



A Message from your President:

I would first like to thank you all for putting your trust in me and electing me to be the NDMTA president. As many of you know, this is an unexpected honor; I went to our last conference with no thoughts of holding this position and came away the newly elected president. Even though it was unexpected, I appreciate your vote of confidence and look forward to serving NDMTA, an organization to which I have always felt highly committed. I enjoyed being president in my first term (2001-2003) and look forward to serving again.

I want to thank the members of the Bismarck-Mandan MTA for the fantastic job they did on this year's conference. The conference went off without a hitch and the finances were actually in the black, something we don't always see in a state conference! I enjoyed every minute of the conference - kudos to BMMTA!

Thanks also to Kathleen Johnson for all she did as our president during her term. She, too, went to a conference without expecting a nomination and came away the president. She hit the ground running and did a fantastic job. Lisa Schuler is our new Vice President and she and I will be dividing the duties differently than in the past. First, Sue Nagel is taking over all of the competitions including the duties the VP did in the past- with the help of Judy Dietzler. Thank you both! That will free up the VP to work on some of the duties that have traditionally been done by the president, making the two positions work together more cohesively. Thank you, Lisa; I look forward to working with you. And thank you to Kathy Bresee for the fabulous job she does as treasurer. I am glad I can work with such a good treasurer!

I have a favor to ask. At our conference, part of the induction for the new officers included this request to all the members of NDMTA, "Will you accept the authority of these newly elected and installed officers, and will you assist them in carrying out their sworn duties and obligations?" I hope that, should you be asked to assist a board member in some way, you will say "yes." We all know that we have a small organization and that it is sometimes hard to find people willing to assist. If we each do something for the group (even though we are all busy) NDMTA will continue to be the remarkable state affiliate we have always been.

I look forward to representing NDMTA at this year's MTNA Leadership Summit in Cincinnati. I will brag about NDMTA the whole time!

Beth Gigante Klingenstein



Eileen Geske Nominated 2013 MTNA Foundation Fellow Submitted by Kathleen Johnson

Eileen Geske has been nominated for the 2013 MTNA Foundation Fellow honor by the NDMTA. To complete the honor, \$1000 needs to be raised for the MTNA Foundation with Eileen being the named honoree. Once that is completed, she will receive the award at the MTNA National Conference in March 2013 at Anaheim, California.

D. Eileen Geske holds Bachelor's degrees in Music Education and Elementary Education with a minor in Pedagogy from Valley City State University in Valley City, North Dakota. Prior to earning those degrees and since their completion, she has vigorously pursued professional development through attendance at conferences, workshops, and competitions as well as through private study. Born and raised in rural North Dakota, Geske pursued private lessons with local piano instructors, including Dr. Diana Skroch. During this time she began to teach lessons first to her own children, eventually adding other rural students. Geske has over 45 years of teaching experience in the private studio and in the public schools. She continues to be an accompanist, organist, and teacher in her local communities.

Many of Geske's students won competitions that led to scholarships at her alma mater, some completing degrees in music, and some serving as music directors in the public school systems. One former student honored the 9/11 First Responders by composing and recording a CD for them, giving all proceeds to their cause. In 1993 Geske formed the first annual Young People's Concerts a la Leonard Bernstein, where her students have an opportunity to perform their own compositions and young people from other area communities are featured guest performers. The concerts take place every fall in two separate locations in rural North Dakota, and will soon celebrate its 20th consecutive year.

Geske is also very active in music organizations. She has contributed over 30 years of service to the National Federation of Music Clubs (NFMC) in which she serves as a certified adjudicator and presides as Chair of the Southwest Division. Since 1978 Geske has been a member of the NDMTA/MTNA, in which she holds memberships and offices locally, including Valley City, Fargo-Moorhead, South Dakota and Aberdeen Area. Known for her enthusiastic presentations on composition at local and state conferences, she emphasizes the creative component of composition in that it brings out important skills such as improvisation, theory, and independent thinking.

