

PMTA Board Meeting Minutes
June 9, 2016
Seven Springs Resort, Champion, PA
7:30 p.m.

Members present: Ed Kuhn, Jacqueline Herbein, Deborah Rodgers, Patricia Powell, Mary Lynne Bennett, Elaine Friedlander, Lois Svard, Nanette Solomon, Donna Beech, Steven Smith, Jocelyn Swigger, Amanda Gunderson, Sue Kuntz, and Chris Guzman.

Meeting was called to order by President Deborah Rodgers.

Approval of Minutes: The following corrections were made to the November 2014 meeting's minutes:

Under Members Present: Donna Beech is the correct spelling of last name.

Under Erie Chapter: The former local chapter president of the Erie Music Teachers Association was Sister Daniel Meahl. Natalya Martirosova will take over as president of Erie MTA. Deborah wrote to Nathan Hess about the possibility of having the Dorothy Sutton Performance Preliminary auditions for the Erie MTA at Mercyhurst College.

Under Treasurer's Report: Jeffrey Harris was former treasurer. Jacqueline Herbein on the financial committee agreed to let the funds sit in the Ameritrade account for two years before deciding what to do with the profit.

The following correction was made to the November 2015 meeting's minutes:

Under MTNA business/Certification: Certification is available for collegiate students at half price (\$100) for a year after graduation if the process is started while in a degree program.

Agenda stands as passed out.

President's report: Deborah Rodgers attended the Eastern Division competitions at Rowan University this year. Each state is expected to send a representative to help with competition. The competition was scheduled for Jan 24 at Rowan Univ. but was postponed till Jan 31 because of a snowstorm. PA had one first place winner, a senior performance voice major. Audrey Yuhas, student of Colette Boudreaux. Next year the Eastern Division will be at Boston University.

Website Editor:

Sue Koenig was hired as website editor in March 2016. She is currently the VP of Main Line Music Teachers Assoc. Previously was experienced business professional. Thanks to Millie Eben, who was instrumental in screening the candidates. Sue is currently training with Millie. We are planning to have a review with Sue in November of 2016 with the possibility of raising her salary.

MTNA Conference:

At MTNA national conference, we should be really proud of PA—we were well represented. Adam Silverman was recognized with Honorable Mention for his composition, Lois Svard gave several presentations, Jackie Herbein also gave a presentation, a stretching session, and ran competitions. Nanette Solomon was inducted as Eastern Division Director-Elect, Kay Hooper presented at the poster session, Marvin Blickenstaff gave several presentations, and Chris Guzman judged.

Competitions weekend: This fall will be on Nov 5-6 at West Chester Univ. Deborah Rodgers has signed contract. WCU want a list in advance of names of all minor performers. That list shouldn't be too much of a problem because we have recital program. They don't want contact info, just names.

A block of rooms will NOT be reserved in a hotel. There is info on the website. Reason is that the hotel had a penalty fee that was very expensive if PMTA didn't fulfill 80% of block. Board members can book the hotel of their choice and PMTA will reimburse up to \$129 plus taxes with receipt. There is a list of hotels on the website. It's recommended that you book early. If you have a card for points at a certain hotel, you can rack up points for your hotel. Dinner and board meeting will be at Timothy's Hall. All that info is on the website. The board meeting will be Sat. Nov 5 at 6:30.

Treasurer's report:

(See attached): Checking account balances: Now at \$12K. Business Green checking (where PayPal goes) different because of PayPal. TG Ameritrade account has done really well; was down earlier in the winter; we've increased that from \$110K to \$118K. Investor has made some really good choices for us. We're sitting in good shape.

Conference: We have about \$8k in registration money because we budgeted on what the conference would cost, not all the extras. Advertising: \$1500. It's significant to note the missing local association ads. We did some advertising, a postcard for PMEA. PayPal fees, equipment rental estimate, guest artist and clinicians, hotel conference book was underestimated, banquet and luncheons will be pretty close. 23 people decided to go to Falling Water, about a third of the people. Elaine and Jackie decided to defray the student cost of the lunch. So \$228 of luncheon cost is paying for student help. Not sure how much tuning will be. This will be an expensive conference and we knew that going in. Probably estimating about \$6k coming out. This is more expensive than last conference held at a resort. At Bedford Springs it was about \$4 or 5k. This time we did more with outside guest artists, so that explains the higher cost. We were hoping for closer to 100 people because it's a resort.

