

FINNEYTOWN MUSIC PARENTS ASSOCIATION MEETING MINUTES
Mon., Oct 11, 2010; 7:00 P.M.

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE: Jane Elliott, Kim Fain, Kelley Hickey, Penny Sauer, Colleen Grogan, Brenda Dennis, Rick Canter, Dawn Miklavcic, Jason McKee, Kimberly Kidd, Cathy Zimmerly, Cheryl Shrider, Jenny Towner, Bill Fessler, Anita Ruffin. Member in attendance: Diane Bolling.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Minutes from September meeting were accepted after corrections: Under "Business" was added (1) the board's vote to allow Brenda to dispose of the old uniforms at her house and (2) for Cathy to head up a "Light Up Finneytown" luminary sale. Kim F. moved to accept the minutes, seconded by Dawn.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Penny thanked members of the FMPA board who marched in the Homecoming Parade. We marched our little "float" and passed out flyers announcing "Light Up Finneytown." Along the route, board members answered questions about what FMPA is, how it benefits the students, and even how one can obtain a Finneytown district calendar!.

With all the praise and support that we give our superior marching band, there is some feeling that the football team is feeling overlooked. It is, after all, the football games that provide the occasion for most marching band performances. Penny has arranged with the football coach to make and bring cookies to a pre-game dinner for the team.

CORRESPONDENCE: Two advertiser checks (Baroque Violin Shop and an addition payment from Cincinnati Dance for an enlarged ad); a new membership, invoices from JW Pepper and Music In Motion.

STAFF AND BOARD REPORTS

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

1) OMEA District 14 Honor Choir: Congratulations to Abby Bolling, Tara Keller, Alfred Kimbro, Caroline Michaelson, Kody Sexton, and Megan Zimmerer for being selected to participate in this year's OMEA District 14 Honor Choir! Students will perform at Mount St. Joseph.

2) NKU Honor Choir: A list of interested Chorale students was sent to the NKU folks a few weeks ago. We are waiting to see how many were accepted. Students were ranked by class (seniors and juniors getting first priority) and by whether or not they have had an opportunity to be in an honor choir this year.

3) Kettering A Cappella Festival: Noteworthy will be performing two songs on the fall concert that they will take for performance and criticism at this year's festival. The festival is headlined by Tiffin University's Up in the Air as well as Firedrill, an all-male a cappella group who recently won Best Pop/Rock Album at this year's CASA (Contemporary A Cappella Society) awards.

4) Thanks again to Brenda Dennis for fitting all of this year's choir students! We are so blessed to have her help each year.

5) The first concert of the season is the October 21! Hope to see you there!

Additional items mentioned at the meeting:

Chorale has an active outreach calendar that includes Brookdale, Northminster women's luncheon, and the Northminster Art Fair in February. Chorus class guest speakers include members of a barbershop group visiting working with Men's Chorus, and a voice teacher from Ohio University who will talk about auditioning.

July 2012 brings the World Choir Games to Cincinnati. Finneytown's Chorale has the opportunity to "pair up" with a choir from elsewhere (maybe overseas) and meet via Skype. We are under no obligation to house them; this is more of a marketing activity, a way to be involved and get acquainted with some new chorus friends.

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

FMPA Report
Whitaker/High School Band
Richard Canter

1) Congratulations to the Finneytown Marching Band on their performance at the Harrison Sounds of the Stadium Contest on Saturday. The band received first place in their class, and 2nd place overall at the contest. Finneytown received straight Superior Ratings (a "I" Rating from every adjudicator) and the highest score in school history: 260.0, eight points higher than before.

Finneytown beat the third place overall band by 15 points. As a Class B Band (Classification being based on school size), Finneytown beat 3 Class AA Bands and 3 Class A Bands (beating all Class A Bands by at least 25 points). Color Guard placed second overall and Percussion placed third overall. **This is the fourteenth consecutive 1st place award that Finneytown has received.** The band will compete in the Hamilton Band-O-Rama Competition next Saturday. At this time, we have a 7:30 performance time.

