

NEBRASKA MUSIC EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION

Executive Board Dinner Meeting Embassy Suites – Lincoln, Nebraska 4:30 p.m. – November 18, 2010

President Rex Barker called the meeting to order with a quorum of board members present.

President Barker presented a reminder of Conference Duties and gave board members time to request any additional assistance.

Rex Barker introduced Dale Bazan and Clinton Dennis to the Board. Wynne Harrell was introduced as an honored guest. His father was Arthur Harrell, the first NMEA President.

Rex Barker shared recent correspondence with the Board.

Rex Barker, seconded by Neal Schnoor, made a motion that the NMEA board approve the 2009 Financial Review and 990 Form as prepared by the accounting firm of Morrow, Davies, and Toelle, PC. Motion carried unanimously.

Rex Barker, seconded by Sarah Boeka, made a motion that the NMEA board will donate \$50.00 to the NMEA/NMDEA grant fund in memory of Garold (Jerry) Chalupa. Jerry was the choir and band director at Ralston beginning in 1954. He was a Wayne State graduate and began his teaching in Ewing, later moving to Tilden. His program grew and had many successful performances. He retired in 1975. He was also a trumpet player in a number of polka bands. In 2004 he was inducted into the Sokol Omaha Polka Hall of Fame. **Motion carried unanimously.**

There being no other business, President Barker declared the meeting adjourned.

Nebraska Music Educators Association Annual Business Meeting November 18, 2010 119 Westbrook Music Building Lincoln, Nebraska

[All officers reports, the minutes of the 2009 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 Rex Barker called the annual business meeting of the Nebraska Music Educators Association to order at 6:31 p.m.

Becky Wilhelm moved to approve the minutes of the 2009 business meeting as printed in the packet of reports. The motion was seconded by Evan Lee. The motion carried without dissention.

Becky Wilhelm moved to approve the treasurer's report as printed in the packet of reports. The motion was seconded by Evan Lee. Secretary/Treasurer Johnson explained that the board is monitoring the budget very carefully as the last two years have finished with a financial loss for NMEA. It has been necessary to transfer funds from long-term savings to meet expenditures the last two years. NMEA's financial situation is still stable but this is a trend that cannot continue. Darren Myers asked if there was any possibility of making the vocal audition files available on-line rather than on CD. Bryan Johnson replied that the company we work with has the capability to put the files on their website for download but there are questions regarding payment options and licensing fees that must be resolved before this is a reality. **The motion to approve the treasurer's report carried without dissention.**

OFFICERS REPORTS

[Note: President Barker'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.]

PRESIDENT – President Rex Barker thanked the entire NMEA board and all members of NMEA for their support as he continues to serve as the association's President. President Barker also reported on several items:

- The annual *Music Education Week in Washington* will be held June 24-28, 2011 in Washington, D.C. Rex was able to attend the 2010 conference and it offers great focus on issues and strategies to assist music educators.
- NMEA's contracts with our vendors have been updated and clarified. Contracts with the conference hotels are being negotiated as necessary due to changes brought about with the move of UNL to the Big 10 Conference.
- The 2010 and 2011 NMEA Conference will use a Wednesday-Friday format. The 2011 Conference was planned with the Wednesday-Friday schedule in mind due to a conflict with the original UNL Big 12 football schedule. Contracts with venues and some clinicians were already in place. The NMEA board opted not to make changes in the conference schedule and risk losing some clinicians, conductors, and venues. In 2012 Nebraska will host Minnesota on the originally scheduled conference Saturday. Rather than risk a major date or venue shift, the board recommended that the conference be moved to a Wednesday-Friday schedule for that year. The dates for the next two conferences are November 16-18, 2011 and November 14-16, 2012.
- The North Central Division Meeting will be held in conjunction with the Ohio Music Educators Association Conference in Cincinnati on January 27-29, 2011.
- Discussions continue with Dr. Roger Breed, Nebraska Commissioner of Education, to reestablish a fine arts coordinator with the Department of Education.
- The Biennial Young Leaders Retreat will be held in July 2011. Please nominate young music educators in their 2nd through 7th year of teaching. You may self-nominate.
- Two students from Nebraska have been selected for the MENC/US Army All-American Band – Brandon Baxter, tenor saxophone, from North Platte High School and Curtis Reynolds, trombone, from Tri County High School.
- A database of All-State records is now available – contact Bryan Johnson to research the records for your school.

