

# NEBRASKA MUSIC EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION

## ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

119 Westbrook Music Building

University of Nebraska

November 16, 2007

[All officers reports, the minutes of the 2006 annual business meeting, and the treasurer's report were available to members as they arrived at this meeting. Members were asked to peruse the reports prior to the start of the meeting.]

President Lance Nielsen called the annual business meeting of the Nebraska Music Educators Association to order at 8:00 a.m.

To begin the meeting, President Nielsen reminded everyone that this year marked the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of MENC and led everyone in singing *Happy Birthday* to MENC.

**Gary Davis moved to approve the minutes of the 2006 business meeting as printed in the packet of reports. The motion was seconded by Evan Lee. The motion carried unanimously.**

**Tom Jaworski moved to approve the treasurer's report as printed in the packet of reports. The motion was seconded by Joann Couton. The motion carried unanimously.**

## OFFICERS REPORTS

[Note: President Nielsen's report was the only report read aloud at the meeting. All other reports were presented only in written form. All members attending were encouraged to ask questions of any officer at the appropriate time in the reports.]

**PRESIDENT** – President Lance Nielsen thanked the entire NMEA board and all members of NMEA for their efforts in keeping the association strong. He also reported on several items:

- The first summer Leadership Retreat was a huge success. These young leaders have already started to share their skills within NMEA.
- MENC's Centennial Congress met in Orlando last June and focused discussions on curriculum development, assessment, and advocacy.
- The 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of NMEA will be in 2011. Plans will soon begin for special events to celebrate that occasion.
- The dates of the 2009 and 2011 conferences have been altered by one day – Wednesday through Friday – to avoid a conflict with a home UNL football game.
- Please be ready to serve your profession through NMEA when asked.

**PRESIDENT-ELECT** – President-Elect Rex Barker reported that this year's conference includes 16 performance ensembles, 49 clinic sessions, 30 clinicians, 3 reading sessions, 6 CMENC sessions, the 7<sup>th</sup> annual Tri-M Symposium, the second Early Childhood Conference, and 15 different organizational meetings.

The keynote speaker will be Thomas Wilkins, conductor of the Omaha Symphony. Webcast sessions have been added to this conference and several sessions will be available for viewing on the website [BandDirector.com](http://BandDirector.com).

The 2008 conference will be held on November 20-22, 2008.

**PAST PRESIDENT** – Past President Glenn Nierman reported that all positions for the 2007 election have been filled. He thanked the nominating committee: Jim Kucera, Kathy Huerta-Simpson, Marilyn Holmberg, Jim Kordik, Evie Caldwell, and Rita Stinner

Several projects have been funded, thanks to help from our corporate sponsors. These include NMEA/ESU staff development sessions and the Leadership Retreat. Please contact Glenn with your suggestions for other projects that could be supported by corporate sponsor funds.

In conclusion, Glenn thanked those who served on the awards review committee: Jeff Spencer, Scot Thompson, Claudianna Todd and Michael Veak. Awards will be presented at the annual banquet.

**SECRETARY/TREASURER** – Bryan Johnson reported on several areas:

- Membership continues to be very good. Active membership is now at the highest it has been for at least the last ten years.
- There were 3,430 applications for All-State ensembles – an increase of 40 from 2006. More than 99.4% of these applications arrived electronically.
- The new email address for the Secretary/Treasurer is nmea@q.com.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & EDITOR** – Joyce Patch reminded NMEA members that they are welcome to contact her anytime. The server problems that caused difficulties with the posting of the All-State Chorus material have been fixed.

The *Nebraska Music Educator* magazine has featured several schools. Please contact Joyce about featuring your school.

**PUBLIC RELATIONS** – Judy Bush reported that it has been an exciting year. Many state legislators took time to listen to groups during the *Music at the Capitol* week. The state legislature seems open to funding the position of a state fine arts coordinator; however, this has not become a reality.

NMEA had a display booth at the NCDA conference at Doane College in July and the NCSA conference at Kearney in August. Dave Klein put together an ensemble for entertainment during the administrator's ice cream social. The media has been seeking more information about music education and specific activities by NMEA and music educators.

