

LRMTA Minutes April 8th, 2013, Long and McQuade

Christine called the meeting to order at Long and McQuade. There were 8 members present: Karen MacDonald, Joan Milton, Christine Rogers, Betty Jo Radley, Linda Dickey, Kate LaRocque, Cheryl Hudak, and Brenda Lockmuller.

The agenda was approved by Linda Dickey with Karen seconding.

The March minutes were approved as circulated by Karen, seconded by Brenda.

The most recent balances are \$4330.38 in our awards account and \$37.95 (before dues) in our operating account. Two awards cheques have not yet been cashed. The teachers were notified and will contact their students. The receipts for our local fees will be written when we have received the cheques back from ARMTA. It was suggested that we write them at one of our coffee meetings. Christine will make arrangements when she receives the cheques. We are now able to access our banking information (balances and transactions) through telephone banking. Arrangements will be made to also access our account information online.

Christine reported that our contribution to the Kiwanis Festival awards has been received and processed.

ARMTA news: ARMTA receipts are now available online. Those members without internet access will receive their receipt by mail. Joan and Karen reported ARMTA administrator, Bev Moore will continue until the fall. After discussion it was decided to donate an item for the CFMTA silent auction. Joan volunteered to make arrangements. Karen MacDonald moved that we spend up to \$50 for a silent auction item. Seconded by Linda Dickey. Carried. Brenda will check with artists in her office building to see if she might get something donated.

AMEF news: Teachers who want to renew or become a member of AMEF can check out membership information on the AMEF website at: <http://www.amef.ca/membership.php>

Christine read a letter that she had drafted urging the city to support a new performing arts centre as part of its Capital Improvement Plan. Cheryl Hudak moved that we submit the letter to City Council. Linda Dickey seconded. Carried. Christine will drop the letter off at City Hall before the deadline.

Christine reported that Lou Joss had asked her if there had been any complaints about the new registration for Royal Conservatory Exams. A number of teachers expressed frustration regarding the new system. Some students have had trouble registering and some teachers have had trouble accessing student exam information. Christine will send an email to Lou Joss.

Our next coffee meeting/performer's club is set for Thursday, April 18th at 9:30 a.m. at Linda Davies' home at 1260-5th Ave. S. (Not 5A). At this time we will be working with Karen MacDonald on Piano Class Festival Scheduling and other details. Please call Betty Jo at 329-1655 or Linda at 328-6085 to let them know if you will be attending. Thanks to Betty Jo and Linda for making these arrangements. If branch cheques have been returned from ARMTA, we will also write the receipts at this time.

Christine will continue to check in with Corrie regarding nameplates and updating brochures.

Christine informed members that work on the website redesign continues. The new website will provide an opportunity for photographs to be posted. In order to do this we will need signed permission to display the photos. Christine passed around a form she adapted from the CFMTA release form. She will circulate the form by email when the form has been finalized and the website redesign is complete.

Payment has been made by Brenda to continue our ad in this year's Yellow Pages. The fee was \$206.64. Thanks to Brenda for arranging this. Kate will update our posting on Kijiji using Christine's number as a phone contact and Kate's email as email contact. Christine reported on rates for the Leisure Guide and the Sign Me Up Insert to the Lethbridge Herald. Thanks to Betty Jo for gathering this information. After discussion, Betty Jo moved that we try a quarter page ad for \$175 in the Sign Me Up insert and leave the Leisure Guide for this year. Seconded by Karen MacDonald. Christine will make the arrangements.

It was decided that teachers with adult students would check with them to see if they are interested in performing in an adult activity at the end of May/beginning of June, and also to see which times and dates would work best. Then at our May meeting we will decide if there is enough interest and if so, we will determine a date and location.

Our final general recital will be Saturday, May 4th at 2:30 p.m. in the University of Lethbridge Recital Hall. Thanks to Betty for making the arrangements. Joan Milton is one of our convenors, but Lorrie Wittke who had originally volunteered for this recital is unable to do so because of a scheduling conflict. If anyone is available to convene this recital with Joan, please contact Christine as soon as possible. Joan will check if Deanna is available at that time to let us into the Recital Hall. Christine will make arrangements for the ARMTA insurance certificate to be sent to the University.

Christine reported that the required application and photograph for reimbursement for the CFMTA "Branching Out" initiative has been sent in. Thanks to Linda Davies for making arrangements for the photograph of the winners of the iTunes cards.

Christine reported the results of the recent Practise-a-thon. 33 students from 8 different teachers practised 200 hours and raised \$1812. This is the second highest result since our first Practise-a-thon in 2000. Thanks to all students and teachers who helped and participated. Prizes have been awarded and presented by teachers. An announcement will be made at our May 4th recital.

Initial plans are being made for a masterclass/workshop with Jesse Plessis at the very end of May/early June, after the Piano Class Festival. Linda Davies will be hosting two workshops at her home. She will be making arrangements with Jesse. If there is enough interest, a 3rd time and location will be arranged. The fee will be \$20 per entry.

Christine informed members regarding the availability of members for the executive for the coming year. Karen MacDonald moved the acceptance of the following members for our executive of 2013-2014. Joan Milton seconded. Carried. Cheryl Hudak and Andrew Gierulski have agreed to continue as the phoning committee. Thank you to all those volunteering for executive positions.

President: Christine Rogers
Vice President: Tamara Bowie
Treasurer: Brenda Lockmuller
Secretary: Kate LaRocque
Corresponding Secretary: Mary Lee Voort
ARMTA Board Representative: Joan Milton

Piano Class Festival update: The dates are May 21-24, 2013. The adjudicators are Colleen Klassen, a local piano teacher and accompanist, and Jesse Plessis, who will be doing the senior classes. This piano festival, organized by members of the Lethbridge Registered Music Teachers, is open to all piano students and focuses on student participation, emphasizing the educational experience of performing and receiving comments from the adjudicator. Awards, determined by the adjudicator are presented by the adjudicator at an Honors Concert at the conclusion of the Festival, which features outstanding performers. Please note that the deadline for entries is two days earlier than usual, Saturday, **April 13th**. Please contact Karen MacDonald at 403-553-3365 or Marilyn Sinclair at 403-329-9188 for more information. At our April 18th coffee meeting we will be assisting Karen with scheduling and other details as needed. Karen will bring a signup sheet to the May meeting for secretaries to the adjudicator. Please consider volunteering. Events such as this can only continue to be offered with volunteer support.

Brenda will contact Lorrie Wittke to see if there has been any new information regarding the availability of video conferencing of RCM workshops.

Christine asked for feedback regarding recital etiquette guidelines to be posted on our website and made available to members. Karen, Brenda and Linda volunteered to help. Christine will email them a draft for input.

Our next meeting will be **Monday, May 6th**, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. at Long and McQuade.