



THE JOURNAL

May / June 2015 | Convention Issue

Join NACM

Building Visionary Leadership for Authentic Worship

Membership is open to church musicians, students, and businesses. Membership term is one year from date dues are paid.

Dues: \$75 / year

\$55 - 2nd Member from
Church

\$25 - Student / Retired

\$90 - Industry

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NACM CONVENTION

July 8-10, 2015

Laguna Presbyterian Church

415 Forest Ave • Laguna Beach, CA 92651

Convention 2015: "Seeking the Spirit, Leading in Humility"

"Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience." Colossians 3:12

By Helen Weed, Convention Chair

As music directors in your church, you were "called" to your vocation—You ARE "chosen". Our convention is an event each year during which you can be with men and women who have answered their calling; what a difference we can make in each other's lives!

So...PLAN to come, be refreshed, inspired, energized....whatever YOU need to continue in your ministry, knowing that you are chosen, holy, and DEARLY loved by the Lord, and by this wonderful community known as NACM. We will spend time honing our skills as conductors and worship leaders, sharing with one another and learning from Dr. Robert Istad to "Seek the Spirit and Lead in Humility". Don't miss this wonderful opportunity!!

It's up to You! Bring a new Director to this year's convention!

by Linda White, NACM President

Could this be the year you will invite a fellow director to join you at our July convention? This convention is the best deal around, and they will surely benefit from spending 2 ½ days with us, as will we all. Each new person brings a unique experience to our membership.

And this year, we offer you an added incentive: If you, a current member, invite a non-member to come to the convention, upon arrival you and they will each receive \$20 cash. That's enough to take each other to dinner - or it could pay for your Pageant of the Masters tickets!

Andrea Hilliard gave us some wonderful insights into the NACM convention experience in her article last September. (I highly recommend you go back and read the whole article.) Her thoughts echo mine as to why I find this particular convention, as well as this organization, to be unique and valuable:

What is important to me? To choose programs that meet my needs? Or to mingle with people who are doing the same things as I am? Walking together with other people who speak the same language has convinced me that I am walking in the right direction. Access to music and publishers, to people in different churches, to people gifted in music ministry, to see what others have.

This talented, vivacious young woman might very well be walking alone in a lonely job, as would I, if not for the friendships and experiences provided by you, the membership of NACM. Whether you are a seasoned director or one struggling with new responsibilities, we need each other, with our variety of gifts and experiences.



CONVENTION HEADLINER
Dr. Robert Istad

Dr. Robert Istad is Associate Professor and Director of Choral Studies at California State University, Fullerton where he conducts the University Singers and Women's Choir in addition to teaching courses in conducting, advanced interpretation and literature. Under his direction, the CSUF University Singers have performed all over the world including Italy and Hungary. Most recently, he and his singers were featured at the 2012 ACDA Western Division Conference in Reno, Nevada and the 2013 ACDA National Conference in Dallas, Texas. Dr. Istad received his Bachelor of Arts degree in music from Augustana College in Rock Island, Illinois, his Master of Music degree in choral conducting from California State University, Fullerton and his Doctor of Musical Arts degree in choral music at the University of Southern California. Istad is also the Artistic Director of the Long Beach Camerata Singers and Long Beach Bach Festival, is the Assistant Conductor of the Pacific Chorale, and is in demand as an adjudicator, guest conductor and guest clinician throughout the nation.

Official NACM Hotel: Laguna Hills Lodge

23932 Paseo De Valencia • Laguna Hills, CA 92653

Special Group Rate \$110/night + tax Standard Room w/1 King or 2 Queen

\$120.60/night + tax Garden Room w/2 Queens

For Reservations please call: (949) 830-2550 - ask for **National Association of Church Musicians** block of rooms, or email : info@lagunahillslodge.com

Reservations Manager Roland Bayalan or call Mr. Bayalan at 949-830-2550.

Rooms are Limited - Book Early! **Unreserved Rooms released June 15, 2015**

WINDOW ON WORSHIP: Keeping our Batteries Charged

By Dr. Wallace Horton

You and I have a difficult job. That's an understatement. "Tell me something I don't know," you might be saying. Whether or not we are required to be present for 52 Sundays a year (I hope not) we are probably responsible for assuring that proper planning and preparation has been given to the various elements of the worship service(s) at your church. If your job is like mine, you might be responsible for a variety of worship services and styles on the same weekend if your congregation offers a "menu" of experiences from which your members may choose. How do you keep those various expressions fresh and relevant for your people? As important is the question, how do you keep those experiences and your own worship experiences fresh and relevant for yourself?

