

Women's Club

NEWSLETTER



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA WOMEN'S CLUB  Educational, cultural, recreational, and leadership opportunities for all ages

Conversation with a Woman Leader

Uma Venkata: How the U of M Engineers Without Borders works to bring clean water to the world's communities

Uma C. Venkata, president of the University of Minnesota's Engineers Without Borders (EWB) Chapter, will join us for our April Conversation Luncheon. She and two alumnae will tell us how one of the University's strongest volunteer student groups is putting to work skills that they're learning in the classroom to bring clean water and enhanced quality of life to partner communities throughout the world.



Uma will be accompanied by Laura Amundson and Missy Gettel, two professional engineers who mentor the Guatemala project. Both engineers are U of M graduates—Laura with a degree in civil engineering (1978), and Missy in chemical engineering (2010) from the College of Science and Engineering.

Uma, a junior majoring in materials sciences and engineering, and her 75 fellow chapter members are currently in the implementation stage of projects in Ethiopia and Guatemala.

In Ethiopia they are working in partnership with the Mehrete Kirstos Monastery in Filakit Geragera, a community of 500 residents, in the development of a water distribution system that will be a sustainable source of water for residential use and for use in farming during the dry season. As a result of this project, women and girls will be able to spend less time collecting water, and fields that previously could not be used during the dry season will become usable. In Guatemala, where the group has already successfully completed five projects, the EWB-USA U of M is currently partnering with "Long Way Home," a

Continued on page 2

Members' Art Show Opening Reception

which was postponed on March 1 due to a snowstorm, has been rescheduled for 4 p.m., Friday, March 8, at Becketwood.

The exhibit will continue at Becketwood through April 4.

March – April 2019 • No. 285

Meeting ~ At a Glance

Conversation with a Woman Leader Noon, Tuesday, April 2

Speaker: Uma C. Venkata, junior in Materials Science and Engineering, University of Minnesota, and chapter president, U of M Engineers without Borders-USA
"Water projects enhance quality of life"

Location

Becketwood,
4300 West River Parkway, Minneapolis

Parking

Limited parking is available in the south lot or along the entrance road.
Carpool if possible.

Menu

Butter lettuce and radish salad with citrus vinaigrette,
Lemon garlic jumbo shrimp,
Couscous and quinoa with fresh herbs,
Roasted garlic broccolini,
Key lime pie,
Coffee, tea, milk
Request vegetarian, gluten-free, and dairy-free options with reservation.

Cost: \$20

Observe Reservation Deadline: Monday, March 25, 2019

Please send in the reservation form you will find in your 2018–19 Membership Directory or on the UMWC website. Make your check payable to UMWC.

Questions? Call Barbara Cohen

President's Message

As I write this springtime message to all of you dear UMWC members, the city is digging out yet again after a snowfall and bracing for another one tonight. But inside, my dog Beany is sunbathing on the carpet, and I think that spring will come. Hopefully, as you read this, we are seeing sure signs of reawakening.

Unfortunately, the February Board Meeting and Conversation Luncheon had to be canceled because of slippery roads and icy sidewalks. Gratefully, several members of the Board donated time and effort to contacting, by telephone, every member who had made a reservation. Everyone was notified that the checks for their reservation fees would be shredded. We received so many positive and supportive responses, and we appreciate each one of them. And many, many thanks to everyone who helped make this process go smoothly.

Meanwhile, we have been busy with the activities that come every spring. The Nominating Committee has been completing its work of recruiting willing candidates for the slate of nominees for next year's board, which will be presented at the April Board Meeting. The Program Committee and the Conversation Chair are already swinging into gear to plan next year's luncheons and speakers. And the Interest Sections are putting together next year's programs and looking for volunteers for leadership at the section level. Many thanks to every single member who is involved with these efforts.

