

Suzuki Notes

Newsletter of the Idaho Suzuki Association (ISA)

November 2008

President's Corner:

Greetings, from the very crowded desk of the new president of the Idaho Suzuki Association and thank you, Wendy, for your past years of faithful service in this position!

Disks 1-4 of Suzuki Piano and Violin are playing softly on my computer speakers while I type. I'm so used to them, that I only notice when they aren't playing.

☺

When I signed up to help on the board, I didn't expect to be president, but I'll definitely be "in the loop" now. It is very exciting and there is a lot to learn and do. My vision is that we will become financially solvent over the next year, and that all of our members will experience the benefits of membership and know what is going on. We are also working hard to make our website full of information, easy to use, and up-to-date. If any of you have expertise in this area, we could sure use the help!

Finally, if you have stories about how Institute, Workshop, Festival of the Trees, or other ISA events have impacted your family, we'd like to hear about them. I'd love to hear from you personally. You can drop me a line anytime at jcmitson@msn.com.

Blessings,
Lorna Mitson

Calendar of Events

Fri., Nov. 7 4:30 p.m.

Piano Play-in
Welch's Music, Boise

Fri., Nov. 7 4:30 p.m.

Merry Music Makers rehearsal
Treasure Valley Christian Church,
Caldwell

Fri., Nov. 7 6-7 p.m.

Festival of Trees strings group lesson
Heritage Bible Church, Boise

Sat., Nov. 8 7 p.m.

Boise Tuesday Musicale's
Monster Concert
Borah High School Auditorium

Sat., Nov. 8 2 p.m.

Merry Music Makers Perform
Caldwell Retirement Homes

Th., Nov. 13 7-9 p.m.

ISA Board Meeting
Nona Haddock's home

Fri., Nov. 14 6-7 p.m.

Festival of Trees strings group lesson
Heritage Bible Church, Boise

Sat., Nov. 15

Deadline to enter
Nampa Passport International Recital

Fri., Nov. 21 6-7 p.m.

Festival of Trees strings group lesson
Heritage Bible Church, Boise

Fri., Nov. 21

Contest Deadline
Albertson's Preferred Cards

Sat., Nov. 22 9a.m. - 2 p.m.

Flute Fall Workshop and Potluck Lunch
Jennifer Myers's home

Sat., Nov. 22 11 a.m. - noon

Fred Meyer Re-Grand Opening
Meridian store

Sun., Nov. 23 11 a.m. - noon

Fred Meyer Re-Grand Opening
Meridian store

Fri., Nov. 28 11:15 a.m.

Festival of Trees strings performance
Boise Center on the Grove

Sat., Nov. 29 11 a.m. - noon

Fred Meyer Re-Grand Opening
Glenwood store

Sun., Nov. 30 TBA

Fred Meyer Re-Grand Opening
Glenwood store

Fri., Dec. 5 4:30 p.m.

Merry Music Makers Christmas Concert
Caldwell Library

Fri., Dec. 5 6 p.m.

Strings Performance
Arts West

Th., Dec. 11 7-9 p.m.

ISA Board Meeting
Nona Haddock's home

Sat., Dec. 13

Nampa Passport International Recital,
Presbyterian Church and NNU

Th., Jan. 1

Deadline Newsletter Submission

Fri., Jan. 9 4:30 p.m.

Piano Play-in
Dorsey Music, Nampa

Mar. 1

Deadline to apply for Insitute

Fri.-Sat. Apr. 3-4

Spring Piano Workshop

June 22-26, 2009

Idaho Suzuki Institute 2009



In Memoriam:

Margaret Ellen Knox

Poling

1947-2008

The Boise music community has lost a vibrant, sensitive piano teacher in the passing of Margaret Poling on Saturday, September 20, 2008. She died peacefully in her sleep after a day of giving an ice cream party for her students and spending time with her daughter.

Margaret will be remembered for being a person of great wisdom, kindness to students and friends, and a phenomenal mother and wife. She was a teacher all her life, starting with founding the Fallbrook Country Day School in Fallbrook, California. She worked with all seven of her children in their piano studies until realizing she knew so much of the Suzuki Piano repertoire that she began teaching in Boise in the late 1990s. She had the ability to make each student feel he or she was so special and teachable, along with his or her parents who came to lessons. While I had the privilege of teaching her four youngest children, I also learned so much from this woman who really loved children unconditionally and believed all could succeed in whatever endeavor they tried.

