

### Pre-Festival 2006

Texas Flute Society,

It is with great joy that I send to you my final letter as your president. I am truly honored that you have allowed me to serve for the past two years. I've enjoyed getting to know so many of you, while hearing your music and your stories. I've learned so much from many of you, and I hope that you have enjoyed it as much as I have. Know that I am grateful for each of you. Know that if there is any way that I can ever be helpful to you anytime, then all you need do is ask.....

Our 2006 festival is just around the corner. I have spoken with each of the guest artists and they are incredibly excited to be playing and teaching for you. Clara and Tara are busy gathering all of the last minute details for the festival to be ready by the time you arrive. Each our TFS officers and members of the festival committee have volunteered so much of their valuable time to make sure that the Texas Flute Festival is a success. I can't wait to see each of you at the festival! Godspeed to you as you prepare your music to share with us there.

I am delighted to announce that Velma Bogart will be leading TFS into the 21st century as our 23rd president. I hope you will take time to meet her at our next festival! She will be working closely with Marilyn Arey, our vice president, to ensure that we jump into the future with interesting and exciting flute events. Hats off to these two amazing ladies who will continue to lead us toward many more years of celebrating the flute across Texas.

Erich Tucker,
President, Texas Flute Society
TheFluteGuy@yahoo.com



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# Do you have submissions for the next TFS newsletter?

Please send any
congratulatory notes, flute events,
and other newsworthy
information to:
Jennifer Hunter
flautenmusik@hotmail.com
(Please place "TFS Newsletter" in suject line)



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# TFS Member Spotlight Interview with Catherine L. Besyner



Why did you choose to play the flute? I really wanted to play the drums, but my mom said I needed to pick something small!

Tell us about any musical influence in your family. My mom played the piano a little, and my dad played the trumpet in high school. They encouraged me to try it.

What brand of flute/piccolo do you play? I play a Miramatsu with a Drelinger headjoint. I also have a "Toot" headjoint cork from Drelinger to bring down the pitch on my high notes.

Tell us about your first flute. My first flute (when I was 10) was an Artley basic student flute. When it got stolen, I got a Gemeinhardt student flute.

Tell us about where you studied flute and the teachers you studied under. In college I studied with George Opperman at Indiana University South Bend (Indiana). He was a great player. He made flutes and repaired flutes of players from all over the world. Julius Baker was one of his clients. I briefly took lessons with Dr. Stone at Texas Tech while my husband was working on his Ph.D. I also took lessons with Janet Millard who was the principal flutist of the Milwaukee Symphony.

Where are you currently playing or teaching? Why? I have been playing in the Mansfield Wind Symphony for two years. For 12 years I was the principal flutist of the Waukegan Symphony (north of Chicago) and really missed playing. When I was invited to be a part of the MWS from the ground floor, I thought that was exciting. I have since formed a woodwind ensemble with a group of players from the wind symphony, and we play for most formal occasions.

I teach junior high band in Arlington, because I enjoy it tremendously. Teaching band is like putting a huge puzzle together after all of the parts are learned. It's wonderful to see the students' reactions when they hear their progress.

What are your plans/goals for the future? I would like to continue doing what I am doing! I would like to become a better flutist.

What is the best advice your have to offer the rest of our Texas flute community? PRACTICE! Seriously, practice for accuracy and musicality. Slow and correct is better than fast and sloppy!

Who is your favorite composer? When I was younger, Mozart was my favorite. I even named my dog Mozart. Now, I really enjoy listening to Walter Piston, Aaron Copland, Beethoven, Debussy, Tchaikovsky, Britten, Malcolm Arnold, ......

Tell us what is in your CD player right now? Nestor Torres! In fact, I have 3 of his CDs in my CD player. He is a very talented player.

Interview with Besyner con't

What is your favorite piece to play from the flute repertoire? I enjoy performing the Meditation from Thais. It's beautiful and usually brings people to tears. I have some original liturgical pieces by Bob Moore that I play that are wonderful.

What is your favorite recording? Too many!

What time did you go to bed last night? 11:00 pm

To date, what has been the highlight of your flute career? The highlight has to be being the principal flutist of the Waukegan Symphony Orchestra. Orchestral playing is my favorite performance outlet, but very difficult to get into. While playing with the WSO, I performed the Bach Suite in b minor. That was definitely a highlight!

What qualities do you think are most essential to musical excellence? You have to listen very critically and carefully to great players and then apply things you like to hear to yourself. You have to be persistent in your practicing.

