

The Southeast Rag



March, 2013

The Voice of Southeast MBSI

Volume 30, No 1

2011-12 Southeast Chapter Officers

Craig Darlak, Chairman

Mary Ellen Myers, Vice Chairman

Julie Morlock, Secretary and Membership

Reporter and Photographer, Howard Sanford

Treasurer and Webmaster, Clay Witt

Librarian, Moe Goldy

Chairman's Message

by Craig Darlak, Chairman



I am humbled by your confidence and would like to thank my fellow members who have entrusted to me, as their chairman, the Southeast Chapter of the Musical Box Society International. I have "some big shoes to fill" as Dr. Wayne Finger was tireless and did an outstanding job the past two years as chairman. Fortunately, I have in my collection a very large pair of red clown shoes and, therefore, I should be up to the task! All kidding aside, Wayne is a very difficult, class act to follow, but I am dedicated to the path ahead and look forward to working with all the Chapter's officers.

The next two years promises to be an exciting time to see and hear the sounds of our chapter members' automated musical machines. Likewise, our chapter has the great honor of hosting the 2014 national MBSI meeting. Not only will we have a wonderful time working together to prepare for the national meeting, but we have the talent in our chapter to make the national meeting unique and one to remember.

Again, thank you for your support and trust. I will strive to be worthy of your faith and to exceed your expectations as chapter chairman.

Best regards,
Craig Darlak

During these serious and troubled times, people of all faiths should remember these four great religious truths:

- 1. Muslims do not recognize Jews as God's Chosen People.**
- 2. Jews do not recognize Jesus as the Messiah.**
- 3. Protestants do not recognize the Pope as the leader of the Christian world.**
- 4. Baptists do not recognize each other at the liquor store.**



Calendar of Events

Spring 2013 Meeting
May 17, 2013

Ramada Waterfront
Sarasota/Bradenton

Hosts: Rex and Ruth Burgett with
Mary Ellen and Wayne Myers

MBSI 64th Annual Meeting
August 26-September 1, 2013

Chicago, IL

Co-hosts: Bob McKanna, Al
Choffness, Marty Persky

2014 Annual Meeting Trial
October 27-29, 2013

Bonaventure Resort and Spa
Weston, FL

Hosts: Carol Beck and Bill Griffin

EDITOR. Dixie V. Leis, 6138 Guilford Drive, New Port Richey, FL 34655, dixleis@aol.com

Minutes of Jacksonville, FL Meeting

February 8-10, 2013

by Julie Morlock, Recording Secretary



The winter meeting of the Southeast Chapter was held in Orange Park, FL on February 9, 2013.

Past Chairman Wayne Finger passed the gavel to new Chapter Chairman Craig Darlak, who thanked Wayne for his service. Craig called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. He recognized new members John and Nattaya Leuenberger, welcomed Chapter members who traveled from New Orleans to attend the meeting, and introduced guests Alan Sanford and Marsha Walker. He also recognized the trustees who were present.

Membership Report: Craig Darlak urged members to renew their dues at both the chapter and national levels. Julie Morlock reported that there were currently 128 members, as several had chosen not to renew at National; 24 members still owed 2013 chapter dues. She noted that many members had paid their dues ahead and commended member Bob Atkins for paying his dues through 2021. She passed on greetings from Mark and Millie Cohn and from Vernon and Penelope Gantt, who were not able to attend the meeting. She also reported that Beatrice Farmer was not in attendance due to a fall; she had no broken bones but did have severely bruised ribs.

Craig Darlak thanked Lindsey Walker for his open house on Friday night, and thanked Julie and Cotton Morlock and Warren Officer in advance for their open houses.

The minutes of the previous meeting held November 10, 2012 in Danville, VA were approved as printed in the last issue of the *Southeast Rag*.

Awards: Craig Darlak reported that he had received an e-mail from National asking for the names of members who should be recognized for promoting the causes of MBSI (by giving talks or demonstrations at schools, etc.); let him know of any members whose names should be submitted. Craig then presented Wayne Finger with a plaque in honor of his service as chapter chairman for the previous two years.