Margaret also had a “wicked” sense of humor, great wit in her tales of family, and a laugh in her voice. She gave of her time and talents to Boise Tuesday Musicale, and was a driving force in creating a fall festival for ensembles so the students would have time to learn their solo pieces for the spring. (“Gay, I have twenty-four pieces to get ready for these four kids with all their solos, duets and trios. Can’t you split this festival up? I’m exhausted!”)

We send our condolences to Margaret’s husband, Carmen, and her children and their families, Chemene, Gabriel, Bronwen, Duncan, Merritt, Molly, and Lyonal.

--Gay Pool

Margaret truly loved and understood children. She had a remarkable gift for making each child (and his parent) feel that he was the most special one to her.

--Wendy Taylor

to be taught and loved by her. I will be a better person for having been able to rub shoulders with her for just that short time.

--Deborah Johnson

We are grieving Margaret’s loss and wondering how we can play the piano again without thinking of her or missing her. She is irreplaceable. However, one thing we know for sure is that she would not want us to even think about quitting. So, we press on.

--Lorna Mitson



Bowing technique class



Orff Class at Fall Workshop

I have only known Margaret for a very short time. When planning our Fall Membership workshop she was so wonderful to open her home to me and Lori Armstrong. We had so much fun talking around the kitchen table. I was mostly touched by her love for her family and the children who came to her home each week

I miss Mrs. Poling, but I really like Mrs. Godfrey.

--Charise (age 6)

Fund-Raising

Albertson's Contest

We need your help! We are doing an Albertson's Preferred card fundraiser and contest. The goal is to gather as many Preferred Card numbers as possible to link to the Idaho Suzuki Association. Albertson's donates 1% of the purchases made by the persons with the cards to our association. *Suzuki families don't have to sell anything and it doesn't cost us money* to solicit names and card numbers. This is Albertson's way of donating to local groups. These Albertson's donations could be a huge fundraiser for ISA if we all work together and gather card numbers (especially from regular Albertson's shoppers!).

Teachers and parents, please encourage and remind your students to participate. We will give out a nice grand prize to the student with the most entries! The deadline for the contest is Friday, November 21, though you can always get us more names throughout the year and we can link them to ISA.

Thank you for your continued support and time to help keep our Idaho Suzuki Association strong.

--Megan Transtrum

Hire Suzuki Players!

Are you in charge of planning a holiday event? Why not hire a Suzuki group to play? It's a win-win opportunity—your event will have beautiful music and Suzuki students can earn money for Institute!

Albertson's Contest Rules

Purpose: Albertson's will donate 1% of purchases using the Preferred Card to the Idaho Suzuki Association. This is an easy fundraiser where you don't have to ask for money or sell anything! It costs us nothing, just our time to get as many names as possible to link them to our organization. Get as many as you can so you can earn the grand prize!

Prize: Grand prize to the student who gets the most valid entries!

Directions: Write all your entries on the spreadsheet provided by your teacher (or your own list is fine). You need to get the following from each person:

1. First and last name
2. Albertson's Preferred Card Number
3. Telephone number linked to the card
4. Don't forget to put your name on the top of each sheet with your phone number!

Deadline: November 21, 2008. Bring your entries to the Festival of Trees strings practice on November 21 or mail entries to:

Megan Transtrum
11082 W. Inglin Drive
Boise, ID 83709
megantran@msn.com
322-5586

Good luck!

Fred Meyer Performances

Great news!!! Fred Meyer corporate offices called to set up play times at the Grand Re-openings of two stores—Meridian and Glenwood. This is a great opportunity for fund-raising as they will make a \$500 donation to Idaho Suzuki Institute for each performance. Three times have been set up so far: Saturday and Sunday, November 22 and 23 at 11:00 a.m. at the Meridian store; and Saturday, November 29 at 11:00 a.m. at the Glenwood store. We will probably be able to set up a play time on Sunday, November 30 also.

Sign-ups for these performances will be at the Festival of Trees group lessons. This is a great opportunity not only earn money towards Institute, but also to get some name recognition for the Suzuki method in the Treasure Valley.

