



Hope Children's Home, Meru, Kenya

From the WCAA Director & WCAA President

Happy New Year Westerners!

We hope you are still basking in the afterglow of a joyous holiday season. As we, the staff and Board of Trustees of the Western College Alumnae Association, look toward a new year, we welcome all the “new” that will come with it. This kind of “new” is the best kind, as it celebrates and perpetuates the “old”....the history and spirit of Western College!

It is exciting to watch the development of the new dining hall, dorms, and geothermal plant behind Patterson Place on the north end of the Western College campus. This will bring much more student traffic to Western’s campus, thus bringing with it the excitement and enthusiasm that only college students can convey. Perhaps even more exciting for us, however, is that even with all the “new” on campus, Miami has been incredibly mindful of maintaining the integrity and feel of the original Western Campus. Come see for yourselves! We will be happy to give you a tour!

Also “new” and as promised, the architect will soon reveal a rendering of the Legacy Project that your Board of Trustees has been hard at work developing. You will receive a special Western College Legacy Project mailing early-2014 and there will be a groundbreaking ceremony during Alumnae Weekend, June 20-22. We believe that this project — an outdoor meeting circle with the Western College seal at its center and texts inscribed throughout the space to tell the story of Western — will indeed carry forward the spirit of Western at a time when we are no longer here to do it ourselves. We could not be more excited, and we hope you will join us in helping to bring about this incredibly important initiative.

Of course, this “new” project is just one of many ways we are telling the Western story. We carry forward the spirit in so many other ways. The WCAA continues to support countless scholarships that are changing lives. The Board had the opportunity to meet some of these outstanding scholarship recipients at their fall meeting, and were extremely impressed both by the caliber of students and by the tremendous amount of gratitude these students feel toward Western College alumnae. Western alumnae also continue to support campus preservation projects, the Memorial Archives and the Western College Endowed Professorship. Thank you for all you are doing to make sure the Western College name/story/spirit continues in perpetuity.

In other news . . . Alumnae Weekend was a huge success. Please plan to come back next year. You won’t regret it! Please also plan to join us for one of the 2014 alumnae events near you! We will have club gatherings in La Jolla, CA, Washington, DC, Dayton, OH, Cincinnati, OH, Indianapolis, IN, and we encourage you to contact the WCAA office to plan an event in your area. We are happy to come to you!

Finally, we just want to say thanks. Thanks to our Board of Trustees and to the WCAA staff who put in countless hours, and will continue to do so, to ensure Western is never forgotten. But as the Board and the staff will tell you . . . there is one thing makes our jobs easy, it’s all of you! You are the story worth telling.

In the Spirit of Western,



*Mackenzie Becker Rice
Director, WCAA*



*Jocelyn Woodson-Reed '74
President, WCAA*

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mackenzie".

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jocelyn Woodson-Reed".

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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.

On the cover: Yvette Small Hohler '64 and her husband, Larry Hohler (center rear), are flanked by Hope Home founder Joseph Kirima and his wife, Veronica Kirima. During a visit to Nairobi in 2006, they exchanged ideas with another Western alumna, Kenyan Pamela Odede Mboya '61 (seated in front of them).

Photo credit: Thanks to MU senior art major Michael Derian for the beautiful Alumnae Weekend photography and page design. Thanks also to Debbie Baker for back cover design.



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What's on Your Mind

Judy Scovel Robinson, of the 50-year anniversary class of 1963, reflects on the All-Western Alumnae Weekend this year (June 21-23) and how much she learned just by being there. Here is her summary recap of her chapel address:

More to learn!

Looking back on the fabulous Alumnae Weekend, and skimming through the address I gave at Kummer that Sunday, the memory is one of being cocooned in a warm, loving, embracing, embraceable family of friends, whose experiences differed but who all grew from, built on, Western's legacy.

It was Western that instilled into the warp of my very being my love of learning — a love so strong that I became a teacher much to my own disgust (a *teacher*? How boring is *that*!) but I've lived a lifetime of teaching experiences by now — still am — to disprove its boring-ness and to prove Dr. Rothermel's remark in a biology class one day: "Teachers are 10 percent brain and 90 percent ham." But to hold the learning for someone, to believe in them until they can believe in themselves, what greater privilege could anyone have!

