



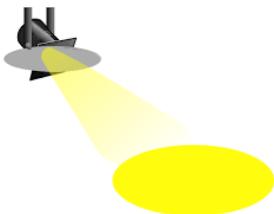
MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION OF CENTRAL ARKANSAS

PRESIDENT'S NOTE - SEPTEMBER 2018
CAROL ANN BONE

HAPPY 50TH ANNIVERSARY TO M.T.A.C.A.!!!
A comparison of events 50 years ago and today:

	1968-69	2013-18
Membership	24	55-65
Monthly Meetings	Sunday afternoon	Wednesday morning (Tuesday, Friday)
Local Dues	\$2.00	\$12.00
National + State Dues	\$10	National: Active \$79 Senior \$59.25 / State - \$25
Bank Account Average	\$29.29	Checking - \$3,600 Scholarship - \$2,500
Events	Student Honors Recital Sonatina/Sonata Festival Saturday Student Recitals	Student Honors Recital Sonatina/Sonata Festival Playathon + Stampede Composer Workshops
Monthly Programs	Members Recital, Students Performing, Orientation of ASMTA, Teaching Problems & Solutions (Panel),	Members Recital, Students Performing, Running a Business, Collaborative Masterclass, Teaching Adults + Teens, Composition + Theory, Health Specialists

SPOTLIGHTS are on members of many years:
Susy Beck NCTM: MTNA & MTACA 1977
Peggy Lewis NCTM: MTNA 1978
MTACA 1984





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SUSY BECK NCTM

Susy Beck is a native Arkansan who studied piano and voice from the age of six. She was also very interested in dance as a child, but with two working parents and no dance studio in town, it was not to be. Nevertheless, she won many recital awards and talent contests in high school, as well as being the school choir accompanist.

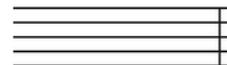
When she entered Henderson State University, Susy was selected as a singer and rehearsal accompanist for the Madrigal Singers. Upon graduation from HSU with a BME in piano and voice, she taught school music at all levels: elementary, Jr. High, and Sr. High, where her choirs received I ratings at festivals. She also was music director for the Jr. and Sr. High school plays and musicals, as well as being the director for the drama group.

Back to HSU Susy went, obtaining an MME in piano and voice with a minor in speech and speech correction, plus play production. As an adult with her own home, she was finally able to partake in her dream for dance lessons, and had a dance instructor come to her house every week to teach the basics of ballet, which also helped with other dance styles. After a time, she drove to LR weekly to dance classes learning tap, jazz, and more ballet.

Consequently, every time she tried out for a play, she was cast as a dancer. She has also been the music director, rehearsal pianist, and keyboardist in the bands of several musicals around Arkansas: "Gypsy" and "Guys and Dolls" at the Art and Science Center for Southeast Arkansas and "South Pacific" at the Royal Theater in Benton.

Susy has been in several dramas and musicals for the Little Rock Community Theater, the Arkansas Arts Center Children's Theater, the Art and Science Center for Southeast Arkansas, and was a resident chorus member of The Opera at Wildwood. She has taught piano and voice lessons in her private music studio for seventeen years. Her former students can be found in church choirs in the central Arkansas area and beyond.

She currently is a member of the Hot Springs Music Festival Chorus, and keeps her "piano chops" in shape by participating in two piano groups. She was influenced by all of the great Hollywood musicals, the many great classical pianists, and also Lesta Baxter, her piano teacher during secondary school. But perhaps the most influential person of all for Susy was a person who performed on the mandolin in a dance band and played the piano by ear - her mother.



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PEGGY LEWIS NCTM

Growing up in Jackson, MS in the 1950's was great! Safety was not such an issue, so kids stayed outside most of the time riding bikes, roller skating, playing ball, catching honeybees in jars, and a myriad of other activities. I was right out there with them, but my favorite activity was playing piano. Four of my friends and I started piano lessons in third grade. We had two private lessons a week, a group lesson for theory and performance, plus two recitals a year. Mrs. A.L. Dunlap, a graduate of the Boston Conservatory, only charged \$18.00 a month for all of that. Students inevitably progressed much faster than they do these days because they actually had time to practice!



There were many musical activities and programs for kids in Jackson in those days. Students in the elementary schools were invited to hear the Mississippi Orchestra each year, Leonard Bernstein was presenting children's concerts on black and white TV, and we had Mass Piano Recitals at the City Auditorium (where boxing and wrestling were held!) - 50 pianos of all age students playing duets. It was amazing. I also loved singing in the church children's choirs during those years. My family moved to Little Rock when I was starting 9th grade and I loved being in the Hall High School choir and Immanuel Baptist Church Choir. I also played for the Sunday Night Youth Group and sometimes the Sunday Night service. I have many great memories from the music experiences I had as a child.

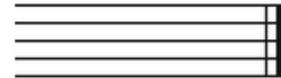
My love of music continued as I pursued it as a major in college. I loved my classes, my music friends and my wonderful teachers at Ouachita, especially Virginia Queen, my piano teacher from whom I learned so very much. After graduation with a BME and as a newlywed, I moved to Little Rock with my husband in order for him to attend Medical School. I taught music at Henderson Junior High for several years, which was a great experience. I had 325 students a day come through my classroom, including 7th grade General Music Class and choirs for 8th and 9th graders. At that time I began giving private piano lessons and have done so ever since. After a stint in the Air Force we settled in Tulsa, OK for the remainder of Jim's medical training. Our children, Susan and Jimmy, were born in 1970 and 1971. I also completed a MM degree in Piano Performance at the University of Tulsa where I studied with Aldo Mancinelli, quite the task master I must say, but in a good way. I learned so much!!!

In 1982 we moved to Searcy, AR for a slower pace of life and a different atmosphere for our children (and also because Jim could never root for any team except the Arkansas Razorbacks!). Until recently, due to health reasons, I have had a

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thriving studio. It has been a joy to me to be a part of MTACA, ASMTA and MTNA. Although not as active in the last few years, I have made lasting friendships, loved the exchange of ideas and just loved knowing that there are those of you who enjoy and love piano teaching as much I do. I love it for so many reasons, but the following ones may be the most important: getting to know the families and students so well that they almost become family, watching my students make progress through the years, and the satisfaction of knowing I have opened up the wonderful and magical world of great music to them. It is a very rewarding career!

Peggy Lewis is a Nationally Certified Teacher of Music (NCTM) with Permanent Certification and member of the Music Teachers National Association (MTNA) where she was a member of the National Board of Directors in 2000-2002 and 2003-2004. Prior to that she served MTNA as Secretary, President-Elect and President of the South Central Division (AR, LA, OK, TX). She is a member of the Arkansas State Music Teachers Association (ASMTA), where she served as president for 2004-2006. She is also a member of Music Teachers Association of Central Arkansas (MTACA), the National Federation of Music Clubs (NFMC), Little Rock Music Coterie and Pi Kappa Lambda National Honorary Music Society. In 2000, Mrs. Lewis was named Independent Teacher of the Year by ASMTA. In March of 2008 she was honored as a Foundation Fellow at the MTNA National Conference in Denver.



*With 50 years of committed teachers
and wonderful programs presented
by adults and students, M.T.A.C.A. is ready
for the future, so "On with the Show!"*

"Fine"