

FINNEYTOWN MUSIC PARENTS ASSOCIATION MEETING MINUTES
Mon., September 13, 2010; 7:00 P.M.

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE: Penny Sauer, Kelley Hickey, Cheryl Shrider, Ric Towner, Jenny Towner, Heidi Johnson, Brenda Dennis, Sue Burton, Colleen Grogan, Bill Fessler, Jason McKee, Rick Canter, Cathy Zimmerly, Angela Murphy, Anita Ruffin.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Minutes from August meeting were accepted after corrections: The website domain that we share is with the Finneytown Elementary and Secondary PTAs and with Hamilton County Council of PTAs, not Boosters. Also clarified was the date for the Savory Sweets pickup: Thursday, November 18 at Cottonwood.

CORRESPONDENCE: A membership form, an advertiser check, and a USPS fee renewal notice.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: We are off to another good start this school year! We had an FMPA table at both the Whitaker and Secondary Campus Open Houses. I want to thank Kim Fain and Colleen Grogan for helping out with those. The Whitaker table also included flyers from Rick, Heidi and Steve about the various music opportunities available to students, which many found very helpful. The Secondary Campus table featured homemade chocolates in the shape of music notes, courtesy of Sarah Grogan!

The Scholarship Committee will meet this Thursday to review applications for fall scholarships. We will report next month.

Just an FYI, the Faculty Scholarship Recital, which usually occurs in September, will be happening in April this year. This is a better time for the teachers to plan and prepare their pieces. Hopefully, this will also be a better time for people to attend the concert and support our FMPA student scholarship fund.

Thanks to everyone for doing your part to make FMPA successful in supplying so many things for our music programs - and thank you in advance for your help with the Fall Cookie Dough fundraiser, our biggest of the year!

Respectfully submitted,
Penny Sauer
FMPA President

SPECIAL PRESENTATION FROM WAYCROSS: Cheryl Schwartz, Coordinator of Volunteers & Outreach, told us that the public access media service is 99% volunteer-driven, with community program board budgets shrinking all the time. **Volunteer camera operators** are needed from age 11 to adult. She told us how to go to the website and add our event announcements to the **community message boards** that appear on television. A **Video Club** for homeschoolers is in need of an advisor/facilitator to meet students one afternoon a week at Waycross. **Duplication services** are a revenue source for Waycross: CD's of broadcasts may be purchased for \$20 each, 3-10 copies for \$15 each, or more for \$10 each. For complete information about Waycross services and volunteer positions, visit the website or contact Cheryl by email.

Bill Fessler (Website) www.finneytownfmpa.org. The link is active now, although the old site still LOOKS active. Bill will post the cookie dough info when made available. The site can also carry blogs, if that is something FMPA wants to do. He will post last month's minutes (which are approved at the current month's meeting), and the current month's treasurer's report—which is generally accepted immediately.

STAFF AND BOARD REPORTS:

Rick Canter & Dawn Miklavcic (Music Department and HS Band)

Rick Canter reports:

- 1) The first marching band contest of the year is this Saturday at Tipp City. The band performs at 7:15.
- 2) I would like to thank Dawn Miklavcic for all of her help with organizing EVERYTHING (picnics, pre-contest meals, band camp, etc.), Cheryl Shrider (fitting all students into not many more uniforms than we have students), Brenda Dennis (helping with guard flags, transmitter pouch for Zack Stump's microphone, color

guard uniforms, etc.), Stephanie Inman (coordinating bus chaperones),. Our parents are amazing! Also, a big thank you to the Earlywines, Hersheys, Smokers and Bingham for hosting the first pre-game picnic and to the Sauer's and Jane Kennedy, Karen Bramble, Cindy Brown and Claire Snyder for hosting this past week.

3) Congratulations to Zack Stump and Alina Murphy* for being selected to the Ohio All-State Band! (*One of only two tenor saxophones in the whole state)

4) Congratulations to Kristina Cowen for being selected to Cincinnati Youth Wind Ensemble!

5) The Marching Band Website is now up and running.

6) I have sent out information to Finneytown Alumni for the second annual Alumni Band event on October 1st. So far, I have about 30 people coming.

7) The Marching Band will be performing on the 11:00 news on Channel 12 on October 1st as their "Band of the Week."

8) Whitaker Bands are off to a good start. There are 45 6th Grade Band members and 48 5th Grade Band members (and growing). L.I.N.K.s (Lonely Instruments for Needy Kids) via Buddy Rogers used to donate ten or more instruments a year but the need has grown so that they are limited to five instruments per school. Rick cited an immediate need for trumpets (!), a flute, and a clarinet.

Dawn Miklavcic reports: I now get it! Kim Fain always seemed giddy when she talked about the band, I like many people I'm sure, thought she was just a little crazy and over the top, well she's not!! The Band is AMAZING and the parents are FABULOUS!!

