



# The Southeast Rag



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November 2022      The Southeast MBSI Newsletter      Volume 40, No. 2

2022-23 Chapter Officers:

Chair: Wayne Myers  
Vice Chair: Jim Kracht  
Secretary: Julie Morlock  
Treasurer: Bob Yates  
Chair Emeritus: Mary Ellen Myers

Committee Leaders:

Librarian: Dan Wilson  
Membership: Julie Morlock  
Newsletter: Mary-Ann Hostetler  
Reporter: Howard Sanford  
Webmaster: Clay Witt

**Chairpersons' Message:**



Happy holidays to all SE Chapter members! Some of you are aware that I fell outside during the Dahlonega gathering. Turns out I fractured my hip femoral bone and had surgery for a partial hip replacement. I have since been recovering with PT and am healing well.

Upcoming Chapter Events!

Virtual Tour of Jim Kracht collection  
January 2023  
(date TBD)

Jim Kracht (Vice Chair) filled in for me at the meeting and did a fine job. He will make an excellent Chairperson come January, which will be formally at our next meeting.

Thanks also to the Darlaks & Becks for hosting the weekend. Mary Ellen and I will be joining others of you at the Villages Christmas Show (12/17 -18). Our warmest wishes to you and your families for a safe and Healthy New Year.

Wayne Myers  
SE Chapter Chair

## **Chapter Meeting (by Julie Morlock)**

The fall meeting of the Southeast Chapter, held in Dahlonega, GA on November 12, 2022, was called to order by Vice Chair Jim Kracht.



Jim welcomed everyone and thanked Craig Darlak for setting up the meeting and for the great open house at Craig's the previous night. He hoped everyone would be able to attend the open house at the Becks' on Sunday, as well as the organ rally Saturday afternoon. Jim explained that he would be leading the meeting as Wayne Myers had fallen and injured his leg. Although Jim's virtual tour of his collection planned for October had been cancelled due to the hurricane and ensuing power outages, he hoped to reschedule it for the second week in January. He invited members to call if they are ever in the Orlando area and would like to see his collection.

**Minutes:** The minutes from the previous meeting, held February 8, 2022 by Zoom, were approved as printed in the last issue of the Southeast Rag.

**Treasurer's Report:** Mary Ellen Myers presented the report for Treasurer Bob Yates. We have a total of \$5,416.74 (as of the meeting date, per Bob Yates) in the checking account. The report was approved.

Julie Morlock reported that dues notices for 2023 will be sent out in December; Jim Kracht suggested that members attending the meeting could pay her now.

**Membership Well Being:** Julie Morlock reported that two members, Rex Burgett and Bill Endlein, had passed away; a motion was made and approved to donate \$75.00 each to the Endowment Fund in their memory.

She also reported that Howard and Margery Sanford would no longer be able to attend meetings due to Howard's health issues; therefore we will need someone to take over as photographer and writer of the articles for the Journal. Jim Kracht noted that we had several positions to be filled, including vice chair and encouraged members to help out. He commended Mark Yaffe and Craig Darlak for stepping up as Chairs for the 2021 Annual Meeting, and Craig for stepping up to host the current meeting.

**Membership:** Julie Morlock reported that there were currently 86 memberships, including the chapter's newest member Michael Daggett from Stone Mountain, GA who was present.

**Library Report:** Jim Kracht reported that we would need a new librarian, as Wayne Finger was stepping down. Dan Wilson agreed to take that position.

**Web Site:** Jim Kracht reported that Clay Witt was unable to attend due to the hurricane and moving into his new home, but sent his regards.

**Unfinished Business:**

Table Favors: Mary Ellen Myers reported that there were 106 table favors left (out of approx. 280). They were very labor intensive and the committee believed that attendees at the Annual Meeting would buy extras, but the attendance was low. We were reimbursed by National for the table favors given out at the banquet; although twenty-nine were sold after the meeting, postage was expensive and some favors were damaged in shipping. The committee also gifted several favors at the annual meeting. Jim Kracht noted that the favors were very nice. Cotton Morlock asked how many were projected to be sold in the next year; Mary Ellen reported that they plan to sell some at the Lake Mary Saturday Market (at \$25.00 each) and will use some as door prizes at The Villages Holiday Exhibit (Jack Hostetler said attendees could buy 10 tickets for \$5.00). It was suggested that while we could not sell them outright at The Villages, orders could be taken at the 9th Annual Holiday Exhibit at The Villages.

