

Raleigh Piano Teachers Association
Affiliate of North Carolina Music Teachers Association
www.raleighpianoteachers.org

February 2010-Newsletter No. 71

May our words be *Dolce*, Our hearts be *Giacoso*, Our spirits, *Con Fuoco*, and all our teaching, *Con Amore*



Wed. Feb. 17 9:45 am Monthly Meeting, Carswell

Wed. Feb. 17 10:45 am Program

Sheila Paige: Dealing with Performance Anxiety

Sat. Feb 20 RPTA Scholarship Contest, Meredith College

Sat. Feb 27 NCMTA District Piano Contest

Sun. Feb 28 3 pm RPTA Scholarship Winners Recital, Carswell

March 5-6, Federation Festival, Meredith College

March 12-13, Young Artist Auditions, Meredith College

From the President:

Our February RPTA program is "Dealing with Performance Anxiety" presented by Sheila Paige. We are extremely fortunate to have Sheila come to Raleigh and offer us her top-notch sessions.

Preparations have begun for the 2010 NCMTA Conference Oct. 7-10 at UNC Wilmington. I am pleased to announce that our conference artist is an American virtuoso James Giles. (www.jamesgiles.net) The Wilmington Symphony is onboard for a Sat. recital. We are currently in negotiations to offer hotel rooms as low as \$69 per night! Mark your calendars now; come to the beautiful coast to renew, refresh, and invigorate!

!!!Congratulations to our MTNA Competition Finalists from NC ...the wind Quintet "Halycon" from UNC School of the Arts in Chamber Music, Anna Darnell in Senior Woodwinds, and Michael Bennett in Junior Composition. They will represent NC at the MTNA Conference in Albuquerque in March. Know that you have helped with their travel expenses to the Southern Division and National competitions through your NCMTA dues and your support of the NCMTA Scholarship Fund. Your organization does wonderful things!

-Diane Blanchard



Thank you to Jane Moore, Kathy Vockeroth, and Christine Albro for the delicious refreshments at the January meeting. Also, thanks to Alma Sparks for the lovely snowman theme for the table.

Susan Burnette, hospitality





Referral Program

Please sign up on the website (raleighpianoteachers.org) or call/email Ellen Scott (919-831-9167/ellenscott@nc.rr.com). Check the online listings for accuracy, please.

Burrage Music Update

The Christmas music has been packed away and the bins have been filled with sale music, including basic literature, supplemental teaching materials, and older pop music. Allen Herther is your new contact for the piano department at Burrage. You can reach him through email at piano@burragemusic.com.



Congratulations to Christine Smith for attaining MTNA Certification!

If you are interested in beginning the certification process, please contact Kathleen Vockeroth (876-4329 or kvock@bellsouth.net).

RPTA Teacher Grant Program

The deadline for applications is Feb. 28, 2010. For more information and the application, visit our RPTA website, www.raleighpianoteachers.org.

Time To Vote! Elections for the MTNA Divisions are going on now. If you haven't voted yet...go to www.mtna.org and cast your vote. If you do not have access to a computer, call Diane Blanchard to cast your vote (919-851-9900).

RPTA Monthly Meeting January 20, 2010

- **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by RPTA President Diane Blanchard in Carswell Recital Hall at Meredith College.
- **Approval of Minutes:** The minutes were approved as written.
- **Treasurer's Report:** The treasurer reported \$14,879.67 in checking account and \$13,494.60 in money market account as of Jan. 20, 2010. The current higher checking account balance reflects the YAA fees being received.
- **New Music Issues:** Allen Herther, of Burrage Music, reported on the success of the workshop with Dr. Cathy Albergo, head of piano pedagogy at UNCW. He announced the upcoming UNCW piano events including Piano Day on Feb. 6 and the Recreational Music Making Workshop with Brenda Dillon on Feb. 27. According to Allen, Brenda Dillon will also be presenting at Burrage in the summer. Allen shared three new Schirmer performance editions which included the music of Tchaikovsky, Burgmüller, and Prokofiev.
- Lucille Kaplan, of Cary, donated 4 large boxes of piano music, including music for two pianos as well as some music texts. These were placed in the Carswell Lobby for teachers to freely take.
- **Scholarship:** Carole Nicholson reported she is receiving applications.
- **Musicales:** Alma Sparks announced the next Musicale event is Sunday, Feb. 7th at Ruggero Piano. The deadline for entry is Jan. 30th and Alma encouraged participation.
- **Referral:** Ellen Scott informed the membership the referral page will be refreshed again in June, (not January). Contact Ellen if you wish your name to be deleted from the referral list.



