

# News of Note



Fall 2004

Volume 1, Issue 1

*The Newsletter of The Wisconsin Federation of Music Clubs*



## President's Message

As I begin my second year as your WFMC President, I would like to reflect on some of the events that took place during the past year. The WFMC has many new and energetic board members with lots of ideas for implementing new programs as well as improving on the existing ones.

We had a very successful Junior Festival Season in 2004. Be sure to read more in the **Awards** section of this newsletter. I learned at the NFMC Board Meeting in Wilmington, NC that some states don't pay their judges and require their teachers to work one hour for every student they enter in the festival. So, WFMC Junior Counselors, be sure to thank all of those who volunteer their countless hours of time so that we may have quality festivals throughout the state. Our festival chairmen are doing a fantastic job of organizing and taking care of their finances so that we can afford to pay quality judges for our young people.

Our Junior Composers did outstandingly well both at the state and national level. Don't miss the article about our winners, as well as news of the many other scholarships and awards given by the WFMC in 2003-2004.

The WFMC Board met in October, January and May this past year, and there were numerous Senior Club meetings as well. I attended a spring meeting of the Schubert Club in Kenosha and a concert including Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto #2 performed by Erik Saunders and accompanied by his teacher, Vickie Wagner, members of the Wauwatosa MacFadyen Club. The WFMC Board listened to a CD recording of Erik's performance, and in the spirit of what our organization stands for, agreed that a "gift of encouragement" of \$500.00, be presented to this exceptionally gifted and talented pianist. I also attended the spring luncheon meeting of the Oconomowoc Music Club and the Centennial celebration for the MacDowell Music Club in Janesville. This celebration included a lovely dinner, an introduction of the artist, Barbara Matthews, who was commissioned to do a painting entitled "To A Wild Rose", listening to "A Fantasy Piece for Clarinet, Viola and Piano" by Christian Ellenwood, also commissioned for the Centennial, and a performance by concert harpist, Nanette Felix.

In July, Christine Peterson, President of the Oconomowoc Music Club and I traveled to Roseville, Minnesota to attend the North Central Region Days. And in August, Heidi Hong and I attended the National Board Meeting in Wilmington, NC. Read all about both events inside!

As we look forward to the upcoming year, I am excited about all of the activities and programs that we have planned, most of which are mentioned in this newsletter. Our first Board Meeting will be on Saturday, October 2, 2004. In case you weren't aware...**you are all invited to attend any of these meetings!** This is an excellent way to find out what is going on with the WFMC. We always welcome new ideas and ways to provide new opportunities for our members, so don't hesitate to contact me or any board member at any time. You all have so much to offer the Wisconsin Federation of Music Clubs and we do need your support and attendance at our programs and functions to make the upcoming year the best ever for the WFMC! See the back page of this newsletter for time and place.

2005 is convention year for the Wisconsin Federation of Music Clubs. This event will be co-hosted by Treble Clef Music Club of Beloit and MacDowell Music Club—Janesville, on June 18, 2005 at the Janesville Woman's Club. We will be giving you more detailed information about this in the near future

Be sure to check the newsletter for Festival dates, changes in dues and entry fees, Student Audition and Young Artist Audition deadlines, Junior Composer deadlines, etc.

Musically Yours,  
Jeanne F. Kish, WFMC President

### From the Editor

I hope you enjoy this issue of *News of Note*. I left Oconomowoc on Thursday, July 14 with WFMC President Jeanne Kish, to attend the North Central Region Days Conference and returned home on Saturday the newly appointed newsletter. Lucinda Lear, President of the Iowa Federation, did an inspiring presentation on Iowa's newsletter effort and before I knew it I was telling Jeanne, "I can do that!" You be the judge!