Miscellaneous expenses:

JH missed down payment for new registration system. There's a new line item because we're required to pay deposits in advance for many various things. We made a donation to the Dystonia foundation in honor of Deborah Ronning's husband who passed away. Projected \$1k for website manager, already has been \$2k. We've been paying both Millie and Sue since March. JH wants the board to be aware that

Millie did a lot of things for us out of the goodness of her heart and never charged us. These numbers are unrealistic. Now that Sue Koenig is webmaster, she's keeping track of the time she's putting in. The more we can be clear about what we send her about what we want, the less we have to pay. It's an hourly fee for her to do it. We're in a much more professional situation. It is going to cost us more to have e blasts and to have that website updated. So the more clear we can be about what we want, the better. Every chair should have a copy of their documents in a document format, and anything that has to go as a pdf on the website you should be able to format yourself and send her the pdf—she shouldn't have to format anything.

Funding request form: JH would appreciate writing as many checks as possible before leaving. PMTA is picking up 2 nights in hotel and mileage—tell her and she'll write a check. Would like hotel receipt.

Chair reports

Conference: Mary Lynne: we're expecting some onsite registration—we usually get a handful of onsite registration. The advertising we did was a postcard at PMEA conference and journal to encourage PMEA members. That may not be something we do every year but it was something we tried this year to get others to know about our organization (many PMEA people teach independently). We don't yet know what turnout was from that. We invited the Pittsburgh Piano Teachers Association and brought postcards to their meeting. We're excited about the conference. Mary Lynne passed around booklet so we could see. You can check in tomorrow—can pick up packets at 8:30 in Seasons lobby. We'll be there and at Timberstone room. There will be signs from hotel lobby to registration.

2017 conference: Elaine Friedlander: Lebanon Valley College June 9, 10, 11. The thinking is that it will be an all Pennsylvania conference—born in PA, or live in PA. We had so many submissions for this year. Lydia Artemiw is conference artist. Marvin Blickenstaff will do masterclass at intermediate level. Call for clinicians will come out early in the fall, and we encourage members to submit.

MTNA foundation: Ed Kuhn: We are having a raffle for a \$100 Amazon gift card. Would like to pull ticket at luncheon.

College University Faculty: Chris Guzman: Nothing to report.

Local Associations: Mary Lynne Bennett: We are having a forum on Saturday. Has received reports from a few local associations who won't be there.

LA Grants: Deborah read report sent by Gilya Hodos who hopes conference is huge success. Deb Ronning has decided to step down as LA grant committee for personal reasons. Patricia Powell has graciously agreed to step in.

Collegiate student chapters: Patricia Powell: (see report) Last year was wonderful turnout for students because we had stage at Penn State and we knew this year would be smaller. We hope next year we will have opportunity to have a recital. Students were really excited to get together and play and go to the sessions. For this year we do have an hour, and there's a grad student from West Chester who was going to make a presentation but she's stuck in China (because of Visa) and will not be here. Ed's students will

take up that space with Prokofiev Peter and Wolf piano duet with narration and drawings. The grad student that was supposed to present will be moving to Connecticut but it would be great to have her give her presentation next year if possible.

Commissioned Composers: Lois Svard: We had chosen a commissioned composer for this year prior to last year's board meeting (Nancy Galbraith), but because we decided not to do a commissioned composer at the 2016 conference we're keeping the composer for the 2017 conference. Piece will be premiered by Eric Fung at Lebanon Valley. We'll need to soon make an announcement for commissioned composer for next year.

Arts Advocacy, --Lois Svard-Would like to set up e-blast whenever a vote is coming up in Harrisburg so we can all advocate for arts and arts education. Working on that now.

