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WKU Department of Music

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MUSIC ENROLLMENT UP AT WESTERN

The department is enjoying a fine crop of freshmen students this year. Although university averages are up approximately 6.9% overall, the music department has achieved a much higher percentage of increase in freshman student population. Western has a 71% increase in the number of Freshman Music Majors. We believe this is due to the phenomenal support from our alumni this last year and a concerted effort of faculty in the department to "spread the good word" about Western and in particular about the happenings in the music department. The two programs in the department which have increased the most are the Bachelor of Arts program (56% increase) and the Bachelor of Music in Performance (50%). All programs have increased in the number of 1986 Freshmen over the number of 1985 Freshmen. Sophomore, Junior and Senior level majors are exactly the same as last year. The marching band is 13% larger than last year, the Choral Union is 22% larger, the Concert Band has increased 28% and the University Choir is 34% larger than in 1985. All directors feel that the quality of student musician has also improved. We are especially proud of seven (count them) new student double reed players!

WESTERN MINSTREL TO SELECT “ALUMNUS OF YEAR”

Surely there were times that you thought this year: “I think I’ll sit down and write to the Minstrel and tell them all about what I’m doing!” Sure enough, you forgot all about it, and as a result, we don’t know what all you folks are doing out there. The editor is gratified by the responses from some very distinguished alumni (mentioned under Alumni Notes). It is a joy to know where our alumni are and what they are doing. The faculty believe that we know nothing about some of the fine “goings on” of our past students. In an attempt to get a mighty response, we would like to propose a “music alumnus of the year,” in which we will feature a graduate of Western in each issue of our newsletter.

So, if you’re shy and hate to talk about yourself—nominate someone you know who is deserving of the honor. If you’re not shy, great; tell us what you are doing. The editor will interview the person selected by a faculty committee and “presto,” instant notoriety! Kidding aside, we would love to have an overwhelming response to this request. If you would like to nominate yourself or someone else, please send us the following information: name of candidate, position presently held, year of graduation (if you know this—otherwise we’ll find out), special achievements and recognitions, name of person nominating. Candidates not selected for the special honor of “Alumnus of the Year” will be included under the “Alumni Notes” of the next issue. Thanks so much for your help—we look forward to hearing from you!

COME VISIT US AT KMEA!

Don’t forget to drop by the Western booth at the State In-service Conference of the Kentucky Music Educator’s Conference at the Louisville Convention Center on February 5th-7th. Western’s influence will also be noticed in various presentations and performances, such as the all-collegiate band. The University Choir will be singing at the general session on Friday at 10:00 a.m. Be sure to check your KMEA program for the Western Alumni Reception; last year’s was a great success. See you there!

LUTE SONG

Stillness of early light, the plucked string vibrant in the clear, light air which in an instant resonates it.

A tone is born then hurries on.

Edward Pease

Western Kentucky University
Department of Music
NEWSLETTER
for Alumni, Students, Colleagues, and Friends

SPRING SEMESTER, 1987
The faculty series started last year at Western to benefit student scholarship funds and was not only a substantial contribution to the cultural life of Bowling Green but provided funds for future students to study music at Western. Following the sudden loss of our respected and beloved colleague, Dr. Edward Pease, the faculty decided this year’s series to his memory and donate the proceeds to the Pease scholarship fund. The current series began with pianist Sylvia Kersenbaum in an all-Liszt recital, Gary Dilworth in a solo trumpet recital, and new faculty members Larry Long, bassoon; David Vincent, percussion; and Linda Harmon, piano, in varied programs of chamber music. Remaining recitals will include Elizabeth Volkman, soprano, performing with the Early Music Ensemble (January 27) the Kentucky Consort (February 24) with David Kelsey, Sharon Law, and Steve Webber performing on instruments ranging from guitars, mandolins and banjos to viols, lutes, recorders; and the Collegium Musicum (March 31), with Betty Pease, Sue Paoli, Anne Hale, and David Kelsey performing music of the 17th and 18th centuries, and the Western Faculty Brass Quintet (April 28) featuring Gary Dilworth, Ken Davis, Richard Ricker (adjunct instructor of horn), Steve Grugin, and Kent Campbell. If you live too far away to subscribe to this outstanding series, please consider a direct contribution to the Edward J. Pease Memorial Scholarship Fund. We want to build this fund to a level which will support at least one full tuition scholarship. Your help will be much appreciated by future Western music students. Increasingly, we are becoming indebted to our outstanding group of alumni and friends for financial support and the recruitment of the best young music students available. You are effectively spreading the news about the high quality of faculty and student body in the WKU Music Department. Let’s keep the momentum going!