I'm succeeding Heidi Hong as editor. Heidi, as you may know, is now chair of the National Council of State Presidents, and one extremely busy individual. I sincerely appreciate the excellent work Heidi's done on the newsletter in the past, and her generous support and encouragement. Thanks especially to Jeanne Kish for her leadership, and to the WFMC Board for its enthusiastic support of the newsletter effort. I'm also grateful to Jon Radmer for his Herculean effort on the membership data file in preparation for mailing this newsletter.

*News of Note* will publish in September, January and May. Deadline for submissions for the January issue is December 1, 2004. Submit via e-mail as a Word document or text file attachment if possible, to [chrisso@sbcglobal.net](mailto:chrisso@sbcglobal.net). Material may also be pasted into an e-mail. Pictures or graphics may be sent in the format of your choice as attachments. If you don't have access to e-mail, materials may be mailed to the address below.

I welcome your feedback, and most of all, I encourage you to use *News of Note* to share news of your clubs and NFMC activities. I look forward to your contributions.

Christine Peterson, 508 S. Concord Rd., Oconomowoc, WI 53066 [chrisso@sbcglobal.net](mailto:chrisso@sbcglobal.net) ; 262-567-8790

### Junior Festivals

- **Gold Cups** -- We had a very successful Junior Festival season in 2004 with 735 gold cups awarded. This was the second highest in the North Central Region, second only to Minnesota.
- **Grand Cups** -- Wisconsin also took top honors in the North Central Region having 6 Grand Cup Recipients (75 points) this year
- **Kent Amano**, a senior at Glendale Nicolet High School and a student of **Marlene Cook** was awarded the **President's Cup** for accumulating 90 points in Festival competitions, and only This cup is one of only four that have been awarded since its origination in 2003, and only two this year !

*Congratulations to all our Juniors and their teachers!!*

**See Page 3 for dates for 2005 Festivals.**

### Revised Dues and Festival fees Schedule

The WFMC Board voted at its May 1, 2004 meeting to establish new dues and fees as noted below.

Item	Previous Fee	New Fee
Junior Club Dues	\$.85/student	\$1.00/student (\$20 minimum)
Music Store Dues		
-- 0 to 50 members	\$ 0.00	\$45.00
-- 50 to 100 members	\$ 0.00	\$75.00
-- 101 + members	\$ 0.00	\$95.00
Late Payment Fees		
-- rec'd after November 1	\$10.00	\$25.00
-- rec'd after January 1	\$25.00	\$50.00
Junior Festival & Gold Cup Fees		
-- application	\$ 6.00	\$ 6.50
-- Gold Cup	\$ 4.50	\$ 5.00
Directory Advertisement		
-- ¼ page		\$35.00
-- ½ page		\$50.00
-- full page		\$95.00

### North Central Region Federation Days July 15&16, 2004 By Christine Peterson

When WFMC President Jeanne Kish announced at the May 1 Board meeting that WFMC pays for two people to attend the NCR Conference in Roseville MN (a suburb of St. Paul), I thought to myself, "Why not?"

What a neat experience! I've enjoyed gaining a broader knowledge of the NFMC through the activities of the WFMC since becoming president of the Oconomowoc Music Club. It was exciting to go a step further and learn about and be a part of Wisconsin's role in the North Central Region.

NCR sponsors the Junior Composer's Institute, held the same week as NCR Days. On Thursday evening we attended the JCI Concert. Read more on page 4 of this newsletter. Friday evening we attended a Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra concert, featuring pieces by -- *Continued p3*