Contact Megan Transtrum (322-5586) with questions.

Krispy Kreme FUNdraiser

Need refreshments for a recital? Know a scoutmaster or cub master that needs refreshments for a court of honor or pack meeting? How about ideas for your neighborhood fall hayride or harvest party? Serve **Krispy Kreme** doughnuts! Contact Debbie Hynes at 323-7766 to receive a Krispy Kreme FUNdraising card. This card entitles you to buy one dozen doughnuts and receive a second dozen for free ten times. That's a \$60 value! The cards sell for only \$10. Be sure to purchase some for family and friends!

Fall Workshop

The annual Suzuki Fall Workshop was held Friday and Saturday, September 12 and 13 at Riverglen Junior High School and at the home of Margaret Poling in Boise. The Suzuki student workshop included classes for violin, cello, and piano students and for piano and violin teachers.

The theme for the string workshop was bowing. Classes for violin students include bowing technique, repertoire, and orchestra.

Forty-one piano students had master classes with teacher trainer Lori Armstrong of Missoula, Montana. They also had a lot of fun classes in performance, ensemble, "Listening to the Music," and a very popular Orff class.

Charise, age 6, liked her master class best. "Mrs. Armstrong was really nice and she liked my playing. She said that she wanted to take me to Missoula with her and that Mrs. Poling was lucky to have me as her student."

Ms. Armstrong has been a teacher of the Suzuki method for twenty-six years and is a graduate of Dr. Suzuki's Talent Education Institute in Matsumoto, Japan. She travels throughout the U.S. and Canada teaching at workshops and institutes.

Piano teachers also had training from Ms. Armstrong. She focused on key points and techniques of Books 4 and 5 and how to incorporate basics at any level.

Violin teachers held a class led by Peggy Miller to go over new teaching information recently sent out by the International Suzuki Association.

Many thanks go to Debbie Hynes, Savanna Seaman, and Debi

Johnson, the organizers of Fall Workshop; Riverglen Junior High School; and all the teachers that donated their time and help. Thank you!



Master class with Ms. Armstrong

Board Election

At the membership meeting held on September 13, 2008, Lorna Mitson and Anna Rouse were elected to the Suzuki board. The appointments of other recently appointed members of the board were ratified by the membership. Those members are: Debi Johnson, Susan Kelly, Gordon Hynes, Megan Transtrum, and Laura Owens.

At the first board meeting held after the elections, board members voted on officers. The new board is:

Lorna Mitson, President
Megan Transtrum, Vice President
Susan Kelly, Secretary
Gordon Hynes, Treasurer
Anna Rouse, Membership
Debbie Hynes, Events
Laura Owens, At Large
Wendy Taylor, Past President
Nona Haddock, String Director
Debi Johnson, Piano Director

How to contact ISA:

ISA
c/o Nona Haddock
480 Waltman Lane
Meridian, ID 83642
888-4303
redgrandma12@msn.com

By-Laws Approved

After much discussion, the by-laws for ISA were approved at the annual membership meeting held in conjunction with Fall Workshop.

Thank you to the by-laws revision committee for working through the old by-laws this past year and to Peggy Miller who read through them carefully and efficiently presented them to the membership.

A copy of the new by-laws is attached to the e-mail version of this newsletter.

Committee News

During Institute last June, a committee was formed to help solve the problem of retaining high-level Suzuki students. The committee had their first meeting July 25. Debi Johnson, ISA piano director, attended the meeting and reported that there are exciting changes coming that will "change the whole look of Institute."

By the way, it was exciting to see so many teenage students participate in the Fall Workshop in September. Way to go, guys!

Flute Workshop

ISA will hold its Flute Fall Workshop on Saturday, November 22 at the home of Jennifer Myers, 5049 Cherry Lane, Nampa. Instruction will begin at 9:00 a.m., there will be a break for a potluck lunch, then instruction will continue until 2:00 p.m. If you have any questions about the workshop, please contact Debi Johnson at 550-0604.

Monster Concert

Boise Tuesday Musicale is holding a "Salute to America" Monster Concert on Saturday, November 8 at 7:00 p.m. in the Borah High School Auditorium. This event features ten pianos on stage all being played simultaneously with two or three students at each piano. [Wow! That's 300 fingers flying all at once!] Tickets for this fund-raiser are available at the door at \$5 for adults, \$3 for students, and \$15 for a family.

