

**MASTA W/NSOA Winter General Meeting**  
**Thursday, January 21, 2006**  
**Luncheon 12:00-1:50 P.M.**  
**Lunch begins at 12:00, Meeting Begins at 12:40**  
**Gerald R. Ford Ballroom – Amway Grand Hotel**  
**Grand Rapids, Michigan**

Call to Order with introduction of members and guests.

Minutes (Stuart)- Minutes from last year's General Meeting were approved with a motion by Scott, seconded by Ryden.

Treasurer's Report (R. Reed): October 1, 2005-, December 31, 2005

Beginning Net Worth	\$37,217.22
Beginning Balance:	\$14,186.97
Deposits:	\$2,065.00
Disbursements:	\$1,053.83
Ending Balance:	\$15,198.14
Satellite Accts.	\$24,375.67
Net Surplus (LOSS)	\$1,011.17
Net Worth	\$39,573.81

The chapter is doing quite well. Motion to approve Treasurer's report given by Gustafson, seconded by Avsharian. Motion passed.

President's Report (Palmieri): The Board and membership recognizes Kelly Kramer for the work done in preparation for MASTA's portion of the First Annual MMC. Eleven years ago, MASTA hosted nine sessions, including performances; this year MASTA sponsored 19. The Board also recognizes the graciousness of the Amway Grand Hotel and all of their work helping the event proceed smoothly. Palmieri encouraged members to bring their instrument next year and for clinicians to make their presentations hands on, as the event is housed under one building. Thanks to Haig Avsharian for his and Shar's generosity. Finally, Palmieri states that there is no limit to what MASTA can accomplish at this Conference.

Member-at-Large Report (D. Parrish): The Member-at-Large position is turning into a platform to encourage the growth of new string programs throughout the state and as a conduit to help those new to teaching strings.

Past President Report (Miller): MASTA student chapters in Michigan are alive and healthy.

President Elect Report (S. Reed): Please let us know how we can improve upon the MMC. Please fill out your evaluations.

#### Committee Reports

A. Newsletter (Bush/Smith): The editors are finishing their term as Newsletter Editors. They have everything set up so that transition will go smoothly.

B. Outreach (Gippert): Outreach Grants are awarded three times a year at no more than \$500 per grant. MASTA also gives scholarships for our camps.

C. Michigan School Music Conference (Kramer): The MMC has seen a large increase of events. Thanks to presenters, presiders and performers. If you wish to present during future MMCs, please contact Kelly Kramer.

D. Membership (Scafuri): There are 490 MASTA members; 17 dual, 6 institutional, 11 life, 17 non-paying dual, 256 professional, 6 string industry council, 18 library subscription, 47 senior, and 108 student. If you work with string teachers who aren't members, encourage them to join MASTA.

E. Blue Lake Suzuki (Kesler): Thanks were given to Family Camp instructors. The dates of this year's camp are June 18-25, 2006. Enrollment has been rising to nearly 50% of participants being out of state residents. Get your applications in early to keep opportunities for Michigan Suzuki students.

F. Okemos Suzuki (Kesler): The event is held during the first weekend in November. Thanks to MASTA for their continuing support. The program is going very well.

G. MSBOA Liaison (Peterson): The String Committee met and will continue to develop 5-10 year goals of what we want from MSBOA. A process has been set up for better communication between string teachers and the district vice-presidents. More involvement is needed to align MSBOA and MASTA goals.

H. Elementary String Camp (Hansen): The dates for camp this year are June 16, staff training, June 17-19 1<sup>st</sup> camp, June 21-23 2<sup>nd</sup> camp. Mailing of applications will be coordinated with the Junior High Camp mailings. Both camps will send their applications together with an explanation/comparison sheet included. Recommendations are welcome for new staff.

I. Junior High String Camp (Stuart): This year's camp dates are June 24, staff training and camp from June 25- July 1. Mailing of applications will be coordinated with the Junior High Camp mailings. Both camps will send their applications together with an explanation/comparison sheet included. Recommendations are welcome for new staff. Some changes will be made to the Junior High Camp curriculum this summer. Coaches will be working with Chamber Groups and Counselors will be assisting them and the Music Director.

