

# The Southeast Rag



December, 2012

The Voice of Southeast MBSI

Volume 29, No 3

## 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

This is the time of year when I invite friends over who have never seen mechanical music. When they experience the music boxes, orchestrions and pianos they usually say or do something which is always memorable. Some are amazed that today's iPod has a song capacity which is 10,000 times the capacity of a Mills jukebox. That's even more impressive, considering the iPod is one cubic inch and the jukebox is several cubic feet in volume. Some must see the instruments play live. They need the doors opened up because they want to see them play. Some remark how the live performance of an instrument sounds much better than any electronic reproduction. But my favorite comment was when my friend Larry turned to Alice and said, "Do you ever wish Wayne had decided to collect stamps instead? They sure would take up less space!" She quickly responded, "Never, instruments are so much more fun than stamps". The she put another nickel in the Seeburg KT Special. God bless Alice.

This month marks the completion of my two year term as chairman of the Southeast Chapter. These years have been very rewarding for me. The officers and leadership of the chapter have been so thoughtful and professional. Everyone in the chapter has been so supportive. Our collection hosts and meeting coordinators provided us with unique opportunities to experience some of the best music machines in the world. Thank you for allowing me to serve these past two years.

Starting in January, Craig Darlak is serving as chairman. I am optimistic for the chapter's future because Craig and our newly elected leadership team are so committed and capable. Additionally, our 2014 Annual Meeting preparations are well organized, underway and under expert leadership. I am looking forward to all the wonderful activities in store over the next several years. It is a wonderful time to be involved with MBSI.

I hope your Holidays are filled with good health, love and wonderful music.



## Calendar of Events

### Winter 2013 Meeting

February 8-10, 2013

Jacksonville/Orange Park, FL

Host: Warren Officer

### Spring 2013 Meeting

Yet to be Determined

### 2014 Annual Meeting Trial

October 29-30, 2013

Bonaventure Resort and Spa

Weston, FL

Hosts: Carol Beck and Bill Griffin

### MBSI 64th Annual Meeting

August 26-September 1, 2013

Chicago, IL

Co-hosts: Bob McKanna, Al Choffness, Marty Persky

**EDITOR.** Dixie V. Leis, 6138 Guilford Drive, New Port Richey, FL 34655, dixleis@aol.com

# Minutes of Danville, VA Meeting

## November 9-10, 2012

by Julie Morlock, Recording Secretary



The fall meeting of the Southeast Chapter was held jointly with the Piedmont Chapter in Danville, VA on Saturday, November 10, 2012.

Vernon Gantt, Piedmont chairman, welcomed everyone to the joint meeting. Vernon discussed the workshop to be held after the meeting, and welcomed new Piedmont members Clain and Pamela Anderson. He gave a brief description of the Kramers' collection for the Saturday open house (lunch provided), corrected his address for the Sunday open house, and noted that the dinner time had been moved up. Stuart Kramer reviewed directions to his home.

Southeast Vice Chairman Craig Darlak called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone, had Carol Beck pass around a signup sheet for helping with the 2014 Annual Meeting, and introduced guest Michael Myers and Piedmont member Mike Lund and his daughter.

The minutes of the previous meeting held June 9, 2012 in Tampa, FL, were approved as printed in the last issue of the *Southeast Rag*.

**Membership Report:** Julie Morlock reported that the chapter currently had 138 members, although there had been three member deaths this past year. A motion was made and approved to make three memorial donations to the Endowment Fund in honor of Murray Weinberg, Jim Rankin and David Pagitt.

**Treasurer's Report:** Clay Witt reported that as of mid October 2012, the chapter had a total of \$8,843.52 in our checking and money market accounts; there were no outstanding bills and we were \$1,317.30 in the black at this time. We have spent \$4,179.17 on the annual meeting; this is being treated as an asset since we will get this money back.

**Website:** Clay Witt asked that photos be emailed to him to be posted in the photo gallery at our website, [www.mbsise.org](http://www.mbsise.org).

**Future Meetings Report:** Craig Darlak reported that the next meeting would be hosted by Warren Officer in the Jacksonville area the end of January or the beginning of February; more information will be available as soon as dates and the hotel were finalized. It was noted that all meetings in 2013 will include table favor workshops.

**Registrars' Report:** Kay Simmons and Paula Horton had no report; Craig Darlak thanked them for their efforts in setting up this meeting.

**Editor's Report:** Dixie Leis was not present at the meeting; Craig Darlak thanked her for her work on the *Southeast Rag* and reminded members who have anything to put in the *Rag* to send it to Dixie.

**Librarian's Report:** Moe Goldy reported that the library was available during the meeting. He then addressed the issue of keeping track of the items in the library. He recently audited the library and printed a list of missing items in the last issue of the *Rag*. He explained that when members borrow a book during a meeting, there is a ledger to sign out the books. It is each member's responsibility to sign out books, to return them, and to mark them as returned in the ledger.

**Nominating Committee:** Marilou van Zanten presented the nominating committee's roster of officers for 2013-2014: Clay Witt for treasurer, Julie Morlock for secretary, Mary Ellen Myers for vice chairman, and Craig Darlak for chapter chairman. A motion to accept the roster was made and approved.

