



Conroe Music Teachers Association

Selected **"Best of State for 2007"** by *MCTA*

Newsletter - September 2007

www.conroemta.org

UPCOMING DEADLINES

(Last Day to Submit!!)

Friday, September 14

- Student Affiliate registration and dues to Beth Fisbeck. (\$15)
- Fall Theory Test entries and dues to Dianne Kaldor (\$12) (Submit online using form on CMTA web site if possible)
- Laurie Keyser Sonata/Sonata Tournament entries and dues to Becky Landreth. (\$10)

(Remember that entries for an event may be submitted anytime prior to the deadline date or must be in the hands of the chairman by the deadline.)

UPCOMING DATES TO NOTE

Friday, October 5

- General Meeting

Saturday, October 13

- Laurie Keyser Sonata/Sonata Tourn.

Saturday, Oct. 27

- Fall Theory Test at First Baptist Church of Con.

NEW YEARBOOKS AT MEETING!!

Sharon Callahan will have the new publications ready for register-pick on September 7.

September General Meeting
Friday, September 7th
9:30 a.m.

LOCATION

**CONROE LIBRARY
ON I-45 N. FEEDER RD.
-North of Gladstell Exit-**

DIRECTIONS

- Take I-45 to Gladstell Exit.
- Proceed on the northbound feeder road through the light.
- The entrance to the parking lot is on the right, just past the light and multi-story building.

Agenda to include:

Reports on Upcoming Events
Proposal for Possible New High School Competition
Report on Community Service Program

(Entire Agenda included later in this Newsletter!)

PROGRAM

DIANNE KALDOR, NCTM – Theory Chairman

Subject: "Theory"

Look forward to some exciting information and tips related to teaching theory and preparing your students for the tests.

From the President

Hi to all Conroe MTA Members!!!

We are putting the final touches on everything and preparing for another great year in CMTA. We are very glad you are joining us again, or for the first time.

I look forward with much anticipation to seeing each of you at our first meeting on September 7th at 9:30 a.m. in the large meeting room at the MAIN LIBRARY in CONROE.

Please make note of all the important essentials related to our meetings and activities that are clearly defined on the first page of this Newsletter and in your yearbook.

By complying, you will be doing YOUR part in CMTA's continuing effort to STAY ON TOP as one of the most productive, exciting and smooth-running Associations in TMTA.

In closing, I would like to encourage all our newer members, and seasoned members as well, to read through (and keep for reference) the itemized list of MTNA/TMTA/CMTA benefits that appears on the next page of this Newsletter..

Becky Landreth, President

Positive Feedback for CMTA!



Dear Becky and Members of CMTA.

Congratulations for earning the award of BEST IN STATE 2006-2007.

You all are alive and doing well. I know many of you are very dedicated and give many hours of your time to make it a great organization. Keep up the good work!!

Sincerely,

.Janet Sheahan and Carol Sloane

Thanks for your generous token of thanks and the CMTA Senior Award.

Thanks for the investment this organization made in my life. I thoroughly enjoyed learning about music and getting the opportunity to participate in so many activities!!

**Sincerely, Susan Lambert
(student of Diane Delk)**

Benefits to Joining MTNA/TMTA/CMTA

For 2007-2008, the dues are \$109 for membership in ALL THREE associations. It is less than \$10/month, plus you receive two magazines periodically throughout the year and a CMTA yearbook in addition to the above benefits.

Annual Dues are much less than many other professional organizations

Magazines with LOTS of information and articles - TMTA and American Music Teacher

CMTA Yearbook with event explanations, entry forms, teacher list, etc.

Legal advice on music business matters available through MTNA

Convention fee as a member is VERY reasonable; much less than other professional conventions

Networking with other teachers – teacher enrichment

Referral List for CMTA members only. Teachers' names are given to parents seeking a teacher. One referral would pay for your dues!

Dues are usually tax deductible

Advertising tool to build your studio

State and local awards for students who participate in events

CMTA exists to promote the study of music and works to benefit you and your students

CMTA benefits from you and your participation – your ideas, input, and assistance

The membership requirements are so we can feel comfortable about your skill as a teacher and adding you to the referral list.