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- **Young Artists Auditions:** Jeanine Skinner and SKY Woo announced 108 teachers are participating. 1092 students have been entered into the data base; Sally Ruggero has also been assisting. Schedules will be available at the Feb. RPTA meeting. In anticipation for next year, teachers were encouraged to print clearly on their forms and research to ensure their composer and composition information is thorough and complete (everynote.com was a suggested website for consulting). SKY Woo confirmed that specific job requests have been granted; however, she needs someone to assist with the Friday set up for the event. Award amounts will be announced at the next RPTA meeting.
- **Ruggero Piano Sale** starts with the Feb. 7th Musicale and runs through Saturday, Feb. 13th. Be sure to inform them if you, as an RPTA teacher, or your students purchase a piano so RPTA scholarships can benefit. Also, this year, be reminded there are two teacher grants, each for \$300, for which qualifying may apply. Details and applications are available at the RPTA website.
- **Email and IMTF (Independent Music Teachers Forum)** Dottie Buster reported two new members have been approved to the Yahoo email group. The responses to the IMTF question of the month were minimal; Dottie encouraged participation and asked teachers to email their responses. The "December Question of the Month" was printed and made available in the Carswell Lobby. Diane suggested posting the questions on the national website.
- **Courtesy** concerns included Marie Willett who recently lost her grandfather. The RPTA also extends sympathy to the family of Lucye Burrage and is currently receiving donations in her name to honor her memory.
- **Certification:** Kathleen Vockeroth restated the two ways to become nationally certified. One is to be college faculty, and the other is to complete a portfolio. Christine Smith, the newest RPTA teacher to achieve certification, reported on the positive effects and benefits of the process itself, such as the video taping of lessons. She also offered to help others who may be thinking about certification. Kathleen reminded members that RPTA reimburses teachers for half of the \$200 certification application fee. Contact Kathleen if you are interested.
- **Newsletter:** Melissa Jeffreys would like to have more newsletter content. Email her by the end of the month with your information.
- **Other Committee Reports:** President Diane, as well as Susan Riggs, RPTA librarian, called for the prompt return of overdue books!
- **Old Business:** None
- **New Business:**
 - New people are needed to serve on the RPTA Board for the 2010-2012 term, and the nominating committee is now being formed. If you are currently serving on the board, President Diane asked that you consider remaining; if you would like to serve, email Diane Blanchard, Dottie Buster or Susan Burnette with your input.
 - Meredith College asked RPTA to sponsor a guest recital reception at the upcoming Chopin Festival; the RPTA Executive Board voted unanimously in favor. The RPTA will sponsor the Walter Hausig Recital.
- **Announcements:**
 - It was reported that Marie Willett is very sick.
 - Dr. Kent Lyman, of Meredith College, announced the Chopin Festival Feb. 22 – 26.th He praised the support of RPTA and brought eleven posters for teachers to display in high visibility areas. According to Dr. Lyman, applications for the Feb. 23rd Chopin Competition have been coming in and excitement for the event is building.
 - Tom Lohr, NCMTA Piano Section Vice Chair, announced the need for a site coordinator for the Sept 11th NCMTA Workshop to be held at Ruggero Piano. He asked for a volunteer to fill that position and defined the responsibility associated therewith. This host will need to be present at 8:30 to collect registration fees and oversee the process. Benefits for this volunteer will include a free lunch and the workshop fee will be waived.
 - Debra Heath reminded membership of the NCMTA Festival entry deadline. That date is Saturday, January 30th.
 - Jeanine Skinner, of Music Academy South in Wake Forest, announced their Jan. 30th workshop with Bradley Sowash and shared details of the weekend schedule.
 - Diane announced lunch at Tripps and the meeting was adjourned.