## Junior Festival Dates for 2005

Date	Center	Address	Notes
2/5/05	Burlington	United Methodist Church Hwy W Waterford WI 53105	
2/6/05	Sheboygan	Diane Remy School of Dance & Baton 2305 N. 8 <sup>th</sup> Street Sheboygan WI 53083	
2/6/05	Waukesha West	Cascio Music Co. 13819 W. National Ave. New Berlin WI 53151	
2/12/05	Green Bay	St. Norbert College 100 Grant St. De Pere WI 54115	
2/12/05	Janesville South	Saint Matthew Lutheran Church 709 Milton Avenue Janesville WI 53545	
2/12/05	Kenosha	UW Parkside 900 Wood Road Kenosha WI 53144	No cert required.
2/12/05	Waukesha South	Wisconsin Lutheran College 8800 West Bluemound Rd. Milwaukee WI 53226	
2/13/05	Madison	Ward-Brodt Music Mall 200 W. Beltline Hwy Madison WI 53713	
2/19/05	Northshore	UW Washington County 400 University Dr. West Bend WI 53095	
2/26/05	Milwaukee West	Mount Mary College 2900 N. Menomonee River Pkwy. Milwaukee WI 53222	
2/26/05	Stevens Point	First Presbyterian Church 200 S. Lincoln Ave. Marshfield WI 54449	
2/27/05	Eau Claire	UW Eau Claire Klienpell Arts Building 105 Garfield Ave. Eau Claire WI 54701	
2/27/05	Janesville North	Susan's School of Dance 3447 Mt. Zion Janesville WI 53546	No cert required
2/27/05	Milwaukee North	Peck School of the Arts UW-Milwaukee Box 413 Milwaukee WI 53201	
3/5/05	Beloit	Eaton Chapel Beloit College 700 College St. Beloit WI 53511	
3/5/05	Waukesha North	Wisconsin Lutheran College	See address for Waukesha South, 2/12/05
3/19/05	Milwaukee South	Wisconsin Lutheran College	See address for Waukesha South, 2/12/05 Note changed date!! Was 2/26/05

## Carole Flateau Workshop

By Jeanne Kish

NFMC Folk Music Chairman Carole Flateau presented a program at Cascio Music on August 27, 2004. Carole spoke about folk music, pedagogy, tips for handling transfer students and business procedures for the private music teacher.

All who attended the were impressed with her knowledge, talents and innovative ideas. Carole will continue to help and advise us in these areas

## NCR Days

--cont'd from page 2

Prokofiev, Dvorak, Chopin and Brahms and a piano solo by Christopher Riley of National Public Radio Fame.

The Orchestra Hall lobby opens up to Peavey Plaza, a city-owned park that features waterfalls and a reflecting pool—a great place to have dinner! We made our selections from the various food carts on plaza. Past NFMC President Ouida Keck and I discovered a mutual love for coffee ice cream, and split a second helping.

All in all, a lovely weekend, with the added bonus of getting to know Jeanne better! If you can carve a few days out of your schedule next July, I heartily recommend attending NCR Days. Thanks, WFMC for sending me!



## Awards...

### WFMC Citation Award

The WFMC Board voted at its May 1, 2004 meeting to award the WFMC Citation Award for distinguished service to the musical, artistic and cultural life of our area to **Diane Skrobis**. Diane founded the Children's Choir of Waukesha. Under this umbrella, Diane and other teachers working with her have established a Training Choir, an Intermediate Choir and an Advanced Choir. She also has a pre-school program titled, "The Singing Tree", for children from birth through kindergarten.)

Diane is also the former director of children's choirs of Carroll College's Project Create. Project Create is a community outreach program of Carroll College. The program offers lessons and performance venues in art, dance, foreign language, music and theater for students of all ages. In spring 2000 the Project Create program had more than 600 students from 90 schools enrolled. For 14 years Diane conducted children's choirs from beginners to advanced, putting on marvelous performances with the children.

Ms. Skrobis will be presented with a plaque commemorating her achievement at the October 2 meeting of the WFMC Board.

### Junior Composers *by Christine Peterson*

Wisconsin students Alex Kreger (Brookfield) and Jackie Roessler (Cedarburg) were North Central Regional Class III winners and Michael Tolly (Oregon) won in Class II in the 2004 Junior Composers Composition contest. Alex Kreger went on to win 1<sup>st</sup> prize in Class III at the national level for his "Suite for Piano." Congratulations to students and teachers on your accomplishment!

