

Ontario Registered Music Teachers' Association



L'Association des professeur(e)s de musique de l'Ontario

HAMILTON/HALTON BRANCH ANNUAL REPORTS: MAY 2011

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – WARREN NICHOLSON

This has been a good year for the Hamilton/Halton branch. We have expanded the venues for concerts in an attempt to get greater participation from the membership and to reduce costs to the branch. All of this year's concerts were well organized, and well attended by students, parents and teachers alike.

I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome new members Cynthia Dempster, Diane Emery, Brenda Huberts, Marnie Kersten, Mark Kissel, Afruz Mammadova, Jennifer Moss and Krista Rhodes to our energized branch. Their expertise, new perspectives, fresh ideas and assistance are most welcome to our branch.

A special "Thank You" to Tiiu Haamer for 7 years (yes 7!) of service to our branch as Recital Convenor. I think we would all agree that Tiiu has done a wonderful job in organizing, coordinating and managing these concerts and we all owe her a great deal of gratitude for her professionalism, reliability and attention to detail- Thank You Tiiu! ☺

Thanks also, to Kamara Hennessey for 3 years as branch Treasurer. Kamara has taken the financial pulse of our branch very meticulously for the past 3 years and her detailed financial readings allow the rest of the Executive, to think and execute realistically, instead of idealistically. Thank Yous are also in order to Melodie Hewer for keeping me in line and all of you informed ☺, Heather Goward for organizing a great Member's Recital in October and keeping the website up to par, to Lois Simmons for recording all of our meetings and David Story who has done a fabulous job as branch publicist this past year. Thank you also to Olga Tcherniak for her wisdom and advice, - I am blessed with a wonderful team!

Congratulations are in order to Andrea Battista, for being recognized with this year's Special Teacher Award. Andrea has worked tirelessly on branch affairs and on cultural developments in this community for many years now and she is spearheading the efforts for ORMTA's July 2012 Convention-"From Synapse to Symphony- molding the musical mind." Our branch will host the conference next summer (July), in the city of Burlington. This Convention is at your doorstep and will be first rate; PLAN ON ATTENDING!

The calendar for 2011/12 is almost in place with a couple of dates still needing confirmation. Please save the afternoon of Sept 11th for the “President’s Bar-b-Q ” as we will kick off the new season with this friendly social event, hosted by ME. Have a safe and happy summer everyone!

PUBLICITY REPORT – DAVID STORY

David Story has been responsible for issuing Press Releases promoting branch events. We have had coverage by Cogeco, the Burlington Post, and listings elsewhere. New postings on websites are accessible to the media. David continues to operate ORMATA announcements to keep members informed of events in their communities. David, along with Heather Goward, continues to work on enhancing our web presence. His blog has regular posts on our ORMATA branch website.

RECITAL REPORT – TIJU HAAMER

I have enjoyed my seven years as recital co-ordinator and am now handing the reins over to someone else. Included here are some suggestions for future ORMATA recitals:

HALLOWEEN

As always, this was a very successful and well-attended event. I hope the tradition of decorating the piano and giving out generous goody bags to the performers will continue.

CHRISTMAS

This was a successful event too. St Matthew’s Church is, in my opinion, a venue preferable to St. Christopher’s.

HONOURS RECITAL

I was unable to attend this even, but I heard wonderful things. The only criticism I heard was that the announcements should have been miked as they were not audible to much of the audience.

SENIOR RECITAL

We did not use an adjudicator this year. Unfortunately there was a small number of performances that did not live up to the standards of previous years, both in competence and attire. I suggest the adjudicator be brought back. I hope the tradition of handing out a long-stemmed rose to each performer will continue.

WEBSITE REPORT – HEATHER GOWARD

Our Website Teacher Directory is updated. Please check the site to ensure that your information is accurate. Also, check the website homepage next year for a new link to ORMATA news & events.

PROVINCIAL CONVENTION 2012 – ANDREA BATTISTA



Plans are underway for the Hamilton/Halton branch to host the Provincial Convention from July 22 to 25, 2012. The convention is held every 2 years and attracts teachers from all over the province. Next summer's convention will take place at the Holiday Inn in Burlington, which is on the South Service Road just off Guelph Line and the QEW. This should be an easy location for members from other branches to find as well as being a central location for our large branch. The Burlington GO station is also very close. This Holiday Inn has one wing which has several ballrooms, which makes it ideal for holding workshops, banquets and for providing adequate space for exhibitors. Registration can be set up in the large hallway outside all these rooms, and receptions can also be held in the hallway, keeping everything in one place for convention registrants.

