



***Meet the New Peabodys***

## From the WCAA Director & WCAA President

Hello Westerners!

**T**he Holidays are always a time for reflecting upon those things and people for which we are thankful. Every year we give thanks for the beauty of Western's campus and for the many alumnae and friends that care so deeply about keeping the Spirit of Western alive. This year, however, we are especially grateful. We have accomplished so much, and we did it together. Your passion for Western translated into meeting our professorship goal, ensuring that indeed there WILL be an endowed Western College Professor in tribute to the many dedicated Western faculty and staff. Many of you attended club events, and came home to welcome the Peabody family to Oxford for Alumnae Weekend. Your fervor for knowledge and higher education resulted in 152 scholarships awarded this academic year, totaling close to \$300,000. Your WCAA Board had the chance to meet many of those scholarship recipients recently, and we can testify first hand that these students embody the spirit of Western and will carry forward the name with distinction. You continue to support these special initiatives and many more, including this very publication that helps us stay connected!



*Mackenzie Becker Rice  
Director, WCAA*

Now your WCAA Board of Trustees is hard at work making plans for our final legacy goals as we anticipate the winding down of the WCAA and the planned transfer of the Western alumnae relations to the Miami University Alumni Association in the year 2024. As you can imagine, this is a significant and critical time for the Board. We are exploring several options and are coming to you once again to help us answer some very important questions. What is our legacy? What is the story we are trying to tell? How do we make sure the rich history of Western gets carried forward when we are no longer around to tell the story?



*Jocelyn Woodson-Reed '74  
President, WCAA*

As we move forward in answering these questions, it has been determined that the first legacy goal will be to raise funds for artwork on Western's campus, with the hope that the artwork will begin to bring an awareness of the Western College story to the countless generations of students, faculty and visitors that will walk the campus in the many years to come.

We cannot tell the story without you. You are the story.

Yours in the "Spirit of Western,"



### **CALLING ALL ALUMS!**

***Are you an artist interested in the Campus Artwork Project?***

***Contact us by February 15, 2013: Mail, e-mail (WCAA@MiamiOH.edu) or telephone (513-529-4400).***

***What is our story? How shall we tell it? We invite you to reach out to WCAA staff — or any of your 15 elected trustees — with YOUR ideas.***

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Mission of the Association:

- to preserve and encourage communication among and with alumnae,
- to support education and human values that continue the heritage and tradition of The Western College.

\* appointed for one year to fill vacancy

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**On the cover:**

Ten members of the Peabody family visited campus for Alumnae Weekend 2012 and especially enjoyed staying in Peabody Hall, named for their famous ancestor.

**Anchor alert!** 

Since there will be no "Anchor" published this year, we call your attention to items of special interest to the over-50 classes in this issue of the Bulletin. Look for the anchor!



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# What's on Your Mind

*Hayat Imam '68 wrote this beautiful remembrance of a deceased classmate (and tribute to a revered professor) in the form of a personal letter to the Class of '68. It is something of a cautionary tale — just as Hayat regrets not having renewed an old friendship, we in the WCAA office regret not having discovered **Chris Kelley Gilmartin's** incredible achievements and brought them to you earlier. Thanks to Hayat, we hereby take one small step to correct our oversight and print a portion of her letter here.*

July 29, 2012

Dear Sisters from Western College,

On Wednesday, July 18, 2012, I got to know from the e-mail sent by class of 1968 rep **Susy Blake** that **Chris Kelley Gilmartin** had lived and died just a few miles from where I live in Dorchester, Massachusetts. I have not recovered from the sadness and regret I feel at this opportunity missed. But, bang as I might at the door, death is final and without recourse. So, with this awareness of time passing, I am reaching out to all of you, my fellow-travelers at that lovely time of life, when we were young and crunchy as sweet apples, when our youthful energy mingled and inspired each other. We may not have stayed in contact, but your touch is with me and I thank you for being part of my life. I realized from Susy's email that there was a memorial service for Chris the next evening, July 19, at 7 p.m., and am writing to share that experience with you.

I felt a tug to go to the memorial but also a reluctance. Going only seemed to confirm the fact that we didn't get to see each other when we could have, and also I had a feeling I wouldn't know anyone and it was somewhat intimidating. But I have a picture of Chris in my album and took it out and showed my husband, Joseph. It was graduation day at Western and the picture is of five of us who were majors in Intercultural Studies with our major professor, our beloved Doctor T. Arthur Bisson. Chris and I shared the amazing experience of studying in small group settings with one of the greatest intellectuals I have come across. Joseph urged me to go to the memorial and I am so glad I did.



Hayat Imam

Chris' family is loving and joyful. There was clearly the romance of a lifetime with her husband, Peter Gilmartin, who spoke with love and humor about his wife. Her son, Benjamin, was there with his wife, Ng, and daughter Lexi. Lexi is about 1 or 2 and was a most adorable and adored granddaughter of Chris. Lexi got to light the chalice at the service, with help from mom. Benjamin read a passage from the Dao de Jing, the great Chinese philosophical text. Then Chris' daughter, Beth, read "The Bridge" by Shel Silverstein:

This Bridge will only take you halfway there  
To those mysterious lands you long to see:  
Through gypsy camps and swirling Arab fairs  
And moonlit woods where unicorns run free.  
So come and walk awhile with me and share  
The twisting trails and wondrous worlds I've known.

But this bridge will only take you halfway there—  
The last few steps you'll have to take alone.

As you all know from reading the *Boston Globe* article, Chris was a Chinese scholar and a champion of women's studies and women's rights. She taught at the well-known Northeastern University in Boston. Many of her friends and colleagues from the academic world were there, some came from as far away as Ireland and China. One of her friends read a Chinese poem called "Thinking of You" and international students spoke about her important influence on their lives. Lovely music accompanied the service, a song by Judy Collins, "Pie Jesu," and Bach. At the end there was time for community remembrances.

I was the only person there from Western so, encouraged by Chris' sister and brother, I felt the following Western College story needed to be told:

*It is with deep regret and sorrow that I learned Chris lived just a few miles from my house. I just found out yesterday, too late for a last embrace. The last time I embraced Chris was 44 years ago. Chris and I were in the same graduating class of 1968 at Western College for Women in Oxford, Ohio. What I would like to share with you today is where Chris' love for China originated.*

*At our beautiful, leafy Western College campus, Chris and I had the same major professor.*

*Dr. T. Arthur Bisson was an old China hand who had been with Mao on the long march. He was a highly regarded professor at Berkeley, California. During the McCarthy period, Dr. Bisson was black-listed and lost his job at Berkeley. And that is how, at the prescient invitation of Western College, he ended up there. At Western College, he set up the Intercultural Studies Department, donating his personal collection of books to the fabulous Western College library of books on international politics and culture. Dr. Bisson challenged us, woke us up. At a time when no one was talking about the Vietnam war, he brought it home; he made us read Noam Chomsky, "I.F. Stone's Weekly," Edgar Snow (another Asia expert). Long before people admitted to poverty in America, he had us studying Michael Harrington's The Other America. He made sure we read the New York Times, but he made us read it critically, showing us the biases and false assumptions of the writers. He opened doors for us and inspired us to think about fairness and social justice long before those words came into our everyday lexicon. And certainly, as he taught us about the world, China remained at the center of his own teaching and scholarship. There's no doubt in my mind that this is where the seeds of attraction to China were planted in Chris. But what is so wonderful is how Chris took these learnings and ran with them, and developed the scholarship and added to it. Dr. Bisson would have been proud of his protege, Chris Kelley Gilmartin.*

At the gracious reception afterwards, in the backyard of Chris' home, at least a dozen people came up to me to say they had often wondered where her love of China came from and were glad to know the roots! (Some people also said this was the only good thing that ever came out of McCarthy's actions!). But most exciting for me was to meet a young man, about 17 years or so, who is the son of Chris' next door neighbor. Some years ago, he had posed the question to her of where her



Chris Kelley Gilmartin

interest for China had come from. He said he was somewhat stunned by what I had said that evening, because she had said exactly the same things to him, almost word for word, about the college and Dr. Bisson!

I end this long missive with warm thoughts of you all. On this Sunday morning, I send my wishes, hoping you are having a lovely day. It is the month of Ramadan for me so I am fasting!

***Blessings and affection from your classmate,***

***Hayat***

*Chris died on July 12, 2012. The Boston Globe article Hayat refers to appeared July 23 and can be found through this link: <http://www.bostonglobe.com/metro/2012/07/22/christina-gilmartin-northeastern-university-professor-was-authority-chinese-history/qeOCa4yhZTqbbyKje64L3O/story.html>*

# Helen Peabody's Friends & Family

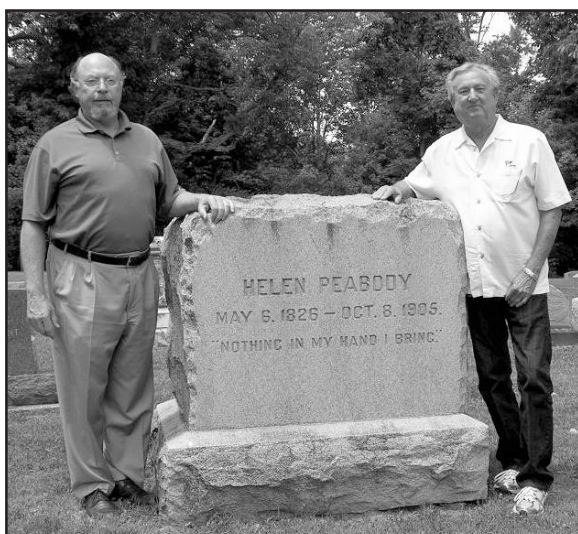
*Five generations later, the spirit of Helen Peabody is alive and well! A year after their own Peabody family reunion in July 2011, eight blood-relatives and two spouses traveled to Oxford for Western's June 2012 Reunion. They didn't miss a single event — genuinely eager to make our acquaintance and learn all they could about their famous ancestor and her legacy.*

To meet the new Peabodys properly, best begin with a few of the old. One Francis Peabody was born in Hertfordshire, England, in 1614 and came to America aboard the good ship *Planter* in 1635. He settled in Massachusetts, married and begat 14 children between 1640 and 1669.

Fast forward 100 years: Five generations later, on July 4, 1769, Ammi Peabody was born. Ammi Peabody eventually moved to Newport, New Hampshire, where he married Sarah Johnson and fathered 14 children. The youngest was Western's Helen Peabody.

Enter the modern-day Peabodys. A few years ago, Janet Henderson, a former professor of agricultural education at Ohio State University, currently an independent consultant, was motivated to do some family research. A second cousin was creating a website for the Peabody family tree and Jan, whose mother is Mary Alice Peabody Henderson, became curious about the name "Helen" because it was also the name of her mother's oldest sister. Google promptly made the Western connection. Jan was "amazed that we had a relative right here in Ohio who had such a tremendous impact on women's education in the 19<sup>th</sup> century."

However, appropriately, it wasn't online research, but a real live Peabody family reunion that brought our Helen Peabody together with her latter-day relatives. The central figure of that part of the story is Helen's great-great-nephew Steve Peabody.



*Miami and Western historian Curt Ellison (left) with Steve Peabody at the Oxford grave of Steve's Great-Great-Aunt Helen*

In the spring of 2011, Steve was organizing a Peabody family reunion to be held in Lafayette, Indiana, that July 17. Enthusiastic family members responded with firm plans to attend from Wisconsin, Ohio, Illinois, Tennessee, Georgia, Indiana and Florida (where Steve lives). Meanwhile, Steve heard from his first cousin Jan Henderson: "Did you know we had a famous great-great-aunt — Helen Peabody — and she has a hall named after her on the campus of Miami University in Oxford, Ohio?"



*Steve and Western archivist Jacky Johnson comparing notes*

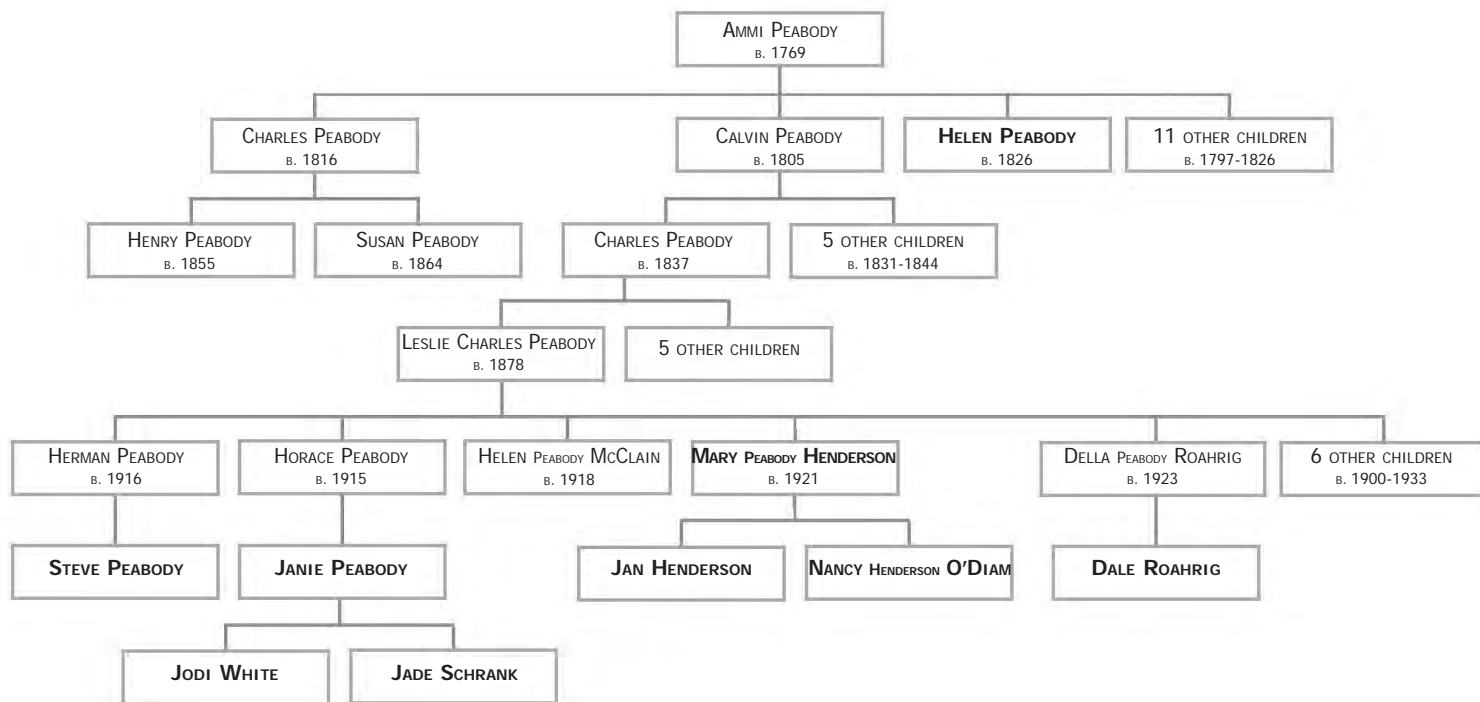
Steve was prompted to do his own research and was fascinated with what he found. It just so happens that Oxford is on the way from St. Petersburg, Florida, to Lafayette, Indiana, so a stopover visit seemed in order. Steve e-mailed Miami University President David Hodge, introducing himself and his mission, and was put in the capable hands of Curt Ellison — honorary alumnus of Western College, past director of the Western College Program, history professor and highly regarded local go-to historian, who has lectured and written extensively about both Western and Miami.

July 15, the day after Steve and his wife, Mary Jane, arrived in Oxford, Curt met and personally conducted them on a tour that included the Western College Memorial Archives, Patterson Place and the Oxford Cemetery. In Steve's words, "We left the hotel to go to the Peabody Hall to meet with Jacky Johnson in the archives. Jacky had many of Helen Peabody's personal pictures, letters and artifacts on display for us to see; this was an honor and also humbling experience for me. Helen Peabody was a great person. ...

"I read where Helen Peabody still walks the corridors of Peabody Hall. I was sure she would come out and meet some of her family members and invite us to tea; however, Helen must have had other things to do that day. ...

"From Peabody Hall to Patterson Place to meet Judy Waldron, Debbie Baker, Kaye Wolke and Cathy Cooper. We were presented with another book, [Narka Nelson's] *The*

## FAMILY OF HELEN (AND STEVE) PEABODY



*Western College for Women 1853-1953*, a great book of history and the life of Helen Peabody. Reading the book I could relate to people and places, and some of my relatives that I have only heard about through our family stories. ...

“From Patterson Place we traveled to Oxford Cemetery to visit the resting place of Helen Peabody, a beautiful setting and much history of the University, very peaceful.”

An invitation to the All-Western Alumnae Weekend June 15-17, 2012, was immediately extended and — within days of the conclusion of the family’s reunion in Lafayette — enthusiastically accepted. The office soon had confirmation that at least 10 Peabodys planned to attend.

And so they did: Steve, of course, and his wife, Mary Jane Peabody, from St. Petersburg, FL; Nancy Henderson O’Diam (Steve’s first cousin), from Lexington, OH; Jan Henderson (Steve’s first cousin, Nancy’s sister), from Bay Village, OH; Mary Alice Peabody Henderson (Steve’s aunt, Nancy and Jan’s mother), from Bay Village, OH; Janie Peabody (Steve’s first cousin), from Pewaukee, WI; Dale Roahrig (Steve’s first cousin) and his wife, Shirlee Roahrig, from Martinsville, IN; and Jodi White and Jade Schrank (Janie’s children, Steve’s niece and nephew).

From the moment(s) they arrived on campus, they all plunged eagerly into each and every weekend activity. Steve finally got to meet President Hodge at the Hodges’ open house at Lewis Place Friday evening, as did the rest of the family.

Later he spoke to us at the Friday night Welcome Dinner, relating the story of how he discovered Great-Great-Aunt Helen’s fame and significance on the campus of a tiny former women’s college in Oxford, Ohio. After dinner — although he had not met the ghost of Helen Peabody during his 2011 visit — Steve et al. were entertained by MU theater major Sarah Senff’s impersonation of her as the Spirit of Western.

Saturday morning all 10 donned their Western t-shirts and marched in the Parade. Throughout the day — as the



*Young Helen Peabody smiles down from her portrait on her spirit (in the person of Sarah Senff, forefront) and family members (left to right): Shirlee Roahrig, Mary Jane Peabody, Dale Roahrig, Nancy Henderson O’Diam, Mary Peabody Henderson, Jan Henderson, Jade Schrank, Jodi White, Janie Peabody and Steve Peabody.*

Peabodys took in the beauty of the campus and attended the Annual Meeting, lunched with the Meily Society, and heard the Western Story featuring their famous ancestor, told by art historian Dr. Elizabeth Johnson, who had recently completed a walking tour guide of the campus for Smith Library of Regional History — we got to know each other. (And we came to accept that there is more than one way to pronounce *PEE-buddy*.)



Steve, meeting President Hodge



... and speaking at the Welcome Dinner

Steve is a retired mechanical engineer, having specialized in design, installation and service of HVAC systems to national chain accounts — for which he has won multiple energy and design awards over the years. We learned he and his wife, Mary Jane, would celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary later this year!

The Peabody women might well have been Western alumnae! Mary Alice Henderson, an Army Air Force nurse and World War II veteran [see photo and story, page 51], is 91 and still taking classes to further her education. “Truly an outstanding and gracious lady,” in nephew Steve’s words, she is revered by her family for having dedicated her life to helping others. In the next generation, that theme continues: Janet Henderson is a former high school teacher and university professor, worked for an international nonprofit organization, and now does independent consulting. She was excited when she began reading about Helen’s background and inspired by “her devotion and commitment to women’s education.” As an educator, she found a “kindred spirit” in her. Jan’s sister, Nancy O’Diam, is a retired public health nurse, avid quilter and gardener, and doting grandmother. And the theme goes on ...



Jan Henderson and her mom, Mary Peabody Henderson, were both “thrilled to attend and walk where Helen lived and worked.”



The youngest generation: Western alum Nia Jones Terry '63 (left) shares Western stories with Helen Peabody's great-great-great-niece Jodi White, great-great-great-nephew Jade Schrank, and (far right) Jonathan Lehman, son of Western alum Carol Stone Lehman '67.

In case you think Steve Peabody is finished with his genealogical treasure hunt, hear this: He has merely branched out. During his original visit to our archives in spring 2011, he discovered Henry Peabody — well known to Western alumnae as the nephew of Helen Peabody and a world-renowned photographer in his own right.



Another Helen Peabody: Steve visited his father's oldest sister, Helen Peabody McClain, in her Crawfordsville, IN, nursing home to tell her all about the reunion.

Steve traced Henry’s work to the Huntington Library in Pasadena, where Henry lived at the time of his Aunt Helen’s retirement from the Seminary. In January of this year, Steve, with his wife Mary Jane, and cousin Eleanor Peabody Batts traveled to Pasadena to view the Huntington’s large collection of materials on Henry’s life and photographic work. In addition, they visited the address where Henry’s home was and many of the sites he had photographed for the National Parks Department. Will the trail lead back to Western? Stay tuned!



Shirlee and Dale Roahrig, leaving Peabody Hall: They’re talking about coming back next year and bringing more Peabodys!



# Meet Your New Trustees

*Duly elected to the WCAA Board of Trustees, the following alumnae (with the exception of Sharry Addison) took office on July 1, 2012, replacing trustees whose three-year terms expired on June 30. Already serving as trustees but elected as officers were **Marcia Randlett Oder '64**, First Vice President/Treasurer; **Judy Dudman Henderson '62**, Second Vice President/Alumnae Weekend Chair; and **Pheetta Wilkinson '76**, Secretary. Sharry Addison was elected in 2011, but not officially introduced in the Bulletin until now.*

**Pamela Watts Coates '70**, after graduating from Western College for Women, first worked in Pittsburgh, then returned to Western in '72 to complete coursework for a dietetic internship. She completed her internship at Methodist Hospital in Indianapolis, IN, in 1973 and worked at Methodist as Diabetic Dietitian, then Head Diabetic Dietitian until 1979, when her first daughter was born. In addition, Pam has worked at Winona Hospital and as a consultant dietitian with a large chain of group homes for MRDD clients.



Pamela

She was also a Brownie/Girl Scout troop leader and cookie mom, mom of two competitive swimmers, and a choir mom. She became a Certified Diabetes Educator in 1992, has worked for the last 21 years at St. Vincent Diabetes Center, Indianapolis, and has been involved with volunteer work for the American Diabetes Association and Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. As a member of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Indianapolis, and its multigenerational choir, Pam had the opportunity to sing in Great Britain at York Minster and Ely Cathedral as Choir in Residence in 2010. She looked forward to singing at the National Cathedral in Washington, DC, with St. Paul's the last week of June 2012. Pam previously served two terms on the WCAA Board of Trustees, 1992-1998.

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**Janet Smith Dickerson '65** came to Western from South Carolina. She received a B.A. in English and earned a M.Ed. in Educational Guidance from Xavier University, Cincinnati, in 1968. After graduation from Western, she taught English and served as a guidance

counselor in Cincinnati Public Schools. In 1971, she began her career in student affairs at Earlham College, where she was Associate Dean and founding director of the Supportive Services program. Appointed Associate Dean at Swarthmore College in 1976, she went on to serve as Dean of the College, 1981-1991. During those years, she pursued advanced graduate study at the University of Pennsylvania and at Harvard University and served on the boards of the PA Client Security Fund, the Valentine Foundation and the Wallingford-Swarthmore School District. Returning to the Carolinas, Janet served as Vice President for Student Affairs at Duke University, 1991-2000.



Janet

As Princeton University's first Vice President for Campus Life (2000-2010), she advocated for undergraduate and graduate students through her work on cultural issues. She holds honorary degrees from Xavier and Swarthmore, has an extensive record of consulting in higher education, and was a Fulbright administrative fellow to Germany in 1997. She currently serves on the boards of Swarthmore College, the United World College USA, the YWCA of Princeton, Project Pericles, and the Princeton Blairstown Center. Janet is married to J. Paul Stephens and is active in the Links, Inc. and in her church. She enjoys visiting her three daughters who reside in Los Angeles, London, and Sonoma County, CA, and she delights in the company of her 5-year-old granddaughter, Lucca. Sunday chapel speaker at Alumnae Weekend 1990, Janet was also the recipient of the 1998 WCAA Alumnae Service Award.

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**Hazel Williams Drew '66** received her B.A. in biology. From Western College she went on to Mount Holyoke College in Massachusetts to complete her master's in biochemistry. After spending three months working for CIBA (now CIBA-GEIGY) in Switzerland, Hazel was employed by The Rockefeller University in New York City in the Department of Biochemistry. Four years later she was offered a position at State University of New York (SUNY) Downstate Medical Center in the biochemistry department. She stayed at SUNY for the next 33 years moving into the Department of Medicine, Division of Allergy, where she instructed allergy fellows in research techniques as part of their training. Hazel retired from Downstate in 2006. For 14 years, Hazel mentored and coached high school minority students in science in the ACT-SO competition, a program run by the NAACP youth division.



*Hazel*

Since her retirement she has focused on volunteer work in her church, where she ushers as well as works with the ceremonial team preparing couples for their wedding, directing the rehearsals and decorating the church for the occasion. She tries to keep fit by walking in a neighborhood park and playing seniors' tennis when the weather permits. Hazel is the parent of one daughter, who has her M.B.A. in marketing and lives and works in New Jersey.

