

Red River Valley



A PUBLICATION OF THE SOUTHWESTERN REGION AMERICAN MUSIC THERAPY ASSOCIATION

OCTOBER 10, 2009



President's Report

Thank you for renewing your membership in AMTA and SWAMTA. It is an honor and a pleasure to serve as President of SWAMTA. My term began on June 1, 2009, and the board and I have already accomplished a lot in the service of the region.

I'd like to introduce the 2009 - 2011 board to you. **Ed Kahler**, Past President, has served the region well as president and has been a great mentor and advisor for me as I assume that role. He is working on scheduling a fascinating keynote speaker for our conference next year. **Stephanie Shehan**, President Elect, is reviewing the bylaws, accepting nominations for harmony awards, and getting to know the members. She is also learning about the presidency and offering me valuable advice as Regional issues come up. **Barbara Bastable**, Vice President, is coordinating with the Amarillo Conference Committee to plan a wonderful conference for us March 26 - 28, 2009. **Elsa Maria Garcia**, Secretary, produced the minutes from our Summer Board

Meeting on August 15, 2009, in addition to keeping notes on our email communications and conference calls. She is also sending out cards to members who are enjoying or enduring life changes, so if you know of a member who is getting married, having children, or dealing with a health or job crisis, please let me know (janice@heartbeatmusictherapy.net) so that we may offer support or acknowledgment. **Bill Matney**, Assembly Delegate Representative, is gearing up to represent our region at the Assembly Meetings in San Diego, along with your other representatives, **Karen Miller**, Stephanie Shehan, and me. **Nicki Wiloth**, Regional Student President, is organizing the student board to guide our student members as they grow into professionals.

Amy Rogers, Treasurer, has organized our finances and budget, which gets better every year. She has purchased some bookkeeping software that will make our finances easier to track and our financial reports easier to produce. We have been able to deposit funds into

our savings account to provide financial stability for SWAMTA and we have also purchased a second projector to save on AV costs at conferences. **ChihChen Sophia Lee**, Parliamentarian, has reviewed Robert's Rules and provides excellent guidance to our board and our region. **Marni Dowell**, Government Relations Representative, has kept up with all the work of the Oklahoma and Texas State Task Forces, and continues to monitor New Mexico. **Ann Petty**, Continuing Education Director, has planned some fantastic CMTE courses for Amarillo, in addition to working on the AMTA Continuing Education Committee. **Terri Hart**, RRV Editor, continues to produce wonderful RRV editions, like this one. I am continually impressed with the newsletters produced by Terri! **Michelle Kennemer**, SAAB Representative, guides the students and supports their work, while keeping the professional members informed of the important work accomplished by the students on behalf of SWAMTA. **Nancy Hadsell**, Archive/Historian, is collecting information so that we don't forget where

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Inside this issue:

“AMTA is working on some amazing things”

President’s Report *(continued from page 1)*

we’ve been as we look towards the future. **Chris Webb**, Webmaster, is continually updating the website, www.swamta1.org, so that we maintain current communication with our members. **Jau-netta Cooper** has taken on a new role in the region as Publicity Chair, which will help us obtain advertisers for the conference programs and for the

RRV to keep our costs low.

I represented the Regional Presidents at the AMTA Board of Directors Mid-Year Meeting in Baltimore, MD, in June. The Regional Presidents are currently working to maintain communication with each other so that we can learn from the other regions. AMTA is working on some amazing things,

like the new Research USB Drive that will be available at conference in San Diego. I hope to see you all in San Diego for the AMTA conference in November. Please contact me if there is anything SWAMTA or AMTA can do for you.

--Janice Harris, MA, MT-BC

CBMT Audits SWAMTA

The Southwestern Region of AMTA (SWAMTA) has successfully completed a procedural audit that was requested by CBMT. The course certificate and procedures for selecting course instructors have been changed as a result of the audit. SWAMTA members can view these changes at the region website: www.swamta1.org in the new Continuing Education Committee section. For questions regarding the audit contact Ann Petty, MT-BC at apetty@hcde-texas.org.

RRV Submissions Guidelines

The Red River Valley is accepting advertising submissions. Prices are discounted for AMTA members and yearly subscribers. All Submissions will be considered. The prices are listed below.

Size	SWAMTA member	Non-Member
Full Page	\$60/\$120 pr. yr.	\$100/\$200 pr. yr.
½ page	\$40/\$80 pr. yr.	\$75/\$150pr. yr
¼ age	\$15/\$30 pr. yr.	\$30/\$60 pr. yr.
Business Card	\$10/\$20 pr. yr.	\$25/\$50 pr yr.