- o I have some great teams helping me this year and I probably will recognize them each month throughout the season because they have helped me so much!!
- o Cheryl Shrider has put together a GREAT team of people to help her get all the uniforms, ready for the season!
- o Stefanie Inman has taken on assisting Cheryl AND coordinating the Chaperones for the buses!
- o Monika Haines, has taken on being my right hand man with the Contest meals-she has done all the leg work!
- o Ron Hartman is the unsung hero! He and his pit crew is just awesome!
- o The parents who have already had the pre game picnics were awesome they created their own teams!! Thanks to:
 - The Sept 3rd team was the Earlywines, Hersheys, Smokers and Bingham
 - Sept 10th team was the Sauers and Jane Kennedy, Karen Bramble, Cindy Brown and Claire Snyder!

Can't wait until next meeting to tell you all how great the band is!!

Mike Kennedy & Angela Murphy (MS Band)

Nothing to report at this time.

Heidi Johnson & Jane Elliott & Dawn Gast (HS and MS Orchestra)

Orchestra Report

1. The Fall High School Orchestra concert is scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 28 at Northminster Presbyterian Church in Founders' Hall. It is going to be a "mock wedding"--hopefully complete with members of the Thespians playing out the parts! 7pm prelude/7:30 ceremony.

2. Summer lessons went well--had trouble scheduling a few students, but we are making those lessons up now after school has started.

3. Jennifer Friedhoff is auditioning for Southwest Regional Honors Orchestra next month. (September 18?)

4. MS Orchestra does not have an evening concert scheduled until December, but we are planning a field trip to play at a couple of retirement homes and will be inviting students from Brent elementary to come to the PAC to learn how to behave at a short concert.

Tri-M News

1. TRI M MUSIC HONORS SOCIETY OFFICERS 10'-11'

President: Tim Ovia
Vice President: Alfred Kimbro
Secretary: Caroline Michaelson
Treasurer: Danielle Chatman
Historian: Mallory Barkocy

We will be meeting approx. 2 times per month on Tuesdays after school. The next meeting is Tuesday, Sept. 21st at 3:15pm. We will be having a guest speaker, Kathy Jorgensen-Finley from the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra administrative offices (and Finneytown mom), come to talk about careers in Arts Administration (non-performing arts careers). Future meeting topics might include an Enjoy the Arts rep, the college audition process, and social events. New members will be recruited in November and inducted in January at the Solo & Ensemble concert.

Jason McKee, Kimberly Kidd and Sue Burton (HS and MS Chorus)

Jason McKee reports:

1) 2011 All-State Choir Members: Congratulations to Danielle Chatman (2nd year), Tim Ovia (3rd year), and Kody Sexton for being selected to participate in this year's All-State Choir! This is a HUGE honor for them and for our school. They will perform at the OMEA conference in Cincinnati in January. This is the first time that three students have been selected from Finneytown in the same year since I started in the fall of 2002. This is Danielle's 2nd selection as well as Tim's 3rd! The cost per student is \$225, so if we continue with the 50% scholarship, it would be \$112.50 for each student. Congratulations!

2011 is the last year for Cincinnati to host the OMEA convention. In the future, the convention will no longer rotate cities, but will be held in Columbus.

2) May Festival Youth Chorus: Congratulations to new member Tim Ovia! We now have 5 students who are in this prestigious group: Danielle Chatman, Alfred Kimbro, Tim Ovia, Rachel Sauer, and Kody Sexton.

3) OMEA District 14 Honor Choir: Auditions are this week, and Finneytown is hosting the Thursday auditions. The guest conductor this year will be Dr. Lynda Hasseler from Capital University and accompanied by composer Craig Courtney! The group will rehearse November 1 at Princeton High School followed by the all-day rehearsal and concert on Friday, November 12th. Cost is \$40 and will need to be a flo-through.

4) NKU Honor Choir: Seniors will again not be able to participate in this honor choir due to a conflict with senior retreat. NKU is supposed to be auditioning students here at the high school. More details to come. Cost is TBA and will need to be a flo-through as well.

5) Kettering A Cappella Festival: We have been invited to attend this year's festival once again. It is scheduled for Saturday, November 13th (the day after D14 honor choir), and the cost is \$250 per group. Ticket orders for the evening show and for the dinner are collected separately, and I will not place those orders this year without student payments in hand first. There was some confusion about this last year. The \$250 registration will come from the choral line item, but students will be asked to pay for their dinner and tickets. Meals and show tickets will also need to be a flo-through.

6) Upcoming items of interest: I spoke with Dr. Ethan Sperry (formerly of Miami University in Oxford) about working with Chorale via Skype as we are singing his arrangement of the Academy Award-winning song from Slumdog Millionaire, "Jai Ho." I have also contacted the Barbershop Chorus in Cincinnati about having a quartet to come and work with our men's chorus in the next month or so.

