

Get to Know the MBOTMA Board

Board Member at Large: Jim Franczyk

How long have you been on the board and what's your position?

I just joined the Board in January of 2022. Looking forward to working with everyone!

How has being a board member impacted you?

I am quite impressed with the dedication of all the board members. I expect to learn a lot from them.

What MBOTMA volunteer role(s) have you held in the past?

I helped the crew in the MBOTMA administration tent at the August Festival at El Rancho Mañana about 4 years ago.

How long have you been part of MBOTMA and what brought you to the organization?

I have been a member of MBOTMA since the early 1980s. I came to Minnesota from the UW in Madison with folk music, bluegrass, blues and country in my soul. It's all still there.

What excites you about MBOTMA right now?

It's great to see how MBOTMA has grown over the years. Organizationally, it knows well what its mission is and how to accomplish its goals. It has successfully organized many festivals and music events over the years and promises to do more in the future. MBOTMA is serving the community of musicians and music fans very well!

What is your occupation and what type of work do you do?

I retired from the Minnesota Department of Human Services in the fall of 2010 after 35+ years. I am a social worker. During those years, I was a human services planner, a research director, an evaluator and a program manager. I worked in health care eligibility quality assurance, programs serving persons with disabilities, and other programs too.

What are some of your hobbies and interests?

I have been playing music with friends since high school. My instruments of choice today are the mandolin, the guitar, and the fiddle. Other interests

include trout fishing, kayaking, boating, camping, hiking, cross country skiing, turkey and grouse hunting and road trips (e.g., parks, trout streams, music festivals, etc.). When at home, I like to bake bread.

Do you have a favorite festival or activity at a festival?

Yes. The Showcase Tent and the Workshops. I've learned a lot from the folks on the stage, and from the workshops too.

What's a fun fact about you?

I was once a Philosophy major in college. When my Dad (a blue-collar worker) asked me what kind of job I intended to get after I graduated, I had no answer for him. So I changed my major. But to this day, I am a philosophical person.

What would you tell a new MBOTMA member/volunteer?

Have fun!!! Play if you have an instrument! Jam! Listen to the words and



the rhythm of the songs. And find out as much as you can about the origin and history of the music.



FEIN STRINGED INSTRUMENTS

DEALERS, REPAIRERS AND MAKERS OF
VIOLINS, VIOLAS, CELLOS, AND BOWS

Andrew Fein



GREAT INSTRUMENTS

Beautiful Wood Music Stands

Quality Cases

Wonderful Values

ON-LINE & ON GRAND AVENUE

www.FineViolins.com

1850 Grand Avenue

St. Paul, Minnesota 55105

651.228.0783 / 800.347.9172