

Midland Symphony Guild Newsletter

October 2009

Newsletter Chairman
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www.midlandsg.com

From Your President, Beth Warren

Thank you Belles and moms for the great work during the month of September. We had so many compliments from *Septemberfest*. We all need to remember to fulfill our obligations and show up to placements in the correct attire and on time. Our community benefits from the service MSG provides, and we want to represent our Guild properly.

Yearbooks and Belle Placement Books were distributed at the September General Meeting. Delayne Wellen and Suzanne Gulick worked many hours to produce these, and I thank them for their dedication and hard work. For all members who may have a question about placements, please contact Paige Pitts at 689-0485 and she will give you the information you need. Elizabeth Burleson has stepped up as Senior Belle Mom and Seniors with questions, please contact her. Once again, Stacey Ranostaj is in charge of Senior Belle Dresses and is available to record your dress for presentation.

At the General Meeting we discussed needed by-law changes that will be included in this newsletter. Please review these proposed changes. We will be voting on these at the next General Meeting. It is extremely important for us to return to the April 1st deadline date for registration in order for the future President and Board to be able to perform their duties in a timely manner. I want to thank each of you for your encouragement and support as we worked through the problems associated with the extension of the deadline this year.

Another thanks to Louisa Bigelow, who has worked to make Table Tops a wonderful event.

Mark Your Calendar !!!

General meeting are as follows:

Thurs, 10/15/09 First Pres Lynn Hall at 7:00pm
Thurs, 11/19/09 FUMC Fellowship Hall at noon
Thurs, 1/14/10 First Pres Lynn Hall at 7:00pm
Thurs, 2/04/10 Gala Location at noon
Thurs, 3/11/10 FUMC Fellowship Hall at noon
Thurs, 4/15/10 First Pres Lynn Hall 7:00pm
Installation of Officers.

Executive Board Meetings:

Thurs 10/15/09 First Pres room 227 AT 6:15PM
Thurs. 11/12 /09FUM room 222 at NOON
Thurs 1/14/10 First Pres. room 227 at 6:15pm
Thurs, 2/4 Gala Central at NOON
Thurs, 3/4/10 FUM room 222 at NOON
Thurs, 4/15/10 First Pres room 227 at 6:15pm
Thurs.5/12/10 FUM room 222 at NOON

Belle Photos

Sunday, October 4th, 2009 @ Claydesta Atrium

1:45 PM Seniors (attire is Presentation Gowns)

2:30 PM Freshman (attire is White Dress, pearls, gloves & white shoes)

3:15 PM Juniors (attire is Sunday Dress)

Questions? Call Suzanne Gulick Belle VP @ 230-6868

ARTICLE IV. DUES AND OTHER FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS

Adoption of a proposed change to the dues or other financial obligations requires a two-thirds vote of the Active members present and voting.

Section 1. Dues

A. Annual Member Dues

Annual dues for the three classes of membership shall be as follows: Member-in-Training, \$50.00; Active, \$50.00 and Patron, \$35.00.

B. Annual Belle Dues, Fees and Assessments

1. Dues

Annual dues shall be as follows: *\$50.00 per belle*

2. Fees

Non-refundable annual administrative ~~dues~~ fees of \$15.00 shall be paid by each Belle, and are to be submitted with her yearly renewal application. ~~to the Membership Vice President by April 1~~
The following classes of belles shall pay additional amounts as stated:

a. Freshman Belle Fees

Each Guild member with a Freshman Belle shall pay the cost of ~~one~~ two General Admission tickets to the Gala Introduction Luncheon. ~~and an activity fee by April 1.~~

~~b. Sophomore and Junior Belle Fees~~

~~Each Guild member with a Sophomore and/or Junior Belle shall pay an activity fee by April 1.~~

~~c. Senior Belle Fees~~

~~Each Guild member with a Senior Belle shall pay the cost of two Gala General Admission tickets. and an activity fee by April 1.~~ a program fee per belle.

