

NATS Cascade Chapter Meeting Minutes
November 6, 2009

Lewis and Clark College

This meeting follows a wonderful master class given by Cynthia McGladrey with five singers given feedback and instruction through the technique of Body Mapping.

Meeting called to order by President Joy Burchett

Minutes read by Secretary John Boelling, approved by membership

Treasurer report given by Kara Quello. We currently have \$1,310.92 in our savings account and \$11,288.13 in our checking account. Kara expects that we will come out ahead after the Musical Theater Auditions

Vice President, Jill Soltero announces that the next Cascade Chapter event and meeting will be held Feb 6, 2010. Kari Reagan from the Tahoma Chapter will lead a master class on proper technique for women's chest voice.

The duties of the Membership Chair have now been passed from Anna Briscoe to Fay Putnam. Flowers were given to Anna and many thanks for her dedicated work these last two and a half years.

OLD BUSINESS:

There are changes being made in the age and categories to both Musical Theater and Classical Auditions that will go into effect in next year's auditions.

Copyright question: The official word from the NATS national office is that music purchased on the internet must be issued to the student who is performing it, and proof must be shown at registration. There was much discussion about this, mainly around the problem of younger singers needing their parents or a teacher to buy the music for them (due to the fact that they may not have a credit card) and therefore their name will not appear on the receipt. Joy will take back this conundrum to the nationals and see what they say. If their position doesn't change this rule will go into effect at the upcoming Spring Auditions. For the Musical Theater Audition tomorrow, we will allow internet copies purchase by a parent of a teacher of the singer. Also, music cannot be transposed by a teacher without a publisher's permission. If you want them, you must purchase publisher approved transpositions.

Bi-laws are still under review

NEW BUSINESS:

Do we want to put money into improving our website? The board brought this up last summer and is seeking feedback from the membership. In addition to improving the look and functionality of the site, would we like to have an on-line payment option for Chapter dues? Tina Bull did research for us and found a webmaster who for approximately \$400 could add many features including a Paypal option for paying dues. Some members at the meeting expressed dissatisfaction with Paypal. Anna Briscoe says that we should hire someone really good to give us just what we want and not try to skimp on cost. April Duvic will look into the cost of having the webmaster for the ACDA site do ours as well. She notes that they have an excellent website. Cynthia McGladrey asks if we think being able to pay online is really worth the extra dollars. April asks the age old question, why can't the dues for the national and the chapter be paid in one-lump sum? No reply, just scattered sighs from the crowd.....

Discussion around recruiting new members. Why is it difficult? Kara Quello suggests that in the past 10 years or so there has been a perception that NATS teachers all think a certain way about proper vocal technique and are not open to new ideas. She sees this attitude changing in the last couple of years. Joy Burchett expressed exasperation with phone calling potential members and hearing a lot of apathy or

people who just don't think it's that important to them. There was also the comment that our chapter doesn't offer enough for those in pre-professional training, and that is why many teachers, especially those in universities don't want to be bothered.

The minutes need to be posted on the web. John will connect with Jay Fraley and make this happen.

The Spring Auditions will be held April 16th and 17th at Portland State University. We are in need of a new Chair for those auditions. Joy is searching.

Joy reinforces the idea that we all bring knowledge to one another and that is what makes our chapter so valuable. Let's keep promoting this collegiality and cross-pollination of ideas.

When surveyed, those in attendance felt that having a master class or some kind of chapter event the night before the audition is too much to ask of teachers. Let's go back to planning it on another day.

We welcome new members Catherine Leonard and Sarah Adams to our meeting.

April reports that Sunday February 28th is the scheduled day for the NATSAA competition, to be held at Lewis and Clark College in Evans Hall. Starting time 2pm.

Meeting adjourned