



# Notes

A monthly compendium of news and notes from the Cowichan Valley Music Teachers Association meeting.

Oct. 28, 2007

## Notes from the meeting held Oct. 27, 2007

Following our new "flight plan", we confined our meeting (mostly) to music and professional development/idea sharing on the topic of teaching Adult students. Next month will include music and a number of business items. Business items that had a little attention paid, or ones that need to be shared in advance of next month's meeting may be found herein.

### 176 keys, and 480 (plus or minus) strings -

And it seems that Ann and David struck every single one of them! Music for the day began with Ann Mendenhall and David Walden playing a piano duet - *Scaramouche*, a suite in three movements, by Darius Milhaud. Cari Burdett, accompanied by Ruth Williams followed with *Les Lions Jaunes*, no. 1 from the song cycle *Dissidence* by Pierre Mercure.

The musicians had lots of news themselves. Cari told us about her new studio, an African workshop held Saturday, and her entry in a prestigious vocal competition.

Ann and David both have piano duets being released this month by Demand Music, Marilyn's new publishing business. Ann's duets are well known in the valley, and will now be available for purchase through [www.demandmusic.ca](http://www.demandmusic.ca). First to be completed are a set of Christmas duets, including ones for early beginners through to intermediate grades.

David Walden, who has published a large number of books about music theory and history, is revising his newest - *I'm Scared to Sing, but I Want to Try* - for publication, and his advanced level *Three Laugh Tracks for Two Pianos*, an exciting suite of 3 pieces will also be published this month. Ann and David promise to perform them for us soon!

## Teaching the Adult Student

It appears that increasing numbers of adults are studying music, some returning after years away, others continuing through work and raising families, and still others beginning in their adult or senior years. Most members have at least some adult students, and some have mostly adults. Members shared stories, book titles, (ask Ruth for her list if you weren't there), and techniques.

Judith McIvor read a beautiful piece originally published in Music Matters written by a adult following her Gr. 9 violin exam, and her reflections on the process, the examiner, and what brought her to that point.

## Next meeting -

Trisha Daniell's, 9:30 Nov. 23rd. Please call Trisha for directions if you've not been to her studio. 743-7636

## Misc. Notes from meeting -

**Christmas Meeting** will be a beautiful **lunch at Francis Kelsey** dining room, where the culinary students work and learn. It **must** be pre-booked and paid. \$17 including tax to Ruth Williams by Nov. 23rd (next meeting).

**Note date for next meeting.** Due to the early date of the Dec. meeting, and the fact there are 5 Fridays in November, we are holding our Nov. meeting on the **4th Friday, Nov. 23**, at Trisha Daniell's in Shawnigan Lake.

**Canada Music Week, November 18 - 24, 2007-** we discussed whether or not we could pull together a concert for that time in aid of the Bursary Fund. It was decided not, but that we should keep thinking of this for another year.

**Job Descriptions -** "What the CVMTA needs is a ... and this is what they need to do ..." We'll discuss gaps in our organizational structure and how to fill them to accomplish our goals at the next meeting. Please bring your answers to fill in the above ellipses, for discussion.

## Meeting Schedule for 2007

Left out of last month's *Notes* for lack of space, here is your calendar of meetings and places for the year.

**Nov. 23** Trisha Daniell's 9:30 am -

**Dec. 7 - 11:30** lunch at **Francis Kelsey**

**Jan 25 - 9:30** Cowichan Bay

**Feb. 29 - Festival Lunch - location TBA**

**Mar. 28 - Eleanor Mackenzie's 9:30**

**April 25 - Bethel Baptist - Pianofest and Lunch**

**May - 9:30** Judith McIvor's

**June ?? - pot luck wrap up - volunteers?**

## Upcoming Concerts and Events - more info at: [www.cowichanmusicteachers.com/newsletters/news.html](http://www.cowichanmusicteachers.com/newsletters/news.html)

**Sun. Nov. 25th, 2 pm** St. Michael's Presents... Continuum Consort in *A Plentiful Muse*, inspired music from 6 centuries.

**Sat. Dec. 8 & 9th - Cowichan Consort Orchestra and Choir - Two performances!** at Duncan and Mill Bay

## Let's build the Cowichan Valley Music Teachers Association

Remember to check past issues, and find a teacher or their phone number at [www.cowichanmusicteachers.com](http://www.cowichanmusicteachers.com) Tell your colleagues!