



# The Southeast Rag



[www.mbsise.org](http://www.mbsise.org)



July, 2016

The Southeast MBSI Newsletter

Volume 33, No.2

**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



## Chairpersons' Message:

(by Mary Ellen Myers)

Upon speaking with many of you during the South Florida meeting, I learned of the the various interesting summer travel plans you are anticipating. Wherever the roads take you, I wish you wondrous experiences with fresh, new outlooks, stories in need of sharing, and most importantly, safe travels. I just returned from visiting a friend of many years who lives in Croatia. After witnessing the extraordinary natural beauties of the Adriatic region, islands sculptured from ancient volcanos, palaces built for early rulers of the Roman Empire, Eastern European cuisine, and, of course those three and four letter words you can't pronounce, I realize - there's really no place like home! Happy Birthday America!

The South Florida chapter meeting was fantastic, thanks to our planners and open houses hosts. It is a true pleasure being a part of such a friendly, cohesive group!

As we "break" for the summer, I ask that you be aware of outreach possibilities. These can find you without much effort on your part. An example - last month, while in Sarasota checking out hotel possibilities for our joint meeting with COAA during the Circus Summit next January, a hotel manager of sales became very interested in "our" hobby, to the extent that she invited me (accompanied by one instrument) to participate in "ArtNight", a showcase event in partnership with the Cultural Alliance of Sarasota County, featuring local artists from the ASOLO, Ringling, Florida Studio Theater and more. Of course I accepted and recruited Wayne, too! This will be a wonderful opportunity to educate the public about such an important time in the history of music, musical entertainment and the science and craftsmanship that made it happen.

As I finish this writing, I regret to inform you of the resignation of Glenda Hatcher from the Vice - Chair position due to personal family commitments. We wish her well and hope that at a future time she

## Upcoming Chapter Events!

### July 19, 2016, Camp Villages (Intergenerational Summer Camp)

"Christmas in July"

The Villages, FL, Organizer: Jack Hostetler

### July 20, 2016, Mechanical Music Expo (at Freedom Point)

This is a one day, indoor event

Anyone with a little free time on this day is welcome to participate - Just call Jack!

The Villages, FL, Organizer: Jack Hostetler

### Oct 2016 "Oktoberfest & Italian Days"

Street fair - The Villages, FL

Organizer: Jack Hostetler

### November 4 - 6 2016 Chapter Meeting

Savannah, GA

Organizer: David Oppenheim

Joint meeting with Piedmont Chapter

### Dec. 16-18, 2016, Holiday Music Box Show

The Villages, FL

Organizer: Jack Hostetler

### Jan 12 - 15 2017 Chapter Meeting

Sarasota/Bradenton, FL

This event will be joint with COAA and coordinated with the Circus Summit. This is a major annual event for the Circus world, and we are honored to be invited to participate, as guests of the Showfolks organization. We have the opportunity to participate in two organ rallies, one of these being in the very "visible, classy, and much coveted St. Armands Circle! We will be treated to circle performances, the Windjammers Int'l Circus band, and much more. So please save the dates! More info to follow.

Organizers: Bob Yorburg, COAA, Lead.

Mary Ellen Myers and Sally Craig,

Joint meeting with COAA

### Later in 2017 Chapter Meeting

Athens, AL area

Organizer: Glenda Hatcher

might be able to reconsider the possibility of serving in a similar capacity.



## **Notes from our recent Chapter Meeting** (by Julie

Morlock)

(Meeting Notes are “unofficial” until approved at next Chapter meeting.)

The spring meeting of the Southeast Chapter was held May 21, 2016 in Plantation, FL.

## **Upcoming MBSI Annual Meetings!**

**2016: Aug 31 –Sept 3, Minneapolis, MN**

Host Chapter: Snowbelt

**2017: Aug 28 – Sept 2, Whippany, NJ**

Host Chapter: East Coast

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am by Chair Mary Ellen Myers, who welcomed guests Brooklyn Taylor and Robert Penn. Howard and Margery Sanford gave an overview of the meeting, with information about the open houses, parking and the restaurant for the group dinner. He noted that Registrar Kay Simmons had maps to all the venues; Margery said to look at the map for their open house and ask if there were any questions. Mary Ellen thanked the Sanfords and Bob Smith for planning a wonderful meeting.