When's the last time you visited another congregation of your denomination on a Sunday morning or a Saturday or Wednesday evening? When's the last time you visited a worship service of a congregation that is not part of your denomination. When is the last time you read an article from a periodical published by a denominational or professional worship organization such as PAM, ALCM, or The Hymn Society, just to name a few. When is the last time you attended a conference, workshop or plenary session that included worship renewal, practices, and helps as part of its agenda? When is the last time you went on a personal retreat and took some time to pray about your worship ministry and ask the Lord if He might have some new ideas or practices for you to consider? When is the last time that you asked a colleague either on your church staff or from another congregation for help and ideas?

If you are like me, you haven't taken the time for yourself to do what is necessary to recharge your batteries. So many of us get caught up in the "tyranny of the urgent" and the Sunday to Sunday demands that we simply don't get around to taking the time necessary to be sure that we are in step with where God wants us to be in our worship ministry leadership. You may be doing just fine. If that is true, good for you! That's great! Praise God! However, I suspect that there might be a few of us who need to take a step back and evaluate where we are and what we are doing in our own spiritual life to be sure that we are able to provide the best opportunities available for our congregations.

Please don't get me wrong. The Holy Spirit can and will use what we provide to do its work. Sometimes, the Lord works "in spite of us!" I think the Apostle Paul said something about the Lord working through our weakness. I simply want to encourage all of us to be doing what we can to stay on top of what we do. I read an interesting quote yesterday that helps me appreciate the importance of keeping my batteries charged. The quote was, "Mediocrity is excellent to the eye of the mediocre." Let's be sure that we are doing everything in our power to continue to offer to God the very best that we can when it comes to our worship of Him and how we lead others to do the same. That only happens when we are doing all that we can to keep our batteries charged.

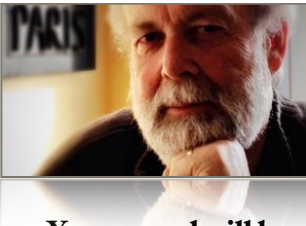
God bless you in your ministries



www.facebook.com/pages/National-Association-of-Church-Musicians/668770746490760

Three Ways to Have a Working Relationship with a Senior Pastor: A Worship guy's longevity in the church and how it was negotiated

by Doug Lawrence



Whether you work for a senior pastor or you are the senior pastor, there are some ethical/relational guidelines that will hopefully keep things between you running smoothly.

I served in one church for 21 years and can honestly say that most of those years were nearly perfect examples of a solid working relationship with my SP. I say "nearly" because things aren't always perfect in any institution, but all too often this is particularly true in the church environment. So, having learned some hard lessons that might be helpful to you, let's review the principles.

1. You can and will have a mutually satisfying relationship with your SP where only one of you is in charge.

I can't tell you how many times I went to my SP and said, "I work for you, and I want you to be satisfied that I'm on the right track." "Yeah, duh..." you might be saying to yourself. The truth is that SPs need to hear this message loud and clear, and over and over. If they think for one second that you're against them or doing an end run around them, there can be no possibility of a trusting relationship.

True confessions—I also can't tell you how many times I "bucked" my SP because I felt I knew something he didn't know. There is a good and reasonable (make that "safe") way to give input. Say something like, "Could I share a concern I have about what you're proposing?" If the answer is, "NO," go have a nice cup of hot tea and get over it. Winning in a negatively charged situation is not a win!

2. Keep short accounts with your SP and encourage him/her to do the same for you.

I had a pastor for 17 years who, like in any good marriage, never let the sun set on one of our misunderstandings. He would come to my office shortly after a slight disagreement and apologize—even if it wasn't his fault. It's not very difficult to love a person who takes the initial step to settle a dispute, no matter how small it might have been. The wonderful thing about Walt's (real name, real person) style was that by exercising his "apology muscle" often, he taught me how to do the same.

3. Without flattery or deceit, be each other's prime defenders.

Character assassination sometimes runs rampant in a church—usually among people who are pathologically prone to create turmoil and pour gasoline rather than water on every available fire. Defending one another in gracious pursuit of truth and fairness is a gift that you can give to your SP, and that, with deep mutual respect, he/she can give back.

In many consultations with churches, I have heard things from pastors and their colleagues that are very disturbing, and those things usually center around an essential disrespect for one another. In one case I went so far as to void an agreement to work with that church. The distrust issue was so systemic, that no consultant in the world could have helped fix it. Nothing is sadder than toxicity in the church, but it exists and we need to do everything within our power to identify it and heal it.

Your church - any church - cannot withstand poor staff relations. In addition to this brief blog, I am creating, along with several colleagues, a more thorough report on this subject. Please look for it in future posts.

Pass this along to those who need to rethink some of these issues, but only if you think they can "hear" it.

(First published at churchcentral.com on July 7, 2010)

!!!CONVENTION INCENTIVE!!!