Treasurer's Report: Clay Witt reported that we had a total of \$8,184.59 in our checking and money market accounts. He is carrying the \$3,655.46 for table favors as an asset; while the chapter fronted the

cost for the favors, we will be reimbursed by 2014 registration fees and future sales of the favors. For the last year we were \$134.45 in the black; it would have been more, but we have to make a \$500.00 hotel deposit for our fall meeting. Cash on hand for the 2014 Annual Meeting was \$11,876.49, including a \$7,500.00 cash advance from National; this should be sufficient to carry us until registration fees start coming in. We have an additional \$7,500.00 available from National if needed. 2014 expenses to date are \$1,223.51, including the \$1,000.00 hotel deposit; National will be making all future hotel deposits.

Website: Clay Witt asked for pictures to be emailed to him so they can be posted on the website slide show; send to clay@floridaclay.net.

Registrars' Report: Craig thanked Kay Simmons and Paula Horton for their work. There were 52 registered for the meeting.

Newsletter: Craig urged members to send articles to Dixie Leis for inclusion in the *Southeast Rag*.

Librarian's Report: Moe Goldy did not bring the library this time. Craig Darlak urged members to turn in books that had been borrowed, and brought up the issue of storage for the books. Wayne Finger noted that this is the best collection of mechanical music books in the Southeast and that it was great to have the library brought to a meeting once a year; he suggested that maybe someone could take it over. Moe said he was happy to continue managing the library, but that there wasn't much turn over. Moe will get a list of books available to Dixie to print in the *Southeast Rag*, and Clay will see about putting the list on the website.

Reporter/Photographer: Howard Sanford reminded everyone to please smile when having their photo taken at open houses.

2014 Annual Meeting: Bill Griffin reported that following a planning meeting at the Bonaventure Resort and Spa in November, it was necessary to revise the tour schedules due to travel times/traffic in Miami and because we are still waiting for confirmation from several sites. It was decided that the Dezer Auto Collection will be an optional tour. Charlie Note has resigned as Transportation Chairman due to ill health, so we are looking for a new chairman; talk to Bill or Carol if interested. Carol Beck is asking for donations of small musical items for door prizes; if you have something to donate let Carol know and bring it to the next meeting. She noted that the hotel had donated a coupon for services at the day spa. Wayne Finger reported on publicity; he and his committee (Andy and Irene Kaufman) are planning a variety of

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- Minutes. continued from previous page

methods to promote the meeting, including the possibility of writing articles that highlight some of the machines from the open houses for publication in the *Journal/MMD*. He asked for assistance with reaching out to the local population. Bill noted that the special exhibit, registration and hospitality will all be in the same room. Cotton Morlock asked Chapter members to plan on spending time in the hospitality area, and to encourage other attendees to do the same; he noted that Warren Officer is loaning a piano and George Fryer is loaning a music box for use in the hospitality/special exhibit area. Craig Darlak will be in charge of security for the special exhibits. Moe Goldy offered to bring several automata. Howard Sanford reported that he has several workshop speakers lined up so far (Frank Metzger, Nancy Fratti, Moe Goldy, Paul Bellamy, George Fryer, Peter Klein, Dick Swaney, and Ron Bopp) and has leads on several more, including several Japanese members. Bob and Diane Yates will be the keynote speakers. He asked members to volunteer as speakers. Once the speakers are scheduled, Stephen Brittain and Dale Koehn will be able to arrange for audiovisual needs. Bill Griffin announced that the entertainment for 2014 would be the Raleigh Ringers, a NC hand bell group, and that part of the costs were being underwritten by Malmart, Inc., a hand bell manufacturer. He asked for the loan of a disc of the Regina March; Carol Beck offered hers.

Martin van Zanten reminded everyone that there would be a table favor workshop in the afternoon of this meeting. He recognized members who had helped with the favors so far: Don Scheetz, Rex and Ruth Burgett, George Fryer, John Martin, Norm Bauer, and Marilou van Zanten. There will be another workshop during the May meeting, and all subsequent meetings as necessary.