Jack Hostetler passed out an information sheet and reported that the exhibit is scheduled for December 17-18, 2022 (set up will be in the evening on the 16th). He usually arranges for two rooms to be available (for quiet and loud machines), but there may only be one this year. Vice Chair Jim Kracht said he has thoroughly enjoyed past shows, and how people were interested to see and listen to the instruments; he noted our need to stimulate interest in MBSI and commended Jack and Mary-Ann for a stellar job setting up the exhibit. He said it was a great opportunity and encouraged everybody to participate.

Marilou van Zanten asked if any had been sold at the recent annual meeting, and if we could sell some favors through COAA. Mary Ellen Myers did not attend the annual meeting, and none were taken to the meeting. Craig Darlak offered to contact Ron Bopp about taking some favors and selling them at COAA meetings.

There was discussion about future meetings with other organizations and our joint interests with COAA and AMICA. Vice Chair Jim Kracht offered to reach out to AMICA; he enjoyed his contact with their members at the Annual Meeting. Cotton Morlock noted that the national Meetings Committee met with AMICA's officers at the annual meeting, and their interests were closely aligned. Although next year's annual meetings will be separate (AMICA will

meet in New Orleans in July, and our 2023 annual meeting will be in St. Paul, MN), future MBSI annual meetings are planned to be joint with AMICA.

### **New Business:**

**Future Meetings:** Following discussion as to preferences, it was decided to hold our next meeting in the Tampa area in the spring; Mark Yaffee agreed to host the meeting.

Discussion continued with other suggestions for possible future meetings that will be considered at a later date. Cotton Morlock pointed out that the National Meetings Committee had discussed the idea that as our membership ages, we may need to consider cutting back on events, and plan more daytime activities (less night driving).

David Oppenheim reported that Tim Baxter (Meliora Music Rolls) is issuing recuts of Ampico and Welte piano rolls for orders of five or more.

**Elections:** Following discussion and requests for members to fill vacant positions, the following slate of officers for 2023 was voted on and approved: Bob Yates - Treasurer, Julie Morlock - Secretary, Jack Hostetler - Vice Chair, and Jim Kracht - Chair. David Oppenheim offered to take over as Photographer/Reporter.

**Zoom Meetings:** Jim Kracht discussed the need for more Zoom meetings; a free Zoom membership allows only 40 minutes per meeting and only has computer access (no phone dial-in access). A professional license is \$150.00 a year, allowing for longer meetings and full access. Jim will use his professional license for his collection tour in January. He presented the choice of the chapter purchasing a professional license or reimbursing him for use of his license; a motion was made and approved to have the chapter purchase a professional license. Cotton Morlock stated that this will be useful as we age, and we may be able to use it at live meetings for those who can't attend.

David Oppenheim reported that longtime member Lindsey Walker in Jacksonville, FL is doing OK despite some health issues and encouraged members to send him cards; he also reported that former member Norm Arnold in Sarasota, FL was not doing well. It was also reported that member Wayne Edmonston in Windermere, FL is doing OK; member Tom Bristow is in a nursing home in Seminole, FL; and former member Richard Bair in Orlando, FL is in poor health. Jim Kracht gave kudos to Howard Wyman and Ed Duncan, both over 90, for attending.

Craig Darlak gave information about the organ rally that afternoon in downtown Dahlonega, local restaurants and antique stores nearby, and dinner at The Smith House; he thanked the

Becks for hosting the Sunday open house. Julie Morlock requested that name badges be left at the Becks' open house.

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

### **The Web Corner**

By Clay Witt, Chapter Webmaster

Have you visited our chapter's website lately? You can find it at: [www.mbsise.org](http://www.mbsise.org). There is a page with links to lots of photos of events gone by ("Past Events"), which was just updated with pictures from our Fall 2019 chapter meeting in Titusville, FL. Chances are you may find yourself here!

There is a lot more too. Just a few examples are a page you can refer friends to who might like to join MBSI ("Join MBSI"), links to other websites of interest to mechanical music collectors ("Links"), a page with a calendar of upcoming MBSI national and chapter events ("Future Events"), a page with information about books members can check out from the chapter library and how to do that ("Library"), and more! So visit our website from time to time. We think you will enjoy it.



### **Our Library Report:**

Dan Wilson has volunteered to take over as Librarian. Please visit the chapter webpage for a complete list of books available to checkout. To checkout a book, just e-mail the librarian from the webpage. The books are mailed to you at no charge. You return them by mail or at a chapter meeting.

**MBSI Southeast Newsletter**

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**The Villages, FL 32162**

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