Steve Jones, Marya Rusinak, Kim Fain (Elementary Music)

Kim Fain reported that she worked a table at the Whitaker back to school celebration on August 23. There was an amazing response to all the elementary music programs and lots of positive comments on every level. Band groups have already started and the chorus program starts this week at Whitaker.

Steve Jones reports:

1. The 3rd/4th Grade Voices of Whitaker and the 5th/6th Grade Voicers of Whitaker start their rehearsals this week.

So far we have 64 singers in the 3rd/4th grade choir and 45 singers in the 5th/6th grade choir signed-up and ready to start!

As a reminder...the rehearsal schedule is:

Tuesdays from 8:00-8:45 - 3rd/4th Grade Voices of Whitaker Wednesdays from 8:00-8:45 - 5th/6th Grade Voices of Whitaker

2. Recorders! Recorders! Recorders! Students in the 4th and 5th grades are starting to play their recorders this week. The 4th grade students are receiving their new recorders this week from Ms. Rusinak and Mr. Jones. The 5th grade students are searching for their recorders that were taken home last June. Some have located them and have already brought them to school. Several 5th grade students who are new will be receiving new recorders this week.

3. We have a NEW Music Rug! Thanks to your generous help we have a new music rug in the general music classroom. It features a big treble clef staff in the middle. Around the edges are several music symbols. The rug measures 10 feet by 7 feet. If you have a chance, stop on in and take a look. This wonderful addition to our music room will be used as a learning tool. There are many games and fun activities which will enhance the music classroom learning environment. Again...THANKS FMPA!!!

Finally...I want to apologize for not being able to attend the FMPA meetings again this year. On Monday evenings I have a handbell rehearsal at my church. The director, who happens to be my wife, expects me to be there on a weekly basis. In addition to my church obligation, I have monthly meetings as part of the SWOEA Executive Committee. Needless to say...your emails are VERY much appreciated!

I know I speak for Marya when I say how much your support of the elementary music program is appreciated!

Brenda Dennis and Cheryl Shrider: Plans are underway to dispose of/recycle some ancient choral uniforms. The board voted to give Brenda the power to sell or give away these items as she sees fit. Cheryl moved; Angela seconded.

Brenda Dennis reports: Thanks to Jane Elliott, Emily Clausung, Angela Murphy, and the (conscripted) Dennis children for their help in getting the concert wear hung up and ready for distribution. I'm planning to start fittings this week, beginning with the Select Women's Chorus (red dresses). Anyone with free time on their hands and a desire to convince the ladies how good they look in the dresses is welcome to join the fun 4th bell this Thursday and Friday. Anticipating needing to purchase at least 10 dresses, as the chorus outnumbers our inventory. Price for the dress is \$59.

2010 Band Marching Band Uniform Report submitted by **Cheryl Shrider:**

WOW – What a year this has been...43 new students to the marching band to fit in uniforms! We started the end of pre-camp...if I had known...we would have started at the beginning of pre-camp! Anyway...it has been an amazing journey in getting to know all the new students and reacquainted with the current students. As you know, all the students looked fabulous on Friday night and we are looking forward to this Friday at the Maderia game with their plumes.

Many thanks and blessing for such a great uniform team. Let me give a personal thank you to Stefanie Inman has stepped up to be the most important helper in fittings, organizing, and more. She fixed the cowboy hats and came up a great way to hang them in the percussion room to keep the students from laying them on the ground.

Fitting Team: Stefanie Inman, Beth Mizelle, Lillie Healy & Brenda Dennis – many days measures students and trying to figure out how to find something that won't hang totally off them.

Alterations Team: Did you say lower...take in....take up....repair tears.....how can we make these extra large uniforms fit these skinny kids???? This is an AMAZING team of women! Brenda Dennis got those "special problems" to fix with her talents and skills. Beth Mizelle, Lillie Healy and Karen O'Connell did many altering and repairing on so many pants and jackets. To the woman who took on the most alternations and I feel somehow we need to thank her beyond a note, Darlene Bryant, who is the grandmother of Haley Hatfield. I believe she did around 30-35 pieces! Thank you to Andrea Canterbury, Haley's mom, who offered her mother's services! I have thanked each one on the alteration team + Stefanie Inman with a bouquet of flowers...I just have not had time to do a note yet to them. When is the next newsletter I can insert thank you to each person?

Organizing Team: One night of organization for all the other stuff they need: garment bags, raincoats, hats, gloves, shoes. Thanks to the team of: Penny Sauer, Emily Clausing, Andrea Canterbury, Ruth Ann Schwartz, Lillie Healy, Sandy Crowell, Stefanie Inman, Sharon Hadley, I hope got everyone.