Festival of Trees

It's time to prepare for Festival of Trees performances! Teachers, contact Debbie Hynes for the music.

The group lessons and rehearsals will be held on Fridays, November 7, 14 and 21 at Heritage Bible Church, 7071 W. Emerald, Boise, near Boise Towne Square.

The performances will be on Friday, November 28 at 11:45 a.m. (arrive to tune at 11:15) at Boise Center on the Grove and on Friday, December 5 at 6:30 p.m. (tuning at 6:00 p.m.) at Arts West, 3415 W. Flint Dr., Eagle.

There will also be some performances at retirement homes in December. Those dates and times will be announced and sign-ups will be at the rehearsals.

There will be a fee for students to participate in these group lessons to cover the building rental costs and teacher stipends. If you have any questions, please contact your teacher or Debbie Hynes at 323-7766.

Practice Tips, Part 1

At last summer's Institute one of the parent sessions featured a panel discussion presenting practice tips from "seasoned" Suzuki parents. The four mothers that were on the panel were Susan Kelly, Gail Heinz, Kristi Kronz, and Wendy Taylor.

Here are some tips for making practice time more fun:

Basics

□ Children feed off your joy. Be excited for practice!

□ If possible, practice during *your* best time of day.

□ Set the expectation before signing up for lessons (too late now! ☺) that practicing is a must, not optional.

□ Practice at the same time each day.

□ Talk to your teacher for ideas when problems come up.

□ Set a system of earning a coupon for "Free for No Practice Today."

□ Set a timer. Warm-up, the new piece, recent pieces, review, and reading each have a set amount of time.

□ Roll a die to see how many times to perfect a part of the music.

□ Move a button or an m&m or other small object each time the child plays a short drill correctly. Can he do it five times? Then make it more challenging: Can he do it five times *in a row* (develops consistency)?

□ Always work on something that the child can play at church or in other settings where he may be asked to play, often on short notice.

Environment

□ Create a designated music area. It could be a special room or an area of a room.

□ Make it pretty.

□ Have a comfortable chair for the parent.

□ Decorate with a musical theme.

□ Display music trophies.

□ Display the Institute group picture.

□ Write lesson notes and a list of review pieces on a dry erase board.

Don't miss the article in the next newsletter: Practice Tips, Part 2: Making Review Fun.

Name Change: ISA

Several months ago the board began discussions concerning the name of our association. In keeping with the objective of the organization (as stated in the bylaws) of promoting the Suzuki method of instruction and recognizing the opportunity to broaden our scope, the board felt it would be appropriate to change the name to the Idaho Suzuki Association (ISA).

It was also later realized that the former board had not filed annual reports as required by the state of Idaho and, as a result, the Idaho Suzuki Institute Association was a defunct company.

In late September, the organization was reincorporated as the Idaho Suzuki Association. Along with the change in name, a new logo has been developed that incorporates the basics of the old logo and includes Suzuki flute instruction. While we honor the traditions of the past, we are working to expand the scope and offerings of the organization without losing our emphasis on providing a high quality Institute.

June 22-26, 2009 Idaho Suzuki Institute

Teacher News

On November 8 the **Merry Music Makers**, students of Peggy Miller, Debbie Winters, Jill Schmoll, Marliese Breuer and Janine Schroeder, will perform at three retirement homes in Caldwell. This is an anticipated annual event for both students and residents. The students and teachers have been working hard to incorporate the newly published revisions into the pieces they will be playing.

Marci Von Huene's studio families had a lovely fall recital and social at the Von Huenes' home, Saturday, October 25, 2008. A special guest performer was Connor Von Huene who was home for the weekend. Connor is currently studying at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music.

The **Nampa Passport International Recital** will be held on Saturday, December 13 at the Presbyterian Church across from Nampa High School and at the NNU science lecture hall. The cost is \$5 per ticket to attend the recitals. There will be four total recitals for students to enter. Anyone can enter by contacting Jolene Emery at 465-3512 or at luckyjolene@yahoo.com. Entries must be made by November 15. Duets and solos are welcome and costumes are encouraged.

