

The Southeast Rag



April, 2012

The Voice of Southeast MBSI

Volume 29, No.1

2011-12 Southeast Chapter Officers

Wayne Finger, Chairman

Craig Darlak, Vice Chairman

Julie Morlock, Secretary and Membership

Reporter and Photographer, Howard Sanford

Treasurer and Webmaster, Clay Witt

Librarian, Moe Goldy

Chairman's Message

by Wayne Finger, Chairman

A Great Time to be Part of MBSI:

Now is such a great time to be part of MBSI. So many new things are going on.

New Collectors and New Collections:

As we discovered at the chapter meeting in New Orleans, there are new collectors and new collections out there - and they are marvelous collections with all types of beautifully restored instruments. We were treated to the most gracious Southern hospitality complete with family recipe treats, powerful and tasty rum cake and inspirational examples of repairing and rebuilding instruments. A special thanks to the Sunbelt Chapter and Louis and Anne Boyd for the outstanding weekend of new experiences for many of our members.

Once Again for Tampa Meeting – Show and Tell:

We are going to try something again at the June meeting in Tampa. Let's have a "Show and Tell" on Friday evening at the hotel. The meeting hotel is an Embassy Suites, which has a large open area where every evening they serve complimentary cocktails for an hour or so. This will be the perfect place for us to sit around some tables and discuss such things as:

- ♦ Whatzits (Photo or example of something that you don't know what it is or does)
- ♦ Howzitwurks (You know what it is, but can't figure out how it works)
- ♦ What's Missing in this Picture? (You are rebuilding something, but don't know what the missing mechanism looks like.)

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Calendar of Events

Spring Meeting

June 9-10, 2012

Tampa, FL

Host: Craig Darlak

MBSI 63rd Annual Meeting August, 29-September 2, 2012

Redwood City, CA

Host: Dave Corkrum

Fall Meeting

Joint Piedmont/Southeast Chapters

Danville, VA

Details Undetermined

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Minutes of Meeting March 3-4, 2012

Kenner (Metairie), LA

by Julie Morlock, Recording Secretary



The winter meeting of the Southeast Chapter was held jointly with the Sunbelt Chapter in Kenner, LA on Saturday, March 3, 2012.

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 P.M. by Chairman Wayne Finger, who reviewed the agenda. Julie Morlock introduced new members Don and Alice Scheetz, Bob Atkins, and guests Kelly Teel and her daughter Breanna Wagner. Wayne welcomed the new members and visitors; he then thanked Louis and Ann Boyd and all the open house hosts for planning a wonderful meeting.

Recording Secretary: Julie Morlock noted that the following section was omitted from the Membership section when the minutes of the previous meeting (October 1, 2011) were printed in the last issue of the *Southeast Rag*: “we set up a chapter email for information purposes at www.sembsi@yahoo.com; and we revamped the chapter ad in the *Journal*. National set up a Facebook page (log on to Facebook, then search for “musical box society”; there is a link on the bottom of the MBSI website home page, and National is urging members to “like” it in order to spread awareness).” A motion was made and passed to accept the amended minutes.

Membership/Member Well-Being: Julie Morlock reported that the Southeast Chapter had 139 members. She reminded members that the cutoff date to make any changes to their listings in the MBSI National Directory was March 15; send changes to Jacque Beeman a week before (the same applied to advertising space). Julie also reported that Wayne and Alice Finger had a new granddaughter; Irene Kaufman was recovering from a broken foot; Elayne Goldy was recovering from a broken leg and was present at the meeting; and Tom Bristow had hip replacement surgery and a heart catheterization in December.

Awards: Julie Morlock stated that we are always looking for members to recognize for their contributions to MBSI and to the chapter; if anyone had suggestions for members deserving of such recognition, please contact any of the chapter officers.

Treasurer’s Report: Clay Witt reported that we had a total of \$10,705.39 cash on hand at the close of 2011 (\$5,702.79 in checking and \$5,002.60 in the money market) which should be more than sufficient

to carry us through preparations for the 2014 Annual Meeting. The 2011 fiscal year closed with a net loss of \$2,513.75 (mostly from the OSC exhibit expenses); without those expenses, we would have come out \$42.52 ahead. Note, though, that includes almost \$500 we received from the sale of books donated to the chapter from the Gellerman estate. There were zero unpaid bills from 2011.

Website Update: Clay Witt reported that he had set up a photo gallery on our website and asked members to send in pictures of instruments or people enjoying the instruments for him to post; Wayne Finger suggested pictures of younger people with the instruments. Clay noted that we had gotten several new members because of the website. Wayne pointed out features of the website and thanked Clay for making the website so effective.

