

LRMTA Minutes May 5th, Long and McQuade

Christine called the meeting to order at Long and McQuade. There were 7 members present: Marilyn Sinclair, Christine Rogers, Joan Milton, Betty Jo Radley, Cheryl Hudak, Kate LaRocque and Brenda Lockmuller.

The agenda was approved by Cheryl with Betty Jo seconding. The April minutes were approved as circulated by Joan, seconded by Brenda. Thanks to Kate for taking notes.

Brenda reported that our operating balance is \$800.37 and our awards account balance is \$3275.05. Local branch fees from Corrie Hausauer and Linda Loose have not yet been returned from ARMTA. Christine will look into it. Kate and Christine will act as auditors during the summer months. Cheryl seconded Brenda's motion to accept the Treasurer's Report.

Kiwanis Festival dates for 2015 are March 16th to 28th. The registration deadline is January 7th. Christine has not yet had a chance to contact Doreen regarding approaching the Festival Committee. Betty Jo also raised a concern about having 2 pianos available for piano duo classes. (Christine has learned since the meeting that Doreen has been in contact with Beth Cook regarding these concerns.) Christine has yet to receive the receipt for our \$100 contribution to the Festival awards this year.

ARMTA news: The ARMTA Provincial Recognition Fund Awards has \$2100 per year available to ARMTA Branches. Each of the 7 Branches that make up ARMTA Provincial have \$300 per year to use for up to 3 awards to the students of ARMTA members who met the requirements of Branch Awards. Christine presented a draft policy as follows:

- \$100 to junior student in a practical performance exam grades 4-7 with the highest mark
- \$100 to senior student in a practical performance exam grades 8-ARCT with the highest mark
- \$100 to senior theory student (excluding rudiments) in a senior theory exam (history, harmony, keyboard harmony, counterpoint, analysis, pedagogy) with the highest mark in a single exam

Joan Milton moved that we accept the above policy. Kate seconded. Carried. Joan will contact Judith Ammann and see if the awards can be used for this past year or for next.

Our next coffee and conversation is set for Thursday, May 15th at 9:30 a.m. at Linda Davies' home at 1260-5th Ave. S. (Not 5A). Please call Betty Jo at 329-1655 or Linda at 328-6085 to let them know if you will be attending. We will be discussing ideas for the ARMTA survey.

Kate is moving and getting married! Congratulations to Kate and Cody! She will need new nameplates. She will forward her address to Christine when she has her new postal code.

Kate requested that since she is having trouble setting up the scrolling photo feature on our website, that we pay Carolyn Garritano, the ARMTA webmaster to do that for us. Kate will make arrangements. She and Christine will update the website after her wedding.

A discussion regarding advertising followed. Christine reported that the Shaw Cable Channel 9 crawl is free and has a limit of 255 characters. She will look into arrangements. Brenda reported on the cost of the Movie Mill ads before movie showings. The cost for a 15-second ad on all 7 screens is \$346.50 for the first month and \$315 for each additional month. Brenda will check into discounts for non-profit groups and rates for less than a month. Members were interested in the possibility of trying this form of advertising in August and September. Once Brenda has more information we will make a decision by email as to whether or not to proceed with an ad since this is our last meeting of the year.

Thanks to Deanna, Joan and Christine for making arrangement for our final general recital on Saturday, May 3rd at 2:30 p.m. in the University Recital Hall. It was a very small but successful recital with 5 students performing. Our final adult get-together will be on Saturday, June 7th at 10:00 a.m. in Betty Jo's studio at 810 Kodiak Bay North. An opportunity for students to run through their exam repertoire (or other pieces) will take place following at 11:00 a.m. **Please contact Betty Jo at 329-1655 and let her know if you have students who will be coming** so that she can prepare for the number of people attending. Thanks again to Betty Jo for the generous offer of her studio for these events!

Marilyn reported that she does not have the banner and is wondering who does. If you have it, please contact Christine and let her know. (Since the meeting we have found the banner!)

Christine reported that dates for next year's *Keys to Piano* Workshop have been booked for February 27th and 28th, 2015 at Casa. She will keep us posted on plans. Please reserve these dates and plan to support our group by attending and promoting it to your students.

The Piano Class Festival will take place this year from May 20-24. The adjudicator will be Glen Montgomery. Volunteer secretaries to the adjudicator are needed. Christine volunteered for Tuesday afternoon and Joan for Thursday morning. Please contact Karen (403-553-3365) if you are available to help with Wednesday morning, afternoon, Thursday afternoon or Friday morning. Please consider supporting this event by volunteering to help. Festival cards were handed out to teachers. Marilyn took the remainder to deliver or have teachers pick up at her house.

Marilyn, Betty Jo and Christine will try to arrange a photo on Saturday afternoon for the RC gold medal winners. The photo will be submitted to the Lethbridge Herald.

We invite any members of our branch who are interested to give short presentations on any teaching or music topic of their choice. We have excellent, qualified teachers in our group with lots of experience and we can all learn from sharing ideas. We will plan to begin these sessions in the fall. Kate volunteered to give the first one on music apps and websites at our September coffee meeting. Please let Christine know if you have a topic or idea that you would like to share.

RMT leaflets for interested teachers have been circulated. Christine will do a mail-out in September. If you have contact information for any teachers that might be a good fit for our group, please forward the information to Christine.

Betty Jo will contact Monica Baczuk and make arrangements for lunch with the RC examiner during the June exam session.

Our next meeting will be **Monday, September 8th**, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. at Long and McQuade.