3. Assessments

A member or Belle that is absent from a scheduled function, without having made prior arrangements with the Belle Chairman, shall be assessed \$10.00. Each additional unexcused absence will result in incrementally increasing assessments, i.e. one absence - \$10.00, two absences - \$20.00, three absences - \$30.00. A Belle that is absent from a scheduled function for any reason shall not receive a service credit. Payment for assessments are due in full within 30 days of notification. Failure to comply may result in the member being placed in restricted status (See Standing Rule VIII) and the belle ineligible to participate in the activities normally afforded to a belle (see Standing Rule X.A.). Non-compliance ~~with the April 1 deadline,~~ regarding all Belle financial obligations ~~shall~~ may result in removal of the member and Belle from the program. A member and Belle removed from the program for nonpayment of financial obligations shall not have the privilege of reinstatement.

C. Special Membership Dues

At the annual discretion of the executive board, MIT (member-in-training) membership may be granted to belles enrolled in a grade higher than 8th and lower than 11th provided that the belle and member remit all dues and financial obligations and commit to fulfill all service requirements that would have been made accumulatively if the belle and member were first granted membership when the belle was in 8th grade. All financial obligations are due and payable at the time of application for new membership.

Section 2. Other Financial Obligations

~~A. Raffle Tickets~~

~~All Active members and Members-in-Training must purchase raffle tickets annually.~~

~~B. A. Symphony Season Tickets~~

By April 1, all Active members and Members-in-Training must purchase a season ticket for the next Symphony concert series, or a current season ticket if invited to membership after April 1, or donate the cost of a season ticket to the Midland Symphony and Chorale Association.

~~C. B. Additional Belle Program Costs~~

Information regarding approximate yearly costs incurred for the Belle program, such as uniforms, presentation dresses and photos, is distributed by the Belle Committee and is also available through the Membership Vice President.

Certified Letter Assessment

The addressee of a certified letter sent by the Guild shall be liable for an assessment of \$50.00.

~~D. C. Refunds~~

Refunds of ~~\$25.00~~ \$50 annual dues, which does not include ~~raffle ticket money or~~ Symphony Season Ticket ~~deposit-purchase~~, will be made only to those members who move from the city before September 1. Any such request must be submitted in writing to the official address of the Guild postmarked no later than ~~Financial Vice President by~~ September 1.

Section 3. Payment

All members must submit annual dues, and other annual financial obligations, as stated in Article IV. Sections 1 and 2, except for Section 1.B.3 by April 1, or immediately upon accepting the initial invitation to membership, if after April 1 but before June 1st. A 60 day grace period for submitting dues and other financial obligations by renewing or reinstating members shall be granted subject to a \$50 fine if paid prior to May 1st and a \$100 fine if paid by June 1st. Renewing and reinstating members failing to comply with the April 1st deadline or apply within the grace period shall not be admitted into membership for the upcoming year. Payment along with appropriate forms may be given to the Finance VP at the January, February or March General Meetings or mailed to the ~~Financial Vice President~~ official address of the Guild. Submission dates for items mailed will be the postmarked date. A member who has not met all Guild financial obligations, which includes luncheon reservations, by April 1 may be placed in restricted status. (See Standing Rule VIII.) Should a member have extenuating circumstances which prevent her from fulfilling her financial obligations on a timely basis, the Financial Vice President must be notified in writing before April 1, in order to make written arrangements for payment. All such arrangements shall be kept confidential.

A NEW OPTION . . .

Nancy Bergman has graciously volunteered her time and home to be a collection place for anyone that has a white belle dress, shoes, or gloves that either they no longer need (Seniors) or may be too small. The items that have been MARKED with the estimated sizes, may be left on Nancy's front porch in a bag. (If you are dropping items off, there is NO need to call ahead.) Nancy's address is 2201 Winfield Rd. Her home is located off of Garfield and Seaboard. Once dresses are made available, anyone needing a dress or replacement dress may call Nancy or Darlene Rousselot to make arrangements to stop by and get what they might need. Thank you in advance for your thoughtfulness and generosity!!

Nancy Bergman 528-2514

Darlene Rousselot 685-0838

YEARBOOKS!

Yearbooks will be available at the next 2 meetings. If you are unable to pick up your yearbook at one of the General meetings or Board meetings, email me at dbwellen@suddenlink.net and we can make arrangements for you to pick one up.

WANTED: YEARBOOK CHAIRMAN TRAINEE - 2010-11 will be my 15th and LAST year to type the yearbook. I'm looking for someone I can train to take over the yearbook. I'll train you the summer of 2010. Must be a self-starter. Must be able to nag, cajole and type! Summer work. June - August. Familiarity with Microsoft Publisher a plus. If you're interested, email DeLayne Wellen at dbwellen@suddenlink.net.