**HOBBS FANFARE**

**WESTERN WELCOMES INTERIM FACULTY**

The Department of Music is proud to announce three new faculty members for this year. Alphabetically they are Mrs. Linda Harmon, (MM) '84, Mr. Charles Larry Long, '77 and Dr. David Vincent. All three of these new faculty are filling vacancies caused by late summer faculty changes. Mrs. Ruth Morris is on leave of absence to enable her to assist her ailing mother. Two other faculty vacancies were created when Mr. William Sneddon and Dr. Emery Alford decided to pursue careers in business.

**Mrs. Linda Harmon** is teaching studio and group piano. Besides her MM from Western in 1984, Linda received a BM in piano performance (magna cum laude) from Belmont College in Nashville, TN. While at Belmont, Linda was a student of Robert Marler, was voted the “Outstanding Freshman and Senior Music Major,” elected president of Sigma Alpha, and listed in Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities. She also received the Alfred Leland Crabb Writing Award and the W.F. Powell Award “for the student who best exemplifies the spirit of Belmont College.” Last year Linda was an instructor in the Piano Preparatory Department at Belmont. While at Western, Linda studied piano with Sylvia Kersenbaum and piano pedagogy with Ruth Morris. Because of her familiarity with Western’s piano program, Mrs. Harmon has provided an extremely smooth, effective transition and quality piano instruction.

For a number of years, **Mr. Larry Long** has been well-respected as a part-time bassoon instructor at Western. His present position is Assistant Professor of Double Reeds and Saxophone. After graduating from WKU in 1977, Larry attended Memphis State University, receiving an MM in Performance in 1979. He has held public school music positions at Belmont High School in Dayton and Warren East High School in Bowling Green. Larry has performed in the Memphis Symphony, the Shelby State Community Orchestra in Memphis and currently is bassoonist in the Owensboro Symphony. He has performed in the Western Faculty Woodwind Quintet for the past two years.

**Dr. David Vincent** is Western’s new Assistant Professor of Percussion. Dr. Vincent received his BM from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, an MM from Wichita State University and a DMA in composition and percussion in 1976 from the University of Miami. At Miami he composed an original work for wind ensemble entitled “Partings” for his doctoral project. He has studied percussion with Peter Tanner, J.C. Combs and Fred Wickstrom and composition under J. Clifton Williams, James Riley and Robert Stern. David’s teaching experiences have included positions at East Texas State University and East Tennessee State University, and he has been a teaching fellow at the University of Miami and Wichita State University. Serving a dual role as assistant conductor and timpanist/principal percussionist in the Johnson City Symphony Orchestra, he has also been percussionist with the Hotel Fontainebleau Orchestra (Miami), and timpanist/percussionist with the Miami Philharmonic Orchestra. Dr. Vincent has had several commissioned works and research grants, was composer in residence at Drake University (1980) and the University of Massachusetts (1979). He was awarded the honor of “Most Creative Faculty Member” at East Tennessee State University in 1977. Dr. Vincent is also literate in three computer languages and has taught computer programming at the college level.

