President’s Message

Pat Grantier

As I complete four years as your president, I am thankful. Thankful for musical memories and for the chance to meet a whole bevy of great people whose passion is to perform and/or to mentor and support musicians. I’m grateful, too, to have had the Prairie Rose newsletter in which to communicate with you NDFMC members. Following are some of the events I’ve felt privileged to attend on your behalf since becoming active on the state level.

- Presided over five NDFMC board meetings in Jamestown, Fargo, and Valley City;
- Delegate to NDFMC conventions in Grand Forks, Bismarck (twice), Fargo;
- Delegate to NFMC National Board meeting/conventions in Denver, Virginia, and Pittsburgh;
- Attended International Music Camp Federation Day at the Peace Garden, five years;
- Representative to NCR meetings in Minneapolis and the Junior Composers Institute at Augsburg College and the University of Minnesota, four years.

In other official duties, I’ve visited five clubs’ meetings and/or special events. I enjoyed their hospitality and their energy. In addition to articles for the Prairie Rose Notes, I’ve written a grant for a state convention, and I’ve written recommendations for candidates running for regional and national positions. I’ve encouraged you to attend summer musical and theater productions; I’ve attended lots of concerts, festivals, and recitals and will continue to attend many of these events as an individual. In fact, I’ve made arrangements to attend the convention in Greenville, SC this summer. That’s not work; that’s just FUN. It has been an honor to serve you. I have worn that diamond-studded President’s pin with pride, and I’ll have a catch in my throat when I give it up. It is something of a cliche to say that I’ve received far more than I’ve given, but it is totally true. As a septuagenarian, however, I look forward to spending lots more time with my family: 3 grown children, 7 grandchildren, one great-grandchild expected May, and my 97 year old mother who lives in Dickinson. I also have several family history writing projects that have been on hold for years that I want to complete. I know that your new president has a cultural activist bent and will serve you very well. Please congratulate and thank your new officers for making the commitment to serve.

The puzzle for me is this: Why aren’t there people falling all over themselves to take full advantage of the opportunities this organization offers? Just get on the website to see the many resources, awards, artists, supported by the National Federation. We need to do some brainstorming into what is needed to “sell” our organization both to our members and to the musicians in our communities. New president, Vivian, will be looking for people to fill current vacancies on the board along with replacing several people who have served many years and have asked for time off. Search your soul and see if this might be your time to serve. None of the jobs are difficult. Many take just a few hours of your time each year. Volunteer to insure that you get the job you most want.

For many piano teachers, membership in federation is only about having their students participate in Festival. They may not attend local club meetings or hold offices, but they are willing to pay dues so that their students can participate. That’s okay—we welcome them, but do they realize what they are missing by not fully participating? In some cases, whole clubs have ceased having monthly meetings and programs. No wonder some clubs’ membership stagnates or declines. On the other hand, several of our more active clubs have shown increased membership. It takes committed individuals willing to create programs and meetings that “sing.” Look through the articles in the remainder of this newsletter to be inspired by what other clubs are doing. I challenge you to find one change to incorporate into your club to make it more vital, more appealing. I hope your began with Music Week, May 5-12, 2013. Add some zest!

Music—the colors of life!
NDFMC 47TH BIENNIAL CONVENTION

The NDFMC held its 47th Biennial Convention April 25-27 in Grand Forks, North Dakota. Thursday Music Club members were the hosts to five Music Clubs and several State Board Members. Gloria Lien, NFMC Western Region Vice President, from Arizona, was a special guest who brought inspirational messages at the meals and meetings, and also installed the NDFMC 2013-2015 officers.

The Convention theme “Music Colors Our Spirit” was featured in songs and decorations. Pat Grantier, NDFMC State President presided over all the business meetings, including the Thursday Board Meeting.

Several clubs provided special music including the Thursday Music Club of Grand Forks, the Fargo-Moorhead Area Music Club, the Thursday Music Club of Bismarck-Mandan and the Augustana Lutheran Church Brass, Strings, and Vocal Ensembles. Other speakers included Allison Peterson and Rachel Bieberdorf from the Grand Forks Summer Performing Arts. Several Grand Forks musicians performed at the Friday evening concert. A very special tribute was made to Eileen Jackson, Thursday Music of Grand Forks to whom this Convention was dedicated.

