

SCMEA Orchestra Division  
February 11, 2006

Sarah Fitzgerald, orchestra division president, brought the meeting to order at 3:00pm in Charleston, SC at the South Carolina Music Educator's Conference.

**Greetings**

- Thanks to Chris Selby for a wonderful conference.

**Officer Reports**

- *Approval of Minutes (Amy Strahm)*: Freddie Grace motioned to approve the minutes. Dottie Hanlin seconded.
- *Treasurer's Report (Sharon Doyle)*: The current budget is \$47065.41. We all have to abide by the deadlines. You will owe late fees if appropriate. Sponsors need to take care of their students. Students or parents should not contact the treasurer. Please read registration forms carefully for addresses and deadlines. Make sure your book keeping personnel have the correct information for payments. Make checks to SCMEA. Do not staple checks to the forms. The IRS has changed the travel reimbursement amount to 44.5¢. Sharon Doyle does not mind if the All-State T-shirt money comes in with the registration fee, but to get the orders to the necessary person they must be sent in on time. All t-shirt forms must have the regions on them. Freddie Grace mentioned that it is difficult to get second semester forms in when there is a class change in block scheduling. Send in registration forms on time even if a check will be late due to a district financial situation. Paul Buyer moved to approve the treasurer's report. Ann Snively seconded.
- *President Elect (Chris Selby)*: Next year we are looking at having Peter Boonshaft as the keynote speaker. Tell your band directors. We are trying to move our session times to later in the day. We might have orchestra committee meetings at 8am with other meetings at a later time. Jennifer Diehn mentioned having a "Favorites" reading session where everyone brings a favorite piece to share. This idea can be tied in with a new music reading session and a free music raffle. Next year will be a Southern Division Conference. This conference will most likely add another day to the schedule. Be prepared to ask for Thursday and Friday out of school.
- *Concert Festival (Ginger Greer)*: Please be on top of deadlines. We have 2792 students participating. Ann Snively asked if an e-mail reminder could be sent. A suggestion was made to set up your system to e-mail reminders.
  - Region One: March 29-30 at Fernwood Baptist Church, Charis Burger
  - Region Two: March 31 at North Greenville University
  - Region Three:
  - Region Four: April 6-7. West Ashley High School, Charleston, Ann Keiter

- Solo and Ensemble (Sarah Wright):* The deadline was moved a month to accommodate block scheduling, etc. If you are a site chair, the packets are ready. You will have them by Monday or Tuesday. They are in the mail. Medals and certificates are not here, but will be at the All-State meeting. Please tell Sarah Wright if you will not be at that meeting so she can arrange to get them to you. Again, send the forms even if there is a delay in the check for registration. There is no late fee for missing the deadline; therefore, the deadline must be met. Students cannot be added late from this point on. By meeting the deadline we can give the site chairs appropriate time to schedule events. Concerns were expressed about e-mails not being received. Orchdivpres.org is now available for sending out mass e-mail. Sarah Fitzgerald has volunteered to be the web-site master. This position will make the site more manageable.

  - Pickens, Oconee, Anderson: Brian Gencarelli (March 4) at Brushy Creek Baptist
  - Charleston: Pam Heine (March 10-11)
  - Greenville: Kathy Robinson
  - Lexington 1&2: Kristy Lineberger (March 3-4)
  - Lexington 5: Colleen Marcou (March 10-11)
  - Myrtle Beach: Lynn Auman
  - Richland 1&2: Jolene Walter
  - Spartanburg 1-6: Ann Snively at Dorman High School (March 3-4)
  - Spartanburg 7: Paul Buyer (March 3-4)
- All State (Melissa Martin):* The Beethoven was sent that was missing the middle part for the cellos. She has new packets for these students. This information will get to the audition committee so these sections will not be tested. Next year's All-State may be at Clemson with Brian Gencarelli as the local chair. Three conductors are needed for the new All State system. Nominations for conductors were given:

  - Dr. Kevin Bartram
  - Bredan Slocumb
  - Dr. William Hayden
  - Bill Scott
  - Dr. James Anderson
  - Tom Hildreth
  - Tom Joiner
  - Manuel Alvarez
  - Christine Lee
  - Dr. Bob Gillespie
  - Pam Hayes
  - Michael Allen
  - Thomas Sleeper
- All- State Winds (Christopher Gladman):* He would like the orchestra directors to see him after the meeting if the student is called. A list of students was presented.

- Region Orchestra (Johanna Pollock):* She needs to know who will be site chairs for next year. Read the forms carefully. Take responsibility for the student and send in the students' t-shirt forms together. Read the forms to the students to prevent misunderstandings.

