

WSMA Field Representative Meeting
Wisconsin Center for Music Education, Waunakee, WI
September 9, 2009
9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Members Present: Roger Bintz, Jerry Borchardt, Henry Clark, Wayne Crook, Frank Daniels, Andrew Duncan, Tom Fisher, Bob Gentile, Dan Gilmore, Gerald Gleason, Don Hale, Tom Heninger, John Hinkley, Glen Klotz, Ron Leroy, Cheryl Licary, Paul Luhring, Linda Meier, Tom Mueller, Sharon Munson, David Pelow, Bill Ross, Lew Schimdt, Jan Tweed and Jo Anne Wroblewski.

WSMA Staff present: Richard Fellenz, Mike George, Theresa McKinley, Tim Wurgler, Jeff Gretzinger and Dee Farmer. Dee recorded the notes.

Richard Fellenz called the meeting to order.

Welcome new members of the Field rep committee: Henry Clark, Tom Heninger and Linda Meier

Field rep members shared a special highlight from the past year.

Mike George, Executive Director welcomed all to the Wisconsin Center for Music Education and thanked the Field Reps for their commitment to the Association. Mike is glad to be back with the Association and said that one of his proudest accomplishments has been the creation of the Field Rep Program. He indicated that each field rep brings their own service, experience, perspective, guidance and vision to the association.

He shared information about the Wisconsin Center for Music Education, WSMA programs, Association staff and responsibility changes, involvement and support of the association board of directors, the need for advocates and the need for volunteer services and support. Each retired music educator is now in a unique position. They can talk about the importance of music to students without worrying about the security of their jobs. They can truly be music education advocates.

In looking ahead, Mike emphasized that “we will never have enough resources in education to accomplish what we want without partnerships”. He discussed the possibilities of expanding existing programs and developing ideas for new programs as long as they meet the needs of schools, communities and budgets. He encouraged all field reps to communicate any new ideas that they may have. The focus will be on imagination, creativity and innovation.

Dee Farmer called attention to the Festival Manager Information form. New this year: festival participating schools will have to have their festival registration forms AND payments into WSMA before the subsidy check will be processed and sent to the Festival Manager. Field Reps were encouraged to help festival managers with any questions they may have and to direct them to Dee for any subsidy questions.

Future Field rep projects were discussed and members completed availability forms with their preferences.

Mike George updated the committee on Wisconsin Foundation for School Music Annual appeal. He asked for suggestions to identify contacts for possible donors for the Foundation.

Theresa McKinley, WSMA Program Director shared information on the new numbering system for the 2009-2010 WSMA Festival music list, which is available on the WSMA website. The guide to publisher’s list is in the process of being updated. For now, MPA.org is a good contact resource.

Theresa also updated the members on the new online medal ordering system, which will go into use shortly with Medalcraft Mint in DePere. This will help streamline ordering immensely. Teachers will have direct contact with the distributor and be able to track their own orders.

In addition, Theresa announced that WSMA and Medalcraft would be introducing a new product mall – offering everything from t-shirts to pens to cups for sale. For more information will be available at the WSMA Booth at the WMEA Music Conference.

Jeff Gretzinger, WSMA Program Director shared statistic summaries of district and state festivals. Student participation numbers seem to be holding at this time. Jeff also shared information regarding the Middle Level Honors project and auditions. Student numbers were down about 200 for auditions this year, while a higher amount requested financial assistance. Jeff asked that field reps send him any suggestions for possible future ML Honors staff members.

Tim Wurgler, WSMA Program Director discussed the High School Honors project. This year a poster was added to the fall magazine to get the word out about both honors programs. About 1800 students auditioned this year for the HS program, again with a higher amount requesting financial scholarship assistance. Field reps were asked to send Tim any names of people in their area that might be willing to contribute to Honors financial scholarships.

Tim also shared with members of the committee the new festival rule changes and festival music list header updates.

Suggestions and problems needing attention were made for consideration. Staff and committees will be working to respond.

The meeting for 2010 is scheduled for September 8th.

Meeting adjourned.