

GCMTA NEWSLETTER

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February 2009

From the desk of Lois Simon

SIMON SAYS

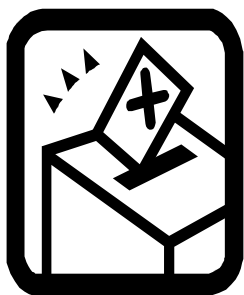
We have broken our previous record for the most members in attendance at the January Brunch. Last year we had 32 teachers, and this year there were 38! The reason for this is obvious. Bonnie's home and hospitality were as wonderful as always, and our members provided very tasty food. In addition, our program "Building Your Studio", was a very important one for many teachers. The information was especially helpful to all of us, not just those teachers in transitional neighborhoods and to new teachers just starting their studios.

Thanks again, Bonnie, for a fabulous morning.

At the next meeting on Feb. 25, and again at the March meeting, I will pass around a sign up sheet for Senior Certificates for graduating seniors. If you do not plan to be at that meeting, but need certificates, please let me know.

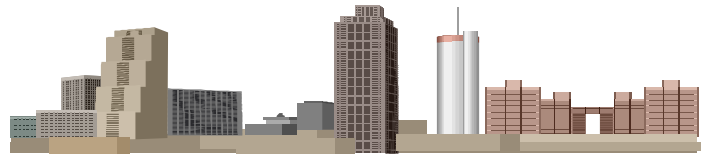
(loissimon@aol.com, or (770) 277 – 6659) The certificates will be available after April 18th, when I pick them up at the State President's meeting.

Good luck to you and your students as you enter the season of festivals, auditions and competitions.



MTNA ELECTIONS

Be sure and vote in the MTNA elections. This year two of the candidates are from our Southern Division. Go to the MTNA website and have your member ID # ready.



COUNTDOWN TO MTNA CONFERENCE

The MTNA Conference in Atlanta is just around the corner. The dates are March 29 – April 1st. If you haven't yet registered, you'll want to do so very soon. After **February 16th**, the registration fee goes up an additional \$100.

Go to www.mtna.org, where you can register online, or download a mail-in form. Registration information is also available in the most recent edition of American Music Teacher.

If you ARE planning to attend the conference and would like to join a carpool (you can use the HOV lane AND save money), contact Lois Simon. Lois will coordinate carpool groups. She will need to know:

- 1) The area where you live, and
- 2) Are you willing to drive, or do you want to ride?

Lois's contact information is loissimon@aol.com or (770) 277 – 6659. Email is best if you are able to do that.

FEBRUARY MASTER CLASS

Features our own

Jean Mann

Distinguished Pedagogue

And Past GMTA Teacher of the Year

Jean Mann, former GMTA Teacher of the Year, and past GCMTA President, will teach our February 25th Master Class in the sanctuary of the Lawrenceville Church of God. Our program will begin at 9:30 am with refreshments in the choir room. Members are encouraged to bring copies of the following repertoire which will be presented:

Chevalresque (Burgmuller)
Sonatina, Opus 55 #1, Allegro (Kuhlau)
Gm Prelude (Rachmaninoff)
Fantasia in Dm, K397 (Mozart)

CENTRAL FEDERATED LUNCH

Lunch will be served at the church at 12:15. We will provide assorted sandwiches and salad from Atlanta Bread Company plus soup and dessert. If you would like to join us, please send a check to Bonnie Bowen (273 Summit Ridge Drive, Lawrenceville, GA 30045) for \$12.00 made to GCMTA and designate "Central Lunch". Deadline is **February 15th**. You are within walking distance of the town square where there are a variety of restaurants and eateries if you prefer to find lunch on your own.



JANUARY BRUNCH AT BONNIE'S TEA ROOM

All who attended the January Brunch Meeting at Bonnie Bowen's enjoyed a wonderful meal and great fellowship. The attendance was great, including several new members and visitors. Our program – "How to Grow Your Studio"- was both interesting and extremely practical. GCMTA is grateful to Lois Simon, Robin Engleman, Kathy Dawal and Linda Walker, presenters, and to Snellville Music and Arts, who provided generous door prizes. Mary Lee Pennington and her student, Jean Nash, shared outstanding cello-piano program music during the gathering. GCMTA would like to thank Jenny McCormick, Nora Martin, Rebecca McKeown, Cathy Thacker and Melissa Burgess for help with set up and clean up. To Bonnie – much love and gratitude for being the "hostess with the mostess" and opening her lovely home to us all these many years.

GCMTA STATE AUDITION FEES

The state audition entry fee is \$26.00 for each winning student plus a one time \$20.00 teacher's fee. Teachers are responsible for collecting the fees from their students proceeding to state auditions and must be prepared to leave A SINGLE CHECK payable to GCMTA covering the teacher's fee plus their students' fees for the in-state auditions before leaving the local audition site. No cash will be accepted under any circumstances. Failure to comply will result in your students being disqualified to audition at the state level. Teachers be prepared. Student and work schedules will be sent to teachers via e-mail.

GCMTA LOCAL AUDITIONS LUNCH INFO

"Lunch in a box" from Panera Bread will be provided. You can go online at www.panerabread.com to preview the choices of sandwiches and salads. Please return the order form below with your preference and a check for \$11.00 made out to GCMTA and designated "Local Auditions Lunch" to Bonnie Bowen no later than **March 1st**.

Bonnie's address is:
273 Summit Ridge Drive
Lawrenceville, GA 30045



Name and Phone:

Please circle your choice:

1 – Sandwich only:

Sandwich choice

Or

2 -- Salad only:

Salad choice

Or

3 – Sandwich and Salad:

Sandwich and salad choice



GCHTA Newsletter
Diana Cipolka
3313 Westbrook Trace
Lawrenceville, GA 30044

HOW TO BUILD YOUR STUDIO

Below is a summary of some of the ideas shared at our group discussion on how to build your studio:

Advertise:

1. Leave cards at Day Care centers
2. Write a letter to public school music teachers nearby. Request specific info from the school office.
3. Place a small ad in the local paper. Two suggestions:
 - a. Neighborhood News (North Gwinnett) (770)277-1899. A six-month add is \$150.
 - b. The Gwinnett Citizen (770)-963-3699 or classified@gwinnettcitizen.com. Weekly online classifieds are free.
4. Hold a Cultural Event/Recital in a day care or other public facility.
5. Make a website. One suggestion: www.1and1.com for \$60/year.

Teach group lessons. Resources:

- a. www.musikgarten.org
- b. www.kindermusik.org
- c. www.robertpace.com
- d. www.musicmindgames.com (associated with Suzuki method)
- e. Yamaha Piano – contact Tina Darden