

June 7
National Viola
Congress
1st day for
students

ARIZONA ASTA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

January 12, 2008

AMEA Conference, Mesa, Arizona

AGENDA

1. **Welcome ASTA Membership!**
Happy New Year!
2. **Thank yous for promoting strings in Arizona:**
 - a) **Newsletter** - Terry Alexander
PizzAz - Complete Publication
- Great Articles
 - b) **Workshops** - Well attended
- Virtuoso Violas - Racquel Ramos
- Bass Jam - Barry Olson
- Cellobraton - Carole Matthesun
 - c) **Solo Competition & Solo Recital**
- Claire Gordon and Sherry Gordon
 - d) **Sizzling Strings ASTA Reception**
- Gail Rolland
- Lani Chapman
- Jackie Schwandt
 - e) **National High School Honors Orchestra**
- Bill Bitter - Chair
- 12 students accepted from Arizona
- Will perform at the National Convention

deadlines 2/1

Do ads again!

Plans to re do website

6:30 Rolland receipt. Fri. night

Nominations for President-Elect and Secretary

- We need strong leadership for a strong state!

4. Reports

- a) President's Report
- b) Past President's Report
- c) Newsletter Chairman's Report
- d) Secretary's Report
- e) Treasurer's Report
- f) President Elect's Report
- g) Membership Chairman's Report

F.L. Alexander @marana.usd

* possible technology position on board

5. National ASTA Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico

- February 28 - March 1, 2008
- Plan to attend
- We will have an Arizona get-together

6. Fall Workshop Ideas

7. Other Business

Thank you for attending!!

What would make membership more meaningful?
Reasons for joining?

Google a definition

AMEA website conference suggestions

advocacy CD

Wkshop for non-string players teach. strings

Cadre of resource string teachers

Panel discussion string topic

Heed! deadline: 10/1

ARIZONA ASTA BOARD MEETING

May 3, 2008

10:00 am - 12:00 pm.

2820 E. Vista Drive, Phoenix, AZ

AGENDA

1. Welcome ASTA Board:

Ann E. Williams, President
Jan McDivitt - President Elect
Donald Hamann - Past President
Marjorie Sherman - Secretary
Cayce Miners - Treasurer
Terry Alexander - Newsletter Editor
Gail Rolland - Central Membership Chair
Lani Chapman - Southern Arizona Chair
Jackie Schwandt - Northern Arizona Chair

2. Welcome New Officers!

Shelley Rich - President Elect
Anita Archer - Secretary

3. Fall Workshop

Dates/Location
Clinician?
Fees

4. AMEA Convention Reception Next Year in January, 2009

5. Insurance for AZ-ASTA Events

Do we really need additional coverage?

6. National High School Honors Orchestra (NHSO)

Deadline, September 1, 2009
Moved a month later this next year

7. Solo Competition - National Competition this year

Claire Gordon will continue as chair

8. Next AZ-ASTA Board Meeting date?

9. Reports
 - a. President's Report
 - b. Past President's Report
 - c. Newsletter Chairman's Report
 - d. Secretary's Report
 - e. Treasurer's Report
 - f. President Elect's Report
 - g. Membership Chairman's Report

10. Website update

11. Other Business

Thank you for coming!

Αριζονα ASTA Board Meeting
Minutes from May 3, 2008
Marjorie Sherman's Home, Phoenix, AZ

The meeting was called to order by President Ann Williams at 11:10 AM, at the home of Marjorie Sherman in Phoenix. Present were: Ann Williams, Jan McDivitt, Don Hamann, Gail Rolland, Marjorie Sherman, Shelley Rich, Jackie Schwandt, Cayce Minors, Lani Chapman, and Anita Archer.

Ann provided each board member with an agenda for today's meeting. All minutes written below will correspond to the referenced agenda item:

1. Welcome ASTA Board

All except Terry Alexander were present.

2. Welcome New Officers!

Shelley Rich, President Elect, and Anita Archer, Secretary

3. Fall Workshop

Ann gave a brief history of the Fall Workshop, and noted that the past few years it took place in August to provide important ASTA information and teaching strategies for the coming year.

