

NEMFA WEB NEWS-BULLETIN

New England Music Festival Association, Inc. February 2010 Vol. LXXIV, No. 2

NEMFA OFFICERS 2009-2010

President, Librarian FRANK A. WHITCOMB Burlington High School 52 Institute Road, Burlington, VT 05401 802.734.2871 (H) 802.864.8590 (O) 802.864.8590 (O) 802.864.8408 (O Fax) facm@aol.com (H e-Mail) fwhitcom@bodvt.org (O e-Mail)

President-Elect SAL CICCIARELLA 5 Jamestown Road, 5omers, CT 06071 860.729.749.7693 (H) 860.729.4410 (C) scicciarella@cox.net (H e-Mail)

Executive Secretary-Treasurer WILLIAM E. SITTARD 73 Beauchamp Terrace, Chicopee, MA 01020 (please note change) 413.592.9197 (H) 413.594.9636 (H Fax) 413.478.7030 (O) bsittard@verizon.net (H e-Mail)

Recording Secretary DONALD L. HERMANCE 35 Briarwood Lane, Scituate, MA 02066 781.545.2104 (H) donmar23@verizon.net (H e-Mail)

Solo & Ensemble Festival Co-Coordinator ROBERT E. GATTIE Hartford High School 37 Highland Avenue, White River Junction, VT 05001 603.675.5960(H) 802.295.8620x136(O) 802.295.8611 (Fax) gattier@hartfordschools.net (O e-Mail)

Solo & Ensemble Festival Co-Coordinator STEFFEN PARKER 141 Butternut Road, Williston, VT 05495 802.878.2898 (H) 802.343.6282 (O) sparker@vpaonline.org (S&E e-Mail)

Band Manager
ERICA J. HOWARD
Hartford High School
37 Highland Avenue,
White River Junction, VT 05001
603.643.5036 (H)
802.295.8620x136(O)
603.738.4044 (Cell)
howarde@hartfordschools.net (O e-Mail)
ericajhoward@gmail.com (H e-Mail)

Chorus Manager LAURA HILTON Valley Regional High School 256 Kelsey Hill Road, Deep River, CT 06417 203.623.6651 (H) 860.526.5328 (O) 860.526.8123 (O Fax) Ihilton@vrhs.org (O e-Mail)

Orchestra Manager GAIL REYNOLDS Glastonbury High School (ret.) 56 Harvest Hill Road, Kensington, CT 06037 860.829.0640 (H) 860.543.2992 (Cell) reynoldsgail@comcast.net (O e-Mail)

Immediate Past-President
JOHN L. KUHNER
Cheshire Public Schools
525 South Main Street,
Cheshire, CT 06410
203.250.2534 (O)
203.250.2534 (O)
203.250.2563 (O Fax)
jkuhner@cheshirect.org (O e-Mail)
john.kuhner@yahoo.com (H e-Mail))

Bulletin Editor, Archivist, Web Site Manager THOMAS E. REYNOLDS The Bromfield School 14 Massachusetts Avenue, Harvard, MA 01451 617.529-9402 (H) 978-456-4152x571 (O) 978-456-3013 (O Fax) treynol@worldpath.net (H e-Mail)

NEMFA WEB NEWS-BULLETIN

News and Weblog of the New England Music Festival Association, Inc.

President's Notes

February 23, 2010 in <u>President's Notes</u> | <u>Leave a comment</u> Dear Colleagues,

Once again our New England Music Festival Concert Festival is upon us; just a few weeks away. Much has transpired since September; we have had several Executive Board meetings and two weekends of our Solo & Ensemble Festival.



Frank Whitcomb, NEMFA President

Issues have been discussed, decisions made, and finally the Executive Board and managers stayed up very late on the evening of December 12th making the final selections of students that would comprise our festival band, chorus and orchestra this year. Forms have been mailed in by directors, fees have been collected, and substitutions have been made for those students that were not able to accept the invitation to be part of this year's festival. Yes, a lot of work has been done by all, and now we approach the final product; the annual goal that acts as the culmination of all our efforts for the year.

