

RITORNELLO

Department of Music and Dance West Texas A&M University

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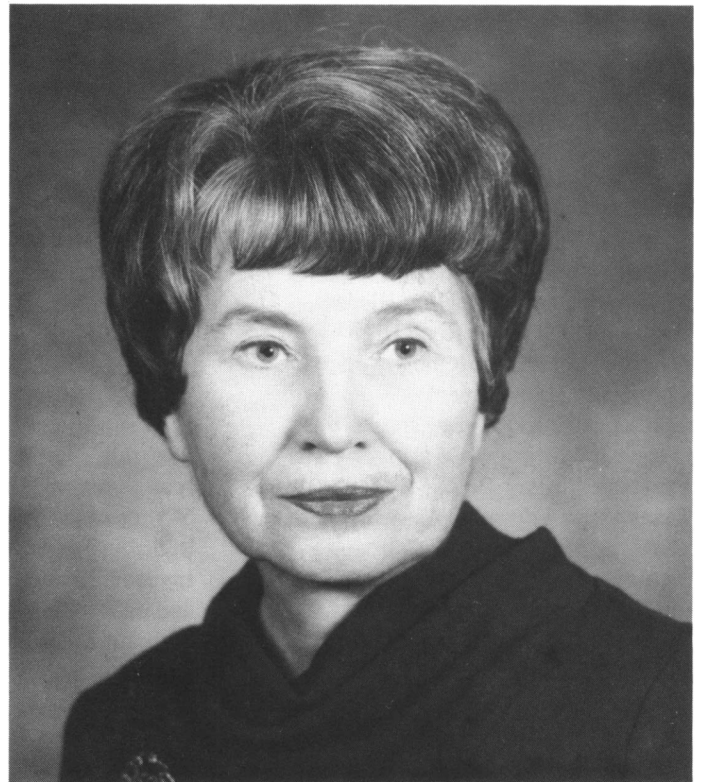
Spring 2003

IN MEMORY OF MATILDA GAUME, FIRST RITORNELLO EDITOR

Dr. Matilda Gaume died in Amarillo on December 27, 2002. She was 92 years old. She taught in the WT music department from 1944 until her retirement in 1976. During her tenure at WT she taught 15 different courses which included private piano, music literature, music history (Grout), and comprehensive musicianship. She also sponsored the women's band sorority, Tau Beta Sigma; was instrumental in organizing the Newman Club for Catholic students; organized a piano festival/competition for the Panhandle area; and was the impetus behind the organization of the Collegium Musicum (which was later named The Matilda Gaume Early Music Consort in her honor). She also served as interim department head when needed. One of her major accomplishments and contributions to the music department was the development of the music library. She was responsible for overseeing the purchase of scores, recordings, and sound equipment that were originally placed in the former student lounge, F112, in the Fine Arts Building. She also planned the physical layout for the present music library in the Mary Moody Northen building which opened the year after her retirement.

Upon retirement from WT, Dr. Gaume taught music for a year at the University of Tunghai in Taiwan, and wrote a biography of American composer Ruth Crawford Seeger (mother of folk singer Pete Seeger). In Spring of 1978 Dr. Harry Haines, former music department head, asked Dr. Gaume if she would be willing to help edit an alumni newsletter for the WT music department. In typical Matilda Gaume style, she devoted the necessary time to develop a newsletter, *Ritornello*, that she felt was worthy of our department, a place that was very near and dear to her heart.

Matilda Gaume served as organist for 45 years at St. Ann Catholic Church and as choir and music director for the parish. In 1983 when a new organ was given to the church, she wrote and conducted a Mass in honor of the donor. She also wrote a history of the parish and other articles for a commemorative



MATILDA GAUME, 1910-2002

book which was published in 1989. She was always a tireless worker in any endeavor she participated.

Dr. Gaume was an inspiration, friend, and mentor to so many of us. Her influence and dedication have been felt by all who came in contact with her and the benefits of her accomplishments will be reaped by everyone who attends the WT music department now and in the future.

Those wishing to honor Matilda Gaume for her dedication to the WT music department may contribute to the Matilda Gaume Scholarship Fund.