**Jane Smucker Fryman '58** graduated from Western College with a B.A. in psychology. She was a visiting teacher in Cincinnati for two years, and then taught fourth grade in Hamilton, OH, for one year. She and her husband Jack (Miami '51) raised their three children in Oxford. She was involved in many community organizations, as a



*Jane*

volunteer and in leadership roles. Jane continues on the board of League of Women Voters of Oxford. Recently Jane and Jack were Honorary Chairpersons for the Oxford United Way Campaign. Their two sons, James '83 and Thomas '86, are both graduates of Miami's Western College Program. Daughter Katherine '89 decided on a Miami main campus degree.

Jane completed her 23-year career, as Material Manager, at McCullough-Hyde Memorial Hospital in 2002. International travel, family visits with five grandchildren, and classes at the Institute of Learning in Retirement are current activities. Jane served the WCAA previously as archivist (1977-1979) and trustee (1976-1979).

**Suzanne Detlefsen Meyers '66** applied to Western College upon seeing it mentioned in a *Time* magazine article about "small colleges of distinction." She attended Western for just two years, but enjoyed serving as president of the sophomore class and working as secretary to the chaplain. In 1964, she transferred to David Lipscomb College in Nashville, TN. She married after graduation, taught school in Toledo while her husband was in law school, earned her M.Ed. degree, and moved to Washington, DC, when he became an FBI agent. Their first child was born after they were sent to Savannah, GA, and the next child when they returned to DC.



*Suzanne*

The family moved back to Ohio to be closer to their "roots," had two more children, and Suzanne started teaching again. Her areas of service have been mostly local: school PTA treasurer, church secretary and organist, community theater as scenery painter, and much tutoring of students. Her latest project is volunteering at the junior high for a Paths to Peace grant the class is working on, involving the 200th anniversary of the War of 1812. She considers her greatest accomplishment so far to be raising four "very independent children" – a lot like the kinds of girls she first met at Western. Su-

zanne continues to be a lifetime learner and is trying to be a good grandma to three little ones who are already independent.

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**Sharry Patterson Addison '61** attended Western College for a year and graduated from the University of Cincinnati with a B.S in Education. She taught second grade in Cincinnati for six years until her first child was born. As she and husband Harry raised their two children in Cincinnati, she became very involved in the community as a leadership volunteer. Until moving to Florida in 2001, Sharry spent many years as a national and international event volunteer serving as co-chairman of the 1987 World Figure Skating Championships, consultant and hospitality chairman of the 1988 National Governors Conference, chairman of the 1989 National Association of Counties Conference, chairman of the

1988 MLB All-Star Game and co-chairman of the 1997 Women's NCAA Final Four.

In addition to these events, Sharry has held leadership positions for many social occasions in Cincinnati, including four Tall Stacks Balls. Sharry's greatest love, however, is Cincinnati Children's Hospital, where she has been a trustee for 22 years with recent re-election for three more. Her involvement there has been extensive. She has also served as a trustee of many other boards, such as the Cincinnati American Red Cross, Springer School, Special Olympics, Cerebral Palsy Services Center and more. Sharry and Harry have returned to Cincinnati to spend more time with their young granddaughters. Sharry's mother, **Mary Ustick Patterson '28**, was also a Western alumna.



Sharry

## 2012 Board in Garb of a Different Era



To celebrate Western's history at Alumnae Weekend, trustees donned period dress reminiscent of Seminary days. On their way to the President's Open House in proper formal attire — except for Doris Ning Wong '62, who sewed her own apron and dressed as a kitchen worker — they are (left to right) Pam Watts Coates '70, Sylvia Stanfield '65, Anne Adkins Weissenborn '61, Doris, Jocelyn Woodson-Reed '74, Judy Dudman Henderson '62, Rita Greene '73, Charlotte Klein Varzi '57 and Marcia Randlett Oder '64.

# "Contact each other . . . it's just wonderful!"

— Judy Scovel Robinson



**Sandy Alexander Akers** wrote that she and husband John have lived in Greensboro, NC, since 1984. She is retired and John (79) is working as a part-time chaplain in a retirement community. All their children and grandchildren live in Charlotte, about two hours from them. Their only daughter, Aimee Anne, died in March 2012 after a two-year



Sandy

battle with colon cancer. Sandy, we offer our sincere sympathy. Aimee had served as Director of Outreach and Mission for their large Episcopal church. She was named one of the "Unsung Heroes of Charlotte" before her death and received much attention for her contributions to the city. Aimee's daughter Allie (18) just entered her freshman year at the University of South Carolina and her daughter Katie is a junior in high school. Next in birth line is John Hines, married to Keisha and father of Owen (6) in first grade and triplets, Olivia, Harrison and Hines, who turned 3 in July. He has worked for Microsoft since graduation from college. Their second

son, Alex, wants to find the "right one" and works for a newly formed company combining health care sales units from Microsoft and General Electric. Sandy sends best wishes to classmates and all those they love. Indeed it was good getting your update, Sandy.

We also want to offer our condolences to **Rebecca Densen Rothfuss**. Several years ago she had moved to Iowa to be with her



Rebecca

dad while he was alive. He passed away on July 9, 23 days before his 99th birthday. Consequently, she has now moved to Asheville, NC, to be nearer to her children and grandchildren, who live in Florida.

**Judy Scovel Robinson** wrote from England that her daughter Lizzie (Elizabeth Calogero) is an actress in California. A couple of



Judy

years ago, she took a version of the summer's SF Mime Troupe production to Miami University. Judy's sister Vicki drove from Indiana in the ice and snow to be with Lizzie for the weekend. Lizzie took many pictures of Western's campus, including one of herself standing on the exact spot in the Ernst Nature Theatre where Judy received



Betsy Fouratt Adler and Judy (right), reuniting in London after 50-plus years

her diploma. The WCAA office was delighted to see Lizzie and dragged out pictures of Judy. She wants to thank the office staff for showing her off like that to her daughter! Although you thought you were quiet, Judy, you were indeed a "live wire"! This year Judy hosted Lizzie back in England with her two children. A highlight of the visit was going to York to see the York mystery plays, performed for the first time in ages. Their second daughter lives in picturesque Herefordshire, so they see her more often. Judy has some European work that she loves because any multicultural gathering is inspiring to her. She feels that is why she enjoyed Western so much.

Another great highlight of her year was reuniting with **Elizabeth "Betsy" Fouratt Adler** for the first time in more than 50 years



Betsy

with no previous contact except for a few e-mail exchanges. The intervening time dissolved to nothing and they picked up just where they left off. The famous St. Pancras Renaissance Hotel in London got to witness four people (Betsy, Judy, husbands Richard Adler and John Robinson) conversing animatedly, non-stop for 4½ hours. So Judy

admonishes her fellow Westernites to "contact each other, no matter what the time break has been. It reaffirms your identity and it is just wonderful!"

**Nia (aka "Billie") Jones Terry** was the first to write me. For the past five years Billie's granddaughter, Jasmine, has been attending the Western Reunion with Billie. They



Billie

really have a close relationship. They both are already planning to be there for our 50th graduation anniversary. Jasmine graduates from high school the week before the Reunion. Billie felt honored to do a reading in chapel during the 2012 Reunion at the request of her lifelong friend, **Doris Ning Wong '62**, who was the guest speaker in the Sunday morning chapel services. She also felt special, singing with the chapel choir which was honored this year. She was delighted to meet **Marjorie Lloyd Liggett '39**, whose son Reese graduated with her from high school in Cincinnati in 1959.

**Ellen Brower Brightly** stated that her son's wedding has finally taken place. They had a triple ceremony — first on August 25 with



Ellen

a two-hour Vietnamese wedding, followed by a 15-minute American wedding. Then on September 2nd there was a full-fledged American wedding in Bar Harbor, ME. What an interesting experience for all, I am sure.

**Sue Humberstone Spahr**, a former class rep, wrote that all is well in her part of Texas. She and her husband, John, recently



Sue

acquired a brand-new golden retriever puppy to keep their 10-year-old Indy company. John has completed his term as Texas VFW Commander and is now involved with Honor Flight Austin, a program that flies World War II veterans to Washington to see the WWII memorial.

**Bonnie Bowers Koch** wrote that even though the climate of Hilton Head is wonderful, the lure of family is strong. Consequently, she and her husband are relocating from Hilton Head, SC, to Woodstock, GA. Their six children and spouses are fine as are their 13 grandchildren. They have two in Ohio, one in Wisconsin, one in Cali-



Bonnie

fornia and two in Georgia, all of which make for great traveling. Bonnie is fully retired from the education and recruiting businesses and she is enjoying volunteer activities. She is a four-year breast cancer survivor and doing great. Praise the Lord, Bonnie!

**Loretta Ryder** spent summer traveling to New Bern, NC, (her hometown) for a church homecoming, to Cincinnati for the Chorale's participation in the World Choir Games, to Dallas for the National Association of Negro Musicians Convention, and to the Democratic National Convention in Charlotte,



Loretta

where her niece is the wife of the mayor (Anthony Foxx). Her most memorable and exhilarating experiences were seeing and hearing First Lady Michelle Obama, former



Marj

President Bill Clinton, Vice President Joe Biden and President Barack Obama on stage at the convention. Wow! Also Loretta enjoyed having dinner with **Marj Keppel Gross** the week before the convention.



Carolyn

**Carolyn Myers** wrote that she is still in Cleveland, happily retired, and involved in tutoring a local Sathya Sai Baba group, a local retired Peace Corps group and learning to stay healthy.

**Nancy Carter Lindfors** wrote that she is now Dean of Students at Trinity Lutheran School in Newport News, VA, as well as guidance counselor and teacher. Their oldest son, Eric, is in Japan with his family. They arrived a month before the big earthquake. Their only casualty was a fish bowl which broke, but the grandchildren were able to retrieve the fish. They spent much time gathering necessities and sending them to the northern end of Japan where the quake was



Nancy

the worst. They also helped find homes for stranded animals. Son Mathew and his family live near Nancy and husband Bo, so they spend much time with these grandchildren. The biggest event for Nancy and Bo was an inland hurricane or tornado with straight winds up to their house in the mountains on June 30th. They were 4½ days without power, no water and 100-plus degree heat. Nancy knew that God was really watching over them that night. It seemed like the wind split and went around the house in the middle. Nancy hopes to be able to attend our 50th his coming June.

**Emma Sue Nave Wilson** wrote from Miamisburg, OH, that this has been a good year — pretty uneventful, but at our age, that can be a good thing. Sue and husband Dick take care of his 92-year-old mother,



Emma Sue

who is enjoying “Wilson assisted living.” She still lives in her home, but Dick and Sue do

everything for her. They have 15 grandchildren (with another one on the way), so they go to lots of soccer and baseball games. Sue finds it hard to believe that they have two grandchildren in college. Her health is good. They feel very blessed and she is looking forward to our Reunion. It has been marked in red on her calendar for months. To get in touch, Sue’s phone numbers are (H) 937-436-801 and (C) 937-620-1342.

**Libbe (Marion Roberts) Dennard** and her husband, Lee, spent two periods in Sitka, AK. One was six weeks for the 41st summer chamber music festival — a highlight of their year — and the other was a weekend event, the TEDxSitka. (Any community can do a TED. See the website). It was an afternoon of inspiring speakers on technology, entertainment and design, meant to build community. Libbe is making final revisions of her memoir of her adoption, entitled *The Kindness of Fate*. Lee’s recovery from prostate/bladder reduction surgery in April has been slow, but steady. Libbe was



Marion

saddened as we all were, to hear of the loss of Professor Margaret Barrier, someone who was an inspiration to her (and me, as well). When Libbe left Western after two years, she went to NYU, majoring in sociology.

This has been a year of reunions with '63 friends in Cleveland for **Sally Salo Roman**. In the spring, **Elizabeth Doerr Steponkus** and her husband, Bill, were there for a great weekend of remembering their time at Western. They have had several opportunities for their families to get together there, in Washington, or on Longboat Key, FL.

In September, as president of the Northern Ohio Chapter of the Ohara School of Ikebana, Sally was honored to welcome **Wakako Ohara** to Cleveland for the 10th conference of the North America Ohara Teachers Association. Wakako is the executive director of the Ohara School of Ikebana founded in 1861 by her great-grandfather, Unshin Ohara. In 1961, Wakako’s family welcomed members of the Far East Seminar — including Sally — into their home in Kyoto. Wakako’s father, Houn Ohara, gave an Ikebana



Sally

demonstration in their garden. Sally says, “That experience must have planted the seed of my interest in Ikebana. It has just taken 50 years for the seed to grow.”



Debbie

**Debbie Hunt Perrin:** One of the most rewarding experiences for me this year has been writing to prisoners, some who have been incarcerated for over 25 years. Although I have tried to encourage them, they have been an encouragement to me. I am reminded of the song that says, “If I can help somebody, along life’s way, then my living will not be in vain.” This is my last year to be your class representative. As primary caretaker for my husband, who has been ill for most of the year, I am no longer able to fulfill my responsibilities in this area. It has been a pleasure serving you in this capacity for almost 40 years. We are the “Golden Girls” in the winter of our lives. At this time we can’t forget family ties which are so important. I thank God for our son, Tony, who flew here from Chicago in April to see about us and plans to meet us in October for some good food and fellowship in New Orleans. May God bless and keep each of you until we meet again, hopefully at our 50th reunion the third weekend in June 2013. Love and prayers ...

**Debbie Hunt Perrin '63**  
**P.O. Box 1195**  
**Cedar Hill, TX 75106**  
**owl6@flash.net**

# "There's a dance in the old dame yet!"

— "Song of Mehitabel" (Don Marquis)



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Marjorie Lloyd Liggett '39 (left) and Jane Noble Miller '38 represented their decade at the Meily Society luncheon, Alumnae Weekend 2012.

Two of Marj Liggett's '39 classmates passed away in July. **Betty Runner Davis'** son, Bill, wrote that his mother had studied dietetics and lived all her adult life in DC. **Marylou Lynch McCollum's** daughter, Marilyn Slattery, wanted alumnae to know how her mother treasured her Western memories. Three days before she died, the two of them had "donned evening gowns and attended the opening performance of the Paris Opera Ballet in Chicago."

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In memoriam: **Agnes Smith Mason**, Evansville, IN. New addresses for your Christmas

list: **Elinor Griffith Green**, 160 Purdue Ave., Kensington, CA 94708; **Eleanor Duttweiler Stubbs**, 1400 NE 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave., Apt. 405, Portland, OR 97232; **Martha Hindman White**, 321 Wychwood Rd., Westfield, NJ 07090. We entered Western as a class of 140 and as of July 2012 are now 24. Even if we are "shy one or more of our senses," we can proudly say we are still here.

All is well with me — the usual volunteer church and library. Yesterday (September) I repotted 12 porch plants and am happy the Dallas Symphony season begins this Sunday. All the best ...

**Suzy Allburt '41**  
5003 Ellsby Ave.  
Dallas, TX 75209



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**Reunion '13: Celebrate 70 years!**

*Upon the retirement of longtime '43 class rep Margaret Null Bell — on the eve of their 70-year Reunion — the WCAA Publications Committee took on a pleasant and rewarding task and made personal phone calls to as many of the class as they could reach.*

**Jane Moore Black** shared information about herself and her family. She was happy during her two years at Western, although she finished her degree at Washington University in St. Louis, her home area, because an art teacher at Western encouraged her dream of becoming a dress designer. She did indeed pursue this path and spent five years in Chicago after completing her degree working as a designer for Boris Smoler and Sons, at that time one of the oldest cotton dress houses in the country. There she met her husband, Dwight, who became an architect specializing in hospital design. After a period back in St. Louis, they moved to Orlando, FL, in the 1970s, where Dwight worked on hospitals designed to meet the needs of the influx of tourists visiting Disney World. Over the years they made at least 10 trips to

Mexico to visit the ruins on the Yucatan Peninsula; these were "working vacations." In 2003, their family moved them to Michigan to be near their two daughters because of major health concerns; Dwight died in 2004.

Jane reports that at age 91 she needs a walker to get around, but lives alone in a beautiful place in Lewiston, MI, 110 miles from the Mackinaw Bridge. Her private, two-bedroom condominium is on a golf course, and she enjoys sitting on her porch and listening to arguments and expressions of frustration which can include flying clubs. She also enjoys keeping up with her five grandchildren, including two grandsons who are chefs and one in the oil business who spends lots of time on planes to and from Australia. She takes great pleasure in great-granddaughter Julia (5), who calls Jane "GD" (for "great-grandmother"), is delighted to be starting kindergarten with no afternoon naps, and knows all the music, dances and lyrics from the *Wizard of Oz*.

**Betty Lou Finlay Nein** recalled the "Anchor" article featuring her with her cousin, **Helen Gerber Ramsdell '29**. Helen is now 105, Betty is 91. She was very interested in the Republican convention. One son (Scott) was a State Senator. She has two other sons, loving grandchildren and six great grandchildren with another on the way. She and the family are close friends of U.S. Speaker of the House John Boehner and — with four busloads from West Chester, OH — had attended his swearing in ceremony in January 2011. She noted that she'd been active at Western when her husband was active on Miami U alum boards.

**Mary Moffat Finkbeiner** continues to live where she has and doing the things she has always enjoyed. As one of the first members of a new organization in Gambier, OH, Mary helps older people remain in their own homes. [Shortly after the interview, Mary suffered a debilitating stroke, but, we hope, is recovering.]

**Holly Smith Gamble** recently read **Ann Goldstone Marcus's** book, *Whistling Girl*, and thought it interesting and fun. She shared a fond memory of roommate **Betty Crawford Conrad** having a party of Western friends for Holly and her third husband, John, on a trip to California. Holly has published a book of her watercolor paintings, *Joyful Paintings*, and she is a member of the North Carolina Watercolor Society.

**Ann Goldstone Marcus** prays to reach 91 years of age. Her family had a wonderful gathering on Labor Day Weekend. Included were her three children, six grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.

**Joyce Baker Edson**, though not disposed to talk a lot, confirmed that she is OK and living independently. She enjoyed hearing about Western as it is today.

**Marjorie Study Clark** lives in Chesterfield, MO. She went to Western one year and transferred to Purdue at her father's insistence. She still remembers chapel everyday. A Kappa at Purdue, she married Tom Cahill, a Sigma Chi. He died when he was 71. She has a son in Minnesota and a daughter in Lake Forest. In 1996, she remarried — a longtime friend, who died in 2004. Marjorie has traveled all over Asia and about every country in Europe. She lives alone in a retirement villa and is coping with macular degeneration. Happy for the call, she was thrilled to hear about Western and our campus.

Just a few words from **Phoebe Carman Bradford**: "I'm in assisted living in South Carolina — my youngest son is here. Having lived for over 50 years in Tampa, FL, it's a little different for me, but I like it. After my husband and I retired, we volunteered and traveled. I was in charge of a hospital gift shop, worked in a cancer center, and my husband organized and was in charge of a hospice supply unit. Now I'm at leisure — my husband died 20 years ago. Not many Western alums of Class of '43 around!"

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**Janet Heinz Phillips** wrote last December that she was taking a cruise to the Eastern Caribbean islands on the *Norwegian Star*. Her caregiver went along.

**Toni Von Lengerke Kimm** wrote — also last year — that she fell down some stairs and broke bones in both feet. She is using two hearing aids now, but still has trouble hearing. She has five great-grandchildren — one just graduated from high school and the youngest is 2. (And I don't have any yet!)

**Marilyn Inskeep Fischer**, who is my best news-gatherer and reporter (all news in curative!), said she's had a little trouble with her eyes — double vision, but she's had surgery, and they're getting better. Her kids are scattered, with Jean, her main caregiver, living only four miles away. Her other daughters are only an hour away. Inky's grandson, Eric, has been accepted to Berkeley for graduate school. Her granddaughter, Megan, is spending the year in France.

Inky reported that **Marian Arbuckle Morse** had passed away in 2011. Western reported that **Neil Nickell Best** had also died in 2011. [See "In Memoriam," Spring 2012 Bulletin.]

**Jane Harris Bugnand** answered an e-mail that I sent in August. She has been in the hospital having surgery and is lacking energy these days. She still attends two reading groups and works on a service group in her church. She is on a waiting list for a pleasant residence home, but has no definite plans. (I have been in my retirement home for 11 years!)

**Virginia Cook Marquett** wrote that she has no news to report but keeps busy with her usual activities. She's in charge of lots of projects during September and is planning a trip to Branson in November.

**Beth Shirk Bevan's** daughter, **Annette Gallagher '69**, wrote about her mother: "In the comfort of her assisted-living suite, Mom has been doing the fine-sorting which needs to be done while family members help her to get her condo ready for sale. She has found photos of the class of '45 in action as sophomores and several boxes of memorabilia which have been sent to the Western Archives. During the past year she has attended several of her son, Alex's, concerts and traveled to Indiana to celebrate her brother's 90th birthday. She also welcomed her fourth great-grandchild to the family."

I, **Ardis Dechman Coninx**, have had a good year. My oldest grandson (32) got married this past summer, and it was all very exciting. We all love his bride. She and I both read all of Nora Roberts' books. I am still in charge of our library here at Westminster Place — and still continuing with all of my church committees. I'm still secre-

tary of a number of organizations — some for over 50 years. Thank goodness I have a tape recorder so I don't have to remember everything. I'm on the alumni board of my high school and have been railroaded into being chair of the Activities Committee here.

And last, but not least, I received news from **Kit Jarvis Fischer**, my roommate freshman year in Mary Lyon. I know I put it away carefully so I could add it to my class notes — news of her in their compound in Michigan (lucky her). She said her kids have told her that she cannot drive to Oxford in 2015, our next five-year reunion which I hope to get to if I can find someone to drive me down (and I'm still able to come).

I hope to hear from some of the rest of you at Christmas time ...

**Ardis Dechman Coninx '45**  
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Class of '47 — five of us gathered in Peabody Hall on the Western campus to represent all of you at our 65th Reunion in June:



Still smilin' after 65 years, Reunion anniversary class of '47 (from left): Emily Greenland, Jane Alexander Durrell, Anne Mack Dean, Barbara House Crenshaw and Mary-Garnett Tillinghast.



### 65th REUNION TOAST

First, we thought we'd raise a toast to our own pink and maroon flag, with its joined hands reflecting a line from a song we used to sing here: "Hands clasped in friendship to last through the years." The toast would be to the flag but to friendship as well — here we are, 65 years on, five of us back again.

Then we thought no, let's toast the way Western made us aware of the world, how even today we may respond and hold interests that first sprang to mind on this campus. Was there even, we wondered, something in the Western outlook that made travel, sometimes to out-of-the-way places, an important part of our lives?

But we said no again, and settled on precisely those we wished to toast. Our professors. Those able, witty, scholarly faculty members who took us into their homes and their lives and showed us that intellect is a crowning grace.

We remembered Dr. Root and Dr. Esterquest and also Miss Bliss, Miss Rothermel, Miss Mueller — all of whom held doctorates too, but in the custom of the time didn't use the title. We learned from these teachers and more how to love learning, how to value learning, and how to wear it lightly. So the toast we raise is to the faculty who shaped our lives, on this campus, in the middle of the 1940s.

— Jane Alexander Durrell '47

**Barbara House Crenshaw, Jane Alexander Durrell, Emily Greenland, Mary-Garnett Tillinghast** and I. We had a wonderful time and missed you and wished you were there, too. Mackenzie Becker Rice, Interim Director of WCAA, Debbie Baker, Cathy Cooper and Kaye Wolke put on a fabulous Reunion for all the classes and even managed to have glorious weather the whole weekend. We five roomed with and near each other on third floor N in Peabody — lots of reminiscing and showing old photos. Here you will find Jane's masterful Toast from the Class of '47, the picture of our smiling faces and a tiny photo from autumn 1943 that I think you will find amusing.

From **Maxine Murray Long**, Littleton, CO: "Dear Anne and All of '47, Who ever thought we would still be meeting on the Western Campus — the Lodge and Tuffy's — after 65 years! I only wish I could join you, but in spirit I'm there with all 70 of us. (I counted the names that Emmy sent on with all our

addresses and a great note from Em — lovely.) My news is "everyday" — grandchildren all well, our sons all busy in Denver after years in and out of town (I like that!), and regular visits with the dentist, the doctor and the mechanic who is keeping my car zipping around. An election year again — politics ever the same, but different each time. And so it goes. My love and best wishes to all. Thank you for the memories of our years together. Goodness know I've forgotten lots of things but not my Western years. They're still so fresh! Blessings."

**Marilyn Trester Woodrich**, Roseburg, OR, wrote to Jane: "I am doing well and I do drive to see my family here and in Seattle. It would be fun to see our classmates and I do reflect on my experiences at Western. I was fortunate to receive one of the trustee scholarships in 1943. Without that I probably would not have gone to college; my parents had a difficult time recovering from the Depression. So, Western changed my life. I think that we received a wonderful education. I have two granddaughters going to large universities this year and I doubt they are getting the same kind of guidance and mentoring that we had. Western gave me the confidence to take on some leadership roles, a desire to keep on learning and the ability to speak up. *Remember Miss Leonard? And her insistence that it was never necessary to cough during a public event? Many the time I nearly choked trying to follow her admonitions. Oh, I just remembered — not long ago I found my pink class dress with the maroon sash. I've lived in the same house since 1953 so my store room holds many treasures.*

*Not only did I find the dress, but I can almost fit into it — except for the waist! I'm an inch shorter and it all went to my waistline!"*

Well, wasn't it Mehitabel who said "there's a dance in the old dame yet?" So that's us! Keep in touch ...

