

year when ASTA joined forces with our sister organization, NSOA. We now serve an incredibly diverse population of string teaching professionals and private teachers of various specialties, public school teachers, student members, college and university professors, as well as guitar and harp teachers! I feel a tremendous responsibility to serve all of our diverse membership through representation, advocacy, providing interesting and relevant professional development opportunities, and innovative/collaborative projects.

The whole thing causes me to think about the characteristics of our membership and to wonder, with all of our diversity, what is common among us that brings us together in the same professional organization? The answer comes to me very quickly. String teachers are, without exception, passionate about our art and our teaching. We are blessed with wonderful students and teach subject matter that is timeless, valuable and endlessly interesting. All of us came to teaching with the same first step and a love of music.

This inspiration clearly spills over into our ASTA with NSOA chapter. We are indeed an active group. But, is there more we can do? Can we take steps to insure string programs in all schools or the financial stability of all private teachers in Colorado? Can we have even more performance and learning opportunities for our students? Can we represent ourselves in an even better light among our national colleagues through quality teaching and innovation?

I believe that we can. But, as in all accomplishments of value, it takes all of us. We are all committed professionals who have a great deal to offer. So, how can you become more involved? Easy! How about encouraging a colleague to join ASTA with NSOA? You could also put your name on either the national or state ASTA with NSOA volunteer lists. We will keep you posted as little jobs come along that you might be perfect for! Remember, too, that area representative elections begin this fall and maybe you would like to help in that way.

Although this is a time of beginnings, it is also, necessarily a time to say goodbye. Cameron Law has now ended a six-year commitment of CASTA presidency. Thanks to Cameron for his outstanding work for our profession and his continuing maintenance of string teaching standards in our state. Amber Campbell has served as Awards chair since its inception and leaves that appointed post through a reorganization of Board Policy. Thanks for your terrific work, Amber! The appointed office of Membership Chair has also been reassigned, but Troy Raper remains on the CASTA Board as both Western Slope Rep and Webmaster! Thanks, Troy!

Thanks to Michelle Ewer and Mike Schaeffer for agreeing to run for office in the spring election. Congratulations to Michelle Ewer who is the incoming

President-Elect. A hardy thank you to Mike Schaeffer for having agreed to be a candidate for this office.

A special thank-you to my friend and colleague, Greg Hurley, who moves from the office of President to Past-President. I feel fortunate that he allowed me to "tag along" these past two years and gave me some big jobs to do to help me prepare for my turn as president. His work the past two years will be quite a legacy for our organization; reinstating the National Solo Competition preliminary round, updating the by-laws and leading the authorship of the Board Policy Handbook are just a few of Greg's accomplishments. Greg will be staying on as Editor of the *Vibrations Newsletter*. Thank-you, Greg, for your tireless work!

Many of you have received e-mail news from me as a part of my new presidency. I hope to communicate more by e-mail so that your news can be as current as possible. If you are not on the CASTA e-mail list and would like to be, it's because the National office does not have your e-mail address. Just send it to me at KipMason89@aol.com, and I will be sure you are included. Don't worry, this *Vibrations* newsletter will still come to you as always.

This issue also contains details of our summer convention. It promises to be a fun time with guest clinician, Lynne Latham of Latham Music Enterprises and presentations from several of our Colorado colleagues. College credit will once again be offered through CSU. This year, there is also a pool party, the lunch banquet on Saturday. and we are invited to play in the golf tournament! Check it out!

Sincerely,
Kip Mason

SUMMER ASTA WORKSHOP SCHEDULE, 2000

SHERATON DENVER TECH CENTER

THURSDAY, JULY 13, Room EC1

- 8:00 Registration
- 9:00 Overcoming Stress and Burnout Ed Huckeby
Joint session with CBA
sponsored by Flesher-Hinton Music
- 10:00 Cross-Training for Orchestra: Suzuki John Fetter
Influence in the Classroom
featuring students from Northeast and Cougar
Run Elementary Schools, Douglas County, CO,
Andrea Meyers, teacher
- 11:00 Taking Improvisation to the Next Level. Perpetual Motion
No-stress participation - bring your Josie Quick, violin
instruments! Tom Carleno, Guitar
- 1:30 New String Music Reading Session Amber Martin
sponsored by Flesher-Hinton Music
- 3:30 The School Participation Requirement: Front Range Youth
Can It be Enforced? Symphony
- 6:00 Circumventing Burnout through Collegial Poolside Interaction

FRIDAY, JULY 14, Room EC1

- 8:00 Registration
- 9:00 The Feldenkrais Method: Breath and Bethany Cobb
Movement for Musicians
- 10:00 The Thumb is the Secret - Cello Playing Lynne Latham
for Non-Cellists
sponsored by Music & Arts Center
- 11:00 The Feldenkrais Method: Finding Ease in Bethany Cobb
the Work and Play of Your Arms

1:30 Using Chamber Music in the Classroom
sponsored by Music & Arts Center Lynne Latham

2:30 Teaching Materials Update Exhibit Hall

6:00 Collegial Interaction Opportunities

SATURDAY, JULY 15, Rooms EC5/6

8:00 Registration

9:00 Basic String Techniques Greg Hurley

10:00 ASTA WITH NSOA General Membership Meeting Katharine Mason

11:00 Managing Stage Fright: Preparing Students for Performance
sponsored by Music & Arts Center Lynne Latham

12:00 Convention Luncheon/ CBA Awards

Colorado's Participation in the ASTA National Solo Competition

Congratulations and kudos to our two Colorado Finalists in the ASTA National Solo Competition. Adam and Anna Katherine Barnett-Hart hold the distinction of being the first National finalists from Colorado in recent history, and of being the only two siblings to compete among eight finalists in the Junior Violin category in Bloomington last May 11.

Both played very well in the competition and Adam placed second in the National Junior division. Adam, aged 16, will be a Freshman at Juilliard next year, while Anna Katherine, 14, will continue at Fairview High School. Special congratulations to their teacher, James Maurer!