PRESIDENT-ELECT – President-Elect Judy Bush reported that the 2010 conference was put together with the hope that members will hear inspiring messages of change that will challenge us to work more passionately and with an eye towards thinking outside of the box. The conference will feature an opening concert – *3 Mo' Divas*, 14 performing ensembles, four demonstration groups, 51 general clinic sessions presented by 36 clinicians, two reading sessions, seven CMENC sessions and a recital, the 10th annual Tri-M Symposium and fourteen organizational meetings.

The Keynote speaker will be Barry Green, author of "The Inner Game of Music" and "Bringing Music to Life." North Central President Denese Odegaard will deliver keynote addresses for the Tri-M and CMENC Conferences.

Plans for the 2011 Conference are well underway. Session ideas and proposals will be accepted until March 1, 2011 so please share your thoughts. Please consider applying to perform at the 2011 conference – it would be great to showcase the diversity of Nebraska music at the 75th anniversary conference.

PAST PRESIDENT – Past President Neal Schnoor presented the slate of officers for the 2011 NMEA Executive Board. He thanked all of the candidates for their willingness to serve the profession. Please communicate names of nominees for the 2011 elections to Neal. Board positions on the 2011 election

slate will include President-Elect, Apprentice Chair of Band Affairs, Chair of Elementary/General Music Affairs, and Apprentice Chair of Membership/Mentoring.

Twenty-five Corporate Sponsors have contributed over \$5,000.00 in support of music education this year. These funds help support the NMEA Leadership Retreat, NMEA/ESU staff development sessions, and website development.

Neal thanked the Award Selection Review Committee. This committee consisted of eight members representing the geographic locations across the state and music educators at all levels and areas of expertise. The committee selected the recipients of the NMEA Music Educator of the Year Award and the NMEA Outstanding Administrator Award.

SECRETARY/TREASURER – Bryan Johnson reported on several areas:

- The worldwide financial situation continues to impact NMEA's finances. Income has remained steady or declined slightly in most areas while expenses continue to climb. Long-term investments have been hit particularly hard. The ladder of investments has been revised to maximize available interest.
- Membership totals on November 11, 2010 include 824 active members and 73 retired members. There are 216 CMENC and 406 Tri M members at this time.
- There were 3,220 All-State applications this year. Instrumental auditions declined in all areas – wind/percussion by 122, strings by 17, and jazz band by 14. Vocal auditions increased by 163.
- The monthly NMEA newsletter is now sent by email. Please be sure that NMEA has your current email address on file.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, EDITOR, WEBMASTER – Joyce Patch reported on several topics:

- Advertising in the *Nebraska Music Educator* magazine seems to be increasing again after a decline in 2009. It is important to let NMEA know if you have an address change as it is expensive when a magazine is returned as undeliverable. Joyce is always looking for news about Nebraska music educators for the "Notable" section of the magazine. Photos are also welcome – either for use in the magazine or on the cover. Please be sure all photos are at least 300 dpi. The 2011 magazines will feature information from the NMEA archives. If you have photos appropriate for use please send them to Joyce. She will scan and return the photos to you.
- Please remember to vote on Friday at the Embassy. Polling hours are 8:00 am to noon and 1:15 to 4:00 pm

CHAIR OF AUDITIONS – Matt Sheppard reported that it has been a busy year for NMEA auditions, marked by meetings and the incorporation of the third set of instrumental etudes. Matt extended his thanks to the dedicated site directors at the eleven audition sites. This was the second year of digitally recorded instrumental auditions. The audition committee and judges continue to be impressed with the quality of recordings and the increased accountability they provide.