From **Dene Stern Mayer**, Lumbert, NJ: "Just to let you know: I am good, still exercising with 30- and 40-year-olds five days a week and still getting satisfaction from my volunteer job in Camden twice a week at a community center, helping residents find clothes for their kids. My unit here in Lumberton is beautiful. I love having guests — and don't charge that much per night (joke). I'm not far from Philly and just a short bus ride from NYC."

**Susan Sargent Hard**, Lancaster, PA writes: "Hi to you and anyone who remembers me. As I write this, the Olympics are up and running. Did you watch the heart-tugging start on TV? It was worth staying up late. I am usually up by 5:30 am. I am glad to get up because I have so many things to do (or want to do) and being 87 I am slower at it. I am happy to be in PA close to my daughter, who spoils me. I write lots of notes and letters, visit friends, enjoy Bible study and my church. I pray that all my classmates are as happy as I am. God bless you all."

A surprise note from **Kelly Felice**, 1970 class rep: "Hello, Anne. I visited my lifelong friend, **Elaine Kramer Millman**, and her husband on August 3 and was able to host them for Elaine's 88th birthday lunch! Elaine was my mother's childhood friend and it was she who persuaded me to go to Western. Elaine and Herman are both well."



Fall 1943: Deans Hoyt and Caine (and "Tilly" Tillinghast, far right) "gamely watching" field hockey on a wintry day

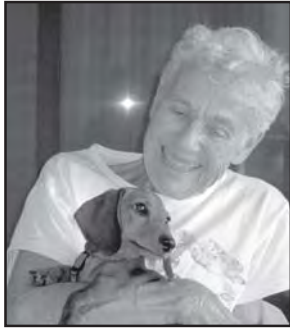


Elaine and Herman Millman, celebrating with Kelly Felice '70

She and Herman did not come to our 65th Reunion because of family commitments; a granddaughter graduated from Tulane University in New Orleans and another grandchild was married in St. Louis at just about the same time. While in St. Louis, she had a good talk with **Grace Drochelmann Bleikamp**. Elaine recently appeared in a local

fashion show wearing a terrific jacket and shorts outfit. Her only complaint is that she is having trouble with her weight — she can't get it above 100 lbs!

**Alyce Baumgartner Haines** and her new puppy posed for **Nancy Wilson Kobayashi '69**, who was visiting Alyce at her home in Kihei, Maui, HI.



Alyce

I phoned **Emily Greenland**, in Indianapolis, IN, and took notes as we talked. Emmy truly enjoyed the Reunion, particularly beautiful Kumler Chapel and the music. She roomed with **Marge Gasche Ewing '45**, her Big Sister. During the past year Emmy has made the difficult move from her lovely apartment of many years, filled with family heirlooms and much memorabilia. She is currently living at her beloved cottage on Lake Tippecanoe and is joyfully awaiting the visits of her nephew and his family from Seattle and her great-niece (with the youngest Emily) from Ohio. When fall comes she will move in with her friend Delores in Indy and decide what to do next.

**Jane Alexander Durrell**, Cincinnati, OH, wrote: "it was a fine weekend and wonderful to see everyone again. I'm just back from two Minnesota visits, both Elderhostel, one in the handsome city of Minneapolis doing "cultural" things — theater, concert, lectures etc. — and the other bicycling on the Root River bike trail in southeast Minnesota. Surprise — I wasn't the oldest cyclist in the group. The couple who are 89 were, and there also was a guy who was 87 but could pass for 60. Made me feel young."

**Barbara House Crenshaw** (Peachtree City, GA) and **Mary-Garnett Tillinghast** drove together to and from the Reunion. Barbara said all her family are doing well and they were able to all be together for a vacation at a nearby lake this summer. She is still avidly playing bridge but no longer goes to tournaments abroad.

Every time I go back to Western for Reunion I enjoy it a little bit more. The campus is beautiful, the WCAA staff welcoming and there are students to talk to — eager, helpful, intelligent, fun — a hopeful sign for the future of the college and the country (if they are in the Western College program the spirit of the college lives on), and of course it is wonderful to visit with old friends and other alums from all years.

My sister, **Mary Mack Hurst '49**, died from Parkinson's in December 2011, very sad for

all the family, I miss her. I don't mind so much getting old (86 in September) but it hurts to lose so many dear family members and old friends. Other than that I had a good year highlighted by a three-week trip to visit my English family in Manchester, England, that included a visit to the beautiful Isle of Jersey. I returned by way of Boston and New Hampshire to visit **Mary Feller Epreman**, and Chatham on Cape Cod for a family visit with relatives from all over the country. Now I am home and looking forward to a busy year with the Woman's Club of Chevy Chase and my three local families.

We as a class mourn the loss of **Jean Streicher Prater**, of Dallas, TX, on September 11, 2012. She will be remembered as being one of the brightest students in our class, also always friendly and fun.

**Anne Mack Dean '47**  
8102 Connecticut Ave. C508  
Chevy Chase, MD 20815  
amdean1@yahoo.com



**Reunion '13: Celebrate 65 years!**

**News for spring '13 Bulletin due Jan 14!**  
See Blue Card, page 54!



**Anne Schiffmayer Bugbee** reports that were it not for the rapid response of the Aurora, CO, police department last July, she

and her husband might have lost two grandchildren. They were at a nearby theater seeing the same movie at the same time as the victims when the massacre occurred. 2012 was not an easy year for the Bugbees — Anne with a broken right foot and husband El diagnosed with bladder cancer, after which surgery he broke two toes. Colorado's summer was marked by temperatures in the 90s and 100s with no rain. Thick smoke coming down their street from wildfires made breathing difficult.

Anne has been in close touch with roommate **Jane Osgood Tatge** and **Alice Kent Bacon**. Alice lives in a Mansfield, OH, assisted-living facility, where she brings along Crispy, who acts as a therapy dog for the other residents.

This seems to be the year for falls and foot problems. **Judy Winger Snook** suffered two falls. In May 2011, she broke the neck of her right humerus and shoulder. Then on Mother's Day 2012, walking down a horrible sidewalk in DC, she fell and broke a bone in her right foot. After therapy to strengthen her leg and ankle muscles, she is now walking "better than I did 50 years ago." She keeps busy with the independent living photo directory, as treasurer of her Episcopal Church council, and as executive secretary of her agency retirement group at Green Spring in Springfield, VA, where she lives (about 80 members).

**Josephine Moore Becker** keeps up her artistic talents, sketching interesting buildings, taking photographs of flowers, and printing note cards from her sketches and photos. She paints "lady bugs with an attitude" and frogs on river rocks, and makes refrigerator magnets from sea shells. Jo will be participating in the Park Craft Bazaar in November, and hopes to sell a lady bug or two. She is now secretary of the Leisure Manor Park Homeowners Association, and edits their monthly newsletter.



**Katharine Widdifield Duff '49** (center), with extended family of mostly MU grads. Not pictured, her grandson, **Eric McLaughlin** (whose parents are at far right), MU class of '13.

**Betty Huttenbauer Heldman** attended our Western Reunion for the luncheon only. Our flag was up with the others and still looks good. No one else was there from 1949, and she was seated with the other group of returnees. Later on she had lunch with **Bunny Bartizal Proctor** and they caught up with each other's news.

Loyal correspondent **Ruth Ault Hadley** says that she and her husband, Dave, drove last summer from Indiana to Freeport, ME, visiting her sister in Philadelphia and her brother in lower NY State on the way. Dave's brother and wife flew to Maine from California, so the siblings were finally together after 40 years. They had a wonderful week, including lobster cooked in seawater on the beach. Dave's brother and wife drove back with them to Indiana to visit her family. Dave is still county health officer, and is busy with church and Kiwanis Club. They both serve twice a month at a free medical clinic for those without insurance — Dave sees patients, and Ruth helps with clerical work. They are not planning trips for this year.

**Catherine Jane Carpenter Jones** and husband Bill still live on their "great Nantucket Island." Since they always like traveling, they made two river trips this year — one from Amsterdam to Vienna, one from Basel to Antwerp. Last Christmas the whole family gathered in Key Largo, FL, where David has three golden retrievers! In May, grandson Max graduated from Florida Gulf Coast University and is on his way to get a master's at the University of Nevada.

**Janet Klingstedt Cassler**, from North Canton, OH, writes: "I read about a 1932 West-

ern graduate who lived in the Canton Re- gency. I visited **Mary "Duffy" Duffield Boehme**, a vibrant 100-year-old lady, who will be 101 in October 2012. She was an inspiration. I was happy to see **Carolyn Sorg Cox '48** last year, looking very fit and lovely. I also enjoyed a phone chat with **Peg Krehbiel Meeker**, who lives in Michigan, surrounded by her large devoted family. I have kept in touch with **Bev Armstrong Barringer**, who lives in Spokane, WA. I knew her in Florida before she moved. I have remained in Canton (the Hall of Fame City) and am blessed to have my entire family here with me. I am happy, healthy and enjoy a very active life."

This has been an eventful year for **Jane Osgood Tatge**. On Feb. 23, I had open heart surgery for an aortic valve replacement and two bypasses. The surgery was very successful, but then complications set in: atrial fibrillation, anaphylactic shock, a bout of pneumonia etc., all of which necessitated 35 days in the hospital. I remained on supplemental oxygen for several months, but was through with it in time for a trip to Maine for grandson Will's 11<sup>th</sup> birthday in August. My second excursion thus far was to be with daughter Anne to help celebrate her birthday in W. Hartford, CT, in September. Bruce and I are still active with Union College Academy of Lifelong Learning, choir and other activities. Now that I am on my feet again we hope to take part in other outside activities. Next year I hope to hear from more of our classmates — we all are interested in you and your activities.

We were saddened to hear of the deaths of two classmates. **Maralyce Williams New-**



*At their annual get-together, '51 classmates Nancy Osgood and Chris Connelly*

**berry** passed away in Portsmouth, OH, on Jan. 26, 2011, and **Betty A. McComb Yost** of Ft. Wayne, IN, died on July 18, 2012. Betty transferred from Western to Indiana Univ. as a junior. Their families told us that both had fond memories of Western College.

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I guess no news is good news for most of the class ...

However, **Natalie "Chris" Christopher Connelly** wrote that she, husband John and son Jack flew up to Minneapolis-St. Paul for the annual birthday visit to their granddaughter. They missed **Nancy McCudden Osgood**, who is always included as "part of the Connelly clan," but no longer has a home there. Instead, Nancy did drive the two hours to son Mike's "cabin" in Wisconsin for lunch and dinner with all the family. "It was great to see her!"

And, sadly, this bad news was received: Our dear **Jane Donaldson Buswold** died on June 6, 2012. On May 30, realizing the end was near, she wrote classmates, "Dear Friends, this letter is being written to tell my friends good-bye. It was a good life!"

Talked to **Betty "Van" Vandersluis** — she is in good health and having a grand time



*Getting better and better, the 60-year class of '52 (l to r): Joan Landenberger Trefts, Betty Groth Diebold, Sue Off Schrope, Catherine Ross Loveland, Betty Sipe Gerber and Jo Ann Fley*



Front and center, Lyn Dixon Present '53, surrounded by family on her 80th birthday

with her 2-year-old nephew. She joined a new choir and is enjoying being again part of the musical world.

From **Nancy Hon Krauth**: "By waiting till practically the last minute to write, I hoped to have something new to talk about, but it didn't happen. Same old, same old story. Norm and I are well, the dogs are, too, and it's dry here as in most of the Midwest. I water the garden, and the tomatoes are exceptional, in spite of (or because of) such hot weather. The flowers aren't as nice. And summer is winding down too soon. We did take our usual trip to Alabama in March to train our dogs. On one weekend we drove to Jacksonville, FL, to visit **Cece Griffin Waggoner**, who had recently returned from a trip and cruise to Australia and New Zealand. Now we are looking forward to some Hunt Tests and Field Trials in September and competing with our dog, Tripp."

In July, Bill and I moved into a retirement home (see new address below). Also in July, Bill was hospitalized for four days with a TIA, but he is now OK. The following week, I had a small stroke that affected my speech. After three days in the hospital and three weeks of therapy, I'm back to normal.

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**Reunion '13: Celebrate 60 years!**

Greetings. I hope that you all have received the new Class List as there have been many changes of address over the past year.

Some sad news. **Lee Ann Prendergast Curry's** husband, Bob, died this past May after a long illness. Lee Ann is adjusting to living alone. She is involved with the Women's Board of the Beck Center, maintaining furniture for future plays.

**Mac Culver Daniels** is well. Her Christmas letter arrived and as always was filled with updates of her entire family. A highlight amongst Mac's many travels was a cruise that she and her husband took from New Orleans to Belize.

**Lyn Dixon Present** turned 80 on May 11th. Her children surprised her with a party featuring family and friends from near and far. Lyn had rotator cuff surgery and is back on the golf course.

Last May, **Vesta Peters Philbrick** made a trip to her hometown, Aurora, IN, where she enjoyed visiting with her sisters and old friends. However, she missed the Western College Reunion and her annual visit with Lyn. Nevertheless, Vesta and Lyn continue to keep in touch.

**Jean Decker Allread** reports that her granddaughter is a sophomore at Miami-Ohio, and her grandson is a freshman at Bentley College, Waltham, MA. Jean does a lot of knitting and continues to work on compiling her family's history.

**Ginny Wells Weiss** now boasts TWO great-grandchildren. She loves being a great grandmother. Lots of travel and good friends keep her busy.

**Mary Ann McCain Lynch** and **Pris Strand Berry '54** together celebrated their 80th birthdays last November with family in Chicago. A good time was had by all. Mary Ann is a docent at the Autry National Center of the American West and continues to enjoy traveling.

**Marty Wilson Rowan** sent a picture of herself, two grandchildren and a very LARGE elephant. The photo was taken in Thailand during a month-long trip to Southeast Asia. Upon her return, Marty adopted a newly retired "champion" basset hound.

**Marita Lakonen Judge** traveled to Kenya, Africa with the same group that she went to Tanzania with last year. She still enjoys agility training with her young dog.

Amongst her travels, **Patty Wiederstein Hildebrandt** and friend Paul Lange took a Panama Canal cruise. Paul's 80th birthday



Paul and Patty, cruising the Canal

was celebrated by a large family gathering at the Sangamo Club, Springfield, IL.

**Joan Willitts Glatte** called to say that she had recently returned from a trip to Darmstadt, Germany, where she had a visit with **Hildegard John**.

This past August, Paul and I enjoyed a brief visit with **Debbie Cohen Kalodner** and her daughter Liz. Debbie and Liz had recently returned from a trip to England and France, where they visited old friends.

What a surprise last February when I ran into **Anne Koch Nevins** on the front steps of the Boston Museum of Fine Arts. She looked happy and well recovered from her accident of nearly two years ago. Paul and



Marty Wilson Rowan '53 and granddaughters in Thailand

I enjoyed a pleasant dinner with Anne and Jack. They're both still avid bridge players.

Paul and I are both well. We are busy with my antique business, the Sandwich Glass Museum, family, friends and, of course, the garden. When things get quiet, our "big white fluffy" dog, Annie, tells us what to do.

Keep the news coming!

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For most of the Class of '55 it has been the same old same old: enjoying home and visits with family, traveling when possible, interspersed with visits to the doctors.

**Sara Babcock Burneson** set us the example. She went on two hiking trips with Roads Scholars to Big Bend and Bryce and Zion National Parks, ending the year with a Roads Scholar trip to the Galapagos. All

goes well with many visits with family throughout the year. She continues to be busy at church and is serving her ninth and last year on the Deaconess Community Foundation Board. "We set three 3-year terms as a term limit so definitely will be through in March 2013. It has been a wonderful experience and provided the opportunity to learn about nonprofits and the terrific work they do in the Cleveland area."

**Anne Peterson Caviness** sent a picture of their family reunion from last Thanksgiving. It looked like all the family was there.

**Lucile Robinson Allen** and her husband decided it was time to get away from the yard work and have moved to a patio home in a retirement community. Her new address is 13791 E. Marina Drive B, Aurora, CO 80014. They are still adjusting, but looking forward to exercise classes and other activities. Her trip this year was to Amsterdam and Belgium at tulip time on a river boat cruise. "That's the only way to go!" She is fortunate in having her family largely in the Denver area where she can see them often. As Lucile says, "We have much to be thankful for." So say we all.

**Madelon Operer Hall** and husband spent the year enjoying their home.

**Charlene Ashing Barry** also stayed home away from molds and mildews, venturing out primarily for visits to the doctors we all seem to see now-a-days. Her husband, Jim, (bless his heart) does most of the grocery shopping and cooking. She enjoys the tales of her granddaughters, just now starting off to college, and realizing how different things are now from when we were at Western!



**Liz Dunham Gibbons** has written a book, *Healthy Eating Savvy*, which is available on Amazon Kindle. By now it may be on Barnes and Noble's Nook and a paperback edition on Amazon. Good for her! And if we read it and follow it, good for all of us, too.

**Sally Miller Ihne** writes, "Although I am still on the local Arboretum Board and a few other organizations, my life still centers on training and competing with my dogs. Ernie, my original Shetland sheepdog, finished his Utility Dog Title this spring. Training a dog to acquire that title has been an ultimate goal of mine since I was a kid. Cash, my other Sheltie, came to live with me a year and a half ago. My trainer was saying that my next dog would be even better since I now knew better how to prepare a dog for competition. 'But,' I said, 'I'm probably too old to get another dog.' 'Don't be absurd,' she answered, and so Cash came into our lives. He has finished his first title, Companion Dog, and in so doing, won three High Scoring Dog in Trial awards. That is sort of like winning Best of Show in breed conformation competition."



Winners Sally Miller Ihne '55 and Cash!

She continues, "The sad note of the year was the death of my lifelong friend and our fellow classmate, **Wendy Hurrell Hughes**. I met Wendy when I was 9 years old when she moved next door. We went through public school and college together. A wonderful friend, wife, and mother, she will be missed. Her mother, **Helen Hawes Hurrell '15**, was also an alumna of Western. It was she who had inspired both of us to go to Western through her marvelous stories of her college days." I agree, Sally. We will all miss Wendy, and our sympathy goes out to her family.

For the past year I (**Mary Sicer Moore**) have enjoyed the company of my son Douglas, for he has been living with me since he came home from Iran. To add excitement, he married in August here in Prescott. And I recuperated from the wedding and its planning (the bride was in Toronto until a week before the wedding; they communicated via Skype) and a mini family reunion at the wedding by going to Montana to visit my other son, who could not make it to the wedding.

**Judy Schulthess Ruoff** commented, "The cover of the spring 2012 issue of the *Bulletin* was wonderful, plus the article titled 'Peabody ...Where It All Began,' was very interesting. I enjoy reading about the '52, '53, '54, and '55 women. What an outstanding group!" Judy's husband has now retired and their children are carrying on the business. "Aren't we lucky?" she says. "We're still summering at Lake Wawasee. The drought has really been hard on the lakes in Indiana. I'm active at church, P.E.O., several environmental groups, and bridge, plus walking and riding my bike. I try to keep busy." It sounds to me as if you are succeeding!

My annual reading list largely consists of old favorites: *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *My Antonia*, *O Pioneers*, interspersed with mysteries, especially those by Donna Leon (set in Venice) and J.A. Jance (set in Arizona)

and Washington state.) Jance has come to Prescott four times recently for book signings and a talk. She is fascinating to read and to listen to. Good reading to you all in the coming year and may we continue in good health to enjoy our homes, our families, and our trips!

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We missed you, Class of '57, at our 55th Reunion; we, being **Ellyn Talbott Bogan, Sue Mayer Falter** and I. And you missed a memorable Reunion. But we did drink a toast to all of the '57 Varieties. The *Bulletin* will certainly have many pictures and a complete report of the Reunion but here are some of my favorite parts. A visit from the Peabody family, Helen's great-great-nephew and -nieces who wanted to soak up all the history and atmosphere of Aunt Helen's college tops the list. By the end of the weekend they could even say "Peabiddy." We attended the reception at Lewis Place, the residence of President David Hodge and his wife, Valerie, in our best period formal clothes. The Board wore long black skirts, white blouses, hats and gloves, of course, in proper late 19th-century fashion. A monologue by "Helen Peabody" and the music of the Rabbit Hash String Band were other highlights. Ellyn came with her daughter, Linda, a Miami grad, and as they do every year they split their time between the Western campus and uptown at the Miami reunion. She has written of a visit to the Columbus zoo with grandchildren, Eric (13) and Marissa (11) this summer. And when the grandkids are back in school, she's attending their musical programs and Boy Scout and Girl Scout ceremonies. Ellyn even does the cooking for their potlucks.

**Dru Zearley Clingman** and **Paula Zearley Armstrong** were somewhere in Great Britain at Reunion time. They had two of the nine rigs in an RV caravan that originated in Düsseldorf where they got the RVs and on through Belgium and France to a ferry from Calais to Dover. The caravan started

in London and worked its way to Oxford, York, Durham and Edinburgh and the Scottish Highlands and Lake Region. They then ferried to Dublin, visited Killarney and Kerry. In Bath, "We got separated from our group and ended up on such a narrow street that I had get out and walk ahead of the vehicle to keep Dave from hitting cars parked half on the sidewalk and half in the street." After that it was on to Stonehenge and Dover. They returned to England through Cardiff, Wales, and then ferried back to France and drove back to Düsseldorf. The trip was five weeks and as Dru wrote, "Great Britain was cold, wet and rainy, but with Gore-Tex rain gear we were just fine." But the weather over the five-week trip may have accounted for Dru and Dave returning home with bronchitis and asthmatic bronchitis. That wasn't the end of an adventure-filled summer. En route to New Hampshire for the annual family gathering, the air bags on their car deployed. "We thought we had hit a cement barrier." After the Pennsylvania State Police investigated, Dave cut out the air bags and they continued. GM's investigation found no reason for the airbags to deploy and handled the repair.

We still like to travel and **Loretta Weygant Robinson** may have ventured the farthest in October of 2011. It was off to Tanzania. She went to Zanzibar and made two safari trips, camping in tents. When I asked about Kilimanjaro she said they had stayed at a Lodge in the base camp. My son, Jehan, climbed Kilimanjaro last October and I wondered if their paths had crossed at the base camp. Loretta is a substitute organist at her church, but her biggest commitment is as musical director of the Opera Unlimited Summer Youth Day Camp for five weeks in the summer. She also travels to Las Vegas to visit Bryce, a musician managing a quartet, and to Austin, TX, where Brenna has moved.

**Freddie Barber Miller** and I reminisced about running into each other in the New York City YWCA in 1958. Freddie has not let a problem with an ulcer keep her down and she and Don traveled to McLean, VA, near Washington, DC, in December and August to visit their daughter, Suzanne and family. Three grandchildren (son Don and wife Therese) are in college and two granddaughters (daughters Lisa and Suzanne) are entering high school in September. Locally, Freddie and Don enjoy the live theater productions at nearby Binghamton University Freddie keeps in touch with Class of '57 friends and former roommates, **Alicia Melendez McLaughlin, Ruth Autera Barcafer** and **Joan Mueller McNally**.



*The lucky ones! The three from the Class of '57 who attended Reunion 2012 (l to r): Ellyn Talbott Bogan, Charlotte Klein Varzi and Sue Mayer Falter*

Massoud and I headed to Irvine, CA, to visit our daughter Roxanne, her husband, Kasra, and our 3-year-old grandson, Rumi. Our favorite activity is going to the beaches, Laguna, Corona del Mar, Newport (where Kasra surfs) and Crystal Cove. Our annual Foreign Wives of Iranians reunion was in Philadelphia and it was fun to review much of our country's history. It also afforded an opportunity to visit Jehan, Kim and her husband, Massama Dogo, in Washington, DC. We had dinner with **Sylvia Stanfield '65**, who is practically a neighbor of Kim's.

Many thanks to you for electing me to the Board of Trustees of the Alumnae Association. It has been a wonderful experience and I treasure the friendships with those dedicated women. I am so impressed with all they accomplish for the Association. I believe a highlight of the three years was working with **Doris Ning Wong '62** to raise \$300,000. for the Professorship and being present for the presentation of this check to Miami University. It was hard to leave the Board and I wanted to keep in touch with Western alumnae and offered to be our Class Rep. I'm looking forward to many, newsy cards or e-mails this Christmas. And many thanks to **Sue Mayer Falter** for the great job she did for the past years.

Keep well and have fun ...

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**Reunion '13: Celebrate 55 years!**

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'59



The announcement in the spring issue of the *Bulletin* of the unexpected and untimely death of **Gwendolyn Haydu Freeman** from cancer came as a shock to us all. The good news is that she fortunately did not have any pain, was under hospice care and passed on in her sleep on February 6, 2012. Gwen is greatly missed by her husband Dick, daughter Melissa, family, and her many Western College friends.

The Alumnae office passed along word of the death of **Judith McMillion Custer's** husband C. Robert Custer on January 10, 2011. Judy and her husband often attended and enjoyed many Western reunions. He was 79 years old.