Dates/Location

We discussed moving the workshop to September to involve more student chapters. After discussion it was decided that we should check the AMEA/ABODA September calendars as well as clinician availability. We agreed to consider September 6, 13, and 20. We also agreed to keep the Dobson High School location because of its accessibility and accommodations. Ann will contact Rob Nichols.

Clinician?

There was a short discussion on double sessions to attract private as well as public school teachers. It was pointed out that many teachers attend summer sessions at local universities, and double clinician fees would be costly. We agreed that we should find a clinician who could appeal to a broader group of teachers, and address the needs of all string players.

The following speakers were considered: Judy Palac and Barbara Conavel (injury prevention, body mapping); Winefred Crock (bowing techniques); composers Richard Meyer and Carrie Lane Gruselle; Deborah Barrett-Price (movement in performance); Carol McGlocklin (neurolinguistics, or sports psychology). Based on availability and price, we agreed to pursue a clinician in the field of either injury prevention or

sports psychology. Don agreed to contact Judy Palac, Shelly will check with Barbara Conavel, and Jan will contact Carol McGlocklin.

We discussed plans for the workshop, but need to either meet or have a conference call in August to finalize plans. We decided to offer a Reading Session, but Cayce and Lani will go through the folders ahead of time and select a few pieces from each grade level. Fees will be the same as in the past. Jan McDivitt will be in charge of lunch from Pita Jungle. Gail Rolland will set up breakfast. We will publicize the workshop to private and public school teachers with an online e-vite, personal phone calls to colleagues, and possibly send a newsletter.

There was much discussion about a state ASTA website. Jan pointed out that publicity, communication, Cello-bration, Virtuoso Violas, the Solo Competition, dues, and voting could all be presented on a website. Ann motioned that we give Jan the task of investigating it. Shelley seconded the motion.

4. AMEA Convention Reception in January 2009

Last year was the first time we held a reception, and since it was a huge success we decided to do it again but perhaps in a larger room. Anita will check the possibility of using one of the rooms at the Mesa Creative and Fine Arts Center, which is adjacent to the AMEA Convention Center.

5. Insurance for AZ-ASTA Events

It was agreed that when we hold events that involve students we definitely need insurance. Due to limited meeting time we tabled this item until next fall.

6. National High School Honors Orchestra (NHSO)

The deadline is September 1, 2009, which is one month later. We were encouraged to start getting students ready next year.

7. Solo Competition

Claire Gordon will continue as chair for our state. We need to request a recital spot in the AMEA schedule next year, since it was not listed last year.

8. Next AZ-ASTA Board Meeting

Ann will send members an e-mail to set up either a meeting or a conference call.

Needs corrections

ASTA Arizona
General Membership Meeting
Mesa Public Schools Creative Arts Center
September 20, 2008

I. The meeting was called to order at ~~11:15~~^{11:30} a.m. by Jan McDivitt at the Mesa Public Schools Creative Arts Center. There were approximately 50 members in attendance at the annual ASTA Fall Workshop.

- Introduction of Officers Jan McDivitt, President
Shelley Rich, President-elect
Ann Williams, Past President
Anita Archer, Secretary
Cayce Miners, Treasurer
Jackie Schwandt, North Membership Chair
Gail Rolland, Central Membership Chair
Lani Chapman, South Membership Chair
Claire Gordon, Solo Competition
Terry Alexander, Newsletter

All were present except Jackie Schwandt and Terry Alexander.

II. Up-coming Events

1. Solo competition October 18 Applications due October 1
2. Cellobration November 22 at Dobson HS
3. Outstanding Public School Teacher Award Applications due 12/1
4. Sizzlin' Stings Reception at AMEA conference 1/9 location TBA
5. Virtuoso Violas Needs a chairperson, John Haggard possibly
6. Bass Jam TBA

III. Miscellaneous

1. String Connection Bill Engelsman
2. Doris Gazda books Dick Rader
3. All-State Check AMEA website for required materials
4. Coeur d'Alene Symphony competition Idaho for interested students
5. Job in Wickenburg, ~~\$70 per trip~~^{hour} Tues. & Thurs., lessons at music school, plus music school in neighboring town one or two days per week.
~~\$8.10 per trip~~
6. Gail Rolland T shirts \$18
7. Dick Rader New Horizons Orchestras - serving adults 40+ who may or may not have string experience.

