

**Introduction of Sue Mueller, recipient of the
2007 AOSA Honorary Membership Award
by Jo Ella Hug**

It is my pleasure to introduce my mentor and friend Sue Mueller to you today. We started our AOSA life together as Regional Representatives and now she holds the role of wise advisor and guide to all things “presidential.”

When Sue was elected to lead this organization, we were in a transitional part of our existence. In fact, the word transition came to signify our two years of work together. Your courage to lead when the lines on the map were NOT bold and clear is unmatched. I’m reminded of the opening of the much loved Star Trek series of the 1990’s – our mission was to boldly go where AOSA had never gone before..... and have a healthy organization when we arrived.

T is for tireless
R is for resilient.
A equals alive, even at 4 a.m.
N is for nurturing, always thinking of our next generation
S is for self-less – the true servant leader
I equals involved, every committee, every strand of AOSA
T is for tenacious, never giving up and accepting defeat
I is for impassioned
O is for open-hearted and organized
N is for network as defined by Webster: *a fabric of cords that cross at regular intervals and are secured at crossings; interconnected*

We emerged on the other side of transition because you held the fabric of AOSA together and wouldn’t allow the crossing to affect our mission or our commitment to each other.

We started our service to the National Board of Trustees together as Regional Representatives in 1996. You co-chaired the Las Vegas conference in 2002 and came right back into service as Vice President in 2003. After 4 years of commitment to the life and health of AOSA, you again said YES when we needed a chair for the Editor Search Committee beginning last summer and extending through the San Jose conference. When the ultimate definition of servant leader is written, the experts need only consult Sue Mueller.

On behalf of The American Orff-Schulwerk Association, please accept our sincere appreciation and recognition of your selfless service and continued dedication by receiving honorary membership in The American Orff-Schulwerk Association.

Jo Ella Hug,
AOSA President