

**Collection name:** Alpena Civic Orchestra & Alpena Choral Society

**Collection number:** ACO-ACS1

**Dates:** 1955 – 1986, 2004

**Quantity:** 1 box.

**Provenance note:** From scrapbooks made by William (Bill) & Sue Maxwell, as collected during Bill's time directing and/or performing with the orchestra. Donated by the Maxwells in 2011 & 2012.

**Biographical & Historical Information:** William E. Maxwell, 79, of Ossineke, passed away on Wednesday, Dec. 7, 2011. Bill was born on Feb. 8, 1932, in Flint to Leon D. and Eunice Lukes Maxwell. He grew up in Saginaw, and received his bachelor's and master's degrees at the University of Michigan. Bill taught social studies, psychology, and sociology at Alpena High School from 1963 until his retirement in 1989. Bill was an active member of Alpena Civic Theatre for more than 45 years, including a long stint as treasurer. Bill played oboe in the Alpena Civic Orchestra for many years. When the orchestra lost its conductor, the members appointed him to find a new one. Unsuccessful in his quest, he took over conducting himself, a post he held for several years. [Taken from obituary in The Alpena News]

In 1955, Gordon Johnson (Alpena High School and Alpena Community College music instructor) organized the Alpena Choral Society. Four music teachers, during their tenure at A.H.S. and A.C.C., continued the group. Directors, in chronological order, were Bill (Willard) Fast, John Dovaras, Larry Torkelson, and Robert Hein, Pat Bunce and Carol Witherbee also directed for brief periods. [Taken from Vernie Nethercut's news article 2.16.2013]

Directors of the Orchestra included John Dovaras, Robert Hein, and Bill Maxwell.

**Scope & Content:** Concert programs for Alpena Civic Orchestra, Alpena Choral Society, and Alpena Community College Collegiate Singers; some photographs, news clippings, tickets, and correspondences included.

**Access:** Open to research.

**Preferred Citation:** Alpena Civic Orchestra & Alpena Choral Society Collection, Alpena County George N. Fletcher Public Library.

**Contents:****ALPENA CIVIC ORCHESTRA & ALPENA CHORAL SOCIETY COLLECTIONS**

ACO-ACS1

**Box 1 of 1:***Folder*

*[Concert Programs include ACO & ACS, as well as Alpena Oratorio Society, ACC Collegiate Singers, & Alpena Public Schools Band Boosters w/ assistance from ACO. Mostly directed by Robert Hein or Bill Maxwell.][ACO Concerts may include photos, news articles, tickets, & correspondences]*

1. Concert Programs (1950s)
2. Concert Programs (1960-1964)
3. Concert Programs (1965-1967)
4. Concert Programs (1968-1969)
5. Concert Programs (1970-1971)
6. Concert Programs (1972-1973)
7. Concert Programs (1974-1976)
8. Concert Programs (1977-1980)
9. [ACO] Christmas Concert (December 1979)
10. [ACO] Winter Concert (March 1980)
11. [ACO] Spring "Pops" Concert (May 1980)
12. [ACO] Fall Concert (November 1980)
13. [ACO] Mid-Winter Concert (January 1981) [featuring CMU Faculty Vocal Quartet]
14. [ACO] Spring "Pops" Concert (May 1981) [guest soloist Barbara Dixon]
15. [ACO] Fall Concert (November 1981) [featuring Central Arts Trio]
16. [ACO] Winter Concert (January 1982) [guest soloist Toni Titus]
17. [ACO] "A Music Sampler" [APS Elementary Band Boosters] (March 1982)
18. [ACO] Spring Concert (May 1982) [guest soloist Jeffrey Foote]
19. [ACO] Fall "Young People's Concert" (November 1982)
20. [ACO] Mid-Winter Concert (February 1983)
21. [ACO] "Music Sampler II" [AHS Band Boosters] (March 1983)
22. [ACO] Spring Concert (May 1983)
23. [ACO] Holiday Concert (November 1983)
24. [ACO] Mid-Winter Concert (February 1984)
25. [ACO] Spring "Pops" Concert (May 1984)
26. [ACO] Holiday Concert (November 1984)
27. [ACO] Mid-Winter Concert (January 1985)
28. [ACO] Spring Celebration Concert (May 1985)
29. [ACO] Fall Harvest Concert (November 1985)
30. [ACO] Mid-Winter Concert (January 1986)
31. [ACO] Celebration of Spring Concert (May 1986)
32. [ACO] Holiday Concert (December 1986)
33. [ACO] Grant Applications (1980-1984)
34. [ACO] News Releases & Correspondences (1979-1986)
35. [ACO] Photograph [Bill Maxwell, oboe] [Dr. Jack Leopard, clarinet] (c1966)
36. [misc] ACC Music Classes [Department of Humanities & Fine Arts] [descriptions] (c1960s)
37. [misc] Alpena Symphony Orchestra [Inaugural Gala Concert program] (June 2004)
38. [misc] Comic Strip [Frank and Ernest] {composer jokes}