The University of Michigan
Women's Glee Club

Arioso

Vol. 6, No. 2 March 2000

A Song of Ourselves...

It is hard to believe that the semester is already approaching its conclusion for the U-M Women's Glee Club. Nevertheless, several exciting events are still ahead for WGC members, as the spring concert on March 25, evening concert for the Alumni Council on April 6, and Europe tour in May swiftly draw near. This semester has been marked with much progress by this group of musicians. From preparing and perfecting their challenging repertoire to enjoying each other's company at several social events including the semi-formal, the women in Club have grown into a very cohesive musical group. They will greatly miss the departing seniors and assistant director Scott Hochstetler, but look forward to the next school year that will surely bring more music and memories. For more information about tour, upcoming events, or WGC in general, visit the WGC web site at: **http:/www.umich.edu/~wgc**

Have an enjoyable summer, and we hope to hear from all of you!

Julia Arciero, Alumnae Chairperson

From the Director's Desk...

The U-M Women's Glee Club continues to forge new ground as we prepare to take our first-ever international tour to France, England, and the Netherlands this May. The tour will include performances in the most spectacular cathedral spaces as well as unusual places such as the American Museum in Paris.

Repertoire for the tour will include highlights from past seasons and a very special new work, commissioned by previous WGC conductor and noted composer Theodore Morrison. "A Silent Love" is a three-movement work set in a rhapsodic fashion for treble voices and piano. It will be premiered at our upcoming concert on March 25. The WGC is looking forward to taking the piece "across the pond" for new audiences to enjoy.

During a portion of the overseas tour, the U-M Women's Glee Club will share concerts with the Michigan State University Men's Glee Club, also touring Europe during this time period. The Big Ten will surely be well represented in these concerts!

The WGC has been honored to be selected by the Alumnae Council of the U-M Alumni Association as this year's Birthday Award recipient. The council awards one campus organization, comprised of women, on an annual basis. The WGC is honored to be selected and will benefit for several reasons. First, it will benefit from the recognition that the organization is contributing positively to the lives of women on the Michigan campus. Second, the award will help with much needed infrastructure plans and will help subsidize longer-term goals. Finally, the award helps heighten awareness of the organization on campus and in the community at large. We thank the Alumnae Council for this generous award!

Professor Sandra Snow, Conductor

Spring Sounds

by Julie Haverkate

On Saturday, March 25 at 8 pm, the Women's Glee Club will be holding its annual spring concert at Hill Auditorium. The group's repertoire will include an International *Missa Brevis* selection (combining three different styles by Nancy Telfer, Stephen Hatfield, and Benjamin Britten), a series of five Gweneth Walker musical settings of poems by May Swenson, two opera choruses, and an arrangement of three songs by Theo Morrison. Morrison, a current University of Michigan music professor and past WGC conductor, composed "The Silver Swan," "A Silent Love," and "Echo" specifically for the group of women who will premiere them on March 25. The members of WGC greatly appreciate these beautiful works and know the audience will as well! Admission is free, and the concert promises to be a wonderful night of music.

A Successful Semi-formal

by Erin Farrer

Saturday, January 29 marked the annual joint semi-formal for the U-M Women's and Men's Glee Clubs. Although originally supposed to start at 9 pm, the dance did not begin until just shy of 10 pm due to slight confusion regarding necessary opening details. However, amidst all the cold, snow, and confusion, students still came to show their support for the musical associations and to have a good time. Roughly one hundred members attended the dance held in the Anderson Room of the Michigan Union. In fact, enough people supported the event this year so the clubs were able to monetarily break even on the affair. Women's Glee Club member Jenny Chang commented that the club is usually over-budget, so considering all things, the night was very successful.

The smiles and laughter constantly filling the room proved that a great time was being had by all. At one point, the attendees were participating in a conga line around the room. Free spirits roamed the dance floor and expressed their creativity through their unique dance moves. The DJ played all different genres of music (from swing to 80s to top 40) which made the night even more enjoyable. The night concluded with people arm-in-arm in a circle singing the glee club traditional "Yellow and Blue." Although everyone did not know each other, such unity demonstrated the common bond of the love for music that existed among everyone.

Notes on the Netherlands, England, and France

by Ronessa Starling

In less than two months, the Women's Glee Club will be touring and singing across the Atlantic in England, France, and the Netherlands. They will have the opportunity to visit some of the most incredible historical sights of Europe, including the Notre Dame Cathedral, the Louvre Museum, the Tower of London, Buckingham Palace, the Eiffel Tower, the cathedral at Chartres, the Dover white chalk cliffs, and several locations in the Netherlands. Exceeding this excitement, the WGC members will also get the chance to sing in several churches and cathedrals throughout all three countries. They will conclude their trip with several joint performances with the MSU Men's Glee Club.

So Long, Scott!

by Jennifer Bell

Scott Hochstetler plays a key role in the University of Michigan's Women's Glee Club as the assistant conductor. Besides this exciting position, he has also led an interesting life. Although originally from Maryland, Scott later moved to Bangkok, Thailand because his father was needed there as a poultry nutritionist. He remained in Thailand through high school and returned to the United Stated to attend school at Goshen College in Indiana. He began with a pre-med focus, but realized in his junior year that his true passion lied in music. He wanted to sing! He began at the University of Michigan two years ago to obtain his master's degree in choral conducting and voice. Upon graduating in April, Scott hopes to attain a choral conduction position at the college level.

During his two years with WGC, Scott has conducted several pieces of music. His selections are always interesting and usually in a foreign language! For example, he conducted two opera choruses (one in Russian and one in Italian) which the WGC will perform at their March 25 concert. In addition while at U of M, he has been in several operas including *La Traviata*, *The Magic Flute*, and *Semele*. He also conducted *Utopia Limited* for the Gilbert & Sullivan Society. Scott has been a great influence and help in Women's Glee Club. WGC wishes him the best of luck with his goals and also with his new fiancee. Everyone will miss you, Scott!

