

Dear Friends,

The Executive Committee of the Malawi Washington Association (MWA) wishes to thank everyone who supported the Association during the 2003 Extravaganza weekend. The weekend commenced with lively panel discussions on Chichewa proverbs, the "brain drain" in Malawi and a brief presentation on understanding one's financial worth, particularly as it relates to credit.

Much debate and exchange of ideas resulted from these discussions, and it is our hope that these topics will be discussed further on this forum and elsewhere. We would like to thank Montfort Mlachila, Llolsten Kaonga, Alexander Chimbayo and Peter Kapakasa for presenting these very important topics. Dr. Kaonga and Dr. Chimbayo traveled from New Hampshire and Michigan, respectively. We appreciate the time and expense they sacrificed to share the weekend with us. Their papers have been posted on the website: (<http://malawiwashington.tripod.com>). Special thanks to Mike Milanzi for moderating the panel discussions; he did a superb job!

In the evening, we danced the night away to the sounds of DJ Mondy during the Association's fundraising party. Dr. Leonard Mseka was the perfect MC, engaging the audience throughout the evening. As part of the raffle, some very lucky winners went home with curios, dinner vouchers and a ticket on United Airlines to any destination within the continental United States.

Thanks to all who donated raffle prizes.

We concluded the weekend with the family picnic, which highlighted the moon bounce for the young children and the soccer match between the DC/MWA Flames and members of the local Kenyan community. The Flames and the Kenyans draw 2-2; it was an exciting match. Several young ladies helped to sell t-shirts and caps on behalf of the Association, we would like to thank them for their effort.

Members of the committee and friends work very hard every year on the Extravaganza. This year the Committee would like to recognize two people in particular, without whom we could not have brought this event to you: Montfort Mlachila (Social Secretary) and Mwiza Munthali (MWA member). These two men served as coordinators for the weekend; they did an awesome job!

Again, thank you. We hope you all had a good time.

The 2003 MWA Executive Committee