WFMC President Jeanne Kish and I got to hear Alex perform his winning composition at the Junior Composers Institute Concert at Northwestern College in Roseville, Minnesota on July 15<sup>th</sup> while we were at the North Central Region Days meeting. It was a treat to meet Alex, and to enjoy the talents of the other gifted young people attending the Institute. We got to sit in on some classes at the Institute on Friday afternoon. The kids' enthusiasm was contagious, and it made us proud of the North Central Region's support of the Junior Composers' institute, now in its second year.

Take note, aspiring young Wisconsin composers !!! Placing 1<sup>st</sup> in Levels III and IV at the state level brings eligibility for a WFMC tuition scholarship to the Junior Composers Institute in Minnesota. WFMC pays tuition for up to two winners.

### Application Deadlines

<u>Competition</u>	<u>Deadline</u>	<u>State Chairman</u>
Student Auditions	January 15, 2005	Ruth Kreuser W166 S6716 Oak Hill Dr. Muskego, WI 53150
Junior Composers	February 1, 2005	Kenneth Bruce 4203 N. Morris Blvd. Shorewood, WI 53211
Young Artists Auditions	March 1, 2005	Deborah Coleman N76 W2144 Chestnut Hill Rd. Sussex, WI 53089

## Awards...

### **Apple For The Teacher \$100 Award** by Carol Ann Lemke, Chair, Apple for the Teacher

The APPLE FOR THE TEACHER project is designed for school music departments K - 5.

The purpose is to assist a public or parochial school music teacher with the purchase of an item(s) for their class room.

All WFMC Senior Music Clubs are eligible



to nominate a school music teacher.

Much to our delight, the Wisconsin award four \$100 APPLE FOR THE

Federation of Music Clubs was able to TEACHER 2004 AWARDS.

The recipients, schools and senior clubs that

nominated them are as follows:

- . Treble Clef Club of Beloit nominated Valerie Troxel of Merrill Elementary School
- . Oconomowoc Music Club nominated Jan Shackleton of Country Christian School
- . Chippewa Valley Music Teachers Association Nominated Corinne Gransee of Lakeshore Elementary School
- . MacDowell Music Club of Janesville nominated Cindy Riley of Jackson Elementary School

We ask that the responsible senior club send us pictures of the award being presented, so that we can put them in the WFMC State History Book.

They can be sent to me: Carol Ann Lemke  
835 W. Grand Av  
Port Washington, WI 53074

A digital photo can be sent by e mail to: [capiano@sbcglobal.net](mailto:capiano@sbcglobal.net)

Watch for the upcoming 2005 announcement/application. It will be mailed to all our senior club presidents this November.



### **Frank S. Cascio Scholarship**

Cascio Music Company in conjunction with the Wisconsin Federation of Music Clubs awarded three Music Education Scholarships and two Music Education Grants in the amount of \$1,000 each to the following:

Scholarships to High School Seniors who are pursuing a degree in Music Education were awarded to:

- . Micah Averbeck from Kenosha Tremper High School
- . Ryan Feia from Waukesha West High School
- . Ashley Singer from Muskego High School

Grants to school music programs were awarded to:

- . Dominican High School
- . Ben Franklin Elementary School

## NFMC Board Meeting, Wilmington, NC August 11-16, 2004 *by Jeanne Kish, WFMC President*

National Federation of Music Club members from all over the United States converged on Wilmington, NC for the biennial NFMC Board Meeting. Little did we all know that Hurricane Charley would join us!

I arrived on **Thursday** and spent the evening with fellow North Central Region members. We ate at a quaint little restaurant named Elijah's. Afterwards, we attended the concert of the Roo Duo, the 2003 winners of the Ellis Duo Piano competition. Their performance was as spectacular as the one last year in Nashville.

**Friday morning** I attended a Junior Festival meeting. Wisconsin's Junior Club Counselors will be updated on changes and improvements when you receive your festival materials

The North Central Region luncheon followed. Wisconsin was responsible for the invocation. I will share that invocation with all of you who attend the October Board Meeting. The National President, Elizabeth Paris, treated us to a skit where she played Kitty Wright and was accompanied by Orville and Wilbur. Elizabeth is related to the late Wright brothers.