**WESTERN HOSTS MARCHING BAND DAY**

Western’s football fans were given a rare treat at the Western-Livingston game on September 18th. Over 500 musicians on the field in massed band formation performed a powerful arrangement of the “1812 Overture” under the baton of Western’s Big Red Marching Band Director, Stephen Grugin. This was only one highlight of Western’s first Band Day. The massed band also played “My Old Kentucky Home,” and then at half-time each band presented individually a two-to-three-minute show. All aspects of the day’s program were well-received by an enthusiastic audience! Participating bands and directors were: Warren Central High, Phil Ashby ’71; Franklin-Simpson High, Charles Cron ’67 (MA) ’85; Western Hills High (Frankfort), Lee Cowherd; South Spencer High (Rockport, IN), Mike Little, ’77. Western plans to continue this event with four bands being invited to participate each year.
IN MEMORY: DR. EDWARD JOSEPH PEASE

As many of you may have heard by now, Edward Joseph Pease, age 56, died on October 6, 1986, at the Medical Center in Bowling Green. Ed was lecturing in his Medieval/Renaissance Music Survey class (326) when he suffered a slight stroke, later diagnosed as a temporary blockage of the artery that serves the right side of the brain. Within the next two days, Ed had two more attacks, each one more severe than the preceding one. He expired from heart failure on the fourth day. Ed was in excellent health, and there was no warning of any physical problems. He is survived by his wife, Betty Pease, who also teaches in the department, his daughter and a grandson.

The Minstrel editor will sorely miss that wise head and counselor, the dry humor and the unequalled enthusiasm for games of the mind. His support for the Minstrel was most cherished, and the first of September always brought that predictable “Well, Chris, when will the newsletter be out?” You may have noted the poem by Dr. Pease that has become a part of our cover on this publication. The editor had promised to publish the entire lute poem this year so that readers could observe the lovely mirror image in the second half. It is the mirror image section of his own poem that so beautifully exemplifies Edward Pease’s contributions to the lives of his students and those of us who were honored to know him and to teach beside him!

The faculty and students miss Ed! Our loss was very eloquently expressed by Dr. Pounds in the memorial service eulogy (see below), but we remain most thankful for the concentric waves—true teaching excellence!

Lute Song
by Edward J. Pease

Stillness of early light,
the plucked string vibrant
in the clear, light air,
which in an instant resonates it.
A tone is born
then hurries on.

A pebble cast to the silent pond
and at once concentric waves
each greater
yet fainter
than the one
before it.

A EULOGY for EDWARD J. PEASE,
1930-1986
by Dwight R. Pounds

The man we honor today was an ordinary man only in the respect that he did many of the things in his lifetime that most of us do. He went to school, took music lessons, served a stint in the Air Force, took a wife, and he was a father, a grandfather, a tax-payer and many other things we associate with 20th century American daily life. It ill becomes us, however, to remember Edward for the ordinary, for he was by no means an ordinary individual.

First and foremost, Edward Pease was a free man, one who loved his search for personal freedom and pursued it with his total being. To be a free man for Edward Pease meant not only the freedom to think and be, but the freedom to act and the freedom to become. Edward Pease simply became extraordinary.

Terms he frequently used in describing Western History are “Classical,” meaning “driven by rational thought,” and “Romantic,” meaning, “driven by emotion.” Edward Pease was definitely a Classicist, although I am sure his family would say that he had his Romantic moments! He was a lover of rational, intellectual thought and of the written and spoken word, a much published and deeply respected writer and researcher with a reputation well established throughout the university and the national musicological fraternity. He was a French hornist-poet who married a violinist-painter, and the two complemented one another in an extremely strong marriage in the way that brass complements string, that color complements sound, and that abstract complements concrete. Edward Pease could not just be something, he had to do something! It was insufficient just to be a musician, so he became an authority on dance history. It was insufficient just to be a writer on Music History, so he became a published poet with the world as his subject. It was insufficient just to be an intellectual and writer, so he became an actor, a poet, and very much of his acquired knowledge came by way of his feet, which is to say through action and a most profound ability to enjoy life and to immerse himself in it. In the sixteen years I knew him, Edward Pease was a pilot, a jogger, a swimmer, a dancer, a world traveler, and a gourmet cook in addition to his traditional roles of professor, musician and intellectual. Each of his activities—whether it was refining a starboard turn in a Cessna, turning a phrase of music, coaching a private student, or concocting a potato soufflé—was marked by the pursuit of excellence.