Minutes: The minutes of the previous meeting held February 27, 2016 in St. Cloud, FL were approved as printed in the last issue of the Southeast Rag.

Membership: Julie Morlock reported that she had emailed copies of the last newsletter to MBSI members in our geographical area who were not chapter members; as a result, Michael Ricci from Plantation, FL joined the chapter. We also added new MBSI members Les and Loretta Dobbins from Suwanee, GA. There were currently 118 chapter members who had paid both chapter and national dues; there were still eight members who had not paid chapter dues for 2016. The membership list had been sent to Jacque Beeman for verification; once that was done, the updated chapter directory would be printed and mailed. Mary Ellen pointed out that our membership remained steady, and Julie noted that she would continue to email the newsletter to non-chapter members.

Treasurer: Clay Witt reported that the chapter had assets totaling \$12,880.00 (checking account, table favors and Tervis tumblers combined). He explained that due to our status as a cash basis tax payer, the IRS will not allow us to write down the value of the Tervis tumblers (\$2880.08) until they are sold. We had a net loss of \$230.48 so far, not counting any income/expenses from the current meeting.

Tervis Tumblers: Julie Morlock reported that we sold 15 tumblers at the February chapter meeting, and Alice Finger sold 2 more; we currently have 248 tumblers. Mary Ellen thought we could take some to sell at the 2016 annual meeting, and reported that Sally Craig believed there could be a market for them in the northeast in 2017, due to attendees in that area.

Reporter: Howard Sanford reported that he sends pictures from our open houses to Russel Kasselmann, so your picture may appear in the Journal. Mary Ellen suggested notifying Howard if you do not wish your picture to be published.

National Committees: Clay Witt reported that the mid-year meeting in Texas went well. Award recipients had been selected and will be announced at the annual meeting in Minneapolis. Updating the bylaws will be finalized at the annual meeting (they will be published in the Journal). Chapter member Wayne Finger was now a trustee. Wayne Myers said that a list of Special Exhibits would be coming out, and Mary Ellen Myers noted that the Southeast Chapter and two other chapters seem to be holding the majority of special exhibits.; she has suggested that Judy Caletti look for committee members outside the Florida area.

Library: Moe Goldy had the library available for members to use (you can request items by mail). A list of items in the library will be printed in the chapter newsletter.

Newsletter: Mary Ellen noted that this is the last year that Wayne Finger will serve as editor. Glenda Hatcher said she was willing to take on the position of editor.

Registrar: Kay Simmons reminded everyone that she had maps to all the meeting venues.

Webmaster: Mary Ellen complimented Clay Witt on the chapter website and Clay encouraged everyone to

look at the chapter website (mbsise.org); there are lots of pictures from past meetings, information about MBSI and links to various related sites. Let him know if you can suggest other links to add to our website. Wayne Myers reminded everyone that they can access our site through national's website (mbsi.org) and to click on "Chapters."

#### Old/New Business:

Mary Ellen Myers reported that the chapter had submitted Jack Hostetler as a candidate for the Roehl Ambassador Award (which recognizes those who have excelled at educating the public about MBSI), and a copy of the submission was available for members to read. Wayne Myers noted that MBSI had gained new members due to Jack's efforts.

Following a brief talk about past chapter member Joe Bailey, Mary Ellen Myers presented Clay Witt with the Dr. Joe Bailey Award for his service to the Southeast Chapter.

Mary Ellen Myers reported that past chair Craig Darlak will be in charge of the nominating committee for the 2017-2018 chapter officers. Mary Ellen also thanked Craig Darlak, Howard Wyman and Moe Goldy for acting as communication liaisons with other organizations (NAWCC, COAA and AMICA) to avoid scheduling issues when planning meetings.

