Cleveland Chapter AOSA Archives.

<sup>87</sup> Annual Chapter Report, file 1977-1978, Greater Cleveland Chapter AOSA Archives.

<sup>88</sup> Annual Chapter Report, file 1979-1980, Greater Cleveland Chapter AOSA Archives, 3. Expanding beyond Cleveland was a short lived Youngstown Ohio, Tri-County Chapter (#41) established by area educator Kathleen Mecak in 1976, but dissolving by 1981.

through periodic reports by members in those positions.<sup>89</sup> The regular and friendly contact between chapter members led to an atmosphere of sincere dedication amongst those who volunteered their time and energy to address whatever tasks needed to be done. Such dedication was at the heart of the growth and expansion of the Greater Cleveland Chapter.

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<sup>89</sup> Ibid.