**CHAIR OF ELEMENTARY/GENERAL MUSIC AFFAIRS** – Tena Whiston thanked NMEA members for allowing her to serve on the board the last two years.

**CHAIR OF MIDDLE LEVEL/JUNIOR HIGH AFFAIRS** – Mike Koch asked NMEA members to please submit applications for next year's *Music at the Capitol* program.

**CHAIR OF RESEARCH AND COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY AFFAIRS** – Jan Harriott reported that there are now 13 active CMENC chapters. Adam Lambert is the new chapter adviser at Chadron State College and Kathy Ohlman is now chapter adviser at Doane College. Chapter advisers are encouraged to serve as guest authors in the *Nebraska Music Educator*. Peggy Holloway of Dana College was a guest author in the August issue. Adam Lambert's article will appear in the February 2008 issue.

The CMENC Collegiate Forum took place Thursday at the Cornhusker Hotel and St Paul's Church. Chapters are encouraged to apply for the Chapter of the Year Award. The application deadline is June 15. Three \$500 grants are being awarded to CMENC members who are doing their student teaching.

The applications for the CMENC Chapter of the Year, the student teaching grants, and the position of Apprentice Collegiate Chair may be found on the NMEA website.

**TRI M CHAIR** – Rebecca Wilhelm reported that there are 18 active Tri-M Chapters in the state in November 2007. You can activate a Tri M chapter at any time – simply contact Becky. This year's Tri M Symposium included 193 students from nine schools.

**CHAIR OF CHORAL AFFAIRS** – Mark Butler had no report at this time.

**CHAIR OF BAND AFFAIRS** – Michelle Bluford reported that the All-State Band Conductor is Dr. Michael Golemo of Iowa State University.

**CHAIR OF ORCHESTRA AFFAIRS** – Christa Speed thanked all the orchestra and band directors for their help in preparing this year's orchestra. This year's orchestra is under the direction of E. Daniel Long. Dave Klein will become the NMEA Orchestra Chair in January.

**HISTORIAN** – Historian Duane Johnson thanked everyone who has contributed materials to the archives. Especially welcome are the recordings of All-State concerts. Please continue to send Duane materials you may have – especially if you were an officer in past years.

Four names were on this year's Hall of Fame ballot, with two individuals being elected. Remember that the deadline for submission of letters of nomination is May 1. Election requires a two-thirds majority of the Past President's Council.

The retired music teachers meeting is held each year during the conference. Please keep Duane and Secretary-Treasurer Bryan Johnson informed of any newly retired teachers and of any music teachers who have passed away.

**CHAIR, ADVOCACY** – Joan Reist reported that NMEA is continuing its support of the Kennedy Center Summer Music Institute. Nebraska had no one selected in 2007. The Advocacy Chair continues to represent NMEA in activities of Nebraskans for the Arts. Two issues are now facing the Advocacy Committee: the lack of funding for a full-time arts coordinator at the State Department of Education and the effect that federally mandated testing is having on music programs, especially at the middle school level.

Joan is leaving the board at the end of this year and she thanked the board and the advocacy committee for their work on behalf of the music educators and students of the state.

**CHAIR OF AUDITIONS** – Tom Jaworski shared a detailed list of All-State auditions from all eleven sites. Two new sites were used this year – Hastings Adams Central and Lincoln East. This year was the first year a standardized judging form was used for all instrumental auditions.

Work continues toward a third set of instrumental etudes. The use of the cassette tape recorders for instrumental auditions is nearing its end. As the cassette recorders break they can no longer be replaced. Please contact Tom with ideas about reliable, affordable methods to replace the current system.

**CHAIR OF EXHIBITS** – Marilyn Godby shared detailed information about income from exhibits and the break-down of types of exhibitors. This year the net exhibit income is approximately \$22,400.00. The exhibit area is full and there are additional exhibits in the East Hallway. A thank you was extended to the Tri M students who help with set-up of the exhibit area.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **PRESENTATION OF SLATE OF OFFICERS:**

Past President Glenn Nierman presented the slate of officers recommended by the nominating committee.