In recognition of her many years of excellent and dedicated service to the music community, Geske was named North Dakota Music Teachers of the Year in 2003 and holds the distinguished honor of National Music Teacher of the Year for MTNA 2004.

Our NDMTA Teacher of the Year for 2012

Submitted by Lynda Pearson

Darla Sheldon, CTM, Park River, ND, was selected to receive the Teacher of the Year award at the North Dakota Music Teachers Association Conference in Bismarck. This award is given to an outstanding Independent Teacher of Music. Darla is an NDMTA Certified teacher whose piano teaching career spans over 45 years during which she has taught hundreds of students to play the piano. She excels in many areas of music from musical theatre and stage band work, to choral accompaniment and duet ensemble performance. She has been the primary teacher of several standout pianists like Bernadette Fromherz and Rebecca Lynn Raber. Sheldon is a member of the Upper Valley Music Teachers Association, the North Dakota Music Teachers Association and the Music Teachers National Association.



A Note from the Past President

Where does one begin?
Kathleen Johnson

The 2012 NDMTA Conference is now a pleasant memory and Bismarck/Mandan MTA deserves a BIG thank-you for all the work they did to accommodate the members and presenters at the conference. A special thank-you goes to Arlene Gray who headed up the conference committee to make all the arrangements and have people in place when and where needed. Thanks to Amy Koivula, Mary Leaf Schneider, and David Poffenberger who were always manning some station. It was well organized and all of our needs were accommodated. I'm sure there were others who deserve mention that I've probably missed. Thank you BMMTA! Pat yourselves on the back and take a well-earned rest!

I also want to thank the members of NDMTA for the beautiful wind chimes. They are hanging on my porch and they make music all day long. The chimes are the sound of the prairie and the wind and the birds that make our state so unique. I just love them! Thank you so very much.

The past year and a half have been good years for me - busy? yes, but a good busy. There are so many good people on the NDMTA Board and that is what makes any office easier. Thank you so much Board Members, for the time you have given to NDMTA to help make things happen in this state. Thanks to Kathy Bresee who is a great resource in the office of treasurer, Lisa Schuler for keeping an accurate history of past meetings and reporting in a timely manner, Arlene Gray, the former past president, who has such a passion for the NDMTA and was such a good resource for me.....there are so many people that I could list, that have so helpful this year! I also need to mention Beth Klingenstein who, I always teased, had my back. Whenever I had an idea that I was having trouble clarifying, Beth would put it in words on paper. It was like shining a flashlight in the dark. We need to create a special award for Beth - what knowledge and experience she gives to the NDMTA so freely!!

And last on my check list, is a huge thank you to Lisa Schuler, Wanda Wavra, and Ellen Croy for working so hard to come up with a slate of officers for the coming years! This was not an easy task and with a lot of maneuvering (or should we call it lobbying), Beth Klingenstein has agreed to another term as president, Lisa Schuler is taking on vice president, and Ann Delorme-Holman is the new secretary. We congratulate this new group of officers and I implore all of you to support them with lots of "I can".

Notes from the 2012 NDMTA Conference

Creative Play by Wynn Anne Rossi

Submitted by Ann DeLorme-Holmen

Our morning began with a very fun session by Wynn Anne Rossi entitled: Creative Play.

Wynn Anne stated that music and life are beautiful but can have tough days also.

We as musicians need to deliver the message that music is a GLORIOUS JOURNEY.

The core idea of this session was that kids learn by playing and having fun. Laughter, art and visual imagery help children open up and learn.

Imagery begins by letting their minds come alive. Piano can take them places and feel different experiences. Therefore these elements along with action must be present in our studio. We want to make the student feel like something is happening during the lesson time. Large muscle movement is essential for the young student because their bodies are very alive while sitting at the piano. Piano is a finger sport---going from large muscle movement to small muscle movement. Wynn Anne stated that students love extremes i.e. tempo, dynamics so use them.