Membership: Donna Beech: (see report) We surpassed 600. The figures that MTNA sent for March are actually the figures that Donna came up with for April. Today is 605. MTNA has pointed out that this year is the first increase nationally since 2005. PA is the 14th largest. That's been pretty consistent. TX, Washington State, CO, California, Fla, some others are higher than us. Deborah mentioned that at leadership summit, they divide by membership and cut-off is 600, so PMTA has usually been in middle group but now can be in highest group. Donna went online, back to 2000, and then PMTA membership was 624, then started going down in 2009. In 2007 729 members, then back down to 640. We had a blip—reason was there were 86 college students. There's been a decrease. Temple used to be very active. Elizabethtown used to be very active. IUP has a chapter. It's a good reminder to be in touch with people at those schools about getting student chapters going. It would be nice to have more students. From 2007 there was a decrease till 2012, then it turned around.

Membership: Active should be 432, not 431. Senior active 120, Collegiate 48. Looks like Penn State has 9, Seton Hill 12, West Chester 20. Chapter membership: Mainline and Philly Local have gone up. Philly went up because of 125th year celebration.

Students who graduated from West Chester as collegiate members have now joined the local association. It's good to see that the incentives are working. Moravian might be a place to reach out to start a student chapter. Things are looking up. It seems that people recognize importance of what we do—not just developing the brain but channeling energy. "I think the more dire our world situation the more we are needed. "

Clarification of rebate policy: We need some clarification on the website because that will alleviate confusion. Jackie wrote up dues rebate policy, and that will go on website under membership.

DUES REBATE POLICY*

* PMTA offers new college graduates at any degree level a one-time free state and local membership during their first 5 post-graduate years. Graduates are not required to have been

MTNA members during their student years but may not have previously held full MTNA membership in any state. State and local dues will be reimbursed by check upon verification.

* PMTA offers a one-time free state membership for new (not reinstated) 'Active' PMTA members if the member registers for the conference in his/her first year of membership. State membership dues will be reimbursed by check at the conference.

* Members are eligible for only one rebate incentive during PMTA tenure.

Collegiate Membership has to be changed from \$10 to no charge on the website.

Part of the confusion is understanding how the fiscal year works (membership year numbers go on a different track). If they pay after April 1, that takes them through June 30 of the following year. But if they pay in January, they pay half dues. It's an awkward way of doing it and it makes the numbers look strange.

IMT forum and sponsorship: Sue Kuntz: (see report) Last year we had approximately 11 sponsors. Contacted many colleges, music stores, etc—many were not interested. We have 8 sponsors currently—3 e-blasts per package. We had 4 e blast customers. See attached report.

Unsubscribed members: 44 people have unsubscribed from e blasts. We've always had about 44 people unsubscribe. Sue asked about 10 of those people and found out most were resigned teachers who were not active and wanted no emails. Some did not know they had unsubscribed. One said "I wondered why I wasn't getting those newsletters anymore." Many universities will drop sponsorship if we don't do e-blasts. Jackie came up with a solution: we will limit to only one e-blast per event. Many people in the room seem to think that would be limiting because it's nice to have a reminder.

The general feeling in the room seems to be that it's a non-issue. MTNA has upped their e-mail in the last year. Many students find their info not from websites but from more fluid things that are coming at them. E-blasts are important—if you don't want to look at it, don't look at it. This is how we do business. It's important to maintain relationships with university, and for our members to advocate for music. Steven Smith moves that this issue be tabled. Elaine Friedlander seconds. Unanimously approved.

DSPF: Report given by Steven Smith: (See report) Teri commissioned new theory tests.

Jackie Herbein found someone who had designed a registration system at Colorado MTA. It should have other capabilities as well. It will look a little bit different but should have the same information. Should be up and running in the summer. Teri has talked about designing a timeline just in case she has to give it up. Jackie said that the new system should make it easier, not harder. This is registration for the state showcase. People who register for the locals still register at the locals.

Collaborative music: Nanette Solomon: nothing to report.