As the rational thinker who deeply appreciated irony, he probably would not have been surprised (nor should we) to remember that the concluding portion of his last lecture before a class dealt not with music, not with research techniques, but with a particularly good wine he had found! And as a poet with a highly nurtured sense of the ridiculous, I rather imagine that Edward would have particularly enjoyed my next analogy since it deals with poetry—less for the quality of the observation than for the delight he would have taken in the opportunity to cram it down my throat! “Zounds, Pounds!” he would have said, laughing all the while, delighted in his two-word rhyme! “You dare to put me in such company?” “Yes, Edward, I do.”

As I remember Edward Pease, I am reminded of a literary character he knew quite well, Goethe’s Faust, and I dare to mention Edward and the tragic Faust in the same sentence only in the sense that each had an almost insatiable thirst for knowledge. Faust, of course, was without scruples in his desire to know everything, to acquire absolute knowledge. Edward Pease, on the other hand, was quite content to limit his quest to subjects of interest to him, and always in the framework of the highest moral, literary, and social standards. Edward was in the active pursuit of knowledge to the very end of his life, preparing for a new career—this time in psychology—but at no time would he pause from sharing what he already knew. He was in fact on his feet lecturing to a class when he first stood in harm’s way this past Thursday. We say of such a person in my native West Texas, in an expression born of the active and challenging life on a frontier, that he died “with his boots on,” and few greater compliments could be paid.

It is simply a fact of personal and professional life that we each ultimately yield our positions to successors. In doing so, Edward Pease became the master teacher, teaching us by his example less how to die—though he did that too—than how to live and to find quality in our existence.

“There it is, Edward, the ridiculous company that I promised—Faust, Texas cowboys, and the school teacher!”
Dr. Wayne Hobbs, head of the department, attended the National Association of Schools of Music National Meeting in Colorado Springs, CO, where he organized with Paul Heman. Wayne has been serving a three-year term as a member of the Board of Directors and chairman of Region Eight. NASM is the agency which accredits music departments and colleges. Dr. Hobbs is also doing practical, in vivo, training in an organ of principles of music learning theory to undergraduate students.

Director of Bands, Dr. Kent Campbell, judged six marching band events this last fall, including the Florida Music Bowl at the University of Florida and the State AAAA Finals in Columbia, SC. He also attended the honor to serve as guest conductor with the U.S. Army Field Band at their concert in Bowling Green on October 8th. Kent continues to conduct the National Anthem at many of the games. As Kent states it, “I don’t want people to forget me.” He has again been the organizer for the All-Collegiate Band at the Kentucky Music Educator’s Association State In-service Conference. Dr. Campbell’s chief complaint about all of this activity is that the familiar teaching load is that he never seems to have a fall weekend for fishing!

Director of Choral Activities, Dr. Kenneth Davis, returned from the New York City trip with the choir in time to finish off classes and then leave to be guest director at the Pacific Music Camp in Stockton, CA. This is the oldest music camp on the West Coast and proved to be a challenging and inspiring experience. This year Ken is also serving as the newsletter editor of the Kentucky chapter of the American Choral Directors Association.

Mr. Gary Dilworth spent a large part of his summer in Europe where he toured Spain as a soloist and orchestra conductor and participated in the Festival of Trumpets at the International Cathedral of the Holy Cross Conference. He also was the featured soloist with the Adrian, MI, Municipal band. Mr. Dilworth played recitals at the University of Indianapolis, in Scottsville, KY, a solo recital on the faculty concert series, a Capital Arts “Coffee Concert” and will be playing in Cincinnati on February 8th.