It is the Western Way to search for new learning. This made me leave a satisfyingly comfortable country teaching post in upstate New York, for a job in Egypt. Why? It wasn't until much later that I learned about trees: a cross section of a tree shows you that it is at the edge, right under the bark, at its most risky and vulnerable, that growth takes place. The center of the tree is solid and hardly moves at all. The ideal environment for life, energy, and creativity to exist is the point on a continuum where chaos and order meet. In New York State, I had moved, in two years of teaching, to a controlled predictable future and the energy had started to drain from me. I was holding the tree together while *others* were doing the growing.

Beside my own childhood, it was Western's international legacy that made it natural to go anywhere in the world. Living in Egypt, then Iran, then South India, then Iran again, and marrying an Englishman — all these

experiences pushed me (sometimes uncomfortably) on the brink of fear, debilitating incompetence, loss of household goods, helplessness, success, being a nonentity. Each of us has lived through these varying emotions. Our stories are different but our legacy from Western has in some way or other prepared us for them.

But it was only when I returned this summer and was on the campus again that I realized how much more learning Western still has for me. The loss of a whole beloved college, its rich history, its past insistence on education for women of whatever color, especially during times of exclusion — how tragic! Certainly it warrants a time for self-pity! But self-pity is a luxury we as women cannot afford. I have learned *so* much from these brilliant women who dealt with the transition, about holding one's head high, keeping dignity, insisting on sharing Western's wealthy heritage generously, freely, openly to Miami University for the benefit of future learners. This has had a profound effect on me. My college goes on teaching me to hold my own head high, find opportunities for growth and healing in the ashes of despair, and to give freely from the wealth of experience freely given to me.

I hope that everyone can visit the campus now. May Western's legacy both past and present continue to bless us with yearning, adventure, and a constantly refreshed outlook on life.

— Judy Scovel Robinson '63



Judy Scovel Robinson '63

To Kenya, With Love

Yvette “Evie” Small Hohler ’64 *majored in history* at Western, earned an M.A. in French at Middlebury College’s Ecole Francaise, and continued graduate studies at the Sorbonne and several other universities in the U.S. throughout her long teaching career at Smithtown High School in New York. She served two terms on the WCAA board of trustees (2002-2008) and has been Bulletin class rep since 1978. She and husband Larry, an Ohio State grad, have been constant attendees at reunions over the years, and Larry has taken many of the pictures that have appeared in our reviews. Ever since the Hohlers began sharing the story of their Hope Children’s Home, fellow alums have been clamoring for more — in the form of a Bulletin feature. Finally, here it is!

As Evie and Larry tell the story, the 1975-76 school year turned out to be magical for them. Larry, a social studies teacher who had taught Afro-Asian studies for seven years, was granted a sabbatical leave from the Smithtown Central School District (NY) to travel to East Africa and eventually write a paper comparing and contrasting social, economic, and political life in Kenya and Tanzania. Once he was settled, Evie, a teacher of French at Smithtown High School, would take a leave of absence to join him. He left their Long Island home in the fall of 1975 to embark on his research in both countries, to travel, and to learn as much as he could. He also hoped to find a school in the Kenyan highlands, where they could teach for a while after Evie arrived. By the beginning of 1976, *they were teaching English and history* alongside each other at the Gikumene Harambee Secondary School in Meru, five hours to the north of Nairobi. Here they met many memorable people, among whom was Form 2 (sophomore) student Joseph Kirima Rwito.

Larry continues ...



Spring 1976: Evie Hohler and Joe Kirima at a coffee cooperative in Meru, Kenya

Joe, like most of his peers, came from a family of subsistence farmers. He had 13 siblings, a father, and two mothers. He was 18. His secondary schooling began late because his family had difficulty paying his school fees.