A Service remembering members who have passed since the last Convention was given by Chaplain Diana Randall on Saturday morning, followed by a brunch honoring NDFMC Junior members and their parents. These young NDFMC musicians representing area Junior Festivals performed a delightful Musicale. The Convention closed with the vocal Benediction “The Gift of Song.” For more pictures and color, click NEWS at www.ndfmc.org.

Business Actions from the 2013 NDFMC Convention

New NDFMC officers were elected for 2013-2015:

President Vivian Acuff, Fargo-Moorhead Area Music Club
Vice President Robyn Vinge, Fargo-Moorhead Area Music Club
Secretary Darcy Lackman, Bismarck-Mandan Thursday Music Club
Treasurer Kris Brugmyer, St. Cecelia Music Club - Dickinson
Vice President East Carole Flatau, Fargo-Moorhead Area Music Club

There were no new nominees presented for vice president for the Western Region at the convention. Lana Simons, Minot Piano Teachers, will continue in her second term in this position until a new person can be appointed by the board.

Carma Kulish, who has served as the NDFMC’s State Festival Chair for a number of years now is stepping down from this position, effective June 1. It is urgent that this position be filled by a qualified person as soon as possible. Please check with Carma Kulish or Vivian Acuff for a job description.

The 2013-2015 Biennial Budget was approved. The operating budget will be $5,000.00 for each of the next two years.

There was some discussion about the 40% tax credit available from the state of North Dakota. It is available to those who make planned gift donations to a 501(c)3 non-profit endowment or organization, or cash donations of at least $5,000 to a non-profit endowment. The NDFMC is a 501(c)3, but we do not have an established endowment fund at this time. However, all donations to the NDFMC are tax deductible. For a discussion of this tax credit go to www.ndfmc.org then click on News and Announcements.

The NDFMC’s next biennial convention will be held in conjunction with the 2015 NFMC Convention, which will be held at the Fargo Holiday Inn June 16-20, 2015.
2013 JUNIOR COMPOSER ENTRIES  Sharon Wesbrook, Chair

Seventeen young composers entered compositions in the 2013 Junior Composers Contest. The judge chose the following as state winners that were sent to the Regional competition.

**Class I**
- Olivia Gunderson 1st “April Comes and Goes” Sharon Wesbrook Detroit Lakes, MN
- Grace Gunderson 2nd “The Horse in the Pasture” Sharon Wesbrook Detroit Lakes, MN
- Ashley Berger 3rd “The Snowy City” Gloria Bethke Grand Forks, ND

**Class II**
- Anna Cihak 1st “The Caveman” Sharon Wesbrook Detroit Lakes, MN
- Allison Knutson 2nd “The Sky is the Limit” Karen Borud Minot, ND
- Alex Berger 3rd “Dolphins on the Cancun Beach” Gloria Bethke Grand Forks, ND
- Ella Zhang 4th “Foxtrot Blues” Gloria Bethke Grand Forks, ND

**Class III**
- Holly & Heidi Camp 1st “Like a River” Sheila Nelson E Grand Forks, MN
- Jared Hollingworth 2nd “Jam at the Beach” Gloria Bethke Grand Forks, ND

Holly and Heidi Camp’s “Like a River” was the NCR III First Place winner, but did not place in the NFMC competition. Congratulations to all these creative musicians. We hope to see an entry from you next year!

JUNIOR COMPOSERS 2013  Pat Steege, Admin. Director

In 2013, Junior Composers will feature 3 programs for composition students ages 14-20. The **Junior Composers Studio** is a 2-week experience with extensive instruction in music analysis, theory and ear-training. The **Junior Composers Institute** is a week long compose and perform camp with daily instruction in theory and ear-training. The **Junior Songwriters Institute** will feature the songwriting recording experience as well as theory and ear-training. Program enrichments include numerous field trips and guest speakers.