8. Karen Koger Calendar of string activities, performances on AZ String Shop website.

9. Marge Schmidt ASU String Project - Scholarships gone for this semester. Send applications anyway.

IV. New Website Coming! www.astaas.com Jan McDivitt informed us the "Live" website should be done around 12/15. The New Jersey website was recently created by the same designer.

The 19 page website will feature:

1. Event information, registration forms
2. Calendar of events
3. Feature events, spot-light teachers
4. Newsletter
5. Photo gallery
6. Opportunities to connect with parents, students
7. Ads to offset cost

V. Until the new website is up, Jan encouraged us to use the National ASTA Website, www.astaweb.com for information on: Grants, Special Projects (\$850), Outreach (\$3000), Potter Violins (6 instruments), Coda Bows (\$5000).

VI. Possible New Programs:

ASTA Certificate Advancement Program to provide national criteria for private teachers to use as a guideline for teaching and evaluating students.

Discovering Strings and Orchestra

Cadre of Retired ASTA volunteers to (give out literature) help active teachers

VII. National ASTA Conference March 19-21, Atlanta, GA

Look for early registration to save money.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 by Jan McDivitt

Don't want to discourage questions or discussion, but lots to cover + lunch is waiting + fellowship

Jan
post my email

ASTA Arizona General Membership Meeting Agenda Mesa Creative Arts Center

September 20, 2008

Special Thanks to:

- I. **Introduction of Officers** - Jan McDivitt, President
 - Shelley Rich, President-elect Pres. in Oregon?
 - Ann Williams, Past President Incorpor.
 - Anita Archer, Secretary
 - Cayce Miners, Treasurer Quicken
 - Jackie Schwandt, N. Membership
 - Gail Rolland, C. Membership
 - Lani Chapman, S. Membership
 - Claire Gordon, Solo Competition (come up)
 - Terry Alexander, Newsletter

- II. **Up-coming Events**
 - 1. Solo competition October 18 Applications due 10/1
 - 2. Celobration November 22 at Dobson HS Carol
 - 3. Outstanding PS Teacher Award Applications due 12/1 can submit to me azastapres@hotmai.
 - 4. Sizzlin' Strings Reception at AMEA conference 1/9 ?
 - 5. Viva Violas Needs a chairperson
Your chance to serve ASTA!

John Haggard

- III. **Miscellaneous**
 - 6. Bass Jam TBA
 - St. Shop of AZ ASTA Tshirts
 - 1. String Connection Bill Engelsman
 - 2. Doris Gazda books Dick Rader
 - 3. All-State Check AMEA website for required materials
 - 4. Coeur d'Alene Symphony competition
 - 5. Job in Wickenburg \$70 per hour

* yellow sheet

IV. **New Website Coming!** will be www.astaaz.com "live" around 12/15

V. **Use National ASTA Website** www.astaweb.com
Wealth of information!
Grants - Special Projects \$850
Outreach \$3000
Potter Violins 6 Insts.
Coda Bows \$5000

VI. **Possible New Programs** ASTA Certificate Advancement Pro, ?
Discovering Strings and Orchestra
Cadre of Retired ASTA ? Other ?

put in to now for \$ dist. worth every penny

VII. **National ASTA Conference** March 19-21, Atlanta, GA
just to hear Josh Bell, Shanghai St Or.
orch. from San Anselmo, CA all girls

Sessions
Silent Auction
VII. Comments, discussion
Ideas

ASTA Arizona Board Meeting

November 2008

I. Reports

- A. President – Fall Workshop was very enjoyable. We did have a few problems, which have been noted for next year. Website, www.astaaz.com, is due to be “live” by early December. Looking forward to improving communication w/ ASTA members. Special thank you to Claire Gordon for Solo Competition, John Haggard for Virtuoso Violas, and Carol Matthusen for Cellobration and the many, many who also have played a big part in making events possible.
- B. Treasurer – Cayce, please give us a balance of account.
- C. Solo Competition Chair – Claire, please give short report.
- D. Any one else who wants to report – Gail? Anita? Shelley? Terry?