Invite a Non-Member to attend the convention with you this year. Upon arrival you will both receive \$20 cash!

We're THAT sure we have something unique and exciting to offer!

Need a Choir Director?

John Lamkin is looking for a choir directing job (small to medium size) in Orange County. Call him at: 714- 356-6242
jlamkin410@verizon.net

Pageant of the Masters

at the 2015 NACM Convention

With a live orchestra directed by our own John Elg, this world famous ninety-minute stage show of "living pictures" is literally down the block from our convention site. Although all seats in the outdoor amphitheater are good, you will want to bring your opera glasses to fully enjoy each detail.

The first 40 people to send in a paid convention registration will be eligible to purchase a discounted ticket from NACM at the convention to see the Pageant on Wednesday evening! Be sure to check the appropriate box on your registration form, and then bring \$20 (check or cash) to the convention to receive your ticket.

<http://www.foapom.com/pageant-of-the-masters/>

Orange County Chapter News!



John Lamkin

After many years of dedicated service, David Feit-Pretzer will be stepping down as our Orange County Chapter Representative and we are indeed grateful to David for all that he has done for the OC chapter over the years. Thank you, David!!! The new Interim Orange County Representative will be John Lamkin. John can be reached at: (714) 356-6242 or jlamkin410@verizon.net

Orange County Chapter Holds Annual Adult Choir Festival

Nearly a hundred NACM singers representing Presbyterian, Lutheran and Episcopal congregations in Southern California joined to sing under the direction of noted gospel singer/director Carver Cossey Saturday, May 2 at the annual Adult Choral Festival presented by the Orange County Chapter at Covenant Presbyterian Church, Long Beach. Their combined anthems included Rosephanye Powell's stirring "Hallelujah!" and Hall Johnson's "Ain't Got Time to Die," with Carver Cossey the soloist, an anthem he has sung to rave notices on tour all over the world.

Also on the program were individual anthems by each participating choir, two duets by Peter Bates, organist, and Priscilla Silver, pianist, and an offertory solo of Duke Ellington's "Come Sunday" by Carver Cossey.

The event was headed by Linda White, NACM President, and Priscilla Silver, Festival Coordinator.



FRED BOCK LIFETIME SERVICE AWARD: STEVE AMERSON



The Fred Bock/NACM Lifetime Service Award was established in 2005. Past recipients are: Paul Salamunovich, Sheldon Disrud, Albert McNeil, Fred Swann, Bryan Jeffery Leech, William Lock and Dan Bird, Doug Lawrence, Myron Tweed and Ed Wilmington

Steve Amerson has established a reputation as a superior tenor with a vocal flexibility that allows him to feel at home in both popular/contemporary music and classical literature. With the wealth and depth of his performance experience, he is known as America's Tenor.

Steve has been a featured soloist with scores of orchestras throughout the United States and abroad including performances with Los Angeles Philharmonic and the Los Angeles Master Chorale with performances at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion and the Hollywood Bowl. In 2006, He made his

Carnegie Hall debut singing in the world premiere of *Missa Americana* by Ed Lojeski.

Steve was chosen to record demonstration tapes used by Luciano Pavarotti, Placido Domingo and Jose Carreras in preparation for "The 3 Tenors" performances throughout the world.

Steve has earned a Degree in Music Theory and Composition from Taylor University and a Masters Degree in Church Music from Southern Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky. He has had over 150 published anthems from WORD Music, Hal Leonard, Lillenas, Brentwood/Benson and Fred Bock Music.

Steve served on the staff of the First Baptist Church of Van Nuys for ten years and for six of those years as the Minister of Music giving oversight to an extensive program with adult, youth and childrens choirs, vocal and instrumental ensembles and handbells. He has been a featured soloist under the baton of conductors including Roger Wagner, Christopher Hogwood, Robert Craft, Murray Sidlin and Michael Tilson Thomas.

Presently, much of Steve's time is dedicated in presenting concerts based on his Front Row Center project, which is a collection of inspiring songs from the Broadway stage and screen, as well as Amazed by America patriotic presentations. Steve is a thrilled to be a musical ambassador for the Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation and Society as he sings for their events throughout the United States. He was the 2009 recipient of the Bob Hope Award for Excellence in Entertainment from the Congressional Medal of Honor Society.

Your choir is invited to sing as a part of the
**National Association of Church Musicians
Festival Choir**



under the direction of
Dr. Robert Istad

at Laguna Presbyterian Church, 415 Forest Ave., Laguna Beach, 92651

All are invited to attend the free concert at Laguna Presbyterian Church
Wednesday, July 8, 7:30 pm

A voluntary offering will be taken to help defray costs of the concert.