Sponsored by our own North Central Region, Junior Composers is held at the University of Minnesota School of Music, Minneapolis, MN. Dates: July 8-20, 2013 (Studio) and July 14-20 (Institute and Songwriters).

The featured theme of this summer’s camp is Words and Music. VocalEssence will provide professional readings of compositions by registered students. Pieces composed during the camp are performed and premiered at the end of the week in Utian Recital Hall.

The University of Minnesota School of Music is a world-class facility on the Mississippi River near downtown Minneapolis. Finale and Sibelius music notation software is available for students’ use in the computer lab. Middlebrook Hall houses our students along with staff and counselors.

Please check this website for up-to-date information about Junior Composers: [www.juniorcomposers.org](http://www.juniorcomposers.org) or call Pat Steege 651-334-1355 for more information.

OPERA  Vivian Acuff, Chair

In November, the annual North Dakota District Met Auditions were held at the University of North Dakota campus. This is the first level of the national competition sponsored by the Met Opera Nation Council. Competitors at the district level perform 2 arias for 3 nationally recognized judges and the local audience. Seven singers competed this year and 2 were selected to advance to the upper Midwest Regionals in February. Following the auditions was a master class by one of the judges, international opera star, Johanna Meier. NDFMC member Louise Pinkerton, is co-Director of the North Dakota Met, and a member of the Thursday Music Club in Grand Forks, which is the official sponsor of the auditions. Seventy-five people attended these auditions.

On March 4th, the F-M Area Music Club program featured “An Afternoon of Musical Theater”, presented by Barbara Schramm and her students from Concordia College, Moorhead, MN.

Kathy Ferreira, a music teacher at Robert Asp Elementary, Moorhead, MN, and a member of the F-M Area Music Club has three classes of 4th graders presenting an operetta titled “Tomb It May Concern” by Tim O’Brien. Kathy had taken a summer class “Music, Words, Opera” which inspired her to involve her students in the operetta. She then taught the students about the “Barber of Seville” and was offered discounted tickets for the students to attend the live production. This resulted in a grant she received so that the students could perform their own opera. Kathy was responsible for over 100 discounted tickets being sold for the Fargo-Moorhead Opera Company’s production of the “Barber of Seville.”

MUSIC OUTREACH  Vivian Acuff

There were 42 Volunteers who gave 2182.5 hours of service in the following places: Veteran’s Hospitals, Nursing Homes, Assisted Living, Retirement Homes, Schools for Disabled Adults, and Day Care Centers for Seniors. These members, all from the Fargo-Moorhead Club, gave 100 hours or more of musical and music-related services this year and are eligible for a National Award: Joyce Westfall (409), Em Laskey (308), Jill Post (100+), Janice Stoffel (100+), and “The Noteables” (1,233).
NOTES FROM THE CLUBS

FARGO-MOORHEAD AREA MUSIC CLUB
Joyce Westfall, President
Their September and October meetings featured many of their scholarship winners. A Parade of American Music honoring Veterans was a special evening program in November that was open to the public and included a sing-along of WWI and WWII songs, the Heather & Thistle Pipes and Drums bagpipe group and a Community Band. In December, The Club Chorus, The Noteables, and the BELLISSIMO Bell Choir provided Holiday Music for the 2nd evening program open to the public. The January Founder’s Day program was an afternoon of Tin Pan Alley Music. Nasty, snowy, cold weather kept some members away in February and March, but the Jardine Scholarship winners and other musicians entertained in spite of the weather. April was the Annual Meeting plus hearing more scholarship winners. The Spring Luncheon was May 10th. They received two NFMC Awards: American Women Composers and the Parade of American Music. They initiated a new fund raiser—a music case open at all meetings to accept donations for Memorial scholarships.

MINOT PIANO TEACHERS CLUB
Arnola Leversion, President
This Club is organized for two main activities. The first is the NFMC Junior Music Festival which brings over 300 young people to Minot to perform in piano solo, piano concerto, piano duet, hymn playing, Lynn Freeman Olson piano solo, vocal art song, violin solo and violin concerto events. The other is an April Monster Concert, the Club’s 9th annual event. This year’s theme was “Music for the Seasons”. About 100 students, adults and teachers participated, making for a very spirited concert. They have sponsorship by the Yamaha Corporation through Jacobsen Music. A drawing is held each year for a keyboard and the winner performs in the next year’s concert. Minot Piano Teachers gave six half-scholarships to the International Music Camp this year.