An update from **Gretchen Pohlke Molony** after so many years! She graduated from Simmons in Boston in '59 and now lives in Kent, NY. As a retired purchasing manager, Gretchen has been keeping busy, dog boarding at her private kennel and dog sitting at people's homes. Her sport is competing in obedience trials with her German shepherds. Her dog Foxy Lady earned her Utility title, an advanced AKC title. It was quite an achievement and a wonderful journey. After that, she put a CD on her large male GSD, Casey, and now is attempting to work with her little male Jack Russell terrier, Sport. That is good for a lot of laughs. Two people she dog-sits for have asked her to help train their young dogs for competitive obedience trials. As a member of Putnam Kennel Club, she is obedience chairperson for their yearly match, which was April 29th this year. She was also catalog advertising chair for PKC's shows in July. That was sometimes a challenge but always interesting. Gretchen writes, "as we see," she has gone to the dogs but is enjoying herself a lot! Tending to her two German shepherds and two Jack Russells makes her life always busy. She says that she is not that far from **Thal Crane Sudnik** and would love to hear from her. Thanks for your most interesting update, Gretchen!

**Susie Kitagawa** sent word to the WCAA office that she is fine and has belonged to a group, JCII (Jpn Camera Industry Institute) for more than 10 years. They just finished an annual group photo exhibition. Susie has been suffering through the shifting from the analog to digital way of processing pictures. Other than that, she continues to give English conversation lessons twice a month, reading and writing and is rarely found relaxing at home.

**Luci Bilsland Parker Galloway** has moved again — I think this is her 47th move (she has been adding them up since birth). She is enjoying her condo, centrally located in Carmel, IN, near shops and restaurants (probably too close)! Luci has gotten involved in the church choir and women's bookmarkers club. She reports that there is no room for storage boxes so it is time to learn to "scan" things into her computer and toss the boxes! She and her daughter Carol are looking forward to an October trip to Hawaii, the big island, in October for a dual celebration of their birthdays, Carol's 50th and Luci's 75th. Everyone is back in school: Carol teaching in Lebanon, Caitlin (Nancy's oldest) back at Washington U (St. Louis) working on an M.B.A. in marketing; Christina finishing at Purdue; Taylor in his senior year at Carmel HS, playing football and applying to IU, Miami (first choice) and "Bama"; younger brother Chris is a sophomore and already into conditioning for baseball. Audrey is in the third grade (and getting her driver's license next month — to quote her dad). Amanda (Nancy's youngest) is studying for a nursing certification test (one week after her wedding) in September. A weekly lunch with her sister Nancy must be a big help in keeping up with this huge tribe of Hoosiers.

**Mary Jo Porter Brown** and I shared a Chinese meal and a wonderful visit near Lincoln Center in the spring. She makes an annual visit to NYC to check out various Broadway shows. Otherwise, activities with her church and the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute keep her quite busy. She especially enjoyed a day trip to Chicago to see the Genghis Kahn exhibit at the Field Museum and an architectural tour cruise on the Chicago River. The hot weather and lack of sufficient rain over the summer was hard on her garden — only two little tomatoes survived. Mary Jo and Ralph are well but slowing down a bit. The days at Western have left her some wonderful memories, for which she is very thankful.

**Diana Koch Mascali** must have overdosed on foreign travel in 2011. She writes: "So far this year we've stayed in the U.S. In February, we went back to our favorite beach house in Kauai with two other couples. It rained unmercifully daily, flooding the single road around the island. The following month, over Spring Break we took son Tiger, Carol and the grandgirls (now 15 and 12) to Oahu for some playtime in the sun and surf. Thankfully, this time we had the usual beautiful Hawaii weather. In August, grandgirls Madison and Mackinsey collected and filled 400 backpacks for the fifth year of their Packs With Love project and delivered them to the less privileged kids in the Bay Area, winning several awards for their efforts. Daughter Dana is thoroughly enjoying her work in Washington, DC, as Registrar for the Africa Center for Strategic Studies (National Defense University). It takes

her to Africa several times a year, this year including Benin, her Peace Corps home for three years, where she stayed on and visited her village and her many African friends from 20+ years ago. She joined husband John in Dublin last month for the Navy/Notre Dame football game and I'm still in the travel business and will be leaving tomorrow for a travel agent trip to the Baltic with a colleague. So much for staying in the USA! I'm deeply saddened by the passing of our friend (and my bridesmaid), **Gwen Haydu Freeman**, earlier this year. It strengthens our resolve to keep going, despite our number of birthdays (which seem to be coming more quickly each year)."

My life seems more hectic now and I am also "slowing down a bit" these days. I guess the rest of you are doing the same, because this column sure is too short. You must be either way too busy to communicate, or you are also "slowing down a bit." It is always good to hear from you. So, put your pen to the paper or hands on the computer keyboard and let us know what is happening. We all want to know. Meanwhile, stay well and enjoy the holidays ...

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'60



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'61



The class of '61 is undergoing a change. Our wonderful rep of many years, **Jeanette "Johnnie" Kirkpatrick Duvall**, announces, "Hi all from beautiful Maine! The time has arrived: I am passing on the Class Rep duties to one of you. Being our class rep has been an honor — fun, rewarding, a special and meaningful relationship. I so missed time with you and all who attended the Big Reunion! Harry and I (and family) are well. We just celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary, June 30th, here on our special island and shall continue to celebrate, travel and party throughout the upcoming year. Blessings always. May God continue to hold you in the palm of His hand." Congratulations and thank you, Johnnie, for your loyal and inspired years of service to those of us in the class of '61 and to Western.

**Sharry Patterson Addison**, now a Board member of the WCAA, tells us, "I am back on the Western campus three to four times a year and loving every minute! Even though I graduated from University of Cincinnati as did my husband, Harry, we both love Oxford — Miami and Western. In fact, our first date in 1958 was under the covered bridge outside Oxford." Recently, she and Harry returned to Cincinnati after several years because of daughter Traci's daughters, "now almost 5 and 3 years old. Staying in Florida was no longer an option! We are now in West Chester, outside of Cincinnati and 35 minutes from Dayton where they live. Our son, Stuart, is here in Cincinnati with us as he received a kidney transplant last October [2011] but eventually plans to return to his home in Florida." Sharry played a major role in organizing the World Choir Games, held in Cincinnati this summer, with "15,000 choir participants from 64 countries and over 100,000 visitors. It was a huge success! We are in the process of planning the next Choir event for spring of 2014 — exciting! I am in my 23rd year as a Trustee at Cincinnati Children's (hospital) and continue to love every minute I spend there — a continuing education! Just know that as your WCAA Board — we are carefully watching Western's growth and rest assured that Western is alive and well — and beautiful. Miami has been very respectful of our heritage and traditions."

**Marcia Jones Friddle** writes, "Andy and I are doing fine. I serve as secretary for the Chicago League of Women Voters, volunteer in the library of our Lutheran parish school (K-8) (where Peter and Phillip attended), and volunteer at Lincoln Park Zoo every week. Our big news is that Peter completed an Ironman in Louisville, KY, a couple of weeks ago. Both he and Phil have run several marathons." She adds, "I don't think it's right to ask that much of your body."

"Our year has been a happily eventful one," reports **Flora Zimmerman Cohen**. "Our grandson Michael (son of our older daughter, Susan) became a bar mitzvah in January and did us all proud. In March, our younger daughter Jennifer, the single mom, married a very lovely man. They are still living in Marietta and are in the process of blending their families (his son and her son and daughter). And on September 9th we are off to Australia and New Zealand for three weeks — our big trip for the year. "Richard and I are still very active volunteers and were honored as 'Richardson Real Heroes' for our service to the community. We are happy that we remain as active and as busy as we are."

Starting out by saying, "This has been a hectic year and I feel like I'm always running just to keep up," **Cindy Ackerman Horne** mourns the losses of her brother Bill and close friends in the last few months. She says, "I know to expect these things as I get



*New '61 Class Rep Mary Obuchowski and travel buddy Anne Weissenborn at Calanais, Scotland, September 2012*

older but they always come as a shock," and goes on to say, "What a depressing note this is, but it has served to remind me that I have been blessed with wonderfully close relationships that have left me with priceless memories — memories that are a reminder of my youth, my growing up, and my years in the classroom. And how fortunate I am to be doing well, staying busy as the major fund-raising guru for the Woman's Club and even trying to re-capture my golf game (which I fear may be a lost cause). As autumn approaches, I will be busy with a Holiday Boutique, a Madrigal Feast and a Christmas Open House at the Woman's Club. After that I may consider spending Christmas in Florida with what is left of my family." Stay well, Cindy.

**Gail Howell Litwiler** exclaims, "Can not believe it is time again for Western *Bulletin* news. The Litwiler family is doing well, keeping busy and active. I continue as an elected Hampton School Board member and am in my 23rd year. Being a public school advocate is not always easy, as funding issues and political agendas on the state level take their toll. I do, however, really enjoy what I am doing and being a part of an outstanding school district. Teaching Sunday school, singing in our choir, and being a member of our Board of Christian Education also keeps me busy at church. Tom is active as well at church, is a member of several boards including the Animal Rescue League and, most satisfying, as a trustee of Alderson Broaddus College in WV. We travel often to North Carolina to visit our daughter, Trish, her husband, and her girls. Sara starts kindergarten this August and Rachel is 2½. They are a delight, and they spent 13 days here in Pittsburgh this summer. We also travel to Chicago often to see our son, T.J, a

founding attorney in his own growing law firm." Gail hopes that all classmates have had a good year, and asks, "Has it really been 51 years since we graduated??? I am particularly pleased that we have met our goal for an endowed professorship in Western's name at Miami! What a wonderful legacy!"

**Sharon Botsford Moyer** also thanks Johnnie for her long run in this capacity, saying, "I think she must have set another record!" About her year, Sharon tells us, "I continue to divide my time among Indiana, New York, Georgia, and, infrequently, Oak Park. Dad celebrated his 100th birthday November 26th with more than 100 friends and relatives from all over the country. He was especially happy to see **Jane Miller Brooks**, who spent the weekend with us. On November 27th, Sean, Sarah and Aiden welcomed Io Grace into our family, so December 1st found me in Brooklyn. I had lunch with **Judy Buck**, who is doing well as she still wrestles with establishing a retirement rhythm. We have found a special French bistro to our liking so whenever I am in Brooklyn we meet. Jackie and Riley were able to join Sean, Sarah, Aiden, Io and me for Christmas week in a farmhouse north of NYC. We had a beautiful time with family. February found Dad and me on a road trip to visit Jackie and Riley in Georgia and find him some warmer weather! In March, Jane Brooks and I met in Camp Verde, AZ, at my friend Susie's house to walk the hills and enjoy shopping, good food and camaraderie. In May, I returned to Brooklyn for more family time. In June, Dad and I were on the road again to Georgia. In July, Sean and family came to Indiana so Dad could meet his newest great-granddaughter. Io thought he was great fun and preferred climbing his walker to playing with her toys. "Unfortunately, Jane and I could not schedule a summer trip so I am traveling to India and Sri Lanka in October/November. All my family plan to be in Indiana to celebrate Dad's 101st at Thanksgiving."

**Jane Miller Brooks** sends greetings from Toronto: "It has been a good year in so many ways with family, friends, travel, and work. In March I spent a delightful week in Arizona with **Sharon Botsford Moyer**, talking, hiking, shopping, and truly relaxing. In July, we had our annual family vacation in Ontario. My three children, four granddaughters, assorted pets, and I had a frenetic but absolutely wonderful time together. August was an interesting time. I arrived in Chamonix, France, to begin a much anticipated hiking trip in the Alps. Before the hike began I pulled off my most bonehead trick ever. Moving down stairs much too quickly in the village, I managed to break a bone in my foot and had to return home. (It's amazing what some people will do to fly up front.) Not a serious break. I am recovering nicely and back to work with my walking cast. I'll go back next summer for this special expe-



rience. Now back to family, routines, and of course dreaming of more travel adventures." As to remaining a teacher, Jane says, that people "generally think I am crazy. I will be stopping soon. It really cuts into my travel time."

The Obuchowski news is good. During the past four years, Pete has survived two major (cancer and heart) and a few minor operations and now is doing well, enough so that I have done some traveling, notably with **Anne Adkins Weissenborn**, our 2012 Alumnae Service Award winner. We spent two rainy but lovely weeks in Scotland and the Lake District. Our sons (Tim, 30 and married, and John, 24) are nearby again, to our joy. Having retired in 2005, I am seriously trying to slow down (except for being class rep, of course).

Being the classmate to whom Johnnie has passed on the privilege of being your correspondent, I am thrilled to hear from all of you and hope to hear even more next year. Please write again — or even for the first time, and I will try to fill those shoes. Remember, too, that all reunions are for all classes, and that the stone bridges, the halls of Peabody, and the chapel resonate with memories. With wishes for the best of health and joy,

**Mary DeJong Obuchowski '61**  
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Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858  
obuch1mc@cmich.edu



News for spring '13 Bulletin due Jan 14!  
See Blue Card, page 54!



See pages 12-14!



News for spring '13 Bulletin due Jan 14!  
See Blue Card, page 54!



**Betsy Smith Ames** writes: "This summer has been full of travel and 'not travel.' I had planned a tour of Norway, but due to weather in Newark my plane from here left too late to make the connection. I spent four hours online to book a reconnect, but was told because of the way my tickets were purchased, my travel agent had to make the reservation! This was at 3:30 in the morning! Bottom line, the tour company told me to go home. I proved I could stay awake for 38 hours, but never saw Norway. (A warning for us all. PEG) I visited friends in North Carolina, Ocean City and Maine. Other than swimming every day, playing Mah Jongg and working at my alteration and upholstering small business, life has been quiet. Four of my five grandchildren moved on in school; one graduated from high school, two from middle school and one from elementary school. I am looking forward to a quiet fall."

**Margaret Warnock Carlough:** "I closed my office last fall after I shattered the head of my humerus (no surgery, but long recovery). I am still seeing a couple of patients, but do not have the convenience or overhead of an office. I am volunteering at Hancock Shaker Village, giving people a view of how the Shakers lived. Some of their green architecture ideas and other inventions are fascinating — food for thought. I am just becoming aware that they put into practice some of the theories of the latest brain research and morphic fields."

**Donna Bennert Conklin:** "Life is good, but expensive, so I've been spending winters at the Orchidee Guesthouse in Sihanoukville, Cambodia. I teach ESL in a two-room school in Ream a couple of days a week and I'm a nanny to the Guesthouse owner's kids. I came back in April to be the show manager of the New England Arabian Horse Show at the Big E in Springfield, MA. I have been doing this for five years, but I think this is the last time! My granddaughter Kimberly's graduation present was a trip to Italy with me. In Florence, we were invited to **Faith Willinger's ('68)**. She is a culinary arts writer and adventurer, and a real gourmet expert and free spirit. (You might be interested in checking out [www.faithwillinger.com](http://www.faithwillinger.com).) I am also involved with a nonprofit organization AFCECO (Afghan Child Education & Care Organization) run by an amazing Afghan woman, Andisha Farid. She manages five "foster havens" for children, who are the next generation of Afghan citizens. These homes are not like any others in Afghanistan. They are teaching the boys and girls tolerance, respect for diversity, respect for the rights of others and strong values of integrity, honesty and caring. But what I like is that the girls are being educated, and in particular, are playing music in concerts, playing soccer matches at the U of Kabul and learning independence, courage and self-confidence. Check it out at [www.afceco.org](http://www.afceco.org). I cannot say enough about the organization and what it will mean for a positive future in Afghanistan. My international interests are a direct result of my Western College experience."

**Janet Smith Dickerson:** "I'm writing from Martha's Vineyard this summer since I don't have to be back for school. I am enjoying



*Alumnae Weekend 2012 — another year, another class of Golden Girls! From '62 (rear, seated l to r): Mary Jane Dillon Bohl, Miriam Bower Larmore, Judi Amos Hubbell, Donna Shalala, Carolyn Dutton, Judy Dudman Henderson, Judy Bauer. Front, kneeling: Nancy Smith Carlson and Doris Ning Wong*

the freedom of retirement — spending some time visiting my daughters in Los Angeles, Healdsburg, CA, and London; babysitting for my almost 6-year old granddaughter; reconnecting with old friends, and serving on several nonprofit boards. I have been taking swimming lessons at the YWCA to improve my beginners' skills, sewing, sketching and scrapbooking! I was saddened to learn of the deaths this summer of Professor Margaret Barrier and also of **Sue Lutz May's ('66)** husband, Bernie May."

**Kathy Egolf:** "I've been involved with the Panama Canal Museum in Seminole, FL, since right after its establishment in 1998 — as executive vice president for most of those years. Just recently we completed a transfer of the collection to the University of Florida in Gainesville, where it will continue to be preserved, digitized, researched, and used as the basis for rotating exhibits. The university has plans for big doings in 2014-15 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the opening of the Panama Canal. We are hoping that many of our Panama Canal Museum members and others will join the Friends of the Panama Canal Museum Collection at the University of Florida to help support all of these activities."

**Elizabeth "Brooksie" Jacobs Harrison:** "Life here in Vermont has been great this summer. I just stepped down June 29th from being president of the Brattleboro Rotary Club and now have much more time to relax and enjoy the remaining summer. I got my second hip replacement surgery July 9th and am recovering beautifully. Thank goodness for modern medicine. My mentally handicapped son is now in his own apartment doing well. My stepson is in Germany working on his master's in physics. My husband, Ian, has enjoyed the beautiful golf weather with his cohorts. I am enjoying my part-time private practice as a clinical nutritionist. [www.nutried.com](http://www.nutried.com). My best to all!"

**Sandy Severson Harwood:** "Alden and I are both retired. He retired from his county computer job and I retired from my church educator job. Our three children are all married and we have three beautiful little grandsons. We live part-time in a summer community just outside Buffalo on beautiful Lake Erie. When the cold weather moves in we head off to St. Simons Island, where we live for the winter. Our daughter and family live there too. That is how we happened to end up in such a beautiful place! We love visitors! Come see us!"

**Marie Ann landoli** had just returned from a tour of Spain and Portugal. She said it was wonderful. The food was especially good. This is her first vacation since she visited **Ada Tang Kwoh '65** in California four years ago. Marie is active in her church, with an effort in extra funding for the school. She is "sort of" looking forward to the Presidential

debate on October 22 at Lynn University near her home.

**Peggy Gaebler Morscheck:** "Having just returned from attending my husband's 50th high school reunion in Lansing, MI, and making preparations to attend my own reunion at Talawanda High School in Oxford in two weeks has put me in a reflective mood. I spend considerable time walking around Western's campus whenever I visit Oxford, drinking in the beauty of its campus and remembering my younger self. Rod and I were married in Kumler Chapel, so it holds a special place in our hearts. I also have very fond memories of lying on my bed in the McKee Hall third-floor room I shared with **Fran Hoffman** sophomore year, basking in the afternoon sun as I alternately studied and looked down the slight hill toward the pond. Truth to tell, I probably snoozed as much as I studied, but those were magical times, filled with great contentment and hopeful dreams. Surely our college recollections include the quiet times as well as the action-packed ones. I also have hilarious memories of running down the path from Miami, over the bridges, trying like all the others I encountered to make it back to McKee before its doors closed at 10:15 p.m." Peggy included four beautiful photos of the Western campus to share with you. Let me know if you want to see them. PEG

**Kathy Fancher Parnell** had shoulder replacement surgery last year due to severe arthritis. It took months of re-hab but she was able to attend the mini WCAA reunion in Dayton, OH, at Christmas.

**Alice Wilson Pilafidis:** "Currently, Emile and I are living in Newport Coast, CA. After living and traveling around the world, this is the best there is! From our home we can see the ocean and the sunrise and sunset. Our daughter, son-in-law and Marco (7) and Emilio (5) live 15 minutes away! I am working part-time at the local Williams-Sonoma and Emile is teaching in the Business School of the University of California at Irvine. For fun we have a sailboat which we race and cruise in Newport Harbor. One of these days I hope to come to another reunion but ... in the meantime visitors are always welcome! Hugs to all."

**Alice Von Tacky Ross:** "Am enjoying the summer in northern Michigan with my husband, as usual. Our sons and families visited us, with friends and without and had wonderful weather for company. The drought has been hard on the fruit trees but we do have corn, one of the great things about Michigan. I broke down and bought an iPhone last week. I do not plan to be one of those individuals glued to a small screen in public. Life's too short. Hope to hear from classmates."

**Shirin Kassam Velji:** "Noorali and I went to California in April to celebrate our grandson,

Zain's, 10th birthday. We spent time with him and his brother, Aden (8). They are very involved with soccer. In May/early June we went to Washington, DC, and Toronto and had a great time. **Patricia Snowden '64** called some Western graduates so we had a long lunch together with **Alice Baker '64**, **Sylvia Stanfield**, and Sylvia's friend, who is also a Western graduate. I mentioned to Patricia that I was in touch with **Lynne Al-bukerk '64**, who was ready to come to DC even for a day from Long Island, NY. So after we returned from Toronto, they all came for a dinner at my sister, **Shamim Kassam's ('73)** home. Shamim prepared a lovely dinner, and we all had a great time. In August, Seth and Zahraa rented a house in Sunriver, OR, for a week. Grandchildren, Khalil (6) and Meera (2), had a really good time and participated in many activities."

**Mary Biedler Williams:** "I continue to enjoy working with gifted young people, including my grandchildren, as well as researching and implementing ways to stay happy, healthy, and thriving. I've been fortunate to enjoy good health and continue to contribute to this with valued nutritional products. Yea!!"

**Nicki Tyler Williams:** "Finally, in my 68th year, my only child, a daughter, gave me an adorable grandson! We celebrated his first birthday on the Fourth of July. A few weeks later, she announced that she was again pregnant! That was all I needed to stop another procrastination — I scheduled hip replacement surgery for Oct. Isn't aging full of blessings and surprises?"

This year has been one of staying home caring for my husband, Sam. He began kidney dialysis in March and was doing pretty well up until the end of July when he got an ulcer on his foot. This caused an infection which put him in the hospital August 5. He has since moved to a re-hab nursing home place in Palatka. He is slowly regaining his strength, but it will be probably another month before he can return home. I took Karen, Jason (10) and Jordyn (6), my daughter and her kids, to Denver, CO, in May for the wedding of my niece and a family reunion. Some of my family had never met Jordyn and hadn't seen Jason since he was 2. I got to know my 2½-year-old grandson, David, better this time. I was there just after he was born. I am doing well health-wise and keeping up with my bridge playing and writing my newsletter. Karen is now a sophomore at Ashford University. She does her course work exclusively online. She will get a degree in hospital administration in three more years. I wish you and yours Merry Christmas and Happy 2013!

**Pam Eggers Gill '65**  
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*Class Notes continued on page 32*

# Western Alumnae Weekend 2012 — Our History, Brought to Life and Set to Music

Friday night: Miami University President David Hodge meets University of Miami President **Donna Shalala '62**, trustees don period costume for the Lewis Place open house and Clawson patio reception, the spirit of Helen Peabody appears onstage at Leonard Theatre, and **Carolyn Dutton '62** jams with the Rabbit Hash Band ...



Saturday morning: The band strikes up "Miss Peabody was a daughter dear of old Mount Holyoke," flag boards are handed out for the Parade, **Elisa Kessler Caporale '67** demonstrates that her Junior Garb still fits perfectly, and former Western choir members — guests-of-honor — make one of several weekend appearances, here at the Meily Society luncheon ...



Saturday afternoon/evening: New Meily Society members practice the WAVE, historians Curt Ellison HA and Elizabeth Johnson tell the story of Western (of special interest to the visiting Peabody family), the check for \$300,000 is presented to Miami to complete the Western College Endowed Professorship campaign, weather is perfect for the reception on Patterson Place porch ...



Saturday night/Sunday morning: ASA recipient **Anne Adkins Weissenborn '61** is surprised by her family's attendance, MU Vice President Jayne Whitehead becomes an Honorary Alumna, the Alumnae Choir fills Kumler with the much loved strains of "Western Blue," chapel program participants — **Betty Sipe Gerber '52, Judy Dudman Henderson '62, Doris Ning Wong '62, Nia Jones Terry '63** — pose for the camera, and final stories are shared at the Farewell Brunch!



Cross over the bridge with us next year, Alumnae Weekend, June 21-23, 2013!



