

SOMERSET AUXILIARY
of the
JOHNSTOWN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

The Somerset Auxiliary of the JSO met on Wednesday, June 10, at noon at the Kings and Queens Restaurant in Somerset. Members present were Syd Bowersox, Beckie Bracken, Natalie Cornez, Sam Hanson, Pat Hofscher, Ruth Hofmaster, Daryl Jones, Louise Majesky, Dennis McNair, Gay Reed, and Jeanne Wagle. Spouses included Paul Cornez and Gary Hofmaster.

Co-President Gay Reed thanked everyone for coming. The Sunshine Basket was gifted by Louise Majesky for Fran Langley, who was unable to attend. The decorative picture frame and towel were awarded to Dennis McNair, our newest member. The auxiliary has sold all of its O'Shea's chocolate bars and none have been reordered. Syd Bowersox provided her Treasurer's Reports as of April 1 and May 1. Detailed Sunshine Basket and O'Shea's Chocolate Bars reports were also included.

Member Dennis McNair thanked us for the Birthday card and cake presented to him by the auxiliary at the luncheon for Maestro on June 7. He added that he enjoys attending our meetings! His two years as President of the Board has ended, but he still chairs the committee for the selection of a new conductor for the JSO. There are now six candidates – young and new as conductors. It should be a good year, with a candidate conducting each concert of the season.

JSO has hired a fund-raiser for the symphony, named Rob Hudson. Beth Pile, Youth Orchestra Manager and Community Strings Conductor, is now working in the JSO office and Hudson is training her on the software/database. Pat Hofscher, Orchestra Manager, spoke of the annual July 4 concert in the War Memorial in Johnstown. It begins at 8pm and will be followed by fireworks and a booming Howitzer.

“Learn to Paint in Watercolors”, a fund-raiser taught by Jeanne Wagle, took place on Saturday May 16th, 2015 from 1-4 pm at Dressler Center. Jeanne is a wonderful instructor and it was a very enjoyable learning experience. Sam Hanson, Co-President, did a beautiful job providing support and refreshments. Unfortunately few attended.

The elegant luncheon at the Georgian Inn on June 7 was hosted by our Somerset auxiliary for Maestro Jaray. This event and the future of the auxiliary were

discussed at some length. Member Esther Michaud and her daughter Janet drove in from Philadelphia to entertain. Janet is an opera singer who worked with Maestro on many occasions and she acknowledged his influence on her career. Esther is an accomplished pianist, as well as an original auxiliary member, and she lovingly accompanied Janet on the piano. Overall the luncheon was much enjoyed and it was our privilege to be able to pay tribute and show our affection for a very special Maestro.

In closing the meeting, it was agreed that the Somerset Auxiliary would disband its membership and activities. The membership has dwindled and the organization can no longer function effectively. Our last meeting to finalize arrangements will be at noon on July 8 at Indian Lake Golf Club.

Ruth Hofmaster, Recording Sec'y.