

LRMTA Minutes February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2013, Long and McQuade

Christine called the meeting to order at Long and McQuade. There were 5 members present: Karen MacDonald, Joan Milton, Christine Rogers, Betty Jo Radley, and Marilyn Sinclair. Apologies were sent from Linda Dickey and Kate LaRocque. Christine took the minutes in Kate's absence.

The agenda was approved by Joan Milton with Karen MacDonald seconding.

The January minutes were approved as circulated, by Betty Jo Radley, seconded by Joan Milton. Christine extended a thank you to Tamara Bowie for mailing out minutes to those members without email. Linda Davies will now be assuming this duty. Thank you to Linda for taking this on.

The most recent balances are \$1563.38 in our awards account and \$958.69 in our operating account. If possible, please remind your students to cash their awards cheques if they haven't already done so. Christine informed the members that Marilyn Sinclair had made a donation of \$500 to our awards program in memory of her mother Mrs. Olive Mills. A sincere thank you was extended to Marilyn. We are most honored to receive her donation. Christine gave Karen MacDonald her reimbursement cheque for the CFMTA conference registration fee. Karen will forward a receipt for the financial records. Because Karen is the provincial president, our branch is responsible for paying her registration fee for the CFMTA conference.

Christine reported that a number of members sent positive feedback by email regarding the possibility of our branch sponsoring a Kiwanis Festival Award.

**Motion: Joan Milton moved that we sponsor two Kiwanis Festival awards annually: \$50 for a deserving piano student in a senior piano class, and \$50 for a deserving piano student in a junior piano class. Seconded by Karen MacDonald. Carried.**

Christine will contact the Kiwanis Festival and begin making arrangements.

ARMTA news: **Annual Fees are due:** ARMTA has sent online renewal instructions by email and hard copies by regular mail to those without email. Membership information should be reviewed and returned to ARMTA along with TWO cheques--the first cheque (made out to ARMTA) for provincial fees for \$125 (\$135 after Feb. 28<sup>th</sup>); and the second cheque for LRMTA fees (made out to LRMTA) for \$35. Cheques can be post-dated to March 31st, 2013 if you wish. The LRMTA cheques will be returned to us for deposit once the provincial fees have been processed. Receipts will be issued. **Each member will be responsible for mailing in their own fees before the Feb. 28th deadline to receive the early bird price. Remember: if you let your ARMTA membership lapse, there will be a \$100 reinstatement fee.** Please contact Christine if you have any questions.

If you are interested in submitting an article for *Tempo*, the deadline is Mar. 1<sup>st</sup>. Contact Melissa Lacroix: [morelacroix@gmail.com](mailto:morelacroix@gmail.com)

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>

AMEF is sponsoring a new awards program. Information on the Student Recognition Awards Program can be accessed on the AMEF website at: [http://www.amef.ca/student\\_recognition\\_awards.php](http://www.amef.ca/student_recognition_awards.php)

The Allied Arts Council membership of \$75 is due. Christine will take care of getting a cheque from Brenda and sending in the renewal.

Our next coffee meeting/performer's club is set for Thursday, February 21<sup>st</sup> at 9:30 a.m. at Linda Davies' home at 1260-5<sup>th</sup> Ave. S. (Not 5A). Betty Jo will confirm the date and time with Linda. 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.

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

Christine informed members that she and Renee Werenka were able to transfer the *Irmta.com* domain name to another company called HostGator at a lower cost of \$7.95 per year. The registration information is now transferred to Christine so that she will receive annual renewal notification. Joan Milton and Christine relayed information from Carolyn Garritano, ARMTA's webmaster for possibilities for our branch website. After discussion it was decided to contact Carolyn Garritano and make arrangements for her to redesign our site along the lines of the provincial site. She charges \$10/hour for this service and estimates that our site will take her about 10 hours to redesign. After that she should be able to arrange it so that we can update the site on our own.

**Motion: Joan Milton motioned that we contract Carolyn Garritano to redesign our branch website. Karen MacDonald seconded. Carried.**

Thanks to Joan for checking in with Carolyn. Special thanks to Renee for all her work maintaining our current website! Christine will begin making arrangements with Carolyn Garritano.

Brenda has made arrangements to renew our Yellow Pages ad. Thanks to Brenda.

**Our next recital will be Saturday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> at 2:30 p.m. at the Lethbridge Public Library.** Betty Jo will confirm our rental. Christine will do the program and Betty Jo will host the recital. **Please submit your entries by Wednesday, February 27<sup>th</sup> to Christine.** Please email her at [c4rogers@telus.net](mailto:c4rogers@telus.net) or phone her at 403-327-2073. This recital is designed for those students who are performing in the Kiwanis Festival, but other performances are most welcome. The last few recitals have had lots of room, so please feel free to submit more than one piece per student.

CFMTA is sponsoring a "Branching Out" activity for the month of February. It is designed to focus on student recognition. We will be using the \$50 grant to purchase 2-\$25 iTunes cards to present as prizes in our Practise-a-thon. Christine will fill out the application form. A photo will be taken of the winners and submitted to CFMTA as part of the application process. A waiver will have to be filled out for permission to submit the photo.

Fee Survey: If you wish to participate in our Fee Survey, please contact Christine as soon as possible and let her know what you charge for lessons. This information will be held strictly confidential and will be reported anonymously at our March meeting. It is a good idea to have current information in this area so that members can see if they are in line with other teachers in our community and so that we can

provide this information to any new teachers in our community. Thanks to Tamara for suggesting the idea.

The Practise-a-thon runs from February 4<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>. Please remember that if students are unavailable during this week, they can substitute another week. Some teachers sponsor their own students as a way of making their personal donation to our awards program.

Please collect packages from students and hand them back at the March meeting. Even if students don't raise money they can still be eligible for prizes in the most time practised categories so make sure you hand back all your forms. Money and forms will still be accepted after the March meeting, but students will not be eligible to receive prizes. The money will be counted and the results tabulated. Teachers will be informed which students have won prizes. Since we do not have a timely recital at which to present the prizes, they will be given to teachers to award individually to their students. A formal announcement of winners and results will be made at the May recital. Prizes include a \$100 gift card from Future Shop for the grand prize winner who raises the most money. Other prizes will be awarded for the most time practised in 4 age categories including iTunes cards; a gift certificate from Music Court (Thanks to Doreen for arranging this); gift cards from Long and McQuade; Lethbridge Symphony tickets (Thanks to Mary Lee for arranging this); and tickets for concerts sponsored by the University of Lethbridge Music Department (Thanks to Lorrie Wittke and Deanna Oye for arranging this).

It has been suggested that we try to arrange a masterclass for our students in the spring. Karen MacDonald and Betty Jo were willing to help organize. Betty Jo offered her studio space.

Our next meeting will be Monday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. at Long and McQuade.