The attendance requirement for CMTA (meeting attendance -4 meetings) is so that you will be in touch with the other members and to enable business to be conducted.

Teachers must help at the events in which they enter students, but are also encouraged to help at other events as well. Great way to get to know other teachers better!

MTNA

TMTA

CMTA

Agenda

Conroe Music Teachers Association General Meeting
Friday, September 7, 2007-- 9:30 a.m.
Montgomery County Library in Conroe

Call to Order

Minutes from May, 2007, general meeting

Reports:

President/Facilities-- Becky Landreth

1st VP/Student Affiliate Chairman – Beth Fisbeck

2nd VP/Membership Chairman – Luanne Johns

Treasurer's Report – Sharon Callahan

Yearbook Report – Sharon Callahan

Upcoming Events-

Laurie Keyser Sonata/Sonata Tournament/Recital

Fall Theory Test – Dianne Kaldor

Holiday/Hymn/Fall Festival – Karen Barnett

Member-at-Large – Nancy Hall

Committee reports

Old Business

T Shirts

New Business

Proposal Presentation: Piano Competition for High School Students

Community Service Program – Pat Winsauer

Important Information

For the Love of Music Program – Dianne Kaldor

Announcement --Next meeting is October 5th at the LIBRARY in THE WOODLANDS (Lake Robbins Dr.)

Business Meeting Adjournment and Door Prize Drawing

(Eligibility for door prize – CMTA Members present at 9:30 and adjournment)

Program – “Theory” Dianne Kaldor, NCTM – CMTA Theory Chairman
Information and helpful advice on preparing for the annual SA theory tests.

Remember to
register pick up
your NEW
CMTA
Yearbook from
Sharon at the
meeting!



From the Editor

Welcome back CMTA Members!

Through some mysterious twist of fate, I, Don Harris, have ended up agreeing to give our very fine President (and editor!) a breather from the Newsletter for a while. Please keep your fingers crossed for me, as I gradually work at getting rid of more and more “green” behind my ears.

I am very much interested in receiving (through email, please) any information from members that is felt worthwhile to share with other members and/or their students. Thank you in advance for your literary contributions!

Since there is no Pedagogy Page for this month, the timing seems right to share a few items with you myself. The first item (and a favorite of mine!) is some “food for thought” involving a direct quote from the Ann Landers column that appeared in the Saturday, August 1, 1998 edition of the Houston chronicle.

What We Learn from Geese

Fact #1: As each bird flaps its wings, it creates an uplift draft for the bird following. By flying in a “V” formation, the whole flock adds greater flying range than if one bird flew alone.

Lesson #1: People who share a common direction and sense of community can get where they are going quicker and more easily because they are traveling on the strength of one another.

Fact #2: Whenever a goose falls out of formation, it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of trying to fly alone and quickly gets back into formation to take advantage of the lifting power of the bird immediately in front.

Lesson #2: If we have as much sense as geese, we will stay in formation and be willing to accept help when we need it and give help when it is needed.

Fact #3: When the lead goose gets tired, it rotates back into the formation, and another goose flies the point.

(Continued on next page)

Lesson #3: Geese instinctively share the task of leadership and do not resent the leader.

Fact #4: The geese in formation honk from behind to encourage those up front to keep up their speed.

Lesson #4: We need to make sure our honking from behind is encouraging and not the opposite!

Fact #5: When a goose gets sick, is wounded, or is shot down, two geese drop out of formation and follow it down to earth to help and protect it. They stay with their disabled companion until he is able to fly again or dies. They then launch out on their own or with another formation, or catch up with their flock.

Lesson #5: If we have as much sense as geese, we too will stand by one another in difficult times and help the one who has dropped out regain his place in the formation.