As we look ahead, we can see some significant changes that will affect our Club. Next year, with the Kalers' departure from the University presidency, we will no longer have the First Lady of the University of Minnesota in our corner, but thankfully, Karen plans to continue as a member. And, Minnesota now has a First Lady of the State of Minnesota, and according to our bylaws, she is an honorary member of the University of Minnesota Women's Club. We are not sure yet how this will play out for us, but we are very optimistic, and looking forward to working in a positive direction.

With appreciation and optimism,

Maggie Hoover, President

Conversation topic: Engineers without Borders (Continued from page 1)

non-governmental organization to bring sustainable sources of drinking, cooking, and bathing water to Paraxaj, a community of some 1,200.

Uma will detail how EWB has developed—and continues to refine—a project-selection process that centers on close and continuous collaboration with potential international partners, a process that has proved essential to maximizing project success.

The National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying presented the chapter with a \$10,000 award this last fall for their drip irrigation project in Filakit, Ethiopia, one of the projects that Uma will be telling you about.

When you hear Uma, you'll know why it's no secret that the University's EWB Chapter is one of the strongest of EWB's 40-some chapters around the nation. Come to hear Uma speak—and to learn and to be inspired by the work of this cadre of University-based practical idealists who are doing good work for our fellow citizens around the world.

Send your reservation today!

—Ruth Jones, Chair, Conversations Committee

Next Board Meeting April 2

Mark your calendars for the next Board Meeting and Luncheon. The meeting will begin promptly at 10 a.m. on April 2, in the Windsor Room at Becketwood. Coffee, tea, and water will be served beginning at 9:30 a.m., and everyone is invited to attend. Board members and section chairs, please send your written reports to Mary Abuan, Recording Secretary, prior to the meeting day.

Make plans for Annual Meeting May 14

It's not too early to make plans to attend the UMWC Annual Meeting on May 14, at the Town and Country Club in St. Paul. The Annual Member Business Meeting will begin at 10:30 a.m. with a coffee and tea service.

Luncheon and Program will start at noon. The speaker will be Jo Holcomb, dramaturg at the Guthrie Theater. You will find the reservation form in the front pages of your Membership Directory or online on the UMWC website. The reservation deadline is May 6, but don't wait until the last minute to send in your form and payment.

See you there.

Scholarship Committee Report

UMWC Scholarship applications process will open on April 1, 2019; applications will close on June 15, 2019. The Office of Student Finance has agreed to continue to notify additional University colleges with information regarding the opportunity to apply for a UMWC Scholarship. This was initiated last year in an attempt to increase the academic diversity of our application pool.

Our committee sits in anticipation of beginning the scholarship process for this year, 2019–2020. The UMWC Scholarship application was revised in format, but not in content. We will evaluate the new format as applications arrive. Again, we look forward to the challenge of reviewing applications and selecting candidates to receive the UMWC Scholarships.

— Georgia Nygaard, Scholarship Chair
and committee members Elizabeth Foley, Mary Johnson,
Sandra Monson, Sue Nelson, Marilyn Olson

Is this the year you will fund a One-year, Named Scholarship?

Why might you decide to do so? Perhaps because this is probably the last year one may be funded for \$3,000. The board is being asked to increase our scholarships from \$3,000 to \$3,500 in fiscal year 2019–2020.

Other compelling reasons are:

- In your lifetime you can see your gift at work—you would have the pleasure of knowing that you, personally, are having a tremendous impact on the life of a young woman who needs financial help to achieve her academic goals.
- It is your opportunity to recognize a loved one with a scholarship named in his or her honor.

So far this year there are 13 One-year Named Scholarships. Two members have named scholarships for their living husbands, one for a living brother, one for a deceased sister-in-law, one for a deceased husband, two for daughters, two for mothers-in-law, two for mothers, one for a father, and one for a teacher.

There are people in each of our lives who have helped shape us—who we are, what we have done. True, we give them lip service thank yous, but here is a tangible gift with a multitude of benefits.