2) The Marching Band will be performing at the OMEA State Marching Band Finals at 5:45 PM at Dublin Coffman High School (Columbus) on Saturday, October 30th. We requested this day due to "Treat the Hungry" on October 31st and Senior Retreat the following weekend.

3) Whitaker Bands are off to a good start, but we are still waiting on five LINKS (donated) flutes to come from Buddy Rogers Music. If you know of anyone with any extra instruments, please have them contact me.

4) 36 Alumni participated in this year's Alumni Band at the Homecoming game 2 weeks ago. It was great seeing everyone again, as well as a few new faces, including Missy Sauer, aunt of Rachel, Kara and Colleen.

5) The Marching Band was featured as Channel 12's "Band of the Week" last Friday, October 1st.

6) A special thank you to all of the parents that continue to help with Marching Band. Dawn Miklavcic (her many, many responsibilities), Cheryl Shrider (uniforms), Stefanie Inman (uniforms, chaperones) and to all of the parents that help with pre-game and pre-contest picnics.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard J. Canter
Director of Bands/Music Dept. Chair

2010 Band VP Report

October 11, 2010

Respectfully Submitted by Dawn Miklavcic

The Band is AMAZING and the parents are FABULOUS!!

- 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!!
- Cheryl Shrider has put together a GREAT team of people to help her get all the uniforms on everyone and looking their best!
- Stefanie Inman has taken on assisting Cheryl AND coordinating the Chaperones for the buses!
- Monika Haines, has taken on being my right hand man with the Contest meals-she has done all the leg work!
 - She was able to get us Bucco di Beppo pasta, salad and bread for FREE!
- Ron Hartman is the unsung hero! He and his pit crew is just awesome!

- The parents who have already had the pre game picnics were awesome they created their own teams!! Thanks to:
 - The Oct 1st team was the Valerio's, Hickey's and Carlsson's
 - Oct 8th team was the Mizelle's and their team

Mike Kennedy & Angela Murphy (MS Band) : The seventh grade band has a LOT of new students, including four of its five trombone players.

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

I apologize--I will probably be late this evening as Eve is having dress rehearsals for her dance performance this coming weekend and I have to pick her up downtown at 7pm (unless I can find someone else to take her home).

1. High School Orchestra 1st Concert: Thursday, October 28th at 7:00pm at Northminster Presbyterian Church, Founders Hall. Jane is working on feeding the students prior to the concert, after the dress rehearsal at 5pm.
2. Middle School Orchestra: Finishing up the A Major unit, ready to start on the Key of F! (we need to start working on getting their embroidered shirts)
3. Elementary Instrumental 1st Concert: Thursday, November 18th at the PAC, 7pm.
The 6th Grade will be performing selections from "The Wizard of Oz", the 5th grade will be showing off their note-reading skills.
4. 4th grade has been recruited -- 53 new students (out of approx. 110 students all together!). That's the good news. The (sort of) bad news is that many of the students are not able to pay rental fees, so I am scrambling to find instruments for them to play. (For later in the agenda: Baroque is selling used violin outfits for \$65.00 each--I would like to purchase 14 outfits for a total of \$910 from the equipment budget.) FMPA voted to make the purchase then donate them to the district. Each violin outfit is to be tagged "property of Finneytown." Jane moved, Kim F. seconded.
5. A new cello private teacher has moved into the area. Lea Blackney came to work with our students last week and several have expressed an interest in taking private lessons. I will be asking her to return for sectionals as often as possible!
6. We need a new cover for the harp--the one we have now is in shreds. Joe Rebman recommended a cover for \$350.00 which would protect it best while travelling between schools. I also found one for \$210 that is a "dust cover" which would probably be OK for now. This item was tabled until the November meeting.

Ms. Johnson visited the Miami University School of Fine Arts and Department of Music, and reported several interesting things: Sophomores and Juniors are encouraged to contact and set up a free lesson with the faculty member for their area. The faculty member can see where they are and give advice to help them shine at their college audition, and the student can see whether they "click" with that instructor. Also, March 1 is the deadline to apply in order to be considered for scholarship money. A full report of the visit is in the Autumn edition of *Music Notes*.