Concerto Festival: Nanette Solomon: Unfortunately we didn't have any entrants last year, but hopefully will have some next year. Date for event is November 5, same time as Sutton.

Competitions: Amanda Gunderson: – (see report)—competitions went well. Thanks to all for help, and to Jackie for mentorship, and to students for help. For next year we're at West Chester, anticipate large crop of applicants. Will probably have warmups on the same day of competition in a separate venue and then a 30 second warmup in the venue. If we don't finish before 3:30, no winners recital. If we do. we will. We'll know by September. We'll need lots of monitors and volunteers. West Chester faculty can judge younger students.

New business: Deborah Rodgers:

Clarification of clearance requirement for monitors: In fall 2014, we passed a clarification of child abuse policies for PMTA. (See below) .

Any adjudication under PMTA's auspices should take place with an adult parent or monitor in each room so that there is no one-on-one contact at group events. This includes both state and local festivals. In situations where the judge has passed criminal background check and child abuse clearances, this rule may be waived. Moved by Lois Svard, seconded by Paul Fierro, passed unanimously.

The board needs to clarify if the statement should say that the monitor in the room must have clearances? Steven: I wanted to forbid one-on-one contact because it seems too complicated to have everyone have to have clearances. Seems like the only time it would ever arise is when judge and student were alone in room. There was some discussion about other organizations and how they do their auditions and competitions.

Conclusion: We should state that we follow institution's policy. That leaves it open whether the monitor requires clearance or not. Chris: There's no policy at Penn State for non-repetitive contact.

Sue Kuntz moves: Patricia Powell seconds. All unanimous. PMTA will defer to the policy of the host institution. When there is no policy in effect, PMTA will follow this policy: (see below)

1. Minor students (under 18) participating in PMTA events must be accompanied by a parent or other responsible adult designated by the parent.
2. Any adjudication under PMTA's auspices should take place under these requirements: a) and adjudicator who has passed criminal background check and child abuse clearances or b) a parent of the student being adjudicated or a monitor is in the room so that there is no one-on-one contact.

Teacher of the year: Deborah came up with a list of criteria for future letters to cover. Mary Lynne suggested that each local association should nominate a person. Patricia: maybe they need a rubric, or a nomination form. That might give us more nominations.

Teacher of the Year 2016 selection process: Deb asked three board members to rate letters about teacher of the year and distinguished service of the year. Some comments persons making the selection were that there was a great disparity in the letters, and they didn't contain the similar type of information.

Lois Svard moves to adjourn, Steve Smith seconds. Unanimously passed. Meeting adjourned at 9:46 pm.

Treasurer's Report*
June 9, 2016

Balance 10/31/15 – Business Green Checking	\$21,755.56
Balance 5/31/16 – Business Green Checking	\$12,107.65
Balance 10/31/15 – Business Partners Money Market	\$8,119.42
Balance 5/31/16 – Business Partners Money Market	\$8,120.37
Balance 10/31/15 – Business Green Checking 2	\$5,845.65
Balance 5/31/16 – Business Green Checking 2	\$15,775.85
Balance in PayPal Account	\$0.00
Balance 10/31/15 - TDAmeritrade Account	\$113,757.47
Balance 5/31/16 – TDAmeritrade Account	\$116, 971.71
Total Assets	\$152,975.58

*NOTE: Most conference expenses not reflected in above balances.

Respectfully submitted,

Jacqueline Herbein

Membership Report
June 9, 2016
Submitted by Donna Beech

4/1/2015 – 4/30/2016	4/1/2014 – 3/31/2015
602 members (14th largest)	594 members
1.35% increase (16th greatest)	(0.67% decrease)

Membership Category

	4/1/15-4/30/16	2014-2015
Active	431	446
Senior Active	120	116
Honorary	1	1
Retired	1	1
Collegiate	48	30