# Alumnae Service Award Call For Nominations

The Board of Trustees invites nomination(s) of any living alumna, alumnus, former faculty, or administrator who has brought credit to the traditions and spirit of Western by contributing significantly in one or more of these categories:

- **Community and Humanitarian Service**
- **Professional or Career Accomplishment**
- **Service to Western College, Western College Program, or to the Western College Alumnae Association, Inc.**

The award will be presented at Alumnae/i Weekend 2013, June 21-23. Please fill out the form below and mail by **January 31, 2013** to:

**ALUMNAE SERVICE AWARD COMMITTEE  
WCAA, INC.**

325 S. Patterson Ave. | Oxford, OH 45056-2499

*Fax your nomination to: 513/529-7400 or  
Submit online at: [www/MiamiOH.edu/wcaa/asa](http://www/MiamiOH.edu/wcaa/asa)*

*For further information, call 513/529-4400 or  
E-mail: [WCAA@MiamiOH.edu](mailto:WCAA@MiamiOH.edu)*

**Past Award Recipients**

- (please do not re-nominate) \* deceased
- 2012 Anne Adkins Weissenborn '61
  - 2011 Judy K. Waldron HA
  - 2008 Patrick Callahan '83  
Kathleen Hayes Ransier '69
  - 2007 Hélène Mambu-Ma Disu '72  
Rachel DeLugish Hastings '94
  - 2006 Deborah J. McDuffie '71  
Ann B. Rosenfield '83
  - 2005 Kyle W. Farley '83  
Lucy A. Liggett '54
  - 2003 Emily Wilson Greenland '47  
Catherine Ross Loveland '52  
Sylvia G. Stanfield '65
  - 2002 Deborah L. Moran '72
  - 2001 Ruth Elzey Rawlings '31\*  
Josselyn Bennett Winslow '51
  - 2000 Gay Belcher Hadley '52
  - 1999 Dorothy Mershon Bajak '48  
Robin Lynn Bartlett '69  
Jane Alexander Durrell '47
  - 1998 Janet Smith Dickerson '65  
Ann Niehaus Tobias '50
  - 1997 Phyllis Hoyt FF \*  
Eleanor Van Dervort Talbot '34
  - 1996 Mary Kinzie '66
  - 1995 Catherine Bauer Cooper '60  
Valerie Dickson-Horton '71
  - 1994 Martha McKee Keehn '43 \*  
Nancy Ewing Travis '40 \*
  - 1993 Carman Wolff Hunter '43 \*  
Margaret Gardner Markel '27 \*
  - 1992 Donna E. Shalala '62
  - 1991 Rosemary Ferguson Dybwad '31 \*  
Helen Potts Felsenthal '56
  - 1990 Betty Maddox Daniels '46  
Nancy Boerner Larkin '48 \*  
D. Ann Goldstone Marcus '43
  - 1989 Elizabeth Brown Peelle '54
  - 1988 Alice Lanterman Hammond '28 \*  
Frances Hall King '29

**I WISH TO NOMINATE:** Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Class of \_\_\_\_\_

(Please include all information as the selection will be based on this nomination form. Attach any additional pages, clippings, letters, etc.) **Please mail no later than January 31, 2013.**

- **Community and Humanitarian Service**
- **Professional or Career Accomplishment**
- **Service to Western College, Western College Program, or the Western College Alumnae Association**

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_ Class of \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_



News for spring '13 Bulletin due Jan 14!  
See Blue Card, page 54!



45 years later! For the first time in years our class numbers at Reunion were low!! In fact, those attending could be counted on one hand. Many of you reported to me or to **Elisa Kessler Caporale** that family affairs, finances, transportation problems and other plans for that weekend would be keeping you from returning to Western. As a result we were represented by **Elisa Kessler Caporale, Jan Chadwick, Diane Eby Ozbal, Martha Daily Alexander, and Carol Stone Lehman** who did their best to show that despite the small numbers, '67 spirit was still going strong. Thanks to Diane we even had a Class Toast at the Saturday night banquet! According to Jan the hot topic during the weekend was how much longer reunions should continue, perhaps only 12 more years which means we will definitely get to gather for our 50th and 55th. Should this plan go into effect, know that you all will be bombarded with e-mails and letters in four years urging you to come back to campus for the big 5-0 and then again later for what may be our final Western gathering.

**Muriel Gillette Alexander** is living in Big Lake, AK, where she and husband Mike built a house in 2005. There is moose a-plenty in the forest surrounding the house and at night magnificent displays of stars including the Aurora Borealis. Muriel enjoys camping out, boating, fishing and travel. Trips are taken several times a year to visit Mike's son, Matt, wife Heather and their two daughters as well as Muriel's children. She reports that her youngest son, Robert Bauman, married on September 20, 2011, and that they have a daughter. Son Bryan Potter and his wife Nicole have a teenage daughter, who is quite active in softball in Eugene, OR. Muriel's daughter Melissa and husband have a son who has been diagnosed with autism but who is making great strides in preschool and with language.

**Joan Barenholtz** has had an eventful two years. In 2011 her 40-year old stove and refrigerator died as did her printer and television so she now finds herself surrounded by 21st century stuff, some of which she says she may never understand. Other than living with these higher tech replacements, she has gone on some pretty exciting wan-

derings. January 2012 began in Southeast Asia with a 90-minute elephant ride in Thailand where the elephant, after clomping up and down steep hills, to Joan's horror took her into a pretty deep river. Her cooking lesson the next day was pretty tame even though she had problems figuring out how to put on the apron and how to turn on the stove. After a brief trip home to spend time with grad school buddy Nada at Harrah's in Atlantic City, Joan was off on a "Wonder Trip" or a "Tall Buildings Tour" with her lunch buddy, Bill. The trip began in Shanghai and then moved on to Singapore where they boarded the new *Queen Elizabeth* for a 12-day cruise through pirate infested waters with stops in Malaysia, India and Oman. In Dubai they left the ship to explore on foot, as well as by bus, subway, taxi and elevator. They then finished the trip in Abu Dhabi.

In July, Joan explored Seattle, Victoria British Columbia and the San Juan Islands and in August retreated to the New Jersey shore with some writing friends for a Journaling Retreat. She joined a friend on the *Queen Mary 2* for a trip to London and four nights of theater and visits to museums. In October, she found her way to the Berkshires to absorb the fall colors and to enjoy the ambience of the mountains. Then to Joan's shock she was told that she had breast cancer. She underwent a lumpectomy and a second out-patient procedure. Early 2012 brought six weeks of daily radiation and the attitude that if she could endure an elephant ride she could get through anything! Know that our thoughts and prayers are with you!

Following knee replacement surgery in 2008, **Joan Roderick Sosnicky** and husband Andy have been making up for lost travel time, wanting to see as much of the world as possible before they find them-



Joan and Andy Sosnicky in Yalta



45 years later, the Class of '67 (front row, l to r): Martha Daily Alexander, Jan Chadwick, Elisa Kessler Caporale. Back row: Diane Eby Ozbal, Carol Stone Lehman

selves in the old folks home. Their travels have taken them to southern Africa, most of the Baltic/Scandinavian countries, Greece and Egypt, Spain, Portugal, Gibraltar, and Morocco. They have also taken a river cruise through the Ukraine to the Black Sea. This February, they toured Brazil visiting Rio de Janeiro, Iguazu Falls including the Argentina side, and cruised the Amazon River.

On their way home they stopped in Panama to transverse part of the Canal and also to visit with **Clara Keyes Hardin '66**, whom Joan hadn't seen since 1966. Clara has been living and working in property development in the Casco Antigua section of Panama City for several years, where she and her son are deeply involved in the effort to restore historical buildings, some dating to the 1600s. This mini reunion brought fond memories of Western College, some professors, dorm life and their Western seminar trip to the Far East. Joan's state-side trips are usually to Washington, DC, to visit her son, James.

Winter brought news from **Terry Woods-Smith Torres** who seems busier than ever. She had been employed as a social worker by the state of New Jersey until 2004 when she retired from that job and found herself working for a small community agency from which she retired in 2008. On the day she wrote her note, this agency had asked her to return to work for them on a temporary part-time basis and she was seriously considering doing so. However, she also has been volunteering with Literacy Volunteers of America in the English as a Second Language Program where she recently focused her tutoring on women from Haiti. She serves on the Child Protection Review Board which works with the State Child Protection agency and the court system and



has been writing children's stories primarily for her three grandchildren ages 9, 8 and 6, who are harsh critics who scold her when she is caught "borrowing" from prior stories. Their mother, Terry's oldest daughter, is a clinical director for a national mental health insurance company and is based in Georgia. Her younger daughter, who lives near Terry, is expecting her first child in December and is the Director of Behavioral Services for an amalgamation of Catholic Nursing Homes. As for husband Hernando, he retired three times while waiting for Terry to stop working. Recently he has declared himself the family handyman, keeping their home, their daughter's and his sister's in good repair. Somehow Terry and Hernando found time for a cruise to Patagonia where penguin and seal colonies held them enthralled. Terry would enjoy hearing from classmates and other Westerners who remember her.

2011 was a year of ups and downs for **Rosemary Gingrich Parks** and her family. She returned from a California visit with daughter Marissa and grandson Jordan in February only to begin work with a local CPA firm while continuing with her personal clients as CME Tax Services. Rosie would like to find a more flexible part-time position with an accounting firm that would enable her to make frequent visits to her California family. In May, she joined her sister Carol on a visit to family in Texas. They had great visits with cousins and their families. Later she learned that her cousin Daphne died on July 4th. In May she also attended three Parks family funerals; of 11 siblings in the Parks family, only two are still living.

During a second visit to Texas, Rosie was able to catch up with **Anita Jones LaMothe '68**, a Western roommate. The downside of that Texas visit was that Rosie fell and broke her hand. Things looked up again in August when Marissa brought 2-year old Jordan home for a family visit which turned out to include a trip to see relatives in South Carolina and West Virginia. By October, Rosie was in the hospital having a non-cancerous tumor and 25 percent of her kidney removed; by November she was ready to continue with volunteer duties, driving the Salvation Army van to deliver the bell ringers to their assigned posts. Sure hope that 2012 has treated Rosie and her family a bit better!

the first of several communications from **Elisa Kessler Caporale** started with a recap of 2011. In February, she and husband John headed south toward Orlando stopping in St. George, SC, to attend the Griets Festival. Earlier they had attended a lentil fiesta and now wonder if anyone knows of any other legume fair they might visit? Once in Florida they enjoyed biking on the beach and visiting with Elisa's college roommate, **Penny Corcoran Decker**. The trip home included several stops to visit with other

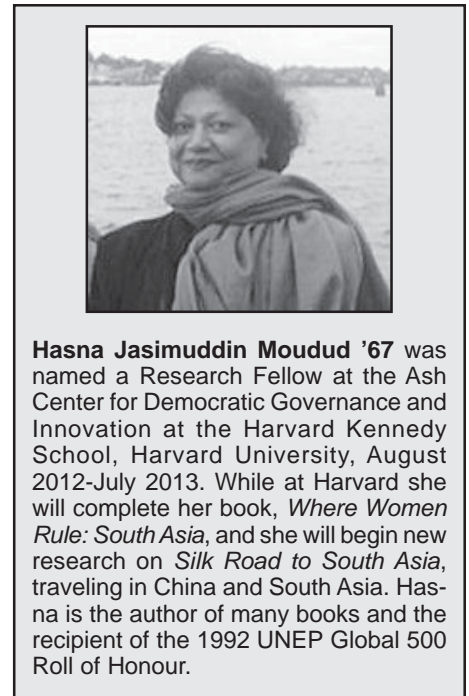
friends. In May they hiked in the Catskills with the Mohonk Mountain House guides and later returned to Florida for a wedding. While there they toured the new Dali Museum, spent a day in Sarasota with some college friends and later visited John's cousin. Back home and between trips, Elisa works as a guest artist for a charter school and is a member of book reading clubs, weaving groups and book arts groups which she says keep her busy enough to not clean up the mess in her art room. She has now joined Senior Sing which meets weekly and sometimes performs locally. John meanwhile has found a part-time job assisting a company with real estate leases and is involved with the American Cultural Roundtable which recently renamed a street in Corona Queens for the first Italian American to settle in New York.

The Caporale children joined John and Elisa at the shore in July for a week of family fun and good eating. Son Stefan and wife Lorie live in Massachusetts, where they work for Dow Chemical and also hone their cooking and baking skills. Daughter Clemencia had been sharing her time between Washington University in Pullman and the Silver Mountain Ski Resort in Kellogg, ID. In March 2012, Elisa and John spent time hiking in Death Valley and in Las Vegas for a family gathering to celebrate Elisa's uncle's 100th birthday. Later Clemencia decided to move back east and take a trip to Thailand, so Elisa and John headed west again to help pack and move her back home, timing their trip so they would pass through Ohio in time for our Reunion. The next two items are culled from Elisa's e-mails.

In mid-February **Heather Antell Abed** wrote that she and husband Haytham had spent some time in Santa Barbara visiting their sons and enjoyed helping grandson Hala celebrate his 6th birthday. The Abeds were looking forward to an April trip to Costa Rica, where they had planned a hike through the rain forest and around the volcano areas. In March, in response to a query about Reunion plans, Heather advised that their son Tarek and Julie had just announced their engagement to be married in June, an event which would interfere with any travel east.

**Penny Corcoran Decker** would be missing Reunion this time due to other travel plans. She had received an invitation to attend the WFA Seminar in Ireland. Only two people are selected from each country to participate. Penny spent three weeks visiting gardens judging their designs. What a marvelous experience and honor!

**Gunvor Fink Moeller** e-mailed from Denmark that she was sorry to miss it since she had had such a good time five years ago. She said she would be thinking of her friends at western and wishing she was there to share a room once again.



**Hasna Jasimuddin Moudud '67** was named a Research Fellow at the Ash Center for Democratic Governance and Innovation at the Harvard Kennedy School, Harvard University, August 2012-July 2013. While at Harvard she will complete her book, *Where Women Rule: South Asia*, and she will begin new research on *Silk Road to South Asia*, traveling in China and South Asia. Hasna is the author of many books and the recipient of the 1992 UNEP Global 500 Roll of Honour.

**Gloria Tumino Molella** was sorry to have missed Reunion, but she was busy taking care of grandchildren while her daughter was having surgery.

She also was distressed to hear of the problems facing **Judy "Jamie" Mason Betz** and husband Gary. Judy first contacted me about the problems facing her daughter Sarah and 2-year-old grandson Carter Bucciero in January. After much testing it was determined that the child had a fluid build up and tumor on the brain. Judy wrote again on Reunion weekend to advise that they had taken Carter to Disney World in Orlando but he became ill and had to be air lifted to St. Jude's hospital where it was determined that the tumor had grown and a new one had appeared. Two months later Carter died.

Following is an e-mail I sent to those of you for whom we had electronic addresses; it is repeated here for those of you who knew Jamie and Gary. "3-year-old Carter Bucciero, grandson of Judy (Jamie) Mason and husband Gary Betz and son of their daughter Sarah died of cancer following a 7-month battle. Carter was first diagnosed with a tumor and fluid on the brain in October 2011 and had been in and out of the hospital undergoing treatment since then. Needless-to-say, Jamie and Gary have been with Sarah and Carter during much of this time. At Western Jamie was active in the choir and Gary acted in many of Western's plays. Both regularly attended our class reunions. Should you wish to send a card of condolence, their address is 6635 Pelhams Trace, Centreville, VA 20120-3737 (e-mail is [jmbetz@gmail.com](mailto:jmbetz@gmail.com)). Should you be interested, a scholarship fund has been established at Sweet Briar College. It will be awarded to a student that has survived a

bout with cancer or has been impacted by a sibling or parent with cancer. You may make checks payable to Sweetbriar College Bucciolo scholarship and send them to Sweet Briar College development Office, PO Box 1057, Sweet Briar, VA 24595." Our thoughts and prayers are with the Betz family during this period of adjustment.

They also are with **Lynne Strothman Pilgrim** and her family. Lynne sent a letter from her daughter-in-law, Kristin, which explains about a genetic disorder called Neurofibromatosis, a genetic disorder that Lynne's son, Scott, has, as do two of his three children. Both Lynne and Kristin are active in the Minnesota chapter of the NF organization and wish to make others aware of this disease. NF is a genetic disorder of the nervous system which causes tumors to form on the nerves anywhere in the body at any time. In addition to tumors it can cause café au lait spots (birth marks) on the skin, irregular growth, itching skin, social and physical development delays and learning disabilities. At this point Scott, Alex and Elizabeth have mild cases. All are continually being monitored, especially Alex as he began kindergarten this fall. <http://www.nfmidwest.org> is a link for further information or that can be sent to others unaware of this disease. Lynne can be reached at [lpilg@msn.com](mailto:lpilg@msn.com).

Condolences are sent to **Janet Berkebile LaRue** ([auntberk@ameritech.net](mailto:auntberk@ameritech.net)). She lost her daughter, Rena Gant, Christmas Day 2011. Rena had been diagnosed about 16 months earlier with a rare form of colon cancer. Janet writes that it had been a rough 16 months but that Rena passed peacefully. She left behind a 3-year-old son, David, and her husband, Tom, who live near Birmingham, AL, as well as a brother, Michael, who lives near Cleveland, OH, as does Janet. Because so much time has passed since this death, Janet asked that I not e-mail all of you but simply add the information to our next *Bulletin*.

**Lois Dickey Coyle** writes that since her retirement five years ago it seems she is busier than ever, and she wonders how she ever thought retirement would mean slowing down and relaxing. She reports that her youngest, son Ben, got married last summer in California in a very nice short and sweet service. Ben and wife Amanda came east this summer to join the family for a week's reunion in July in Barre, VT, where they joined Lois' sister and some cousins on hikes around the area and visited local granite mines where Lois collected pieces that would serve as paper weights. Daughter Lois Barbara works at a jeweler's in Natick, MA, so Lois is in charge of her children Robyn and Logan. Robyn is now in fifth grade and Logan is in first. Lois' comment, "they have so much energy, I get tired just thinking about them." Her other daughter, Christal, works as a waitress at a restaurant on Cape Cod. She is doing home im-

provements on her house and is becoming quite good with power tools, so she has become Lois' handyman. When she finds spare time, Lois enjoys reading a good book, and especially enjoys mysteries. She also enjoys reading about classmates in the *Bulletin* and hopes to hear from Western friends ([ldcoyle@comcast.net](mailto:ldcoyle@comcast.net)).

A chat with **Jan Chadwick** revealed that the family home on the Finger Lakes in New York had been rebuilt in time for the family to use it this summer. Her sister-in-law drew up the plans similar to those of the old house and oversaw much of the construction, leaving Jan, "the free agent" to see to much of the refurbishing. Between doing that this spring and every several weeks flying to Florida to check on her father who is there in a retirement community, she has been busy. She shares the Father duty with her sister who lives in Lebanon, OH, and was grateful that she was free to spend the weekend enjoying herself at Western. Says that Miami's president put on a really great reception for our Alums, wonderful fancy hors d'oeuvres and a marvelous wine selection. Both President Hodge and his wife spoke about the history of the house and some of its possessions. She only wished more of us could be there. Hopefully, next time! The Reunion group wondered why so many classmates have never sent in any *Bulletin* news. You know who you are, so please consider doing so after reading this column. Jan asked if anyone knew anything about **Margaret Hayden**? She also reported that **Diane Eby Ozbal** was returning to Turkey immediately after Reunion so she could join her daughter Rana on an archeological dig. Diane was needed to help with her grandchild's care as the baby would be on the dig too.

**JoAnn Brombaugh Wittman** wrote that she and husband Jack took two wonderful cruises this year. The first was for 12 days in January from New York to the Caribbean and the second in June and July for 14 days from Seattle to Alaska and back. They had been in Alaska 20 years ago and were delighted to be able to explore some new areas on this trip. Prior to the trip they had been in Ohio for JoAnn's 50th high school reunion but couldn't take the time to stay on for the one at Western. In August, they made a trip to Bayview, MI, to see a childhood friend currently living in Scotland..

The final note came from **Barbara Zarfos Landis**. She and Bob were about to leave in late September on a trip through Portugal. They had toured the southern part a few years ago, fell in love with the country and were determined to return. This time



Mary Brubaker Garman-Miller '67, happily, newly wed

they will revisit Lisbon and then travel north into the Douro Valley and finally cross over into Santiago de Compostela, Spain. Barb and Bob had spent three months in Arizona this winter and drove home via several Indian ruins including New Mexico's Chaco Canyon and Albuquerque's Petroglyph National Monument which had long been on Bob's must do list. We spent a wonderful evening over dinner talking about what they had seen and comparing notes on jury duty which I was just finishing.

Later this summer I met up again with Barb in Lancaster where she bemoaned the fact that a shoulder/back/neck injury was keeping her from the golf course. Since this has now improved, she was hoping to get in some fall golf. Barb also advised me to check the Sunday News in the *Lancaster Intelligencer* paper for August 26th on line to see an article mentioning **Mary Brubaker Garman**. Mary and I became a support for each other after our husbands died in 2006, exchanging e-mails and spending time together twice a year when I was visiting Lancaster. In the summer of 2011, she indicated that for almost a year she had been seeing a man whose wife had also died of cancer, a man who had been a childhood friend of her brother and that they were discussing marriage. She later e-mailed me to say that she had married Harold "Chip" Miller the day after Thanksgiving. Between the two of them they have eight grandchildren. At the time Chip was President and CEO of Lancaster Newspapers, Inc., a part of Steinman Enterprises. Barb's suggested website contained a two-page interview/article about Chip and his 50 year career with Steinman, his decision to retire, and about his courtship with Mary. The couple are avid golfers now living in a home overlooking the

Lancaster Country Club, play tennis and platform tennis, are avid local baseball fans and look forward to traveling. Mary has adopted Garman-Miller as her last name, but kept : marybgarman@comcast.net .

As for me, I canceled plans to attend Reunion in order to tend to family affairs in Pennsylvania. The Indian Pueblo Cultural Center Archives and Library has received a three-year grant to update our holdings and equipment and to continue to preserve items among our holdings. I have the fun and interesting task of researching and purchasing books, documents, music and other items produced in the last 10 years by Pueblo and non-Pueblo people on subjects that will enhance the research possibilities for scholars as well as providing background information for the IPCC museum staff's upcoming exhibits.

While in Pennsylvania, I took my mother on a back-roads trip to the Schiffer Publishing Company in Atglen about 45 minutes south of Lancaster to meet with the owners and to place our order for books on Pueblo pottery, jewelry, artists, etc., and to show my mother the kinds of things I was now doing for IPCC. Later in August, Mrs. Schiffer stopped at IPCC for several hours of discussions and to tour our archives and museum here in Albuquerque. With my purchase project well in hand, I underwent my first cataract surgery in September and planned to have the other eye done in October.

The *Bulletin* probably will reach you just before the December holidays, so I hope they are happy ones for you all . May the new year be better than this last one! Do keep those cards and letters coming!!

**Kathy Ehrgood Sturm '67**  
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**Reunion '13: Celebrate 45 years!**

**News for spring '13 Bulletin due Jan 14!**  
See Blue Card, page 54!



**Nancy Galbraith Karoll** continues to enjoy life in Florida in an area which, luckily, the hurricanes have missed in recent years.

Here's hoping her luck continues! She keeps busy with various classes at the local YMCA and helps elderly friends. Her husband, Richard, continues to work as a financial advisor for Wells Fargo. He hasn't talked much about retirement aside from wanting to take more time off to travel. They had a great time in January cruising from Rio de Janeiro to Valparaiso, Chile, enjoying the terrific scenery, including many types of penguins! They are now looking forward to another cruise next February, this time from Singapore to Hong Kong. Nancy would like to show Richard where the family spent many happy years in the '80s and '90s. She is sure there will be many changes since she left Asia 15 years ago! They are especially excited about the arrival of daughter Nicole and Andrew's first child in January. Nancy does not expect to be home much those first few months of 2013!

Nancy keeps in touch with **Betsy Summers Solis** and even though she and her husband, Tom, do not visit as often as they did because Clearwater no longer hosts the triathlons in which Tom participated.

**Carol Abarbanell** recently moved a few hours south of Tampa from Boston where she had been living and working for 30 years, and Nancy looks forward to catching up with her.

**Betsy Summers Solis** still splits her time between California and Kona, HI, where she spent 10 days in September helping to build five homes with Habitat for Humanity. She visited with **BJ Gibbons Bramlett** in her new home in Copperopolis, CA, and had dinner with **Rebecca Vierling Doherty '74**.

In the long, cold winter of 2010-11 with cabin fever threatening to descend, **Susan Hodge** adopted a young tiger cat from the local shelter, and named her Stella. Stella has proved to truly be star-shine. She mews a lot and gets into cat-type mischief with birds and mice, but she also loves her lap time and is there snoozing companionably by Susan's desk as she writes.

You may recall that there were terrible fires in Colorado this past summer. **Ann Noble** wrote from her home in Denver that although some friends were evacuated, no one she knows lost their house. At the time it was difficult for her to follow the news because she was on a five-week vacation in Connecticut and Quebec City with her sister Cathy at the time. First they drove across country to Connecticut and their cottage. They got it ready for renters (rid it of bugs and mice) and enjoyed the offerings of the area: "Divas Through the Decades" at a local playhouse, a horse show (to see an author whose book they had read), a visit-my-studio show of local Connecticut artists — finding places they never knew existed despite having spent 60 summers there. Then it was on to visit cousins in Eagle Lake, ME,

about as far north in the contiguous 48 states as you can go, and learning a lot about Acadian history. Heading home, they crossed into Canada and stopped in Quebec City, Quebec.

The lengthy vacation to Connecticut was Ann's idea of what to do post-second retirement. Although she first retired from the Solicitor's Office of the U.S. Department of Labor in March 2008, Ann received a request to return in June 2010, to run a new office, and she went. It was exciting hiring people, ordering the equipment, furniture, and supplies and then running the office until mid-May 2012. By that time she was ready to play more golf, work in her garden and read books. She is glad she took the opportunity to start up that new office, but she is also glad to have re-retired!

In March, prior to retirement, Ann took **Lucy Boyle '70** at her word and visited her at her time-share near Hutchinson Island, FL. They had a terrific time kayaking, visiting McKee Garden, and sitting on the beach. It was a nice prelude to retirement. By the time you read this, Ann will have returned from a Miami University cruise to Greece and Turkey with some bridge-golf friends and Lucy, who is taking the place of one of the friends who had to drop out. Since they won't be playing golf Lucy will be perfect to make a foursome for bridge!