Mr. Stephen Grugin was the guest conductor of the concert band at the Eastern Illinois University Music Camp last July 13-19. Steve states that he spent the rest of the summer working on the band computer with Pyware drill design, the new music printer and various software trying to keep tabs on the 67 new marching band members.

Dr. Christine Hobbs was selected as the “1986 University/College Teacher of the Year” by the Kentucky Music Educators Association. Nominated by the Third District KMEA and then reviewed by the State Board, Christine was honored at the state conference in Lexington and also at a banquet for the Third District members. Besides her usual out-of-town travel and Headstart work, she has also published two articles this year: “An Introduction to Gordon’s Learning Sequences” in the October issue and “Who is Gordon?” in the December issue of the Bluegrass Music News. Christine is serving on the KMEA board as College/University Chairperson.

Dr. David Kelsey has a new type of program for schools and colleges entitled “Renaissance to Rock.” David and his wife, Martha, are performing this special program on instruments that vary from lutes to digital synthesizers. David has also completed a thirty-minute Kentucky Educational Television video-tape program for University Journal. David Lee of the History Department. Currently working on a guitar pedagogy book with Sharon Law ’83, (M.Ed.) 94, editing an annotated guitar bibliography, planning a master technique experience for classical guitar on video-tape and recording a solo guitar album. When these are released or published, the Minstrel will print specifics.

Ms. Sylvia Kershenbaum has been named for Who’s Who in Music, International Edition. Besides organizing the “Kentucky Composers Symposium” (a most successful project which brought Kentucky composers from all over the commonwealth to Western) and “Friends of New Music Concert.” Ms. Betty Pease reports that the faculty group, Collegium Musicum including Anne Hale, David Kelsey and Sue Pauli, added to an already busy schedule of on and off-campus concerts. The group established a series of “Lunches” in the Garrett Center Lobby, several times each semester.

Betty has also continued to excel in her visual arts pursuits. A drawing of hers won a prize last summer in the Montgomery George Dab Show, and one of her creations can always be seen on the music department office wall.

An article by Dr. Edward Pease will be published posthumously in the Opera News, “Plays of Boxes, the King’s Theatre, Haymarket.” A total of seven poems had been accepted for publication since last fall. Also he was pursuing a master’s degree in clinical psychology.

Contributions to the Edward J. Pease Student Scholarship Fund should be sent to the College Heights Foundation, Foundation Building 201, W. U., Bowling Green, KY 42101. Make checks to the College Heights Foundation, and appropriately mark for the Pease Scholarship Fund.

As a part of his sabbatical leave, Dr. Dwight Pounds enjoyed research at the Primrose International Viola Archives at Brigham Young University and in Pollan, Austria. Dwight arrived in Europe on August 29, the day Soviet officials conceded that a nuclear reactor in Chernobyl in the Ukraine had exploded. Dr. Pounds continued his trip, traveling through southern Germany and Austria and finally spending two days in Budapest, Hungary. A map of eastern Europe quickly reveals that Chernobyl is roughly one day’s drive by automobile to the north of Budapest. Although a physical exam showed he had neither inhaled nor ingested radioactive particles during his trip, upon his return, friends of Dr. Pounds enjoyed teasing him about glowing in the dark.

Ms. Elizabeth Volkman attended a week-long National Association of Teachers of Singing workshop in Phoenix, AR, last year. Elizabeth performed a benefit concert in Morgantown with Sue Pauli and also sang for the Bowling Green-Warren Country Symphony (Dec. 3 to give a recital at Tabor College in Kansas this Spring, a solo recital with the Early Music Ensemble on the Faculty Concert Series, and will judge in the Kansas City Metropolitan Opera Auditions.

Terry Watson was honored by KMEA at the state convention for twenty-five years of service to the profession. Tom was nominated for this honor by Third District KMEA which also honored him at the Third District Honors Band last Spring.