ALUMNI NOTES

Lynn McLarty ('66 BME) sends some news: "I graduated with a BME in 1966, taught band in Hereford, TX, for two years. I then began my career in corporate aviation. I retired on September 1 of this year (2002) and moved from Snyder, TX, to Horseshoe Bay. Deb and I enjoy spending as much time as possible on our 38' sailboat and normally spend one or two nights aboard while sailing the waters of Lake Travis, near Austin. The Hill Country has to be one of the most beautiful areas of Texas and we look forward to our retirement years in this part of the world.

Music continues to be a big part of our lives. We both play piano (almost daily) and I continue to enjoy electronic music on my Korg synthesizer. Seven grandchildren also occupy a big part of our lives and we are hopefully fostering a love of music in some of them, too." Enjoy your retirement!

Jim Hutson ('71 BME; '73 MA) retired from teaching. His last position was at River Road High School in Amarillo. He now works as a professional investment representative and advisor specializing in teacher retirement. He also served as a past president of Region 1 of the Texas Music Educators Association.

Ken Barker ('77 BME) is still serving as senior editorial director for *Word Music* after 24 years. His wife Brenda is southwestern branch director of Hope International, an international adoption agency. They have seven beautiful, internationally-adopted children, including a leukemia/bone marrow transplant survivor. To read more about his family, visit the *American Profile* magazine website and look up the May 5-11, 2002, issue.

Judy ('83 BMTh) and Jim ('79 BME; '86 MA) Summersgill write: "Judy is having a fun and busy time building websites for her business, greatideasforyou.com. Jim is working at Verizon 'SuperPages' in the

information technology department. Having daughter, Bethany, and son, Matthew, in band has given them the opportunity to see other WT alums at band events. We saw Phil LaRoque (The Colony) recently at region band tryouts and he is doing well. It was a blast seeing friends at band camp last summer." And we look forward to seeing you again soon, too!

Janie Elizabeth Howard ('85 BM; '87 MM) has taken parenthood on by storm with the arrival of triplets on November 14, 2001. Molly, Will, and Lucy have kept her busy with diapers, bottles, pumping, and saying "Wow, we have 3 – 1, 2, 3 –babies!" In addition, Janie is also conducting two adult choirs and a children's choir, gave a recital in June, and has found time to even play her string bass. Talk about a "SuperMom!"

Kristine (Nelson) Irrer ('89 BMMB) is currently the Assistant Director of Annual Giving in the Development and Communications Office at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, NY.

WT ALUMNA WINS STATE HONORS

Melanie Dockery (BM '98) was recently awarded the Marjorie Keller Young award by the Texas Association of String Teachers. The award is given in recognition of meritorious service and outstanding promise in string and orchestra education. Melanie is the string and orchestra director at Stephen F. Austin Middle School in Amarillo and double bassist with the Amarillo Symphony Orchestra.

WTAMU PIANO FESTIVAL

The WTAMU Piano Festival took place on the WT campus on Saturday, March 1, in Mary Moody Northen Recital Hall. It is always an exciting day when these young pianists have the opportunity to perform on the nine foot Steinway concert grand piano in Northen Hall before an audience of their family and friends.

Judge Ferrell Roberts of Clovis, New Mexico, heard over 80 entries.

The day's performing students represented studios from throughout the Panhandle, Tucumcari, Roswell, as well as Canyon and Amarillo.

The Festival was directed and organized by WT music faculty members Bill Evans and Denise Parr-Scanlin. University piano students worked as monitors and office assistants on the day of the festival. They provided essential services such as getting the performers on stage and their music to the judge, calming nerves, and making sure that each performer who merited a "one" rating received a certificate and award pin. The university assistants also had the opportunity to hear a wide range of repertoire performed by students ages 7-18.

"This is a valuable experience for our students, many of whom will be teaching privately in the future and entering their students in various contests and festivals," stated Ms. Parr-Scanlin.

Mr. Roberts had high praise for the festival: "What an outstanding festival with so many students performing so well. Indeed, such fine playing makes the adjudicator's day go smoothly."

Mr. Evans and Ms. Parr-Scanlin thank each teacher and student who participated and look forward to next year's fortieth anniversary festival. It seems that piano playing is alive and well at WTAMU!