Students will come together and rehearse under outstanding conductors, and they will put in many hours of work over the course of three days and present a culminating performance on Saturday afternoon, March 20, 2010. Members of the New England Music Festival Association will again come together to observe rehearsals and converse with colleagues. It is an annual ritual with us, much like the migration of birds south in the winter and north again in the spring. It is as natural as the seasons and a necessary part of our annual schedule.

I have been involved with this organization for 32 years, and every year I anticipate this weekend with excitement and enthusiasm, both for me and for the students that have been privileged to make the cut and be invited to participate. Part of this annual ritual is the preparation of the music and of course the ride to the host school in vans or a bus. Students chat and sing, and the energy is fresh and alive and absolutely necessary at this time of year.

One of the parts of this festival that I particularly relish is the hour leading up to the first organizational meeting of everyone as we give out instructions and set the tone for the three days to come. I love watching our membership meet and shake hands once again, and I love to watch the students come in, only to see an old friend from last year and shriek with excitement as they give each other a huge hug. Yes, these students get excited about this festival, and about the prospect of making music with other like minded young musicians. They anticipate a new conductor every year and revel in the new music they are about to perform. And through all the hustle and bustle of those first hours there is anticipation and promise; spring is in the air, and spring brings rebirth and joy. Our New England Music Festival Association is indeed a vital part of our spring ritual, and I for one would not feel complete without being a part of this annual event.

I look forward to seeing you all in Burlington, Connecticut, and anticipate a great reunion of old friends and new friends, talented young musicians and great music. We are indeed all connected by music, and through it we share a common bond.

Sincerely, *Frank Whitcomb*NEMFA President and Librarian

Rehearsal/Concert Schedule for 83rd NEMFA Concert Festival

February 14, 2010 in Concert Festival

The following is the most recent schedule of events available for the upcoming 83rd New England Music Festival Concert Festival to be held at Lewis S. Mills High School in Burlington and Harwinton, Connecticut

Thursday, March 18, 2010

ALL 12:00-1:30 Registration and luggage drop off LSM Gym 1:30-2:15 General Meeting Auditorium 2:30 p.m. Students report to rehearsal rooms

BAND 2:30 p.m. Rehearsal HB Band Room 5:00 p.m. Dinner LSM Cafeteria 5:45 p.m. Rehearsal HB Band Room 8:30 p.m. Meet host families, go home LSM Gym

ORCHESTRA 2:30 p.m. Rehearsal LSM Band Room 5:30 p.m. Dinner HB Cafeteria 6:15 p.m. Rehearsal LSM Band Room 8:30 p.m. Meet host families, go home LSM Gym

CHORUS 2:30 p.m. Rehearsal Auditorium 6:00 p.m. Dinner LSM Cafeteria 6:45 p.m. Rehearsal Auditorium 8:30 p.m. Meet host families, go home LSM Gym

DIRECTORS All Day Director's Hospitality Room LSM Chorus Room

OTHER 7:30 p.m. Host Family Meeting LSM Gym

Friday, March 19, 2010

BAND 9:00 a.m. Rehearsal HB Band Room 12:30 p.m. Lunch LSM Cafeteria 1:15 p.m. Rehearsal HB Band Room 4:45 p.m. Concert for students Auditorium 5:30 p.m. Dinner LSM Cafeteria 6:15 p.m. Rehearsal HB Band Room 8:30 p.m. Meet host families, go home LSM Gym

ORCHESTRA 9:00 a.m. Rehearsal LSM Band Room 12:00 p.m. Lunch HB Cafeteria 12:45 p.m. Rehearsal LSM Band Room 4:45 p.m. Concert for students Auditorium 5:30 p.m. Dinner HB Cafeteria 6:15 p.m. Rehearsal LSM Band Room 8:30 p.m. Meet host families, go home LSM Gym