We also accept articles and items for announcements and help wanted features. We welcome the ideas and input of our subscribers! Deadlines for submissions are: December 10th (January issue), May 10 (June issue), and September 10 (October issue). Please send all inquiries and submissions to Terri Hart, MT-BC, rrveditor@sbcglobal.net, 2405 Sunlight Ln., Pearland, TX 77584

We're on the Web!

www.swamta1.org

Regional Websites:

Great Lakes Region

Mid-Atlantic Region

Midwestern Region

New England Region

Southeastern Region

Southwestern Region

Western Region

<http://www.glr-amta.org>

<http://www.mar-amta.org>

<http://www.mw-amta.org>

<http://www.musictherapynewengland.org>

<http://www.ser-amta.org>

<http://www.swamta1.org>

<http://www.wramta.org>



From AMTA

In consideration of the recent winter tornadoes of 2009, please know that you may contact your Regional President or AMTA in the event you are affected by a major weather or disaster event. We wish to stay in touch with our members and students; and, where possible, assist. Be safe, be prepared.

JOIN THE LISTSERV

While on the topic of communication, please be sure to join the region's listserv so that you can become as connected as possible to the region's activities. You'll be glad you did! On occasion, we need to be able to contact each other quickly, and the listserv seems the most effective and efficient way to do it. For example, following hurricanes Katrina and Rita, we needed to gather as much information as possible regarding the well-being of our members and to share ideas regarding the offering of assistance. The listserv can be an invaluable resource at such times. Contact Kathleen Coleman at kaseyy@mac.com for instructions on how to join.



“Bongo” Barry Alan Bernstein

"Bongo" Barry Bernstein, 55, passed away unexpectedly in his home on Wednesday, August 26, 2009. He graduated from the University of Kansas with a degree in music therapy. While a music therapy consultant for the Blue Valley School District (Overland Park, Kansas) he performed at libraries and schools around the region. Barry was a wonderful husband, father, brother, uncle and friend and will be greatly missed. He was preceded in death by his father, Gilbert Bernstein. He is survived by his loving wife, Laura Harris; daughters Leah and Sydney; mother, Gloria Bernstein; sisters Karen Schwartz and Susan Kivett and their spouses, and nieces and nephews. Services were held in Kansas City, Mo. In lieu of flowers, please make donations on behalf of Barry to the Barry Bernstein Education Fund, c/o Healthy Sounds, PO Box 40304, Overland Park, KS 66204. Condolences may be shared with the family at www.kccremation.com, as well as <http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/kansascity/obituary.aspx?n=barry-alan-bernstein&pid=132027876>.

Editor's note: Although Barry was not a member of our region, many of us fondly remember taking workshops and participating in drum circles with him. We in the Southwestern Region will miss Barry and extend our deepest sympathies to his family and our friends in the Midwestern Region.

Todd Henry

Todd Henry, an early graduate of the music therapy program at Sam Houston State University, while it was under the direction of Dr. Mary Ann Nolteriek, has passed away. He had worked for 10 years in the state prison system as a music therapist, but recently was employed as a special education teacher in the Tyler Independent School District (TISD). Henry was described as a music lover who enjoyed his job and would be missed by all who knew him. George Faber, director of fine arts for TISD, spoke on behalf of Henry's family at a press conference at the TISD Administration Building. "Between the date of birth and today's date, that little dash, I think he would want to be known as a good man, a good musician who loved everybody," Faber said. "I can't think of anybody who didn't like Todd. The Tyler community and TISD schools have lost a good and trusting individual. He loved working in TISD schools, especially at John Tyler," Faber said at the press conference. "He was known as a teacher, a mariachi instructor, a jazz musician, mentor and friend to many of us and to the students. Todd loved the job he did at John Tyler and was there to make a difference in the lives of the students."

Todd Henry, who worked for TISD for more than six years, had served as a music teacher at the St. Louis School for students with special needs and later was a behavior specialist at John Tyler. He is survived by his wife, Jan; stepchildren, Barbie, Kimberly and Kenneth; brother, Joseph; and two grandchildren. .



Harmony Award

Purpose: To honor members of the Southwestern Region of the American Music Therapy Association who have made outstanding and significant contributions to the profession in the areas of education, clinical practice, research, and/or service. There are many areas to receive awards, and multiple awards can be given! Nominate!!!!!!

Eligibility: Person nominated must be a current member of the Southwestern Region of the American Music Therapy Association. A member may be nominated for an award in more than one area but may receive only one award per year.

Criteria for Award Areas:

Education - for significant accomplishments and contributions in college education, college teaching, or the training of music therapy interns.

Clinical Practice - for development of outstanding music therapy programs and services.

Research - for significant scholarly research and publications.

Service - for long-term and significant involvement in regional and/or national activities.

Nomination Procedures: Nomination should include the name of the person being nominated and the award area for which that person is being nominated. Nomination should include a statement detailing the nominee's contributions and some documentation related to this information. Persons submitting a nomination should solicit two (2) additional letters supporting the nomination - one from another music therapist who is currently a member of the region and one from an outside professional who is familiar with the work of the nominee.