Tri-M News: Kathy Jorgensen-Finley spoke at a recent meeting and spoke with the students about non-performing careers in the arts, a.k.a. "arts management." Before Kathy was on the staff of the Cincinnati Symphony, she was a president of FMPA.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi M. Johnson
Orchestra Director, Finneytown Schools

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

Steve reports that he loves his new classroom rug. FMPA has to give credit to FBOE for funding of the rug. Also, the Whitaker students loved the cookie sale and wanted more & more forms!

Marya reports a good start to the year at Brent. Whitaker is more of a mixed bag, but she has a nice space for teaching her 4th grade recorders. Grandparents Day at Brent is happening soon, and a 1st & 2nd grade program will be scheduled for late spring.

Uniform Report: Cheryl Shrider and Brenda Dennis:

Cheryl reports: Just can't say enough about the Marching Band Uniform Crew---they ROCK! Each week they have been so faithful to answer email requests to volunteer and get to work as soon as they arrive. The best part is putting everything back in Mr. McKee's room when there is no direction and this great team JUST DOES IT and I turn around after double checking things and dealing with situations and IT IS DONE.

I have to say that students have been very expedient in turning in their uniforms this year...we are out very quick after we return. Ken Bouman each week is reliable to take the gloves home to mom to wash weekly. 99% of the students are very respectful of their uniform, which is great for 106 in uniform! We still have those few students who don't like to keep their suspenders up and we just keep reminding them again and again.

Next Year: We are in need of uniforms for next year and I will be work with a crew to figure this out. We are also brainstorming how to have better organization with the uniforms. Cheryl plans to reorganize the uniforms over the holidays.

Buttons: Bruno Carlsson has graciously made photo buttons of every band member this year, and has had many requests for extras. Cheryl suggests offering extra buttons for \$5 apiece beginning in 2011. Kim moved and Colleen seconded, and the measure was approved. As with luminary sales, any proceeds earned will go to FMPA reserves.

Brenda reports: Choral fittings are nearly complete, and I'm grateful for the response from several parents who have offered their assistance in hemming. Orchestra fittings planned for this week (ok, Heidi?). A total of 2 Chorale dresses and 22 Women's Chorus dresses were ordered to fill immediate needs as well as round out the inventory for future use. Total cost was \$1518.33 (tall dresses are a few dollars higher in cost, and shipping was nearly \$100). Unfortunately, most of the dresses are on back order; we'll see what arrives before the concert date.

Old uniform disposal: a total of 152 blue polo shirts, 67 red polo shirts, and 15 blue oxford shirts are boxed and ready to hand off to Cheryl, who will donate them to her church for distribution from their clothing ministry. When we find breathing room, I'll coordinate with Cathy to attempt sale of the black & white dresses, old Chorale dresses, blue vests (or only the buttons) and neck ties on EBay or similar, in hopes that these items will catch the attention of those enjoying the current craft trend of repurposing fabric. Remaining major item from the Equipment Disposal Authorization is the choir robes. Doug Davis (color guard advisor) is investigating a store in Dayton which resells color guard and drum major wear, to see if they also deal in choral wear. Any other suggestions for a destination for the robes? Shawn Maus and Bart's Bards were both suggested.

Still stored in the choral closets are the old white marching band uniforms. They were not included in the Equipment Disposal Authorization; should they be put back, or do we wish to investigate disposing of them also? If we're continuing to store them, they should be reboxed, as the boxes are falling apart, and more manageable size boxes would be a great help. Shawn Maus wants 20.

Respectfully submitted,
Brenda Dennis
Uniform Chair, Concert Wear

Colleen Grogan (Membership): We have a total of 62 memberships so far this year. There are 27 Patrons totaling \$1105, 5 Memorial Scholarship donations totaling \$150 and 5 Alum memberships totaling \$190. I am working with Penny on a letter to send out to the alumni before the first round of concerts to solicit some more Alum memberships. I went to the Alumni Band practice on Homecoming night to solicit memberships, but that has not yet born any fruit - or dollars.

