

Flute Cocktail



Wendy Willis, Julie Meschko, Nancy Tate, Chellie Doepke,
Sandy Stein, Martie Miller, and Diane Ball.
Not pictured: Marjorie Huelsman.

Flute Cocktail began as a conversation between retired Cincinnati Symphony flutist Chellie Doepke and freelance flutist Wendy Willis. In 2006, Flute Cocktail emerged as a small, “by invitation” flute ensemble comprised of professional and amateur flutists. The ensemble is available for concerts, special events, soirees, weddings and parties.

Diane M. Ball, Ph.D., is the Director of Institutional Effectiveness and Research and an Associate Professor with the School of Technology at Hodges University. She earned her undergraduate degree in Music Education from the University of Lowell in Massachusetts. Outside of her duties at Hodges University, she enjoys playing as a freelance flutist in the Naples area.

Chellie Doepke, holds a B.M. (Indiana University) and a B.M.E. (Indiana University). She was a flutist with the Indianapolis Symphony (1966-1968) and the Cincinnati Symphony (1968-2004), was Asst. Prof. of Flute at U.C. College-Conservatory of Music, and has been a recitalist and lecturer in the U.S. and Japan. She has served on the Bayshore Arts/Bayshore Cultural District Executive Board, Bayshore/Gateway Triangle Community Redevelopment Advisory Board, co-chairs the Collier County School Board Performing Arts School Advisory Committee, is a flutist with Opera Naples, and is a private teacher of flute and piano. She is also a realtor with Downing-Frye. *On leave of absence 2009-10 season.*

Marjorie Huelsman is a native of Pennsylvania, where she earned a B. Mus. Ed degree from Mansfield University. She also studied flute with Leone Buyse and Doriot Anthony-Dwyer at Boston University’s Tanglewood Summer Institute. After college, she settled in Cape Cod, where she taught instrumental music and played with the College Light Opera Company, Cape Cod Symphony, Falmouth Theater Guild, Chatham Players, Monomoy Theater and the Barnstable Town Band. She was also active in community theater and won awards for best musical director of *Iolanthe* and *The Pirates of Penzance*. She then moved to Nantucket Island to direct the middle and high school bands and also conducted the Nantucket Community Band. Currently, she is the music teacher, choir and band director at Saint Ann School in Naples and

teaches private flute lessons at the First Presbyterian Church in Bonita Springs. She is the proud mother of 7th grade flutist Abby and lives with her husband, Kevin, and two lively wiener dogs, Hershey and Snickers.

Julie Meschko has a B.M. in music education from the University of Northern Colorado. She plays flute and piccolo but loves to play piccolo most. For the past 20 years she has served as the assistant for the Wildacres Flute Masterclass, Flute Choir Masterclass and Recitals at the Wildacres Flute Symposium in North Carolina. She also works part time for ALRY Publications which specializes in flute music. She served 6 years as the Exhibits Chair for the Florida Flute Fair. She has performed with the Arvada Symphony Orchestra, Brico Symphony, Port Charlotte Symphony, Opera Naples, National Flute Choir, and currently plays with the Naples Concert Band, and her church orchestra at First Baptist, Naples as well as freelance with various trio groups around SW Florida. She has one daughter who is a Junior at the University of Denver.

Martha (Martie) Miller, originally from Red Oak, IA, considers herself a "county gal" graduating from high school with 22 classmates. Martie received her BM in music education from Dana College in Blair, Nebraska. In college, Martie performed in small ensembles and private parties for the College President. She received the honor of Music Student of the Year and Nebraska's Collegiate Woodwind Champion. Since then, Martie has performed with Trio le Mer, the Naples Concert Band, Flute Cocktail, the Grand Ole Opry Cruise, and performs in her church. For the past 9 years, Martie has been the band/jazz band director for Marco Island Charter Middle School, and was the choral director for one year.

Sandy Stein is a General Music teacher at Avalon Elementary in Naples, Florida. She also conducts the choir, plays the flute and sings in the praise band at Marco Presbyterian Church. Sandy has a Master's degree in Music Education from Kent State University, with under graduate work at Miami University, studying flute with Diane McCloskey Fiocca, and Sandra Seefeld in Ohio. Living on Marco Island for the past five years, she enjoys gardening, being a "Band Mom," and making music with her husband, John, and 16-year-old son, Richie.

Nancy Frost Tate was born and raised in northern Pennsylvania, and grew up in a home where everyone played a musical instrument. She has studied the flute, piccolo, piano, and voice. She holds a B.M. from Mansfield University and a masters in Human Resources Development from Johns Hopkins University. During her college years, Nancy studied flute with Bernard Goldberg, former principal flutist with the Pittsburgh Symphony. In addition to her college wind ensemble and orchestra, she performed with the Corning Philharmonic Orchestra (New York). Nancy has performed with community bands in Wellsboro, Pennsylvania, and West Palm Beach, Florida, and holds a special love for the summers she spent playing in pit orchestras for musicals including *The Sound of Music*, *Guys and Dolls*, *Carousel*, *The Music Man*, and *Oklahoma*. Nancy has taught elementary general music, high school vocal music, and has directed children's choir and children's handbell choirs. She is currently an elementary science teacher at the Community School of Naples. She sings and plays handbells in her church choirs and enjoys the rowdy fun of Flute Cocktail.

Wendy Willis, director of "Flute Cocktail," performs and teaches on both modern and historical flutes and recorders. She holds degrees in flute performance from the University of Michigan and the New England Conservatory of Music and has served on the faculties of numerous colleges and universities, most notably the Univ. of Notre Dame and St. Mary's College

(Indiana). As a freelance flutist, Willis has performed with The Naples Philharmonic, SW Florida Symphony, and Opera Naples. She also performs with many of Naples finest chamber musicians for weddings and special events. On the baroque flute, Willis performs with Fleur de Lys, (South Bend, Indiana) a historical instrument consort dedicated to the performance of baroque music on period instruments. Willis also has a private studio of flute and piano students, is the handbell director at North Naples United Methodist Church and is the music director at St. Elizabeth Seton School.