Joe bonded with us. He wasn’t the smartest of our students, but he was the most focused and persistent in forming and maintaining a relationship with us. When we returned to the U.S. that summer, he wrote often and stayed in touch through the years. After graduating from secondary school, Joe took a job at the local cof-

“Small Western World” or “When Larry Met Evie”

There was a sort of Western/Oxford link involved at the beginning of our relationship. Although we met initially in early September 1967, when a Smithtown High teaching colleague brought him along to a back-to-school party that I hosted at my parents’ home, we didn’t really begin a friendship until school began and we met and chatted in the faculty room during our common prep period. I learned early on that he was a native Ohioan and an OSU grad, but it was during our subsequent conversations that I also learned that he had traveled frequently to Oxford to visit his longtime girlfriend, who was a student at Miami and a resident of Oxford College Hall. We discovered that we both were keepers of scrapbooks that held all kinds of souvenirs from our precious undergraduate years, which helped us figure out that we had occasionally been in the same places at the same time in Oxford, i.e., ticket stubs showing we’d been in the Miami-Western theater or at a football game on the same dates. Larry had visited Western’s campus a few times, too, and appreciated its beauty.

— E. H.



On the stairway of the Hope Children's Home dormitory, Meru, Kenya

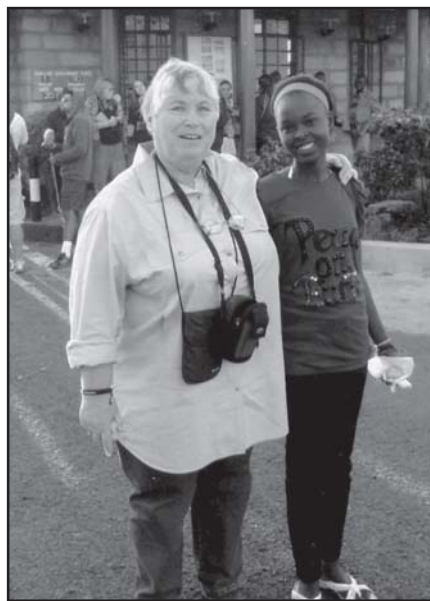
fee cooperative, a position with low pay and little chance for advancement. Several years later, Joe asked his American friends to help him become a teacher. We agreed to pay his tuition for the two-year course (totaling \$4,000) at Saint Mark's Teacher Training College in nearby Embu. Our investment in Joe turned out to be the best we ever made. Joe graduated from St. Mark's, became a primary school teacher, then a headmaster with a reputation for turning a failing school into a successful one, a teacher's union president, the educational outreach chairman for his church, and an advocate for homeless children.

When the AIDS pandemic hit East Africa in the later 1990s, scores of homeless children began to appear on the streets of Meru. Joe set up a feeding program at his school for 45 of them, but was distressed that the children returned to the streets every night with no hope for any kind of future. Meanwhile, after 33 years of teaching, Evie and I retired. Joe sold a truck that he had been given by members of his church, and in September 2000 he flew to the States to discuss with us the possibility of providing a sanctuary for some of the most at-risk street children of Meru. Joe's congregation on Tungi Hill, across the road from the Gikumene school, was outgrowing the small building that served as their church and had begun to build a bigger one. Joe discussed his idea of purchasing the old church building and converting it into an orphanage. We agreed to help.

It took a while, but in 2002 we succeeded in creating a 501c3 non-profit foundation, Hope Children's Fund, Ltd., and began fundraising. Members of our family, former colleagues, and old friends proved to be most

generous. Meanwhile, Joe worked at raising funds in his home community. Enough money was accumulated to acquire and renovate the old church. However, Joe's vision for what was needed changed a bit, requiring still more fundraising. The church would become a dining hall and recreation center with attached kitchen, while a new three-story dormitory was built beside it into the hillside, big enough to house 80-90 youngsters. The Hope Children's Home opened its doors to the first 18 street children in January 2005. As the years passed, their numbers grew. There are now 79 residents at the Home. The physical and emotional needs of these children are being met. They are well

fed, clothed, and sheltered at the Home. They receive medical care whenever needed. They all attend local schools, where they cherish the opportunity to learn. Their motto is "Education is the key." Three of the children attend local universities, where one girl is study-



Evie with Elosy Kinya, at 15 an accomplished singer about to enroll in secondary school. She is one of Hope Home's first 18 orphans, taken off the streets where she was found scavenging at the town market after her parents died of AIDS.

ing medical technology, another is studying to become a teacher, and the third is taking courses in eco-tourism. Thirty-three of the children now attend secondary schools. All of the children appear to be thriving.