Ann's granddaughter is sensational! People always told her that being a grandparent was fun but she had no idea it would be this great. At 15-months, Ahmalee certainly is a joy; as smart, cute, and fun as everyone else's grandkids, plus one! Ahmalee's father (Ann's son Ben) works for Kaiser Permanente in Denver as a facilities manager; his wife is a veterinarian with Banfield Pet Hospital. Mimi and husband Zach recently bought an apartment in Brooklyn (she couldn't believe how expensive that was) and continue to work designing sweaters (Mimi) and designing building facade attachments (Zach, an engineer). Jae works for a hotel in Denver and, thank goodness, has found a job with benefits! He hopes to start college in the near future. Rebecca still works for the Joint Council on International Children's Services in Alexandria, VA. She is now the Chief Operating Officer, which Ann thinks means she is the "Jill" of everything.

In response to the very hot summer in the Sandusky, OH, area, the summer programs provided by the Sandusky Children's Museum headed by **Annette Bevan Gallagher's** husband, Dick, offered many ways to get wet. Annie and Dick appreciated that daughter Megan (and her husband) and son Glen were willing to use up some of their vacation time to visit in August. Megan was taking a break from the Summer Reading program at Squirrel Hill Library in Pittsburgh. Glen was spending some time away from

his lab job to visit and also conduct the research needed to progress as a Ph.D. candidate in virology at the University of Massachusetts in Worcester. Annie's mother, **Beth Shirk Bevan '45**, is doing well as is evident in her news to her classmates of 1945.

**Stephanie Bentzen Snook** wrote that she and Fred have entered grandparenthood On March 21, son Devon and his wife, Kendra, had a beautiful baby girl, Mary Ann. They manage to see Mary fairly often, and have been asked to baby-sit on a couple of occasions when her parents had all-day meetings at school. Stevie says it is wonderful to spend time with Mary who, of course, they think is the cutest little girl ever, but that's what all grandparents feel, isn't it? This summer was one of home repair and maintenance, so not one for travel; instead they have a fabulous new and improved deck and enjoy the surrounding woods while dining outside. They did have plans take a trip around Ohio after school started to reacquaint themselves with other parts of their beautiful state. Also this summer Stevie was called to serve on the Western Board for the coming year as a fill-in. She accepted, and is really looking forward to it. (Thank you, Stevie!) Fred continues to enjoy his golf league. They belong to a euchre group and still play poker with former colleagues. Stevie has been quite active politically, and feels this 2012 election is perhaps the most important of our lifetime.

**Betsy Philipson Kensinger** wrote that life for her and husband John still revolves around family, church, and friends, and having all seven grandchildren nearby keeps them more than busy. In the fall of 2011, Betsy enrolled in Emeritus College at the University of North Texas and took advantage of quite a few of the offered seminars. She found it fun to be back in the classroom after all these years ... especially since no grades were involved! John had a conference in London in June and afterward they added on a road trip through the English Lake District and Scotland. They saw the house where Betsy's grandmother grew up; it seemed not to have changed a bit from the photos of her childhood. They also drove out to New Mexico with their oldest grandson and took him on the Cumbres and Toltec Scenic Railroad, a narrow-gauge steam-engine train trip between Chama, NM, and Antonito, CO. Betsy and John are looking forward to 2014 and our 45th class reunion!

**Karen Kling Plumb** and husband Larry are enjoying retired life. They spend as much time as possible with their five grandchildren. Two live very close, but the others are in Colorado. Karen has been substitute teaching to keep busy and for extra cash to travel. In summer she already had her tickets to Colorado for October. Then they are off this winter on a cruise and then a few

weeks in Florida. It will be great to get away from the cold New Jersey winter for a while.

**Karen Hardin Roberts** wrote from North Carolina that her last four years have been consumed with working as a live-in residential counselor at a UMAR group home for six developmentally disabled ladies in their 40s and 50s. Very challenging work, but rewarding in so many ways! Since her retirement last of February, her house is getting much needed attention. "And yes," Karen says, "retirement is all it is cracked up to be! Time to get things done and rest and rest and read and be in the hammock and read and travel!" Karen would love to reconnect with her Western friends. Please e-mail her at karen.roberts91@gmail.com.

**Gretchen Schmidt Grzelak** sends greetings from Wisconsin. September marked one year of retirement for her. She is adjusting slowly as the desire to go to work slowly lessens. She spent the summer enjoying the outdoors and getting tanned for the first time in many years. She and her husband Tom enjoyed camping with their son, Michael, and his family, an annual event. She has also spent more time in her garden where she finds she enjoys cutting the grass, but found that more time does not equal better care of the plants, and Tom needs to step in before everything is destroyed by over watering or over enthusiastic TLC. This fall Taylor, step-granddaughter, is going off to college in Alabama, which brings back many memories of her first days at Western. She hopes that Taylor finds her college years as rewarding as she did. She and Tom continue with their ballroom dancing and participating in dog agility with their dogs, Whisper and Sara. With more time on her hands, Gretchen concentrates on remaining involved with family and friends as well as indulging her renewed interest in reading. "As I let go of the past," she says, "I'm waiting to see what door God will open for me at this new time in my life." Gretchen is looking forward to the next milestone Reunion, our 45th in 2014.

**Donna Blodgett** wrote in November (2011) that her mother had passed away. Donna had spent some time with her mother in September caring for her, a time when they laughed and enjoyed being together. It was horrible to see her so incapacitated, but it is two weeks that Donna will never regret.

My own mother died on January 1, 2012. Her health took a bad turn in late October 2011, and I was in Monterey spending some time with her when I got Donna's news about her mother. In December my husband, Kazu, and I were back in Monterey for her 90th birthday where I danced the hula "Lei Halia," lei of fond remembrances. I danced it again at her memorial service in January. In May, Kazu and I made the trip to Vermont where the family gathered for the burial of my mother's ashes. Over the year we also

traveled to Thailand and to our place in Kihei, Maui, HI. While in Kihei I met **Alyce Baumgartner Haines '47** twice: once at her home where I photographed her with her new puppy (see '47 class notes), and again when we crossed paths at the shopping mall. My two grandsons (5 and 2) are delightful! I continue to write for *Eye-Ai Magazine* about things Hawaiian and for our local volunteer English language monthly newsheet, "The Shonan Post."

2014 and our 45th reunion will be upon us before we know it. It is not too early to save the date: June 20-22, 2014.

**Nancy Wilson Kobayashi '69**  
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News for spring '13 Bulletin due Jan 14!  
See Blue Card, page 54!



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Well, another year and only one response. I wish more people would write to us about what they have been doing for the last 40 years. It's always so interesting to hear about choices people have made in their lives and where they have landed.

**Lynn Erstein** gets the award for major mid-life changes. After years of living in Columbus, OH, she packed up and moved back to California, where she felt she always belonged. It was a brave move and she writes that her new life in California is even better than she had imagined:

"In November, I moved to Santa Cruz and four months later bought a townhouse! Although I wasn't looking to buy and had sworn I would never own property again, this was too good a deal to pass up. It is an end unit, with lots of windows, two skylights (lots of light) and walking distance to a beautiful beach. It is in the New Brighton Cohousing Community in Aptos — five miles south of Santa Cruz. There are 11 units with 15 people ranging in age from 2 to 79. We have independent lives and finances but have dinner together twice a week, cook once a month and have a work day quarterly. It is nice to know all my neighbors. I am amazed how much there is to do here, with many concerts, art happenings and hikes in beau-



Laurie Hildebrandt (left) and Connie Wong proudly represent the 30-year Class of '72!

tiful places in the redwood forests. It is also close enough to go to San Francisco, when I need a big-city fix. On a recent trip back to Columbus for a wedding, people commented on how 'fit' I look. So, all in all, I'm glad I took the leap!"

My life is much the same, although always busy, and we feel like we are always moving our lives. Phil and I still live between Massachusetts and St. Croix in the Virgin Islands. We are spending less and less time in Massachusetts, only three months this year. At some point we may just make it permanent, but for now, we enjoy the summer in New England. We still fly our small plane although we have no kitty to sit in the back seat. We had to put her down this summer, a trauma to both of us. We enjoy island hopping and feel we have really learned a lot about the Caribbean, that every island is different and interesting. It's such a rich cultural place to live, not just a tourist destination.

My wish for next year is that more people tell us about their lives. I think only hearing about the two of us must be tiring. We were all pretty interesting when we were in college. You must all be even better now. I hope everyone one has a healthy and happy year.

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**Reunion '13: Celebrate 40 years!**

Greetings to everyone! This is a very sparse year for news of our class. Last year I didn't get many responses, and this year — with one exception — I didn't get *any!* I wonder if the 2012 energy has people in turmoil, or simply everyone is chillin' and being in the "now." I know for myself, it's been a very busy year, as I just expanded my business and have fewer and fewer free moments! It's also been a year of various upsets — three (for a while, four) of my family members have been laid off, as well as my Beloved, his ex-wife, and about four or five friends! My own business has burgeoned in one area— an area that isn't making money yet, alas — and slowed down in another, so I consider myself at risk financially. So I can only imagine that other aspects of our lives have been more pressing than sending in the "blue card" to me. Still, if you feel inspired to drop me a note, I'll save your news for next time. I've also noted that Facebook seems to be the vehicle of choice for many of us to keep in touch. If anyone feels so called, why don't we start a Class of '73 "page" where we can keep in touch, post photos, etc. Especially since we have a big Reunion year coming up — gasp, choke, sigh! If you'd like to contact me via Facebook, my link is: [https://www.facebook.com/christine.wines.9?ref=tn\\_tnmn](https://www.facebook.com/christine.wines.9?ref=tn_tnmn).

**OUR 40th REUNION IS NEXT SUMMER!!!!** Yes, it's true, and a little scary, I think. Still, it would be nice to start planning! As your Class Rep, I talk a good talk, but I just realized I haven't been to any Reunions since probably the late '70s or early '80s. And I know for several years I was living overseas, and the past 14 I've been out here in La-La Land, California! But I am declaring myself ready to do what it takes to make it back to Western next summer for this momentous occasion, and I challenge you, my friends, to do the same!

Now, on to our "news," such as it is. Our one and only respondent to the call for Class News is our dear friend **Margaret "Millie" Odede Adongo**, who is still in Kenya with her large, extended family. She writes, "I am pressed due to very busy schedule and am praying that you received some photos which you can use in the next *Bulletin*. As I said, Western College Alumnae, staff, former colleagues, friends, and relatives of Western Community are most welcome to Kenya. If and when you need facilitation of some sort, do not hesitate to get in touch with the Mboya and Odede Family. We are very warm people — like most Kenyans are



Kenyan Millie Odede Adongo '73 and granddaughter welcome visitors!

— and would love to even host some of you when you visit Kenya. Kindly give our love to all. I keep holding on to the dream of one day returning to Western. Let The Western Candle stay Illuminated and Bright always."

As for me and my tribe, I mentioned above that I expanded my business. As Holistic Health Practitioner, I am still doing massage and energy healing, as well as the occasional wedding and funeral in my guise as ordained minister. But in June, my best friend and business colleague and I pulled together to open a center for personal and spiritual growth. The response has been amazing, and almost every weekend we have at least one, sometimes three, different events: classes, workshops, healing circles, drumming circles, rituals, ceremonies, mediations, concerts, etc. Word of mouth has been our main source of presenters. We started by telling all our friends and colleagues about the place, and now we have people we don't even know approaching us to see about facilitating a program dear to their hearts! I think — in my hippy-dippy, new age way — that the energies of this year and the consciousness of awakening people throughout the world, are starting to shift us in such a way that spiritual centers are needed and sought after. So I am feeling truly as though I am in the right place at the right time. If you do find me on Facebook, check out the page for this new center, The Healthy Spirit. (Not to be confused with my own business, Healing Spirit Holistic Health Center, which shares space with the new center. Yes, I know, confusing duplication of names.)

On a personal front, still with my Beloved Robin — four years now, and counting. He's still a county away, but that suits us nicely. My two older kids (Allegra and Hugo) are



Christy and 'Nello

still in Florida, but the whole family came en masse to visit Gino and me for two weeks in August. And we *all* stayed in our 2-bedroom / 2-bath apartment.

With assorted Boyfriends/Girlfriends, a half-sister, and three grandchildren, there were anywhere from 10 to 12 people in my apartment at any one time. Sometimes I felt like the wheat field, and my family the horde of locusts! But we had a BLAST, and I got to bond with my new grandson, whom I helped bring into the world last October, who was about 9 months old this summer. (He's now a year old — how time races along — I feel so OLD!) I have lots of family shots on Facebook if you're interested, but here's one of me and Antonello Luca as a teaser! (Can't believe I have a double chin already!)

I'd love to hear from *anyone* from any class and am eager for Westerners who are coming to Southern California for business or pleasure, to come spend some time with me in lovely San Diego! Stay in touch!

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See Blue Card, page 54!



This is all I have [from blue cards]: nothing. On a personal note: This has been a difficult year; we are still spending much time trying to get a handle on my 8-year-old's epilepsy. This summer I bought a German shepherd that I am going to get trained as a service dog for her. So at the moment we are looking into getting assistance in paying for the training.

My mother has entered the final stages of her life and is ready to pass on. The next few months will be rough as we enter the waiting mode. I am also looking for a new home, as I can no longer maintain what we have. So in a nutshell that is what is up with the Cole family.

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I didn't hear from any of my Western classmates; I can only assume that everyone is busy and it's all too easy to let time slip away.

How well I know the feeling! I fully intended to e-mail everyone I had addresses for and contact classmates who are Facebook friends. The summer flew by and the next thing I knew I was packing for our annual trip to Cape Cod — I'm there as I write this. We usually spend the month of September on Lt. Island (technically Wellfleet) but this year we are staying well into October. As most of our friends own or are employed by seasonal businesses, they have more free time than when the in-season frenzy is upon them, so we have been able to spend quite a bit of time with them — for which I am thankful.

David has been working 10 hours a day six days a week for months on end, so he's really happy that he doesn't have to set an alarm clock. We're lucky that he still loves his job (really!) at Rockwell Automation. After 30-plus years — and I don't know many people who can say the same thing.

I am no longer associated with American Fireworks and when I return to Ohio, I'm going to have to do some heavy-duty soul searching in regard to what I want to do next. There are only a few things that I have deemed out of my potential reach ... I've decided I'm not capable of becoming a prima ballerina and I no longer want to tour with a rock and roll band.

By the time I write our next class notes (fall of 2013 — there's your heads up!), I will either be a photographer, a professional organizer focusing on seniors who are downsizing, or a private detective specializing in workplace fraud or marital woes. I have no idea what lies ahead, but I know it will be a grand adventure!

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### Calling All Sleuths!

Rack your brains, ransack your closets, rifle your albums and scrapbooks! You may be hoarding any of the following items on the WCAA's wish list (it has been rumored there may be a sizable reward):

- photographs of the Edgar S. Kelley Auditorium plaque in Presser Hall
- photographs showing location of the Lodge landscaping dedication plaques
- alumnae club records and minutes — especially *old* minutes (WWII era)

We are constantly working to fill in pieces of our history and tell a complete and enduring story of Western College. If you can help us, please contact the WCAA office: 513-529-4400 or WCAA@MiamiOH.edu.

## In Memoriam

**Louise Smith Mountz '33**

June 2012

**Betty Runner Davis '39**

July 2012

**Annette Lautenschlager Kiefaber '39**

April 2012

**Marylou Lynch McCollum '39**

July 2012

**Eleanor Duttweiler Stubbs '41**

September 2012

**Vivian Slater Hodge '42**

July 2012

**Ellen Westerman Brashares '44**

September 2012

**Ruth Hutcheon Link '44**

March 2012

**Jean Streicher Prater '47**

September 2012

**Peggy Condit Wilder '48**

August 2012

**Betty McComb Yost '49**

July 2012

**Joan Herbert Behrens '50**

September 2012

**Louise Wilson Braley '50**

WCAA President, 1980-83

October 2012

**Marjorie Grahn Winter '50**

February 2012

**Jane Donaldson Buswold '51**

June 2012

**Barbara Paine Murray '52**

September 2012

**Ramona Freeman John '54**

March 2012

**Kathryn Sexton Jones '54**

November 2012

**Edwina "Wendy" Hurrell Hughes '55**

March 2012

**Christina Kelley Gilmartin '68**

July 2012

**Margaret Barrier FF**

Professor of Sociology, 1955-74

July 2012

**Georgiana Reynolds FF**

Professor of Classics, 1965-74

February 2012

**Robert E. Berry FF**

Professor of Economics, part-time 1952-73

August 2012

**Joan B. Murray FF**

Ass't. Prof. of Biology, part-time 1952-68

September 2012

*Born in the Bronx in 1928, Georgiana Reynolds grew up in Yonkers, NY, and maintained her home there throughout her life. She graduated from Wellesley with a B.A. in Latin and also held an M.A. in Classics and a Ph.D. in Classical Archaeology from New York University. She taught in New York and New Jersey, St. Louis, and at McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario, before coming to Western in 1965, where she was a Professor of Classics until Western's closing in 1974.*

I was saddened when I learned that **Dr. Georgiana Reynolds** passed away on February 27, 2012. Dr. Reynolds taught classics and archaeology at Western College from 1965 through 1974, and I took several of her archaeology classes during my years at



Western. I even took "Numismatics" from her. Who would have thought that the study of Greek and Roman coins could be so interesting? Dr. Reynolds' archaeology classes were fascinating. She frequently showed slides of the many archaeological sites around the world which she had visited. She was really a world traveler, and she helped to inspire my interest in traveling to remote and exotic locations

to visit and explore amazing archaeological sites, which is something I continue to do to this day. I worked for Dr. Reynolds as her slide cataloger during my senior year at Western. It was my first job other than helping out in my family's hardware store, but Dr. Reynolds recognized how detail-oriented I was and had confidence in my abilities. She was consistently helpful and encouraging. As I helped her to organize and label her slides, I became better acquainted with her and with the many wonderful places around the world where she had been. She was the faculty member who most influenced my decision to pursue graduate study in anthropology with a concentration in archaeology after my years at Western.

Dr. Reynolds was constantly cheerful and energetic and was consumed with enthusiasm for the subjects she taught. Although she was not a graduate of Western herself, she exemplified the

strong independent women who have so often been the product of a Western College education. She was an excellent role model for her students.

After Western College closed in 1974, Georgiana Reynolds went back to the New York City area where she had grown up and where she had received her Ph.D. in archaeology from New York University. She lived in Tuckahoe, New York, in Westchester County and worked for quite a few years in the travel industry, which gave her the opportunity to continue to see the world. After she retired, she became active in the Yonkers Historical Society and became a docent at Sherwood House, a historical home in Yonkers. She was named the "Volunteer of the Year" by the Yonkers Historical Society in 2002 and received the "Key to History" award from the same organization in 2011.

Dr. Reynolds was an important mentor to me while I was at Western College, and we continued to keep in touch for a while after I graduated. We later lost touch but then found each other again in 1995. From that time on, we kept in touch through Christmas cards and occasional letters. We were able to meet once when I vacationed in New York in 1999. One of the online memorial tributes to Georgiana Reynolds from a Yonkers Historical Society friend clearly expresses the nature and character which I also saw in her. This friend said, "Did Georgiana Reynolds have a middle name? Certainly she did ... and it is 'ENERGY'! Georgiana's step was quick, her speech was fast, and her smile was radiant. She used her tremendous energy ... to inspire all of us ... her students and her friends." How very true this is.

— Betsy Salt '74

*Bulletin policy is to list deaths of Western College alumnae, former administrators, faculty and staff in "In Memoriam." Obituaries are not printed, but class representatives are encouraged to include personal remembrances at their discretion. Administrators and faculty members with exceptional, long-term service will be eulogized. (Belated reports of deaths more than five years prior are not published.)*

## Margaret Barrier, Professor of Sociology, 1955-1974

*Born in High Point, North Carolina, Margaret graduated from Mary Baldwin College in 1950, completed a master's degree at the University of North Carolina in 1952, and later studied at the University of California-Berkeley and Columbia University. She taught at Salem College for three years before coming to Western in 1955. After the closing of Western College, she joined the sociology staff at Miami, serving two years as acting director of the social work program and retiring in 1992 as an academic advisor on the staff of the dean of the College of Arts & Science. Margaret remained actively engaged with the Western College Alumnae Association, Inc., from its inception — attending reunions, forwarding news of Western colleagues, always ready with counsel and support as the new WCAA plotted its course.*

*Several years before her death, Margaret requested that when the time came for the expected Bulletin tribute, editors ask her former student and lifelong friend, **Judy Chapman Kotze '65** to write it. Here is Judy's remembrance:*

Fifty years ago Margaret Barrier became my major professor. She was “Miss Barrier” then and would remain so for some years to come. I can see her now, statuesque and stylish, right down to her well-manicured nails. As a professor she was authoritative but very accessible. I enjoyed having student-teacher meetings with her in various little nooks and crannies of Alumnae Hall. She could challenge you and at the same time make you feel you were worthy to be with her on this academic journey.

I left to teach in Turkey for several years after graduating from Western and then returned there to work in the Admissions Office for two years. I saw Miss Barrier from time to time and we talked of my time in Turkey and what I wanted to do with my life. I left Oxford for NYC and Columbia University to do graduate work, then married and left for South Africa with my husband, Derek.

As life would have it, about 10 years later, we found ourselves in Bloomington, Indiana, where Derek would work on his Ph.D. Miss Barrier called and invited him to speak at Miami about South Africa. Now began a new chapter in our relationship and “Miss Barrier” became “Margaret,” finally, after about 20 years. Our two daughters, Jaye and Joanna, met Margaret as young children and grew up knowing her only as Margaret, our friend. And once again, as life would have it, Joanna attended Miami University as an architecture major and also a dancer in Miami's Dance Theatre. She went on to a profession of dance and choreography in NYC and would return for a number of years to set dances for students in Dance Theatre and while doing so would stay with Margaret. Their relationship deepened and Margaret became both mentor and a dear friend to Joanna.

Staying with Margaret always seemed easy. She treated us like family, parceling out chores and asking us to share in the cooking. We would stay up late reading materials she had set out specifically for us and conversations would rage all day long and well into the night. We shared common values around politics, particularly as they affected women. We shared a strong interest in supporting Planned Parenthood, the NAACP and the Southern Poverty Law Center. Because of the time we had lived and worked in South Africa, she

became interested in the politics of that nation and its implications for the world. She would get excited about the work of other students she had had at Western and how she valued being in connection with them.

As the years went on, her body betrayed her time and time again. She did courageous battle with cancer and many traumatic injuries. She always paid credit to her family (her sister and



*Margaret Barrier, circa 1960*

nieces in particular), as well as the amazing care and affection she received from her Oxford “family” of dear friends to get her through these tough times. These were the dear ones who were with her as she faced death. And face it she did, with wisdom and courage.

One feels gifted to have a relationship that lasts this long. As much as Miss Barrier became Margaret to me in the last 30 years, I never stopped learning from her. She listened — well; well enough to be able to recite to you, months later, verbatim, the content of a conversation. In my next life, I want to have Margaret's memory. I shall try in this life to become a better listener. Her memory allowed her a richness of life that many of us lose as we get older. Her ability to communicate with all the information at hand served her well, whether it was sharing concern for you or advocating for her own medical needs, right up to her last day. She had a brilliant mind and a compassionate soul that she was able to share right to the end.

I often think that during my student years at Western, Margaret embodied for me what would become the Women's Movement in the late '60s and early '70s. The Women's Movement was not unfamiliar or confusing, thanks to her and Western. There were other professors at Western, my



college roommate and other students from around the world that modeled what would become the hoped-for-outcome of the Women's Movement. These Western women, who were curious, bright, confident, in control and independent, lived out those qualities as natural assets and they gave others of us the courage and confidence to do the same.

Margaret Barrier, who had all of the above qualities, was beloved by many of us with whom she connected and

she is deeply missed. Joanna planted daffodils in a small plot surrounding a tree in front of her apartment in Brooklyn in memory of Margaret. There are thousands of daffodils all over Oxford that Margaret planted and that were planted on her behalf. When our daffodils come up this next spring, we will remember Margaret Barrier and give thanks for all she meant to us.

— Judy Chapman Kotze '65

*Of course we heard from many other students of Margaret's, who had their own special memories. An especially personal one came from **Betty Milligan Kipp, Class of '60** (for whom Margaret was faculty sponsor.) Colleagues, too, recalled how greatly they valued their years with her. Two among them, **Paul Schnur, Professor of Psychology, 1970-1974**, and **Alex McKibbin, Professor of Art, 1968-1974**, sent us words of tribute and a portrait.*



As a former faculty member of Western College, I ... received a postal card indicating that Margaret had died. Margaret was gracious enough to sit to this young, new faculty member early on. Attached is a drawing of Margaret that I have prized as among my best portraits over the years. She will certainly be missed.

— Alex McKibbin

Friends: The sad news of Margaret Barrier's passing excites a flood of memories about the extraordinary group of people I knew at Western College, foremost of whom was Margaret. When I arrived at Western College for Women in 1970 as a new faculty member in the psychology department, Margaret was one of the first people I met. Her office was two doors down from mine in the basement of Boyd Hall and we spent many hours talking about teaching, science, and college politics. I had much to learn and Margaret always made time for me. She was a gentle and wise mentor.

Margaret's enthusiasm for teaching and her love of Western College came across in every conversation. She never

had an unkind word for her colleagues, and she respected all of her students, especially those who were struggling. Margaret, like so many of her academic colleagues, was devoted to the mission of the college. She was a very special person and helped to make Western College a special place.