The theme for the convention is From Synapse to Symphony; Molding the Musical Mind. Our keynote speaker is Dr. Laurel Trainor from the McMaster Institute for Music and the Mind. She will be discussing her recent research into early childhood music study and its affect on the brain. Dr. Trainor will be joined by David Gerry, a Hamilton musician and neuroscientist, who will be bringing in children as part of his presentation.

A big part of the convention is the provincial level competitions. Jurors for the competition will be pianist Valerie Tryon, baritone John Fanning and our own Dr. Christopher Foley. Since many of you expressed an interest in master classes, Valerie Tryon and John Fanning will conduct master classes on the day following the competitions. They will choose from the competitors who did NOT win at the provincial competitions.

Members also expressed a desire to hear a noted pedagogy expert, and to that end, we have engaged Jennifer Snow, head of piano pedagogy from the RCM. Other clinicians will be Marie Baron from Sheridan College. She will be discussing the differences between classical and musical theatre vocal performance. She will be assisted at the piano by our own Linda Fletcher. Philip Corke and Roland Packer will be discussing the history of the hammered dulcimer and its relationship to the piano, with illustrations of its use in various cultures. They will also discuss their approach to arranging for performance.

We are still working on a few other ideas, such as a childrens' choir and a presentation on the new vocal syllabus from RCM with a highlight on local composers.

Our speaker for the banquet, which takes place on Tuesday evening, July 24, is Boris Brott. We are also trying to schedule a High Tea with the National Academy Orchestra on the Sunday afternoon when people register, as an extra attraction to kick off the convention.

Gregory Cross is busy working on contacting exhibitors for the convention. If you have any ideas for exhibitors (these can be local music stores, publishers, music therapists etc.), please contact Greg as soon as possible with the contact information (address, e-mail, telephone).

Kamara Hennessey will be co-ordinating hospitality. We will need lots of draw prizes and items for auction and everyone in the branch can help with this aspect of the convention. Kamara is working on a schedule and will be contacting members about how you can help. Many hands make light work!

Since 2012 is the anniversary of the War of 1812, we are thinking of having the war as the banquet theme. We are hoping to have a fashion show before the banquet put on by local area museums. Entertainment would be provided by the Cottonwood Brass, a group of fine Hamilton musicians, who play in period costume.

We are hoping that most of our branch members will attend this very interesting convention. It is a chance to celebrate our local area and all the talent around here. It is also a great opportunity to meet and mix with colleagues from other branches. Plan to be here for the convention and plan to come out and help us with the organization. Please contact me or anyone on the executive if you can help in any way.

Andrea Battista, Convention Chair

TREASURER’S REPORT – KAMARA HENNESSEY



Hamilton-Halton Branch

Treasurer’s Report for Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Date: Friday, May 27, 2011: Time: 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM
Location: Rousseau House, 375 Wilson St. E. Ancaster, ON L9G 2C1
Submitted by: Kamara Hennessey, B.Mus. R.M.T.

Opening Balances for May 01, 2011 and May 01, 2010

TYPE OF ACCOUNTS	ACCOUNT NUMBERS	DATES	ACCOUNT BALANCES
General Operating	04762 / 4938968	May 1, 2011	\$3,855.45
		May 1, 2010	\$3,981.38
Scholarship Fund	04762 / 9522166	May 1, 2011	\$5,323.15
		May 1, 2010	\$5,322.13
Bonus Savings	04762 / 3132730	May 1, 2011	\$17,349.59
		May 1, 2010	\$21,070.42

OTHER INVESTMENT

CIBC: GIC Investment Product Number ERGIC-00019
Issue Date: May 31 2010
Principal Amount - \$3000.00: Term 3 years;
Maturity Date: May 31, 2013
Interest earned at maturity \$164.76 to be automatically deposited to General Account.

Total amount held at CIBC, 2400 Fairview St. Burlington, ON branch as at May 01, 2011
\$29, 528.18

The balance for each account as displayed in the above table shows the April 30th closing amount that is carried over at the start of each fiscal year. In reviewing the carried over closing balance for the Bonus Savings Account in particular, that inflated balance figure includes the deposited HSBC draft in the amount of **\$3,682.55** issued to ORMTA, Hamilton-Halton. This amount has since been reinvested in a GIC (see info above) with the accrued interest deposited to the Scholarship Account.