Mrs. Stephen Grugin in the band area are Susan Parks, a clarinetist from Middle Tennessee and Maria Miller, a trumpet player from Middle Tennessee. Choral graduate assistants to Dr. Kenneth Davis are Kathy Tabor, a graduate of Kentucky Wesleyan and Grace Eckert, from Northern State College in Aberdeen, SD. Chris Dehn is also a departmental assistant on a piano graduate assistantship. Chris came from Louisiana and a Fellow of Lee College in Cleveland, TN.

Helen (Mrs. Harold) Wich, 78, retired as music director of Louisville’s Harvey Browne Memorial Presbyterian Church last summer. Featured in a special article in The Courier-Journal, Sunday, July 13, 1986 (p. II-2), Helen and her husband have been a member of the church with the establishment of the Wich Music Fund (designed for special musical events, choral clinics and major repair of instruments). After Helen graduated from Western State Teachers College, she taught in the Bowling Green and Livernose schools and then moved to Louisville in 1916 as choral music teacher at Western Junior High. Serving five years in that position, she accepted the choir director’s job at First Presbyterian Church and later moved to Bardstown Road Presbyterian Church. Her last professional move was to Harvey Browne where she remained for twenty-five years. During her tenure at Browne she saw an immediate doubling of the teen-age choir and the children’s choir, the installation of a new 45-rank pipe organ, the establishment of a series of afternoon music festivals, and a church instrumental group. Helen’s last contribution to the church before retiring was to put the $100,000 music library on computer retrieval. Mrs. Wich, 78, stated “We have everything on here (the computer) except the color of the composer’s eyes.” You are right Helen and you make us proud here at Western—you have touched many
lives. Best wishes in your future productive, yet relaxing years!

Hazel (Oates) Carver '38, (MA)'62, became the National Chairperson of State Editors at the MENC National Convention in Anaheim in the Spring of 1986. Hazel is the first woman to hold this position, and if Hazel's skills as editor of KMEA's Bluegrass Music News are typical of her ability in the editorial business, the state editors group will be in expert hands! Hazel was also elected the Sixth Region Representative for the Educational Press Association of America.

Hazel—we thought you were retired! To get Hazel to brag about herself is a really tough job—but she sure enjoys her kids and grandchildren. As reported in the last Minstrel, Jean Carver Spanko, '64, a very successful Phoenix junior high general music teacher, has just published a book (Taming the Ant Hill. Cathy Carver Tegmeyer, (WKU 66-69), is editor of the New Mexico newsletter for La Leche League. Dr. Keith Carver, (WKU 66-69), is head of Electrical/Electronic Engineering at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. He has co-authored a textbook on electromagnetics. Quite a family, Hazel!

We regret to announce that Talbott Mansfield, '47, died in Paducah, December 27, 1985. Mr. Mansfield was a Russellville native.

Karlene (Engleman) Harter, '60, is living in Massillon, OH. She taught high school music for more than ten years and is now teaching junior high music in the Perry Local Schools in Massillon. She writes that she is very proud of her alma mater!

Peggy Planagan Baird, '63, has published an article, "A Boehm Experience in Munich" in the December 1986 issue of Flute Talk. After graduating from Western, Peggy attended the University of New Mexico, where she received the MME. She presently lives in Huntsville, AL, where she teaches private piano and flute. Peggy, a serious collector of classical flutes, flutes and piccolos as well as folk instruments, keeps busy giving lectures on the collection. She invites any WKU music grads to come visit her when they are in the area. Ask her to show you her collection, including her prize find, a 1801 Clementi pianoforte that she found several years ago at an auction in Newport, TN.

Saundra (Williams) Woodward, '70, (MA)'73, is director of children, youth and bell choirs at the Centertown Baptist Church. She does some substitute teaching in Muhlenberg County. Saundra and her husband, Marshall, (MA)'77, have two children: David and Marshelle.

