

**MASTA Winter Meeting**  
**Thursday, January 22, 2009**  
**Executive Board: 4:00 p.m.**  
**Full Board: 5:00 p.m.**  
**Amway Grand Hotel, Pearl Room**  
**Grand Rapids, MI**

**I. Call to Order** (S. Reed): at 4:10 p.m. Members present: Steve Reed, Mark Kotchenruther, Robert Reed, Wendy Stuart, Val Palmieri, Anne Kearney-Looman, Geri Arnold, Kelly DeRose, Diane Winder, Jan Flower, Dan Scott, Linda Trotter, Claire Charboneau, Larry Dittmar, Jon Tranes, Rick Dapprich, Nancy Koski, Janice Peterson, Dan Long, and guests Prudy Dittmar and Caitlin Mihalko.

**II. Minutes** (Stuart)- Minutes from the September meeting passed with a motion from Dittmar, which was seconded by S. Reed with understanding that several corrections will be added before publication.

**III. Treasurer's Report** (R. Reed): First Quarter

Beginning Net Worth	\$96,138.97
Beginning Balance:	\$17,680.07
Deposits:	\$1,840.00
Disbursements:	\$8,548.70
Ending Balance:	\$10,971.37
Satellite Accts.	\$37,517.06
Net Surplus (LOSS)	(\$6,708.70)
Net Worth	\$48,488.43

**Second Quarter:**

Beginning Net Worth	\$48,488.43
Beginning Balance:	\$10,971.37
Deposits:	\$7,894.23
Disbursements:	\$3,081.46
Ending Balance:	\$15,784.14
Satellite Accts.	\$32,595.55
Net Surplus (LOSS)	\$4,812.77
Net Worth	\$48,379.69

The net worth changed a small amount and will be under the \$10,000 mark after the conference. Mileage continues to be a large factor contributing to the loss of revenues due to standard government rate being paid. A motion recommendation (for the full board consideration) was made by S. Reed to cap mileage at \$.40 per mile, seconded by Flower. Motion passed by full board.

**IV. President's Report** (Kotchenruther): Kotchenruther requests that all member go to <http://new.petitiononline.com/esnyc/petition.html> to ask President-Elect Obama to appoint a Secretary of Art or Culture. MASTA's Northern Michigan Initiative is a few months old. Janice Peterson is the NMI representative. The Chicago Symphony Orchestra has developed a set of resources to help instrumental music educators available at [www.cso.org/DreamOutLoud](http://www.cso.org/DreamOutLoud). Please encourage non-ASTA member string teachers to join. Teachers should be encouraged to contact Nancy Koski or Linda Trotter. Consider becoming a member of MENC, MSBOA or SAA if you are not members already. The ASTA National Conference is held in Atlanta, GA March

19-21. Please consider attending. A motion was made by S. Reed to cover Wendy Stuart's \$59 registration fee to attend the leadership conference at the ASTA National Conference. Trotter seconded, motion passed.

- V. **Member-at-Large Report (Flower):** Flower compiled a list of new/transferred teachers in Michigan public schools. It is very difficult to get those names by September meeting. Flower encourages members to reach out to new teachers and to forward other names to her.
- VI. **Past President Report (S. Reed):** The MSU Student ASTA Chapter has been very active with community outreach projects at Gardner Middle School, Cornerstone Schools. They hope to provide more outreach in the Lansing area and will host a Baroque Dance Workshop and a string reading session. The WMU Student ASTA Chapter will include sectionals at local middle and high schools, a lecture by Luthier Scott Tribby on instrument care and maintenance. They also plan on a String Day for local and Gaylord area middle school students. The U-M Student ASTA Chapter hosted an event featuring marketing as a musician by DSO violist Caroline Coade. They also ran the MASTA Solo Competition. They hope to have sessions with Gabe Bolkosky and Jonathan Glawe. EMU's Student ASTA Chapter is currently under re-organization. The CMU Student ASTA Chapter hosted a high school string workshop in October for four high schools sending 120 students. They are planning on sessions aimed at survival skills for the beginning teacher and another high school string workshop.
- VII. **President Elect Report (Dittmar):** Dittmar thanks the membership for the opportunity to serve as president-elect. There was no Administrator of the Year nominations this year. The Teacher of the Year nominees includes Ingrid Dykeman and Jed Fritzmeier. Dittmar would like to begin the nomination process earlier and look into online balloting to save on mailing costs. Dittmar has been working with Russ Reed, Dan Long and John Witwell to produce a video of Reed and Elizabeth A.H. Green onto DVD format. Motion was made by Stuart to increase gift basket budget to \$150. S. Reed seconded and motion passed. Included in gift basket is a \$50 Shar gift certificate (in addition to \$150 budget).
- VIII. **Committee Reports**
- A. Blue Lake Suzuki (Kesler):** No report.
- B. Chamber Music Festival (Kearney-Looman):** The date of the Festival has been changed to March 9<sup>th</sup> due to MME testing. The event will be held at MSU and the Alexander Trio from EMU will be in residence.
- C. Membership (Trotter):** There are 457 members (24 dual, 4 institutional, 12 life, 17 non-paying dual, 232 professional, 7 string industry council, 16 school library subscription, 52 senior, and 110 student memberships). Renewal reminder letters will be sent later this month.
- D. Michigan Music Conference (Palmieri):** Planning for next year will start soon after the conference ends. Palmieri wants more Suzuki sessions, a University forum and more for private teachers. The board expressed dissatisfaction that a concert was scheduled opposite headliner Michael Allen (concert scheduling is not under our jurisdiction).
- E. MSBOA Liaison (Trotter):** District Orchestra Representatives will be meeting Friday, 1/23 where they will plan 2009 Mid-Level Clinics and other topics effecting