Trustees Report: Howard Sanford reported that the trustees have a mid-winter meeting in Philadelphia, PA on April 5, which includes a trip to the Neilson Collection (American Treasure Tour) in Valley Forge. Wayne Myers described the MBSI museum collection that is shown there.

Unfinished/New Business: Mary Ellen Myers asked about the policy regarding the public attending marts; it was noted that nonmembers/guests have to be registered at the meeting. Mary Ellen reported that the hotel for the May meeting is agreeable to advertising the MBSI by putting out banners, brochures, etc. Moe Goldy said the NWACC group is experimenting with opening their shows to the public.

Moe Goldy suggested having another organ rally. Carol Beck noted that the organ rally planned for the

2014 meeting is part of the welcome dinner and not open to the public, but they are looking at having a band organ out in front of the hotel. Wayne Finger suggested the meetings chairman plan one organ rally a year. Martin van Zanten offered to do one again in Largo, but it would have to wait until after the 2014 Annual Meeting. Paula Horton noted that the Largo meeting was great because of the number of children who were interested in the machines. Carol Beck mentioned that the Nations Capital Chapter does an organ rally yearly, Moe said that COOA does one in March in Bradenton, and Cotton Morlock pointed out that the Largo rally worked so well because we tagged onto another public event.

Kay Simmons said she had received positive response to receiving future registration information through email, and asked that anyone else interested doing so let her know, as it is a great way to save money.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

An elderly Floridian called 911 on her cell phone to report that her car has been broken into. She is hysterical as she explains her situation to the dispatcher: They've stolen the stereo, the steering wheel, the brake pedal and even the accelerator!"she cried.

The dispatcher said, Stay calm. An officer is on the way."

A few minutes later, the officer radios in. Disregard." He says. She got in the back-seat by mistake."

Photos from the Jacksonville Meeting

Howard Sanford, photographer



Judy Miller, and Lou Boyd from New Orleans, crank Lindsey Walker's monkey organ during Lindsey's Friday night open house.

- more photos on next page

More Photos from JAX



Bill Endlein, Bob Smith, and about forty others ably helped create bases for the 2014 Annual Meeting table favors on Saturday afternoon.



While playing some patriotic songs on the Morlock's upright player piano with Welte system, Stephen Brittain (not pictured) challenged some folks to sing along to his accompaniment. Left to right: Marilou vanZanten, Sandy Cranfill, and Judy Miller took him up on it.



During his open house on Sunday, Warren Officer proudly poses with his 1914 Seeburg A. Warren provided a great breakfast buffet for his visitors.

Southeast Mart

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Somebody has said there are only two kinds of people in the world. There are those who wake up in the morning and say, 'Good morning, Lord,' And there are those who wake up in the morning and say, 'Good Lord, it's morning.' "

An Open Letter to Members

Dear Chapter Members,

We are making an appeal for door prize donations for the 2014 Annual Meeting in Weston, Florida. We are taking a different approach this time, instead of appealing to businesses. We are looking for door prizes which would be small treasures that have been collecting dust in a forgotten corner, and would be treasured by someone else, like small music boxes, piano rolls, records, whatever type of items that are related to our organization's member's interests. They should be in good condition, clean, and desirable. We also thought it would be nice if the donor wrote either a little note about it or just a nice welcoming note to the "winner." This might add a nice personal touch and invite new interactions and friendships.

We would like to start receiving items as soon as possible so we will know how many we actually have. Any members who are interested in making a donation should send the item and/or a letter of explanation to:

Carol Beck
6110 Lackland Court
Norcross, GA 30092

Constipated People Don't Give A Crap.

What Is It?

Cotton Morlock brought the antique family heirloom, pictured below, to the Saturday night event in Orange Park. Folks took turns guessing what it was. Can you figure it out?



Above left: Martin van Zanten, Wayne Myers, and Paul Burt study the item. At the right, kneeling, Cotton demonstrates how it works.

Answer: The item is a folding fireman's ladder.