Distribution Team: So far we have to thank for this past Friday: Stefanie Inman, Karen O'Connell, Beth Mizelle (who kept me reminding me everything will be ok – special thanks to her), Ruth Ann Schwartz, Lillie Healy, Linda Carlsson, Sharon Hadley, Emily Clausing, Angela Murphy, Sandy Crowell.

Glove Washing: Thank you to Dawn Bouman for weekly washing of gloves for the 2nd year in a row!

Amazing Band Directors: Thanks to Rick for putting up with many, many emails and text, orders, more orders, p.o. numbers, interrupting rehearsals, asking to speak with the students, and much more. Thanks to Mike for interruption of rehearsals to fit students and refit students.

Dry Cleaning: Thank you for Jansi Dry Cleaners for their services for pressing the pant alternations that the seam...just won't come out. We had dry cleaned the first round of I think 6 or 7 pair of pants....I have lost count, but Rick knows. This morning when I took them, the owner was there and he only charged us \$1 per pair for the 11 pairs of pants.

Ordering Uniforms: Money was spent money in purchasing garment bags, raincoats, gloves, plumes and dry cleaning. I will be working with Rick to order more uniforms for next year in November. We will be looking at what we altered to get a closer size and what 8th grade will be marching next year – beyond who is now marching. We will need to order some cowboy hats that are cracked. Don't forget hats, we will need some small and medium, we have plenty of large and extra large, hat cases too. We majority altered: 2 coats and 8 pants (2 had sides and waists done).

Concerns: We had many repairs this year with bottom of pants...now repaired holes further up on the pants. When the students let their suspenders down, the pants have a potential of dragging on the ground.

Band Buttons – off note from uniform crew – Bruno Carlsson is a fantastic photographer, so I asked him to take pictures of all the students so we can update our buttons for the current students and have them for the new students. The buttons holders have arrived at my house and as soon as Bruno starts printing pictures, I will get the new ones distributed to the parents. As far as the previous members of the band, they will receive a picture they can cut to put into their old button. Bruno is donating his time and cost of printing the pictures. He started this past Friday. A Big Thank you Bruno!!!

Band Contest Meals: Monika Haines has taken on the coordination of pre-contest meals. Thank you Monika!

Colleen Grogan (Membership) So far there are 50 members of FMPA (and not all of the Board has joined yet – I'll expect some forms on Monday night ☺). Our total income from Memberships is \$2440, with \$1175 coming from Family memberships, \$1060 in Patron donations, \$40 in Memorial Scholarships, \$90 in Alumni memberships, and \$75 from general donations.

I'll develop a letter to go out to Alums to gently suggest they join FMPA for old times' sake. Suggestions for names for my mailing list are greatly appreciated. Rick has an alumni email list, as well as a group on Facebook.

Ric & Jenny Towner (Fundraising): Using the same incentives as last year (\$3 to student account for every tub above 20 sold), our goal is to sell 3,000 units and make over \$14,000. We will exceed that goal if everyone sells 10. Last year, 2,945 units were sold. Key dates:

Forms distributed in class the last week of September.

Turn in date: October 15 & 18

Our date to turn in to Savory Sweets: Oct. 21-22.

Pickup at Cottonwood: Thursday, November 18.

Volunteers are needed, especially on the first turn-in date (to catch any errors on forms right away) and on the pickup day.

TREASURER'S REPORT (Cathy Zimmerly): I will have check book with me tonight if you to be reimbursed, etc.. Please have receipts. Thanks, Cathy
Reserve funds are \$3015, lower than normal but for obvious reasons: poor economy, additional scholarship money, and the opportunity to buy the concert grand piano.

We anticipate subsidizing five All-State participants (3 from choir, 2 from band) for half of their fee: \$112.50 each or \$562.50 total. Last year the money was taken from undergraduate lesson scholarships. This year we have \$1,365 reserved in memorial scholarship set-asides. The board voted to repeat the award (Cheryl moved, Kelley seconded), and to take the \$562.50 from Memorial Scholarship set-aside (Brenda moved, Jenny seconded).

BUSINESS:

Newsletter: Summer mailing was sent on the district's permit for \$ 71.68 , so the four organizations each owe the district \$17.92 for postage and FMPA for envelopes.

The search continues for a newsletter coordinator. In the meantime:

1. Tina Marie and Northminster have submitted new ads
2. Dr. Cryder has paid \$85 for this year's ad.
3. We need to secure K-12 Excel address list from Bev Thal—in late September/early October, sort and de-duplicate, then run labels for the year (4 sets).
4. Rules are changing and address labels may require bar codes by next spring. More research needed.
5. Newsletter person should begin coordinating with Tri-M and National Honor Society for mailing assembly.

Next meeting : October 11, at 7:00 P.M. in the Media Center

Respectfully submitted by Kelley Hickey, Secretary.