#### Upcoming Events:

July 19, 2016: Camp Villages "Christmas/Holidays in July" inter-generational music box make-and-take in The Villages, including education on the science of music boxes.

July 20, 2016: Mechanical Music Expo at Freedom Point (senior independent living facility) in The Villages; this is an indoor, one day event from 1:00 – 4:00 pm. Contact Jack Hostetler.

October 2016: Italian Days and Oktoberfest street fair in The Villages (two day event). Some of The Villages residents have offered their homes for MBSI members to stay at during this event. Contact Jack Hostetler.

November 4-6, 2016: Chapter Meeting in Savannah, GA, hosted by David Oppenheim; this is a joint meeting with Piedmont Chapter.

December 16-18, 2016: Annual Christmas/Holiday Exhibit at The Villages (1 day for setup, 2 days for exhibit). Contact Jack Hostetler

January 12-15, 2017: Chapter Meeting in Sarasota/Bradenton, FL. This will be a joint meeting with COAA and will be coordinated with the Circus Summit. We will be guests of the Showfolks of Sarasota; we are invited to breakfast (\$5.00), there will be two organ rallies (one in conjunction with a Showfolks flea market and one at St. Armand's Circle) and performances by the Windjammers and the Sailor Circus. Mary Ellen urged members to "save the date."

2017: Vice Chair Glenda Hatcher is working on a meeting in Athens, AL and will contact members in the area about open houses. Jamie Brewer offered to host an open house. She asked members to contact her with any ideas/suggestions for future meetings.

Lois Rose thanked Clay Witt and Wayne Finger for opening their homes to members of the Mechanical Music Society of The Villages during a recent day trip. She then presented an opportunity for future outreach at Silver Springs State Park. The state has been renovating the park for the last three years (there are lots of historical presentations, there is a boardwalk through the marsh and a replica cracker village, the glass bottom boats are running, there are canoe and kayak rentals, hiking trails etc.) and there is a ballroom (with a capacity of 350) where we could set up an exhibit. She has spoken with the rangers and they would love to have us. Because they are renewing the concessionaire contract in October, she suggested that we present them with a date in 2017-2018 by the end of September so they can block off the dates (we can cancel or change the dates later). She will find out if there is a fee to use the room; the \$8.00 park entrance fee will be waived for exhibitors. Mary Ellen Myers suggested this as a possible location for a meeting.

#### Unfinished Business:

Mary Ellen Myers said she had been contacted by Mr. Wasser from themusichouse.com in Dade City, FL; he has an older friend who is looking for a 15 ½ inch Mira disc of "The Morning Paper Waltz" (her husband has passed away and it was their favorite song). Nancy Fratti has told him she could make a copy if she had a template. If

anyone has the disc or a lead on one, you can contact him at 516-835-6944.

Peter Klein described an easier route to his home for the Sunday open house.

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

### **Important Notice and Opportunity:** (by Wayne Finger)

Biannual officer elections will be held during the next Chapter Meeting. We will need a replacement Chapter Chair for 2017-2018 to replace Maryellen who has done a great job in 2015 and 2016. We will also need a replacement Vice Chair. Ideally, the next Chair should be an experienced member who has served as chair or vice chair previously. The Vice Chair position is typically filled with someone newer to the organization. During the two years they can become familiar with its working before stepping into the Chair position in the subsequent term.

In my opinion the two years I had as Vice Chair position were the most fun. I got to meet so many interesting people and experience so many major instrument collections up close. Your primary responsibility as Vice Chair is to schedule and coordinate with the local chapter meeting hosts so everything goes well at the chapter meetings. There is a pamphlet explaining all about how to do this. Generally, the first year of your two years as Vice Chair already has the meetings pretty much scheduled, so you just need to find / encourage / help others for the second year. The Vice Chair also might fill in for the Chair to lead the Chapter business meeting if needed. If you have never served in an MBSI officer position before – this is the position for you!