Through the years, what is the most valuable lesson that the flute has taught you? Playing an instrument has taught me discipline, confidence, how to set long term goals, and that there are many friends to be made in musical pursuits.

What color is your toothbrush? Purple

What is your dream vacation? I love to visit beautiful places by the ocean with lots of unique shopping!

What was the last book you read? "Music with the Brain in Mind" by Eric Jensen

What is the first thing you think of when you wake up in the morning? How can I stay busy today and not turn on the television?

If you were to discover a truly magic flute and when polishing it a genie appeared to grant you three wishes, what would you wish for? I would wish for health, happiness, and loving relationships (including a loving relationship with a gold Powell flute!)



The 29th Annual Texas Flute Society Festival is approaching fast! As you make out your itinerary of which events to attend, I wanted to make a recommendation. Last August I attended the National Flute Convention in San Diego. After many years in a row of hearing amazing flute players at conventions, it is sometimes easy to get a little jaded. It can be sensory overload as everyone is so good. Also, some people attend the convention purely for selfish reasons and self-promotion. However, last summer I was caught off-guard by a presentation that was completely unselfish and quite inspiring. It was entitled: FLUTISTS REACHING OUT: NFA MEMBERS SHARE THEIR EXPERIENCES IN KOSOVO, THE WEST BANK, HAITI, BRAZIL AND AT ROSIE'S HOUSE IN PHOENIX. I initially attended the panel discussion to support some friends who were serving as panelists although it did sound a bit interesting to me as well. However, what I got from it was so much more than I ever expected. Each panelist gave a presentation about their experiences of bringing music to the lives of people who were living in poverty stricken and/or war-torn places. Ernestine Whitman visited Haiti, Wendy Rolfe went to Brazil, Brooks de Wetter-Smith performed in the West Bank, Judy Conrad teaches under-privileged students in Phoenix at Rosie's House and Terri Sundberg went to Kosovo. As each panelist talked about their experiences and shared photos and stories about the people they met and the devastation they saw I was moved to tears. Terri Sundberg's trip to Kosovo hit me the hardest. When I saw the pictures of devastation and then saw the children living in refugee camps, I cried tears of sadness. Then when she told of how the music gave these kids hope and joy and touched their lives, I cried tears of joy. It reminded me of why I love music so much and why it is so important for humanity. It can cross language barriers and inspire and touch people. It can give them peace from all the chaos around them and hope for a brighter future. We are so lucky to have Terri Sundberg at our festival to give her presentation again. I urge everyone to add this to your itinerary. You won't regret it. In fact, it may even inspire you to get involved! The presentation will take place on Sat. May 20<sup>th</sup> from 4:30-5:30 pm in the recital hall at UNT.

-Christine Cleary



Don't miss the Presentation on the Shropshire Foundation at the T.F.S. Festival, Saturday, 5/20/06; 4:30 – 5:30 pm in the Recital Hall!!

### PEACE.

Every night, children in Kosovo wake up screaming from horrific nightmares about men with guns. Every day, Protestant and Catholic kids in Northern Ireland cautiously play in segregated communities, always fearing a burst of violence. Every evening, Ugandan boys and girls trek to urban shelters where they huddle together to evade being kidnapped and forced into becoming child soldiers.

These children live thousands of miles apart, but they all suffer from the trauma of war. And they are all being cared for by a unique program—The Shropshire Music Foundation—instilling tolerance, emotional healing and peace through music education and performance programs. (www.shropshirefoundation.org)

This small grassroots organization has become a powerful force in teaching war-traumatized children living in atmospheres of compounding hatred that they can be peacemakers. The foundation has grown to reach Kosovo, Northern Ireland and Uganda. However, despite the program's remarkable growth and successes, funding is at an all-time low.

Give the gift of peace for a suffering child. There will be a fund-raising drive at the T.F.S. Festival to help buy instruments for the children in these war-torn countries. Look for the table at registration and plan on attending the joint presentation by founder Liz Shropshire and Terri Sundberg, who recently traveled to give flute concerts for the children in Kosovo. 4:30 pm – 5:30 pm UNT RH.

#### You Can Help

Support our peace-making work with the children. The Shropshire Music Foundation is a nonprofit, tax exempt organization and all donations are tax deductible (identification number 95-4780064). ANY amount will help. If the 1500 persons that attend the TFS convention gave \$4 each, we would come up with \$6000 – enough for the needed 2000 pennywhistles for Kosovo and Uganda!