Chapter Membership

	<u>Apr. 2016</u>	<u>Nov. 2015</u>	<u>2014-2015</u>	<u>2013-2014</u>
Main Line Local	107	99	102 (99)*	96
Philadelphia Local	73	69	78 (77)*	71
Capital Area Local	51	49	51 (52)*	56
Northeast Local (Wilkes-Barre)	46	45	46 (45)*	48
Northern Delaware Valley Local	45	45	43 (45)*	44
Lehigh Valley Local	44	42	44	45
Greater Pittsburgh Chapter	43	40	38	38
Lancaster Local	40	40	41	42
Reading Local	35	34	38 (40)*	44
Central Pennsylvania Local	33	31	30 (33)*	33
Westmoreland Chapter	14	15	13	14
Indiana Local	9	9	11	9
Millenium MTA	8	8	12 (11)*	13
York Local	8	8	8	10
Williamsport Local	8	8	8 (9)*	8
Erie Local	5	6	9	8

Primary Teaching Areas

	<u>Apr. 2016</u>	<u>Nov. 2015</u>	<u>2014-2015</u>
Accordion	2	2	2
Band	3	3	1 (2)*
Cello	1	1	2 (3)*
Choral	3	3	2
Clarinet	1	1	1
Composition	3	3	3
Early Childhood Music	1	1	2
Elem. Music	2	2	1
Flute	10	10	8 (9)*
French horn	0	0	1
General Music	3	3	3
Guitar	3	3	2
Harp	1	1	1
Keyboard	1	1	1
Music Education	9	9	9 (10)*
Music Merchant	1	1	1
No Teaching Area	2	3	5 (4)
Oboe	2	2	0
Organ	2	2	3
Piano	485	471	481(486)*
Piano pedagogy	4	3	7 (1)*
Saxophone	4	4	5
Suzuki Piano	2	3	3
Trombone	1	1	1
Tuba	0	0	1
Unknown	2	2	2
Violin	16	15	12
Voice	31	31	26(30)*
Woodwinds	1	1	1

* Figures from 7/14/2015 Board Meeting membership report.

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OTHER CLARIFICATION

MTNA fiscal year runs from 7/1 to 6/30, but the membership year begins on 4/1; therefore, PMTA dues paid after 4/1 will cover membership through 6/30 of the next year (potentially 14 months).

Sponsorship Report

June 2016

Submitted by Susan Kuntz, Web Sponsorship/IMTF Chair

In the beginning of September, emails containing web sponsorship information and forms were sent out to all of last year's sponsors (approximately 11) and some new contacts (20). I contacted many colleges and universities, and music and piano dealers in the state. Many responded but were not interested in web sponsorship at the time. Our form and processes have been streamlined, and thanks to our wonderful treasurer and website administrator, the turnaround time for the customer has usually been a day or two. We have 8 sponsors (which include 3 e-blasts per package) and 4 e-blast (1 purchased 3 e-blasts, 1 purchased 2, 2 purchased 1) customers. Since my last report, last November, we have sent a total of 11 e-blasts. This year the income from web advertising is \$1,300. The previous year it was \$850. The price of web sponsorship only (no e-blasts) has been increased from \$50 to \$75 to avoid confusion with the single e-blast product. Also, we have a new web administrator, Sue Koenig. Sue, Jackie and I will be reevaluating our sponsorship forms to make sure that they are clear and easy to follow (see 1st edition).

There has been discussion about whether our e-blasts are a nuisance to our membership. A report from the software system shows that 44 people have unsubscribed. We do not have figures from reports from our system prior to our doing e-blasts for comparison. Canvassing about 10 of these people, I found out that most were resigned teachers, who were not active in the PMTA and wanted no emails, regardless of the content. At least 2 (Maria Del Pico Taylor and James Rodkey) were not at all aware that they had unsubscribed. James did not register a complaint! Jean Fox is having an email issue and unsubscribed from all email services – nothing to do with PMTA.