This report also includes a sheet that tables the actual Incomes and Expenses activities for the year against the 2010 /11 Proposed Budget. Like the previous year the Incomes over Expenses reflect a financial profile that does not show a deficit. In some areas, the Executive has kept spending within the limits of the budget, maintaining the proposed

conservative ‘tone’ on the expenditure side of the organization’s operations.

LOOKING BACK AS I MOVE FORWARD

As I prepare to step down, I take this opportunity to reflect on some of the changes and events that occurred in the three terms (2008 - 2011) I held as branch Treasurer.

1. *Membership / Branch Levy Invoicing*

(a) In these three years, seventeen new ORMATA members requested to join our branch, increasing the membership to 77. This includes 2 *Honorary* Members, 3 *Retired* Members, 3 *Affiliate* Members, and 69 *Active* Members. For the upcoming 2011-2012 year, Active, Affiliate and Retired members who have paid their branch levies will have their information listed on the branch’s web site and updated brochure.

(b) To ensure that members and their participating students were comfortable having their information publicized in applicable branch events held throughout the year, I created a *Permission to Print Form* that includes a *Privacy Statement* which was approved for use in the 2009/10 year. As a standard branch practice, members are now required to sign and date this form and return it with their renewal fee. This form is retained in the Treasurer’s file.

2. *Scholarship -Prize Awards & Donations*

(a) In the 2008/09 year, our branch was fortunate to have received substantial donations made in memory of Marie Harris- Read who died in 2008. As requested by her husband, Ron Read, and in recognition of both Ron and Marie’s long association as branch members, the *Marie Harris-Read Memorial Scholarship* was created. The Executive approved \$150 to be awarded for a period of 10 years to the student who achieves the highest examination mark in Grade 10 Piano. With this addition, the number of annual Memorial Scholarship Awards has increased to 4.

(b) Approval of the *Scholarship Revision Proposal* presented by Francine McIsaac in 2009/10 year involved a re-categorization of grade levels within the Piano, Instrumental, Voice, and Theory disciplines. This allowed the total distribution of Awards to stay below the budgeted amount in each year. This revision has not affected the set amounts stated in named Memorial Scholarship Fund Awards that had been previously set up in the mid 1980s / 1990s by past Executives.

(c) In an effort to bring in additional resources, a sign at the cash box, donation appeals and raffle draws were made at Student Recitals and Teacher Scholarship fundraising events. Though donations were dismal at some events, overall donations received during recitals have helped to offset Recital expenses.

(d) Branch Levies along with Provincial Fees provide sustainable funds on a yearly basis. I extend great thanks to those members who have donated extra money, above and beyond their levies. This gesture shows immense support to this organization. Individuals who donated \$20 or more were issued Income Tax receipts that display the official ORMATA Logo.

(e) A special thank you to Dr. Joan Heels for approaching the Hamilton Community Foundation to direct \$200 from the *Joan Heels Family Scholarship Fund* to apply to the Vocal Scholarship Award in her name: With our branch’s annual contribution of \$100.00, the selected student on the 2010 Scholarship List benefitted from this increase to the award’s status.

(f) Along with Prize Awards Cheques and Certificates that I prepared, students selected

from the 2010 First Class Honours List were also presented with engraved Medals. A hearty thanks goes out to our Vice President, Melodie Hewer, who scoured the Internet for an affordable supplier of Award Medals - "Awards for Anything" of Stafford, Virginia. The executive was very pleased to be able to add this feature to our awards presentation.

3. Milestone and Recognition

(a) It was a privilege to have been on the Executive in a year when long time Branch Honourary Member, Evelyn Bedford's Centennial birthday was recognized. It was a pleasure to have collaborated with Joan Sinclair in creating a keepsake "Memories" album that highlighted Mrs. Bedford's long and illustrious professional career as Performer and Private Piano Teacher/Educator. Discretionary spending allowed for funds to go towards this legacy album project, and a bouquet of flowers. These gifts were given on behalf of our branch members to Evelyn at her 100th birthday party held at the Retirement and Long Term Care home where she currently resides.

(b) As one of the chosen delegates representing our branch to attend the Provincial AGMs and Conventions, my terms on the Executive provided me the opportunity to celebrate at "Special Teacher of the Year" Luncheons. Members Joan Sinclair (2008), Joan Heels (2009), and Shireen Moos (2010), were nominated and selected. I am glad that I was included in the Executive to be a part of that selection process in identifying these deserving individuals. Their recognizable and exemplary contributions over the decades as dedicated Music Educators and past Executive members and have been invaluable.

