



# The Southeast Rag



[www.mbsise.org](http://www.mbsise.org)



May 2017

The Southeast MBSI Newsletter

Volume 34, No. 4

## 2017-18 Chapter Officers:

**Chair:** Judy Miller

**Vice Chair:** Jack Hostetler

**Secretary:** Julie Morlock

**Treasurer:** Clay Witt

**Chair Emeritus:** Mary Ellen Myers

## Committee Leaders:

**Librarian:** Wayne Finger

**Membership:** Julie Morlock

**Newsletter:** Mary-Ann Hostetler

**Reporter:** Howard Sanford

**Webmaster:** Clay Witt



## Chairpersons' Message:

(by Judy Miller)

The Southeast Chapter and Piedmont Chapter held a joint meeting in Danville VA. April, 21-23. There were 30 members in attendance. We both held brief business meetings at the hotel, with some show and tells and mart.

In the afternoon we headed over to Stuart Kramers for a wonderful lunch and a tour of their massive collection of automatons, phonographs, music boxes, jukeboxes, toys, and much more.

Thank you Kramer's for a wonderful day. After the full day we headed to Joe & Mimma's Italian Restaurant for an evening of more eating. (seems we do a lot of that).

On Sunday we had three open houses, Bill & Ellen Jamerson's, in historic Appomattox, VA. have a wonderful collection of music boxes in a beautiful setting (see some pics on the website).

Vernon and Penny Gantt in Raleigh, NC, and Dan and Marti Wilson also have great collections well worth the time to visit. If you are ever in the area of these people, call and see if you can view their collections.

## Upcoming Chapter Events!

July 18, 2017

Camp Villages Program  
The Villages, FL

**Organizer:** Jack Hostetler

August 29 – September 2, 2017 MBSI Annual Meeting

Whippany, NJ

**Organizer:** East Coast Chapter

November 3-5, 2017: Chapter Meeting  
Largo, FL

with Organ Rally and Miniature Rail Road and train rides!

**Organizer:** Martin & Marilou Van Zanten

December 15-17, 2017 - Annual Holiday Exhibit at The Villages

**Organizer:** Jack Hostetler



# The Web Corner

**By Clay Witt, Chapter Webmaster**

Do you know that our chapter has a website? Have you visited it lately? You can find it at: [www.mbsise.org](http://www.mbsise.org).

You may find a number of things of interest to you there. There is:

- Information about MBSI and our chapter. ("About Us").
- A page you can refer friends to who might like to join MBSI ("Join MBSI").
- A page with numerous links to other websites of interest to mechanical music collectors ("Links").
- A page with answers to questions about our hobby ("FAQS").
- A page with a calendar of upcoming MBSI and chapter events ("Future Events").
- A page with lots of photos of events gone by ("Past Events"). You may even find yourself here!
- A page with a slide show of pictures about us and our hobby ("Photo Gallery"). We invite you to submit more if you would like.
- A page with links to current and past chapter newsletters ("Newsletter").
- A page with information about books members can check out from the chapter library and how to do that ("Library").
- A page where you can download a fun hobby related activity book for children ("For Children").
- Pages where you can order MBSI themed Tervis tumblers and, while the few remaining ones last, and table favors from the 65<sup>th</sup> MBSI Annual Meeting, which our chapter hosted.

So visit our website from time to time. We think you will enjoy it.

## **Check Out the Chapter Library (by Wayne Finger, Librarian)**

Your Chapter Library now will check out a book to you with a simple email. After receiving the email, the librarian will mail you the book USPS Media Mail. You may read it for up to 4 months. Then mail it back or return it at the next Chapter meeting. Look over the available books at <http://tinyurl.com/lpgnfah> then click on the email link to request the book or get on the waiting list.

## **Special Exhibits Event Report**

**By: Judy Miller**

**The photos are from my demonstration at the homeschoolers association. We had six students ranging from first grade to 12 years old. They enjoyed hearing the monkey Organ and the music box and created their own music boxes also. They seem to enjoy the history and playing the boxes and listening to the music. This was the first time I did this so I have a few kinks to work out but overall it was great.**

**Editor's note:** Judy organized this event as a member of the MBSI Special Exhibits Committee, representing the Piedmont Chapter. Her photos are below.



### **Notes from our recent Chapter Meeting (by Julie Morlock)**



The joint spring meeting of the Southeast and Piedmont Chapters was held April 22, 2017 in Danville, VA.

Chair Judy Miller called the Southeast Chapter meeting to order at 9:05 am.

The minutes of the last meeting, held January 13, 2017 in Sarasota, FL were approved as printed in the last issue of The Southeast Rag.

**Treasurer's Report:** Clay Witt reported that we were \$7.19 in the black for 2017, with a total of \$12,215.34 in the bank, including \$9,357.78 in checking and \$2,857.56 in assets (table favors and Tervis tumblers). The report was approved.

**Membership Report:** Julie Morlock reported that we currently had 122 chapter memberships, but 22 of those still owed dues for 2017; she would be contacting those members again.

**Membership Well-Being:** David Oppenheim reported that he just found out from Dan and Marti Wilson that Irene Leverette had passed away about a year ago. Alice Finger reported that Ann Boyd was not able to attend the meeting due to health issues, and passed around a card for her. Dan Wilson reported that Southeast member Leo Morris had passed away in November; a motion was made and approved to make a memorial donation to the Endowment Fund in honor of Leo Morris.

**Registrar's Report:** Vernon Gantt reported that there were 30-31 registered for the meeting. He welcomed guest Larry Norman and his companion.

