



ANNUAL REPORT 2010 PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Rather than a month-by-month report as usual, this time it will be by event.

One of our goals has been to provide as many workshops as possible for the professional development of our members and the education of our students and general community. This year the PEIRMTA managed to provide **five workshops**, the most ever. Our hope is that by providing valuable workshops, we will attract new members:

- ***Choosing a Piano***, by PEI piano tuner and technician Mike Klomp; open to the public. This included what to look and listen for in choosing a new or second hand piano, what sort of repairs might be needed, etc. This was a great workshop!! - very useful and enjoyable (Mike is very humorous!). He gave us each a well-organized handout listing the topics covered, some information on each, and room to add notes because he had lots to say or demonstrate on each topic.

- ***Alexander Technique***, by David Langstroth of Halifax; open to the public. Frederick Matthias Alexander (b. 1869) originally developed this technique of body awareness and the prevention and cure of physical problems (especially important for musicians). Using volunteers, David gave us an insight into what would be involved in a lesson on AT with him. Of course, certainly more than one lesson would be required to completely learn the technique, but we all emerged with better posture and some of us bought a book that he and Tasha Miller had written, entitled *The Alexander Technique; Freedom in thought and action*.

- ***Taxes and Studio Management***, by Jennifer Dunn, CA, assisted by Cyrilla Saunders, Vice President, RBC Dominion Securities (who also studies music); for members only. This was an extremely valuable workshop!!

- ***Baroque Dance Workshop***, by dance instructors Brenda Porter and Gerry Gray; limit of 24, open to members and their students first, then to the general public. This was another really enjoyable workshop, well taught. We learned 2 English Country Dances, to the music of Purcell. Everyone, including the teachers, agreed that this will be an annual event.

- ***Learning Styles and Teaching Students with Learning Disabilities*** (in the independent music studio); by Dr. Carla DiGiorgio, Department of Education, UPEI; for members only. (This will happen on the morning of our Annual Meeting, June 12.)

Our **Young Musicians Series** included 8 recitals, most of which took place in UPEI's Dr. Steel Recital Hall with its 9 foot Steinway concert grand. One of these was a special recital in honour of **Canada Music Week®**. There was also an all-day **Performathon** to help raise money for Festival awards. Two pot-luck **Socials for Adult Students and Teachers** were held in private homes. These are growing in popularity and are now averaging over 20 participants compared to 12 three years ago. One of those students has taken it upon herself to organize another performance opportunity at a church hall to include family and friends.

A **Composition Competition** was also held in honour of Canada Music Week®. An **Awards Ceremony** allowed an appreciative audience to hear all the winning compositions, and four of those were forwarded to **CFMTA's national Canda Music Week ® Music Writing Competition**.

Six (of seven) monthly **Pedagogy Meetings** were held. Two social events for members took place: **Teachers on the Town** and **Dinner Out**. Our Olympic Challenge (for technique) had to be cancelled owing to lack of sufficient entries. There is interest in starting a research group similar to that of the NSRMTA. We had four **Executive Meetings**. Our **Annual Meeting** included a workshop (mentioned above) and a Business Lunch. For her outstanding work with the Festival over the years for the benefit of all students and their teachers, Kay Linkletter was presented with a plaque from the PEIRMTA by Life Member, Louise Pritchard, whose idea it was to honour Kay. The PEIRMTA will also give an annual Festival scholarship of \$100 in Kay's name. I too was totally surprised and touched to receive a plaque in recognition of my years of service to the PEIRMTA - my gratitude to you all!!

We currently have 32 members. Past President Suzanne Campbell and Secretary Katherine Murley will be our first and second Delegates respectively to CFMTA's meetings in Toronto in July.

This will be my last report as President of the PEIRMTA. My thanks go out to each of you on the Executive over the past four years for your reliability in carrying out your duties - it's been a pleasure to work with such a great team!! I'd also like to thank each PEIRMTA Member for your participation, helpful suggestions and words of encouragement. **Together we have experienced the privilege and responsibility** of providing substantial learning opportunities for our students, each other, and the general community. We, our students and their families have contributed generously to Awards in the four Local, and Kiwanis Provincial, Music Festivals. Through the CFMTA, we continue to help improve music education in our region and in Canada as a whole. **May the PEIRMTA continue to go from strength to strength!**

Respectfully submitted,
Jane Naylor