

**VCDA BUSINESS MEETING  
VMEA Conference–The Homestead  
Friday, November 21, 2008**

**I. Call to Order**

VCDA President, Sherri Matthews, called the meeting to order at 5:22p.m.

**II. Introduction of Officers**

President–Sherri Matthews

Vice President–Lois Castonguay

President-Elect–Lisa Pennington

Treasurer–Jen Penserga

Parliamentarian–Charlotte Smith

Secretary–Mandi Townley

**III. Review of Motion and Voting**

Charlotte Smith stated that only members may vote and that motions must be made in writing on the forms which were available.

**IV. Roll Call by Districts**

District	Attendance	Chair		District	Attendance	Chair
I	9	yes		IX	18	yes
II	5	yes		X	7	no
III	5	yes		XI	6	yes
IV	6	yes		XII	13	no
V	5	yes		XIII	2	yes
VI	19	yes		XIV	2	yes
VII	9	yes		XV	11	yes
VIII	3	no		XVI	11	no

**V. Reports**

A. The Secretary’s written minutes from the April VCDA business meeting were amended. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Phillip Kiersted and the second was made by Dorothy Logan. The motion passed.

B. The Treasurer’s report was presented by Jen Penserga. The balances are \$51,555.16 in the General Fund, \$14,817.09 in Certificates of Deposit, and -\$4170.03 in the All-Virginia Fund. The All-VA fund is currently in the red because we’ve had to place deposits and pay for things, but have not started collecting All-VA fees yet. The total account balance is \$62,202.22. The report was approved.

**VI. Old Business**

**A. Website- Sherri**

Please visit the VCDA website! The website is very comprehensive. Many questions can be answered by looking at the information online. It is suggested to add vcda.net to your favorites or bookmarks. School pages can also be linked to the website. A sign up sheet was passed around to obtain school choral site addresses, so that links could be

updated.

### **B. The Literature Manual Committee- Lisa and Sherri**

Lisa and Sherri have been working on the Literature Manual. They were able to remove duplicate entries and make corrections as needed. The list can be found on the website. It is sorted by composer, but can be saved to your computer and resorted by title, grade level, etc. Lisa discussed the process of adding new pieces to the manual. The committee met on Thursday afternoon and graded 300+ new pieces. They will be added to the manual and updated online by next week. Our manual now seems more comprehensive than the NY manual! Lisa recognized the manual committee members for being “awesome!” They plan to meet again during All-VA Chorus. If you would like to submit a piece, the forms can be found on the website, but wait until they’ve been revised before downloading. Please be sure to follow the instructions carefully:

1. Check the list first to make sure that it is not already listed.
2. Don’t send originals. Make 1 temporary copy for the committee to use.
3. The grading rubric used to evaluate pieces is posted online.
4. Please print, and be neat.
5. Spelling and punctuation must be accurate. There will be an appeal process.  
You must be prepared to quote the rubric to support your request.

**Special Announcement:** Beeper Coffman discussed Music In Our Schools Month. The theme for this year is “Music! Just Imagine...” There is a new hook for teachers- Students grades 7-12 can enter a composition competition. The links to the forms are available from the VMEA website. Pieces could be chosen to be included on The World’s Largest Concert Program. Deadline for entries is January 5, 2009.

### **C. Terry Hall gave an update on the Honors Choir rehearsals.**

Terry thanked all teachers for their assistance and support and adding to the success of the event. He specifically thanked the audition committee, Lois, Mandi, Charlotte, Michael, Patty, Gretchen, and Ernest for volunteering to organize Chaperone slots. Dr. Hilary Apfelstadt is super and is very complimentary on the preparation of the students. The Robert Stamback Memorial Scholarship went to DeMarco Vershaun King, a student at Magna Vista High School. The event for 2009 will again be held at The Homestead. Craig Jessop, formerly the director of The Mormon Tabernacle Choir, now head of the music department at Utah State University, will be the conductor. Regarding auditions for Honor’s Choir, there were some new procedures put into place this year. Some worked, but some still need to be tweaked. We will work on making the communication system more comprehensive to prevent people from being left out of the loop. We are pleased that we were able to save some paper using electronic communication. There is a possibility of rehearsal CDs for next year. The audition piece will be changed for next year, but will be announced later. The Honor’s concert will begin tomorrow around 2:15pm.

**Special Announcement-** Betty Tabor spoke about the Robert Stamback Award. Bob was born and raised in Roanoke, then moved to Richmond and helped to open Lake Braddock Secondary School. He was honored to open a general session at conference

with one of his choirs. Bob helped start Honor's Choir with Harriett Heath. He had a massive stroke 3 months after retiring, but still attended conference and supported music events until he passed 2 years ago. He is very deserving to have an Honor's Choir scholarship in his name. However, there is only \$1200 left in fund. Please make donations to Moe or Vinny to keep the award going for years. Also, there were only 6 applications this year, so be sure to encourage students to apply. Application information is on the website.