The nominating committee presented Sharon Hoffman and Matt Sheppard as candidates for the office of Apprentice Chair of Auditions. There were no further nominations from the floor. **A motion to close the nominations was made by Rick Mitchell, seconded by Tom Jaworski. Motion carried.**

The nominating committee presented Randy Raines and Kim Wiedeman as candidates for the office of Chair of Band Affairs. There were no further nominations from the floor. **A motion to close the nominations was made by Dick Marolf, seconded by Joann Couton. Motion carried.**

The nominating committee presented Nicole Chapman and Kelley Rice as candidates for the office of Chair of Elementary/General Music Affairs. There were no further nominations from the floor. **A motion to close the nominations was made by Dick Marolf, seconded by Bill Roehrs. Motion carried.**

The nominating committee presented Cheri Helmer-Reisnsche and Neal Schnoor as candidates for the office of President-Elect. There were no further nominations from the floor. **A motion to close the nominations was made by Terry Rush, seconded by Dick Marolf. Motion carried.**

**A motion to accept the entire slate of officers and close all further nominations was made by Gary Davis, seconded by Rick Mitchell. Motion carried.**

### **CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Rex Barker thanked everyone for attending and introduced the theme of this year's conference – "Connections." There is a session on web casting that has been added to the conference schedule and several sessions and one concert will be available for viewing on the internet.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **AUDITIONS INFORMATION:**

Auditions Chair Tom Jaworski gave an overview of the discussion held at Thursday evening's auditions meeting. He reported that auditions have gone very smoothly this year and several suggestions have been made for consideration for future years. These include making the instrumental judging forms available on the auditions CD, updating the recording equipment, posting representative samples of selected auditions on the NMEA website, and making the scores and rankings of all students available to the directors upon request.

### **ADVOCACY THOUGHTS:**

Lance Nielsen brought several advocacy tools to the attention of NMEA members:

- MENC has many outstanding publications and other advocacy materials available to all members. These are available for purchase at the Resource Shop at this conference.
- There are advocacy tools developed from the meetings of the MENC Centennial Congress. Please become familiar with them.
- The new Harris poll has a lot of data that will be useful to music educators.

#### **MENC NATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD INFORMATION:**

Joyce Patch gave a report on a number of issues facing the MENC National Executive Board:

- *Governance* – A realignment of the Executive Board to bring representation more in line with the actual number of members in each of the six divisions has been approved by the board and will go to a vote of the entire membership in early 2008. If approved, this change will go into effect in the summer of 2008. The three largest divisions – Eastern, Southern, and North Central – will have two representatives on the national board. The remaining three divisions will combine to have one additional representative.
- *Strategic Plan* – The MENC strategic plan guides all of the decision making and efforts of the staff at MENC.

There were several questions from the membership concerning the role of guitar classes in the curriculum and their potential negative impact on existing music performance ensembles. There was also discussion on the impact of NCLB on local level administrators.

- *Website* – The MENC web site is currently undergoing a complete revision.
- *Dues Increase* – After a one year moratorium, the national dues will increase \$2.00 next year.
- *Insurance* – MENC is investigating the possibility of providing liability coverage for all members. This insurance would provide coverage in and out of the classroom. If adopted the insurance premium would be added to the cost of dues.

#### **COMMENTS FROM THE MEMBERSHIP:**

- The criteria used by MENC for selection of clinicians and sessions at their national events needs to be more readily available.
- The Thursday evening concert was great – can All-State students be required to attend?
- What is the eligibility policy for groups applying for the *Music at the Capitol* program? Does the policy apply to the school, the ensemble, or the teacher? (Answer – The same ensemble cannot perform in consecutive years. Different ensembles from the same school – sponsored by the same teacher – may apply.)

**A motion to adjourn was made by Tom Jaworski and seconded by Jan Wymore. The meeting was declared adjourned by President Nielsen.**