



MUSICENTRAL

January 2007 Founded in 1913—Tuned for the 21st Century

Message from the President



SHARPS & FLATS by John R. Vincenti

Hello AFM Local 660 Members. I am honored to become your President. Thank you for electing me.

This is my 40th year in State College. I came here to teach after graduating from Mansfield State College, and my career has included 16 years of secondary education in the State College Area School District, followed by 23 years in the College of Engineering at Penn State as a coordinator of special projects, all of which gives me a strong background in organizational management, fund raising, public and media relations, and outreach. Some may think that I retired in June 2006, but I say I have re-focused my life, and with the assistance of my wife, Cyndi, I am looking forward to many new adventures and opportunities to work and serve.

As a keyboard player and percussionist, music has been an important part of my life. My music background includes piano lessons from a great teacher and pianist for Lee Vincent's Band; drum core member in high school and college marching band; played with high school polka band called "The Pjs" in the Wilkes-Barre area; and also played with several Park Forest Junior High School teachers in a band called "The Old Mold." You guessed it, we played the "50s" in the 70s.

In May 2006, I met Local 660's Secretary-Treasurer Andrew Jackson. As I got to know Andrew, music was a key in our bonding. Through Andrew's guidance and encouragement, I consented to be on the ballot as president. I already knew John Kovalchik and Marilyn Haugh as teaching colleagues back in the 1970s, and I also knew Hubie Haugh as a respected local musician. Through them I became aware of the musicians' union, and their continued involvement helps our Local promote the goals of improving the well-being of members and encouraging music in our lives.

SHARPS & FLATS is a fitting moniker for my presidential messages this year, because it represents our Local's challenge to grow our membership and improve services to members. We also want to continue to gain public awareness of AFM programs.

Finally, but most importantly, we need to increase music awareness, not only as a universal language, but by encouraging young people to consider music either as a career or an important part and avocation in their lives. I welcome your input. Please contact me by email at johnrvincenti@comcast.net

Drum Beats by Dr. Andrew Jackson, Sr.

I would like to congratulate our new Local 660 President John R. Vincenti and thank our outgoing President John Kovalchik for his thus far, 17 years of service to Local 660 AFM.

Toni Duchi and the Paisley Group did an excellent job on our Local 660 Central Pennsylvania Newsletter during 2006, and we look forward to working with Toni and the Group again. By the way, Toni and the Group also prepare the Blue Band Alumni Newsletter.

I look forward to a great year with our electronic newsletter. Due to the illness of Secretary/Treasurer Emeritus Hubie Haugh we are reconciling 2005 and 2006 LM-3 Reports. We are also updating membership lists, and the Per Capita Reports for 2005-2006. Members please send any updated information (names, address, phone numbers, emails, band information, etc.) to me for inclusion in our 2007 directory, which will also be electronic.

All the officers should have a three ring notebook with the 2005-2006 agendas, minutes, newsletters, directory, and Local 660 information. I hope to see everyone on Saturday, January 27, 2007, at our General Membership Meeting, University Club on College Avenue, State College.

Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, Happy Kwanzaa, and Happy New Year!

If you're looking for a New Year's Party, I'll be performing at Bar Bleu New Year's Eve from 10PM to 1AM with the Blues Moon Band. Looking forward to seeing you there. axj119@psu.edu



Mark your calendar January 27, 2007 General Membership Meeting

- Saturday Noon-2PM, January 27, 2007 at the [UNIVERSITY CLUB in State College, PA](#)
- **FREE LUNCHEON BUFFET for member-in-good-standing PLUS one guest**
- AFM President Thomas Lee and AFM Field Representative Gene Tournour invited
- [RSVP Marilyn Haugh](#) 814-238-8791 by January 17th

December 10, 2007 Board Meeting Action Outline

- Adopted minutes of last mtg.
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- MPF funding—Page 3
- Olin Butt Scholarship—Page 2
- Budget for 2007
- Membership

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**AFM-Local 660
Olin Butt
Scholarship
Award—
“providing
scholarships to
students to take
lessons and to
further their
instrumental
proficiency.”**

OLIN BUTT SCHOLARSHIP

by John Kovalchik

In 2007, AFM-Local 660 will be cashing in a mature CD and turning over \$10,000 to the CCCF (Centre County Community Foundation). It will be used as a scholarship under the title "*Local 660 of the American Federation of Musicians, Olin Butt Memorial Scholarship.*"

Why is this happening and necessary?

Olin Butt lived in Centre County his entire life and was renowned as a musician and teacher. He directed the American Legion Band from Bellefonte to 23 state championships and four national championships. Olin started the Music Mart as a service to his students. He had an extensive teaching studio and it was the impetus for much of his career.

At Olin's passing a number of his students approached Local 660 officers about the possibility of a memorial scholarship. Not knowing who could administer such a scholarship, Local 660 was a logical choice. Olin was a life-member of our AFM-660 Local.