While Vice Chair was most fun, my two years as Chair were surprisingly easy! The Chapter had a great Vice Chair (Craig Darlak) those years, so all I had to do was organize and conduct the chapter meetings. Since Julie does such a great job at the meeting minutes and Clay keeps the finances straight as an arrow, your focus can be on developing the meeting agenda and keeping the meeting short and sweet. (It seemed that the shorter the business meeting was, the more people thought I was an OK Chair!) There are a couple of annual reports for the main MBSI organization – so I basically updated what was written the previous year in an hour or two. If you have been in MBSI for a while or are a previous Chair / Vice Chair – the Chapter needs you. This would be a great way to help keep the Chapter going and growing.

Craig Darlak leads the nominating committee to develop the slate of candidates for 2017-2018. Volunteering or nominating yourself to Craig is going to work a lot better than nominating someone else or hoping someone will nominate you. The chapter needs officer candidates from new members and from experienced members who have already served in the past. Please contact Craig Darlak today and state your interest in being a candidate for Chair or Vice Chair for the 2017-2018 term.

### **Chapter Directory & Dues** (by Julie Morlock)

Please add to the current directory:

Mr. Michael A. Arcuri, 10315 Treadway School Road, Leesburg, FL 34788-8564  
352-742-8304 / [metalmikeus@yahoo.com](mailto:metalmikeus@yahoo.com)

Please change Lowell Sundermann's email to [ljsundermann@gmail.com](mailto:ljsundermann@gmail.com).

### **Lost and Searching** (by Mary Ellen Myers)

Recently a request came to me from a gentleman, Ron Wasser, the owner of a business called “The Music House” in Dade City, FL., for a 15 1/2” Mira disc titled “Morning Paper Waltz”, Johann Strauss. This tune was the favorite of a woman and her late husband. She would love to either buy or borrow the disc. (Nancy Fratti could make the disc if she had a template.) If you, by chance have this item to either sell or loan, please notify Ron Wasser at Phone # 516 835 6944 or email [themusichouse.com](http://themusichouse.com).



**Members Sharing  
the fun and the  
music!** (by Wayne  
Finger)

Here is Craig Darlak playing his Hoffbrauer organ next to his 1931 model A at a car show promoting mechanical music. On April 2 in Tampa Florida at a classic car show, he took his 1931 Ford slant front and his 20 note organ. Every one enjoyed the music. Not only was there interest in the cars but a lot of interest in his organ.

**MBSI IN THE VILLAGES** (by Jack Hostetler)

MBSI Southeast Chapter has been invited again to the Villages Eisenhower Recreation Center for December 17 and 18 2016, to present our Holiday MBSI Mechanical Music Show. The Recreation Department has requested that we make this exhibit a regular annual event, and we are delighted to do that. We will setup Friday evening, Dec 16th, and display from 9 am to 4 pm Saturday and from 10 am to 3 pm Sunday. Please mark these dates on your calendar. Our 3 previous shows have been very successful and popular with the Village residents as well as people living near The Villages. And our presenters have had a lot of fun displaying and talking about their machines. MBSI gets a lot of good publicity with this event, and we have picked up new members at every show. Hope to see you there!



**Chapter Member Classified Ads:**

Email your classified ad to the Newsletter Editor to have it appear HERE in the next issue.

**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.

**Please share this information with any guests you bring to collection visits.**

**Chapter Meeting Photos** (submitted to the editor by numerous members)

The May Chapter meeting was fantastic. Many great photos are on pages 48 – 54 of the July / August issue of MBSI Journal, “Mechanical Music.” Below are additional photos of the good times and beautiful instruments.

An Afternoon at the Janko’s marvelous Backyard Museum:

—

“Yesterday’s Memories” at the Garrisons:

Bob Smith talks about his Mira. Also a unique cylinder box.

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NEXT CHAPTER MEETING!**

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**Wed-Sat, 11am-5pm (or by appointment)**

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