

THE SCORE

American Federation of Musicians
Florida Gulf Coast Local 427-721

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Official Publication

July/August, 2008

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OFFICE HOURS
10AM TO 3PM
MONDAY – THURSDAY

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 12333
St. Petersburg, FL 33733

Office Address:
5175 Ulmerton Rd.
Suite A Clearwater, FL 33760

Web Address:
<http://www.afm427-721.org>
Email: afm427721@ij.net

Officers

President Charles Rice
Vice President Karl Bawel
Secretary-Treasurer Richard Sparrow

Board of Directors

Carmen Bannon
Adam DeSorgo
Alison Heydt
Joel Kaye
Bill Larsen
Harold VanSchaik

Contracts Required

Article XV Section 18: All contracts must be in writing, and must be executed on the Official Contract blank and on all engagements, the leader or contractor shall file with the Secretary-Treasurer within 24 hours following the beginning of the engagement a copy of his contract, setting forth in detail all conditions pertaining to the said engagement such as date, time, duration, number of performances, price, etc.



Local 427-721 General Meeting

Sunday September 21, 2008 • 10:30 AM • Central Music
• 5175 Ulmerton Rd Clearwater, FL •

Satellite locations:

In Sarasota, contact Adam DeSorgo 941 928-8530

In Fort Myers, contact Bill Larsen 239 826-0817.

Notes from the Secretary/Treasurer

The summer has been full of local happenings of note. On June 28 & 29th, 2008 the **Southern Conference of Locals** met in Houston for two days. I attended and came away with information of interest that is highlighted later on Page 3. From July 22-28th, I attended the International Horn Symposium in Denver, Colorado and had an incredible dose of Horn music, both new and old. There were more than 700 horn player attendees performing and listening to solo's, duets, trios, all the way up to a mass choir of horns. One of the many highlights included a ten year old playing the first movement of the Mozart 2nd Horn Concerto with an honors band from Hong Kong. This young man was playing as well as any professional that I had ever heard. In fact, at one point, I thought that it was a prank and someone was off stage playing instead of this brilliant young man. As you might imagine, this extreme level of horn 'nerdness' has probably never been matched any where in the history of the world! Also, while in Denver, I had the opportunity to spend a little time with the President of the Denver Local, Peter Vriesenga. We discussed how highly unusual it was that the IEB was now 'running' a local in Pensacola, FL and we will be interested to see what happens to the live music scene, as a result. Another New addition from the IEB is that for the first time, the AFM in New York is joining members and collecting Initiation fees and dues and forwarding the information and money to the proper local. Now, new members can join the AFM on a national basis without ever meeting a local officer. Orientation is not available yet through the website and, after the initial period of dues is up, the local sends a bill to the 'new' member. I hope this works, but we need to institute a national orientation program if new members are joining through our national office.

FYI: Congratulations to Local 427-721 President Charles Rice who recently achieved Life Membership Status.

Correction from previous newsletter: The Tee Ross information phone for his book **It's A Great Life At Any Age**, is 1-877-206-8771.

DON'T FORGET:

THE DEADLINE TO REGISTER TO VOTE IS October 6, 2008.

2008 MEMBERSHIP DUES

REGULAR.....\$121.00 annually
\$60.50...bi-annually
LIFE.....\$77.00annually
38.50...bi-annual
INACTIVE LIFE...\$71.00 annually
35.50...bi-annual
YOUTH.....\$121.00 annually
60.50...bi-annual

Regular members, Life members, and Inactive members' Bi-annual Dues are payable

July 1

*Dues must be received by **July 31** to avoid \$5.00 late fee and by **September 30** to avoid suspension. Dues and reinstatement fees must be received by **December 31** to avoid expulsion.*

\$5.00 late fee & \$10.00 reinstatement fee

Important Contact Numbers:

Headquarters NY..... (212) 869-1330
West Coast Office..... (323) 461-3441
Canadian Office.....(416) 391-5161
On the web.....afm.org

AFM-EP

(Pension Fund)..... (800) 833-8065
Theatrical & TV Motion Picture
Special Payments Fund/Phono Record
Manufacturers Special Payments
Funds..... (212) 310-9400

**Musical Equipment Insurance,
Musicians' Liability Plan**

Wohlers/Seabury & Smith
.....(800) 503-9230

Union Plus Program

Credit Card:

Apply in English (800) 522-4000
Apply in Spanish..... (800) 651-5108
Customer Service.. ...(800) 622-2580
Mortgage & Real Estate Program.....
.....(800) 848-6466
Real Estate Agent Referrals
.....(800) 372-2414
Loan Program(800) 343-7097
On the web.....unionplus.org

Local Insurance Broker

Website services

Janet White..... (813) 949-4500
janet@jlwamerica.com

Students and parents looking for
scholarships on the web

.....unionscholarships.com.....
....unionplus.org/scholarships....