THURSDAY MUSIC CLUB OF BISMARCK-MANDAN
Gareth Fay, President
Thursday Music Club has enjoyed a wonderful year of programs and hospitality including “Music is Food for the Soul”, Carole Flatau and her folk songs, “Carols and Cookies”, a Valentine’s Day Luncheon Fund raiser at Lois Swenson’s, “A Student Showcase”, attendance at a University of Mary’s Gianni Schicchi program, and performances by their scholarship winners. This is the second year their chorus, Rhapsody, has been together. Besides performing at the December meeting, programs were given at 2 retirement centers, performances by their scholarship winners. The Spring Luncheon was May 10th. They received two NFMC Awards: American Women Composers and the Parade of American Music. They initiated a new fund raiser—a music case open at all meetings to accept donations for Memorial scholarships.

THURSDAY MUSIC CLUB OF GRAND FORKS
Margy Gabrielsen & Darleen Holien, Co-Presidents
This Club is the largest in North Dakota with over 120 members. Programs included “Musical Memories” by Wayne Luechow, a snowstorm in October, Scholarship winners in November, their 89th Annual Christmas Musicals in December, “A Bouquet in Winter” voice program by Dr. Anne Christopherson (UND), June Randall, a Native American singer, song writer and motivational speaker, Dr. Nariaki Sugiyama (UND), who played his “Super Etude No. 1” with his elbows and feet as well as his hands, was the March performer. John Gangelhoff was featured in April playing both the piano and violin. April also brought NDFMC members to Grand Forks for the 47th Biennial state convention “Music Colors Our Spirit” held at the Ramada Inn April 25-27. Members were busy all year preparing for this meeting. (see Convention report and pictures) Devera Warcup received the Gold Note Award at the Gold Note Luncheon in May.

THURSDAY MUSICAL OF WILLISTON
Jacki Keck and Terri Sorensen, Co-Presidents
Thursday Musical chose to use President Carolyn Nelson’s 2012 National Music Week Theme “Music that Inspires” for this program year. Member presentations included “Songs I Learned in Sunday School”, “Music that Inspires Our Spiritual Renewal” and “Music that Inspires Us in Our Contemporary World”. They had fun sharing inspirational songs and stories. Their traditional programs are the IMC Scholarship winners program (they gave 13-$150 scholarships this year), the Veterans Day program in November, and the Crusade for Strings in December. Thursday Musical provided a float in Williston’s Band Day Parade using the Music Week theme of “Music—the Colors of Life” and giving out tootsie rolls. The final program was a Together We Sing program featuring “Music that Inspires”.

VALLEY MUSIC MAKERS
Julie Brorby and Karen Knudsvig, Co-chairpersons
This Club is organized mainly to encourage their five Junior Music Clubs and sponsor the annual NFMC Junior Music Festival. They will also send students to the International Music Camp this summer.

FEDERATION DAY JULY 26 AT IMC
Pat Grantier, Chair
The last Friday of July is always special. It is the National Federation of Music Clubs Day at the International Music Camp in the Peace Gardens near Bottineau, ND. Interim Director, Joe Alme assures me that we’ll have the usual “cook out” and concert prior to the reception which the Bismarck/Mandan Thursday Music Club will host for Faculty and Jardine Scholarship recipients. Gather on the Camp lawn in the late afternoon for a fun time of visiting and music. For further information, contact Pat Grantier, Interim IMC liaison. Her phone is 701-222-0970.

