

MINUTES OF SFBAC NATS

Meeting held May 24, 2009 at the home of Wendy Hillhouse

Meeting called to order at 2:30 PM by President Wendy Hillhouse

Present: Dorothy Barnhouse, Grace Johnson, Wendy Hillhouse, Tina Baird and past president Sharon Kaye

President's Report:

The SFBAC annual Meeting will be held at 4:30 PM at the San Francisco Conservatory. Annual meeting attendees will be able to attend also the Lieder Alive master class given by Marilyn Horne at 6 PM at the Conservatory.

Wendy suggested that we have a chapter party in July, however Sunday, August 2, the day before the beginning of the August workshop, was determined to be the best day for the party.

There is a necessity for a review of this year's Singing Festival. The date of this review is TBA, and will be given by e-mail to all interested members.

The Performance Workshop for Singers will be August 3-7 at the MCCPA in Santa Clara. Wendy Hillhouse and Sharon Kaye will be co-chairs. A panel of South Bay teachers and directors is to be recruited, and 2 accompanists will be hired. Tuition will cover the cost of the program.

Sue Field is looking for a replacement for her position of program chair. Joshua Elder will be replaced by Anja Strauss as newsletter editor.

All Board members are urged to make a binder describing the position he/she holds in detail (particularly logistic detail) which can be given to the next person to hold that position.

SF State would like for us to use them again for our Singing Festival.

The next Board meeting will be Sunday, August 9 at 3:00 - 4:30 PM. Possible dates for future board meetings were discussed. The following suggestions will be sent to the Board for comments: Oct. 4, Jan. 24, March 14 and May 2.

Recitals Report: Not much info to report. I am currently in contact with 3 possible new Recital Coordinators. Hopefully we will have some new venues to look forward to. Also, with a record number of Festival participants, I still wonder why more of these singers are not performing in our student recitals? I will keep on posing this question to the chapter.

Membership report: To date we have 144 active members, 12 of whom have emeritus status. Appreciation is expressed to Dorothy Barnhouse who phoned 41 members who had not paid by the February 1 deadline for membership renewal. Of these 15 paid right away, 10 promised to pay (3 still unpaid), 5 wanted to let membership lapse, 7 initiated application for emeritus status. We gained 11 new members in 2008-2009; they will be listed in the new directory. It was suggested that street addresses be included in the Directory in its next edition. There are several concerns: the need to remind members to pay their dues on time; the need to be more consistent about when to drop members who have not paid dues; the problems caused by confusing and inconsistent membership reports from national NATS; the need for a better system for depositing dues checks.

Newsletter report: Apologies that the May newsletter was late. The June Newsletter will cover June, July and August and will be my last newsletter. Even though I'm sorry that I have

to leave the post early, I am very glad that I took it on! I want to encourage other members to try serving on the Board, to do their part and get involved, etc. It has been a learning experience for me, I certainly am glad that I did it and I have every intention of coming back to work on the Board (perhaps in a different position) when my family / professional life become more balanced. I have a much deeper appreciation for the work that goes into our Association - thank you all! -Joshua Elder, Newsletter Editor

Program report: We held Spring Workshop - Tricks of the Trade - on May 17 at Peace Lutheran Church in Danville. Thanks to Lucy Beck and Wendy Hillhouse for moderating our workshop. Attenders included Theresa Cardinale, Aleicia Byrnes, Eric Howe, Mary Langenberg, Eleanor Cohen, Sue Field, Lucy Beck and Wendy Hillhouse. Tricks were explained and demonstrated and then tested by the group. The tricks included those to aid posture and add energy to performance. There were also tricks relating to jaw function, resonance, vowels and more. An audio recording was made, using Wendy's Zoom recorder. The format is mp3. Mike Field has boosted up the sound and we hope that this recording will be made available to all members, on our website soon. Sue Field, Program Chair

Webmaster's report: I continue to work on the website update timeline which still exists, and is slowly (more slowly than I thought possible) being ticked off. Although I announced my desire to retire as the webmaster, I'm with you through the end of my term which means at least another year. I have already spoken to Anja and will contact Corey and Deborah about joining my webmaster committee this summer so they can be in on the website updates and intern with intent to run for the Board next June. With the changes I'm making to the site, it will be easier to maintain and update which should make it easier for anyone to keep updated in the future. My immediate tasks are to make the audio recording from the spring symposium available for download to our membership, and to activate the links to websites on the directory. Meghan Dibble, Webmaster

Treasurer's report: SFBAC is financially in good shape. Dorothy Barnhouse, Treasurer

Our Fall Workshop will be held in October. Suggested topic is a repeat of the Inside Admissions that was so successful in fall 2007.

February 1 is the deadline for payment of annual dues.

It was determined that Singing Festival prizes for the Cohen, Barlow, Swift and Harvey winners should all be equal. This year's prizes were set at \$300. It was agreed that in future there should be a Singing Festival budget drawn up in advance of the event. The workshop given by Janet Campbell at this year's Festival is available on our website, thanks to Sharon Kaye.

Graphics design is needed for our DVD of Oren Brown.

Before the meeting Tina sent a proposal to the Board Google Group requesting additional funding for the "Air Is A Gift" DVD. There was a discussion about whether or not this was appropriate for SFBAC-NATS to consider. After the discussion, Tina decided not to submit the proposal to the full board for a vote.

Meeting adjourned at 4:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Tina Baird, Recording Secretary