Evie and I are key members of the Hope Children's Fund Board of Directors. We make annual visits to Meru

to monitor the progress of the operation. We also mentor Elosy Kinya, a 15-year-old who was one of the original 18 occupants of the Home.

During a visit to Kenya in 2006, Evie and I, Joe and his wife, Veronica, had the pleasure of spending an afternoon in Nairobi with Pam (Odede) Mboya, a '61 graduate of Western and the revered widow of one of Kenya's most important early leaders. We learned that Pam was involved with similar activities in western Kenya, where she grew up, and gladly exchanged ideas. We were especially pleased to learn that Pam was impressed with how much Joe had been able to accomplish in such a short time.

The responsibility for preparing 79 Kenyan youngsters for productive adulthood is a daunting task. The Hohlers, our former student, Joe Kirima, and the HCF Board continue to work hard to move the Home towards self-sufficiency. The Hope Children's Fund bought 12.5 acres of land on which maize and other crops are grown, both for Home consumption and for sale. A building near the Home was purchased in 2007, refurbished, and is ready to be used as a technical training center. The children and neighbors will be taught tailoring, cosmetology, and computer use there. Some will also learn welding, an important skill in a country where iron bars for doors and windows are at a premium.

Since 2007, Evie and I have been accompanied on our annual visits by up to 24 mission partners. These work/travel groups include students from Shoreham Wading River High School's Global Club, some of whom have repeated the trip three times, and all of whom inevitably become captivated by the Home's residents and the other Kenyans they meet and bond with along the way. The Home has also benefited from a firm relationship with the State University of NY at Stony Brook and Kenya Methodist University's Meru campus. An ever-growing number of supporters in the U.S. and in Kenya have helped maintain and grow Joe Kirima's humanitarian project. The payoff will be when the children of Hope become independent, productive citizens who then "pay it forward" and start to give back to the Home where they grew up.

— Larry Hohler

Catherine Nkatha

Eighteen-year-old Catherine Nkatha is the fifth of seven children born to Delfina Kanana. Catherine is not sure who her father is, as her mother had multiple relationships with a number of men. Delfina suffers from disabling alcoholism, and was unable to take care of her children, often leaving them in an abandoned hut for days at a time to be cared for by neighbors, who employed the older ones as household servants and caretakers of domestic animals. Catherine and her two sisters would go for days without food, and had to resort to scavenging in dustbins. Catherine suffered from fainting spells and her legs were infested with jiggers.



She was somehow enrolled in a local primary school, but would frequently faint during morning assembly. She was given porridge at school for her noon meal, but this was often the only food that she consumed in the course of a day. She appeared to be very sick, complained of stomach and headaches, always looked stressed, and was very absent-minded.

Her teacher brought her to Hope Children's Home when it opened in 2005, and over time Catherine's condition improved radically. Her headaches and stomach problems are things of the past. She has become a leader at the Home and at her school. She has earned recognition as a singer and athlete, and this summer attended a baseball clinic in Tanzania, where she learned the sport well enough to return to school and teach it.

Catherine hopes and dreams to help others like herself. She is one of the amazing 79 young people who are thriving at Hope Children's Home. She is contemplating a career as a teacher when she completes her education.

— L. H.

To follow the progress of the Hope Children's Home, access this website: www.hopechildrensfund.org and/or "friend" HCF on Facebook. To see Elosy and others perform, go to website Home Page-Photo Galleries-Videos.

Building New Memories, Recalling the Old ...

'29

WESTERN

Trustee emerita **Frances Hall King** died July 25 at the age of 104 in Henderson, North Carolina, where she had lived since 1969. She served as a most dedicated and eloquent Class Representative for more than 50 years.