**2014 Annual Meeting:** Bill Griffin reported that the hotel for the meeting has changed names and owners (it is now the Bonaventure Resort and Spa), but our contract remained in good standing. A group consisting of Bill, Carol Beck, Stephen Brittain, Dale Koehn, Cotton and Julie Morlock, and Peter Klein visited the meeting hotel last weekend. He and Carol reminded the chapter that we need all members to volunteer to help with the meeting. Bill explained that registration, hospitality and the special exhibit would all be in the same room for the 2014 meeting. Clay Witt explained that originally, we received \$10,000.00 in seed money from national; the hotel deposit was \$11,000.00; and we had asked for advanced registrations to help out with this. A total of \$5,400.00 in advanced registrations was received. However, at the San Francisco meeting it was decided that national will give \$15,000.00 seed money and will pick up the hotel deposit. We currently have \$4,892.00 in the 2014 account, and we can ask for seed money from national as needed. The Sanfords have lined up 4 workshops and 2 speakers so far; if members have any suggestions for other workshops or speakers, let the Sanfords know. Moe Goldy and David Beck need helpers during the mart; Wayne Myers noted that a new policy allows non-members to buy at the mart as long as they are registered for the meeting. Martin van Zanten reported that the next three chapter meetings will include workshops to assemble, label and box the table favors, so we can be done a year in advance of

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the annual meeting. Bill requested volunteers to help Marilou van Zanten set up table decorations for meals. Bill Griffin reported that Peter Klein wants to set up the special exhibit to show the timeline of automatic musical instruments; Bill asked for members to loan instruments, and Carol asked if anyone had a printed timeline to send to Peter. The schedule for tours was being revamped after visiting locations in Miami and finding out about the local traffic. Craig Darlak will be working with the hotel on security issues. Wayne Finger has a well organized plan for publicity and promotion. Stephen Brittain and Dale Koehn are working on the promotional video and are handling audiovisual for the meeting; let Stephen know if you have a VCR camera they can use for the workshops (they need 5). Currently, there will be four home collection tours during the meeting and four open houses on Sunday; let Bill and Carol know if you would be willing to host an open house. We have verbal agreements for tour sites, but most will not finalize until a year out, so we can't plan for buses until we know for sure which sites are locked in; sites being considered are Vizcaya, the Olympia Theater, the Ancient Spanish Monastery, and the Dezer Auto Collection. Carol Beck is organizing door prizes, and is going to ask members to donate small musical items for prizes; we'll also have several 50/50 drawings and give the proceeds to worthy causes. Cotton Morlock is planning several evening events in the hospitality room and asked if someone could loan a reproducing piano and a jukebox for the room. Bill reviewed ways that Southeast Chapter members can help with the 2014 meeting: attend the test meeting at the hotel in September of 2013, volunteer as helpers with the various committees, loan an instrument for the special exhibit or hospitality room, and bring your monkey organ to play at the first timers reception on Wednesday night of the annual meeting.

**New/Old Business:** Craig Darlak mentioned that our power point projector had been loaned to San Francisco for the annual meeting and they were very appreciative. He reminded everyone to pay their dues to national, and promoted the 2013 Annual Meeting in Chicago on August 27 - September 1, noting that you need to register as soon as materials are received to make sure you get on the tours.

**Trustees' Report:** Wayne Myers urged everyone to read the president's message and the minutes of the annual meeting in the recent issue of the journal. There are serious budget issues to be addressed at the trustees meeting in March. Cutting issues of the *journal* (ads are covering the cost presently) and raising dues (2013 dues will remain the same) have been discussed, and they are looking at other ways to save or reduce expenses. Following discussion, a

straw vote was taken showing the majority of the members present would agree to a slight dues increase. Clay Witt pointed out that the organization has lost 40% membership over the past twenty years and returns on investments have decreased.

Vernon Gantt reminded everyone that lunch would be provided at the Kramers' home, and that friends of theirs would also be attending the open house. He also mentioned that lunch would be served at his home on Sunday, and reviewed the schedule for the rest of the meeting.

Moe Goldy announced that the catalog for the upcoming Breker auction in Germany featured three automata that Elayne had dressed, including one on the cover. He had the catalog for everyone to see.