The board will evaluate feedback received from site directors and the membership regarding the third set of etudes to see if any changes or modifications need to be made for future use of these etudes. Please send your comments and suggestions to Matt or any executive board member. Please discourage your students from contacting any judge about audition results. Directors may contact Matt for information on the ranking numbers of any student. This information will not be given directly to students. It will be given to directors upon request.

Matt is continuing to work with Chorus Chair Doran Johnson and members of NCDA regarding any potential changes in the vocal auditions. Matt also shared detailed information on the number of auditions scheduled and completed, and the vocal audition results per audition site.

CHAIR OF CHORAL AFFAIRS – Doran Johnson reported that the 2010 Chorus, directed by Dr. Edith Copley from Northern Arizona University and accompanied by Ruth Moore from Hastings College, has

444 members. Instrumentalists will be UNL students. Soloists will be selected from the chorus for the solos on *Loch Lomond* and *Rejoice*.

Eph Ehly has been contacted to conduct the 2011 All-State Chorus. There have been ongoing discussions regarding the audition process for the chorus. Input is being gathered from the state's choir directors to determine their philosophy for the selection of the chorus; then the best audition method to accomplish that philosophy can be implemented.

CHAIR OF BAND AFFAIRS – Kimberly Wiedeman reported that the lower audition numbers led to some concern about the band's numbers. However, following auditions the board was able to select a very capable and talented group of students. Everything is in place for the chair placement auditions. This year's conductor is Robert W. Smith and it should be a great event for all of the students.

CHAIR OF ORCHESTRA AFFAIRS – Patty Ritchie reported that Thomas Wilkins, Conductor and Artistic Director of the Omaha Symphony, is the conductor of the 2010 All-State Orchestra. The 2011 All-State Orchestra will be conducted by David Barg of the Omaha Conservatory of Music.

MEMBERSHIP/MENTORING – Sharon Hoffman reported that all plaques have been ordered for performing groups, retiring board members, corporate sponsors, participation awards, and the Outstanding Administrator and Music Teacher of the Year awards. There was no award for Outstanding Young Music Educator, Outstanding CMENC Chapter, or Exemplary Program this year. Certificates are being printed for clinicians, session presenters, demonstration groups, Distinguished Service Awards, grant winners, and career teachers.

HISTORIAN – Historian Duane Johnson reported that material continues to arrive at the archives. A complete list of materials in the archives is on the NMEA website.

James Saker and Patty Niemann have been elected to the Hall of Fame. The retired newsletter is going out to 183 known retired music educators. The Past President's Council will meet during the 2010 conference.

CHAIR OF COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY AFFAIRS – Doug Bush had no report at this time.

CHAIR OF COLLEGIATE MEMBERS – Ross Whiston reported that several exciting events are planned for Collegiate Day at the conference. The goal of Collegiate Day is to encourage music education students to further their career by attending sessions and meeting people in hopes of developing a successful career in music after graduation. Several issues will be important in 2011 – most notably in the area of communication. It is necessary to reach out to other chapters across the state. It is also important to have accurate contact information to facilitate communication between various chapters and the executive board.

ADVOCACY/PUBLIC RELATIONS – Debra Eschliman reported on events and projects from 2010:

- There was a breakfast meeting last January with state senators to discuss support for music education.
- NMEA provided an exhibit booth at the NSBA Convention in March and the NCDA Conference at Doane College in July.
- The annual concerts held at the capitol building to celebrate *Music in Our Schools Month* and Nebraska statehood week took place the first week of March.
- During the fall several meetings were held with Judy Bush to prepare for the conference/clinic.

CHAIR OF ELEMENTARY/GENERAL MUSIC AFFAIRS – Judy Welch reported that West Music is sponsoring sessions this year and exhibiting at the conference. Judy has tried to include conference sessions that incorporate Orff and Kodaly methods, as well as technology. The Saturday morning sessions will focus on early childhood music.

Judy encouraged elementary music teachers to nominate other elementary music teachers for the Hall of Fame. Sometimes elementary teachers get overlooked – there are many teachers who deserve this honor. Plans are underway for a special All-State Children’s Choir for our 75th anniversary in 2011.