Upcoming Meetings: Vice Chairman Craig Darlak discussed our next meeting to be held June 8-9, 2012 in Tampa, FL, with Craig as host; we will stay at the Embassy Suites at USF, with complimentary breakfasts and cocktails/hors d’oeuvres each evening. There will be several very nice collections to visit. Our fall meeting 2012 will be a joint meeting with the Piedmont Chapter in Danville, VA (dates to be set); we are looking at the High Springs, FL/St. Augustine, FL area for our winter 2013 meeting. Wayne Finger reviewed Craig’s ideas to make meetings more fun: bring a “curiosity,” lead a discussion, suggest collections to view, provide contacts, and bring family/friends. Members should contact Craig with any ideas.

Registrars Kay Simmons and Paula Horton had no report.

Wayne Finger passed on a request from Dixie Leis that any information for the *Southeast Rag* be sent to her by the first week in April so the newsletter could be mailed nine weeks prior to the next meeting. Wayne thanked Dixie for the great job she does with the newsletter.

Librarian Moe Goldy had no report and did not bring the library to the meeting.

Howard Sanford reported that the trustees will meet March 30 in Phoenix, AZ, and will visit the Musical Instrument Museum. The trustees have decided to combine the Museum Endowment Fund and the Museum Fund, as there will be no separate MBSI museum. Howard also reported that Wayne Myers had envisioned an exhibit that could be shipped around the country to attract new members; however, it was decided that the cost was too expensive and they are encouraging individual chapters to develop their own exhibits. MBSI has two

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Photos from the Metairie, LA Meeting

new trustees: Wayne Myers (Southeast Chapter) and Mary Pollack (Mid-America Chapter).

Dale Koehn, Photographer

Nomination Committee: Marilou and Martin van Zanten, and Bill Kavouras will chair the nomination of officers in winter 2013; if you are interested in serving as an officer, let them know.

2014 Annual Meeting: Carol Beck reported that we have a tentative schedule and tour program, and that Bill Griffin is checking on the Olympia Theater and Vizcaya in Miami as possible additions to the tours. They plan to produce refrigerator magnets to hand out at this year's annual meeting in San Francisco. If anyone has ideas or suggestions, please let her or Bill know. Work on the meeting will start in earnest in the fall.

Unfinished Business:

Wayne Finger reviewed our etiquette suggestions; a motion was made and approved to accept this as chapter policy. A copy will be published in the next newsletter.

Vernon Gantt said dates for the fall meeting are still to be set (end of September/beginning of October.) He described a wonderful collection to be viewed and pointed out that Danville was a very historic area to visit.

Wayne Finger thanked everyone for attending, and again thanked everyone involved with setting up the meeting.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.



The historic French Quarter is always a big attraction whenever one is in New Orleans.



Above is one of New Orleans' famous trolley cars. Like in San Francisco, the trolleys are a major mode of transportation for the locals.

- more photos on next page

*I JUST GOT LOST IN THOUGHT. IT WASN'T FAMILIAR TERRITORY.
I FEEL LIKE I'M DIAGONALLY PARKED IN A PARALLEL UNIVERSE.
HONK IF YOU LOVE PEACE AND QUIET.
REMEMBER, HALF THE PEOPLE YOU KNOW ARE BELOW AVERAGE.
I DRIVE WAY TOO FAST TO WORRY ABOUT CHOLESTEROL.*

More Photos from Metairie Meeting

by Dale Koehn



One of the featured open houses was that of Nick and Judy Bonura where they proudly displayed their collection of many fine clocks.



Some of the Southeast Chapter's most faithful attendees smile for the camera. From left to right are Howard Sanford, Warren Officer, Lindsey Walker, Margie Sanford, Bill Bolek, and Stephen Brittain.

Southeast Mart

*\$2.00 for each 20 words. Send ads and checks to
Dixie Leis.*

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My young grandson called the other day to wish me Happy Birthday. He asked me how old I was, and I told him, 62.'He was quiet for a moment, and then he asked, Did you start at 1?''- Anonymous

Milhous Auction Nets \$38M

Submitted by Margie Sanford

According to the February 27, 2012 *Miami Herald*, the collection of the Milhous brothers brought in \$38.3 million dollars after two days of bidding. There were bidders from 18 countries. Although the cars sold at or above their estimates, the rare musical instruments sold for lower than their estimates. The custom built carousel sold for \$1.3 million. Of the eight automated musical instruments that were expected to sell for \$1M and up [*Editor's Note: the big organs*], only three netted seven-figure bids. Paul Milhous said he was happy with the auction's result, saying it was simply time to move on.

Volunteer Needed

by Carol Beck, MBSI Traveling Exhibit facilitator

The Southeast Chapter created a traveling exhibit in 1998 which is used by all of the Society for any public gatherings and meetings. I have served as the facilitator for this since the beginning, but need to let someone else handle it. Basically it is a very easy job. It entails keeping the exhibit when someone else does not have it, keeping a chart of requests for its use, and seeing that those who request it get it and return it (or send it to the next user). The exhibit is contained in two 14" x 14" x 43" containers, plus the brochures that are on hand. The exhibit comes with instructions for use, and can be shipped by UPS. If you are interested in handling this job, please contact our chairman at www.gwf2001@aol.com.