In conclusion, always remember that we want our students to walk out the door with a good feeling. So teachers give that student a creative compliment, or a little bit of laughter to help achieve this. Now we have a win-win feeling and a lifelong love of music.

Wynn Anne Rossi: Teaching in the age of communication and information

Submitted by Anne Morris, NCTM

This workshop on June 21, 2012 was on how to promote more powerful communication with our students. She said that how we teach students has changed dramatically since technology has become prominent in our lives. She suggested using tools for updates to students and parents such as email, texting, facebook, Youtube, and the teachers website. There is also a free program download on MuseScore.com for students to write their own compositions.

Using these tools helps create a sense of community with the students. The teachers and students can explore new music available on the internet, as well as listen to special performances on Youtube, find opportunities for camps and musical networking. Search engines can be used to check out a piece of music and research the background.

The brain has changed due to the influence of technology, so it is more difficult for students to multi task. When learning a piece, the teacher should focus on one aspect of music at a time, then discuss it. Also try to bring out the emotional aspect of the piece by discussing it with the student. Risk-taking is to be encouraged in students through improvisation and composition to explore their own ideas and creativity and their sense of adventure.

Students now learn best through lesson interaction, involving keeping the students moving physically and with varying the musical activities. Teachers can also have the students take turns playing measures. The most effective interaction for students is through playing duets. Students like the feeling of community and to achieve this, have the students work in groups such as ensembles, group lessons and duets.

Wynn Anne Rossi's website is www.rossi-music.com.
Her facebook site is at Wynn-Anne Rossi Music.

Dr. Dianna Anderson recital on Thursday evening, June 21, 2012

Submitted by Lynda Pearson

The featured performer for the opening recital of our conference was Dr. Dianna Anderson, who has taught for several years in the music department at Minot State University. She presented a wonderful program of Debussy and Chopin works in addition to the complete Pictures at an Exhibition by the great 19th century Russian composer, Modest Mussorgsky.

Dr. Anderson let her audience know from the beginning of a set of three Debussy Images from Book II, that she could indeed make the piano sound like bells through leaves, sustain a story about the moon setting on temple ruins, and portray delightfully active golden fish. The dynamic range was amazing throughout the program, from the softest pianissimos of the Debussy through the powerfully rich Great Heroic Gate of Kiev in Pictures.

All three of the Chopin works were in the key of F minor. We heard the difficult Etude in F minor, Opus 10, No. 9 with its demanding left hand melody. Next was the F minor Nocturne, Opus 55 No. 1, which may have been the most familiar piece in her program. I enjoyed Dr. Anderson's flexible and musical phrasing which brought these pieces to life. She also played the passionate and complex F minor Ballade with great authority and physical power.

The entire second half of the recital was the original piano version of Mussorgsky's Pictures. Dr Anderson commands a piano technique that really delivers a great range of colors, lightness, darkness, humor and fear, as well as monumental national pride.

Our group appreciated this chance to hear these great works played by an outstanding pianist from within our state. Following the program, we enjoyed a reception sponsored by J W Pepper/Eckroth Music store of Bismarck.

"Teaching Skills, Not Pieces" Session #1 By Beth Klingenstein Submitted by Lisa Schuler NDMTA Vice President

I can't think of a better way to start off the 2012 NDMTA State Conference than to start it with one of our own, Dr. Beth Klingenstein from Valley City. Beth's presentation was based around the question, "How efficiently are we teaching?" If we are not teaching efficiently, we will find ourselves fixing the same things over and over with our students. The session went through key areas of our teaching and gave excellent advice on practicing, memorization, performance, timing, technique, sight playing, fingering and pedaling. As always, Beth was organized in her presentation and had a helpful handout that outlined all of her suggestions. She even worked with a teacher who felt uneasy about memorizing and showed her tips on how to memorize a piece right in front of us. Memorization involves cognitive, tactile, aural and visual memory. Thank you to Darla Sheldon for being a great sport! In conclusion, Beth stated that if we teach efficiently, we could concentrate on musical concepts instead of fixing wrong notes.