We continue to hear excellent reports about Henry Hampton's, '72, fine string program in Dorman, SC. Henry is the coordinator of the program with another Western graduate, Mike Bell, '72, assisting in the program. Give us a call or write, Henry, and let us know if the rumors are true!

John (Bob) Gaddis, '72, (MA)'81, was appointed the Chairman of Fine Arts Division at Campbellsville College last June. Congratulations, Bob, and condolences to wife, Jeannie!

Congratulations to Jeff Hood, '77, and his George Rogers Clark High School Marching Band. They took top honors in the AAA Division, Kentucky Music Educators' State Marching Band Competition in November. Glasgow's Marching Scotties won class AAA under the direction of James Stumpy, '87. Great work, guys!

Chuck Alexander, ('78), has performed in mini-concerts and educational television programs, helped edit transcripts of guitar works to be published by Mel Bay, worked as a back up musician, recorded a solo guitar album for which he was critiqued in "Guitar Player" and "Frets" magazines, and had an Artist-Relation agreement with Gibson Guitar Company. He has since become an airline captain for Air Spirit Airlines at Dallas-Fort Worth Airport, which unfortunately went bankrupt. He is now operations manager for the Edwin Jones Company in Dallas. This company designs and builds electronic control systems for businesses and homes.

Jim Falwell, '80, is presently working as an electrical engineer in Huntsville, AL. He continues to play classical guitar (recently performing for 350-400 people) and is planning on presenting a one-hour recital in the near future.

Gary Lowry, (MM)'81, taught private and group guitar along with guitar ensemble classes at Belmont College (Nashville) for two years. He is presently on the road with the Hemphills (southern gospel) as the lead guitarist. He is also teaching at Shuff's Music in Franklin, TN and doing free-lance studio work. He co-produced (also mixed the musical tracks, played guitar, bass, keyboard and programmed the digital drum machine) for the musical score to a Thanksgiving television special aired on B.T.N. network (Baptist Sunday School Board) and has been approached to do an instrumental gospel guitar album, featuring his hymn arrangements.

David Fullen, '82, returned from the Spoleto Festival performances in Charleston, WV, and Italy (as reported in an earlier Minstrel) to have enough to land a junior high choral and keyboard job for one year in Homestead, FL. David has come home to Kentucky this year to become Director of Choral Activities and Instructor of Music at Lindsey Wilson College in Columbia. David reports that he has never enjoyed teaching as much as he is at Columbia—Congratulations on the job, David!

Greg Phelps, '82, writes that he is performing on the Royal Viking Star cruise ship (the editor loves Hong Kong postmarks). So far, as a singer and dancer in a production group, Greg has seen some exotic places as Australia, New Zealand, the South Pacific Islands, China, Korea and Japan. Greg proves that you can major in music and see the world. Really sounds exciting, doesn't it?

Joe Stallings, (MM)'82, writes enthusiastically about the guitar program he established at Pensacola College in 1982. Guitar is becoming a very serious instrument in the community. The Guitar Society, established there two years ago, boasts a membership of 400 guitar enthusiasts. Keep up the good work, Joe!

Carlton White, (MM)'82, has accepted a Minister of Music position at the Central Presbyterian Church in Chattanooga, TN. Carlton does this in addition to his public school job at Hixson High School.

We are proud to announce the birth of a daughter in July of 1986 to Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Strange, (WKU 81-83). Besides the new baby, Jerry has a new job teaching in the Nelson County Schools. Train those young ears, Jerry!

Lee Garner, (WKU 78-85), writes that he has been busy with teaching, recording, nightclub work, a stint at Opryland U.S.A. and work with a variety of local and road Nashvillie groups. He has appeared or

comments from the editor

Thanks so much for the fine response from alumni. Why don't you send in your nomination for "Alumnus of the Year" or let us know what you are doing! Thanks again to Ted Wilson for layout and Dr. Karen Pezl for proofreading.