Respectfully submitted,
Colleen Grogan
Membership Chair

It is expected that many new memberships will come in at the first concerts, based on past experience.

Bill Fessler (Webmaster): Bill is adding the following to the FMPA page: Blank form for Savory Sweets and sale date reminders; Light Up Finneytown luminary order form; September meeting minutes and October treasurer's report.

Anita Ruffin (School Board Representative): Anita thanked all who participated in the parade, and very much enjoyed riding in Cheryl's convertible!

TREASURER'S REPORT (Cathy Zimmerly): The treasurer's report was approved: Colleen moved/Jenny seconded. Also, Cathy has obtained a new IRS letter which will be sent to all board members.

BUSINESS:

Scholarship Committee Report There were 7 scholarship applications received by the committee for the first semester. The committee awarded scholarships to 5 students, for a total of \$480. (The others were encouraged to reapply.) We decided this year to set aside \$500 each semester for school year scholarship requests, and save the remaining money for summer requests, since that is where we got the majority of our requests last year.

Kim Fain proposed offering Kroger Card income to be used by kids in the younger grades. This might be possible, but presents complications such as many payees instead of "FBOE " for Band Camp. Cathy Zimmerly will bring it up to Secondary PTA and Kim will discuss with Beth Mizelle, the PTA volunteer who administers the Kroger card monies.

Savory Sweets Fundraiser (Ric & Jenny)

- Teachers - please mention tomorrow to students that this week / weekend is the last week to sell and that we need their support! Everyone sells 10 items and we make items.
- I'll send you and email to distribute tomorrow to parents.
- VP's - please coordinate with teachers tonight to pick up order forms and money on Monday in as many classes as possible and if you are going to pick up on another day for some groups let me know what group / day. The process should work as follows:
 - VP goes to beginning of class and collects order forms and money. Take some zip lock bags, paper clips, envelopes, post its to help organize what you're given. After you collect the forms and money go to a nearby quiet place and look over the forms / count the money quickly. If there are any forms not filled out clearly or orders missing money go back to the class and review / try to correct the errors. Any you can't correct put the info on a "post it" and I'll follow up. Bring forms and money to our home Monday afternoon or Monday evening. Jen, Claire Snyder and I will be entering data into spreadsheet Monday - Tuesday - Wednesday evening (and to get \$\$ to Cathy .
- Students who don't turn their orders in Monday can turn forms and money in any day next week and we'll OK - just email Jen and me when you have something that needs to be picked up and we'll arrange to stop by the school. We need to have everything by the end of day.

When collecting at class, we are encouraged to bring envelopes/bags/postits to keep orders together and make necessary notes.

Luminary Kit Fundraiser (Cathy)

Light Up Finneytown will be held December 19. \$300 has been received from six businesses who should be publicly recognized: Buddy Rogers, Talking Heads Salon, Warren Gase DDS, Uncle Bill's, Curves, and Skyline Kathy would like help selling kits at Springfield Twp Winterfest, from 1:30 to 4. Flyers will be distributed through "Thursday folders" and at concerts. Kit assembly begins AFTER marching season ends; sand will be stored at the back parking lot. Price of each kit (12 bags) is \$10; our cost is about \$2.

Newsletter: The board office has provided the k-12 mailing list and we can now print labels for the year. Colleen is providing membership brochures for an insert. I suggest we devote a half-page (opposite the address label) for a luminary kit order form. Other articles will include

- Concert etiquette

- Orchestra wedding/concert

- Meet the Chorus

- Holiday concerts

- Marching Band: remaining chances to see the show—and special things to look for; thank yous

- Any recent news/anecdotes about the value of music education

- Bravo, Brava: who among FT students is in an outside musical activity

- Board suggestions?

My goal is to have the newsletter ready to mail before the weekend (October 15). We are calling it the "Autumn" issue rather than the "October" issue. Respectfully submitted,

Kelley Hickey

Former editor

Meeting was adjourned at 8:45. Cheryl moved/Jenny seconded.

Next meeting : November 8, at 7:00 P.M. in the Media Center

Respectfully submitted by Kelley Hickey, Secretary.