

Area Chair's Report to the Area 4 Board

Annual Area 4 Board Meeting, September 30 – October 1, 2011; Marietta, GA

During our fiscal year ending September 30, 2011 we provided our membership with one area event, 6 state events and supported 3 endorsed events. Specifically:

January, 2011

- Area Ensemble Workshop (FL), sponsored
- South Shore Workshop (FL), endorsed
- New Ebenezer Advanced Festival (GA), endorsed

February

- New Ebenezer Intermediate Festival (GA), endorsed

March

- Florida State Festival, sponsored
- Georgia Spring Festival, sponsored

May

- South Carolina Spring Festival, sponsored

September

- Three sponsored Florida Workshops, Sarasota, Jacksonville, and Miami

We have scheduled:

February 2012: New Ebenezer Advanced and Intermediate Festivals (GA), endorsed

March: 4<sup>th</sup> Florida State Festival, sponsored

March: SC Spring Ring

March: GA Spring Ring

May: Area Tables and Trees Ensemble Workshop

Membership held steady FY2010 but declined FY2011.

<b>Area 4 Membership</b>			
<b>States</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>Variance</b>
Florida	229	226	-3
Georgia	151	128	-23
South Carolina	100	84	-16
PR, VI, Other	7	-	

In FY2011 our timeliness on deposits and payments and responses to financial questions have been those of a responsible non-profit organization. My personal thanks to treasurer, Raymond Patricio, for turning us around. I am concerned that we do not have a good ROP documented and well-understood method for post-event reporting. Specifically who makes the initial attendance report to National and who makes the final event report to National and who audits to ensure these reports are made within the published reporting times. I request that the FY2012 Board address this in the ROPs.

This past year Area 4's strength has been in its events. Excepting website support, our weakness has been in support functions. Archive has had activity this year. By its nature Archive should not create information or objects. Archive should only accept and store static information and objects of

historical and legal value to the organization. There has been minimal impact in the areas of Education, Membership, and Newsletter. The Newsletter is being addressed later in this meeting. The Membership chair has been active, but the program seems ineffective. I suggest the FY2012 Board may wish to revamp the membership program. Education was redone at the last meeting but never implemented. This is my failure. I did not get it done.

To those remaining on this Board and to incoming Board members: Area 4 is an incorporated non-profit organization. We have legal and ethical obligations to law, to our parent organization and to our membership. When I first came on this Board I looked at financial statements of years past and saw an instance where thousands of dollars had been spent on a board meeting. Quite frankly it made me angry that a group of people had the gall to spend that much of their members' money on themselves. So, of course, whatever you do as the Board must be legal and should be ethical. Also, please with every monetary decision ask yourself if you are giving your members a really good return on their money.

To those who have served with me these past 2 ½ years, "Thank you".

Richard Moore  
Area 4 Chair  
September 30, 2011