II. Items for immediate decision

- A. Do we want to do “Sizzling Strings” reception again at AMEA conference on Friday, Jan. 9, 2009? Who is willing to chair reception? Yes, if we have more space. Hotel room not big enough. Maybe we could do an ASTA breakfast to save money???
- B. Outstanding Public School Teacher award presented at AMEA luncheon on 1/09/09. **Please nominate someone you know who deserves this award.** Especially amongst our string teacher colleagues, we have so many who are truly outstanding, so let’s honor one of our own. I do not have a complete list of past recipients, but last two were Fran Veres and Diane Grieser. Also nominated in 2006 were Jamie Johnson, Carol Reeves, and Jenny Nichols, if you would like to nominate one of these fine teachers again. For nomination I only need name of nominee, comments supporting nominee’s appropriateness for award, and your name. You may email me or write a letter. Nominations due by 12/1/08

Question: Do we need to get together as a board and review nominations to choose the winner? Suggestions: Maybe we could email...scan nomination forms or summarize qualifications for us to vote by email?????

III. Items for discussion; immediate decision not necessary

- A. Membership is steady, but national ASTA has asked us to come up with a plan to welcome new members, contact members who don’t renew membership, and contact potential members. Gail, will you please initiate this plan with your committee and report to us soon.
- B. What has happened to our plan for scholarships for future string teachers? I would love to see us give a \$200 scholarship to one senior

music education major w/ string emphasis at NAU, ASU, and UA. Seniors have already shown intent to teach and probably won't change mind. Scholarship will help them with expenses, student teaching, and reward them for decision. Please give me your thoughts. We probably need a volunteer to put the criteria together and send out nomination forms. I can't remember if someone volunteered to contact AMEA about their criteria. Maybe it was me? Criteria for AMEA is that the student must be in their senior year, in all state at least one year (present senior yr.) and committed to attend one of our State Universities.

They submit a paper why they want to be a teacher. We interview during the ALL STATE event and announce winner at the concert. They might also announce our ASTA winner too. We could announce ours by mail or web site?

C. Solo Competition, in many states is held only in national years. Do you want to continue holding comp. every year? I prefer every year

Yes.. if we have someone volunteer to run it every year.

D. because it encourages and touches more students, but every other year would allow us to fund some of the traveling expenses of winners to national ASTA competition. Claire, since you have major involvement in this, please recommend from your prospective. Are prize amounts appropriate? Do we need to offer a travel stipend to national contestants.

E. New website will have space for ads to help pay for yearly expenses. We need someone to solicit ads on national level, as well as in AZ. Does anyone have experience with pricing for website ads? Can you suggest someone to chair solicitation of ads?

Judy Strayer (retired ASTA Tucson teacher might do it. She would like to help us with something. She knows the Phoenix and Tucson area music dealers. We might want one person to do each local area and maybe one for out of STATE.

F. Virtuoso Violas and Cellobration – please take lots of pictures of students and teachers in action for website. We have 30 pictures in the photo gallery and would like to feature different pictures each month. These photos will be downloadable for your students and parents. Hopefully, photos will give them a reason for visiting our website and “hit” the ads, too!

G. Newsletter – I've told Terry Alexander to hold off on a hard copy newsletter since we will soon have website. We have talked about still having one hard copy newsletter per year. What are your thoughts? Maybe we won't even need one since online newsletter will be archived and hard copies are very expensive.

I agree. It might not be necessary for more than one hard copy a year. I would be glad to collect articles and updates for the web site and run them by the board for acceptance. “Announcements of events”, “teacher tips”,

“college chapter updates” etc.. We could come up with areas you believe are most popular with our members.