There being nothing further to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

## Photos from the Danville Meeting

Warren Officer, photographer



*Left: Dan Wilson proudly demonstrated his tall case musical clock during his and Marti's open house.*

*Below, During the business meeting Moe Goldy (center) waits for his turn to discuss the chapter library and the borrower's obligations to help ensure records are correct.*



- more photos on next page

## More Photos from Danville



*Stuart and Patrice Kramer have a huge collection of instruments and miscellaneous collectibles. Above shows some of their jukeboxes.*



*The Kramers' collection includes this antique doctor's buggy (the buggy not the doctor) complete with medicine bag.*



*At his and Penny's open house, Vernon Gantt shows one of his instruments to Bill Griffin.*

*I have flabby thighs, but fortunately my stomach covers them.*

### Southeast Mart

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

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*"It's not easy to become an angel! First, you die. Then you go to heaven, and then there's still the flight training to go through. And then you got to agree to wear those angel clothes." Matthew, age 9*

*"I only know the names of two angels. Hark and Harold." Gregory, age 5*

# Mechanical Music Goes to Market

by Stephen Miller

From *The Wall Street Journal* December 17-18, 2012

Submitted by Margie Sanford. Summarized by Dixie Leis

This article described various types of mechanical musical instruments for those readers who were not familiar with them, but perhaps of more importance to us are the values that the article attributed to them. According to Steven Stanton, the owner of Stanton's Auctioneers & Realtors, "prices have declined in recent years...Maybe they got too darn high for a while" and suggested the Japanese, "once heavy buyers, have pulled back."

The article stated that "nicely restored" examples of cylinder music boxes go for \$5,000 to \$10,000. Mr. Stanton also said high end model Regina disk boxes "often sell at auction for \$10,000 to \$20,000." As for restored reproducing pianos, "examples can go for \$20,000 or more." Regarding phonographs, "high end floor models with horns in good condition often sell for \$5,000 or more." Steven Ryder, of AutoMusique, suggested fully restored 19<sup>th</sup> century French automata can go "for upward of \$200,000."

The article featured three instruments recently sold. "'La Japonaise,' an automaton circa 1885, was auctioned by Sotheby's in June in New York. To two musical pieces, she bows her head, blinks, twirls the parasol, and fans herself." Sold for \$31,250.

A "1913 Welte Wotan Brass Band Orchestration was auctioned in February in Boca Raton, Fla, by RM Auctions in association with Sotheby's." Sold for \$1,092,500.

On Friday, December 16, "Stanton's Auctioneers sold (a) Victor VI disc phonograph with Mahogany Spear Tip wooden horn. The price estimate had been \$4,500-5,000." Sold for \$4,500.



## Membership Contact Change



Please make the following change to your 2012 membership list.

Address Change:

Barbara Rankin  
6100 W. Friendly Ave., Apt. 4112  
Greensboro, NC 27410  
(336) 294-2245

### REAL NEWSPAPER ADS

*FREE YORKSHIRE TERRIER. 8 years old. Hateful little dog. Bites.*

*FREE PUPPIES:  
1/2 Cocker Spaniel, 1/2 sneaky neighbor's dog.*

*FREE PUPPIES...  
Mother, German Shepherd. Father, Super Dog...able to leap tall fences in a single bound.*

*FOUND - DIRTY WHITE DOG.  
Looks like a rat .... been out a while. Better be a reward.*

*COWS, CALVES: NEVER BRED.  
Also 1 GAY BULL for sale.*

*JOINING NUDIST COLONY!  
Must sell washer and dryer. \$300.*

*WEDDING DRESS FOR SALE. WORN ONCE BY MISTAKE. Call Stephanie.*

*FOR SALE BY OWNER:  
Complete set of Encyclopedia Britannica, 45 volumes. Excellent condition. \$1,000 or best offer. No longer needed, got married last month. Wife knows everything.*

### Save the Date!

9/27/2013 - 9/29/2013

#### Southeast Chapter's Trial Meeting

for the Southeast Chapter-sponsored MBSI  
2014 Annual Meeting.

Hyatt Regency Bonaventure

Weston, FL

Your help and support is needed!

## 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.

## Senior Golf

Arthur is 90 years old. He's played golf every day since his retirement 25 years ago. One day he arrives home looking downcast.

"That's it," he tells his wife. "I'm giving up golf. My eyesight has got so bad. Once I've hit the ball, I can't see where it went."

His wife sympathizes. As they sit down, she has a suggestion: "Why don't you take my brother with you, and give it one more try."

"That's no good," sighs Arthur. "Your brother is a hundred and three. He can't help."

"He may be a hundred and three," says the wife, "but his eyesight is perfect."

So the next day, Arthur heads off to the golf course with his brother-in-law. He tees up, takes an almighty swing, and squints down the fairway. He turns to the brother-in-law. "Did you see the ball?"

"Of course I did!" says the brother-in-law. "I have perfect eyesight."

"Where did it go?" asks Arthur.

"Can't remember."

## To all you OWLS

(Older Wiser Laughing Souls)

Whether a man winds up with a nest egg, or a goose egg, depends a lot on the kind of chick he marries.

Trouble in marriage often starts when a man gets so busy earning his salt that he forgets his sugar.

Too many couples marry for better, or for worse, but not for good.

When a man marries a woman, they become one, but the trouble starts when they try to decide which one.

If a man has enough horse sense to treat his wife like a thoroughbred, she will never turn into an old nag.

On anniversaries, the wise husband always forgets the past - but never the present.

Many girls like to marry a military man - he can cook, sew, and make beds and is in good health, and he's already used to taking orders.

How old would you be if you didn't know how old you are?

You know you are getting old when everything either dries up or leaks.

Old age is when former classmates are so gray and wrinkled and bald, they don't recognize you.