Christine Hobbs, editor Western Kentucky University Minstrel Bowling Green, Kentucky 42101 Department of Music (502) 745-5925

PLEASE HELP! WE WANT TO KNOW ABOUT OUR ALUMNI

NAME (LAST) (FIRST) (MAIDEN)
ADDRESS
DEGREE YEAR GRADUATED
NEWS (positions, performances, awards, publications, etc.)

(send to editor)
recorded with Donna Summer, Anne Murray, Charlie Rich, Gladys Knight and the Pips, The Pointer Sisters and Crystal Gale. Since June of ’81 he has been touring with Eddie Rabbitt. Lee’s TV credits include The Eddie Rabbit Special, Bob Hope Special, Jerry Lewis Telethon, Johnny Cash Special, Solid Gold, M-TV, HBO Special Country Ten, Tom Snyder’s Tomorrow Show, Austin City Limits and Johnny Carson’s Tonight Show. The group has also headlined at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas and Harrah’s in Atlantic City. Reno and Lake Tahoe. He is also doing freelance work.

James Dean Hicks, ’84, wrote a very interesting letter about his activities since he left “The Hill.” Jim writes that he moved to Nashville to pursue a career in the country music field and quickly landed a job as a staff writer to Tom Collins Music. This last year he has had songs recorded by Barbara Mandrell and The Oak Ridge Boys. He has had a single in the top forty by Butch Baker on Mercury/Polygram Records. In addition to this, Jim plays session work on guitar and has done singing backup vocals for Barbara Mandrell, Keith Stegall and other artists. Jim used many kind words to describe his preparation at Western, which he felt gave him an edge on the competition. Thanks for the kind words, Jim! We hope your future is most promising!

Boyce Flenner, ’85, writes he is enjoying his job as head band director at Crittenden County High School, where he is also teaching middle school band and elementary general music K-6.

Valerie (Hale) Pickard, ’85, is teaching at the Strawberry Hill Day Care Center in Nashville, TN. Valerie reports that she really loves working with the little ones!

Good luck and best wishes to those alumni who have accepted new positions this last year: Joe Allen (MA) ’80, band director, Muhlenburg Central; Mike Clark, ’85, band director, Whitley City, IN; Larry Dawes, ’76, band director, Central City; Brant Karrick, (MA) ’84, band director, Bowling Green High School; Leslie Lloyd, ’81, general music, Warren County; Greg Lyons, ’82, band director, Meade County; John McDonald, ’84, band director, Murray High School; Tony Patterson, ’82, band director, Russell County; Leanne Riley, ’85, general music, Hardin County; David Swift, ’86, band director, Beechwood High School; Joe Stites, ’77, band director, Lone Oak High School, Paducah; Paula Wells, ’81, band director, West Hardin County High School.

Congratulations and a tip of the hat to those Western sent out into the “big world” last year: Brett Ballard, ’85, officer training candidate, U.S. Air Force; David Crabtree, ’86, band director at Fulton County High School; Sherry Eisenback, music therapy program, Middle Tennessee University; Chandler Fowler, ’86, general music, Warren County Schools; Pamela Galloway, ’86, general music, Vandalia, OH, parochial schools; Bill Haynes, ’86, band director, Ohio County Schools; Keith Overton, ’85, WKU Headstart Program; Jeff Phillips (MA) ’86, band director, Hendersonville, TN; Steve Powell (minor) ’86, Ph.D. program, Vanderbilt University; Teresa Saylor, ’85, (MM) ’86, choral and general music, Switzerland, IN, Schools; Bruce Smith, (MM) ’86, U.S. Navy; Karen Speaker, ’86, general music, Ohio County Schools; John Talbott, ’86, band director, Corbin High School.

MEMBERS OF THE WESTERN UNIVERSITY CHOIR IN FRONT OF CARNEGIE HALL

Harry L. Dinkle from Funkie Winkerbean?