

Minutes ASTA MD/DC Board Meeting, February 22, 2009, 6:30 p.m.  
UM Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center, Room 2130A

Present: Bruce Carter, Lorraine Combs, Sarah Cotterill, Dorée Huneven, Kim McCollum, Leah Kocsis, Jaque Lyman, Mark Pfannschmidt, Dalton Potter, Jean Provine, Alexandra Schneider, Jeff Schoyen, Paul Scimonelli, Lya Stern, Catherine Stewart, Cindy Swiss

1. President's Report—Dorée Huneven

Recently completed:

Website completed in fall of 2008

Documents done to exempt us from tax

Goals

raise event attendance

involve private and public school teachers: list of teachers being compiled

bring an orchestra to the National Conference and encourage pupils to audition for the ASTA National Orchestra

Sponsor a solo competition

2. President-elect's report—Catherine Stewart

15 local businesses gave donations for the silent auction at the National Conference.

Annual Membership Meeting/half hour board meeting/dinner will be held 6 p.m., May 17, 2009, at St. Andrew's Lutheran Church in Silver Spring. Members should try to bring prospective members—five if possible.

Ads on the website now increasing: Potter's, Rapkievian, SW Strings. Paul Scimonelli suggested contacting Woodbridge Music in Ellicott City.

3. Treasurer's report—Jean Provine *Note: MD/DC members may request the Treasurer's Report from Jean. Contact her privately.*

4. Website report—Lorraine Combs

Explanation and printout of the "look" of the new website. All agreed it was easy to negotiate and beautifully presented and planned.

Event information or news should be sent to Lorraine or Doree for posting on the website.

Automatic removal of events after date has passed.

More ads expected. Their order rotates with user clicks.

Photo gallery in the making.

5. Editor's report—Jaque Lyman

Suggested that members have the option to pick their time of year for writing articles in order to avoid their busiest months.

6. Other reports:

a) Catherine Stewart: Monday Studio Teacher Workshops every second Monday of the month. Have met twice so far. Attendance has been small but topics interesting:

Mark Pfannschmidt talked about his research and publication of etudes by Johannes Palaschko.

Leo Sushansky talked about his studies both in Russia and with mother and Dorothy Delay; and his violin career.

b) Bruce Carter: report on University of Maryland activities:

Starting a University of Maryland ASTA chapter for Fall of 2009.

Compiling list of top MMEA pieces

Graduate pedagogy class writing articles and papers

UM Strings Camp (orchestra and master classes) to be held as before in last week of July.

Would like to see more 6–7th graders attending.

Using home schoolers as students for an orchestra as training for string teachers.

c) Jeff Schoyen: report from the Eastern Shore, Salisbury University

Lots of young people involved in Youth Orchestra Program that he conducts.

Handed out flyers for Maryland Summer Center for the Arts program.

d) Jean Provine: Solo Strings Festival

Date is Sunday, May 24, 2009, at UM Clarice Smith Center.

Deadline for applications is April 11, 2009.

Hope to have many more applicants as a result of collaborating with MSMTA.

This should allow for a larger budget and involve students of teachers from both organizations.

e) Lya Stern: ASTACAP exams

Exams modeled on the European system are given twice a year. Students prepare material for grades Foundation–10 from a suggested list of repertoire and required scales; receiving a certificate from the National Office as well as useful comments from the evaluator. Each student pays \$25–\$40 (\$5 each to the National Office for certificates).

This is a valuable tool for the teacher, suggesting teaching material and structure, and setting goals for the student. The repertoire list and rules are on the website and are downloadable. Applications can be done online.

There is also a National Certificate Advancement Program Handbook describing how to start such a program, which can be downloaded.

f) Paul Scimonelli: Private schools

Private and public schools face many of the same problems of finance and scheduling.

As a private school music teacher, he presently working on liaisons with public school string programs. Is also working on redoing the MODA (orchestra director's) lists.

g) Alexandra Schneider: Suzuki representative

Would like the Suzuki programs to feel part of ASTA and share activities on the website.

h) Kim McCollum: Violin representative

Planning a Fiddle Day in 2009 with Jaque Lyman. Probably will be a rehearsal in the morning and master classes in the afternoon.