

## **Virtual Ragtime Store**

The Ragtime Store and the Scott Joplin website have merged at last! Last October about 95% of the store's merchandise was loaded onto the website offering you shopping 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Look for most of your favorite merchandise at [www.scottjoplin.org](http://www.scottjoplin.org). You can even make donations to the Foundation or order concert tickets through the site for the 2006 Festival. And in the first 5 months, the response has been great! Orders are coming in from across the US and around the world. Honestly, around the world – Switzerland, England, Italy, and Japan to name a few. We have discovered that some Japanese are very interested in Joseph Lamb.

All your favorite items are online – CDs, cassettes, folios, and books. All your favorite artists are there as well from A – Z (Arpin – Zimmerman). If you've seen them in the store, you should be able to find them online. In addition, the Foundation has been working to add more musically themed gift items to the store. We have things for the house: martini glasses, pillows, reversible blankets, picture frames. Things for outdoors: hats, scarf, gloves, and umbrellas. Things for the office: paper tablets, paper memo cubes, sticky note pads, coffee mugs, note cards, and magnets. Accessories: lapel pins, bracelets, and beaded piano bags. And past festival items – what is left of them. Of course as new Festival merchandise comes in, we will get those online as quick as possible.

The list was easy to get online, but the photos of each item took a bit longer. So if you looked before and the photos were not there yet, check us out again. We are nearing photo completion! Also look for more new items online and in the store as the Festival draws near. We have new merchandise coming in from artists as the gear up for this year's Festival. The Ragtime Store is looking to become your one-stop shop for musical gifts and ragtime music!

## **Changes on the Board**

It's been a very active board year at the Scott Joplin Foundation. We lost two board members. One moved out of state and one is so involved in local activities he was running into time constraints. But they are both willing to help out when they can, and I'm sure we will be looking to them from time to time for advice and assistance.

So that means we have two new board members as of March. The first is Tabitha Burton. She is in her second year as music director for a school district just north of Sedalia. We are excited to have another musically trained member in our group. Some of you may remember her from the donor party last year. She was a volunteer helping with the drinks – the one that was 7 months pregnant serving wine! Others may remember her from the Hotel Bothwell where she worked for 5 years while in college. Tabitha will also have the distinction of being our youngest board member, so if you see her, be nice.

Our other new board member is Ethlene Jagels. Ethlene works for State Fair Community College in the Extended Campus office as their Administrative Assistant. She has long been a volunteer at many concerts for the Festival in the past, so many of you may also recognize her. That will also give the Foundation a fresh viewpoint from that of faithful volunteer. Ethlene enjoys ragtime music, plays piano, photography, cake

decorating, etc – so she's a very creative person which is always a great asset when planning a festival!

## **Changes for Mimi!!**

Same music but new booklets for Mimi's  
SUNDAY MORNING & ONCE UPON A RAG TIME CDs.

The booklets of Mimi's last two CDs: Sunday Morning and Once Upon A Rag Time, has been re-edited and have some changes in it. If you bought those CDs and you plan to attend the Mimi & Friends concerts in Versailles or The Scott Joplin International festival or the Blind Boone Festival in Columbia, bring the old booklets along with you (or a photocopy of it) and Mimi (or/and the ragtime store in Sedalia) will be able to provide you with the new ones. You can also ship them back (or a photocopy) in the mail at: Mimi Blais, P.O.Box 222-NDG. Montreal, Quebec Canada H4A 3P5