Membership Notes: It is the responsibility of each individual to sign in at each meeting they attend. This includes executive, general and placement meetings. Please make sure that you sign and print your name in order to get credit. If someone is attending in your place, have them indicate that on the sign in sheet so you get credit. If you have any questions, please call 699-4236 or e-mail Kerryn@midland-memorial.com

Membership Numbers: Seniors =59; Juniors=64; Sophmores=46; Freshman=45; MITs=44
Kerry Noormohamed, VP Membership.

The following 2008 - 2009 MITs have been approved for ACTIVE STATUS

Mindy Beard, Stacy Bridges, Dianne Brooks, Rhonda Burns, Michelle Cheatham, Susan Clark, Norma Crowson, Julie Edgerton, Ann Folger, Kellye Green, Cyndy Griggs, Becky Harrell, Shanna Harris, Amanda Herrmann, Kim Hodges, Katie Hubbard, Gay Kelley, Brenna Kratzer, Connie Ladd, Debbie Latham, Jetahn Lichenstien, Becky McCann, Lisa Neighbors, Angie Ragsdale, Patti Rayburn, Carol Rivas, Susan Rivas, Heather Roberts, Lisa Ryan, Tamara Schulz, Lisa Scribner, Therese Sitzman, Weslyn Standard, Helga Veirs, Laura Wagner, and Kathy Wilbanks. **Congratulations, Ladies!!!**

Minutes from the General Meeting Sept. 17th noon @ FUMC

Call to Order @ 12:12 pm

President Beth Warren welcomed everyone and introduced herself. Beth announced that our symphony was doing great and operating in the black.

Paige Pitts presented the slate of officers for 2009-2010. Officers were all approved by majority vote.

Gaylen Haynes, MIT chairman, presented the list of NEW active members. They are: Mindy Beard, Stacy Bridges, Dianne Brooks, Rhonda Burns, Michelle Cheatham, Susan Clark, Norma Crowson, Julie Edgerton, Ann Folger, Kellye Green, Cyndy Griggs, Becky Harrell, Shanna Harris, Amanda Herrmann, Kim Hodges, Katie Hubbard, Gay Kelley, Brenna Kratzer, Connie Ladd, Debbie Latham, Jetahn Lichenstien, Becky McCann, Lisa Neighbors, Angie Ragsdale, Patti Rayburn, Carol Rivas, Susan Rivas, Heather Roberts, Lisa Ryan, Tamara Schulz, Lisa Scribner, Therese Sitzman, Weslyn Standard, Helga Veirs, Laura Wagner, and Kathy Wilbanks. The membership approved all MITs on majority vote.

Membership Report: Announced that we currently have 240-250 members. All are instructed to refer to the yearbook for your placement assignments. All were reminded to sign in for credit of attendance at ALL meetings.

Financials: Rainy Walker presented the proposed 2009-2010 budget. The motion was 2nd by Gaylen Haynes and the budget was approved by a majority vote.

Belle Chairman, Susan Gulick and Cassie Francis gave instructions on the Belle Book and the proper use of the Belle cards for placements. They were reminded to share with our daughter NO cell phones at assignments! Pictures date of October 4th and times were announced. They will be printed in the newsletter.

Senior Moms: Elizabeth Burleson reported that the October 4th picture for seniors is in a long formal. Presentation is Friday, February 5th. Practice will be Tuesday & Thursday evening BEFORE presentation. Individual photos in your gowns will begin November 1st. These photos are for the program.

Table Tops event is coming, October 1st. We have 21 designers and a Posh Pony Fashion Show scheduled.

Kellie Hooper, Project Chairman announced a meeting on 9/29/08 at 11AM at Murrays.

New Business:

The board proposed a by-laws change to return to the April 1st membership renewal deadline, with a \$50 late fee PER MONTH until June 1st. Then memberships will NO longer be allowed.

The By-Laws committee will include the proposed changes in the next newsletter & the vote will occur at the next general meeting in October.

There was a suggestion from the floor that there be an acknowledgement of receipt of the form and payment to all members.

Members were encouraged to make reservations for the concerts you plan to attend.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:32 PM.

Respectfully submitted.

Val Sparks

Recording Secretary, Protem.