



# **South Fraser Branch RMT Meeting**

## **Wednesday, January 16, 2013**

**Fleetwood Library, Surrey, 9:45 am**

### **Attendance:**

Dianne Szarapka  
Elaine Blatchford  
Bev Johnson  
Jeanie Tiede  
Sandra Starek  
Rita Thatcher  
Yvette Rowledge  
Natasha Gonzalez  
Erika Bennedik  
Mary Kim  
Elizabeth Gilchrist  
Jennifer Silva  
Sylvia Leigh  
Wendy Chan  
Karen Daggett  
Megumi Otani  
Carol Fyffe  
Angelina Van Dyke

Dolores Antonsen  
Anne Dalton  
Anny Deng  
Elizabeth Hammermeister  
Lea Tsui  
Susan Olsen  
Kevin Thompson  
Esther Neufeld  
Catherine Bundt  
Deborah Boganes  
Brenda Sleightholme  
Lesley MacTavish  
Sharon Poon  
Margaret Brew  
Maureen Hollins  
Kamela Vinjau  
Alison d'Entremont

### **Guest Appearance:**

Michelle (Barsalou) Bumpus and baby Mira

### **1. Welcome/Announcements**

Susan Olsen, President, introduced our new Branch banner which qualified for the BCRMTA Provincial advertising subsidy of \$200. The banner was on display at the meeting and comes in a handy carrying case. It is available for all teachers to use as well as any Branch function.

New Member: Susan Senkow, Piano (Transferred from Richmond Branch)  
susans@southfrasermusic.com

### **2. Minutes**

*MOTION to accept the minutes of November 21, 2012, copy of which is available for inspection on our website in the "For Members" section, by Dianne Szarapka, seconded Beverly Johnson. CARRIED*

### **3. Treasurer's Report**

Financial Statement as at January 16, 2013 – as posted on our website in “For Members” section. As of today, we have an ending balance of \$7,076.94 and term deposits of \$19,231.27, totaling \$26,308.21.

Concerto Stars:

Income: \$10,742.25

Expense: 3,851.47

Balance: \$6,890.78

Festival Account balance is \$11,240.77

*MOTION to accept Financial Report, by Mary Kim, seconded Carol Fyffe. CARRIED*

2013 Membership is due today; after today it is \$154.

### **4. Reports**

#### **Christmas Recital and Luncheon**

Linda Sheppard arranged for another successful seasonal event for the student performers – this year at Bethany Newton Church. The Christmas Lunch was attended by 16 members and a cash donation and 8 large bags of food items were delivered to the Surrey Food Bank the same afternoon. A letter of thanks for our donation was received from Marilyn Herrmann, Executive Director of the Surrey Food Bank. See attached.

#### **Pedagogy Workshops with Marjory Purdy – Jennifer Condie**

Our pedagogy workshops with Marjory Purdy took place on three Friday mornings: October 26, November 16 and November 30th. The workshops were designed to be given as a series. The first, entitled “Keyboard Connections for Kids,” covered early technique—tools for building a physical and aural connection to the keyboard. In the next, “If this piece is named the Swallow, why does it sound like a Rhino?” Marjory gave us ideas about playing expressively, building on the technical elements presented in the first workshop. She covered examples from early to intermediate repertoire, including a variety of styles and challenges. On the final day, “If you can play a Sonatina you can play anything,” Marjory showed how early teaching repertoire can build a foundation for intermediate Sonatinas. Marjory used a demonstration and discussion format that included teacher participation, aided by willing volunteers. The presentations were thoughtful, logical and imaginative. While teachers were encouraged to attend all three, and the workshops were structured that way, some people who could not attend all shared tickets, a practice which we encouraged. Thirty five teachers are on my attendance list. That doesn't include the ticket sharing. Thanks to the teachers and executive for their support of this event.

Brenda commented that the teachers really benefited from these workshops. Jennifer is collating ideas from Marjorie for future workshops.

## **Concerto Stars – Brenda Sleightholme**

### **Level 2 Auditions**

We are about to embark on the Level 2 Auditions next Friday (January 25<sup>th</sup>) at the Langley Community Music School, courtesy of Susan Magnusson. Forty students have been chosen and all Promissory/Consent Forms received and Susan reported that all written submissions have been received as well. These were then forwarded to Clyde Mitchell. Unfortunately, one of the students was disqualified and was replaced as she had stopped lessons with a South Fraser Branch member.