For a number of years the system worked fairly well. Our charge was to poll local band directors from the Centre County high schools to find undergraduate lessons. For a few years we were able to distribute \$100 scholarships to a number of students to take lessons and to further their instrumental proficiency.

There are a number of reasons for the scholarship's disuse. The system turned out to be a bit more cumbersome than any of the officers had anticipated. Sometimes we had candidates nominated by the local directors and sometimes we didn't. It was decided to place the remaining funds into a CD so it would grow until a better system could be utilized.

The Centre County Community Foundation is a very successful group and it is very efficient at distributing funds.

Once established as a named scholarship the \$10,000 fund will allow us more time to find good candidates and not have to administer the funds.

We will be able to advertise the scholarship and ask music directors to provide worthwhile candidates for consideration. The Local will have a committee to choose the winners and turn the names over to the CCCF. They will handle the fund distribution.

AFM-Local 660 and Olin Butt will again be in the public eye as a union of musicians who care about our young musicians and who will provide them with opportunities for success. It will truly be for the good of the order.

*John Kovalchik
Past President, Local 660
Executive Board 2007
Olin Butt Committee Chair
Liaison to CCCF*



Note: The Olin Butt Scholarship Award, when established through the Centre County Community Foundation, will provide funding throughout our Local 660 service area. This award will not be restricted to Centre County youth.



MUSIC PERFORMANCE FUND

by John I. Thompson

The Music Performance Fund (MPF) and the Recording Industries of America are funds that help pay for live performances in venues where they might not occur otherwise. Funding comes from sales of recordings and from co-sponsorships. As MPF Chair, I ask our members to seek out sponsorships, write grants, and develop partnerships with organizations and groups in your community who want to provide musical performances with music professionals. There are specific guidelines for a MPF to take place. They include:

The venue must be free and open to the public; there are to be no requirements of admission. No alcohol is to be served. Donations are not to be accepted, nor should they be solicited. The co-sponsor is responsible for staging and publicity. The scale for performers is to be set by Local 660. The cash co-sponsorship can be negotiated depending on the number of performers, the venue and the number of performances. For more information, contact me as Chair of Local 660 MPF, John I. Thompson. Email: jtblues@comcast.net



Minutes of December 10th Board Meeting

December 10, 2006
AFM-Local 660 Minutes
Executive Board Meeting
Location: Marilyn and Hubie Haugh's home

Meeting was opened by President John Kovalchik at 4:15PM. Those present: Hubie Haugh, Andrew Jackson, Sr., John Thompson, Donald B. Keat II, and John Vincenti.

President Kovalchik reviewed the previous Minutes and the minutes were accepted as corrected.

Andrew Jackson presented the Secretary's and the Treasurer's reports. He reviewed the current amount in the checking account of \$2,400, but indicated that there was a bill for \$329.00 for the last newsletter as well as other expenses.

Andrew also mentioned the CD that is currently in the bank and is earmarked for the Butt Scholarship Award. The amount was approximately \$11,000 and coming due in early spring 2007. This item was to be further discussed later. Treasurer Jackson also noted that the PA Department of Labor Office of

Management Standards returned the 2005 LM-3 report due to its inaccuracies. Andrew stated that he and John Kovalchik would file an amended 2005 report and also prepare the 2006 report. President Kovalchik with members' approval accepted the reports.

Under Old Business, President Kovalchik discussed the election process and the ballot design. He felt that if the ballot did not have a slate that was unopposed, the election would have been invalid, due to the development of the ballot sent to members. President Kovalchik then asked for acceptance of the ballots cast and by acclamation acceptance of the results of the election. The Board members in attendance all agreed. The election was finalized with this action for 2007. President Kovalchik then formally introduced, President-Elect John R. Vincenti, who was present.

Website and e-reporting were discussed. John Thompson reported on the MPF Report. He stated that there was \$547 in that account. The report was received by the Board. President Kovalchik then discussed the maturation of the Butt Scholarship CD. After much discussion the president asked

the treasurer to gather information in regard toward using the money for a request to us for a student from Gary Abdullah. The treasurer was charged to find out how much money was in the CD at this time and what would be the penalty for early withdrawal. Kovalchik noted that the Local had discussed and previously approved that \$10,000 would be given to the Centre County Community Fund to manage Local 660's money and provide for the Olin Butt Scholarship Award. This would enable the Foundation to manage money and the local get more visibility locally and also be able to identify an award winner. The Board approved the action.

The Board closed with a discussion on recruiting and retention. John Vincenti offered to publish electronically the 2007 newsletters. The Board set January 27, 2007 as the year's general membership meeting. Marilyn Haugh offered to set it up at the University Club in State College and also be responsible for the RSVPs. Student membership and members who have not paid in the past year were also discussed. The meeting was adjourned at 5:34PM.