'30s

WESTERN



Jane Noble Miller '38 celebrated her 75th at Alumnae Weekend '13! Attention, Class of '39: You can do the same in 2014!

Let us hear from you — we'll gladly share your news with classmates!

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'40

WESTERN

*We sincerely regret "a grievous error" in the Spring '13 Bulletin, called to our attention by Kaleen Abel. The beautiful 6- (now 7-) year-old child referred to is her **granddaughter**, Katie — **not** her **great-grandchild**!*

'41

WESTERN

May Egerton Fyfe called with the sad news of **Ruth Harry Hathaway's** death in May, in Brevard, North Carolina.

Texas [in August] is still miserably hot and sticky, but praise Allah the air-conditioners work well even if the bill is scary. My library volunteering continues and is much easier now that the little darlings are back in school. Symphony season opens next month, the Metropolitan Opera's TV broadcasts begin, and we have three new museums I have not visited yet.

Now that we have finally worked our way up to the front of the Class Notes, our amount of news has dwindled just as the days grow shorter and time passes so quickly. My best wishes to you all and hope you find each day interesting and filled with warm memories.

Suzy Allburt '41
5003 Elsby
Dallas, TX 75209

'42

WESTERN

News for spring '14 Bulletin due Feb. 2!
See Blue Card, page 47!

'43

WESTERN

Leah Chappell received a call from **Jane Moore Black's** oldest daughter that her mother had died January 9. Jane and Leah were roommates for two years and remained close friends, seeing each other often. Leah transferred to Indiana University to graduate, taught school for a while, and eventually entered the Army as a 1st lieutenant. After 10 years, she retired as a Lt. Col.

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'44

WESTERN

Alumnae Weekend '14: Celebrate 70 years!

News for spring '14 Bulletin due Feb. 2!
See Blue Card, page 47!

'45

WESTERN

Marilyn Inskeep Fischer, my best correspondent, who writes all her letters in cursive, reported in August. She is still in her apartment — only five minutes away from her daughter Joan. Her other daughters live only 45 minutes away. How lucky she is — especially now that she no longer drives. Inky reads with the help of Talking Books, does microwave cooking, and sleeps with the help of oxygen. **Marty Wedeman Hall '47**, has moved to only 15 minutes away from Inky. News of her grandchildren — Eric is a civil engineer and will start working on his Ph.D. this fall. Her granddaughter, Megan, will start working on her master's degree this fall. Inky wrote that she had heard from **Margie Gasche Ewing**.

Virginia Cook Marquett called me after talking to Inky. She keeps up all of her former responsibilities. I'll list her activities for the month of September: 12th — takes seniors to the movies; 18th — will host the county retired teacher luncheon; 26th — will host the seniors from eight nearby churches; 28th — will host a party for a group of seniors who are celebrating their 90th birthdays. She cooks for all of these groups! And just in case you think she sits around the rest of the year, she went to Colorado in July and traveled on several trains in the area on various excursions to see the sights.

Jane Harris Bugnand sent me a long e-mail. She will move soon to a retirement village but didn't tell me where. She works at her church in an organization that helps folks with rent and utilities. She says that keeps her reminded how lucky she is. Her dog is 14 years old, and she says they are growing old together. "Maybe 2015 will be our year to visit Western — we'll see," she says.

Luckily, a year ago I checked the Western College Alumnae Directory for 2009 to find **Beth Shirk Bevan's** daughter Annette's

address because I knew she went to Western. I don't hear from Beth anymore, but Annette updates me each year. Beth has been enjoying all the activities and outings available at her assisted-living residence, Mulberry Gardens, in the Akron area. This past year Beth worked with a group of elementary school students on a history/composition project. They interviewed her, and she told them about her recollections of her life and showed them pictures. The team then gave her a copy of the book they produced about her life. Beth now has five great-grandchildren. This latest one is the grandson of **Lynn Bevan Klein '75**. Beth's son, Alex, has been combining his music business with making bread. His bakery is Stone Dragon Bakery in Madison, Ohio. Annette and Lynn have been sorting things in Beth's condo so it can be sold.