Harmonettes Update

by Lanaya Ethington

The Harmonettes is a ten member a cappella group comprised only from members of the Women's Glee Club. Also, it is the only all-female a cappella group at the University of Michigan! The Harmonettes arrange and perform a variety of repertoire, including arrangements from artists Madonna and Fleetwood Mac. New music this semester includes Portishead's "Sour Times," the B-52's "Love Shack," and an original piece, entitled "Snapshot," composed by Harmonettes member Katie McLaughlin. This semester, the Harmonettes have performed for a variety of concerts. They performed for the Second Annual Circle K benefit concerts, the profits for which benefited a children's charity. They were also featured at the Monsters of A Cappella concert along with the University of Michigan's Amazin' Blue and Friars and Northwestern's Purple Haze. The benefits of the Monsters concerts also go to charity, and this year the proceeds were donated to a soup kitchen in the Ann Arbor area.

The Harmonettes will have their annual spring concert on March 18. Opening the concert will be an a cappella group from Boston called Ball in the House. The Harmonettes will be performing their entire repertoire from the past year with of course a few surprises! The Harmonettes will also be singing at the Women's Glee Club spring concert on March 25. At the end of March they will hold auditions for the upcoming summer and 2000-2001 school year. This summer will be an exciting one for the group because they will be releasing their third full-length CD! Information about the new CD will be available at the Harmonettes Spring Concert, as well as on their web page at www.umich.edu/~nettes. Do not miss out on their great performances at the Harmonettes and WGC Spring Concerts!

Another Year Ends, More Seniors Graduate

by Elizabeth Anderson

With the impending end of the school year, the University of Michigan Women's Glee Club prepares for two exciting events: the annual spring concert and the first European tour. Unfortunately, the end of the school year also means the departure of the veteran seniors, who are moving on to bigger and better adventures.

Several of the graduating seniors are Glee Club officers, including president Dana Rossiter, vice president Bree Doody, treasurer Karen Roach, and secretary Jen Chang. Dana Rossiter is graduating with a degree in mechanical engineering and hopes to continue working at Ford Motor Company in the safety division. Bree Doody, who is also a member of the Harmonettes, will receive her BA in English, and plans to move to New York to work in the field of Arts Administration. Further illustrating the diversity of the Glee Club, Karen Roach, a double major in political science and sociology, will head East for law school.

Some other WGC seniors include Elizabeth Emerson, Ashley Silver, and Jennifer Bell. Emerson is graduating with a degree in Spanish and hopes to work as a nanny in Spain and later go to graduate school to study education. Silver will receive her degree in economics with plans to work in business or finance, and Bell will attend U of M's school of social work. Amy Renee Lalick, who will graduate from the dental school, will be pursuing pediatric dentistry and will be married on May 27.

Of course, each senior has many wonderful and interesting memories of Club. Lalick remembers the camaraderie between the members, whether in class or on trips. Roach recalls how other students got [illegible] interested in other extracurricular activities. And Bell, who only attended the University of Michigan for her junior and senior years, heralds Glee Club conductor Sandra Snow, saying "the bond that can only come between women is strong and Professor Snow is an intimate part of that."

Also, the seniors cannot possibly leave without offering their learned wisdom. Emerson urges Glee Club members to "sing on ... and let your voices be heard!" Silver encourages everyone to enjoy their times in Club and in college overall, for it can be "the best four years of your life, and if you let them be, they definitely will." As an appropriate conclusion, president Rossiter sums up her experience nicely: "Let the Women's Glee Club be a great experience for you. Enjoy the music and the friendships, they are two things you can never have too much of in life."

Good Luck, Seniors!! We Shall Miss You!

Love, WGC

"...Far We Their Praises Sing..."

Lauren Abrams is currently in her first year of teaching as a middle school choral director. She graduated in 1998 with a degree in choral music education, and she has since discovered that teaching is filled "with many challenges, but just as many joys."

Jennifer Ballard will be completing medical school in June 2000! Upon graduating she plans to complete a residency in obstetrics and gynecology. June promises to be an exciting month for Jennifer because in addition to graduation, she and Chris Dwau will be married early in the month. While on a rotation in Honolulu, Chris visited her and proposed to her at sunrise atop Haleakala, the dormant volcano in Maui. She wishes WGC the best of luck on their Europe Tour!

Wendy (Westover) Christensen graduated in 1998 with a B.S. in Industrial Engineering and is currently a process engineer for Emery Worldwide Airlines. Because her husband, Dan, accepted a position with Intel, they have since relocated to Portland, Oregon and are loving every minute there!

Molly (Moore) Lamb is currently a full-time homemaker with two children. Her son, Martin, was born in May 1999, and her daughter, Bernadette, was born in December 1997. She has continued to pursue her passion for music by singing with the Ann Arbor Cantata Singers since 1998.

Lori (Landsburg) Narer, who graduated in 1989 with a communications degree, is currently a teacher of English as a Second Language. In order to keep music in her life, Lori began taking voice lessons in spring 1999 and is thoroughly enjoying the challenge they bring! Lori hopes that WGC will have a reunion sometime in the future.

Thanks to everyone who responded! We welcome everyone else to reply with information and suggestions. Please include anything you would like to be reported about yourself or in general in our next edition. It is a genuine loss that we have fallen out of touch with so many of our alumnae. Hopefully the Arioso will help alleviate the problem. Have a great summer, and keep in touch!!

Please send information, suggestions, and donations to:

The University of Michigan
Women's Glee Club
c/o MSA
3909 Michigan Union
Ann Arbor, MI 48109