I was among those who left when the college closed in 1974 and looking back, after almost 40 years, I can say that Western was the best professional experience of my life and Margaret Barrier one of the most important influences on my development as a teacher. Margaret and my years at Western are etched indelibly in my memory.

— Paul Schnur

I am so thankful that I had the opportunity to see Margaret two years ago at my 50th. She remembered our names and as always showed interest in our lives. A long story ... but she was responsible for encouraging my marriage. She was correct ... as it has lasted 52 years. With all the wonderful memories she will stay in our hearts. My sympathy to her family.

— Betty Milligan Kipp '60



Betty Kipp, on Margaret's immediate right, with '60s classmates during their 2010 visit

# The Western Program

## Message from the Director

The fall semester has been a very busy term for the Western Program, but perhaps no busier than any other semester during my time as Program Director. We have more than 50 majors in the program with a fantastic range of interests and 11 seniors have begun work on their capstone projects for completion next April. Western is also extending its reach to the wider community of students on this easterly Western campus through a variety of extra-curricular events. Our Student Activities Coordinator, **Audree Riddle '10**, and Assistant Director, **Kim Ernsting**, have invested a lot of energy in encouraging student engagement in different initiatives.



*Nik Money*

This isn't an easy task. Today's undergraduates have very different expectations of campus life from those of their parents' generation and this necessitates a great deal of objectivity on the part of a middle-aged professor like me to understand and appreciate their culture. The seemingly simple offering of a presentation or performance on an interesting topic doesn't guarantee a lively student audience. If we are witnessing a change in student traditions today, then the digital world is a likely player. Students have access to a galaxy of information and opinion through the internet, and they are connected to their peers, as well as a wider social network, through smart phones and tablets.

This is a particular problem for me, because one of my greatest pleasures in life is to sit in absolute silence, unconnected to as many webs as permissible, and read a book printed on paper. By way of illustration, I admit to waiting with quite ridiculous eagerness for the arrival of a new landmark edition of "Leviathan" written by Thomas Hobbes in 1651. Would any 20 year old say anything like this today without a hint of sarcasm? (Not likely, of course, but nor would many people my age!) Hobbes described curiosity as "the lust of the mind," and regarded, in a very Western Program fashion, the "thread of reason" as the path "to the clearest light." His writings are an inspiration for this antediluvian Director.

The way forward in higher education may involve helping our students recognize the value of literacy in the marketplace and hoping that the development of the intellect follows automatically. A university must aspire, however, to do more than create workers for the new economy, and we want to inculcate our Western majors with a commitment to lifelong learning. One way we are seeking to achieve both

objectives is to invite alumni from the Women's College and from the Western College Program to speak with our students in association with a Community Dinner in Peabody Hall. As an interdisciplinary program we are interested in the broadest range of topics, but we do want speakers to share what they learned from their Western experience and to address whether, or not, the learning stopped at graduation. If you would like to propose speakers and topics, I would be delighted to receive your suggestions via e-mail (moneynp@miamioh.edu). We are not going to overwhelm students with these events, but it would be good to assemble a list of alumni speakers that we can review when opportunities arise.

Cultivating student engagement is a vital ambition of the Western Program. If the first step to meeting a challenge is its recognition, then I have taken a little one here and thank you for listening.

— *Nicholas P. Money*

*Western Program Director, Professor of Botany*

## WCPAA Update from the President

Dearest WCP Alums:

As I stand in the center of the pantheon room of the WCP Alumni Board's secret lair 237 feet below Peabody Hall and gaze upon the bronze busts of our fearless leaders, from Mike Lunine to Nik Money, I cannot help but think about how far we have come and what we have accomplished together. Almost anyone can lead followers but it takes great strength to lead leaders. The very best tribute we can pay to those who have guided our enduring experiment in educational freedom is to continue the effort in our personal lives, in our individual and diverse professions as well as our shared commitment to each other as Western Alums.

The coming year will be both trans-formative and transcendent. Trans-formative in that we are formally launching our WCP Alumni Association unlike anything Miami University has ever seen. When you consider the cohesiveness and cacophony that our organization brings to anything it has ever focused on, the possibilities are endless. Transcendent, in that we will be rolling out several initiatives over the next few months that will engage our Alums with the current Students and Staff of Western 3.0. We are also going to use our collective powers for good to enable and enrich the Living/Learning facets of the new program. We will reach

out to potential future students through an “Informal” recruiting effort by assuming positions of authority that have come about as a result of some changes in Miami’s approach to attracting new students. What was originally a road block may now be a portal due to our association with the College of Arts and Science. We will also be collaborating with the new Western to create a mentoring and networking consortium that will be mutually beneficial for current students and our Alums. With a careful and concerted effort we can bring an unparalleled set of resources to Western 3.0 that will have an impact across the street and if we do it right, across academia and beyond.

I close with this thought: WCP has never had more friends in high places than it does right now and if we work together to be a vital and vibrant part of creating and grow-

## Music, Fun, Games ... and a WCP Tradition Revived

In September, Western Campus residents participated in a revived “Cotillion.” The tradition, known more commonly to the Western College Program alums, can only be described as a big costume party with music and games.

Cotillion recognizes the birthdays of Helen Peabody and Leila McKee. We had cake to celebrate and prizes for best costumes. One game initiated this year was a scavenger hunt. The hunt tied scavenger hunt questions to facts about the Western College for Women, such as “When she retired, Helen Peabody moved to California, where she would die in 1905. Not surprisingly, that same year, the main building on campus was renamed Peabody Hall. *Find Western Students who are from West Coast states*”; and “In their first semester at the seminary, each young lady was required to take the

ing the new program, we can make a difference on a grand scale.

Between now and the Mega WCP Reunion on October 11, 12 and 13, 2013, we will be asking for your help, not your money, your help. When we have built something worthy of our predecessors from the Western College for Women and an Alumni effort we can be proud of and that brings significant benefit to the Western 3.0, we will talk about funding, but not until. We will reach out for you soon.

— John Rego WCP '81  
WCP Alumni Board President

[On November 29, following a community dinner in the Peabody Gallery, John spoke to students in Leonard Theatre about how his interdisciplinary education helped build a successful company.]

following courses: Review of English Grammar, Arithmetic, and Geography; Ancient Geography; Natural Philosophy; and Analysis of English language. *Celebrate your first year and find Western Residents in any of the following majors: English, Math, Geography, or Philosophy.*”

In October, Ernst Fall Fest — a music festival complete with a shirt tie-dye and chemistry experiments — raised money for the Oxford Family Resource Center. Student organizations set up booths to share who they are and what they are doing. In November, RA **Andrew Gantt '13** (Individualized Studies) had students participate in a drum circle.

— Audree Riddle '10  
WP Student Activities Coordinator



All enjoyed learning about the history of Western and getting to know students who share this side of campus. RAs Jeff Folz '14 and Andrew Gantt '13 (back row, third and fourth from left, respectively) planned Cotillion.

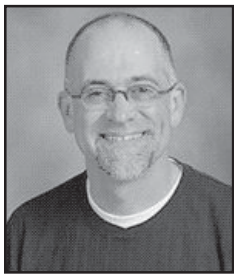
We regret that only half the WCP odd-year classes are represented in this issue. In some instances, your Class Rep did not hear from anyone, so did not submit a letter; in other instances, we did not hear from the Class Rep. While well aware of the many alternative ways of keeping in touch with each other, we continue to believe the WCAA Bulletin is the best way of keeping in touch with Western. Here's hoping for a fuller response next year! Meanwhile, attention, even-year classes: For your Class Rep and spring class news deadline, turn to page 54.



**Tom "Walter" Gardner '79**  
gardner.thomas@epa.gov



**Rick Tucker** is Professor of Cell Biology and Human Anatomy at UC Davis School of Medicine. After receiving his B.Phil., Rick



Dr. Tucker

earned his Ph.D. from UC Davis as well. Following the receipt of his Ph.D., Rick conducted three years of post doctoral work in Switzerland, culminating in his receipt of an award from the Swiss Society for Anatomy, Histology and Embryology. Rick started his teaching career at Wake Forest and then returned to UC Davis and its School of Medicine. While at Wake, Rick met his wife, Cathy Peterson.

Cathy is an academic physical therapist and teaches at the University of the Pacific. Cathy is concerned with Third World health problems and has worked to establish clinics in the nation of Malawi in Southeast Africa. Rick's teaching interests involve human anatomy, the cellular basis of morphogenesis, and the history of the discovery of the structure of DNA. Rick teaches a freshman seminar that is reminiscent of an NS class. As we experienced, James Watson's *The Double Helix* is assigned reading (The Double Helix is also a wine bar in The Palazzo in Vegas; sorry, just being interdisciplinary). For those of you who remember Rick lugging his double bass around campus — although Rick has not played that instrument in quite some time — he does stare at it. Contact Rick at: rptucker@ucdavis.edu.

Our classmate **John Rego** is the President of the Western College Program Alumni Board. John and his wife, Diane, were

pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Lindsay, to her fiancé, Heath. As it currently stands (unless the following is contradicted elsewhere in this publication), the **Quinquennial WCP Mega Reunion will be held on October 11, 12 and 13, 2013.**

**Tim Matune '81**  
tmatune@cafarocompany.com



**Ann Rosenfield '83**  
factotum@sympatico.ca



**Madeline J. Iseli '85**  
madeline.iseli@sinclair.edu



**Christine Rebera '87**  
christine-amy@rebera.net



**Dana Lundell '89**  
bugabooum@yahoo.com



**Lara Osborne '91**  
lara.osborne@gmail.com



Hello friends. It's that time of the year again, where I have solicited updates from you (received a handful), stalked more of you on Facebook (which in many ways seems to supersede the need for this annual missive, but, hey, this is more of an historical record, right?) and procrastinated longer than I should have (hey, you can take the boy out of Western, but you can't take Western out of the boy). So on the eve of our 20th anniversary of graduation (shudder), I send you greetings and warm wishes. Wow, that's a lot of parentheses.

Western's been on my mind more than usual lately. It may have something to do that I have been spending more time on college campuses: Marymount University is just down the road from me in Arlington, and I recently gave a lecture at the University of Maryland in College Park. Maybe it was because I recently attended a listening party to celebrate the 40th anniversary of "Free to Be ... You and Me," which has messages aligned nicely with Western's teachings. The selection of Paul Ryan as the Republican nominee for vice president also has also pushed Miami University to the forefront of my brain.

But mostly I think the recollection has been triggered by the senses. The newly crisp evenings and strains of trumpets and French horns of the Yorktown High School band that waft across Arlington remind me of Septembers in Oxford when I could hear the band playing in North Quad through my window thrown wide to offset the premature heat emanating from Peabody's radiators. We also just moved my mother-in-law into an assisted-living facility, and the cafeteria harkens memories of Alexander Dining Hall (minus the Captain Crunch and do-it-yourself Rice Krispies treats).

When I permit myself to be nostalgic, which is rarely these days given the endless demands on my time and my psyche, I have been giving more thought to the first two years than I have to the latter two, which really set the stage for my professional career. I vividly remember fossil hunting and 3 a.m. telescopic inspections of the galaxies with Hays Cummins. I remember intense debates about John Stuart Mill's "On Liberty" with Chris Wolf. I remember drawing our



A mini-Western reunion in Los Angeles attracted '89 grads David Paddy, Carolyn Brucken, Kris Curry and Heather (Purkey) Wells.

own bodies with Gail in AFL and deconstructing football with Sally Harrison-Pepper. I remember the night the first Gulf War began and the frightening culmination of a campus-wide march on the porch of Peabody. I remember studying the Weimar Republic and how neatly that fit with our studies of Bertolt Brecht and our production of *The Mother*. I remember broomball, and Thursday nights dancing at Graffiti's, and seeing Storytown at Balcony. I remember quarter beers at Mac & Joe's and 50 cent slices of Brunos. And I remember how I felt at the end of that sophomore year, that feeling that I hadn't done enough to take advantage of everything Western had to offer. I wish I had gone to more McKee Mondays. That I had attended more lectures at Kummer. That I had spent more time getting to know the ladies of the Western College Alumnae Association. That I had become closer to some of you. I still feel that way sometimes.

I do know this: I want these experiences for my children. Or something like it, given the fact that Miami University demoted Western to "program" status (interesting sidebar/true story: Shortly after I joined the executive ranks at Ernst & Young I was contacted by a Miami University fund raiser responsible for canvassing the D.C. area. She requested a meeting; I had previously heard that these meetings culminate in a request for a 5-figure pledge. I was so looking forward to telling her what orifice she could shove that request into, but alas she wanted to meet while I was due to be on travel and never contacted me to reschedule). Fortunately, I live in a community where there is a high school that follows the Western model. It's called the H-B Woodlawn school. For those of you from the Columbus area, it's very similar to the Linworth Alternative Program in Worthington Schools (which is my alma mater). I'm already trying to lay the groundwork to encourage my children to enter this program. We'll see how that goes; it begins in sixth grade, and my oldest just started fourth. But, enough about me.

I heard from only a handful of you this year. I could call many others based on their Facebook timelines, but I'll spare you. **Jeff Sikorovsky** initially threatened to make some things up, but sadly, he didn't follow through. Rather, he reports that life is generally excellent, and offers this embellishment: "Am thoroughly enjoying being the assistant coach of my big girl's soccer team. Zoey Rose, 6, is enjoying her third season on the South Hills Crickets here in Charleston, WV. Nothing like being 'in charge' of 14 young ladies. FUN!"

**Laura Welser Black** and **Ted Welser** also report that soccer is playing an important role in their lives: "Still living in Athens, doing the professor thing," Laura reports. "There's lots of soccer in our family (we all play, Ted and I have each coached) and Sydney's exploits are well captured on Facebook." It's not all just games in Athens, however. Laura reports the rubber hits the road next year: "Ted and I are both going up for tenure this year, we've turned in our big binders and will hear back sometime in spring. Academics never like to do anything quickly. The girls are great. Anna is 10 and rocking the girls soccer team. Sydney plays fiddle for anyone who will stop to listen."

**Scott Mongeau** reports that he, wife Marloes, and boxer dog Lucky are living in Leiden, Netherlands. Scott recently gained Dutch/EU citizenship (dual with U.S.), completed a dual M.A. in Finance and International M.B.A. at the Erasmus Rotterdam School of Management (RSM), and consults internationally as a business analytics solutions specialist via his company SARK7 ([www.sark7.com](http://www.sark7.com)). He is also working on a part-time Ph.D. in systems-based organizational decision making and teaches part-time at Nyenrode University in Amsterdam. He says, "Look us up if you visit Amsterdam." Honestly, that sounds tempting, yes?

**Naomi Margaret Robinson** checks in with these thoughts: "Paul Ryan was a Miami alum from our era? Whatever! I'm eagerly looking forward to the first Western grad to run for Veep! (Surely one of us can pass the vetting process.) Kudos to **Ryan** (no relationship) **Donmoyer** for getting that story decades before anyone else." (Class correspondent's note: Yes, it's true, I profiled Paul Ryan back in 1999 for a magazine called POV. It was a 3,500-word account of his first days in Congress. Even then I had some idea he might end up playing a bigger role in politics.) Naomi continues, "At work I've been honored/tormented with being part of the NPS team overseeing the America's Cup races. It's very much

NASCAR on the bay. As a family, we had a quiet summer, with camping trips in some national and state parks, and one ball park. (Minor league baseball team slumber party = awesomely cheesy!) We're going to spend a little time in Zion en route to Austin this fall, and looking ahead I'll be in San Diego this June for AmeriVespa. Max started first grade with the goal of being a ninja. I'm not sure there is a test for that, but it seems just as useful as what he is supposed to be learning. My helpful advice of the year: if you plan on applying for dual citizenship, don't have changed your name three times." ([crayonbeam@yahoo.com](mailto:crayonbeam@yahoo.com))

And, in keeping with my preference for soliciting updates from classmates who matriculated to Western in 1989, moreso than just those who finished in 4 years, I received the following from **Ben Gibbons '94**: "Grace & Hope are keeping us busy," he writes, referring to his two darling daughters. "Spent a week in OBX with a bunch of ASG pals & spouses, including former Peabody resident **Erin Lavin Cabonargi '93**, plus a bunch of kids. Our house was broken into in August, but things ended ... poorly for the burglars. Also, Project Dragonfly moved into our backyard. Follow the exploits of Hope & Grace on Facebook or Twitter: @bendgibbons. Slainte, Ben"

Finally, **Amy Glesius** checked in with news of her brood: "I want to say that our family is lots of fun and our kids teach us about the world every day and we're all happy and well-adjusted," Amy writes. "Having the triplets was a game-changer. Truthfully, our world is constant chaos accompanied by a loud, shrill soundtrack, characterized by chronic sleep deprivation and punctuated by



Phoebe



Seamus

absurd and unbelievable events. Most of the time, our goal is surviving the next 24 hours intact, i.e., we try to not lose anyone or do any permanent damage. Stella is 5 and just started kindergarten. Seamus, Phoebe, and



Sophia

Sophia are 3 and started Montessori preschool half a day this fall. They are all healthy and, as best as I can tell, happy. They have completely demoralized us in the potty training process, but they are most chal-

Lengthening when they beat up on each other, which seems like it is daily. I'm working when I can, mostly from home. We were lucky to find a new home last year that perfectly fits our household and has an office (with a door that locks!) for me. Going back and forth between lawyering and parenting makes my brain hurt. I definitely prefer spending time with the kids to spending time with lawyers. We DO laugh a lot ... Some pics included from our trip to Siesta Key earlier this year."



Big sister Stella Glesius

That's it for the updates. Please remember that the June WCAA reunion marks our 20th anniversary. I'm seriously contemplating a trip to Oxford. I hope you will too. Meanwhile, I have a big house in Arlington, VA. You and yours are always welcome here should you have the nation's capital on your vacation to-do list.

**Ryan Donmoyer '93**  
thendonmoyers@gmail.com



**Paul Broughton '95**  
paul.broughton@miamialum.org



Hi all, well I started a Facebook thread to check in with all of ya and I heard from many of you. I reproduced the conversation below. If you are on Facebook, please friend me; perhaps I will make a group for us. This year for me has been both exciting and uneventful. I achieved the status of Associate Professor of English and Women's and Gender Studies but after a year of insane international travel, we pretty much stayed put in CoMo-well and we remodeled our kitchen so we were broke. Those of you I did hear from have much more exciting things to report than I do!

**Molly Hicks** just moved to Urbana, IL, to be with her partner, Leslie, after living for

two years back in Columbus, OH, to help her mom through some transitions. Leslie is LGBT Resource Center director at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. She is back in her Ph.D. program at Antioch University New England after taking some time off. She hopes to start her dissertation research next summer. She will be focusing on local, alternative food systems, seed saving and exchange, and community development. She thinks she would like to teach college afterwards, or work for one of the various nonprofits dedicated to alternative agriculture and food justice. She says "Muah! Hope all is well."

**Sarah Bernhardt** graduated in December 2010 with her Ph.D. in environmental planning (coastal planning and management) from Texas A&M University. She and her husband, James, have two sons, Henry (4) and Hugh (1) and live in Houston, TX.

**Brie Turner**, after living in Chapel Hill, NC, for seven years (doing a Ph.D. and post-doc), and her husband (Matt McGrievy, Miami class of 1997), and her twin 4-year-olds (Quentin and Sabine), packed up and headed further south to Columbia, SC. She just finished her first year there as an assistant professor in the School of Public Health. Columbia has been a great fit for her and she loves being in academia, with all the excitement each fall brings.

**Brian Moynihan** is living in Carrboro, NC, Dixie, with his wife Lara. After only six years of graduate study (more Zen, still more Zen, Information Science) and five years of working at UNC, he has decided to go back to study some more (M.B.A., Health IT). He's on a self-improvement kick and so is losing weight, exercising, learning to juggle and taking about five online courses. And still reading lots, and writing in the third person. He says, "Much love to you all!"

And here is what some of the rest of you said via Facebook:

**Dave Essinger:** "Ah, man. What can I tell you? No news here. Still teaching, at U. of Findlay in NW Ohio. Still writing. Running a lot. Kids June and Levin just turned 5 and 2, respectively. Yeah."

**Isaac Watkins:** "Living in Anchorage with my wife, Valerie, and 9-month-old son, Atticus (born Nov. 18, 2011). Working at HDR Alaska Inc. doing baseline water quality/hydrology studies for a variety of projects throughout the state."

**Hannah Ehrlich Hardy:** "Since everyone is tagged here just wanted to let you know that my son woke me up early this morning and I was in the middle of a WCP reunion dream. We were all in some strange place (not a building I recognize). I got to meet some of your kids who I only know through Facebook in reality. Very vivid. I also remember

that we left an open chair for the folks from our class who have died. You all have made it into my subconscious."

**Tre Ghee:** "In school for another master's degree." This time she seeks a degree in Social Work at the University of Pittsburgh. "@ Hannah, let's get together in PGH. Would love an update!"

**Rebecca Dingo '97**  
rebeccadingo@gmail.com



I received one *Bulletin* update, from **Marni Shindelman:** ms@marnishindelman.com.

"Howdy, fellow WCPers!!! Big news for me — I accepted a new job teaching photography at the University of Georgia, so I am back to being a southerner, living it up in Athens, GA. The town is fantastic, full of vegetarian restaurants, indie book stores and co-ops — a Westerner's dream. If you find yourself in the area, please look me up (or stranded in the Atlanta airport, call me). Atlanta is a mere 50 minutes away, and while my family has long left, it has always felt like home to me. I am getting used to the heat and will miss the snow of Rochester, but not too much.

"My art career has been going quite well over the past few years. I've been working on a collaborative project, Geolocation: Tributes to the Data Stream, with a friend for three years now and it is traveling all over as we speak. Currently the work is in Halifax, the United Kingdom, and I have a public art commission consisting of nine billboards going up around Atlanta next week.

"It's been a busy few years, and happily my travels have brought me closer to many WCPers. I had an awesome lunch with **Greg Michalec**, **Aaron Porter** and **Dana Eder** last spring in San Francisco, and dinner with **Thom Finch** in Portland, OR, a month later (not quite Western, but many know him). **Mark Miller** (architecture) surprised me at a lecture I was giving in Portland also!

"My next super adventure is living on Robert Rauschenberg's estate in Florida for a month this coming May. You can keep up with my latest work at [www.larsonshindelman.com](http://www.larsonshindelman.com). Hopefully I'll see more of you this coming year!"

And my own update: I (**Karla Schneider**) and Billy Guinigundo were married in July 2011. I joined the Miami University staff in the Office of International Education in January 2012 as the International Exchange



*Billy and Karla, back in Oxford*

Coordinator and Advisor, after 10 years with the Center for International Studies at Ohio University. I can be reached at the e-mail address below.

**Karla Schneider Guinigundo '99**  
guinigkm@miamioh.edu



**Vann Geondeff '01**  
vanngeondeff@gmail.com



**Mike Ernst:** "No weddings or babies yet. I did recently leave San Francisco ... This past fall, I taught urban planning courses on the International Honors Program's "Cities in the 21st Century" in Detroit, Sao Paulo, Cape Town and Hanoi. I recently moved to New York and just started a job teaching at the Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy at Rutgers University. Classes start next week."

**Nicole Ziomek Ortiz:** "Lots happening/happened in the past year. I left my marriage of 10 years last year which has been a process of many different emotions, but overall I feel liberated and free to begin a new chapter in life. On a positive note I am expanding my current private practice into an Integrative Clinic. This is truly my dream — to create a team of docs, practitioners, and teachers who share a holistic vision in what health is truly about. It will be a 5,000-sq.-foot center for healing on many different levels from yoga pilates to naturopathic medicine to life coaching, organic esthetics and more. We are currently recruiting nationally for even more to join us (acupuncturist and holistic M.D. or D.O.). I, of course, will continue seeing patients but really love the larger platform — public speaking and radio/tv

work. This is where I am pursuing some other options.

"I also started a professional mentor program in our community through a women's leadership group. I match high school girls with professional women in the career field of their dream to get a sense of what the on-the-job reality is. We have given 150,000 in scholarships thus far and it is truly quite rewarding. I was thinking back to my senior thesis project and realized that the title was Integrative Medicine and studying how it works or could work in the U.S. I remember at my presentation many of the profs were skeptical and didn't seem to be too pleased at the idea of this occurring. So happy to be making this happen now.

Anyways, enough about me. I don't usually spend paragraphs talking about myself ... feels so selfish. My updated contact info: dr.ortiz@livewellclinic.org; c 971-404-9735; website: www.livewellclinic.org; La Quinta, CA"

**Melissa Raftery** has been living with her partner, Billy, in the great state of Maine since 2004. You can often find her highly



*Melissa Raftery, highly caffeinated*

caffeinated and keeping on top of roasting organic coffee since she began her new endeavor as co-owner of 44 North Coffee based in Deer Isle, ME. Side note: Recently a few Green Machine gals reunited in Milwaukee at the wedding of fellow Westerner, **Julie Housiaux**.

**Mike Loeffelman:** "I have begun work on the American Studies Ph.D. at Purdue. It is fun to be back in the classroom especially with interdisciplinary thinkers. Purdue is an amazing place to work and learn. If you are ever in the middle of Indiana, please feel free to e-mail me for hang-out, mloeffelman@gmail.com. **Andy, Townie, Tim, Matt Lincoln**, and I hung out at the end of August in Cincinnati. We ate some Skyline and watched the Reds beat the Cardinals. After, we roamed the streets of Cincinnati remembering old times and catching up with each other."



