

WEST MICHIGAN FLUTE ASSOCIATION

Letter from JULIE SOOY, President

March 15, 2011

Hello everyone!

Did you get your e-vite? Let us know if you couldn't open it! We are trying to get a rough tally of those planning on going. In a couple of weeks, you will get the OFFICIAL commitment form. It has on it all the dates you need, and will let us know FOR SURE that you are going.

Please don't forget: IF YOU ARE GOING TO CONVENTION - PLEASE PAY YOUR 2011-2012 NFA dues online by April 15! Thank you!

I am really looking forward to going and hope that it will be as rewarding as the other years I've attended convention. I (Julie) just bought my plane ticket. Let us know if you need some help with that. (I'm talking suggestions and internet help, not buying them for you!)

If you couldn't make it to the recital on March 11, I'd like to tell you a little bit about it! Here are the things I love about WMFA flute recitals: 1) Park Congregational Church has fabulous acoustics in the chapel. 2) Everyone is supportive. 3) We have several members who find the most interesting music to play! Take Frans, who played a little known Schickhardt Sonata. As it turns out, the composer taught in the same village he grew up in, 200 years or so earlier. Cool story! Or how about the flute quartet (Spinella, Mines, Brown, Lane-MacConnell) played? They played a work by Grieg, edited by Geller that was simply beautiful for Quartet! Dan played a little known work that Tami Stimac suggested to him called Violet Air, by Robert Martin. It utilized some extended techniques and was really engaging! Michele Mines did some contemplative and soul-searching improvisation on Amazing Grace, remembering the victims and survivors of the earthquake in Japan. Linda Spinella and her student Elaine Sheikh as well as Danielle Breisach and her students Elizabeth Garman, and Kaitlin Black did some excellent music by Briccialdi (a personal favorite), Posadas and Stamitz. Fantastic work by these students! The recital ended with Chris Griffith's Quintet playing *Roaring Fork* by the composer, Ewazen, and it really sounded like the roaring waters. This recital was varied, lovely and I hope you'll consider coming to the next one! We all enjoyed playing for each other, and it kind of reminded me of a cozy concert that may have taken place in a castle or royalty's house. And I can't tell all about the recital without thanking Christy Kliwer for providing the perfect reception. Fruit, little sandwiches, cookies and punch - it was just lovely. Many thanks to Christy.

I'm attaching the solicitation letter one more time. Listen! You have no idea who would be happy to support WMFA. I was actually very much surprised when I gave it to a business owner of a bridal shop who was very interested in supporting WMFA and as using it for some advertising. That's awesome! Please! Any restaurant, store, retail outlet or manufacturer is fair game.

Please pass this letter on to some businesses you know with a short note hand written on the letter: "Bill (or whatever), I hope you'll consider supporting this great organization..." Remember this helps WMFA a ton, and will help us make the next payment on our contrabass. If you would like to make a one-time donation to help us pay for the rest of this instrument, a donation in any amount would be greatly appreciated!

Write your check to WMFA and send it to Emily Brown, 570 Cummings Ct., Sparta, MI 49345

Thanks everyone!
Julie

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Please take a moment to thank someone on the board for the work they do.
Everyone on the board works very hard to make this organization exceptional.

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I want to thank Michele Mines for formatting these Presidential Letters for me. She does it for the good of WMFA and it is a big help! The solicitation letter she formatted has really been getting results. Thank you, Michele!