After lunch there was free time for Heidi Hong and I to tour Wilmington (in the rain, of course!) Then on to the Moonlight Dinner Cruise on the Cape Fear River. It was a beautiful night, warm and calm. It was fun socializing with people from so many different areas of the country.

On **Saturday morning** we learned that Hurricane Charley was heading back to land after having crossed Florida and gone out into the ocean. The morning started with a Council of State President's meeting presided over by our own Heidi Hong. Heidi endeared herself to all at the meeting with her well prepared written documents and oral explanations. Congratulations to you, Heidi! You are doing a fantastic job and Wisconsin is proud of you.

After the luncheon we attended a general session where we were entertained by Sarah Massengale, NFMC winner of the Hinda Honigman Music for the Blind and Joyce Walsh Jr. Disability Award. Also

performing was Jason Wu, NFMC Stillman Kelly winner in piano.

Lunch on Saturday was to be a special occasion honoring Rose Fay Thomas, founder of the NFMC. Little did we know that Charley would join us for lunch! As we were eating the winds increased, the rain came pounding down, and the power went out. We continued with a speaker who was brave enough to stand in front of the ceiling to floor windows as we could see them moving back and forth with the wind. He had the challenge of projecting without a microphone and keeping our attention as we all looked out at the storm that was causing white caps on the Cape Fear River (how appropriately named), tipping over concrete pots with palm trees in them and almost making the water in the swimming pool overflow!

At the end of the general session Texas Federation members invited us to come to Austin for the 2005 NFMC biennial convention. And then it was time for the North Central Region to shine once again. We put on a little skit (complete with a beaver costume, canoes, pine trees and a river) to invite all NFMC members to the next Board Meeting to be held in Minneapolis in 2006. Cheryl Schmidt and Mary Angela Strasser, both from Minnesota, used their creativity to think up the skit and graciously asked us to join them in presenting it. Unfortunately, because of the power situation, there were no pictures or videos.

Then we were off to our rooms to get ready for the banquet honoring the State Presidents. This had always been a black tie affair and Charley was not to deny us the opportunity to make it so once again. It was strange walking in dark hallways in the hotel and a challenge getting ready for this gala affair without lights. The hotel was also challenged in preparing food since they had no stoves or ovens that were operating. We all had a lovely time and dined on cold cuts, salads and fruit, all served on paper plates.

-- continued on Page 7

## Jeanne Kish's Wilmington Adventure— continued from page 6

Since the performer was not able to travel into Wilmington (the airport was closed), the speaker from the afternoon, A. Robert Johnson, delighted us with a French Horn performance. Elizabeth Paris surprised him with the NFMC Citation Award. During dinner the lights came back on, much to everyone's delight.

Another storm hit us on Sunday morning and the power went out yet again. Breakfast was a challenge for the hotel, and flowers were unavailable for the memorial service. As people were preparing to leave, one woman was taken to the hospital. We believe it was because of breathing problems since the air conditioning was not working and the hotel had become very warm and humid.

I said my goodbyes to the many friends I had made and wished them all a safe trip home. As I proceeded to the airport the rain became heavier and heavier. I knew the airport had reopened, but I didn't realize that the flights

were backed up about two hours.

When I finally got on the plane, our friend and speaker/performer, A. Robert Johnson, boarded with his French Horn. The pilot and a flight attendant had quite a discussion with him about the fact that he could not keep the instrument with him.

He told them that he had always done so in the past and was not about to have it put in the luggage compartment. Two of us came to his defense to no avail and the pilot eventually asked him to leave the plane. I arrived home about five hours later than I should have, water logged and tired, but feeling I had had an experience unlike any I had ever experienced. i

We all made the best of a difficult situation and banded together in friendship. I will be looking forward to the NFMC Convention in Austin in 2005. There we should have a lot of sunshine!