Level II Audition Process: Since each piece is only about 1 to 3 minutes, the schedule will allow 5 to 7 minutes per student which should give plenty of time to play and talk informally with the Jury. Susan has offered access to tea and coffee in the kitchen for the volunteers and Clyde and Jury have requested a 15 minute break with snacks. So, Brenda asked for some assistance on Friday. Results will be emailed on by Saturday.

### **Recital Requirements**

One of the requirements for Concerto Stars is to participate in recitals. We decided to decrease the number of recitals to two: the 15 performers must participate in both recitals with their selected pieces; the 25 performers must participate in one recital but may have to change their repertoire if there are duplicates.

The two "Concerto Stars" feature recital dates and venues leading up to the May 10 (Langley Community Music School) and May 12 (Bell Centre) performances are:

#### **Sunday, February 17 @ 7:00 pm**

“Concerto Stars” Feature Recital with Level 2 Audition Performances

First United Church

15385 Semiahmoo Avenue, White Rock

#### **Sunday, April 7 @ 7:00 pm**

“Concerto Stars” Feature Recital with Level 2 Audition Performances

Northwood United Church

8855 156 Street, Surrey

A big thank you to Kevin Thompson and Maureen Hollins for organizing these recitals.

### **Publicity**

The next big push is publicity and ticket sales. Susan and Brenda will be meeting with the Tom Lee Music committee at the end of February. Chuck Gorling has offered to assist with selling ads for the programme and publicizing the event to the Asian community.

Brenda is looking for a publicity person to assist with newspaper/radio sponsorship and writing articles on the feature recitals and the two concerts. Please let her know if you are interested in working on these tasks.

### Tickets

Brenda had a limited number of tickets available at this meeting but will take orders and pick up any seat numbers you request for the next meeting.

Thanks to all of you for your contributions of time and expertise in our fabulous “Concerto Stars” project and especially, for selling tickets!

### **Festival 2013: Intermediate/Senior Piano – Alison D’Entremont**

Alison reported that the program is colour coded and in a daily format; morning and afternoon. The final program will be available on-line only by January 27<sup>th</sup>. Please send in any corrections to Allison by next Wednesday. There will be some hard copies at the festival; otherwise students must download them as there isn’t a programme fee. Ensembles have not been included as scheduling has not been completed yet. Ensembles take place on Saturday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>; Juniors in the morning, Seniors in the afternoon. Jennifer and Claudia are coordinating duties. The committee is asking for more donations for scholarships from teachers.

### **Primary/Junior Piano – Maureen Hollins**

Maureen reported that the festival is 6 ½ days, more than last year. The draft schedule is almost completed and will be sent to Wendy who will turn it into a beautiful program. The draft will be emailed shortly; hard copy to be picked up at various locations.

### **Strings – Erika Bennedik**

Erika reported that there are more entries than last year and therefore an extra ½ day will be required. There have been problems communicating with the adjudicator but Carla will sort things out next week. There will be a printed programme.

### **Web site**

An information sheet on “Getting to Know the South Fraser Website” was distributed. Susan drew attention to the Member info section. Email Susan if you have any difficulty logging on. See attached.

Elizabeth inquired about Google strategies for optimizing the site. Susan will look into this. If you have any suggestions for the website please let us know.

### **4<sup>th</sup> Annual Honours Recital 2013 – Kevin Thompson** **(CFMTA ‘Branching Out’ Project- 2013)**

Date: Sunday, February 17th at 3:00 pm

First United Church 15385 Semiahmoo Avenue, White Rock

Deadline today. Kevin will email confirmation, then plan the recital programme which will be emailed by this weekend.

### **Gift for Bev**

On behalf of the Branch, Brenda presented a parting gift to Bev for her many years of

service as our Website Co-ordinator. Bev has been key to communicating with the membership and will be missed on the Executive.

**Elections for 2013/14 – Esther Neufeld**

Esther Neufeld presided over the elections of the new Executive position of Website Co-ordinator.

Wendy Chan was elected by unanimous vote:

**Other**

Kevin Thompson is willing to offer a workshop on “Videos in your Studios” towards the end of May. The members preferred a Wednesday or Friday. There will be a keynote presentation followed by hands-on demonstrations. 10 to noon. More information to follow.

**5. Adjournment**

*Moved by Kevin Thompson to adjourn the meeting. CARRIED*

Next meeting: **Wednesday, April 17th**

See you at the Festival!

Respectfully submitted,  
Brenda Sleightholme  
Vice President / Recording Secretary  
South Fraser RMT