Choir Schedule:

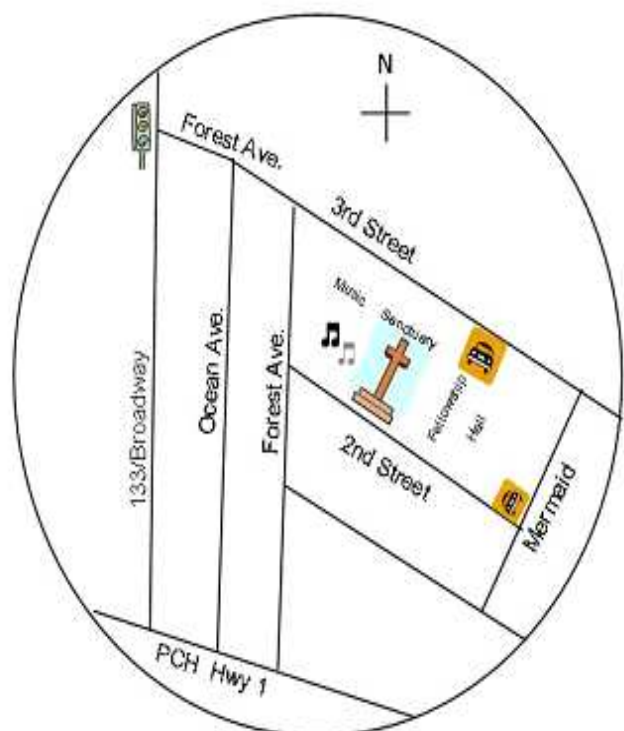
Sunday, July 5, 6:00-8:00 pm

Rehearsal at Laguna Presbyterian Church

Wednesday, July 8, 6:00 pm

6:00 Rehearsal at LPC with Dr. Istad

7:30 Concert, open to all



To Register:

Contact **Chris Sillerud**
chrissillerud@gmail.com, or 818-689-4625

Combined Repertoire:

I Know That My Redeemer Lives, Dan Forrest
Restoration, Heather Sorenson
Music Down In My Soul, Moses Hogan
(There are some copies available of these anthems, let Chris know if you need to borrow.)

In addition, each choir is invited to present a piece of their own choosing.

NACM 77th Annual Convention, July 8-10, 2015

Please fill out completely and mail this registration form with your check or credit card info to NACM at:
 NACM Headquarters, 216 Saint Annes Place, Lompoc, CA 93436
 (For payment options, see below)

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Member Fees

(Includes all sessions, music packet. Wed dinner, Friday lunch and banquet)

Early Bird by June 17 _____ @ \$185 _____

After June 17 _____ @ \$215 _____

Add'l Same Church _____ @ \$155 _____

Student* _____ @ \$125 _____

Spouse/Partner** _____ @ \$125 _____

Day Rate*** _____ @ \$80 _____
 Circle Days: Wed Th Fri

Add'l Banquet Tickets _____ @ \$22 _____

Total Member Fees _____

Non-Member Fees

(Includes all sessions, music packet. Wed dinner, Friday lunch and banquet, and one year NACM membership)

Early Bird by June 17 _____ @ \$260 _____

After June 17 _____ @ \$290 _____

Add'l Same Church _____ @ \$230 _____

Student* _____ @ \$200 _____

Spouse/Partner** _____ @ \$125 _____

Day Rate*** _____ @ \$100 _____
 Circle Days: Wed Th Fri

Add'l Banquet Tickets _____ @ \$22 _____

Total Non-Member Fees _____

* See "Student Scholarships" below
 ** Spouse/Partner rate does not include music packet
 *** Day rate does not include meals or membership fee

Student Scholarships

The NACM Board of Governors is proud to offer Convention scholarships for full-time students, whether NACM members or not. To apply: Send a letter requesting a scholarship and listing your name, address, phone, email, college and professor contact info to:

NACM Headquarters
 216 Saint Annes Place
 Lompoc, CA 93436

SPECIAL EVENTS!

_____ Yes! Reserve a ticket for me to the Pageant of the Masters for Thursday evening (limited to the first 40 requests) I will pay \$ 20 when I arrive at the convention.

_____ Yes! Sign me up for the conducting master class with Dr. Istad (limited to the first 8 requests)

Please return registration to NACM at:

216 Saint Annes Place
 Lompoc, CA 93436

Payment Options

1. To pay by check, make check to "NACM" and mail with this form.
 2. To pay by credit card, fill out and mail this form, including the credit card information below.

_____ MC Card # _____

_____ VISA Exp Date: _____ Sec. Code _____

_____ DISC Authorized _____

Convention Site:

Laguna Presbyterian Church
 415 Forest Ave.
 Laguna Beach, CA 92651