## In Memoriam

Joyce S. Conrardy, President, Sheboygan Music Club, sends sad news of the passing of two Sheboygan Music Club members.

**June Schmidt**, a long-time member of Sheboygan Music Club, died on Saturday, May 15, 2004 at the age of 82. She had been a resident at Sheboygan Progressive Care Center for the past several months due to ill health. June was born on May 10, 1922 and was a 1941 graduate of Sheboygan Central High School and a graduate of Hollywood Beauty School in Appleton. She was employed as a beautician until 1952. On December 29, 1951 she married William G. Schmidt. She attended the Evangelical Free Church for more than 50 years where she sang in the choir. She enjoyed playing piano and organ and was active in the Sheboygan Music Club where she gave freely of her time and talent, always supportive of the other members and willing to help in any capacity.

**Esther S. Vercouteren**, 90, a resident of Sunny Ridge Nursing Home, died there on Saturday, August 7, 2004. Since 1997 she had made her home with her son, Robert, in Oostburg until her recent move to Sunny Ridge. Esther was born September 13, 1913 in Harbine, Nebraska, daughter of the late Louis and Emma (Ochs) Fasse. Esther's mother died when she was five months old and she was adopted by her aunt and uncle, Julius and Ida Ochs. She graduated from Sheboygan Central High School in 1931 and Sheboygan County Normal School in 1932. Esther began her teaching career in 1932 at Erdman Grade School and also taught at Hillcrest School in town of Lima.

On August 17, 1938, Esther was united in marriage with Govert J. Vercouteren in Sheboygan. Govert preceded Esther in death in 1997. Esther and Govert Vercouteren were active members in Sheboygan Music Club and in the WFMC. Esther enjoyed music all her life, playing the piano and taking an active part in many Music Club activities. She served as President of Sheboygan Music Club from 1965 - 1967 and also served the Wisconsin Federation in many capacities. At a meeting of Sheboygan Music Club on November 12, 2000, Esther was awarded a plaque to commemorate her many years of service to the Federation by Past President Heidi Hong and then current President Mary Ella Jerome.

Esther was also a member of First Presbyterian Church in Oostburg and was also a member of the Lakeland College Women's Auxillary. A memorial fund has been established in Esther's name. Contributions can be mailed to her son, Robert Vercouteren at N1965 Gibbons Road, Oostburg, WI 53070.

Oconomowoc Music Club member **Virginia Hoppe** passed away Aug. 25, 2004 at the of age 78. She is survived by children Roberta (Tom) Baumann and Anne (Joe) Zellner, her brother of Harry (Bernice) Brown and sister Jean (Bob) Luderus, and grandchildren Cody and Heather. Virginia is also survived by many stepchildren, step-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. Memorials to Clearview Home Corp. or Children's International appreciated. Virginia will be sadly missed by her friends in the Oconomowoc Music Club.

**WFMC**  
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A member of the  
National Federation  
of Music Clubs



## Fall 2004 WFMC Board Meeting, October 2, 2004

*Jeanne Kish, WFMC President*

Our first Board Meeting will be on Saturday, October 2, 2004 at 9:00 a.m. In case you weren't aware...**you are all invited to attend any of these meetings!** This is an excellent way to find out what is going on with the WFMC. You all have so much to offer the Wisconsin Federation of Music Clubs and we need your support and attendance at our programs and functions to make the upcoming year the best ever for the WFMC! Please don't hesitate to contact me or any board member at any time with your ideas and question..

The meeting will be held at

Commercial Communications  
1225 Walnut Ridge Drive  
Hartland, WI 53029

I hope to see you there!

**2005 WFMC Biennial Convention**  
**June 18, 2005**  
**Janesville Woman's Club**  
**Co-hosts:**  
**Treble Clef Music Club of Beloit**  
**MacDowell Music Club—Janesville**

Watch for more detail in the Winter 2004-2005 edition of *News of Note*

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Fall 2004



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