CHORUS 9:00 a.m. Rehearsal Auditorium 11:30 a.m. Lunch LSM Cafeteria 12:15 p.m. Rehearsal Auditorium 4:00 p.m. Dinner LSM Cafeteria 4:45 p.m. Possible concert for students Auditorium 5:30 p.m. Rehearsal Auditorium 8:30 p.m. Meet host families, go home LSM Gym

DIRECTORS All Day Director's Hospitality Room LSM Chorus Room 9:15 a.m. Past President's Meeting HB Chorus Room 10:15 a.m. Executive Board Meeting HB Chorus Room 2:30 p.m. Annual Director's Meeting HB Chorus Room

Saturday, March 20, 2010

BAND 8:30 a.m. Drop off luggage LSM Gym 9:00 a.m. Rehearsal Auditorium 10:45 a.m. Rehearsal HB Band Room 12:30 p.m. Lunch LSM Cafeteria 1:15 p.m. Change for Concert LSM Gym Lockers 1:30 p.m. Band Warm-ups HB Band Room 2:00 p.m. CONCERT Auditorium (band held in HB bandroom) 3:15 p.m. Collect luggage and meet parents LSM Gym

ORCHESTRA 8:30 a.m. Drop off luggage LSM Gym 9:00 a.m. Rehearsal LSM Band Room 10:45 a.m. Rehearsal Auditorium 12:30 p.m. Lunch HB Cafeteria 1:15 p.m. Change

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for Concert LSM Gym Lockers 1:30 p.m. Orchestra Warm-ups Auditorium 2:00 p.m. CONCERT Auditorium (to LSM band room at finish) 3:15 p.m. Collect luggage and meet parents LSM Gym

CHORUS 10:00 a.m. Drop off luggage LSM Gym 10:30 a.m. Rehearsal LSM Gym 1:30 p.m. Lunch LSM Cafeteria 2:30 p.m. Possible concert for chorus students LSM Gym 3:30 p.m. Change for Concert LSM Gym Lockers 3:45 p.m. Chorus Warm-ups LSM Gym 4:30 p.m. CONCERT Auditorium 5:30 p.m. Collect luggage and meet parents LSM Gym

Directions to Lewis S. Mills High School

February 14, 2010 in Concert Festival 83rd New England Music Festival Directions to Lewis S. Mills High School

From Hartford and Eastern Connecticut

Take I-84 west to Exit 39 (Route 4, Farmington). Follow Route 4 (approximately 13 miles) to Burlington. (You will pass through Farmington center and Unionville center). Take a left at the junction of Routes 4 and 179. Go to second traffic light. Take a right onto Lyon Road. Take the second driveway for Lewis S. Mills High School.

From Waterbury and Western Connecticut

Take Route 8 to Exit 42 (Route 118, Harwinton). Follow Route 118 East for 2 ½ miles to junction of Routes 118 and 4 (first traffic light). Continue straight on Route 4 past the intersection of Route 72 and Route 4. At the next traffic light, take a left on to Lyon Road. Take the second driveway for Lewis S. Mills High School.

From Bristol, Connecticut

Take Route 69 to Route 4. A gas station will be on your right. Take a left and go to next traffic light. This will be Lyon Road. Take a right on Lyon Road. Take the second driveway for Lewis S. Mills High School.

Please note our phone numbers:

Lewis S. Mills High School: (860) 673-0423 John A. Deeb, Coordinator of Fine Arts/Director of Bands (5419) David Miller, Choral Director/Classroom Music Instructor (5179)

83rd NEMFA Concert Festival Headquarters Hotel Information – 2010

February 14, 2010 in Concert Festival | Leave a comment

83rd New England Music FESTIVAL Lewis S. Mills High School, Burlington CT – Host Headquarters Hotel Reservations

\$99.00/night Special NEMFA Rate! Cut-off for special rate is February 25, 2010! Marriott Hartford Farmington - 15 Farm Springs Road, Farmington, CT 06032 - Local Tel.: 860.678.1000