Commissioned Composer: Mary Leaf

Submitted by Kathleen Johnson

It was a truly special occasion to hear our NDMTA/MTNA Commissioned Composer Mary Leaf Schneider present the piece she so carefully composed. The title of the piece is “**Remembering Culloden Moor 1746**” and consists of three movements: I. *Faileasan a’ Dluthadh* (Shadows Gathering), II. *Air an Duthaich* (Over the Land), III. *Tro ghnuls-bhrat an Dorchadais* (Through the Veil of Darkness). It was performed by three of Mary’s children, Clarissa Schneider on the piano, Tim Schneider on the French horn, and Phil Schneider on the Scottish Smallpipes, and by Debi Rogers who sang and played the Claireseach, the Celtic harp.

“**Remembering Culloden Moor 1746**” is the kind of piece whose emotion strikes you in the depths of your soul. When the piece finished playing, there was silence. There were no words to express what we had just experienced. We all knew we had just been a part of something very special and no one wanted it to end. Audience members were wiping tears from their eyes as they exploded into applause with a standing ovation for Mary and her wonderful group of performers. It was one of the most emotional musical experiences I have ever been a part of. Mary’s piece will be sent to MTNA where she will be considered for the MTNA Distinguished Composer of the Year Award to be presented at the MTNA Conference next March. We wish Mary good luck in this consideration as her piece is truly deserving of this award.

Mary Leaf was born in Minnesota and lived in the Midwest until she graduated from high school. She received her undergraduate degree in music education from the University of Washington and has done continuing education in pedagogy at North Dakota State University in Fargo. She is a member of BMMTA, NDMTA, MTNA, the National Federation of Musicians, the National Guild of Piano Teachers, and ASCAP.

Mary is an independent piano teacher specializing in early elementary through intermediate level students. She enjoys writing music for her students that is descriptive, expressive, imaginative, and fun, while still being pedagogically sound. She is currently on the staff of the FJH Music Company in Fort Lauderdale, as an exclusive writer. She has many pedagogical publications to her credit and is currently writing for the new *Succeeding at the Piano* method, edited by Helen Marlais.

Besides being the North Dakota 2012 Commissioned composer, Mary has just completed the year as the adopted composer-in-residence for the Washington State University Piano Pedagogy Lab in Pullman, Washington.

Mary and her husband, Ron Schneider, live in Bismarck, North Dakota. They have five children and four grandchildren. They enjoy traveling and hiking together and this is where Mary receives much of her inspiration for writing.

The Commissioned Composer Recital program - Friday, June 22, 2012

Submitted by Arlene Gray

The Commissioned Composer recital program was Friday evening, June 22, 2012 in the Leach Music Center of BSC. The Rehearsal Hall was filled with friends and family of the performers in addition to the NDMTA members. The air of anticipation and excitement for the music was stunning. The evening was the centerpiece of the Bismarck NDMTA State Conference.

The program opened with piano solo works by students of David Poffenberger; **David Larson and Caleb Faul.** David, winner of the local BMMTA Scholarship and Thursday Music Club Scholarships performed Sonata in F minor Op 57, No 23, by Beethoven, Prelude in D minor Op 28, No 24 by Chopin and Piano Prelude III by Gershwin. Caleb, winner of the NDMTA High School Competition performed Praeludium & Fuga in B flat No 21 BWV 866 by J S Bach, Sonata in E flat Major, Op 81a, No 26 movements II & III by Beethoven.

Michael Land of Bismarck, teacher at BSC, performed four selections from The Seasons Op 37 by Tchaikovsky: May- Starlit Nights, June- Barcarolle, July- Song of the Reapers and August- Harvest.