The 2009 *Alumnae Directory* featured lots of pictures, and there was a great one of Margie, **Virginia Martin Daw**, and Inky, holding the replica of our flag. There was also a picture of Beth and another of **Janet Heinz Philips**.

I haven't heard from **Kit "Ethel" Jarvis Fischer** since last Christmas, but I felt I had to include her big "adventure." She was attending a benefit dinner followed by an auction. One item was a Jaguar convertible. She remembered that her husband, Harry, had said Jags were good cars. Before she knew it, she had bid on it and won! She enclosed a picture of herself driving her new Jaguar! How's that for an adventure!! [Editor's note: *Regrettably it was not clear enough to be reproduced here.*]

This past summer, Kit's children hosted a 90th birthday party for her. All of her children and grandchildren were there — some coming from Hong Kong and India. In addition, 150 friends attended. Luckily it didn't rain, so eating outside — with the best linen and sterling silver on the tables and cakes baked by grandchildren — was possible. Kit made her own dress for the occasion — and baked extra cakes in case they ran out! How's that for 90 years young? She is writing her memoirs at this time. She is irritated that she has to use a cane. Kit hopes that all of her "children" eventually move to Michigan so the family can be together.



Class Rep Ardis

And now for a little news of yours truly, **Ardis Dechman Coninx**. I am still in my townhouse at Westminster Place in Evanston, Illinois. In the last two years, two of my grandsons have married. I have one grandson in Arkansas (a mechanical engineer) and one granddaughter in Nashville (a phys-

ical therapist). The other four are still in Illinois. My great joy is our library, which I was lucky enough to start from scratch after a remodeling of our central building in 2003. We now have over 4,000 books. I've been so lucky to have this volunteer job in my lifelong field of interest. My other volunteer jobs continue, and that keeps me busy. I am still hoping to get to Western for our 70th reunion. Why don't you join me?

Ardis Dechman Coninx '45
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News for spring '14 Bulletin due Feb. 2!
See Blue Card, page 47!



"**Elaine Kramer Millman, 87**, passed away peacefully on March 19th, 2013 after a short illness. A resident of Rivervale, NJ, for over 55 years, she was a beloved elementary school teacher for over 20 years. Elaine graduated from Western College, Class of '47, and later went on to receive her master's degree in children's theater from the University of Denver. She was extremely active in community theater. All who met Elaine will forever remember her flamboyant personality and thirst for life's great adventures." Elaine was the "Energizer Bunny" of the class of '47. She was one of our most supportive classmates and she and Herman attended many Western Reunions over the years. She will be missed.

Martine Horne Justak and **Helen Negley Lawhead** also died last winter. They are fondly remembered although they were only at the college for our freshman year.

Mary-Garnett Tillinghast remembers Elaine. They both grew up in New Jersey and they shared a seat in the coach on the New York Central Railroad overnight when 20+ of us left New York City for Richmond, IN, and Western on September 8, 1943. I remember the date because it was my 17th birthday and I was very impressed by all the very sophisticated young women with whom I was traveling including **Gene DeScherer**, **Nancy Dodson**, Elaine and Mary-Garnett. I would love to know who else was on that train — please let me know if you were.

Some time last year I read a quote that is so "spot on" as the Brits would say: "I have spent a long, long time growing older and now suddenly I am OLD." It fits me to a "T" and many of our classmates mention the same — I guess one can expect it but we try to keep on going and doing and finding purpose in it all.

Mary-Garnett Tillinghast wrote that she injured her leg at the Reunion in 2012. It became infected, required lengthy hospitalization and recovery and forced a move from North Carolina to Georgia to be near her son. She misses her friends but is making a good adjustment in her new retirement home and participates in many activities including exercise classes, playing bridge, and writing for the Manor newsletter. Her daughter returned from the Peace Corps in Albania and is now working in Washington, DC. Her two sons lost their jobs and only one has found work. It is hard to be job hunting in our country these days. M-G has five great-grandchildren!