When this issue came up, I wrote the following in response:

Looking at the big picture, we are talking about 44 out of 560 people. A majority of the 44, I would bet, do not want anything from PMTA. Most of our E-blasts come from universities. Only one or two of them come from individual events (Taubman). Most of these universities are sponsors on the web site because they want the E-blasts. You'll lose total sponsorship on the web site! I don't think it's a terrible thing for the PMTA to help promote events that our membership and students can attend and benefit from. This whole arrangement promotes the relationship between our organization, our teachers and their students and these universities. The people at the universities are very grateful for this service! I think it would be a shame to lose this relationship for 44 people who could really just press Delete!

I would like to add, that as a member, I want to hear about competitions, festivals and events that are going on at the universities that my students can attend and benefit from! I enjoy this benefit as a member of the PMTA. What if the majority, who are not represented on this report, feel as I do and would miss this service? Jackie Herbein has a wonderful idea that would cut down number of e-blasts in the months when more than one e-blast would usually go out (just the beginning and end of the year). She has suggested that we stipulate that only one e-blast be allowed per event!

Regarding the IMTF, I am open to suggestions as to what useful information, which is not already available on the internet, I would be able to provide. Perhaps compiling a list of resources or making links available to our membership could be a useful service.

OTHER REPORTS

June 2016

Collegiate Chapter Report

Submitted by Patricia Powell

While the 2015 PMTA Conference had an excellent turnout of collegiate students who attended the conference, they were invited to participate in two opportunities: a Collegiate Student Recital and a Piano Master Class.

The 2016 conference provided an hour for 2 collegiate presentations. The expectation for 2017 is to once again offer an opportunity for students to present sessions and /or a collegiate recital.

DSPF Report

Submitted by Theresa Smith

I'm thrilled to finally report that the new tests have been edited, completed, edited, corrected, edited and sent to local chairs. This cost us \$1000 for 100 hours of work by Dr. Timothy Melbinger of Altoona. The tests contain much of the same material and format, but have all been reduced to 2 pages; the biggest change is that solfege has been added to the vocal tests. Thanks to my editing committee Steven Smith, Joanne Feldman, and Lind Hoffman.

Medals and certificates for November have already been ordered.

Since I've been in the hospital, I designed a detailed timeline in case someone has to take over for me. It should help anyone who uses it and has reminded me how big a job this is. The DSPF deadline is Oct. 14. The website has been updated and all info is there.

PMTA Competitions Report

Submitted by Amanda Gunderson, Co-chair PMTA Competitions

gunderson@lycoming.edu

2015 Recap: The State competitions at Elizabethtown ran smoothly, thanks to the help of Justin Badgerow and Deb Ronning, and many board members who served as judges and monitors. Special thanks to the Junior Piano judges (Susan Kuntz, Patricia Powell, and Anita Renfro) who listened to over 8 hours of auditions! Many students from PMTA state competitions went on to place at Division:

- Daniel Cho (Yayoi Numazawa): Division H.M. Junior String (violin)
- Gabriel Ligowsk (Gloriana Sewell): Division H.M. Junior Composition
- Francisco Montero (Jose Mendez) Division H.M. Young Artist Piano
- Kelly Hooper & Brienna Weigner (Gloriana Sewell): Division Alternate, Senior Piano Duo
- Juliette Greer (Max Zorin): Division H.M. Senior String (violin)
- Audrey Yuhas (Collette Boudreaux): Division Winner Voice (Soprano)

Looking ahead to 2016: This fall, the competition will be at West Chester University on Sunday, November 6, 2016. In anticipation of large numbers of applicants, we are continuing with last year's changes to format:

1. Warm -ups will be on the same day as the competition in a separate venue from the competition venue.
2. Competitors will receive 30 seconds to warm up in the competition room prior to performing.
3. There will be no winners' recital, in anticipation of a long day of auditions.
4. We will need lots of monitors and volunteers. Thank you in advance for your help!

Friendly reminders about competitions for all PMTA members:

- Applications will be available online in August.:
<http://www.mtna.org/programs/competitions/>
- Application deadline is 3:00 P.M. EASTERN TIME on Wednesday, September 14, 2016.
- State Competition: November 6, 2016 West Chester University
- Eastern Division Competition: January 7-8, 2017 Boston University
- National Competition: March 18, 19, 20 in Baltimore