See you at the Marriott Hartford Farmington 83rd NEMFA Concert Festival – March 18-20, 2010 For reservations, call 800.228.9290 **Specify "New England Music Festival" or "NEMFA"**

83rd NEMFA Concert Festival Ticket Ordering

February 14, 2010 in Concert Festival | Leave a comment 83rd New England Music Festival 2010 Concert Tickets* March 20, 2010

- 1. To purchase online using a credit or debit card please go to: www.region10finearts.org and click the link on the left for "2010 NE Music Festival"
- 2. You may mail completed form with check now to: NEMFA Ticket Order c/o Janis Woodward 62 Stagecoach Rd. Burlington, CT 06013
- 3. Advance orders will be taken if received by March 18. After that orders (by check or cash) will be taken the evening of the performance depending upon availability.

Name)	Home phone (
Street Address	
State Zip Email A	ddress
School (if applicable)	
Tickets for Band/Orchestra (2:00 p.m.) \$10.00 each =) tickets @
Tickets for Chorus (4:30 p.m.) =	tickets @ \$10.00 each
COMBINED Tickets (for both concerts) \$15.00 each =	tickets @

*ALL TICKET ORDERS WILL BE HELD AT THE DOOR FOR PICK-UP AT THE PERFORMANCE.

Please make checks payable to "Friends of the LSM Band".

For additional information please contact Janis Woodward by email at: nemfatickets@region10finearts.org

83rd NEMFA Concert Festival Recording Form

February 14, 2010 in Concert Festival | Leave a comment 83rd New England Music Festival 2010 CD Order Form

- 2 CD set with recordings of 2010 Band, Orchestra, and Chorus. Compact disc recordings of the 2010 New England Music Festival performance are available for purchase and can be ordered in the following ways:
- 1. To purchase online using a credit or debit card please go to: www.region10finearts.org and click the link on the left for "2010 NE Music Festival"
- 2. You may mail completed form with check now to: NEMFA CD/T-Shirt Order c/o Marie Simard 27 Circle Drive Burlington, CT 06013
- 3. In addition, orders (by check or cash) will be taken the evening of the performance

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Please ma	ke checks paya	able to "Friends of the	LSM Band".

For additional information please contact Marie Simard by email at: nemfacd-shirt@region10finearts.org

Secretary's Report

February 14, 2010 in Secretary's Report | 2 comments

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING, GLASTONBURY, CT DECEMBER 11, 2009



Donald L. Hermance, NEMFA Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 PM by President Frank Whitcomb. Also present were: Gail Reynolds, Sal Cicciarella, Tom Reynolds, Steffen Parker, Laura Hilton, John Kuhner, Bill Sittard, Erica Howard, and Rob Gattie. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as read.

The Treasurer's report was accepted as amended and published. Bill Sittard reported on the status of the Association's accounts.

Erica Howard, Band Manager, reported that all was going well with the Concert Band details. `

Gail Reynolds, Orchestra Manager, reported that all the bowings in the Concert program were available online. She also presented her suggestions as to concert dress for orchestra members.

Motion by Steffen Parker: That all concert attire shall be either all black, or black and white, and that no cellphones or texting instruments shall be in the hands of students during rehearsals or concerts. Any such instruments brought to these events shall be collected, and then returned at the end of the events. Motion passed unanimously.

In addition, it was noted that the stage setup was acceptable, and that enough music stands would be available.

Laura Hilton, Chorus Manager, reported that the music folders were ready, there followed a discussion concerning the proposal of a double choir, and the assignments to Soprano 1 & 2, and Tenor 1 & 2 parts. Rob Gattie agreed to assist with the piano accompaniment.

Laura also proposed adding the following statement to the student contract: "I hereby grant NEMFA Inc. permission and the right to use, reproduce, and/or distribute photography, video recordings, and sound recordings of my child, without compensation or approval rights." The Executive Board approved of this action.

Sal Cicciarella commented on the practice during meetings of allowing repetitious comments, with a discussion of this observation following.