**Special Announcement-** Cindy Freeman spoke regarding *Notes* as the choral rep for the editorial board. *Notes* needs articles submitted by teachers. Publishing an article counts 90pts towards recertification. If you are interested in writing an article, pick up a form from Cindy or check the VMEA website for information. The spring issue of *Notes* will focus on a choral theme. Articles submitted but not used may be held on file to be published later. You will be notified if your article is not suitable for publication. You may also suggest topics of interest for possible topics.

#### **D. Honor's Choir Audition Clarification's- Lois**

We are working to use more electronic communication. We are also working on the website to include examples of previous sight-reading exercises that were used in the audition. CHANGE for next year: Keys will be random and changed from year to year. Keys chosen will be accessible for voice parts. Sight-reading rules have not changed and can be found on the website: "The exercise will be eight measures in length in common time. It will include intervals of thirds, fourths and fifths. The range can be down to "ti" and up to "la". Note and rest values from eighth to whole notes may be used, including dotted rhythms." The 2009 audition date may be changed to the second Saturday in October (October 10) to avoid SATs. The change is pending approval from Longwood. Moving the date will create time crunch for Terry on preparing event, so pay CAREFUL attention to deadlines. A box for special requests will be included in online form, so that they will be included when you register initially. Requests made on paper form will be too late.

#### **E. All-Virginia Chorus information:**

1. Massaponax High School, Shannon Forry and Joe Eveler, Hosts
2. April 23-25, 2009
3. Two hotels will be used. Homewood Suites–Dist. 1-8 and Hampton Inn–Dist. 9 -16.
4. Guest Conductor for SATB choir–Dr. Charles Robinson- UMKC Conservatory  
Guest Conductor for SSAA choir–Dr. David Brunner- U of Central Florida
5. ACDA Middle School Choir will be hosted by Erica Foreman at Thornburg Middle School. Rhonda Miller spoke about ACDA Middle School All-State. Deadline for submissions is December 8. Applications available at ACDA booth or online. Becky Tyree discussed the fiasco that occurred with acceptance letters for High School ACDA Honor's Choir. Please check the website if you submitted students for clarifications. Email if you have questions, and thanks for understanding! The Voices United Conference with David Brunner conducting was announced. Dr. Don Krudop reminded that to

submit an audition recording, you MUST be member of ACDA and it's SEPARATE from VCDA.

6. 12:00 Middle School Concert; 1:00 High School Concert

- E. **All-VA Rehearsal Commitment Form update:** Form is updated regarding sectionals and note checks. Sherri read updated form. Brief discussion occurred. The decision was made to try the new form this year, and may add stronger wording in the future as needed. The form is available online.
- F. **All-VA Packets:** Lisa Pennington will hand out All-VA packets to District Chairs today following the meeting. Thanks to Jack Ay and Musical Source for sorting and stuffing the packets and all of their work that goes above and beyond. Files and notes are included in packet or will be emailed to District Reps to be distributed. If District rep is not here, someone from District needs to pick up packet. (16 SATB and 8 SSAA folders in each district packet.)

### VIII. New Business

A. **All-VA Audition Committee report:** Lynne Babcock spoke for the committee. "Come Again Sweet Love" is the audition piece for '09 All-VA audition. Four pieces will be chosen to allow districts the choice to use the pieces for All-District Auditions as desired. A comment was made from the floor regarding concern that the selected audition piece is not challenging enough. Can the other pieces selected be more challenging to assist in showing off ability differences between students? Looking at art songs and folk songs pieces with skips, octave in range, and would be glad to consider suggestions from other teachers. Email suggestions to Lynne [lynne.babcock1@fcps.edu](mailto:lynne.babcock1@fcps.edu). Lynne stated that comments and suggestions are helpful as this new process is created. Thanks to the committee for all of their work.

B. **Bob Stamback Award: Betty Tabor-** spoke earlier in the meeting

C. **VMEA Adjudication Committee-** Charlotte McKee spoke as the VCDA rep to the new VMEA committee. The purpose is to make adjudication more consistent throughout the state. They are looking at forms and rubrics from other states. They will meet at All-VA to study and discuss their findings. If you have any rubrics or information that might help, please contact Charlotte.

D. **Closing Remarks-** The Conference Survey will be available online at [vmea.com](http://vmea.com). The planning committee welcomes ideas, comments, and suggestions. They are constantly looking for new session ideas and presenters. Please note that presenters are unpaid volunteers. Be sure to thank them! Sherri will also accept emailed suggestions.

Joe Eveler motioned that the meeting be adjourned. There were many seconds. The meeting was adjourned at 6:14pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mandi Townley, Secretary