Mary Leaf Schneider, NDMTA Commissioned Composer 2012, introduced her composition and the journey of creativity she undertook with her work. Four musicians collaborated to perform the commissioned composition, A'Cuimhneachadh - Remembering, a work based on the tragic story of the Battle of Culloden, April 16, 1746: Soprano and Clairseach (harp) - Debi Rogers, Piano - Clarissa Schneider, Scottish Smallpipes - Phil Schneider, French Horn - Tim Schneider.

The audience was spellbound from the moment the music began. The first movement, Faileasan a'Diuthadh - Shadows Gathering, began with piano representing the British royal troops. The horn began a call to arms, shifted into a slow air, then was joined by the Scottish small pipes and soprano in a lilting song. The jig was drowned out by the horn and pipes as an indication of what is to come.

The second movement, Air as Duthaich - Over the Land, began with the Celtic Harp, or Clairseach, and soprano. The piano joined the soprano and harp for a unique description of Scottish loyalty to their land. The small pipes joined the music briefly then the piece ended with a reflective sense of grief after the Battle of Culloden.

The third movement, Tro ghnuie-bhrat an Dorchadais - Through the Veil of Darkness, began with the horn playing the theme based on the tri-tone. The piano joined the jagged theme. The soprano joined in with heartrending sorrow. The lament is echoed in the bagpipe. The piano continued the discordant harmony as all the musicians joined the theme and variations. The movement ended with the Soprano singing in traditional Scottish Gaelic.

The evening closed with a delicious reception sponsored by Jacobsen Music.



The four performers, left to right: Debi Rogers, Clarissa Schneider, Phil Schneider and Tim Schneider.



Presentation of recognition from NDMTA by President Kathleen Johnson to Mary Leaf Schneider.

“Composition Masterclass”
Session #6 by Wynn-Anne Rossi
Submitted by Darla Sheldon

What impressed me the most (besides all the student compositions) was Wynn-Anne Rossi - THE TEACHER! Her rapport with each student was a great example to our teachers on making our time with each student even more valuable and effective. Student compositions were already done when brought to her - it's HOW she worked with each student that was fun to watch.

Here are a few generalities I noticed:

- 1 - 100% of her attention was focused on the student - looked them directly in the eye and "listened to what they said"
- 2 - Asked each student relevant questions about their piece without being critical, used her enthusiasm and humor/informal approach to put each student at ease.
- 3 - Extremely positive - pointing out several GOOD things she liked in their piece
- 4 - Made little suggestions "very carefully" but reminding them that it was "THEIR" piece and not hers.
- 5 - Very tuned into their feelings and their personal ideas they put into each piece so each finished with a sense of achievement.
- 6 - She made each student feel special and worthy.

NODAK Competitions - Saturday June 23rd, 2012

Submitted by Arlene Gray

NODAK Competitions were held at the State Conference, Saturday June 23rd, 2012 in the BSC Leach Music Center. Eight students prepared programs for adjudication by Michael Land of Bismarck. Michael played for the students at the end of the competition. Each student performed in the closing recital.

Elementary winner was Ella Zhang of Grand Forks, student of Gloria Bethke. Her program: Solfegietto by C P E Bach; L'Orage (The Storm) by Burgmuller; Waltz in A minor by Chopin and Rapsodia Espanola by Alexander.

Junior High winner was Francine Dong of Grand Forks, student of Gloria Bethke. Her program: Wedding Day in Trolldhaugen by Grieg; Aufschwung (Soaring) by Schumann and Soliquy by Brown.

Senior High winner was Kristine Strege of Bismarck, student of David Poffenberger. Her program: Sonata in C Major L 457, K 132 by Scarlatti; Sonata in G Major Op 79 by Beethoven, Alla Tarantella, Op 39, No 2 by MacDowell and Piano Prelude No 1 by Gershwin.

Michael Land indicated Honorable Mention in Junior High - Elijah Gray of Bismarck, student of David Poffenberger and in Senior High - Caitlin Hanson of Bismarck, student of David Poffenberger.