FACULTY FOOTNOTES

Dr. Susan Martin Tariq, professor of percussion, performed with the Women's Percussion Project at the 2002 Percussive Arts Society International Convention in Columbus, OH, on November 13th. Tariq also served as a panel member for a panel discussion on "Teaching Drum Set in the College Percussion Methods Class" the following day. Tariq was invited to present a lecture/demonstration on teaching drum set in the college studio at the National Conference on Percussion Pedagogy in Greensboro, NC, on March 7, 2003. Tariq presented two recitals in the 2002-03 school year. The first was a lecture/recital on Japanese marimba music along with

WT percussion students Robin Brannon, David Caballero, Alan Miller, Eric Rath and Jon Seale. The second was a faculty recital with **Dr. Tina Carpenter** featuring music for bassoon and premiering a duo written by senior composition major Taylor Morgeson titled "What The?"

Denise Parr-Scanlin resumed her position as instructor of piano at WT after spending the academic year 2001-2002 in residency at the University of Texas at Austin where she is working on the doctor of musical arts degree in piano performance. In November 2002 she judged the senior high division of the Dallas Piano Solo Competition. The competition is sponsored by the Dallas Music Teachers Association and is for piano students in Texas, Arkansas, Oklahoma and Louisiana. The senior division winners are awarded cash prizes in honor of composer William L. Gillock. Denise was also one of the adjudicators for the recent Amarillo Symphony Guild Young Performers Competition and judged the piano division in El Deysayuno Kiwanis Solo Festival in Clovis, New Mexico. In February she performed the Sam Jones *Sonata for Cello and Piano* with cellist Emmanuel Lopez as part of the *Creative Mind Humanities Lecture Series* in Amarillo. Their recording of the Jones sonata may be found on the Naxos compact disc *Roundings*.

HSQ NEWS

The big news with the Harrington String Quartet this year is the appointment of Keith Redpath as the new second violinist replacing Corinne Stillwell. Keith joined the Harrington String Quartet in January 2003. He has performed with the Minnesota Orchestra, and as principal 2nd violinist of the Minnesota Opera Orchestra and the Wichita Symphony. As a member of the Sedgwick String Quartet, he performed at the Spoleto Festival USA and the Festival Dei Due Mondi in Italy. He has earned music performance degrees from the Eastman School of Music, Wichita State University, and the University of Minnesota. His principal teachers

include Sally O'Reilly, David Perry, and Charles Castleman.

The Harrington String Quartet performed at Abilene Christian University on Thursday, March 6, 2003. The concert was part of the Opening Recital Series celebrating the introduction of ACU's new building, the Williams Performing Arts Center. The following day, March 7th, the quartet performed for the music students at Cooper High School in Abilene and discussed with them aspects of music making and careers in music.

MUSIC THERAPY

It is hard to believe another academic year is almost over. As you read this newsletter, many of you have learned we did not make it to the regional conference. The date conflicted with the Department of Music and Dance Showcase date. Showcase was another success!! The music therapy club did an excellent job signing to the song "We Can Make a Difference." This year was the first year we had a Music Therapy Awareness Day. On March 6, we had a big drum circle on Terrell Lawn. We invited local music therapists, children in the Canyon schools and the University community. It was a nice



**HARRINGTON STRING
QUARTET**

success. I think all who attend enjoyed themselves.

The state budget cuts seem to be the talk around state agencies. If you are keeping up with this or are caught in the middle of it, this is probably not new to you. But, for the rest, it is hitting pretty hard. I just heard some state facilities are losing all rehabilitation therapies. Yes, unfortunately, this includes music therapy. That is not good news. If you hear of potential jobs or new openings, keep our WTAMU music therapy grads in mind.

Anyway, I hope you are having a pleasant spring. Enjoy your summer.

MUSIC BUSINESS IS ALIVE AND WELL

As of the current advising roster, there are presently 20 students enrolled in the music business program at WT (officially it's a bachelor of music degree with elective studies in business). Melanie Peckenpaugh will begin an internship with Amarillo Opera (we have staffed that office many times before) in the summer. Anne Kane will be working in the A&R department at Sony, Inc. in Nashville. Other students are busy securing sites. Former grads who lectured in the Seminar in Music Business class this semester are: DeLee Francis, Pender's Music in Oklahoma City and president of Oklahoma City Flute Association; Nancy (Griggs) Warnecke, Brook-Mays, Dallas; Carlos Casso, Audio Refinery, Amarillo; and Heather Turk, University of Nevada. Geraldine McBride, of McCormick Advertising, who has two children in the music department, also lectured.