Frank Whitcomb assured that the library listings are accurate.

Rob Gattie, Co-Coordinator of the Solo and Ensemble

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Festivals, reported that only four categories required different adjudicators at each site. Minor problems were also discussed, but the adjudications went quite smoothly.

Steffen Parker, Co-Coordinator of the Solo and Ensemble Festivals, reported that the technology involved was working "extremely well". He also reported that there were more teachers and students at the East site, which accommodated 65 students. He intends to query the adjudicators on the use of overly long adjudication selections and make any necessary changes.

Tom Reynolds asked what the Association policy was on what persons may attend the adjudications as observers. It was agreed that only teachers and fellow students would be allowed in the audition rooms.

President Whitcomb discussed the problem raised by a member of the Association regarding the non-acceptance of his student for reasons of health, with a general discussion of the action taken by the Board.

Tom Reynolds, Editor of the Bulletin, reported that the next issue of the Bulletin will be published next month.

The availability of music contained on the audition lists was discussed.

In light of Steffen Parker's suggestion, it was agreed that it be recommended to conductors of the Concert Festival that Association members be considered for utilization whenever instrumentalists are sought to accompany Concert Festival organizations.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald L. Hermance

Recording Secretary

Remember, NEMFA is now at 73 Beauchamp Terrace, Chicopee, MA 01020!

February 14, 2010 in Concert Festival, Officers, Solo/Ensemble, What's New | Leave a comment NEMFA Executive-Secretary-Treasurer Bill Sittard wants to remind everyone to check with school business offices to be certain that they have changed the NEMFA mailing address to: "New England Music Festival Association, Inc., c/o William E. Sittard, Executive Secretary-Treasurer, 73 Beauchamp Terrace, Chicopee, Massachusetts 01020". Mail sent to his old Keith Street address has passed the expiration date with the Post Office and WILL BE RETURNED to the sender. Please check out the correct address in your schools to make certain that everything is sent where it belongs.

NEMFA Revised Dress Code (rev. 6 June 2009)

February 14, 2010 in Concert Festival, Solo/Ensemble | Leave a comment

Revised Dress Code (June 6, 2009)

The dress code for the Concert Festival shall be:

<u>Men</u> - Dark suits (black preferred), dark dress shoes (black preferred), dark socks (black preferred), long solid tie (black preferred) and collared white shirt. No sport shoes. All concert dress should be in conservative good taste.

<u>Women</u> - White elbow length sleeved blouses (no bare midriffs), long (full length) solid black skirts or solid black dress pants*, black hose and black shoes. No sport shoes. All concert dress should be in conservative good taste.

* No capri's or leggings. All pants and skirts should be tailored to the top of the shoe.

NEMFA String Seating Policy (voted 9/12/2009)

February 14, 2010 in Concert Festival | Leave a comment NEMFA STRING SEATING POLICY (approved 9/12/2009)

EFFECTIVE for the 2010 CONCERT FESTIVAL

POLICY

String students' Solo & Ensemble Festival scores will be used for initial seating placement, but seating may be reassigned at the Festival.

Students, sponsors and/or directors are responsible for acquainting themselves with this policy and preparing accordingly. *

FIRST CHAIR SELECTION POLICY & PROCEDURE:

Section leaders will be decided at the festival through an audition process. At the first rehearsal, all strings will be seated in score order within their assigned sections. The first chairs will be vacant. During the first rehearsal, players who wish to audition for first chair will submit their names to the Orchestra Manager. Auditions will be held as soon as possible, probably commencing during the first hour of rehearsal. Excerpts from the concert music will be used for the audition. First chairs will be announced after all auditions are complete. After the first chair is assigned, the section will fill in the remaining seats in score order.

In the event that no student(s) auditions for first chair, the seating based upon score will be used.