Membership Contact Change

Please add the following new members to your 2012 membership list:

John and Nattaya Leuenberger
541 E. Miracle Strip Parkway
Mary Esther, FL 32569
Phone: (850) 244-6150
eMail: jeleuen@cox.net

Paul and Meryl Torin
3624 Torrey Pines Blvd.
Sarasota, FL 34238-2827
Phone: (941) 927-6654
eMail: paultorin@verizon.net



In Memoriam

Long time member Ceola Bristow died during the last week of February, 2013. The chapter sends condolences to her husband Tom and family. Those wishing to send condolence cards may send them to Tom Bristow at 9276 141st Street North, Seminole, FL 33776.

Save the Date!

9/27/2013 - 9/29/2013

Southeast Chapter's Trial Meeting
for the Southeast Chapter-sponsored MBSI
2014 Annual Meeting.

Hyatt Regency Bonaventure
Weston, FL

Your help and support is needed!

Collection Viewing Etiquette

- ◆ Always ask the host if photographs or video may be taken. If you intend to publish these photographs/videos, please get the host's permission to do so and ask whether the host wants the collection identified.
- ◆ Do not smoke inside the home and ask permission before smoking outside the home.
- ◆ Do not bring food near the instruments. Be careful where you set plates and drinks.
- ◆ "Hands off" is the best policy. Beware of belt buckles and other objects that could cause damage. Never try to adjust or repair an instrument unless asked to do so by the host.
- ◆ Do not play any instrument unless given permission by the host to do so. It is always best if the host turns on the instrument as some of them can be pretty finicky.
- ◆ Do not ask the host or instrument owner the value of an instrument or how much it would cost to purchase one.
- ◆ Meeting hosts generously open their homes and collections to members and go to a great deal of trouble to accommodate our group. Be sure to introduce yourself to them and sign any guest book.
- ◆ Remember you are a guest in their home. Be courteous and keep your comments to yourself. Thank the hosts when you leave and a thank you note would be most welcome.
- ◆ When instruments are being played, please refrain from talking as many instruments have a soft voice.
- ◆ Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times and follow these courtesies.

2014 Favors Update

by *Martin Van Zanten*

Thanks to the diligent efforts of about 45 members, the favors workshop on February 9 was very successful. Of the 300 we plan to make, 250 favors were completed through Phase One. I was very pleased with the outcome and greatly appreciate everyone's help. It was quite a sight to step back and view the room as people concentrated on their specific task, and, yes, had some fun, too.

I also want to thank the following members who worked to prepare the bases prior to the meeting: Don Scheetz, John Martin, Norm Bauer, Rex & Ruth Burgett, George Fryer and Marilou van Zanten.

The next workshop is scheduled for May 18 in Sarasota, where Phase Two of the work will take place. Please make every effort to attend that meeting.

I am cautiously optimistic that at the last workshop on September 28, 2013 (in Weston, Florida) we will complete the project which will include boxing the favors. Then they will be stored until the 2014 Annual Meeting. It has been my goal to complete the favors a year prior to the 2014 Annual Meeting and it appears that is attainable.

Chapter members will then be free to join other committees that need assistance as we approach the final year of preparations to host the Musical Box Society International members.

'OLD' IS WHEN...

- ◆ **Your sweetie says, 'Let's go upstairs and make love,' and you answer, 'Pick one; I can't do both!'**
- ◆ **Your friends compliment you on your new alligator shoes and you're barefoot.**
- ◆ **A sexy babe or hunk catches your fancy and your pacemaker opens the garage door.**
- ◆ **Going braless pulls all the wrinkles out of your face.**
- ◆ **You don't care where your spouse goes, just as long as you don't have to go along.**
- ◆ **You are cautioned to slow down by the doctor instead of by the police**
- ◆ **'Getting a little action' means you don't need to take any fiber today.**
- ◆ **'Getting lucky' means you find your car in the parking lot.**
- ◆ **An 'all nighter' means not getting up to use the bathroom.**

AND WHEN...

- ◆ **You are not sure these are jokes.**