- H. Virtuoso Violas – Blame this on inexperience; I did not realize that Virtuoso Violas was not a function of ASTA, but will be just this year. Jackie, will you please have a discussion with Viola Society and decide what they would like ASTA’s involvement to be. Since we provided a page and online registration for you on new website, we’d be glad to provide that as a cooperative venture. If it’s better for your mission, we can just hide the space on website, or just advertise VV and state it is a Viola Society project. We want to do what is best for Viola Society and help in any way! Let us know your thoughts.
- I. ASTA Certificate Advancement Program – Complete description of this at www.astaweb.com Is this something we should initiate in AZ? Many states already have this program for graded examination of private teachers’ students. I think this could be a plus for AZ ASTA and for students. Comments? Thoughts? Would someone be willing to investigate this w/ me, or do you know a private teacher who would be interested?
- J. Date for late spring meeting? Could we please try to establish date for “live” meeting? Which is better at this point: April 25, 2009? May 2, 2009? Is west Phoenix most equitable? April 25 is the AMEA High School All State. AMEA meetings all day. May 2nd might be possible...this is High School State Music Festival. I could request Friday performance.
- K. State Basket for Silent Auction at ASTA conference? Who would like to gather it?
- L. Solo Comp Winners’ Recital – Sat. 1/10 2-3 p.m. Meeting 3-4 p.m. at AMEA conference in recital hall.

Summary of Comments re ASTA Agenda 12/12/08 10:21 AM

Online board meeting during November/December 2008 Responses from:
McDivitt, Alexander, Rich, Williams, Rolland, Chapman, Archer, Gordon

- I. A. All special events (Solo Comp., Cellobration, etc.) were very successful
B. Didn't get a treasurer's report, but we had ~ \$6000 in Nov.
C. See Claire's report on new website soon. Winner's recital 1/10 2p.m.

II. A. Everyone wanted to have "Sizzling Strings" reception again. Gail volunteered to chair it. I have tried to find a bigger location at Marriot. That wasn't possible and we would have to buy food from them (Big \$\$\$.) I have reserved a regular king room where we can have reception. Another fine suggestion from Terry: Have ASTA breakfast. Marriot has wonderful buffet and plenty of room. I'm still undecided how to go on this.

B. Voting on nominations for Outstanding PS Teacher will be soon. Look for it in next few days.

III. A. Haven't heard from Membership committee yet, but I'm sure they will come up with a plan to reach out to more string teachers and build membership. I think we should work on giving them even more reasons to join!

B. A little confusion on scholarship for future teaches. I had in mind college seniors. Terry was thinking HS seniors, which I think we had discussed a year ago. Let's decide this in May, so we can initiate for fall 2009. Loved Shelley's idea that this could be incentive to join collegiate chapters.

C. Everyone wants to continue Solo Comp on yearly basis!!!

D. I contacted one person, whom I knew would be perfect for the job, but he really is trying to stay retired. I have a couple more ideas and will pursue them soon. Ads for website could be a gold mine for us, so this is important!

E. Cellobration pictures are marvelous and will appear on website, probably in Feb. Next year we'll have website in action and can post immediately. Also, will be getting pics from Bass Jam.

F. Newsletter will be on new website when it goes "live." Most people thought we should put out one hard copy per year and survey reaction. Maybe no hard copy is necessary. Since Terry is our intrepid newsletter chair, she will determine best time to do letter--- probably summer w/ workshop info. Claire suggested a directory of current membership.

G. Shelley is very interested in ASTA Certificate Advancement Program and will do some research on it. Claire previously expressed interest, too. From Beth Gilbert I learned that other western states have had very positive success w/ this program.

H. Date for next meeting is a problem. 4/25 is All-State and 5/2 is State Orchestra Festival. Shelley has solo recital on 5/2. Later in month was suggested, but 5/9 I can't be there. I'm afraid that 5/16 gets so close to the end-of-school madness that it might not work. **Would 5/16 be better? Would you come to an ASTA meeting in Phoenix on 5/16? Please let me know.** Claire graciously offered her home on 5/2.