NON-FIRST CHAIR SEATING POLICY

Students may be moved within their section for any of the following reasons:

- Reseating resulting from the adjustment made to accommodate the student who wins first chair. Students may be reseated by chair or by stand (depending on divisi requirements).
- If a student is found to be noticeably less prepared than surrounding students, and demonstrates little progress within the first rehearsal, the student may be reseated further back in the section at the discretion of the Conductor and/or the NEMFA Orchestra Manager. This will be done without an audition.
- Absenteeism may result in students being reassigned further up either by chair or by stand (depending on divisi requirements).
- * Students, directors, sponsors or parents may not dispute seating changes or request seating re-auditions. No student

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may request to audition for a higher seat within their section, other than first chair. There are no challenges.

Upcoming NEMFA Concert Festival Dates

September 11, 2009 in Calendar | 1 comment March 18-20, 2010

March 17-19, 2011

March 15-17, 2012

2009-2010 NEMFA Calendar

September 11, 2009 in Calendar | 1 comment

June 6, 2009 — Meeting, 10:00 A.M. Managers Must

Present: Holiday Inn, Boxborough, MA 1. Conductors to be
hired 2. Programs finalized for ordering music

September 12, 2009 — Meeting, 10:00 A.M. at <u>Lewis S. Mills High School</u> **26 Lyon Road, Burlington, CT 06013,** Solo & Ensemble Festival Planning, Concert Festival Planning

October 30, 2009 — ELECTRONIC DEADLINE Solo & Ensemble Apps. Due to Steffen Parker. \$100.00 Late Fee per school/sponsor. After 11/6/09, no apps. accepted.

November 6, 2009 — POSTMARK DEADLINE Mail (Certified) Completed Hard Copy Invoice, Student List & Payment* to Bill Sittard. *Pymt. Includes: Dues & S&E Fees or School P.O. guaranteeing pymt.

December 5, 2009 — **Solo & Ensemble Festival** — **Eastern Site** University of Southern Maine, Gorham, ME

December 5, 2009 — Solo & Ensemble Festival — Northern Site, Hartford High School, White River Junction, VT, Robert E. Gattie, Site Host

December 11, 2009 — Meeting, 7:30 P.M. Hilton Garden Inn (860.659.1025), 85 Glastonbury Boulevard, Glastonbury, CT 06033. Review Solo & Ensemble Festival and Concert Festival Procedures, Rules and Regulations

December 12, 2009 — Solo & Ensemble Festival — Southern Site, Smith Middle School (860.652.7040), 216
Addison Road, Glastonbury, CT 06033. Patricia Lignelli, Site Host

January 15, 2010 — **Electronic Confirm. Deadline.** Log in. Confirm participation of each student. Print out the Acceptance/Invoice Form. Amt. due auto adjusts.

January 22, 2010 — POSTMARK DEADLINE. Mail (Certified) Completed* Conc. Fest. Material to Bill Sittard & Include: 1. Pymt. of Fees or School P.O. guaranteeing payment. 2. Acceptance-Invoice Form. 3. Student Agreement/Health Forms. 4. Permission Forms. 5. Return unused music. \$100.00 Late Fee per school/sponsor. After 2/1/10 no forms accepted and student participation denied. *Incomplete forms incur \$10.00 Reprocessing Fee.

March 18-20, 2010 — Concert Festival, Lewis S. Mills High School, 26 Lyon Road, Burlington, CT 06013 — John Deeb, Host

June 5, 2010 — Meeting, 10:00 A.M. Holiday Inn, Adams

Road, Boxborough, MA 01719. Managers Must Present: 1. Conductors to be hired 2. Programs finalized for ordering music

Notice to all NEMFA members-Please Read

September 10, 2009 in Concert Festival, What's New | 1 comment

Welcome to the NEMFA Web News-Bulletin! As this is written in a weblog format, you may respond to individual articles by typing in a comment wherever a link says "No Comments" or "1 (or more) Comments". All words in BLUE function as **links**. Immediately beneath each title of each article, there is the **Date** when the article was posted (in gray), an Article Category (in Blue) that links you to other articles in the weblog with the same category, and a Comments link (in Blue). If you wish to post a comment to an article you have just read, simply click on this blue "Comments" link (it might also say "No Comments") and type whatever comments you feel are appropriate and relevant to what has been presented in the article. Please remember that the FIRST comments that you type in will not be post to the weblog right away until they have been authorized by the editor. After you have made your FIRST comments, you should be able to type in comments that post right away and may be seen by all readers.