- enough for the needed 2000 pennywhistles for Kosovo and Uganda!

\$3 – provides a Clarke Tinwhistle to a child in Kosovo, Northern Ireland, or Uganda

\$5 – provides a Hohner harmonica for one child.

\$35 – provides a Lanikai Ukelele which teenager volunteers use to accompany singing classes

YES! I want to help. Email:

Name:

(payable to Shropshire Music Foundation)

Address



### LIZ GOODWIN 2006 Guest Artist

Liz Goodwin started playing the flute at the age of 10 but always knew she wanted to teach, and so qualified as a classroom teacher. After the birth of her two sons, now aged 20 and 22, she realized she missed having music in her life so decided to study flute again. This led her to establishing, Flutewise, the international organization for young flute players, in 1988. (website: http://www.flutewise.com) As well as editing the magazine, she runs a wide variety of flute events in England. She is the author of the acclaimed "Fife Book" a method of starting beginners on the flute using a Yamaha fife.



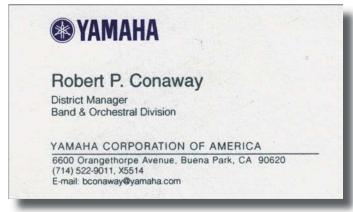




# NANCY CLEW 2006 Guest Artist

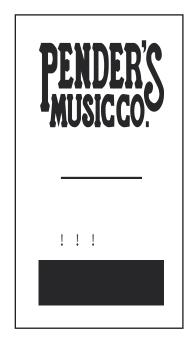
Nancy Cobun Clew is flute instructor at Brevard Community College, director of the 40 member adult Space Coast Flute Orchestra and maintains a large private studio. A National Flute Association delegate to China in 1987 and East Germany in 1994, she continued the tradition of touring flutists by founding the American Flute Orchestra which toured Ireland 1996, France 1997, Germany/ Austria 1998, Italy 1999, England 2000, Spain 2001, Eastern Europe 2004, and China in 2005. She is founding advisor of the Florida Flute Association, adjudicator for the Florida Bandmasters Association, and has been a guest clinician in Texas, Georgia, Virginia, Missouri, New Jersey, Florida, Singapore, Bangkok and Chiangmai, Thailand.





# CHRISTINA JENNINGS 2006 Guest Artist

Christina Jennings received her Bachelor's and Master's degrees at The Juilliard School, where she earned the Nina Caruso Prize for Outstanding Achievement. In 1996, she was awarded a Frank Huntington Beebe Grant to pursue studies in London and Paris. Winner at the 50th Anniversary 2001 Concert Artists Guild International Competition, Ms. Jennings is the first flutist in fifteen years to receive the coveted award. In addition, she earned First Prize at the Houston Symphony Ima Hogg Competition, the William C. Byrd Competition, and the competitions sponsored by the NFA and the New York Flute Club. Her teachers include Jeanne Baxtresser, Carol Wincenc, George Pope, and Leone Buyse. Ms. Jennings' faculty positions have included Bowling Green State University (OH), University of Oklahoma, the Bloomingdale House of Music, and Bowdoin Summer Festival.





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### Flute Festival Questions & Answers

by Ellen Kaner

#### What about parking?

Although there are numerous parking areas near the music building, please allow extra time to get situated.

### Do I need to register?

Yes, but you may play your solo or ensemble for your assigned specialist before you wait in the registration line, if that is more convenient for you. If you notice that the line is so long that it will prevent you from warming up, return to the registration area later to get your festival program.

#### What should I bring to the festival?

- 1. Your flute (the festival won't be as much fun without it!)
- 2. The information about the time and room where you perform (received from your own teacher).
- 3. An extra copy of the pieces of music to be performed. Number the measures on both the participant's copy and the specialist's copy.
- 4. A separate cassette tape for each performance (these will be sold for \$2 at the registration desk if you need to buy them there).
- 5. A folding music stand if you are in a festival flute choir or a large flute ensemble (stands will be provided in the solo room).
- 6. Festival flute choir music, which will be received in advance and practiced if a participant has signed up for one of the flute choirs.

# What if I forget my performance time, miss my time, have a need to reschedule, or was accidentally left off the schedule?

The entire master schedule will be available at the registration table. There will be adult volunteers to help with problems, changes, or emergencies.

#### What if my instrument breaks during the festival?

There will be an emergency repair station set up to help with those situations.