Dr. Alme suggests staying at Lake Metigoshe at either “Twin Oaks” (701-263-4295), or “Quilt Inn” (701-263-6500.) There are several motels in the Bottineau area, or for a short drive—try the Canadian motels. Do bring your passport!
NDFMC FESTIVAL REPORT  Carma Kulish

There were 2,166 entrants in 10 Festivals held throughout North Dakota; 128 Junior Clubs participated. Our young musicians entered 18 events, including 3 new ones—Vocal Duet Musical Theatre, Trumpet Solo, and Piano Trio. Those students participating in the Piano Quartet have added a second ensemble. It seems that the adults who were participating the past 6 years have decided to stop!

Congratulations to the two students who achieved 12 Consecutive Superior Certificates: Cecelia Winter, Vocal, member of the Take Note Us Junior Club, Fargo, and Joshua Jyring, Piano, member of Thursday Music Club of Bismarck-Mandan.

It has been a pleasure to serve as State Junior Festival Chair these past 12 years. Thank you to all the Festival Chairpersons who have faithfully served during my tenure.

NDFMC GOLD CUP REPORT  Bonnie Stromme, Chair

There were 447 Gold Cups earned in the 2013 Junior Festivals, including 267 First, 121 Second, 43 Third, 11 Fourth, and 3 Grand Cups. Information about the Grand Cup Winners follows.

ISAIAH FISHER has completed his junior year at St. Mary’s Central High School, Bismarck, ND. He started playing the piano at age 4 and has participated in the NDFMC Festivals since Kindergarten. His three teachers include: Margaret Blickensderfer in Kindergarten, Heather Hertz through second grade, and David Poffenberger since third grade.

He has also been studying percussion for 8 years, and hopes to keep studying music “for years to come”.

After High School, he plans to attend North Dakota State University, University of North Dakota, The University of Mary, or Gonzaga to enter into a nursing program and eventually to specialize and become a nurse anesthetist or an anesthesiologist.

JANA HATHAWAY is the daughter of Mark and Julie Hathaway, Bismarck, ND. She was home schooled through her junior year and will be graduating with honors from Century High School, Bismarck in May. She began piano lessons from her mother in 2nd grade and since 2010 studies with David Poffenberger. She has earned 11 consecutive superior ratings in Piano Solo.

Jana has been playing the violin since she was 10. She has played in youth symphony, recitals, church services and youth worship teams. She also enjoys singing, ballet, swimming, and Science Olympiad. She has participated in the NW Music Festival at Minot State University and in an ensemble which earned a star rating at the North Dakota State Music Festival. She is a member of the National Honor Society and is active in church and community volunteer activities.

In college, she plans on beginning an elementary education degree with a music minor.

JEREMIAH LAUE, an East Grand Forks native, began his piano training at age 5; his teachers included Hyley Lee, Carol Wagner and Gloria Bethke. He has earned 7 cups playing in piano solo, hymn playing, and concerto event.

He has also studied violin since the age of 7 under teachers including Karen Wyatt, Ligia Drago and currently Joel Alarcon at UND. The past 3 years, he has played with the Greater Grand Forks Junior Symphony, Youth Symphony, and the Northern Valley Youth Orchestra. He has also played with the UND Chamber Orchestra, traveling with this group to the Music Festival in Pocos de Caldas, Sao Paulo, Brazil.

Jeremiah has attended many music camps, including the International Music Camp, and has spent the last 4 years at the Upper Midwest String and Chamber Music Camp in St. Joseph, MN.

He has been organist for the two churches where his father is a pastor. He volunteers at the local library, sews quilts for missions at his church, and serves as janitor at his church. He will attend UND this fall and study civil engineering. His parents are Rev. David and Linda Laue.
From Your State Treasurer  Kris Brugamyer

Right off the top let me be sure you know this: **ALL SENIOR DUES WILL INCREASE $5.00, BEGINNING WITH THE 2013-2014 YEAR.** This increase is in the state’s portion of the dues, and the increase was approved by the NDFMC board on September 28, 2012. **If you are a senior club treasurer, this increase means that you will now be sending me $12.00 per regular member instead of $7.00.** The $12.00 breaks down like this: $8.00 state dues + $3.00 national dues + $1.00 Founders Day Pennies. (Life members of the NDFMC and NFMC still only need to pay the $1.00 in Founders Day Pennies.) The amount your senior club members pay beyond this $12.00 are your local dues, which stay in your treasury. Did you know it has been 12 years since we last increased the state portion of the senior dues? This additional income will allow us to have a more realistic budget, beginning with the 2013-2015 Biennial Budget, which was approved at the recent 2013 Biennial Convention in Grand Forks.