The next NODAK Competition will be held in Fargo in June 2013. Plan now to enter your students in NODAK competitions. It is fun and educational. The judge in 2013 is already booked and eager to hear our students. Watch the February newsletter for entry forms. Questions may be directed to Arlene Gray, chair of NODAK Competitions.



Pictured left to right is Ella Zhang, Sidney Ellingson, Elijah Gray, Florence Mayer, Francine Dong, Caitlin Hanson, Jana Hathaway, and Kristine Strege.

Greetings! As summer rushes by, it's time to think about teaching again. I have three items in mind which relate to Rally. First, if you ordered your Rally syllabus recently, you did not receive the study tests that are available for levels 1A, 1B, & 1C. They are not included in the syllabus from Illinois, because the North Dakota Rally Committee put these study tests together a few years ago. If you have never received these study tests or have misplaced your copies, please let me know and I will mail these 3 tests to you for \$1.50 (to cover the cost of printing and postage).

Second, Local Associations, please set your Rally dates as soon as possible and let me know what your dates are so that I can get your Rally materials to you in a timely manner. This is especially important if you are planning a fall Rally.

Third, I would again like to mention the theory workbooks that the Illinois Music Teachers Association publishes to complement their Rally materials. Our Rallies in North Dakota are built on the Illinois Rally Materials, so these workbooks work very well in Rally preparation, both for students and teachers.

These workbooks are available to coordinate with the various levels of Rally, beginning with Level 2. These workbooks provide excellent preparation for students who will be taking Rally tests and they provide an excellent learning experience even for students who are not involved with Rally. These workbooks contain exercises in notation, rhythm, terms, music signs, aural skills, harmonization, score analysis, sight reading, transposition, composers, and they also contain technique skills that are all written out for your student, such as 5 finger patterns, scales, chord progressions, tonic triads, arpeggios. There are play back, interval identification, and dictation examples included for use by teachers and students. I have used these workbooks with my students for five years and I have been very pleased with them. The cost (with postage) is approximately \$8.00 per workbook.

You can order these workbooks from the Illinois Music Teachers Association. Go to their website ISMTA.org and follow the instructions listed under "AIM Publications." If you have problems with ordering through the ISMTA website, give me a call, and I will do what I can to help. 701-284-7586 or okjellan@polarcomm.com

Happy Summer and Fall to you!

Sheryl Kjelland

NDMTA Executive Board Minutes June 21, 2012 State Conference in Bismarck, ND

President Kathleen Johnson called the meeting to order. Roll call was taken with 15 members in attendance: Kathleen Johnson, Lisa Schuler, Jeanette Berntson (guest), Darla Sheldon, Anne Morris, Nancy Harsch, Lynda Pearson, Ann Holmen, Ellen Croy, Jan Herr, Beth Klingenstein, Sharon Gegelmann, Kathy Bresee, Arlene Gray and Michelle Schumacher.

**A motion to adopt the agenda was made by Ann Holmen; seconded by Darla Sheldon.
Motion passed.**

Report of Officers

Secretary Report Lisa Schuler read the minutes from the February 4, 2012 IVN meeting. After corrections, **Ann Holmen made a motion to accept the minutes; seconded by Jan Herr. Motion passed.**

Treasurer Report Kathy Bresee reported that the NDMTA assets were at \$27, 997.05, income was \$21.37 and expenses were at \$2,351.49. She is gathering information so that the treasurer and the board can know what NDMTA will cover for expenses for each position. A discussion was held on competition expenses. **Darla Sheldon made a motion to cap hotel expenses at \$100.00 for the competition judges and chairperson; seconded by Lynda Pearson. Motion passed.**

Vice President No Report - position needs to be filled

MTNA Competitions The next competition will be in Valley City on October 26-27th.