Award Presentation: The Harmony Award Committee reads the nominations and supporting material and decides who will receive an award. Awards will be announced at the annual spring Regional Conference. Each recipient will be given a framed certificate and receive a letter of recognition from the region. All nominations for the Harmony Award must be received by January

Friends of Music Therapy Award

Who: Any professional outside the field of music therapy who has shown exceptional support for the profession of music therapy, as determined by the criteria listed below, and nominated by a current member of the Southwestern Region.

What: An award presented by the Southwestern Region of the American Music Therapy Association for the purpose of recognizing outstanding support for the profession of music therapy. The acknowledgement will be a framed, specially designed certificate, and a letter from the regional board, with a copy sent to the recipient's supervisor, when appropriate.

When: This annual award will be presented at the regional spring conference, with a maximum of **three awards per year**.

Criteria: The characteristics of a Friend of Music Therapy should include the following:

- 1) Long-term commitment to persons with special needs.
- 2) Demonstrated interest in innovative programming for such persons.
- 3) Demonstrated effort to understand music therapy and how it is utilized and practiced.
- 4) Active involvement with at least one music therapist in creating quality programming.
- 5) Providing professional inspiration to music therapists through example, motivation, and/or partnership. Nominations should be in the form of a letter describing the work of the nominee. Supporting documentation is not required but would be helpful for the decision making process. **Deadline for nominations is March 1, 2010.** Letters of nomination should be mailed to: Kathleen Coleman, 3360 Spruce Lane, Grapevine, TX 76051 or via e-mail to: kaseyy@mac.com or faxed to (817)421-6470.

**Top Ten Things
Music Therapists Love To Hear**
(by Jennifer Gregor, a music therapist from Toronto)

10. "Do you mind leading the choir/sing-a-long/church service/anything else that is not your job?"

9. "So, do you just, like, play CDs for people?"

8. "Can you sing_____?" (Fill in the blank with any obscure song that you have never heard before.)

7. "Here comes the music teacher."

6. "Can you give me a prescription for music I should listen to?"

5. "Are you the entertainer?"

4. "Are you the Musical Therapist?" (why, yes...I am the therapist that is musical...)

3. "What's in there?", while pointing to your guitar case. (Hello people, this is not Desperado, what do you think is inside the guitar case!)

2. "Oh, here comes the music girl (or guy)"

And the #1 thing that music therapists love to hear is....

1. So...what exactly is music therapy???

Editor's note: This was on an MT group's facebook page and shared here with Jennifer's permission.



Join us in Amarillo!

Can't wait to see
you there!!

2010 SWAMTA Conference
Amarillo, TX
March 25 – 27, 2010
CALL FOR PROPOSALS

The deadline for proposal submissions is **November 1, 2009**. Please e-mail Barbara Bastable at bbastable@gmail.com with your proposal.

- A. Title of Presentation (12 words maximum)
- B. Abstract (100 words maximum; appropriate for inclusion in conference program)
- C. Description (300 words maximum; providing sufficient information concerning the proposal for the reviewer to evaluate its suitability for this year's conference)
- D. Learning Objectives (related to CBMT Scope of Practice or music therapy student interests)
- E. Presenters' names and affiliations – Please list your credentials as you would like them to appear in the program.
- F. Name, address, telephone, and email of contact person (one of the presenters)
- G. Mini-biography of presenters (50 words maximum per person)
- H. Format: Lecture, Panel, Roundtable, Workshop
- I. Preferred length (times may need to be adjusted due to conference scheduling needs): 50 minutes or 100 minutes.
- J. Target Audience (choose one): Students, Entry level professionals, Experienced professionals
- K. AV Requests (Please only request what you will actually use. AV equipment is very expensive.)
- L. Instruments Requested (Please be as specific as possible.)
- M. Room Set up Preferences
- N. If you want a presider please include the name of your presider in the proposal. If no name is given, there will not be a presider for your session.
- O. Handouts for the session must be submitted in electronic format to the Vice President no later than February 1, 2010 to be included in the program. This will ensure that all attendees will have a copy of your handouts and will reduce your copying costs.
- P. By submitting a proposal, I am agreeing to present any time during the conference at which my presentation is scheduled. I agree to submit my handouts by February 1, 2010 in Microsoft Word or PowerPoint format for inclusion in the conference program.
- Q. Indicate whether you would agree to have your PowerPoint presentation posted as a PDF document on the SWAMTA website after the conference

SWAMTA
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(*voting members)

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Sophia Lee, PhD, MT-BC
Hayoung Lim, PhD, MT-BC, NMT
Julie Long, MT-BC



**2009 SWAMTA Board of Directors at their
summer meeting.**