

LMTA BOARD MEETING MINUTES
June 3, 2011, 7:00 p.m.
Lake Charles, LA

Attendance: Donna Toney, President; Teresa Thomas, Piano Rally Chair; Judy McGehee, Pres–dent–Elect; Angel Carter, Northshore President; LaWanda Blakeney, MTNA Jr. High Performance Competition Chair; Dorothy Sahlmann, VP Rallies; Carla Breaux, Technology Chair; Patti Misita, VP Membership; Pamela Pike, Baton Rouge President; Charlie Jones, South Central Division Director; Christy Vogt–Corley, Lake Charles President; Sue Steck–Turner, VP Certification; Katherine Tobey, Immediate Past President and Webmaster; and Robin Ebeyer, Secretary.

President Donna Toney called the meeting to order.

Attendance was taken by signature.

David Evenson is retiring, and therefore resigning as the LMTA Piano Chair. This position will remain open until Judy assumes the presidency, at which time which she will appoint a new chair.

Susie Garcia will be the 2012 Foundation Fellow from Louisiana.

Ken Boulton reported that the Young Artists MTNA Competition, held last year after convention, had the highest participation ever. Louisiana had two first–place winners. Ken has sent out another letter and hopes to have equal enthusiasm and participation this year. LMTA has agreed to reimburse students for ½ their entry fees in order to encourage more participation.

President Toney gave the Treasurer’s report, submitted by Janet Colbert, who was unable to attend the meeting. LMTA has a balance of \$26,590.82 as of May 31, 2011 at the Red River Bank. Discussion about purchasing a new computer for LTMA Treasurer’s usage was discussed.

VP Membership Patti Misita informed the group of MTNA’s national campaign to increase membership, “Each One Reach One.” All members are encouraged to help promote MTNA, LMTA, and their local associations.

VP Certification Sue Steck–Turner reported that Louisiana is still holding strong in second place in the nation for national certification.

Sue requested all district rally reports so that she can contact teachers who are eligible for state certification.

VP Rallies Dorothy Sahlmann reported that 27 students and three teachers participated in the 2011 Harp Rally. 31 students and six teachers participated in the String Rally. This is the second year to hold one state-wide String Rally which has proven very successful. The Piano Rally numbers are still pending. 165 students will be participating in the Torgrimson/Swanzy Competition at McNeese on June 4.

Charlie Jones, South Central Division Director, reported that MTNA is in better financial shape. Membership has been slowly declining for a few years and MTNA is trying to bolster membership. There were 21,000 MTNA members as of June 3. Charlie reported that attendance at national conferences has been down, so this year MTNA is going to make sure to offer lots of sessions for the independent teacher, versus only college faculty. The 2012 conference will be held in New York, 2013 in Anaheim, CA, and 2014 in Chicago.

Webmaster Katherine Tobey requests that all parties responsible for information changes or additions send her the information as soon as possible to avoid delays. Katherine, 2011 convention bulletin editor, suggested that we do away with ¼-page ads for the Convention Bulletin and instead offer the local associations, universities, and LMTA members a ½-page ad for \$40. Katherine also informed the group of the need to train a new Webmaster to be ready to take over in two years, when she will step down.

Sue Steck-Turner, Chair of the SHS Fund, informed the group that the fund was down to about \$2000. It funded 23 students and six teachers and has been depleted very quickly. Sue reported that the LMTA Executive Board decided that the SHS fund cease as of June 4 and be replaced with SOS (Save Our Students), which is an LMTA emergency fund. This fund is to be used to provide emergency relief for Louisiana students and teachers, as well as other MTNA State affiliates.

Carla Breaux, Technology Chair informed the group her session at convention will provide information about on-line music games for children. She also informed the group that she plans to pursue the possibility of Chris Hermanson of Music Learning Community incorporating games to support LMTA's Rally Syllabus.

The Chamber Music Competition will be held November 6, 2011 at the University of Louisiana, Monroe. The guidelines are posted on the LMTA website, cash prizes will be given, and this competition is open to both LMTA members and non-members.

Judy informed the group of the convention clinicians. Jennifer Hayghe, Robert Vandall, and Steve Betts will all be our distinguished guests. Jennifer will present a recital on Thursday at 7:30, as well as conduct a master class.

**Respectfully submitted,
Robin Ebeyer, Secretary**