**All senior club treasurers and junior club teachers need to know this, too:** The NFMC has established a late fee of $5.00 to be imposed on any INITIAL club payment that is postmarked after November 15. Therefore, **ALL DUES (SENIOR, JUNIOR, AND STUDENT/COLLEGIATE) SHOULD BE POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 15.** This will be true every year now. Junior Clubs and Senior Clubs may add additional members after November 15 with no penalty. The late fee is only for the initial payment.

As for this year, our membership counts were similar to last year’s. Below is a breakdown of the membership counts and also a listing of the dues and contributions paid to the NFMC. Although our fiscal year does not end until May 31, I do not anticipate these amounts to change.

**SUMMARY OF 2012-2013 MEMBERSHIP COUNTS, DUES AND CONTRIBUTIONS**

**NDFMC Membership Counts:**
- 9 Senior Clubs (totaling 419 senior members)
- 130 Junior Clubs (totaling 2179 junior members)
- 1 Student Individual Member
- 3 Junior Individual Members

These numbers mean there were 2,602 people federated in the NDFMC this year, nearly 84% of who were juniors!

Dues and Contributions paid to the National Federation of Music Clubs:
- $2,741.50 Member dues (all divisions)
- $1,024.00 Magazine subscriptions (168 JKJ + 4 MCM)
- $419.00 Founder’s Day Pennies
- $53.00 Outgoing Nat’l President’s Scholarship (9 of 9 Senior Clubs donated)
- $250.00 Outgoing Nat’l President’s Scholarship (paid from NDFMC’s “Buy A Year” campaign)
- $63.00 Past President Assembly dues (9 chapters reported)
- $999.60 Young Artists contributions (from 9 PPA chapters)

I must also add my thanks to everyone who has contributed to the “Buy A Year” campaign. This campaign’s purpose was to generate at least $1,000.00 that the state will contribute to the NFMC’s Outgoing National President’s Fund. This fund will provide NFMC scholarships in Carolyn Nelson’s name after she steps down as our national president in 2015. This scholarship will be for those who play double-reed instruments. All proceeds generated from the “Buy A Year” campaign beyond the $1,000 will be used for state expenses in hosting the 2015 NFMC convention in Fargo. I am happy to report that we HAVE made our $1,000 pledge to Carolyn’s ONP fund, and we still have some funds left over to use for the 2015 convention.

**BUY A YEAR BANNER  Odee Maier, Chair**

The “Buy a Year” Banner has traveled most of the state, visiting 7 Clubs and 1 Board Meeting. To date it has raised $1,850 for President Carolyn Nelson’s Outgoing President’s Scholarship Fund and potential expenses for the 2015 NFMC Convention that will be held in Fargo in mid-June.

Carolyn’s Scholarship will be designated for double reed instruments (oboe, bassoon, English horn, double bassoon, heckelphone, sarrusophone and some others) at the Student/Collegiate level.

The Banner will be taken to the NFMC June Convention in Greenville, SC as a “show and tell” for the State President’s Council by Pat Grantier and Vivian Acuff.

When the Banner returns, it will visit the last 2 clubs and attend the Fall Board Meeting. Members wishing to buy a year may do so by picking a year and sending a $15 check made out to NDFMC to: Kris Brugamyer, NDFMC Treasurer, 856 11th Street East, Dickinson, ND 58601. It is possible to purchase more than one year!

Many thanks to all members who donated to this scholarship project.
It was only a year after the end of World War I that Agnes Jardine invited delegates from already-organized music clubs around the state to a meeting in Grand Forks in mid-October 1919.

Twelve enthusiastic and dedicated delegates drafted and voted on a constitution within the next couple of days and the North Dakota Federation of Music Clubs was officially organized October 19, 1919. Numerous committees were formed and plans were made for organizing more music clubs around the state.

