



North Central Region News

February 2016

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What an interesting, if not challenging winter. Hopefully you are all doing well and ready for Spring! In our neck of the woods, the Groundhog DID see his shadow (that was the day of the Blizzard) and so we should see warmer temperatures soon. I apologize in advance for the formatting of this newsletter. This is not my forte. In fact, if anyone would love to help format the next newsletter, I would love help!!



Mark your calendars now! The 2016 National Federation of Music Clubs Biennial National Meeting will be held from June 21-25 in Tulsa Oklahoma. It will be the first national meeting for our new president, Michael Edwards. I am looking forward to attending! Tulsa is a great town and you should REALLY enjoy the Opera of the Ozarks presentation!! Let's try to have a great turnout from NCR!!

It isn't too soon to make your hotel reservation. It is the Hyatt Regency at Tulsa and the information is: Address: 100 E 2nd St, Tulsa, OK 74103 Phone:(918) 234-1234 Be sure to mention National Federation of Music Clubs to receive the NFMC discount!

NCR Days 2015 will be held July 22nd and 23rd in Minneapolis, MN in conjunction with the 2016 Junior Composers. Rooms have been set aside at the Hilton Garden Inn in Bloomington, MN.

Avivo! Is an invigorating and exciting Training offered in conjunction with JCI. I encourage you to check it out next summer!

Watch for emails in the Spring. Pat Steege and Pat Plude will be sending out the registration forms. The cost (including all meals and lodging) is \$250



The JC Bylaw Committee has been working on revising the bylaws and they have been accepted by the MFMC. Great news!

Unfortunately, the proposal to the Metropolitan Regional Arts Council (MRAC) for the Capital grant program was reviewed recently at a recent panel meeting. It was not renewed for this season and so funding is being sought.

Thank you again for being such a generous North Central Region!

News from Wisconsin

Congratulations to Mary Bielinski, the 2016 Stillman Kelley Competition winner for Wisconsin. Mary is a junior, and an honor student at Brookfield Academy High School in Brookfield, WI. She has recently won first place at the 2014 Wisconsin Federation of Music State Festival, has won first place for three consecutive years in the Milwaukee Area Piano Teachers Association competition, and was a winner in the 2015 Chopin Youth Piano Competition at Milwaukee's Polish Fest. She also plays the violin. Mary is active in numerous activities at her school, but she excels at athletics and is a member of the varsity tennis team. She also enjoys reading, cooking and traveling.

Mary is a student of Richard Saler. Her audition included the following repertoire:

- *Beethoven – Sonata Op. 57 (3rd Movement)*
- *Rachmaninoff – Prelude in G minor, Op. 23 No. 5*
- *Chopin – Scherzo in B flat minor, Op. 31*

Mary now moves on to National judging. Congratulations and good luck!

Sue Beranek
Stillman Kelley Chair – WI



We have submitted our First nomination for the Presidential Lifetime Achievement Award. Our very own Odee Maier has been nominated to represent the NCR. I have included her resume. Congratulations!!

NFMC ANNUAL LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
RESUME

My life as a NFMC member started quite early. I belonged to the Fargo, B Sharp Sunrise Junior Music Club for about 6 years in elementary school. My teacher was Miss Gertie Lobben, who was an active member of the Fargo Senior Music Club as well as a piano teacher. I don't believe there were any Festivals in the Fargo area during those years. We met monthly to perform for each other, and also performed for the local Senior Club as well as statewide at Conventions. The "Sunrise" in the name meant that all of us promised to practice 30 minutes every morning before school and on Saturdays—parents had to sign forms that we were complying.

We moved to California where I spent my teenage years, and back to Fargo for late high school and college. I was a collegiate member of Sigma Alpha Iota, Omicron Chapter in NDSU. After graduation came marriage, 3 children, classroom teaching, and forming an engineering corporation, so there was not a lot of time for music volunteering. In 1970, I became an inactive member of the Fargo-Moorhead Area Music Club while we lived at a lake in Minnesota.

When we moved back to Fargo in 1977, I became an active member of the Music Club and in those first years served as Historian, Secretary, Vice President and President. Through the years, I have also served as Gold Cup Chair, Junior Festival Chair, Fund Raising Chair for Clavinova now used at International Music Camp's Composers Room, Co-Chair Yearlong Centennial Celebration, Financial Advisor, President (again with Gordie), Agnes Jardine (local scholarship/NDSU) Chair, and anything else they needed help with.

In 1982, I was elected First Vice President of the North Dakota Federation, and became President in 1985. In the past 30 years, I have served 4 years as President, 8 years as Treasurer, Student Auditions and Competitions & Awards Chairs, started our Prairie Rose newsletter and edited it for 8 years, served as Chief Fund Raiser for the Composers Room at the International Music Camp's new Alme Center, and hosted the Prairie Rose Regional Luncheon at the 2015 Fargo NFMC Convention.

As NDFMC President, I became a member of the NFMC Council of Presidents for 4 years. I served 4 years as NDFMC Representative to the NFMC Board, followed by 14

years as a Board Member At-Large. I served on the Scholarship, Public Relations, Young Artist, and FAMA Committees; and I was Chair of the Membership and American Music Divisions. I was also Chair of the At-Large Nominating Committee. It was my pleasure to serve on the 1997 Retreat Committee where much of the NFMC structure was analyzed and made more "user-friendly". My first favorite position was Young Artist Presentation Chair for 4 years—loved every minute of that!

Seven northern states petitioned NFMC to become the North Central Region; this became a reality in 2001. I am considered the Founder of the NCR and served 4 years as NFMC Vice President of the North Central Region. Because we saw a need in our area, Gloria Lien and I co-founded the Junior Composers Institute which was established in the Twin Cities area. I still serve on the JCI Advisory Committee, but I have left the management of that group to those far more gifted in composition.

I am a Life Member of my club, my state, and NFMC; I am also a proud Rose Fay Thomas fellow. In 2011, I was elected NFMC Summer Music Centers Awards Chair and have spent 5 summers working with this, my second favorite position. I also served as Carolyn Nelson's Outgoing President's Fund Chair raising over \$45,000 for her Orchestral Double Reeds Student Scholarship.

This list is far longer than I thought it would be. I have enjoyed the many facets of NFMC and glad to be a member.

Dee Maier

News From Minot



The Schumann Music Guild Baroque Musicale November 8, 2015 Nelson Hall, 4:00 PM

Submitted by

In 1921 the Schumann Club was formed in Minot. In 1922 they became federated with the State and National Federation of Music Clubs. Their goal was to present musical programs that would enrich the lives of the community. The dedicated members made Minot a better place musically and artistically. In 1984 the club was disbanded and the Minot Piano Teachers Club became federated so that they could continue to sponsor the gold cup music festivals. To honor the rich legacy of the Schumann Club, the Minot Piano Teachers Club has changed our name to The Schumann Music Guild. Our mission will be two-fold: (1) To continue participation with the National Federation of Music Clubs and the sponsorship of the Gold Cup Music Festival; and (2) To piano music performance and educational opportunities as well as host Musicales each year. We started our first year as the Schumann Music Guild with a fall Musicale. In addition to future Musicales we hope to provide a network for communication between teachers, musicians, piano students and the Minot music community. We are seeking members who are interested in the advancement of music and/or the administration of the National Federation of Music Clubs and the sponsorship of the Gold Cup Music Festival.