In case you are not familiar with the program, it is designed for those who wish to work in support organizations in the music industry, such as publishing, recording, record companies, arts group management (symphonies, operas, ballets), music stores, or manufacturers - the sky's the limit. Students take a block of business courses (accounting, management, marketing, finance, economics, advertising) and two music industry courses. They are very much still music majors and play in

ensembles, give recitals, take theory and freshman lit., a little piano, etc.. The big difference is in the fact that they have the business background. The whole thing culminates in their having enough information to decide on an area of specialization. They complete their program with an internship in which they work for a company of their choice (and my approval) for the equivalent of a 40-hour work week for six months. These internships also serve to get them in the door of the industry and often have resulted in continued employment with the organization.

The program is certainly not for the weak of heart, but is just right for a certain type of ambitious student. Please help get the word out to your students and if there are any questions, please call me at (806)651-2837. Sally Turk

BAND NEWS

With a fantastic amount of work from our students and faculty, combined with the always generous support of our alumni, the band program has enjoyed a tremendous spring semester. The collaborative effort of all of those associated with the WTAMU Department of Music has been so overwhelming, and it has been a true testament to what can be accomplished with the combined support of many!

In February, the Symphonic Band toured through New Mexico and West Texas performing concerts at Clovis High School, Alamogordo High School, and at the Las Cruces Performing Arts Center in New Mexico. While in El Paso, we had the fortunate opportunity to perform for Coronado, Franklin, and Americas High Schools. In Odessa, we performed for both the Permian and Odessa High School band students during our visit to Permian High School. Later that day, we performed at short concert at Nimitz Junior High School in Odessa and traveled to Midland where the WT students performed master classes for the Midland High School band students. We presented our final concert at Robert E. Lee High School in Midland before returning home to Canyon. The



DUDLEY MOORE WITH BASS INSTRUCTOR SANDOR OSTLUND (photo courtesy of J. Vondel Stevens Photography)

symphonic band clarinet section was featured on "Polacca" from the *Second Concerto for Clarinet* by Weber. They were an enormous hit with each audience.

We cannot express how much appreciation we felt for all of those involved along our way. The kindness and support we received at each location was overwhelming, and all of your generosity made our trip memorable and truly fun. Thank you from all of us in the symphonic band!

On March 6, Dr. Dudley Moore was respectfully honored at a dinner held at the Hazel Kelly Wilson Alumni Banquet room on campus at WTAMU. The hall was filled to capacity as friends and family gratefully honored the legacy of Dr. Moore and the Fabulous-Five. Robert Frost was the master of ceremonies, and Gary Garner arranged fight songs from Kilgore, Baylor, and West Texas A&M University to be performed by members of the buffalo band. Additionally, the bass section of the WT band presented Dudley with a "musical tribute" that would make any tuba player reverent. Dr. Sue Park, Dean of the Sybil B. Harrington College of Fine Arts and Humanities, presented Dr. Moore with a plaque thanking him for his unrelenting devotion to the WTAMU Foundation and Department of Music. It was a night that all in attendance will remember forever, and it was certainly a special and well-deserved event for both Dudley and Lillis Moore.

In addition to honoring Dr. Moore, we were also honored with being able to award two Dudley Moore Instrumental Scholarships this year to Kristen Pedersen from Mesa, Arizona, and John Tegmeyer from Las Cruces, New Mexico.

We also had two instrumental band clinics this spring. The first clinic, which was hosted by Russ Teweleit, included bands from Canyon, Amarillo, and Tascosa High Schools. On Saturday, March 29, Dr. Gary Garner and I had the opportunity to present the second series of concert band clinics with high school band students from Clovis, Amarillo and Permian High Schools. Sally Turk, Dr. Robert Krause, Dr. Tina Carpenter, Doug Storey, Janet DuBois, Mark Alewine, William Takacs, Ron Lemon, Dr. Joseph Cox, Christopher Buckley, James Benton, and Dr. Susan Martin Tariq worked with their respective section of the band in a master class format. Russ Teweleit and I would like to thank Michael Roberts, Kelly Mowrey, Travis Barney, Brandon Haynes, Bill Allred, Michael Watts and Roger Edwards for making these events a success. In addition, the department of music would like to thank Dr. Gary Garner for donating his time and expertise to a major recruitment activity for our bands. The instrumental band clinics are always something we look forward to in the department, and this year proved to be one of the best series of performances



WTAMU SYMPHONIC BAND CLARINET SECTION
 (Photo courtesy of Rik Andersen, WTAMU)

since the clinic's inception! Thanks to everyone involved for their hard work.

