



# The Southeast Rag



**January, 2015**

**The Southeast MBSI Newsletter**

**Volume 32, No.1**

**2015-2016 Chapter Officers:** Committee Leaders:

**Chair:** Mary Ellen Myers

Librarian: Moe Goldy

**Vice Chair:** Vacant

Membership: Julie Morlock

**Secretary:** Julie Morlock

Newsletter: Wayne Finger

**Treasurer:** Clay Witt

Reporter: Howard Sanford

**Chair Emeritus:** Craig Darlak

Webmaster: Clay Witt



## **Chair's Message:**

(by Mary Ellen Myers)

It's already been a month since the "calendar has flipped" to bring us into 2015! To me, the number "5" has always indicated a half way point. But, this endmost "5" is a "beginning" ... of a 2 year term as your chairperson, which I anticipate with excitement, and enthusiasm, yet with just a bit of "the nerves"! I will work to make these next two years good ones. But, remember, we are ALL Southeast Chapter so input, ideas and involvement from ALL will make the days ahead a real Southeast endeavor! Let's not hesitate to try new things!

Sharing the fun of music is the best part of owning music - making machines. Check out this little 2 ½ year old guy, slyly concealing a nickel in his hand. He knows the coin will bring the Seeburg, Jr. to life, and loves to watch the wheels go round, as he dances and laughs, and tries to figure out how it all works! Wish a video could have been done in the newsletter! A young mind is such a "sponge", never too callow to absorb music, the



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## **Upcoming Chapter Events!**

### **Feb 27-Mar 1 COAA Mid Winter Meeting**

Contact Ron Bopp Phone (941) 201-6503

High Springs, FL,

The Carousel Organ Assoc. of America invites MBSI members for a great weekend.

### **Feb-Mar Monkey Business at "Cruise Ins"**

Contact: Jack & Mary-Ann Hostetler

Spanish Springs, The Villages

February 21 (3:00 - 8:00 PM)

March 21 (3:00 - 8:00 PM)

Information in the December RAG.

### **March 26-27-28-29 Chapter Meeting:**

New Orleans (Metarie, LA)

Meeting joint with Sunbelt and Trustees

Organizers: Louis and Ann Boyd

More information on Page 2

### **May 29-30-31, 2015 Chapter Meeting**

Orlando Area, FL

Organizers: Mary Ellen and Wayne Myers

Highlights: Myers Collection, Bill & Cindy

Hall's Street Organs, Morse Museum, Winter Park Boat Tour, more Information to come.

### **Late September - Fall 2015 Chapter Meeting**

Williamsburg, VA

Chapter Meeting joint with Piedmont

Organizers: Dan Wilson/Vernon Gantt

More Information to come

curiosity to wonder what makes it all happen, and the memory to never forget! This also transits to the mature adult crowd!

Early in December we sponsored an “Open Myers House - Viewing, Listening and Learning Tour” for residents of Freedom Point located near The Villages. Although no one tried to “sneak an extra” nickel song, they expressed their enjoyment by singing along with many of the familiar Christmas tunes and swinging and swaying to the melodies. The group would have loved to spend the entire day as they were truly engaged in the mechanics, craftsmanship, history, and personal memories associated with these music making wonders. Too bad the bus driver was on a schedule! Thank you to Ray and Trudy Zapata and Jack and Mary-Ann Hostetler for helping to make this happen. PS Mary-Ann makes great scones, which she baked for the occasion!

May the year ahead bring you all the blessings of good health and much happiness, and ... much music! I look forward to the tuneful times ahead.

### **Officer Needed!** (by Mary Ellen Myers)

I regret to announce that Don Shank has resigned the position of Southeast Vice Chairman due to unforeseen commitments that came about. He plans to stay as active in the Chapter as his circumstances allow. (Don, we wish you well, and hope you might be available again at a later time.)