J. Chamber Music Festival (Kearney-Looman): The Chamber Music Festival will be held on Tuesday, March 7 at Michigan State University. The Atlantic Ensemble (piano quartet) will be in residence. The ensemble is made up of CMU and Tennessee Tech instructors. Applicants with non-US residents will be competing for comments-only. 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade groups are encouraged to take part in the Festival, as well as high school groups.

K. Youth Arts Festival (Winder): The Festival will still be held at WMU. The future of MYAF is yet unclear. Winder wishes to know the motivation of those directors/teachers who attend Youth Arts Festival. The Festival will be held May 11 and 12.

L. Troy Suzuki Workshop (Charboneau): The dates for the Workshop are March 31 and April 1. March 31 will have evening Master classes with John Kendall (violin) and Andrea Marttila (cello). The workshop will take place Saturday, April 1 with the Troy Bass Workshop.

M. Solo Competition (Long): The Solo Competition will be held next year. A motion was made to increase Junior Division prize money to \$500 (motion by Scott, seconded by D. Reed). We are asking Psarianos to raise their award to \$500 and Shar to raise the Grand Prize to \$800.

N. Suzuki Liaison (Arnold): 27 teachers (30 registered) participated in Every Child Can, hosted on Thursday, January 18 at the MMC, and it went very well. The course was taught by Geri Arnold and Wendy Azrak. Thanks to Palmieri for the brochure and Psarianos for mailing the flyers. John Kendall is now in Michigan and is giving a series of master classes called "Tuesdays with John" in Ann Arbor. 19 teachers from around the state are involved. Kendall brought Suzuki method to the United States. He is donating his fee to support the Troy Suzuki workshop. The money raised by participation fees will sponsor a scholarship fund, which will be distributed at the behest of the teachers involved. Financially, the program is quite successful.

O. Student Chapters (Miller): No report.

P. Website (Scott): Any information to be posted on the site should be sent to Scott. The website address is [astamichigan.org](http://astamichigan.org). We have a statewide email service, address being [contactmembers@astamichigan.org](mailto:contactmembers@astamichigan.org). Scott is interested in having a partner to help with designing the website.

Q. CPS (Brown): NASTA is in the forefront of the Certificate Program for Strings and Dr. Brown is our coordinator. For more information, please contact her.

#### New Business

A. ASTA 2007 Convention (Phillips): The National Convention will be held March 7-10, 2007. Applications to present or perform at the 2007 National convention are due March 16. Plans are being made to include Detroit's music programs in the Convention and to bring advocacy to Detroit. There is a partnership forming with the Detroit Symphony, making this the first time there has been a major orchestra involved in a National Convention. Master class clinicians and keynote speakers are being contacted this month. Contact Pam Phillips with questions ([phillipsfiddlers@aol.com](mailto:phillipsfiddlers@aol.com))

B. TOY and AOY presentations (S. Reed): This year's Administrator of the Year is Dr. Wayne Vasher formerly of the Saginaw Townships Schools. Saginaw was not a very strong musical area without the social capital to support the arts. Dr. Vasher spearheaded the initiation of a program that encouraged many in the Saginaw area. Many students who would have not otherwise gone to college began associating with peers that opened their horizons. Parents who would have never gotten involved in music now support the culture in Saginaw. Thanks to Dr. Vasher who was deeply touched by this award. He thanked the teachers for their dedication and for overcoming so many obstacles in order to teach our students. He commends and thanks us for maintaining string programs in our schools. The Teacher of the Year was awarded to Leslie Wimsatt, whom among all the amazing things she's brought to our state was one of the string teachers brought in by Dr. Vasher to teach in Saginaw's String Program. It was very difficult to select from such a pool of amazing teachers and members are encouraged to continue nominating those who have not yet been recognized but who deserve the recognition.

C. Detroit Civic Quartet Performance, MASTA's 2005 Chamber Music Festival Competition Winners (Long/Palmieri): The Civic Quartet receives every other week coaching from Detroit Symphony Members. Elliott Huang, violin 1, Ben Turcotte, violin 2, Cameron Barnes, viola and Ken Schoon, cello performed the Mendelssohn D Major Quartet, movement one.

Meeting adjourned at 1:51 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Wendy Stuart