**Library Report:** Wayne Finger reported that Clay Witt had set up a new library link at the chapter website, and demonstrated the new online method to check out books, including a quick overview of the books available. Email the librarian when you want to check out a book (books can be checked out for up to 120 days); he will mail it to you (using book rate postage at the post office); when you have finished reading it, you can mail it back to him. He showed two books recently added to the library: Encyclopedia of Disc Music Boxes by Bowers (new edition) and From Tin Foil to Stereo by Welch, with information on phonographs.

**Newsletter Editor:** Jack Hostetler reported that his wife Mary-Ann Hostetler will be the new editor for the newsletter, and they are in the process of learning the procedure for producing it. She will put together the next issue in May, and asked for reports and articles to be emailed to her by May 15th.

**Reporter:** Dan Wilson reported that Howard Sanford had asked him to take pictures and asked for other people to take pictures at the open houses; Jack Hostetler said he would cover the Jamersons' open house. Send photos to Jack Hostetler.

**New Business:**

Upcoming Events: Vice Chair Jack Hostetler reported on the following upcoming meetings and events:

1. November 3-5, 2017: Fall chapter meeting in Largo, FL. This meeting will be hosted by Martin and Marilou Van Zanten, and will include an organ rally in Largo City Park, with rides on the Largo Central Railroad (miniature trains).
2. December 15-17, 2017: 5th Annual Holiday Exhibit at The Villages, FL. We will have two exhibit rooms this year, and will separate the loud and soft instruments. Jack would like to have more chapter members exhibit this year. Set up is on Friday night, the exhibit is on Saturday and Sunday, and we usually get a couple of thousand people who view the exhibit. Wayne Myers reported that MBSI had gained 10-12 new members over the years due to this exhibit. Mary Ellen Myers reported that the Show folks had requested members to exhibit at a recent event for World Circus Day; even though it was short notice, Howard Wyman and Craig Darlak provided instruments. Jack passed out copies of the schedule from the last time we met in Largo to give everyone an idea of what is planned for the November meeting, and asked for members to bring "show and tell" items. He also had a list of upcoming events for the Mechanical Music Society club of The Villages; the club is always looking for presenters, so let him know if someone can give a presentation about their machines.

Jack reported that he is working on meetings for next year, and Chair Judy Miller asked members to let her or Jack know if they had any ideas for places to go and things to do. Jack suggested the Jacksonville area for winter 2018, and Cotton Morlock suggested also visiting Ft. Myers. Jack then answered questions about The Villages.

Chair Judy Miller reported that she would be giving an exhibit for a home schooler group in May, using her monkey organ and Regina disc box, and the children's activity workbook created by Wayne Finger. Each child will also make a music box. Wayne Myers noted that, as chair of Special Exhibits, he has some money that can be used to cover some expenses for such exhibits, and they had donated music box kits for Judy's exhibit.

Chair Judy Miller thanked Vernon Gantt and Dan Wilson for organizing the meeting, and thanked the members holding open houses. Bill and Ellen Jamerson said they were excited to have everyone visit their collection and had pamphlets about the Appomattox area, Ellen gave a more direct route to Appomattox. Dr. Stuart Kramer talked a little about his open house on Saturday and said he would be available if anyone would like to come again on Sunday. Discussion followed about things to do in Danville, and the current lack of public exhibits of musical machines.

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

**Stuart and Patrice Kramer collection:**



**Stuart's Automaton Collection**



**Barrel Phonograph**

**Stuart and Patrice Kramer collection:**



**Lincoln Automaton**



**Fortune Teller**



**Final Resting Place for Beloved Pets**

**Bill and Ellen Jamerson Collection tour. Included original Norman Rockwell and P. Buckley Moss plus many other famous painters).**

**Bill with Gothic Automation Clock**





**Bill & Ellen with Eroica 3 disk clock**



**Bill and Ellen's Desk with Cylinder Organ.**



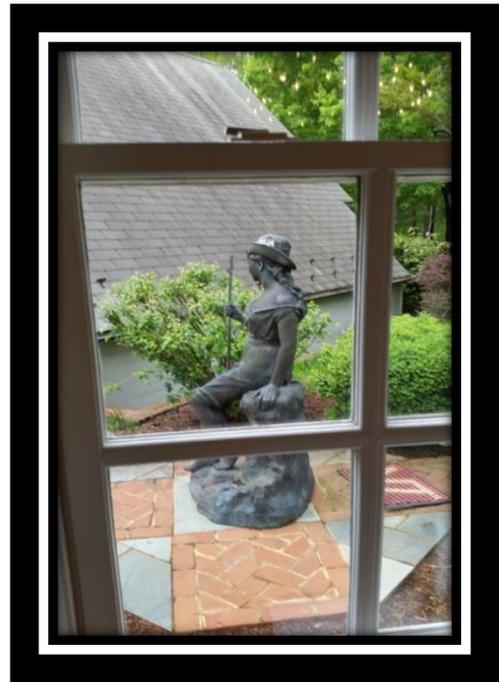
**Drive Way Greeter Statue**



**Refreshing Drink of Water-Fountain**



**Garden Gazebo**



**Garden Statue**

**Vernon and Peggy Gantt Collection tour**



**Encore banjo tracker bar mechanism**



**Vernon with Encore Banjo**

**Report by Wayne Finger:**

The Wilson open house was **marvelous**.

Dan showed and played numerous cylinder and disc music boxes. One unique cylinder box played Christmas music specially composed for a musical theater. Also, Dan took us through his workshop and showed his specially made tools for replacing tips on comb teeth and other repairs.

**Editor's note:** Photos from The Wilson Collection will be in the next issue.

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