CHAIR OF MIDDLE LEVEL/JUNIOR HIGH AFFAIRS – Sarah Boeka reported that Music Education Week at the Capitol is set for February 28-March 4, 2011. Applications and audition CDs are due by January 15, 2011. Thanks were extended to everyone who volunteered to preside over conference sessions and concerts.

CHAIR OF EXHIBITS – Marilyn Godby reported that there are a total of 104 “business/university/college” booths at this year’s conference. The MENC Resource Shop is also attending this year. 2010 exhibit fees were \$250.00 for the first booth (\$25.00 of which is the NMDEA annual dues) and \$225.00 for each additional booth. None of these fees increased this year. Additional tables are available at \$25.00 each (an increase of \$5.00) and electrical outlets are \$35.00 each (an increase of \$5.00). There are a total of 70 exhibits – 63 of which are business/universities/colleges. All exhibit coordination is done through the staff at the Embassy Suites. NMEA is also providing complimentary internet service for all exhibitors on Friday. Midwest Tent and Events provides exhibit booth signs and provides shipment of all exhibit materials.

NMDEA continues its support of music education in Nebraska by providing \$1,000.00 to NMEA grants and \$500.00 to NSBA scholarships. NMDEA also advertises in two issues of the *Nebraska Music Educator* magazine.

TRI M CHAIR – Rebecca Wilhelm reported that there are twenty active Tri-M Chapters in the state as of November 5, 2010. 18 chapters are senior high and two are junior high/middle level chapters. This year’s Tri M Symposium included a keynote address by Denese Odegaard and sessions on preparing for an audition and making a Tri M chapter more relevant. A Tri M chapter may be activated at any time during the year. Contact Becky for more information.

President Barker welcomed two new NMEA Board members: Research Chair Dale Bazan and Apprentice CMENC Chair Clint Dennis.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

PRESENTATION OF SLATE OF OFFICERS:

Past President Neal Schnoor presented the slate of officers recommended by the nominating committee.

The nominating committee presented Randy Hayes (Chase County Schools) and Matt King (Springfield Platteview Schools) as candidates for the office of Apprentice Chair of Choral Affairs. There were no further nominations from the floor. **A motion to close the nominations was made by Tom Jaworski, seconded by Becky Wilhelm. Motion carried.**

The nominating committee presented Clark Potter (University of Nebraska – Lincoln) as a candidate for the office of Apprentice Chair of Orchestra Affairs. There were no further nominations from the floor. **A motion to close the nominations was made by Becky Wilhelm, seconded by Evan Lee. Motion**

carried. Dave Klein asked if it was a problem getting candidates for this office. Neal replied that he contacted many possible candidates who declined to run for the office.

The nominating committee presented Evan Lee (Norris High School) and Pete Wilger (Omaha Central) 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 Tom Jaworski, seconded by Becky Wilhelm. Motion carried.**

The nominating committee presented Elise Gutshall Hepworth (Wayne State College) and Daniel Laing (Hastings College) as candidates for the office of Chair of College/University Affairs. There were no further nominations from the floor. **A motion to close the nominations was made by Gary Davis, seconded by Tom Jaworski. Motion carried.**

The nominating committee presented Stacy Bean (Horizon Middle School, Kearney) and Michelle Hall (Andersen Middle School, Millard) as candidates for the office of Chair of Middle Level/Junior High Affairs. There were no further nominations from the floor. **A motion to close the nominations was made by Becky Wilhelm, seconded by Cathy Keiser. Motion carried.**

A motion to accept the entire slate of officers and close all further nominations was made by Christa Speed, seconded by Jim Schulz. Motion carried.

CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENTS:

President Elect Judy Bush mentioned several unique aspects of this year's conference. William Wyman is presenting a unique session on conducting at the Embassy Suites Pool and Carolyn Barber is hosting a lunch session to investigate the future of music education in the state. There is a special session with the "Tech Geeks" to help members find solutions to technology problems. There are special Early Childhood Sessions on Saturday morning. There will be a dessert reception for all Awards winners at the Cornhusker Hotel immediately following the banquet.