These women were undaunted. They very likely were not aware of a criticism made by a gentleman after learning about an early objective of the National Federation: To publicize the standard of musical culture across the country; to increase the numbers of organizations and to give recognition to women in music education.

This gentleman wrote: “It is feared that the work of women’s musical clubs will expend itself without good rewards ... without leaving any more serious impression upon the community than a large soap bubble.” This is from “A Musical Legacy” by Lucile Ward.

Elwyn Robinson wrote in his “History of North Dakota” about the difficulty of cultural development in the early days of the state and the disparity of ethnic cultures found in the new settlers.

Nevertheless, these music pioneers soon found there was interest in a number of vicinities and early meetings were held in Bismarck, Jamestown and Fargo as well as Grand Forks.

We have to imagine that these ladies perhaps walked to meetings in their small towns or maybe drove a horse and buggy. They perhaps took a train to the meetings around the state. Both the Northern Pacific and the Great Northern railroads began in North Dakota in the late 1890s.

I doubt there were many women drivers in North Dakota at this time. Henry Ford’s Model T came on the market in October 1908. In 1913, there were only 13,075 automobiles in the state; by 1920 there were 92,000 owned by farmers. (Robinson) Roads were not very good at this time and often impassable which made travel difficult. Despite this, the organization’s numbers increased and clubs were formed in many small towns across the state.

In addition to the business meetings which seemed to be held quite frequently, there were other more musical meetings with evening concerts as well as club performers during the afternoons—an early version of our continued tradition of having performing delegates from the clubs around the state at conventions.

We need to remember with gratitude these women whose dedication gave us the foundation of our present North Dakota Federation of Music Clubs.

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Six reports from NDFMC clubs were received for this year; four clubs actively supported the Crusade Programs:

**Williston** The Club did the publicity and sponsored a program of the Williston State College Community Strings.

**Fargo-Moorhead** Had 2 meetings that featured strings. Some of the International Music Camp scholarships were given to 4 violinists and a 1 harpist, and the recipients performed for one of the club meetings. Another meeting featured Bill Law, NDSU School of Music and his string bass.

**Greater Grand Forks** Had 3 meetings that included strings. The Annual Christmas Musicale included the Northern Valley Youth Orchestra and a solo by a cellist. Another program featured a violinist, and the 3rd program had performances by the International Music Camp string scholarship winners, 3 violinists and 3 cellists.

**Devils Lake** Gave 3 string scholarships to the International Music Camp.

Two reporting clubs did not have any string performers.

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We began this Prairie Rose Notes newsletter following the NDFMC 2005 Convention. The purpose was to bring our state members together with current Federation information and attempt to keep our far flung non club members aware of the other NDFMC member’s activities. I’m not sure the purpose has been reached, but we have tried.

We had help from the local Arts Council with the logo and newsletter design; we had help from many board members with good “copy” to share; we found a good printer and mailing people who made the product look good and reach you members in a mostly timely fashion. My good husband, Gordie, learned about templates and proper page make-up, and we are still speaking after these 8 years.

At some point, in the last year, being a newsletter editor didn’t seem to be as much fun as it once was—I always said I would know when it was time to retire.

AND, that time is now. Volume 8, Issue 2 is my last newsletter. Thank you for your encouragement and cooperation.

Then, please welcome Mavis Ness, a member of the Thursday Music Club of Greater Grand Forks, who will become the new Prairie Rose Notes editor starting this summer.

I wish her well, Odee Maier
DATES TO REMEMBER

June 23-30 2013           NFMC 57th Biennial Convention, Greenville, South Carolina
July 18-20, 2013          Junior Composers/NCR meeting, University of Minnesota School of Music
July 26, 2013             NDFMC Federation Day, International Music Camp, Bottineau MN
September 21, 2013        NDFMC Fall Board Meeting, possibly in Jamestown
June 24-28, 2014          NFMC Conference, Sheraton Airport Hotel, Portland, OR
June 16-20, 2015          NFMC/NDFMC Biennial Conventions, Fargo Holiday Inn, Fargo, ND