

Minutes of ASTA MD/DC Board Meeting, June 6, 2010, 6:00 p.m.  
The Lutheran Church of St. Andrew, Silver Spring MD

Present: Catherine Stewart, President, Daniel Levitov, President-Elect, Jean Provine, Secretary/Treasurer, Kay Budner, Julianna Chitwood, Lorraine Combs, Mary Findley, Dorée Huneven, Leah Kocsis, Marissa Murphy, Kimberley McCollum, Mark Pfannschmidt, Dalton Potter, Jim Queen, Ale Schneider, Marion Spahn, Lya Stern, Cindy Swiss, Eleanor Woods

1. Installation of new officers: Catherine Stewart was installed as President. Daniel Levitov was introduced as the new President-Elect. Jean Provine will continue as Secretary/Treasurer.
2. Treasurer's report (Jean Provine) *Note: MD/DC members may request the Treasurer's Report from Jean. Contact her privately.*  
Funds are healthy. This year's events all have generated income, particularly the Mark O'Connor workshop in January 2010 and the Mark Wood workshops of June 5–6, 2010. The Solo Strings Festival made a profit this year, which was shared with MSMTA. The ASTACAP exams, one in February and one in May, both also made a profit. In addition, recent income from ads slightly exceeded the cost of producing *Stringendo* over the last six months.
3. Events for year 2010-2011  
Catherine Stewart proposed that we start thinking now whether we want to book Mark Wood for a second workshop; both because of his busy schedule, but also because we now realize that an even longer lead-up time is needed to publicize the event and pursue ways to reach more students outside those of our own teachers.  
  
Kimberley McCollum is planning a second Fiddle Day for sometime in the Fall. We should try to finalize this as soon as possible.
4. Discussion about a new email delivery system  
Lorraine Combs had thoroughly researched the pros and cons of GigMailz, which is run by Jonas Music Services who is our website host and would therefore be able to help with any problems. Leah Kocsis had investigated Constant Contact, another service. While both were approximately the same price, \$15 per month, Gigmailz's messages would have our website logo attached to each message. However, we would have a limited number of 500 messages per month unless we paid more. Constant Contact offered the advantage of being able to send an unlimited number of messages per month. Their messages would be listed as coming from ASTA MD/DC but would not have the logo. Both offered free trials. It was suggested that we try each but Leah thought that might be awkward. A vote determined that we would sign on for Constant Contact. Leah Kocsis will be in charge of this.  
  
Since there are members without email, we will need to issue announcements via snail mail post cards for them.
5. Other  
Dalton Potter brought the good news from the National Office that finally ASTA will be able to offer insurance to its members. He passed out brochures outlining the benefits. He also reported that ASTA now owns the building in which the offices are located in Virginia.

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The meeting was followed our Annual Membership Meeting Dinner, catered by the Lutheran Church of St. Andrew. Approximately 36 local members plus Mark Wood attended. The new officers were introduced. Jean Provine received a certificate for service as Secretary/Treasurer. Dan Levitov received a certificate as President-Elect. Dorée Huneven, Past President, received a Certificate of Appreciation. Outstanding Service to Strings Awards were given to Bill Gales for service through his violin shop and to David Basch for his dedication in finding string instruments for students. Ronald Mutchnik was awarded Teacher of the Year and gave a very inspirational talk. Mark Wood, who was finishing a weekend of workshops with local children and teachers, spoke briefly about his dedication to string teaching and showed a short video of a recent workshop with school children.