We really need a replacement! Our Chapter depends on members coming forward as leaders. Remember, this is a shared effort. We have a lot of talent in Southeast just waiting to be discovered! Longevity in MBSI is not a requirement. Yes, it does involve some work, but fun work! And the satisfaction gained tips the scale! As a newcomer to the post of Vice Chair two years ago, I admit being a bit unsure at first, but Chairman Craig Darlak and Southeast members were (and still are) very supportive. I am happy to have the opportunity to be active in a hobby I love.

Please volunteer now! ... This is an ideal time to become the Vice Chair and slowly ease into the routine because the meetings of 2015 are already set! So, if you are a “people person,” if you are fairly organized, if you enjoy planning, if you want to really be engaged in MBSI, then you are the person we need!

Please give this some serious consideration. Any questions or to volunteer contact me. Mary Ellen Myers [maryellen@cfl.rr.com](mailto:maryellen@cfl.rr.com) (PS I’m easy to work with!)

### **About our upcoming Meeting in New Orleans area** (by Mary Ellen Myers)

The dates March 26 - 29, 2015 belong on your calendar! It’s the weekend of our Joint Chapter meeting with Sunbelt and Our Trustees in Metairie, near New Orleans, Louisiana. Come and experience the hospitable culture of this part of our country, be it through food, friendships, sights or ALL of the above! Become acquainted with some master craftsmen as they have spent much of their lifetime bringing the past back to life. Seasoned travelers have learned that to know a place you must first know the people who live there. After many planning conversations with Louis and Ann Boyd, I feel I know New Orleans! Some of the highlights include a 25 mile drive across Lake Pontchartrain to experience two magnificent Collections, the home of Don and Mary Rose Elbers, and the home of Randy Hayno, and an evening with

Louis and Ann Boyd, a very busy Friday! On Saturday we will visit the French Quarter and be personal guests of the Rau family in their world famous M.S. Rau Antiques Gallery. No need for French Quarter driving worries - We'll travel via bus! Sunday will bring additional open houses, the house of Warren George and Nick and Judy Bonura.

We will have a Chapter business meeting, and a "show & tell" so try to fit a small item (with a big story) into your suitcase. In keeping with Southeast tradition, there will be a mart. Also, Louis will do a workshop on his experiences in restoration.

Maps and information on restaurants will be available at the registration table. More specific details will be included in your registration materials.

So, take advantage of this opportunity and for a few days live the life of true Louisianans!

### **Have You Received a Chapter Dues Notice?** (by Julie Morlock)

If you received a 2015 Southeast Chapter dues notice from Julie Morlock, please send in your payment now:

- If you wish to receive your copy of the Southeast Rag by email, dues are \$5.00 per year.
- If you wish to receive your copy of the Southeast Rag by USPS mail, dues are \$10.00 per year.



### **Be sure to Welcome New Members of Our Chapter:** (by Julie Morlock)

Since the last newsletter, our group of mechanical music enthusiasts has grown. Please welcome our new members with a phone call or a note. If you live nearby, invite them to dinner and listen to some music!

**Timothy & Mary Hughes**  
1318 Quail Court  
The Villages, FL 32163  
(352) 633-6363  
mthughes68@ymail.com

### **MBSI AT THE VILLAGES DECEMBER 2014** (by Jack and Mary-Ann Hostetler)

MBSI has done it again – the Special Exhibits committee, teaming up with the Villages Musical Boxers Club, presented our second annual Christmas/Holiday show in The Villages December 19 – 21, 2014. Over 1000 visitors, including families with 3 generations, came to see and hear our musical machines. The event involved 15 participants – 14 were MBSI members, and 7 were also members of The Musical Boxers Club.

There were 5 beautiful street organs on display in the show room, provided by Wayne and Mary Ellen Myers, Howard Wyman, Ray and Trudy Zapata, Craig Darlak, and Martin and Marilou VanZanten. Howard Wyman also displayed his Wurlitzer 105 outside the building, playing Christmas music. Cotton and Julie Morlock displayed a large variety of musical instruments including Edison machines. There were also many cylinder and disk players.



