

THE SCORE

American Federation of Musicians
Florida Gulf Coast Local 427-721

Vol. 18, No. 3

Official Bi-Monthly Publication

May/June, 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>
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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 May 18, 2008 • 10:30 AM • Central Music

• 5175 Ulmerton Rd Clearwater, FL •

Satellite locations: Contact in Sarasota,

Adam DeSorgo 941 928-8530 or Meghan Jones 941 400-8668;
Fort Myers, Bill Larsen 239 826-0817.

Notes from the Secretary/Treasurer

MPF CHANGES TAKE EFFECT MAY 1, 2008.

MPF funding is changing for Local 427-721 and the entire AFM. Later in this paper, specific changes in funding, paper work requirements and requesting co-sponsorships is spelled out more specifically. But for now, the substantial changes will impact any person or group that has taken part in the MPF as a co-sponsor, performer or leader.

The first major change is that the funding from MPF is now pooled into a state allotment and the local does not receive a specific dollar allotment. The State pool is available for all of Florida to utilize. Unfortunately, the amount for the state is equal to the amount that Local 427-721 was allotted in 1998-99, being just a few dollars under twenty eight thousand (\$27,954.38). Leaders and sponsors will be required to fill out a program application that requires more information that was required in the past. More detail of the particular event, who is attending, what educational benefits are expected, and the actual program are now required. The co-sponsorship for non-educational programs have now increased to seventy five percent (75%). Education program co-sponsorship is fifty percent (50%). These changes should not be a surprise, since MPF is solely funded by sound recording royalties and a dramatic decrease in royalties has been taking place since the end of the previous century because of internet sales and downloads, which are not part of the Sound Recording Agreements!

MEMBERS NOTES

Former 427-721 Board member James Wilson and his wife Fiona Lofthouse will be relocating to Salt Lake City, Utah in the fall. James has been appointed Associate Principal Horn with the Utah Symphony. Sixteen year old member Elizabeth Bawel will present a senior recital to complete her Performance degree in Harp from the Interlochen Arts Center on May 31, 2008 at 3 PM at the Lutheran Church of the Palms in Palm Harbor. We wish them all well with academic and future career pursuits.

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

January 1

Dues must be received by **January 31** to avoid \$5.00 late fee and by **March 31** to avoid suspension. Dues and reinstatement fees must be received by **June 30** 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**

Wohlens/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**.....

Executive Board Minutes March 16, 2008

INFORMATION

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PAGE

No Quorum was established at the General Meeting. Discussions took place about Southwest Florida Symphony negotiations beginning in April. Janice Galassi will be the AFM Negotiator. President Rice spoke about the Sunshine City Band and funding opportunities.

The following Local 427-721 members have not paid dues for 2008 and are currently either **Suspended or Expelled**. To be reinstated, current dues and a \$10 re-instatement fee are required.

Suspended

Scott Allen	Joshua Culler	James Earp
David Garcia	Warren Haasl	Rod Jones
Shawn Marren	David Muse	Robert Passavanti
Frank Pendergrass	Tom Platt	Kathryn Selvester
Sean Sinbeck	Chris Styles	Michael Swenson
Steven Swenson	Merry Texter	Joseph Verdi

Expelled

Raymond Au	Dan Cotto	Gerald Delli Paoli
Eugenio Dominguez	Laurie Diaz	John Haynes
Kathryn Oarr	James Taylor	Phil Tempkins

MPF CHANGES

The MPF Allocation for fiscal year 2008/09 has been designated by STATE, with a bottom line of \$1,273,000. This means that Local 427-721 will not have a designated amount as an annual allocation. The monies allocated are a result of sound recording royalties received and are based upon per capita membership in the state and not on the membership of individual locals.

1. All locals and contractors in a given state have equal opportunity to compete for the state available dollar allocation. All parties are reminded that the minimum co-sponsorship percentage is 75% and for school programs it is 50%. There will no longer be the 10% administrative charge. MPF will bear this cost.
2. Unless and until we find new sources of revenue that are willing to underwrite co-sponsorship for senior center concerts, MPF will no longer co-sponsor these concerts, except in the case of veteran facilities, which will require 50% co-sponsorship.
3. Should you have 100% sponsorship for any project (including nursing homes) MPF agrees to act as the payroll service ("green sheet") absorbing all administrative, insurance and licensing cost.
4. THE STATE AMOUNT MUST COVER ALL PROGRAMMING WITHIN THAT GEOGRAPHICAL AREA. MPF will keep a close watch on the ebb and flow of properly conceived and funded concerts, thereby allowing the smaller locals/contractors to fairly compete for the available dollars. It is strongly suggested that the major locals/contractors trim their programs to minimum so as to allow all others an opportunity to democratically share in an admittedly meager menu. If you chose to ignore this suggestion we have no alternative but to do it for you.
5. Finally, if a local or contractor does not submit acceptable proposals by mid-year (October 31, 2008) they will be removed from the list of eligible participants.

All locals have been provided with a standard form for use in applying for MPF co-sponsorship. Please contact office manager Diana Drew in the Local 427-721 office to get the new form and for help in submitting for MPTF processing.

TEE ROSS

Tee Ross sent me his new book in the mail a few weeks ago. He is a Local member and has been an AFM member for seventy (70) years. I have been too busy to read it yet, but he also shared a little of his background information that I thought that might interest you. The first part of his book deals with his Early Years in Music.

1. At age 9 & 10, Tee started piano, then accordion.
2. First Dance Band in 10th grade at Struthers High School in Struthers, Ohio. Has played all the proms. Got Radio experience and began pursuing a dream and goals to have a big Dance Band someday, playing all the Big Ballrooms. He saw in person and studied all the big names of the day, like Count Basie, Henry James, Benny Goodman, Woody Herman, and Duke Ellington, Perry Como, Frank Sinatra.
3. As a high school Senior, he played tuba in the Marching Band and was student director of the band.
4. In College he had a big band, was on weekly Radio and traveled several states playing ballrooms and College dates. Tee started teaching Accordion, later opened a store and studios in downtown Youngstown, Ohio. Many of his students started in the Big Band field with his Radio and TV programs.

Many are in touch with Tee even today. In 2007, Tee had his book **It's A Great Life At Any Age** published. The book covers areas of MUSIC, SPORTS, and FAITH. If interested, you can check his website: www.Teeross.com or call toll free 1-877-206-9771 for information on the Book.

SUPPORT TEMPO

Help Musicians Achieve Our Legislative Goals

What is Tempo?

TEMPO 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 TEMPO?

We need the voluntary contributions to TEMPO 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 TEMPO support a particular political party? No. TEMPO 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 TEMPO tell me how to vote? No. You vote the way you want. TEMPO simply helps the candidates who have done, or pledge to do, the most for you and other members.

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

Why Should I Join TEMPO?

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

Please Make checks payable to TEMPO (PC) and send to:

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MUSICIANS

FLORIDA GULF COAST LOCAL 427-721

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ST PETERSBURG, FL 33733