*Maggie Wichman, highly expectant*

**Maggie Wichman:** "I guess I have a lot of new news. I just began living in Brazil two months ago with my new-ish husband and we are currently in the last moments of expecting our first kid. I got my Master's in Speech Language Pathology in 2010, and am starting a new job doing therapy over the Internet. Well, that's it in a nutshell. Here's a picture of me at 36 weeks at the Copacabana."

**Michael Forrester:** "Well, my life has changed since I last provided an update. I may be winning (?) the Western baby challenge by having twin baby girls (Phoebe and Clara) last September. Adding that to their 3-year-old brother (Sam) makes for a very busy yet wonderful life.

"I still manage to get out every now and then having caught a Reds game with **Matt Lincoln '04, Andy Dolan**, and **Tim Perkins** in August. I made it down to Orlando for the Solar Power International Show where I was able to see **Adam Naylor '04**. Good times were had by all.

"Maddie, as always is great and the love of my life. We just celebrated our 5-year wedding anniversary with two nights at Kelley's Island with no kids. Hope to see many of you at the 10-year reunion coming up here shortly. Mac and Joe's called, they miss us. Till next time."

I am in the process of moving back to the state of Ohio for a new job at Bowling Green State University, where I will continue to work with student events and organizations. I just wrapped up my second week here with a parade and a concert. I can already say that this is going to be a fun experience and I can't wait to see what week 3 brings.

**Joy Usner '03**  
joyusner@hotmail.com

For the class of 2005 (or at least most of us), the end of our 20s is upon us. But, let's be real, the decade that began while learning more than we ever needed to know about rivers has treated us well. Perhaps more appropriately, we have done well with the time we have been given. Adventures (just try to keep up with what **Sophia Turczynewycz Cifuentes** does at the Cincinnati Zoo!) and accomplishments (have you seen that **Austin Kleon's** *Steal Like an Artist* made the *New York Times* Bestseller list?) abound as we have all come into our own.

Alas, communication is not our best skill. So, if you really want to know what folks are up to, friend them on Facebook. Here is what we know ...

**Erica Govich** is excited to announce that she just got her master's degree in anthropology from Eastern New Mexico University. She is now a proud cultural anthropologist, focusing in ethnographic research. Her master's thesis, entitled "Making Something Out of Nothing: An Ethnography of Flintknappers in Portales, NM," was a delightful journey into the subculture of stone tool-making, and she gives much thanks to the WCP for thoroughly preparing her for such a vast undertaking! Erica is currently working as an adjunct anthropology instructor at a Clovis Community College in New Mexico, and will be applying to Ph.D. programs over the next few months. She is a senior member of the Didi bellydancing troupe, and a part-time Pilates instructor. She misses all of her Western friends, and promises to buy them a breakfast burrito, with extra green chile, if they come to visit her in New Mexico.

It has also been the time for major life transitions. Marriages and babies and more degrees and moving ... oh my! **Bethany Weber** is back in Cincinnati and will marry her beloved, Liz Martin, in October 2013. And, no surprise, but Western grads seem to make particularly adorable children. Seriously, when you are bored, jump on Facebook to see how fabulous the next generation is turning out to be.

We very recently returned to Cincinnati after six years in the Bay Area. Our daughter, Ellie, will turn 2 in November. I just started a job at Xavier University's Center for Faith and Justice, working in ecumenical and multi-faith ministry.

Just before moving back to Cincinnati, wrapping up my last job, I came across an odd coincidence. I was working at a church in Oakland, in the neighborhood where Bill

Gracie grew up. The church was preparing to close, and as the pastor, I spent hours upon hours sorting through pictures and documents. The last name Gracie kept appearing. I thought Bill was Episcopalian, but it turned out that his family was significant in the church's life for decades. I even found a picture of him, as a 6-year-old, at the groundbreaking of the sanctuary.

Closing the church was painful at times, but trading e-mails with Bill, discovering the ways our lives intersected, thousands of miles from Miami and decades apart — that adventure eased some of the pain and made it easier to look forward with hope. Many of us were shaped at Western, and Western continues to shape us. I hope that in those experiences, you all find the hope that I found this year.

With love and fond memories ...

**Abby King-Kaiser '05**  
agkkaiser@gmail.com

**Adam Brule:** "I moved to Florida and I'm working as psych resident."

**Allison Plavecki:** "I am celebrating five years in Seattle and working as a project manager at a commercial furniture dealership. I've been traveling a lot on the West Coast; my goal is to visit all of the National Parks. This year's travel highlight has been a no-door helicopter ride over Kauai."

**Carl Marsh:** "Now working for a Columbus, OH, law firm, representing debtors in litigation and bankruptcy. No other items of note."

**Christopher Kwarciany:** After teaching English in Korea, and vacationing in Taiwan, Mongolia and taking an AMTRAK expedition through America (LA to Seattle to Cleveland all by train), Chris leads a temporarily less interesting life in northeast Ohio.

**Jessica Ruff:** "I'm finally graduating from Case Western! And will officially be Dr. Ruff. I had hoped to avoid the name by getting my m.r.s. degree while at Case, but I remain a lady in waiting. Speaking of waiting, it seems to be the name of the game these days. I won't know where I match to until



*In a bit of Western serendipity, Jeff Kirschner '83, Bethany Weber '05 and Diane Wright '86 all happen to work at Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health Services. — just named a Top Workplace in Cincinnati for the third year in a row. "Probably due to the higher-than-average incidence of Western folks," says Diane.*

March, but I've applied across the country and might be hitting a few of you up for a place to stay in the coming months. One of my highlights has been visiting my best friend in Nashville, where I also get to hang out with none other than **Jesse Feister!** We drink, eat food, and reminisce about the good old college days. Wish I had more exciting news to report ... if anyone is ever in Cleveland I've got a spare bedroom!"

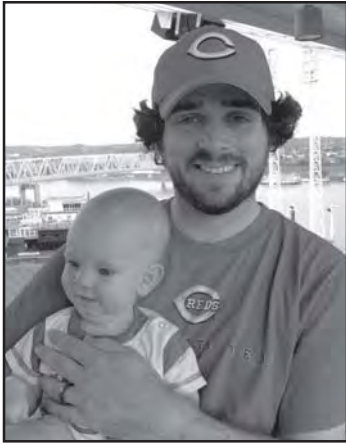
**Michelle Brasseur:** For the past two years, Michelle has been working full-time while pursuing a Master of Library and Information Science degree from Kent State University. She can see the light at the end of the tunnel now and chants "one more year" to herself on an almost daily basis. While it's been nice to be back in her hometown of Newark, OH, Michelle is looking forward to moving to a new city and new position in an information-related field. Being in the real world has shown her just how special her college experience was and that people with passion, individuality and heart like those she met at Western are few and far between. Michelle sends her love and hope for the best to all of the Class of 2007!

**Nick Delphia:** "I am at the start of my fifth year as a professional teacher, and am in my third year at my current school. I'm loving teaching middle school science and environmental science, and can't think of a better job than the one I have now. In the summer of 2011, I married my lovely wife, Rebecca (interesting side-note: Rebecca's father went to Western in its final days before becoming part of Miami, he and I bonded over both living in Peabody, and the Duck Pond). On Valentine's Day of 2011, we found out that we were going to have a baby (she's due the end of October). In other news, we also bought a home and I've been very busy with lots of fun house projects (fence building, gardening, making things for future baby Delphia in the wood shop, etc.)."



"We were also fortunate enough to have a rather impromptu, and far-too-quick visit from **Thad Kerosky** on his way to DC. He showed up for 'Lunch' around 4 p.m.! (Apparently western time + peace corps time = crazy time)."

**Craig West:** "In 2011, I left teaching high school English and enrolled at the University of New Hampshire to get a Ph.D. in Literacy Education. In February of 2012, Sarah and I had a baby boy: Jonny West. He is great. Shortly after he was born, Sarah took a job at the University of Cincinnati so that we could be closer to family, and we moved in August. I have transferred to the



*Craig moved to Cincinnati and took his son, Jonny, out to the ballgame!*

Education Department at the University of Cincinnati, where I will be working on a Ph.D. in Educational Studies in Literacy Education while teaching English education courses and working on a research project at Hughes High School that studies the ways in which teachers' racial identities impact their ability to teach (specifically teach reading). My own work still focuses on Critical Media Literacy and its place in the public high school classroom. I still make music and have been looking for a new band since moving back to the area."

**Rachel Stern Goldsmith:** "I've been living in Chicago for the past year and working on another master's degree (this one is in Marriage and Family Therapy) at Northwestern University. I've been doing academic and clinical work; as a therapist, I work with individual adults, teens, and children as well as couples and families. My areas of interest are working with people that have survived trauma and deal with issues related to PTSD. I am also really enjoying my work with adolescents, their families, and the transition to adulthood. It's been a great year — a busy one for sure — but great.

"Jacob and I just celebrated our third wedding anniversary yesterday (what the what?!?!?) and are happily raising our dog,

Penny Lane, who is also 3. We moved into an awesome vintage apartment a few months ago and are eager to have guests in our spare room. We also took a fun and nostalgic trip back to Oxford last weekend for Jacob's graduation (he received his Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology), so I was thinking about you all, missing you, and hoping you're doing well. Stay in touch!"

**Willi Lempert:** "I'm living in Boulder and working on my Ph.D. in cultural anthropology at the University of Colorado on Aboriginal Media in Northwestern Australia. It's great being out here near my dad and the mountains. If any of you Westerners are ever passing through the Denver area drop me a line on Facebook so we can meet up.

**Zach Moning:** "Mandi and I moved back to Ohio about two years ago. She's a librarian at IU East and I'm working at a small software company. We recently celebrated our third anniversary, and just a couple weeks ago we bought a house in Fairfield. If anyone wants to visit, we have two spare bedrooms. One of them even has a bed!"

**Zoe Streicker-Howard:** "In the last year, I moved from San Francisco to Boulder, had a daughter named Freya who is now 6 months old, and started working again. Of course, having a baby is by far the biggest news of the year, and I have been working really hard not to flood the Internet with pictures of her making every face imaginable and doing anything, including sleeping. I love Boulder and am thrilled to be living in a small city with lots of open space, mountains and community. I have two jobs right now, supporting a county environmental health program and as the assistant for the contracts team at a large manufacturing company."

**Elizabeth Nellums:** "Earned an M.S. from the University of Michigan and worked in wetlands/farmland conservation for a few years — then picked up and moved to DC to work for The Nature Conservancy, where I am now. Will always remember fondly my years at Western College!"

**Cat Fincun:** "Finally contributing to this. Five years is important enough to write a review in the life of Cat. In 2009, I packed up and moved to Adelaide, Australia, where I studied for my M.B.A. from University of South Australia. It was fabulous and I almost stayed! But alas I could not stay away from my friends and family in the States, so I moved back in August of 2011 to Cleveland — where I provided marketing services for an architecture firm. All the horror of going back to Cleveland has been rewarded by my recent move to Denver, CO, on my birthday this past July! I'm currently the Programming Director on the BOD for American Institute of Graphic Arts and feverishly looking for a paid job in branding/strategy/mar-

keting/events to sustain my livelihood in this amazing city.

"Travel in the past few years has taken me not only to Australia, but Taiwan — where I met up with **Chris DeLuca** and some other Miamians — and Costa Rica. Next year I'm heading to Finland for a wedding and hope to add a few more countries to my list. Looking forward to actually putting down some roots."

In January 2012, I moved from Michigan to Brooklyn and began a fellowship with CUNY J-School. Concurrent to my spring fellowship, I partook in a freelance work life, writing articles, cobbling together a learning module on working with citizen contributors and researching emerging publishers.

Following a marvelous summer that I enjoyed with best friend **Matt Anderson '08** (also randomly moved to NYC!), I packed my bags for MIT, where I am now pursuing an M.S. in Comparative Media Studies, also fulfilling a four-year wish to work with the MIT Center for Civic Media.

**Denise Cheng '07**  
denise.f.cheng@gmail.com



*Your Class Rep last year, in her life as a citizen journalist for The Rapidian, in Grand Rapids, MI*



The class of 2009 has been keeping themselves very busy in the past year. Many thanks to the few of those who took some time out to provide an update.

After graduation, **Cameron Berner** moved to New York City to act. He has spent the past year, working at the Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey. Starting as an Acting Apprentice, he was cast in three main stage shows (*Timon of Athens*, *Othello*, and *A Christmas Carol*) and then cast in the theater's educational touring company, Shakespeare LIVE (*A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Macbeth*). All in all, he has been a happily employed classical actor for over a year straight! Currently, he is back in NYC and working as a soldier in Darren Arronoffsky's NOAH, starring Russell Crowe, and selling wine in the Upper West Side.

**Sara Wenger** returned from Ukraine last Thanksgiving, passing on all diplomatic responsibilities of representing the United States and the Interdisciplinary Studies Program to **Cayla Adams '10**. After spending time in D.C., she resettled in New Jersey to complete a master's in city and regional planning. Much to her surprise at orientation this September, she discovered that **Mike Ernst '03** is currently an instructor at the Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy. They have yet to meet up for some hymn singing or telling inside jokes about circles being unbroken.

**Christopher Feran** is saving the world through coffee as Coffee & Marketing Director for Phoenix Coffee Company in Cleveland, OH, and insists that all of the coffee he drinks will ensure he lives longer than all of you and will be awake to see it.

**Jan Shanklin** graduated from Georgetown Law this past May and started working for a law firm in Washington DC called Hogan Lovells this October.

**Garret Koehler** is working in engineering at the world's first online coupon company. They are changing the world by offering people 50% off on things like pedicures and hot air balloon rides. In other words, he tackles global poverty from a unique angle. He is also trying to write poetry more and support local teenage rappers in Chicago, while frequently g-chatting with **Christopher Feran**. In keeping with Western's appreciation of being paradoxical, he has never been more employed, and appeared so unemployable.



*The newlywed Sullivans*

As for me, the past year has been full of change including a newly minted master's degree in public health, a new job as a consultant with Deloitte working primarily for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and a new husband. We are settling in nicely in Atlanta and looking forward to the cool fall weather. Till next time, with much Western love ...

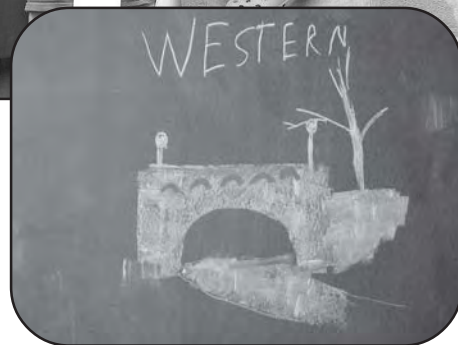
**Alison (formerly Kernohan) Sullivan '09**  
akernohan@gmail.com

## WCPALums at 2012 All-Western Alumnae Weekend

The group was small, but loyal. If the Conaway family has missed a Western Reunion, we don't remember it! They come back year after year after year. The kids have literally grown up before our eyes. Front row: **Alicia Broderick '90**, Nicholas, **Mike '90** and Lauren **Conaway**.

And then there's **Audree Riddle '10** (back row), who graduated and never left. Holding down the challenging job of Student Activities Coordinator for the Western Program (see her report on page 43), she lives in the Peabody Hall suite.

It is fully expected that the young Conaways will be matriculating in a few years. They are already experienced campus guides, and Nicholas sketched a chalk drawing during some rare down time that could easily become a permanent logo.



## WP Student, Guest Speaker at Indy WC Alum Club



At the October meeting of the WCAA Indianapolis club, **Emily Volkmann '13** (seated, far right) spoke to the group about her "Semester at Sea." Her rapt audience included (kneeling, front row) **Joan Willitts Glatte '53**, **Linda Watts '73**, **Luci Bilsland Galloway '59**; (seated with Emily, left to right) **Barbara Wolf '55**, **Sue Off Schrope '52**, **Nancy Haas Osborn '56**, **Dru Zearley Clingman '57**, **Barbara Johnson Mecklenborg '53**; and (standing, rear left) **Judy Weir Vandergriff '58**, **Lynn Mueller Sweeney '73** and (rear, right) WCAA Director **Mackenzie Becker Rice**, Accounting Associate **Kaye Wolke** and **Sally Raub Alkire '58**.

## World War II Honor Flights



Another Western alumna went to Washington in May to visit the World War II Memorial there — compliments of the privately funded Honor Flight program.

**Bea Low Notley '42** and her daughter Marianne Notley, who live in Shawnee Mission, KS, were flown with a group from the Kansas-Missouri area on May 1. **Mariana Reed '34** reported her experience to us in the Spring 2011 *Bulletin* ["What's on Your Mind," p. 4]. Honor Flight Network is a non-profit organization created to honor America's veterans by transporting them to Washington, DC, "to visit and reflect at their memorials," with senior veterans — primarily WWII survivors — given priority.



Bea Low, circa 1944

Bea served in the armed forces from June 1943 to November 1945, first in the WAAC (Women's Auxiliary Army Corps), then in the WAC (Women's Army Corps) as a technical sergeant. Her overseas assignments were all in the Pacific Theater of Operations: Brisbane, Australia; Hollandia, New Guinea; and finally, the Philippines.



Bea Low Notley '42, standing at attention in front of her state column (she was from Detroit when she enlisted) at the World War II Memorial, May 2012

The honorees are flown to Dulles Airport, greeted by groups of volunteers, presented with commemorative t-shirts, and given a bus tour of the city before the high point of the trip — the visit to the memorial site. Meals are all provided, of course, and the day ends at Arlington National Cemetery where they watch the twilight changing-of-the guard ceremony.

Though not an actual Western College alumna, Mary Alice Peabody Henderson sounds like one. She could have fit right into the Class of '43. [See "Helen Peabody's Friends & Family," p. 6.] As a WW II veteran and lifelong nurse, she has dedicated her life to helping others and at 91 is still taking classes to further her education. Mary Alice and daughter Jan Henderson were on an Honor Flight from Ohio two weeks after the Notleys!



Mary Alice Peabody, 1945  
R.N., 2nd Lieutenant  
U.S. Army Air Force

### Upcoming Events

- African Children's Choir**, February 7, 2013, 7:30 p.m.  
Hall Auditorium
- Western Charter Day Recognition**, April 11, 2013,  
Western Campus
- The 5 Browns**, April 11, 2013, 7:30 p.m., Millett Hall
- WCAA Board of Trustees Spring Meeting**, April 12 –  
13, 2013, Western Campus
- Western Program Senior Projects**, late-April, 2013,  
Peabody Hall
- Western Alumnae/i Weekend**, June 21-23, 2013

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## Miami Makeover at Western

Construction is everywhere as the master plan to upgrade the amenities, safety and capacity of Miami's housing and dining facilities continues. The "Miami Makeover" includes four new residence halls and two new food service facilities, and renovation of every residence hall, with the exception of Heritage Commons apartments, within the next 20 years.

This year there are four new residence halls with open-suite plans holding about 1,100 beds and two new dining halls. Three will be on Western campus and one will join the MET (Morris, Emerson and Tappan) quad. Another joint housing and dining hall, Maplestreet Station, is well under way between the MET quad and the Performing Arts Center.

Most renovations will replace windows, install fire suppression, update building systems (heating, cooling, electrical, plumbing and lighting) update finishes and increase accessibility. For more information, visit: <http://www.miami.muohio.edu/news/article/view/17302.html>

### Western Campus residence halls

This project will create three new residence halls opening in 2014 on the north end of the Western campus. These residence halls are being designed with a focus on the second-year student experience. A new geothermal energy plant with a first phase of 315 wells



Overlooking the recent excavation from the back porch of Patterson Place

will supply geothermal heating/cooling. Next to the wells will be a 1.77-acre pond for storm water control and irrigation. The residence halls will be equipped with about 720 beds. A dining center with diverse healthy eating options and green-roof technology will complement the natural setting with outdoor seating. Work is under way for new infrastructure and site utilities for all new Western campus buildings.

## Invitation from Project Dragonfly\*

Applications are being accepted now for 2013 summer/fall graduate field courses and the Global Field Program master's degree offering international studies in 12 countries throughout Africa, Asia, Australia and the Americas.

Miami University offers these graduate-credit courses at a fraction of actual costs to engage a diverse group of educators and other professionals in global leadership, inquiry and environmental stewardship. The \$1,340 course cost includes all basic in-country expenses and tuition for seven graduate credit hours. Accepted students are responsible for airfare.

Course sites for 2013 include the Amazon, Australia, Baja, Belize, Borneo, Costa Rica, Guyana, Kenya, Mongolia, Namibia, Thailand, and new this year, Hawaii. Applications for 2013 courses are due Jan. 28, 2013.

Earth Expeditions and the GFP, which can be completed part-time from anywhere in the United States or abroad, are open to educators and other professionals from all disciplines and settings.

For information and to apply, visit the Earth Expeditions website at: <http://earthexpeditions.org/> Global Field Program: <http://gfp.projectdragonfly.org/>

*\*Project Dragonfly, headquartered in lower Peabody, began in 1994 with Dragonfly magazine, the first national magazine to feature children's investigations. Today dozens of partnership programs promote inquiry-driven reform and reach millions of people worldwide.*

## Memorializing Freedom Summer

January 2013 is the projected date for the release of *Finding Freedom: Memorializing the Voices of Freedom Summer*, edited by WCMA Archivist **Jacky Johnson**.

The first monograph to provide detailed information about the Freedom Summer Monument on the Western campus, it contains essays by participants in the 1964 training sessions at Western, Oxford residents who supported the Friends of the Mississippi Project, and many others. Remarks by Dean Phyllis Hoyt from the 2009 Freedom Summer Conference are included, as is a foreword by WCAA Director Mackenzie Becker Rice. Following publication of the book, a book signing with Jacky will be scheduled, to be held in Leonard Theatre.

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Additionally, Jacky is serving as a mentor with FYRE (First Year Research Experience) at Miami, supervising and evaluating students in their role as research assistants. Their current project is Identifying Western College Students Who Traveled to Mississippi in 1964.

## Charter Day Commemoration

Always on the lookout for important dates in Western's history, Archivist Jacky Johnson is planning Charter Day celebrations next year to commemorate the founding of Western College 160 years ago. The actual charter was signed July 14, 1853.

On Thursday, April 11, 2013, the celebration will begin in the morning with Miami history students reading aloud from Western College student journals. A Tree Day ceremony in the afternoon will include planting three flowering trees (possibly cherry) and burying a time capsule behind Clawson Hall. The trees are intended to symbolize Western College, the Western College Program, and the current Western Program. That event will be followed by a Western community dinner in lower level Alexander. Local alumnae/i and all Western campus students will be invited to participate.

In the fall, on September 13, Elizabeth Johnson, Smith Library of Regional History researcher, will present a lecture on Peabody Hall at the Lane Public Library in Oxford.



### Calling All Sleuths!

Rack your brains, ransack your closets, rifle your albums and scrapbooks! You may be hoarding any of the following items on the WCAA's wish list (it has been rumored there may be a sizable reward):

- photographs of the Edgar S. Kelley Auditorium plaque in Presser Hall
- photograph showing location of the Lodge landscaping dedication plaques
- alumnae club records and minutes — especially *old* minutes (WWII era)

We are constantly working to fill in pieces of our history and tell a complete and enduring story of Western College. If you can help us, please contact the WCAA office: 513-529-4400 or [WCAA@MiamiOH.edu](mailto:WCAA@MiamiOH.edu).

**Send your news for the Spring '13 Bulletin NOW!**  
E-mail, or clip and mail the form below to your Class Rep or the WCAA by January 14!

**Dear Class Rep:** \_\_\_\_\_

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We are most grateful to these, our alumnae/i and friends whose generosity enabled us to reach the goal of the Western College Endowed Professorship Campaign. It would not have been possible to conclude the fundraising efforts two years ahead of schedule without the diligent work of the members of the Board of Trustees, staff and volunteers. A big Thank You to all!

— Doris Ning Wong '62, chair

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*Honoring Julia Rothermel FF \**  
 Marilyn Trester Woodrich '47  
 Jocelyn Woodson-Reed '74  
*Honoring Bertha Thompson FF \**  
 Susan Ray Woodworth '66  
 Beverly Brown Workman '60  
 Grete Stern Wrede '51  
*Honoring WCAA Staff*  
 Betty Jean Wright '52  
 Jennifer C. Wu and Christopher J.  
 Wong  
 Ann Ferguson Zeigler '59  
*Honoring Julia Rothermel FF \**  
*Honoring Lucy Watt FF \**  
*Honoring Donavon Auble FF*  
 Ellen Siddall Zimmerman '48  
*Honoring Helena Fiesselmann  
 Zabriskie '51 \**

Western College Alumnae Association, Inc.

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## All-Western Alumnae/i Weekend

Calling all authors ...

ALL Westerners are invited to return to the Western Campus to celebrate the 39th Anniversary of the WCAA. Western alumnae/i authors will be honored guests for the luncheon and have the opportunity to share their works with fellow Westerners.



June 21 -23, 2013

return to Western to ...

Renew friendships with classmates  
Enjoy a play at Ernst Nature Theatre  
Acknowledge Western's Charter Day  
Discover talented Western authors

Rejuvenate amid Western's beauty  
Experience today's classroom  
Appreciate photos of Western's past  
Dine among friends, old and new ...

*Forever Western!*