

# The Adventures of Mark Otto

## The Composer

Dan Adams is retired from the Wooster City Schools in Wooster, Ohio, where he served as Band and Orchestra director and Instrumental Music Coordinator for nearly three decades. Prior to Wooster he taught at Mount Anthony Union High School in Bennington, Vermont.

He received a Bachelor of Music Education degree from The Ohio State University (major instrument trombone) and a Master of Music in Band Conducting from Northwestern University where he studied with John Paynter.

## Performance Concerns

This piece is designed as a vehicle for developing marcato. All capped accents (^ or v) should be played with extra emphasis and more space. For wind instruments, I like to refer to the release of the air rather than the “attack” of the note to achieve an appropriate marcato. That being said, this piece is certainly not an exercise in subtlety... have fun with it. :-)

Measures 9-16 are most effective when the staccato notes are played at a piano dynamic surrounding the forte marcato. Strive for the greatest possible contrast.

## Program Notes

Join us on **The Adventures of Mark Otto**. Mark Otto is a relatively short guy – but strong! – with an interesting accent. He is much like his musical counterpart: the marcato accent. Mark likes to give emphasis to everything he does. Maybe that’s why he often stands out in a crowd – sometimes he even wears a cap to get noticed. Regardless, he’s always the life of the party.