Now for some recent MTNA “service” updates worth knowing about:

- **Clarion Associates, Inc.** will now provide musical instrument insurance to all MTNA members for 40% off. For more information : www.clarionins.com or call 1-800-Vivaldi
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- **Legal Consultation Services** Call the MTNA office to discuss legal questions and issues such as zoning, bill collection, business formation, buying and selling existing studios, music purchase and resale to students, tax issues and more!
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- **Professional Support Line** Assistance provided by the educational services staff is available for pedagogical and business issues. Contact the MTNA office.
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- **For more information about these or other membership benefits,** visit www.mtna.org. Click on resources, programs, information resources at the top of the home page or use the quick links on the lower left.

AND.... even MORE worthwhile opportunities through MTNA!



Updates to Member Benefits

Did you know over the past few years, thousands of students nationwide have participated in MTNA's Music for Everyone Programs? Each year more and more teachers use these programs in their studios to motivate their "everyday" students. Through the use of each of the Music for Everyone programs, teachers encourage students of all abilities to set manageable goals and work toward them. While they are achieving these goals, they develop self-confidence and a sense of accomplishment, in addition to an appreciation of music.

The first of the programs is the Music Study Award. This is an excellent way to encourage your students by acknowledging their commitment to music lessons. Through MTNA, you can order certificates celebrating the years of music making your students have completed. Whether it is their first or their twelfth year, they deserve to have their commitment recognized.

The next program is the Studio Festival Program. This is designed to give students the opportunity to perform and receive a supportive critique from an experienced adjudicator whom you choose. Students receive performance certificates

and also have the option of ordering medals commemorating their experience. This program is ideal because you, the teacher, tailor the festival to meet the needs of your studio. MTNA provides detailed guidance to help you through all the steps from event preparation to publicity. This will surely be a memorable event for any studio.

The final MTNA sponsored program is the Music Achievement Award Program. The purpose of this program is to encourage all the students in a teacher's studio to continue their music study. With this program, the teacher works with each student to set measurable and achievable goals. Upon completion of these goals the student will not only be intrinsically rewarded, but will also have a tangible pin as a symbol of their accomplishments.

The programs have been very successful in studios across the country. One teacher noted the great progress her students made when she was using the Music Achievement Award Program. The following year her students did not participate in the program and they did not show as much musical growth as they had the previous year. Let this be the year that your students show tremendous growth as musicians, no matter what instrument they play.

For more information about the Music for Everyone programs, visit the MTNA website at <http://www.mtna.org/Programs/MusicForEveryone/tabid/280/Default.aspx>, or contact MTNA at mtnanet@mtna.org or by calling (888) 512-5278.



In closing, through a little research, I came up with the following list of September Composers. I hope the list proves useful to you and your students.
(Was one born on YOUR birthday?)

Composers who were born in September

09/01/1653-03/03/1706	PACHELBEL , Johann	German
09/04/1824-10/11/1896	BRUCKNER , Anton Josphe	Austrian
09/04/1892-06/22/1974	MILHAUD , Darius	French
09/05/1735-01/01/1782	BACH, Johann Christian	German
09/05/1781-04/08/1858	DIABELLI , Anton	Austrian
09/05/1791-05/02/1864	MEYERBEER , Giacomo	German
09/05/1912-08/12/1992	CAGE , John	American
09/06/1781-04/07/1858	DIABELLI , Anton	Austrian
09/08/1841-05/01/1904	DVORÁK , Antonín	Bohemian
09/09/1583-03/01/1643	FRESCOBALDI , Girolamo	Italian
09/11/1786-03/12/1832	KUHLAU , Friedrich	German
09/12/1818-03/01/1882	KULLAK , Theodor	German
09/13/1819-05/20/1896	SCHUMANN , Clara Wieck	German
09/13/1874-07/13/1951	SCHOENBERG , Arnold	Austrian-Amer.?
09/17/1884-04/08/1920	GRIFFES , Charles	American
09/21/1874-05/25/1934	HOLST , Gustav Theodore	English
09/24/1945-	RUTTER , John	English
09/25/1683-09/12/1764	RAMEAU , Jean-Philippe	French
09/25/1906-0p8/09/1975	SHOSTAKOVICH , Dimitri	Russian
09/26/1898-07/11/1937	GERSHWIN , George	American
09/27/1879-12/31/1970	SCOTT , Cyril	English