Howard Wyman w/ Wurlitzer



Mary Ellen Myers w/ Disc Music Box



Zapatas demonstrating several music items

While Howard was tending to the Wurlitzer, Mary-Ann and I had the honor to display his street organ inside. We also had the honor to display Mary Ellen's Gem Roller Organ – she and Wayne were busy attending 4 tables of musical instruments. Two new MBSI members from The Villages Musical Boxers Club, Tim and Mary Hughes, conducted their first exhibit of their Regina Disk Player - an heirloom passed down from Mary's family. Marilou and Martin VanZanten displayed their street organ beside a table full of other wonderful machines.

We raffled off music boxes as door prizes, children were shown how to crank and play a street organ, and were given certificates as accomplished Organ Grinders. Several attendees picked up MBSI sign-up forms and information brochures, so we may get a few new members. The best news is that we have been invited back to do the 3rd Annual Holiday Show next December – the dates are not set, but will most likely be the weekend before Christmas – so mark Dec. 18 through 20, 2015 on your calendar as my best guess for the event. I will verify the dates as soon as I know.



Craig Darlak displaying Street Organ



Marylou VanZanten explaining Street Organ

The Musical Boxers Club is doing well, maintaining membership, and we hope to gain a few new members from the attendees at the Holiday Show. Since the club formed in March, we have attracted 4 new members to MBSI. What the Musical Boxers Club now needs are a few MBSI members willing to come to the Villages one day, the third Wednesday of a month, to make a presentation at our meeting, bring a beautiful Musical Machine for show-and-tell, and spend an hour and 50 minutes having a great time with Villagers fascinated with the machines and full of questions about them.

Just ask the presenters from the Holiday Show about the enthusiasm of the "Village People". We meet Jan, Feb, Mar, May, July, Sept, and Nov of 2015. If you can help, contact Jack Hostetler. I'm doing the program for the January meeting – a Photo/Video tour of the Sanfillipo Collection.

Happy New Year to all, and hope to see you in The Villages soon.



### **Member Address Changes:** (by Julie Morlock)

Address change: Dick & Dixie Leis, 13128 Tall Pines Circle, Ft Myers, FL 33907; Phone: (239) 689-3861

Winter address change: Nola Edwards, 4209 Jacaranda Dr, Lake Wales, FL 33898; Phone: (863) 353-867

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**PAYMENT: Make checks payable to MBSI Southeast Chapter  
or by PayPal to [treasurer@mbsise.org](mailto:treasurer@mbsise.org).**

**REMIT: Send payment to Clay Witt,  
820 El Rio Way, Unit 303, Merritt Island, FL 32953**

### **2015 Mid-Winter Meeting Announcement**

**Where:** High Springs/Gainesville, Florida

**When:** February 27, 28 & March 1

**Lodging:** Best Western Gateway Grand  
4200 NW 97th Blvd  
Gainesville, FL 32606

(\$115.00/nite (normally \$135.00—a luxury motel  
with all the amenities)



**Highlights:** \* Friday evening presentation(s) in the hospitality room by COAA educational leaders.

\* Saturday morning tour of the University of Florida's Century Tower, the home of the Century Tower Carillon (61 bells - one of the largest in the country).

\* Collection tour of Bill & Linda Endlein (Many small and large organs as well as orchestrions; Bill apprenticed with Walt Bellm for 40 years).

\* Saturday evening's dinner at The Great Outdoors Restaurant (one that has been endorsed by many in the area) with surprise entertainment.

\* Sunday morning: COAA board meeting

MBSI members please contact Ron Bopp for COAA meeting registration info: [bopp@peoplepc.com](mailto:bopp@peoplepc.com)



MBSI Southeast Newsletter  
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Longwood, FL 32799

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