



North Carolina

## *Alla Corda*

(American String Teachers Association with  
National Association of Orchestras)  
Volume 1 No.1, Fall 2004

### President's Address

It is an honor and privilege to serve as the president for the North Carolina Unit of ASTA WITH NSOA. I want to thank Ruth Johnsen, for her past work during as president, and her continuing work as newsletter editor. I also thank Lynn Peters for overseeing the ASTA contest festival on the NCSA campus, and Johanna Kislik for serving as Treasurer. Congratulations to Nancy Bargerstock who has been elected as president-elect for the NC Unit of ASTA. As a way of introducing myself to you, I will refer you to my website: <http://www.ecu.edu/music/bios/faculty/hurley.html> I'm looking forward to working with these board members and bringing some new ideas to the table for consideration.

I hope each of you have faced the challenges that a fresh academic year brings. For me, this year brought the challenge of providing instruction through a newly created online master's degree in music education offered through East Carolina University. In planning for the course, I needed to decide where the students should be by the end of the class... and what they should know. Nick Covey, in his book, *The Seven Habits of Effective People*, states that one must first formulate goals to give direction to an endeavor. I have identified some goals that I would like to see implemented not only for my online class, but also for NC-ASTA. I would like to share my goals for NC-ASTA WITH NSOA with you

This year, our general meeting and music reading session will take place on Saturday, November 13 from 2:30 - 4:30 at the Stevens Center in Winston-Salem. We usually have a general meeting at the NC Music Educators In-Service Conference, but due to the way NCMEA has secured clinicians for the orchestra division, it has become increasingly difficult to schedule an ASTA meeting at the conference itself. As I was registering for the NCMEA conference, I noticed that luncheons were offered for various music constituencies. I will pursue the idea with the NCMEA Board that NC-ASTA should also be included as a

constituency to which people may elect to lunch together. This luncheon, if approved, will serve as the fall general meeting.

I'm planning a summer workshop for teachers that will offer CEU credit. More information concerning the workshop will be coming to you in the spring. In addition to a summer event, the board will discuss the possibility of workshops provided for teachers while they attend the Eastern, Western, and/or Honors Orchestra events. All of these workshops, when there is enough contact hours, should carry CEU credit.

By selling advertising, our newsletter can become self-supporting. I'm in the process creating a data-base of national and regional string music businesses that are potential advertisers in our state publication. You can help NC-ASTA by sending me the name, address, and e-mail address of a local string dealer near you.

We need a website for ease in communicating with each other. East Carolina University has agreed to host the website! More information will be coming.

Board handbooks would be very helpful for smooth transitions to occur when board members change in election years. Therefore I'm anticipating that board handbooks that would include duties and timelines for officers will be created. The board must also work to update our state bylaws.

I would like to expand the board to in order to involve more people in our state chapter. Our board should be diverse, and I would like to include teachers that reflect the makeup of our constituency in member-at-large positions. One position that I would like to see immediately filled is one that involves a new ASTA program; namely, the ASTA/ NSOA String Certification program for students who study privately. The program involves private students moving through a graded list of repertoire and occasionally playing for an ASTA/NSOA certificate, which will provide an outlet for those private instructors who are seeking opportunities to motivate their students through specified guidelines.

Finally, in an effort to get information to you more frequently, I have established a distribution list to be able to e-mail you. You have received this e-mail because you shared your address with the national office. If for any reason you would like to be removed, please e-mail me directly.

The National ASTA with NSOA conference will be held in February in Reno, Nevada. You may go to <http://www.astaweb.com/2005/2005index.htm> for the latest information. I hope that some of you will plan to attend!

All the best to you as we head into planning for the holiday season ahead.

Greg Hurley

**North Carolina ASTA with NSOA STRING COMPETITION**

The NC Unit of the American Strings teachers Association with the National School Orchestra Association is sponsoring a string solo competition for students of NC-ASTA members. The competition will be this December 4 from 9 AM until 2 PM at the North Carolina School of the Arts in Watson Chamber Music Hall. Students will receive comments and a \$100 prize will be offered to the winner in each of the two categories: 10-15 yrs of age and 16 -21 years of age. There is no required repertoire for either age group. An accompanist, if needed, is the responsibility of the contestant, and one will not be provided by NC-ASTA. Registration for the competition is \$20.00. The registration form (below) and fee should be postmarked by November 23 and mailed to:

Lynn Peters  
2896 Shiloh Church Road  
Winston Salem, NC 27105  
[lynnpetersdb@yahoo.com](mailto:lynnpetersdb@yahoo.com)

**Name:**

**Age:**

**Instrument:**

**Address:**

**Phone:**

**Email address:**

**Name of Teacher who is a member of ASTA**

**Please indicate length of program in minutes:\_\_\_\_\_**

**Enclosed: Check\_\_\_\_\_Money Order\_\_\_\_\_**

**(Check or Money order should be made out to American String Teachers- NC)**

**Dates and Deadlines**

11/13, Sat. aft.: Orchestra Reading Session at MENC, Winston Salem.

11/24: Deadline for ASTA solo competition

12/4: Solo competition at the NC School of the Arts

12/15: Early registration for ASTA Strings Alive in 2005 in Reno, Nevada

2/24-27: Strings Alive in 2005 in Reno, Nevada. Let's gather for NC photo.

Check email for time and place or board at convention.

3/5/05: Auditions for Middle School Eastern Regional Orchestra in Raleigh

4/10-14: Eastern Regional Orchestra Festival at Meredith College, Barbara Smith, Chair

4/30: Middle School Eastern All-State Orchestra in Wilmington, NC

Please send newsletter materials, including digital pictures by jpeg to:

[rajohnsen@wcpss.net](mailto:rajohnsen@wcpss.net) or Ruth A. Johnsen, 113A Old Pittsboro Rd, Carrboro NC 27510. We want to know what you're doing! How about a standard section for college chapters? The next newsletter deadline is March 15, 2005.

Ruth A. Johnsen, editor  
113A Old Pittsboro Rd  
Carrboro, NC 27510