Lets talk!

— Marian Champlin, Vice President for Fundraising



Hmmm...will it be the cloche, sun hat, or baseball cap? Sue Zuriff puzzles over which hat to wear for the *Hats off to Thee Tea*. You won't want to miss the Event of the Season, so send in your donation for the Scholarship Fund, grab a hat to decorate, and get ready for FUN this spring – May 21!

HATS OFF TO THEE – May 21 Because YOU are special!

You are a very special woman. And you are a member of a very special club, which has a very special and important mission—to assist University of Minnesota women students with the financial challenges in meeting their educational goals. Your generous donations to the UMWC Scholarship Fund are special!

To acknowledge the generosity of our club's donors this year and to celebrate all our gifts for scholarships this year, the Fundraising Committee is throwing a special party—a fabulous Tea! *The Hats Off To Thee Tea!*

Mark the date—**May 21**— on your calendar and choose a fun hat, a fancy hat, or a hat of your own creation, for the long-awaited spring scholarship tea for all contributors to the UMWC Scholarship Fund.

Enjoy teas from around the world and sample traditional tea fare as the UMWC celebrates each important, needed gift to the Scholarship Fund. Remember, when it comes to growing our Scholarship Fund—all gifts matter.

We are delighted that Becketwood will be the site for this historic event. The culinary skills of Becketwood's chef and his staff, tasty recipes from members, and ideas from the Out to Tea Section will make this a memorable event.

If you haven't yet made your gift, there is still time. If your gift is received by March 25, yours will be among the names of all scholarship donors listed alphabetically (without dollar amounts) in the May newsletter. And YOU will receive a special invitation to the fabulous Tea. Invitations will be mailed in mid-April.

—The UMWC Fundraising Committee:
Marian Champlin, Ginny Hanson, and Marcie Wallace

Interest Section updates

Around the Campus resumes meetings in April

Date: Wednesday, April 24, 1 p.m.

Presenter: Ann Van de Winckel, Ph.D., researcher and director of the Brain, Body, Mind Lab

Topic: “Use of Body Awareness Training to Help Recover Arm Function, Post Stroke.” Dr. Van de Winckel will discuss her body awareness training research comparing healthy subjects with patients with stroke. She will show us how she uses a robot in her studies and will demonstrate a hands-on therapist-guided approach from Italy. She will use arm tests to look at body awareness and quality of movement.

Location: Children’s Rehab Center, Room 202 (presentation), Room 302 (lab), 426 Church Street S.E. RSVP to Fran Holmsten 612-750-9640, holms006@umn.edu

New International Issues Section plans programs

Interested in being a part of this section? Come to our next planning meeting April 12, Kensington Square, Bectonwood, 4300 West River Parkway, Minneapolis.

We are looking to create two to four programs for 2019–2020. We have an interesting list of suggested programs and activities and experienced section leaders to help us. A planning group met in December 2018 and February 2019. UMWC women make things happen!

— Lynne Benz, Chair, International Issues Section

In Remembrance

We are sad to report the loss of two club members.

Janet Lund died quite suddenly on Sunday, January 3. She will be remembered for the many ways she was involved with the UMWC and helping it to grow. Most recently she was a fine, contributing member of the Modern Literature section. A memorial service for Janet was held Saturday, February 16 in Sundin Music Hall at Hamline University.

Reported by her daughter, **Phillis Scholberg** died last November. She was another long-time UMWC member with many outside interests. Born on a dairy farm in northern Minnesota, she was an elementary school teacher who traveled extensively with her family.

— Marian Champlin, Corresponding Secretary

Play the game of Guest Quest in April



Virginia Mahlum (left), who brought two guests to the November Conversation Luncheon, won the drawing among the entries of those members who brought guests as prospective members. Her prize is a certificate entitling her to attend another luncheon as an honored guest of UMWC.

