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A Compendium of News and Notes from the
Cowichan Valley Music Teachers

Jan. 25, 2008

Jan meeting in brief:

Meeting was held at **Brenda Braaten's** in Mill Bay, (thank you Brenda) on Robbie Burns Day. Music was provided by Ann Martin, flute, Annette Lampson, voice, Connie Masson, voice and Marilyn Rummel, harp, all honouring the poet.

Connor, new manager of **Duncan Music**, attended to ask teachers to let him know what music we want him to stock and to say that **teacher discounts** were now available.

History of Music project. Committee meeting **Friday, Feb. 8th at 10 am**, Warmland Café. Please come and add your "two-bits" as attendance will determine whether or not we continue this event.

Thanks to **Janice Hiles** for organizing the reduced student prices for "Broadway Idol", opening this week.

It was **Ann Mendenhall's birthday** this week and we celebrated with a cake at the meeting and with the organizing of a surprise party following the St. Michael's Presents concert with Bruce Vogt on Sun. 25th. Judith McIvor made a fabulous chocolate cake, CVMTA members and many students and families attended, and there were even a few dollars left over from the birthday funds which Ann has chosen to donate to the CVMTA Bursary Fund.

Next meeting - **Friday, Feb. 29th**, Festival Lunch - 11:30 Silverbridge Inn.

Sue Doughty has reported on her upcoming project, a Christian musical called **Jail Break**. Rehearsals have begun (Tues. 7:30-9), but there is room for more singers. Call her 746-2326. And congratulations, Sue, on your new granddaughter!!

Pianofest and Songfest Plans

Ruth Williams, co-ordinator, has set the dates for **April 25th and 26th**. Registration will **open Feb. 15th** and close Mar. 15th. Adjudicator this year is **Mary Tickner**, who is a retired UBC piano professor.

Ruth asks that we try to be somewhat accurate about entering the length of time for pieces, to ensure the classes as a whole run on time! Teachers are encouraged to enter their students in order the whole thing feasible.

Songfest is May 9th and 10th (two weeks later) allowing a little breathing room for teachers with students in both categories. Joanne Hounsell will adjudicate. Registration from March 25th to April 12.

Discussion ensued and general agreement reached about a "Gala" performance with selected (by the adjudicator) students of both events. However, we will take care not to make the fests into competitive events. Tentatively May 11th (Sunday afternoon). Co-ordinator needed. Please call Ann to volunteer.

Treasurer's Report/Fundraising

Due to the lack of fundraising projects this year, we have a somewhat reduced bank account. Remaining to be spent from our bursary and award fund is \$775, most of which will go the Cowichan Festival awards. Theory awards will take up the balance. Suggestion was made to give only one award in Grade 3 theory (Harmony or history), one for Gr. 4, etc. as the number of papers are expanding.

Thanks to Nancy Rowan for her donation to the Bursary Fund.

To increase our funds, several suggestions were discussed as follows:

- **Teacher's concert.** David Walden will organize. Marilyn will prepare publicity material. Concert to be held early in September '08 possibly 19th and 21st, with performing commitments to be made by May. Contact David about what you need to do.
- **"Play-a-thon"** Non-stop student performances, with donations solicited for the bursary Fund. Suggestions to make it a Mother's Day event, possibly in simultaneous venues. Connie will research possibility of combining with Heritage Home Tour.

Dates and Concerts

Feb. 9 - Greg Finnegan's play, **The Wailing in the Wings** produced by David Walden, opens at Mercury Theatre at 11am and 1pm, also Feb. 16 and Mar. 1.

Feb. 24 - St. Michael's Presents.. **May Ling Kwok** performing a program called "The Singing Piano". more info www.cowichanmusicteachers.com

Mar. 28 - CVMTA meeting Eleanor's house. Music volunteers email dwalden@ryerson.ca

Let's build the Cowichan Music Teachers Association

Remember to check past issues, or find a teacher or their phone number at the website www.cowichanmusicteachers.com