Region One: Audition: Dorman High School, Susan Baier, Performance: Rock Hill, Marsha Gross

Region Two: Audition: Fine Arts Center, Catherine Crowe, Performance: Jennifer Holliday

Region Three: Audition: Chris Selby, Paperwork: Johanna Pollock, Performance: Andy Preston

Region Four: Audition: Florence, Rhonda Lee, Performance: Lynn Auman
- All State Auditions (Paul Buyer):* We have a committee working out the logistics of the auditions. Everything is new this year so please be flexible. We are looking at other models to see what will work with us. We will need at least 36 teachers on site to begin the process. The sponsor will have to be on-site during the audition. We will use a bubble scanner so no math will have to be done. More information will be given at the All-State meeting. Gail Barnes will be the host and will have students assisting as runners. There will be two sites on the USC campus for the auditions. We will use the same audition materials for Region orchestras. We have done the 5 year rotation so we will assess and see what worked. Region results are received at the end of the day. After the student's completion of Region, they will be invited to audition for All-State and receive the All-State music and forms for auditions. There is a new fee schedule: \$5 for the All-State audition and \$30 for the All-State event. (This fee is a \$5 reduction from last year.) The audition date has not been set for next year. It will be around the second weekend January. The current All-State duty roster is not out yet. Converse faculty will be doing sectionals. All Events on Friday and Saturday will be at Spartanburg High School. Registration will be in the E-wing area (park by the practice field and go up the stairs.) The junior activity will be upstairs with the senior downstairs. Sunday's events will be at Converse College. Next year's audition sites/chair persons are list below.

Region One: Susan Baier at Dorman High School, October 1

Region Two: Catherine Crowe

Region Three: Chris Selby at Spring Valley

Region Four: Janet Elshazly

Please fill out the conference evaluation form.

### **New Business**

- Sarah Fitzgerald would like to know who is hosting the different events by the end of this school year. The following information is known:

Solo and Ensemble: Oconee County, Region 2, Joyce Parvin  
 Orangeburg, Region 4  
 Charleston will have a site  
 Florence will be removed

- Legislative Report (*Sharon Doyle*): House Bill 4328; Pact Testing: the computer adaptive format is looking at MAP testing as the alternative state testing solution. House Bill 4429; School Start Date: no school before the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday in August. House Bill 4046; School Buses: 1/12 would be replaced every year. House Bill 4534; new voucher bill= SC Educational Opportunity Scholarship Act. House Bill 4488: EOC power to evaluate the best operation size for districts. Read it when it is released. Visit the EOC website for more information. House Bill 4487; Early Childhood: There is a court case considering the I-95 corridor. They want more early education. House 4489; Open Enrollment: it is ok to enroll your student at any school. The money is following the student. It is public school to public school. Property Tax: we need a stable base of income, sales tax is not stable. We could loose businesses and loose tax! PE Bill: Sharon Doyle has the bill to show to the principals. The State Department has interpreted it and it does say not to reduce time in the arts. It may be an opportunity to add dance.
- Starting school later will effect our dates with consideration to schools that change at semester.
- ASTA (*Sandy Goldie*): Congratulations to the ASTA Orchestra Director of the Year winner, Amy Strahm, and the ASTA Private Studio Award winner, Bill Terwilliger. Please nominate teachers for next year.
- Ann Snively: Any one late to region cannot participate in Region. This change needs to be made in the handbook  
Sarah Fitzgerald: This change has already been made.
- Sandy Goldie: Is there a way to contact alternates for Region/All-State? Are they contacted if students do not show the day off the event? Should we be sending the alternate students music?  
Brian Gencarelli: Due to late registration we do not know who could be there. This situation needs to be looked at.
- Jennifer Diehn: We need to recruit for this convention. We need to encourage all other string teachers to attend.  
Chris Selby: Boonshaft will be a big draw. He is a very charismatic speaker.  
Freddie Grace: I would like some information e-mailed to send to other teaches to encourage people to come.

## Old Business

- **All State Scale Proposal:** (The second reading)  
Paul Buyer presented a proposal to include minor scales in the required junior region scales. Each instrument would have five scales. The idea is to remove the scales that we never ask students to play. The scales were presented in a handout at the last meeting.

- Congratulations to the Richland Two Symphony Orchestra and the Spartanburg District 6 Orchestra for wonderful performances at our convention. Please apply for next year.
- Paul Buyer motioned to close the meeting. Dottie Hanlin seconded.

Respectfully Submitted:

Amy E. Strahm