Lou Nelson (right), chair of the Membership Committee, presided over the drawing and presented Virginia with her certificate. This is the second year UMWC has used Guest Quest to reward our member “ambassadors” for helping to spread the word about the club. Millie Woodbury, UMWC president in 2017–18, brought this idea back from a Big 10 Women’s Clubs’ conference.

Travel to Indiana and join in the fun of the Big Ten Conference for women’s clubs

The University Women’s Club of Indiana will host the Big Ten Conference 2019, from Friday evening, June 14 through Sunday noon, June 16, in Bloomington, Indiana. It promises to be a lively and informative conference with walking and bus tours of the local areas and a wine tour, lectures, and presentations by the Big Ten Women’s Clubs, lots of idea sharing, socializing, and free time.

Everyone is invited to attend. You never know what great ideas you will be able to bring back to strengthen our UMWC. If you would like more information or a link to the website, or if you wish to register, please contact Maggie Hoover by email.

What? You forgot to send your donation for the UMWC Scholarship Fund this year?

Whew! There’s still time.

Deadline: March 25.

Hurry, time’s a wastin’ !

Members show their talents at the 27th Art Exhibition at Becketwood, March 1 – April 4

The UMWC Art Section will be exhibiting its 27th Annual Art Show at Becketwood from March 1 through April 4.

Art section members and other UMWC members participate every year in this event, showing their art work in many media and sharing their enthusiasm for visual arts.

RIGHT: Jane LaFroth, UMWC Art Show cochair, and Bonnie Porte, Becketwood's art committee chair, admire "Steam Threshing ND 1890s," a display of multiple watercolors by Roz Anderson. Roz was inspired by an old family photograph (top frame) that had belonged to her late mother-in-law. Threshing, separating wheat grain from stalks, required the cooperation of all the neighboring farmers, working as a crew to process the harvest.



LEFT: This year, two of our U of M scholarship recipients, Taylor Robers and Emily Klesel, are participating in the show. You will be as amazed as Ginny Hanson was to see how Taylor used her photographs of concerts to incorporate the colorful scenes into this brilliant oil painting. Taylor, who is a junior at the U, is working on her Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Art. She also works in color pencil to create portraits of people's pets, which earns her extra money.

Taylor hails from St. Michael, Minnesota, where she was encouraged by her mother and a high school art teacher to pursue her interest in art.

LOWER LEFT: In a completely different medium, one of Emily Klesel's linoleum prints is pictured below left. This whimsical collection of animals is entitled "Creature Party."



RIGHT: Becketwood's art committee hard at work on snowy Friday, March 1, hanging art in the dining areas for the UMWC's Annual Art Show. L – R: Bonnie Porte, art chair; David Liddle, Terry Sonier, Mary Theresa Downing, Shirley Dahlquist—all residents of Becketwood.



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Welcome to new members of UMWC

We have had four women join us since the January–February Newsletter. When you see them at meetings, please greet them and help with introductions.

Diane Anastos, Linda Lorenz,
Joan Prairie, and Janelle Wegner.

For contact information for new members and/or current changes to the 2018–19 Directory, please contact Nancy Myers, Records and Dues.

The next newsletter publication will cover May 2019

Please submit articles or information by email to
Nancy Kluver, kluver.nancy@gmail.com,
before the deadline of April 3.
Call or email Maggie Hoover, UMWC President,
with any questions.

Tote Bag Raffle at the April Luncheon

Be sure to make your reservation for the April 2 Conversation Luncheon with a Woman Leader. In addition to the delicious menu at Becketwood and the excellent program that day, there will be drawings for the UMWC's famous tote bags, which were designed with the beautiful UMWC lady slipper logo.



These sturdy and attractive bags are practical and also promote our organization. Everyone who makes a reservation for the luncheon will be in the drawing.

Don't miss out. Reservations for April 2 are due before March 25.

Current information and previous issues of the Newsletter are always available on the Women's Club website:
www.umwc.umn.edu