**"Of course the music is a great difficulty. You see if one plays good music, people don't listen, and if one plays bad music, people don't talk."
Oscar Wilde**

2007 Monthly Newsletters to Highlight Members

The AFM-Local 660 Newsletter for 2007 could be monthly, but only if our members will help..

We need our members to send in stories about themselves, their music, and their bands. Send us photos too! We will dedicate up to a full page for each member's story and photo(s).

Help your AFM-Local HELP YOU!

Promote yourself, start writing today. Stories and photos will be taken on a first-come-first-publish basis. All articles will be subject to review by the Editorial Board. Deadlines for each issue will be the 15th of each month.

Contact [John Vincenti](#), Newsletter Editor or any member of the Editorial Board [John Kovalchik](#) and [John Thompson](#).
Let's make news!





**American Federation
of Musicians-Local 660**
Chartered October 29, 1913

Andrew Jackson, Sr.
Secretary/Treasurer
460 Douglas Drive
State College PA
16803
814-865-1499
Email: axj119@psu.edu

AFT International
Thomas F. Lee,
President
Gene Tournour,
Field Representative

**Serving Musicians in
Central Pennsylvania**

AFM is an advocate for
**MUSIC
MUSICIANS
JOBS
CAREERS
NETWORKING
ENCOURAGING MUSIC IN
OUR COMMUNITIES**

WE'RE ON THE INTERNET
<http://>

www.afm.org

**AFM
INTERNATIONAL**

www.afm.org/660/
AFM-LOCAL 660

[www.webspawner.com/
users/afmlocal660/index.](http://www.webspawner.com/users/afmlocal660/index.html)

[html](http://www.webspawner.com/users/afmlocal660/index.html)
**AFM-LOCAL
WEBSITE**

[http://www.homewebserVICes.com/660presidentcorner.](http://www.homewebserVICes.com/660presidentcorner.htm)

[htm](http://www.homewebserVICes.com/660presidentcorner.htm)
PRESIDENT'S CORNER

AFM-Local 660—2007 Officers

John R. Vincenti, President
Leslie L. Shaw, Vice-President
Dr. Andrew Jackson, Sr., Secretary / Treasurer

Executive Board Members

Randall A. Baker
Hubert H. Haugh
John R. Kovalchik
Donald B. Keat, II

Ex-Officio Members of the Board

Gary Abdullah
Dean E. Arnold

Committee Chairs

Membership Committee—Dr. Christopher Byrne
Public Relations—Christopher Lee
Olin Butt Scholarship Award—John R. Kovalchik
MPF—John I. Thompson
Election Committee—Debra Trudeau
Summer Session/Gigs—Gordon Law

Interested in serving on a Committee?

Contact John Vincenti, Les Shaw, or Andrew Jackson
Annual Dues—\$76
Contact our Secretary/Treasurer for New Memberships

AFM Local 660 includes: All of Huntingdon, Snyder, Union, Centre, Mifflin, Juniata, Union, and Montour Counties. All of Northumberland County except Snyder town, Shamokin, Ralpho, Zerbe, Little Mahony, Jackson, Herndon, Lower Mahanoy, West Cameron, East Cameron, Mount Carmel, Kulpmont, Marion Heights and Coal. Also all of Columbia County with the exception of Centralia, which is in the Local 140 Wilkes-Barre area.

Mission of AFM

- We can live and work in dignity;
- Our work will be fulfilling and compensated fairly;
- We will have a meaningful voice in decisions that affect us;
- We will have the opportunity to develop our talents and skills;
- Our collective voice and power will be realized in a democratic and progressive union;
- We can oppose the forces of exploitation through our union solidarity.

To achieve these objectives, we must commit to:

- Treating each other with respect and dignity without regard to ethnicity, creed, sex, age, disability, citizenship, sexual orientation, marital status, family status, or national origin;
- Honoring the standards and expectations we collectively set for ourselves in pursuit of that vision, supporting and following the Bylaws that we adopt for ourselves;
- Actively participating in the democratic institutions of our union;
- Build coalitions and act in solidarity with other organizations who share our concern for social and economic issues.

Membership Has Value

by Debbie Trudeau



One of the best benefits I found for being an AFM member came recently when I needed to purchase instrument insurance.

I am a classical violinist recently moved to State College. As a former member of a full time professional orchestra, I had my working instruments covered for free as an employment benefit, and the remainder of my household instruments covered for a modest fee. After moving to State College, I was disappointed to learn that my homeowner's insurance would not cover instruments used for professional work.

Through the union I was able to find insurance for all my instruments for a very reasonable fee. The discount varied for different affiliations like American String Teacher Assoc., college faculty, etc. **The AFM discount was far and away the best deal and the money saved more than covers my annual dues.**

Let's get the word out on this benefit of membership!



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**AFM—Local 660
January 27, 2007
General Meeting**

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