President Report Kathleen Johnson has contacted people for news items for the February and May Newsletter and wrote 'Message from the President' for each as well as other news items. She made arrangements for and attended the MTNA National Conference in New York City. A report was written for the May Newsletter. She contacted Amy Mercer for 25 and 50-year memberships and contacted those eligible for the recognition and made certificates to be presented at the state conference. She wrote a "Message from your President" for the Conference booklet. Kathie has corresponded with Arlene Gray concerning the Conference program. She has corresponded with Wynn-Anne Rossi concerning her presentations at the state conference. She found a duet partner for her for one of her sessions, and has contacted those members whose students are participating in her composition master class. Kathie has corresponded with Alfred concerning the grant for Wynn-Anne's travel expenses, wrote the Commissioned Composer and President's report for June. Kathie will need to meet with the treasurer to plan the budget for the coming year to be presented at the June board meeting for approval, she'll work out a "Use of Membership List" guideline to be presented to the board, work on the last Conference details with Arlene Gray, make agendas for the June Board Meeting and June Annual Meeting and sent out report forms to board members.

Commissioning Composer Kathleen Johnson has corresponded with Mary Leaf Schneider, the 2012 Commissioned Composer and has written to the MTNA to verify that the composition is completed and will be premiered at the State Conference so they will then send the check for Mary to our state treasurer. Kathie made the certificate to be presented to Mary at the premiere. She sent numerous emails and tried calling and leaving messages for Mike Halstenson, the 2013 CC, to verify his mailing address to send the contract. She has had no response from him. She assumed he got the email messages. She finally sent him the contract. Kathie announced that Mike did sign and return the contract.

Correspondence Kathie Johnson passed out copies of the NDMTA Constitution. She read a letter from MTNA announcing that the next summit will be held in Cincinnati in September 2012. She also handed out a form to each local to list its current officers.

Local Association Reports

Local presidents from Badlands, Bismarck-Mandan, Langdon Area, Devils Lake, Fargo-Moorhead, Northwest, Upper Valley and Valley City gave their reports.

2012 NDMTA Conference Report: Bismarck Arlene Gray announced that 33 people had registered for the conference, 2 are guests and 4 are first time attendees. There will be 30 people at the Thursday supper, 27 at the IMTF luncheon and 44 at the Friday night banquet.

Committee Reports

Advertising Sandra Enget has started getting ads for the directory. She sent forms to the local associations. She will be leaving this position.

Arts & Awareness/Local Associations Ann Morris reported that she shared emails with the local associations that she felt were important. She continues to read articles in the "American Music Teacher" Publication and other articles about Arts Awareness & Advocacy. She will continue to communicate with locals and executive board members about important issues concerning NDMTA and MTNA. Ann will continue to file local reports for future reference and will continue to make the state aware of the importance of music education.

Certification/Teacher of the Year Lynda Pearson reported that the NDMTA Teacher of the Year for 2011-2012 will be awarded at the banquet on Friday, June 22 in Bismarck. She has ordered the award plaque for TOY. Renewal letters were sent to 8 Certified teachers. She has received 4 paid renewals. She has been filing and clearing old papers from the 4 Certification file boxes, updating the Certification job description and corresponded with 2 members interested in applying for State Certification. Lynda plans to make certificates for the teachers who renewed, think about how to shift the paper based Certification work onto the website and is preparing a display for the Conference.

College Faculty/Collegiate Chapter - no report - position needs to be filled

Directory Editor Michelle Schumacher will update the directory for the September printing. To save mailing costs, she will deliver as many as possible by contacting the local presidents and leaving the directories at local music stores near those presidents to be picked up.

Foundation Arlene Gray reported that she received the quarterly reports of giving to the Foundation Fund from MTNA. She contacted MTNA confirming the funds balance for Sara Bloom. She wrote an article for the February newsletter. Arlene contacted Eileen Geske and asked her about FFF for 2013. She accepted. She wrote a formal letter to Eileen Geske telling her of the designation as ND FFF 2013 and she sent Eileen Geske's information to MTNA for 2013 but the bibliography needs to be added. Arlene read an acceptance letter from Eileen to the board. Arlene will turn her files over to Kathleen Johnson at the end of the conference.