We would like to invite you to our spring semester final concerts. The WTAMU Concert Band will be presenting its concert on Thursday, April 24, at 8:00 p.m., and the WTAMU Symphonic Band's performance is scheduled for Sunday, April 27, at 8:00 p.m., both in the Mary Moody Northern Recital Hall. The Symphonic Band will feature WTAMU Concerto Contest Winner Christopher Buckley, performing *Vintage* by David Gillingham. Additionally, we begin a new tradition with the symphonic band final concert this year by asking distinguished WT

alumni and close friends of our program to guest conduct a piece with the band. This year, Gary Doherty and Randy Storie will each be guest conducting a selection with the symphonic band, and we are all thrilled to have them with us! We hope that you can join us for a wonderful night of music and enjoyment.

In closing, I would like to thank our students, faculty, alumni and friends for making my first year as director of bands at WTAMU one that I will never forget. The support has been overwhelming and humbling, and you will never know how much your kind words and encouragement have meant to me. I truly feel that we are all in this together, and I know that we can all feel proud of what we accomplished this year. Thank you,
 Don Lefevre

BAND CAMP

The 51st West Texas A&M Band Camp will be held on campus July 13-25, 2003. The campers make up nine full bands, four for seventh and eighth graders, and five for high school students. The camp faculty consists of members of the WTAMU music faculty along with leading high school and junior high school directors from Texas and New Mexico. More than 100 faculty and staff are on hand for instruction and assistance.

Mr. Allen Vizzutti, internationally renowned classical and jazz trumpet virtuoso, will be Artist-in-Residence

for the 2003 camp. Mr. Vizzutti will be performing as soloist with the Brass Choir, conducted by Roger Edwards, and the Directors' Jazz Band, conducted by Russ Teweleit, and the Directors Band, conducted by Dr. Gary Garner. Mr. Vizzutti's visit to the WTAMU campus has been graciously sponsored by the Yamaha Corporation, Jent's House of Music and the Sybil B. Harrington College of Fine Arts and Humanities.

Cost of the two-week camp is \$535.00 (tuition, room and meals) for residential campers. All-state and commuting campers may attend camp at a cost of \$185.00. We require a deposit of \$200.00 for residential campers; \$85.00 deposit for all-state campers and commuting campers. Applications and deposits must be sent in by June 15, 2003. We accept payment by cash, check, money order of credit card (VISA, MASTER-CARD, or DISCOVER). Please contact Mrs. Sonja Love, band camp secretary, for more information. Phone: (806) 651-2828
 E-mail address: slove@mail.wtamu.edu

MUSICAL THEATRE

Lots of Company!

The music department once again teamed up with the theatre wing of Art, Communication, and Theatre to produce the spring musical. The production of Stephen Sondheim's *Company* marked the return of Dr. Robert Hansen to the Branding Iron Theatre directing team for the first time in eight years. W. Perry Crafton staged the musical and recent dance graduate Jesus Pacheco provided outstanding choreography. It was actually the BIT's second production of the show. Some alumni will remember the production in the mid-80s.

The production highlighted the talents of our voice performance and musical theatre majors in an ensemble cast of 16 performers. The show stretched the performers, who had to sing a demanding score, act some challenging scenes, and dazzle with their dancing. We also tapped the instrumental talent of the department



ALLEN VIZZUTTI

to assemble a full orchestra for the musical, featuring 14 players.

Company explores the dynamics of relationship in marriage and dating, centering on Robert's seeming inability to overcome bachelorhood. The topic offers humorous and poignant moments. The biggest laugh may have been in the costuming however. The show takes place in the mod 70s, and our costumers did some excellent closet raiding to find psychedelic colors in flowing sleeves and wide bell-bottoms! The show was performed in February to excellent and appreciative audiences.



THE CAST OF *COMPANY*

RITORNELLO

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