There is more than one page to this weblog. Click on "Previous Entries", the BLUE link that is at the BOTTOM of the weblog. Then, you will see what is on the second page. Hitting "Next Entries" at the BOTTOM of the second page will bring you back here to page one.

This format will give you a chance to interact with the information presented...hopefully, it will stimulate some discussion among members. By the way, you can still print this Bulletin and get all of the articles that appear in the Right Column as a hard copy, just like you have always been able to. You'll notice that there is even a Poll in which you can participate at the bottom of the left column that gives you a vote in how long you have been with NEMFA. Please let me know what you think...good or bad.

Sincerely,

Thomas Reynolds, Editor

NEMFA Archives News

September 10, 2009 in Archives | 1 comment

You might remember that at the beginning of June I was working on the NEMFA archives collection that is being stored at the Harvard, Massachusetts Public Library. Old programs back to 1937 with more years ever since are being filed along with old Bulletins. The collection, known as the John R. Hansen Memorial Archives of the New England Music Festival Association, has been organized by member of the staff of the Harvard Public Library. Programs and Bulletins are stored chronologically in boxes in a climate-controlled historical room in the Harvard Public Library, The hours of operation of the Harvard Public Library, Route 111, Harvard, Massachusetts 01451 are as follows:

Library Hours - Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday - 10:00 - 9:00

Friday Saturday - 10:00 - 5:00 10:00 - 4:00

(Sat. 10:00 - 2:00 in June, July & August)

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Sunday closed

Directions to the Harvard Public Library - From Route 2, take Exit 38 (Rts. 110/111) toward Harvard Common. Continue through the red blinking light on 111S. Past the school zone, take a right onto Pond Rd. The Library is on the right with parking available in front of the entrance to the building.

From Route 495, take Exit 28 (Rte. 111) and go toward Harvard. Continue on Route 111 toward the center of Harvard. Upon entering the school zone, take a left onto Pond Road. The Library is on the right with parking available in front of the entrance to the building.

I am still in search of any printed materials regarding any NEMFA concerts or related activities from 1928 to 1939, although I would welcome other materials that you, our membership, might come up with that you would deem to be worthy of saving in our archives.

As of 1 September 2008, the following Concert Festival Programs are not in our possession in the archives at the Harvard Public Library: 1928-1935, 1937, 1939, 1940, and 1941. The following Major Organizations Festival programs are not in our possession as well: 1939, 1940, 1941, 1952, 1953, 1954, 1955, 1956 and 1957. Additionally, I would welcome the donation of any recordings of past NEMFA concerts. Right now, our collection only includes concerts from the late 1990's to the present.

Another area that we have very little on records is that of old photographs. Certainly, photographs tell a million stories about our past festivals, as well as providing some insight into the daily life going on around those festivals at the time the photographs were taken.

The NEMFA Heritage Book published in 2007 will be updated with current officers and festival locations added as a short addenda to the present book. I am presently working on these addenda and hope to have it completed shortly. If you haven't yet seen the NEMFA Heritage Book, there are still plenty available. Remember, that each book is only \$10.00 eachand may be obtained by sending a check of \$10.00 (payable to "NEMFA") plus \$2.50 shipping and handling to the following address:

New England Music Festival - Heritage Book, PO Box 102, Templeton, Massachusetts 01468

If you would like to submit an article for this Bulletin regarding NEMFA-related or music education-related topics, please feel free to send it to me via e-mail at treynold@worldpath.net or via snail mail at NEMFA News-Bulletin, PO Box 102, Templeton, MA 01468.

Cordially,

Thomas E. Reynolds

Editor, NEMFA News-Bulletin

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