Executive Board Minutes 05/18/2008 9:00-10:00 AM

BOARD MINUTES

AND

FINANCIAL

INFORMATION

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On June 28-9, 2008 the **Southern Conference of Locals** met in Houston for two days. Presentations were made by President Lee, Sec/Treas Sam Folio, AFM-EPF administrator Maureen Killkelly, and Assistant to the President Linda Patterson, among others. President Lee noted that we had begun accepting new members on line at the beginning of the year and have joined #441 new members through our website. The Pensacola, FL Local has been taken over by the AFM and will be administered by the IEB. Other topics that Pres Lee talked about were Video Games, Grammy Awards, SAG Awards, and the legislative action that took place in Washington DC on June 11, 2008. Make note that TEMPO has changed names and is now called **LAF** or the **Legislative Action Fund**. This name change is being followed by a request to all Locals to add an optional \$2-3 payment to the annual Dues billing for our members for **LAF**. Maureen Killkelly reported on the AFM-EPF. The pension fund is approaching \$2 Billion in assets. A website: www.afm-epf.org is available and members can securely log in to access several years of account history and eventually, the site will include an option to change the mailing address on line. I have much more pension information in my notes. Call me or email me at afm427721@ij.net and I will be happy to share more with you.

Secretary/Treasurer Sam Folio reports that changes to the IM have been very successful. A version of the IM for sale in the future in retail markets. The AFM is looking at options available for health insurance alternatives for our membership. Presidential Assistant, Linda Patterson presented a new AFM logo and introduced new brochures and New Members Packets for locals to use. All of the presenters made note that we needed to support our Legislative Action Fund and request it be funded at one million dollars per year to be successful. It is our voluntary efforts that will make sure that it is successful!

Below, I am publishing excerpts from a letter sent to our local from members of another AFM Local. The letter was sent....” To be an urgent reminder of how important the relationship is between union officials of each local and its membership in sustaining a successful musicians union. In our case, the lack of open and constant communication, a working system of checks and balances (from union officer accountability), and leaders showing a genuine advocacy for the membership has turned this chapter into an intolerable disgrace that we hope will not happen to any other local in the AFM. Many AFM locals around the country may not be aware of the incredible situation we have to put up with in the ----- Musicians Union.

- 1) General Membership meetings have ceased.
- 2) Newsletters and financial statements have ceased.
- 3) A membership roster has not been compiled or disbursed in over 10 years.
- 4) Our scale book has not been updated and disbursed in 14 years.....

....We encourage you, officers and memberships, to take care in preserving the role that each local union is supposed to play in your members' music careers. By voting, attending meetings, having open and consistent discussions, and keeping union financial activity transparent, you can avoid the dire situation that we in ----- face, as well as becoming frustrated with the complacency of the AFM in New York should you need to call on them for intervention.”

As Sec/Treas, I must tell you how proud I am of the involvement of our local membership and general level of proactive democracy that we foster. We can always do better, so let's remember to continue to be vigilant and make a constant effort to stay informed so that our Local represents the needs of our members and continues to do so in the future. It will remain necessary that we grow along with the area in which we reside!

SUPPORT LAF
Help Musicians Achieve Our Legislative Goals

What is the Legislative Action Fund?

LAF is a club supported by voluntary contributions from members of the American Federation of Musicians and its friends who understand the need for political action to achieve their legislative goals.

Why do we need LAF?

We need the voluntary contributions to LAF because, by law, unions cannot use their general funds to assist political candidates; yet such political activity is absolutely necessary for the election of men and women who represent the interests of our members.

Does LAF support a particular political party? No. LAF supports deserving candidates running for President of the United States, the United States Senate or the United States House of Representatives, regardless of a candidate's party affiliation.

Does LAF tell me how to vote? No. You vote the way you want. LAF simply helps the candidates who have done, or pledge to do, the most for you and other members.

Contributions to LAF are not tax deductible as charitable contributions for federal tax purposes.

Why Should I Join LAF?

Joining LAF makes your individual contribution count for more, because it is combined with contributions from thousands of other AFM members.

Please Make checks payable to LAF and send to:
AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MUSICIANS
FLORIDA GULF COAST LOCAL 427-721
P.O. BOX 12333
ST PETERSBURG, FL 33733