Note to teachers: Studio news such as recitals, special events, performances, book graduations are all noteworthy! Let everyone know by e-mailing info to rwtaylor1@mstar.net. Please mention that it is a 'Suzuki newsletter article' in the subject line.

More Teacher News 'Olds'

The following studio news items were submitted for a newsletter last summer and were never published. Belated congratulations go to the students involved!

Peggy Miller's studio:

Students of Peggy Miller who gave Book Recitals include:

Abby Carlson Book 1
Mark Blakeley Book 3
Quinn Spencer Book 3
Jennifer Reibe Book 4

Jenny Jones's violin studio had a recital and picnic in Ann Morrison Park under the shade of the trees on May 18. It was a very relaxing atmosphere in which to share music.

Attention all teachers!

The ISA Board wants to keep you in the loop. We will be sending out newsletters periodically, but we also will send out emails more often than the newsletter. If you are not a good email checker, **START NOW!** One little click!

--Anna Rouse, Membership

Volunteer Needed

The ISA board is looking for a volunteer to organize information to create a history. If organizing is your forte, please contact Lorna Mitson at 938-5424 or jcmitson@msn.com.

Members' Notes

Looking for Christmas gift ideas? We have those great black **Manhasset orchestra stands** available to purchase for \$40 plus \$5 shipping fee. These are heavy-duty stands, the kind you see at schools. They sell in local stores for \$54. If you'd like to purchase one, contact Nona Haddock at 888-4303 or e-mail her at redgrandma12@msn.com

Violin for sale:

1/4 size good student **violin**, bow and case for \$170. Call 884-8062

Didn't purchase a copy of the **group photo** at Institute? You still can! Contact Nona Haddock at 888-4303. Or go to www.transtrumphotography.com. Go to the on-line proofs and type in 'Suzuki08' to get access to the gallery. It is \$5 for the group photo. Individual and family photos taken at Institute and the 2007 Institute group photo are also available.

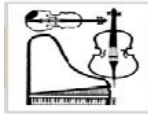
Membership

Not yet a member of ISA? It's not too late to join. Just fill out the attached membership form and send to:

ISA
Gordon Hynes, Treasurer
1976 N. Bird
Boise, ID 83704

Next Newsletter:

Practice Tips, Part 2: Making Review Fun.



Idaho **SUZUKI** Institute

IDAHO SUZUKI ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP FORM

The Idaho Suzuki Association (ISA) is a support organization for Idaho Suzuki teachers, parents, students, and individuals who recognize the quality musical instruction available using the teaching methods developed by Dr. Shinichi Suzuki.

The ISA is a non-profit organization (501c3); all contributions are used to defer the cost of workshops, to provide a scholarship fund, and keep tuition for the annual Idaho Suzuki Institute as low as possible. The institute is an annual week-long summer “music camp” where students are exposed to some of the finest teachers in the nation and teachers have the opportunity to study under nationally noted Suzuki teacher trainers.

Becoming a member of the ISA allows you to support this fine organization in a very practical way. Without the donations of members and friends of the association, the institute and other activities held throughout the year would not be possible. All memberships are family memberships. One fee covers the entire family. Family memberships are available at various levels and any contributions above the basic \$40 membership fee are tax deductible. Membership entitles you to attend our workshops, participate in Festival of Trees, receive a quarterly newsletter, and makes you eligible for institute scholarships (as long as your teacher is also a member).

Our calendar year runs from September 1, 2008 - August 31, 2009

Adult’s Name(s)			Telephone:	
Address:			E-mail:	
City / State / Zip:			Cell phone:	
Date:			Work phone:	
I am a (circle one or both) Parent Teacher			Please send newsletters via (circle one): e-mail standard mail	
Student	Teacher/Phone Number	Age	Instrument	Current Book and Piece

Are you interested in serving on one of the various committees that organize the summer institute, put on workshops, or raise funds? (Circle one) Yes No Maybe later

Please circle membership level:

Benefactor- \$250 or more Donor- \$100 Basic Contributor- \$40
Amount above the basic \$40 level you would like to donate towards scholarships \$_____.

Please make checks payable to: ISA

**Send to: ISA
c/o Gordon Hynes
1976 N. Bird
Boise, ID. 83704**