Welcome, New Members

Please add the following new members to your 2011 membership list.



Robert & Kathy Atkins
1423 Cottonwood Lane SE
Cullman, AL 35055
(256) 739-0320
bobatkins1941@gmail.com

Nick & Judy Bonura
4620 Lake Vista Drive
Metairie, LA 70006
(504) 887-4599
nickstics@cox.net

Sandy Cranfill
4721 Tartan Drive
Metairie, LA 70003
(504) 888-9909
swcranfill@yahoo.com

James S. Grigsby
2007 Dauphine Street
New Orleans, LA 70116
(504) 945-2360
2jgrigsby@gmail.com

Kelly Teel
1224 Kings Court
Gautier, MS 39553
(228) 522-1996
kgteel@cableone.net



Chapter Condolences

Submitted by Margie Sanford; source The Miami Herald

The Southeast Chapter sends its condolences to long-time member Millie Cohn on the death of her son, Dr. Jeffrey Augenstein, an internationally noted trauma surgeon and researcher, who died in mid-February. He was 64 years old. His accomplishments were many: co-founding and helping design the Jackson Memorial Hospital's Ryder Trauma Center; directing the William Lehman Injury Research School of Medicine where his work led to lifesaving advances on highways, battlefields, and in disaster zones; was co-director of the Medical Computer Systems Laboratory for more than 30 years; established the Army Trauma Training Center program at Ryder where practically every care provider dispatched to Iraq and Afghanistan trained, which impacted millions of military and civilian lives; and he was a vital part of many other medically related advances.

In addition to his mother and his wife Deborah, he is survived by his sister Linda Connelly.

Collection Viewing Etiquette

- ◆ Always ask the host if photographs or video may be taken. If you intend to publish these photographs/videos, please get the host's permission to do so and ask whether the host wants the collection identified.
- ◆ Do not smoke inside the home and ask permission before smoking outside the home.
- ◆ Do not bring food near the instruments. Be careful where you set plates and drinks.
- ◆ "Hands off" is the best policy. Beware of belt buckles and other objects that could cause damage. Never try to adjust or repair an instrument unless asked to do so by the host.
- ◆ Do not play any instrument unless given permission by the host to do so. It is always best if the host turns on the instrument as some of them can be pretty finicky.
- ◆ Do not ask the host or instrument owner the value of an instrument or how much it would cost to purchase one.
- ◆ Meeting hosts generously open their homes and collections to members and go to a great deal of trouble to accommodate our group. Be sure to introduce yourself to them and sign any guest book.
- ◆ Remember you are a guest in their home. Be courteous and keep your comments to yourself. Thank the hosts when you leave and a thank you note would be most welcome.
- ◆ When instruments are being played, please refrain from talking as many instruments have a soft voice.
- ◆ Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times and follow these courtesies.

- *Chairman's Message, continued from page 1*

- ◆ Where Can I Buy or Sell This? (You want to buy or sell something, but don't know who might have it or want it.)

The topics are wide open and the complimentary cocktails will assure that you receive more advice than you had ever imagined. Just bring a photo, sketch on a napkin or the bring actual item if it will travel. I'm bringing a musical movement that came out of something, but what? Maybe you have seen it before and can help identify it.

Old Instruments are New Again:

Most people alive today have never seen or heard the wonderful instruments in our collections. Once I played our player piano to a friend from India. It was the first one he had ever seen. He thought my 1924 Autopiano was the latest high tech invention. To him, it was new. When we show our instruments to people of all ages good things happen. Everyone enjoys them. Some are entertained. Some are amazed. But some get really, really interested. Sometimes playing your instruments for an acquaintance stimulates a new hobbyist. Together we can help them attain their goal of getting an affordable "starter" music machine. I believe the MBSI represents a person's best opportunity for encouragement, advice, parts and musical fellowship.

I hope you and your family are in good health and enjoying the music. See you in Tampa in June.

Bumper Stickers

If You Can Read This, I've Lost My Trailer.

Horn Broken... Watch For Finger.

I Have The Body Of A God - Buddha.

So Many Pedestrians - So Little Time.

If We Quit Voting, Will They All! Go Away?

Eat Right, Exercise, Die Anyway.

Illiterate? Write For Help.

Honk If Anything Falls Off.

Cover Me, I'm Changing Lanes.

I Refuse To Have A Battle Of Wits With
An Unarmed Person.

You! Out Of The Gene Pool - Now!

I Do Whatever My Rice Krispies Tell Me To.

(Seen Upside Down On A Jeep)
If You Can Read This, Please Flip Me Back Over...

All Men Are Animals; Some Just Make Better Pets.