### Will lunch be available nearby?

Yes, there are numerous reasonable restaurants and fast food places in the area, but very few are within walking distance. A sack lunch is a good idea for those on a tight schedule, or you may visit the Hot Dog Guy in the commons.

### Is it too late to volunteer for this year's festival?

No, it certainly is not. Please email Tara Richter at msclvr\_10@hotmail.com if you can lend a hand before, during, or after the festival.

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### **Concert Etiquette**

by Byron Belt

The performing arts season is getting into full swing. Audiences are set to enjoy the entertainment and inspiration of performing ensembles of every description.

One thing is for certain; for many, the performances will be marred by thoughtlessness on the part of too many people who otherwise consider themselves good citizens. These people ignore the simple rules of courtesy, or unconsciously destroy the peaceful environment necessary for enjoyment of many of the wonderful performances being offered a generally eager and appreciative audience.

Here are some rules that should be reprinted in every program book in America. Simple common sense and courtesy will vastly improve the serenity and happiness of sharers in the magic of the arts.

#### THOU SHALT NOT

**TALK.** The first and greatest commandment. Stay home if you aren't in the mood to give full attention to what is being performed on stage.

**HUM, SING OR TAP FINGERS OR FEET.** The musicians don't need your help, and your neighbors need silence. Learn to tap toes quietly within shoes. It saves a lot of annoyance to others, and is excellent exercise to boot.

**RUSTLE THY PROGRAM.** Restless readers and page skimmers aren't good listeners and gently distract those around them.

**CRACK THY GUM IN THY NEIGHBOR'S EARS.** The noise is completely inexcusable and usually unconscious. The sight of otherwise elegant ladies and gentlemen chewing their cud is one of today's most revolting and anti-aesthetic experiences.

WEAR LOUD-TICKING WATCHES OR JANGLE THY JEWELRY. Owners are usually immune, but the added percussion is disturbing to all.

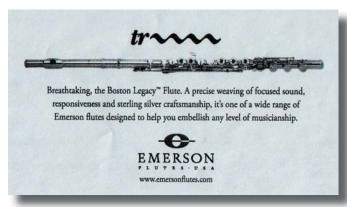
**OPEN CELLOPHANE-WRAPPED CANDIES.** Next to talking, this is the most serious offense to auditorium peace. If you have a sore throat, unwrap throat-soothers between acts or musical selections. If caught off guard, open the candies quickly. Trying to be quiet by opening wrappers slowly only prolongs the torture for everyone around you.

**SNAP OPEN AND CLOSE THY PURSE**. The problem used to apply only to women. But today, men are often equal offenders. Leave any purse or opera glasses case unlatched during the performance.

**SIGH WITH BOREDOM.** If you are in agony, keep it to yourself. Your neighbor may be in ecstasy, which also should be kept under control.

**ARRIVE LATE OR LEAVE EARLY.** It is unfair to artists and the public to demand seating when one is late or leaves early. Most performances have scheduled time; thy to abide by them.

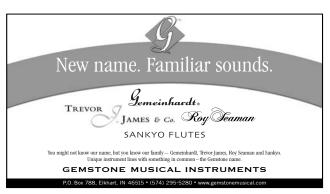
There are other points, of course, and each reader will have a pet peeve we have omitted. However, if these were obeyed, going to performances would be the joy that it was intended to be and we all would emerge more refreshed.



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# The Texas Flute Society congratulates the following semi-finalists of the 2006 Myrna Brown Competition!

Dallas, Texas Teresa Austin Sarah Brandy Quincy, Massachusetts Elzbieta Brandys West Newton, Massachusetts Alicia DiDonato Cambridge, Massachusetts Rebecca Garfield Austin, Texas Lindsay Leach West Miffin, Pennsylvania Angela Massey Chicago, Illinois Naomi Seidman Austin, Texas Elena Yarritu Stony Brook, New York







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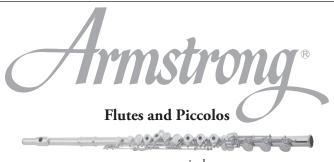
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### TFS WRAP-UP MEETING!!!

The next Texas Flute Society meeting will be held at 3pm, Saturday June 3rd at the home of Velma Bogart (9 Twin Lakes Court, Arlington, TX 76016). This will be a wrap-up meeing to discuss the flute festival. If you have great ideas to share or would just like to see what goes on behind the scenes please plan to join us! There will be a large, but small, fun, but civilized party afterward so feel free to bring some snacks to share if you like! For additional information contact Velma at vlbogart@flash.net.

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