NMEA 75TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION:

Jim Schulz and Joel Sunderman will be recording videos of NMEA members on Saturday morning at the Embassy Suites. These short interviews will be used to make a special video presentation for NMEA's 75th anniversary celebration in 2011. Please stop by and record your memories and greetings.

NEW BUSINESS

CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES:

Executive Director Joyce Patch explained the proposed changes to the NMEA Bylaws. These changes were proposed to reflect current practice.

Bylaw I – Membership, Section 5 – Retired Membership will be changed as follows: The words "Retired members shall have the same privileges of active membership except the right to hold elective office" will be changed to "Retired members shall have the same privileges of active membership." This change will allow retired NMEA members to hold elective office.

Bylaw II – Dues and Fees will be changed as follows: The words "and the Society for General Music are" will be deleted. (These fees are no longer a membership option.)

Bylaw III – Government, Section 2 – Elected Officers will be changed as follows: The words "Music Industry Council" will be changed to the "Nebraska Music Dealers and Exhibitors Association".

Bylaw V – Administration, Section 1 – Executive Director will be changed as follows: In the listing of duties of the Executive Director the words “publish and distribute all general mailings to the membership” will be changed to “in cooperation with the Secretary/Treasurer publish and distribute all general mailings to the membership.”

Tom Jaworski, seconded by Cathy Keiser, moved that the proposed changes to the NMEA Bylaws be approved as printed. Motion Carried.

AUDITIONS INFORMATION:

Auditions Chair Matt Sheppard shared ideas and comments from the auditions meeting held earlier in the evening. The digital recording of instrumental auditions worked very well again this year. There was a problem with some students trying to contact instrumental judges following the release of the audition results. No student should contact any judge – students should take their questions to their director who will forward those questions to the NMEA Auditions Chair.

MENC NATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD INFORMATION:

President Barker introduced special guest Wynne Harrell, Executive Secretary of the Missouri Music Educators Association. Wynne is the son of NMEA first President, Art Harrell. Wynne shared a few memories of his father and the early days of NMEA. President Barker also introduced Denese Odegaard, MENC North Central Division President.

Denese brought greetings from MENC. The association has made the transition to a new Executive Director, Michael Butera, very successfully. MENC is working closely with the leadership of the North Central Division. Denese urged all members to attend the annual Music Education Week in Washington, DC and to consider having students audition for the National Honors Ensembles. National issues at this time include a slight decline in membership nationwide, the importance of maintaining active advocacy programs, and the increasing importance of non-traditional and alternative music programs in our schools.

MENC North Central Division Past President Glenn Nierman brought greetings from John Richmond, Director of the UNL School of Music, and Jack Oliva, Dean of the Lied-Hixson College of Fine and Performing Arts. Glenn assured the membership that UNL will continue to work with NMEA as a host site as everyone works with schedule changes necessitated by the move of UNL to the Big 10 Conference.

ALL-STATE HISTORICAL DATABASE:

Secretary/Treasurer Johnson gave a demonstration of the new All-State database system. This database contains information on every student who is listed in programs as participating in any All-State or conference ensemble from 1936 to the present. It is fully searchable and contains the student's names, school, year in school, and instrument or voice classification. Also included is information on the host site or school, the dates of the event, the conductor, and the repertoire performed. The database should be fully functional by late winter or early spring. The full database is available to any NMEA member, provided they have access to FileMaker Pro software. Those without the required software may request the information for any school or city/town in either PDF or spreadsheet format.

NMEA MENTORING PROGRAM ON FACEBOOK:

Bill Roehrs gave an overview of the NMEA mentoring project. A Facebook discussion group has been established to link young music educators who have questions with experienced music educators.

A motion to adjourn was made by Tom Jaworski and seconded by Doug Bush. The meeting was declared adjourned by President Barker at 7:45 p.m.