string/orchestra programs. Congratulations to Forest Hills (Kotchenruther) and Kettering (Beard) High Schools for their performances at MMC this week. Congratulations to student (and their teachers) participating in the All-State Ensembles this week under the direction of Steven Amundson and Gabriel Villasurda. There is a need for adjudicators for S&E and Festival. There will be an S&E adjudicator workshop this fall. David Reed has been named as the MSBOA Exec board's choice of VP of Orchestral Activities for next year.

**F. Newsletter** (Dapprich): The deadline for the Spring '09 issue is 2/15. More articles are desired to expand the content presented in the newsletter.

**G. Northern Michigan Initiative** (Peterson): Peterson thanks Kotchenruther and the board for caring about string teaching and playing throughout the entire state. Some goals for the Initiative are the establishment of a UP Student Chapter, continue collaborative events (like the "Big String Concert" that included eight schools' orchestras), share resources (sectional coaches, private teachers, visiting artists), and to recruit new and returning members.

**H. Okemos Suzuki** (Rebeck): No report.

**I. Outreach/National Honors Orchestra** (DeRose): With Scott/Stuart's help, DeRose revised the camp scholarship form. Scott made a motion to accept Clarkston Schools' Workshop proposal. S. Reed seconded, motion passed. S. Reed made a motion to approve (seconded by Flower) to Stuart and Dapprich's Professional Development grants.

**J. Solo Competition** (Long): The 15<sup>th</sup> Biennial Solo Competition took place at U-M, Ann Arbor on 10/15/08. Twenty-one contestants entered the competition (17 junior division, 4 senior division). The winners were Andrea Jarrett (Junior Division Grand Prize), Hannah Linz (Junior Division First Prize), Anna Skalova (Senior Division Grand Prize), Alexandru Hamzea (Senior Division First Prize). The following were selected to submit tapes to the National Screening Committee: Jacob Joyce (Coda Bow Winner), Sarah Shy, and Michael Bechtel. All honorees were violinists. Judges included Yuri Gandelsman (MSU) and Kevin Miller (EMU) judging Junior Division, and Diana Gannett (U-M) and Bruce Uchimura (WMU) judging the Senior Division. Anna Skalova and Jacob Joyce have been selected as National Finalists. The National Finals Competition will be held live at the ASTA National Conference in Atlanta, GA.

**K. String Camps** (Scott/Stuart): This year's camp dates Session I, June 21-23, Session II, June 24-26, and Session III, June 28-July 4 in Howell, MI. Scott and Stuart are in the process of hiring for the summer. Please show the video or check it out on Facebook or YouTube. Thanks to Scott for his years as Music Director of Session III (Junior High String Camp). Welcome to Tony Krempa as Session III's new Music Director. Please help spread the word about these great camps, especially to those who teach 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> graders for Sessions I and II. Advise students to apply early to Session III to avoid a wait list.

**L. Studio Teaching** (Koski): Koski would like to get the list of teachers upon which corrections/additions were made in September.

**M. Suzuki Liaison** (Arnold): Tuesdays with John Workshops meet the first Tuesday of each month in Ann Arbor from 11:00-1:00. Scholarships are available (violin teacher \$400 and violin student \$250). Get applications from Pat Smith in by April 24, 2009. The revised violin books 1-4 are out. Mark Mutter is the new Teacher Trainer for violin in Michigan and offers long-term training at his Suzuki Royal Oak School. The EEC class was offered at the MMC Conference. 30 enrolled and 26 showed up (with one walk-in). EEC registration being separate from MMC enrollment is helpful.

**N. Troy Suzuki Workshop** (Charboneau): Jon Tranes is taking over the workshop. Budget for 2009 was approved with after a motion was made by R. Reed, and seconded by S. Reed.

**O. Website** (Dapprich): Dapprich requests more specific content for the website including board member pictures and bios (80 word bio), student chapter info, all programs and events.

**P. Youth Arts Festival** (Winder): Astrid Giese, the new Associate Director will be attending the luncheon. YA partnered with a donor event at the Auto Show (featuring Cass Tech String Quartet, vocal ensemble from Detroit School of the Arts, a dance troupe from Cass Tech). Donations didn't come in this year as expected at the event so Ernest and Young paid the entire \$10,000 donation. New groups joining YA include Michigan Thespians, Educational Theatre Association and the Michigan Interscholastic Forensic Association. The MASTA Chamber Music Ensemble will be chosen at the Chamber Music Festival on March 9. Palmieri moved to present flowers (up to \$30) to Giese at the luncheon, which was seconded by Kearney-Looman. Motion passed.

**IX. Old Business:**

A. ASTA publication purchase tabled until spring.

**X. New Business:**

Meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Wendy Stuart