We are saddened by the death of Patsy McCrory, Counselor of the Vivace JMC of the Beethoven Senior Club in Memphis, Tennessee. Patsy was also a Memphis Festival Chairman for many years. An educator and piano teachers for over fifty years, she has brought the beauty of music to many individuals and will be missed by all.

The Chopin JMC of Knoxville, Lynn Montgomery, Counselor, is looking forward to their creative learning experience in November. It is the Absolutely Absurd Italian Turkey Workshop. Although turkeys are not Italian, the event is held annually the week of Thanksgiving which is turkey-related. Piano students study Italian musical terms for many weeks prior to the event, gaining points from tests and finding Italian markings on all of their music and in books. A grand recital accompanies the gathering with pizza instead of turkey.

The Wings of Music Junior Music Club held its final meeting of the academic year on May 19 at Ebenezer Presbyterian Church (PCA), Knoxville. Junior Counselor Janie Gilliam presented merit certificates to those with “Superior” ratings in the 2011 Festival and Composition Contest. Lauren Lott was awarded a Gold Cup for Acoustic Guitar, and Abigail Beemer, outgoing JMC President and graduate, was given a special award for musical excellence. All Wings of Music students were recognized for multidisciplinary achievements in their respective areas of Guitar/Composition, Guitar/Voice, Piano/Composition and Voice/Piano/Composition.

Entrata and Etude JMCs of Oak Ridge, Celeste Varagona, Counselor, are planning the 31st annual Piano Quartet Concert in the fall of 2011. This extravagant event includes many instruments as well as piano and other ensembles and boasts a bevy of performers of all ages from the very young to senior citizens. Many adult students are in professional fields other than music and find their piano lessons to be a most valuable part of their lives.