Grant Coordinator Ann Delorme-Holmen had nothing to report

Historian Nancy Harsch has entered the photos from last year's conference in the scrapbook. She said she would keep the position until the conference in Fargo next year.

IMTF Northwest will be hosting the IMTF luncheon during the conference.

Membership/Technology Ann Mercer has worked on updating membership information. She passed checks from national headquarters to Kathy Bresee. NDMTA currently has 69 paid members. Ann will need to update the membership list on the NDMTA website in the near future.

Music Link - no report - position needs to be filled

Newsletter Editor - no report

NODAK Arlene Gray wrote an article for the newsletter including entry forms for NODAK. She received registration from eight students: one elementary, four junior high and three senior high. This is double last year's competition. Arlene has set up a rehearsal schedule and competition schedule for 2012 at BSC. Michael Land from Bismarck will be the judge. She sent schedules to each student and each teacher involved with NODAK. Arlene will meet each NODAK student at the conference before rehearsal, will run the competition on Saturday, June 23 and will send publicity notices to student's home newspapers.

Rally Sheryl Kjelland reported that there were 4 Rallies this past school year. NWMTA and LAMTA were in Nov. 2011 and UVMTA and FMMTA were in April 2012. Twenty-seven teachers entered 274 students in levels 1A through level 10. Total Rally Profit was \$1,477.78.

Nominating Committee Lisa Schuler reported that the committee has not found any members to take the positions of Vice President and President. Kathy Bresee has agreed to be the NDMTA treasurer for another term.

Business

Budget Presentation Kathy Bresee presented the proposed budget for 2012-2013. **Jan Herr made a motion to accept the budget; seconded by Ann Morris. Motion passed.**

State Dues The board agreed to keep the dues the same amount as 2011-2012.

2013 In-State Conference Presenters in Fargo After discussion, the board agreed to have various presenters from eastern North Dakota. Nariaki Suguria from UND and/or his trio will be asked to present the recital. Beth Klingenstein is interested in giving a session on incorporating chamber music into private studios, which would tie into the trio performance. The conference will be held the 2nd or 3rd week in June 2013.

2014 Out of State Conference Presenters in Dickinson Kathie Johnson handed out Mary Sallee's workshop and session topics and she recommended to invite her to the 2014 conference. **Arlene Gray made a motion to invite Mary Sallee to be the presenter at the 2014 state conference in Dickinson; seconded by Nancy Harsch. Motion passed.** Beth Klingenstein contacted Mary during the board meeting and she agreed to come to North Dakota if the dates work for her. When Dickinson sets the dates, Mary Sallee will be contacted.

NODAK The competition will remain in June.

Membership List Guidelines Kathie Johnson handed out an "object for use of membership list" statement. She read MTNA's rules for membership lists. Discussion was held on using the "blast email system" in the future. The board discussed the possibility of cooperate and university memberships. **Beth Klingenstein moved to have NDMTA adopt the blast emails; seconded by Jan Herr. Motion passed.** Kathie will work on it.

Website/Newsletter Kathie Johnson volunteered to work on revamping the website in order to make it more user friendly, more attractive and to save money.

Volunteer Writers for Sessions Board members volunteered to write articles about the conference sessions for the August newsletter.

Board Positions Out of time, meeting adjourned.

Announcements

Newsletter Due date is August 10, 2012

2013 MTNA Conference March 9-13 at the Disneyland Hotel at Anaheim, CA

2013 NDMTA Conference Fargo

MTNA Competitions October 26th and 27th at Valley City State College

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Schuler, CTM
NDMTA Secretary

Please submit future newsletter articles to your editor Jessica Just at jessicalynjust@hotmail.com