4. Succession Planning

When one has come to a decision to abdicate from any given position, finding a successor to take over the responsibilities is part of effective leadership. The stars aligned when I approached Diana Emery - a new member who joined the branch in 2010. Without hesitation she was willing and prepared to take on the role as the new Treasurer for the 2011-12 year. With my recommendation, Diana has had the opportunity to meet with the present Executive. Should Diana be elected as the succeeding Treasurer, I have every confidence that I am passing over the duties of this position to very competent hands. Diana's skills and knowledge as a Certified Accountant, and her past experience as Treasurer in the Burlington Suzuki Music Organization will be valuable assets to our branch.

5. My Colleagues on the Executive

In the 3 years that I have served as Treasurer, it was a pleasure getting to know each one of my team-mates from a different perspective - professionally and personally. I celebrate our unique personalities that were brought to the table; it collectively created a very dynamic and engaging team atmosphere. As colleagues and friends, I believe we worked quite effectively in support of each other through the challenges and triumphs that were presented to us. My personal growth continued to evolve through this form of individual and collective networking. Even though differences of opinion were expressed at times, we never lost sight of our respective roles through volunteer service to the branch membership. The challenges we encountered provided me with greater insights into my own values, as well as those of the organization as we strive to carry out its mission. Thanks to all of you for helping me transition into and stay on in the role of Treasurer. I greatly appreciate your ongoing confidence in me, and expressions of

appreciation of the quality of my work. Although I will be officially giving up this role, be assured there will be no disconnect from the workings of the Executive.



2010 - 2011 BUDGET - ACTUAL EXPENSE & INCOME SHEET

EXPENSES	10 / 11 ACTUAL COSTS	10 / 11 BUDGET	09 / 10 ACTUAL COSTS
Church / Hall Rentals	\$620.00	\$650.00	\$700.00
Tuning -Piano @ RBG	\$96.00	0	\$125.00
Workshop	\$60.00	\$300.00	\$300.00
Brochures (1 printing)	\$676.00	\$460.00 (1 printing)	\$420.00 (1 printing)
Recital Receipts	\$442.00	\$425.00	\$427.00
Office Receipts	\$287.00	\$495.00	\$502.00
Convention Fees (Delegates)	\$245.00	\$200.00	\$185.00
Web Site	\$531.00	\$300.00	\$442.00
Arts Membership (renewals)	\$260.00	\$250.00	\$200.00
Accountant Fees	\$475.00	\$475.00	\$473.00
Young Artist Tour	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$0.00
Provincial Donation	\$150.00	\$200.00	\$150.00
Adjudicators' Fees	\$885.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
AGM (Luncheon)	\$425.00	\$500.00	\$504.00
Zone Competition	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$150.00 (Niagara Br.)
Rotary Burl. Mus.. Fest. . Don.	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00
Scholarship Awards	\$1,480.00	\$1,800.00	\$1,795.00
TOTAL	\$6,932	\$7,255.00	\$7,173.00
<i>Revenues - Expenses</i>	<i>+\$538.25</i>	<i>\$9.00</i>	<i>+\$3091.00</i>
REVENUE	ACTUAL AMOUNTS RECEIVED 10 / 11 YEAR	PROJECTED 10 / 11 YEAR	AMT. RECEIVED. 09 / 10 YEAR
Branch Levies & Prov. Fees	\$3,815.25	\$3,800.00	\$3880.00
AGM (Luncheon)	\$425.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
Recital Donations	\$411.00	\$450.00	\$354.00
Members Concert (tickets)	\$505.00	\$500.00	\$660.00 May 01/09 - \$450.00 Apr. 18/10 - \$210.00
Advertising	\$600.00	\$660.00	\$500.00
Interests	\$150.00	\$200.00	\$147.00 3 accounts
Dr. Joan Heels - (Annual Vocal Scholarship Donation) Hamilton Community Foundation	\$200.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
Marie-Harris Read Scholarship	0.00	?	\$50.00
Members Donation	\$220.00	?	\$315.00
Teachers Workshop	\$95.00	\$125.00	\$56.00
Zone Competition (Niagara Br.) Student Entry Fees (Zone and Provincial)	\$150.00 \$120.00	\$150.00 (Niagara Br.)	0
GIC (matured interest) M/O (GIC Interest)	\$683.00 96.00	\$779.00 (\$3,000 to be reinvested)	\$3682.55
TOTAL	\$7,470.25	\$7,264.00	\$10,245.00