Barbara House Crenshaw in North Carolina writes that at 88 she is really slowing down. "I cancelled a trip to Portugal in October, I walk so slowly I would slow everyone down. I do go to Curves three times a week to exercise. My motto is "Don't stop or I won't be able to get started." She still plays bridge four times a week and goes to U.S. bridge tournaments but not international as she used to. She is active in her church and sings in the choir. Two grandchildren have graduated from college, five are in college and three are college shopping. She feels blessed that the entire family loves to be together and still gathers at Lake Toxaway, North Carolina, for a week each summer.

Dene Stern Mayer from New Jersey says: "I am good. I love the Senior community where I live. I exercise five days a week with 30- and 40-year-olds, but don't ask me if I remember to take the calcium pill. I have a beautiful guest room and would love a visit from any Westerners."

Marjory Reed Kimball lives in Washington and regrets not being able to visit Western. She continues to be a staff representative for the Navigators. "They are an international, non-denominational Christian organization whose goal is to know Christ and make him known." For several years she has been instructing women in her neighborhood. Her days are full of joy and purpose and she is thankful for that and for good health, too.

Maxine Murray Long in Colorado wrote: "Another year rolled by so quickly. Summer comes in a little late each year and then zips out early. It is over before I've unpacked all my whites!" Otherwise, all is well and she is grateful. She sends "blessings to all."

A letter from **Alyce Haines** in Kihei, Hawaii. Alyce remembers Elaine and Herman's visit



That's Emmy Greenland '47 in the middle of her crazy family! Somewhere there are also three other Emilys.

to Maui. She and Bill took them on a picnic at 8,000 ft. on Hallekala. They all enjoyed it very much (year?). She is in good health but a bit slower. She still does Story Time every Friday at the library and enjoys using a trunk full of puppets and props. Alyce has two great-grandsons and is happy one of them lives in Hawaii, the other is in California.

Jane Alexander Durrell from Cincy: "Isn't it interesting when things you've done forever suddenly are hard to do? Like walk upstairs? Interesting isn't exactly the right word, of course, but some of the words I'd like to use are not suitable for this publication. I'm afraid my report this time round is dominated by the fact that I fell, out for a walk on a nice October evening in 2012, and have not been quite the same since, although I am much better and do hope to regain most of my motor skills. I know I'll not actually throw away the cane (but I am done with the walker), although I think the time will come when I can go out without it. Enough of that. Mobility aside, my life continues to be satisfying in most ways, to include journalism for several publications and even doing radio interviews for a program on Cincinnati arts on the local NPR station. It's been really interesting to explore a new medium — radio — where the rules and needs are different from print journalism. I'm also a contributor to an on-line art journal, *Aeqai* (don't ask about the name, it's a joke in Latin that takes a long time to explain) and having an interesting time with that, again a new medium. My children and grandchildren are continuing pleasures, of course. And I have to say, I think Western prepared me for the course my life would take." And I congratulate Jane for taking on new challenges at a challenging time in her life.

I talked to **Emmy Greenland** in Indiana on the phone. Her big news of the year was a visit by all her nieces and nephews and their families to her Lake Tippecanoe cottage.

This included all four Emilys! She moved out of her apartment last year. It was very traumatic for her and she has not settled where she will live when she is not at the Lake. She does not like to be told she is *old* or treated that way. I agree but we are! Emmy is busy writing about her Big Sister **Margie Gasche** and all she has done for Western over the years.

Gene DeScherer Popkin sent me a nice long letter from Florida, which I misplaced so I called her. Thankfully, she still has a land-line phone with a number that hasn't changed. We had a lovely, lively chat — she was excitedly expecting a visit from her daughter and her husband, their son and her great-grandson. She just had her 88th birthday and had to renew her driver's license — she received a new one good for eight years! Her big news was that she recently found that her mother saved a box full of all the letters Gene had sent home all four years she was at Western! Included was the Western Union Telegram (remember those?) she sent home the day she arrived at Western on the NYCRR with the rest of us from the NY/NJ area.

I hope this finds all '47s in good health and actively engaged with your family, church and community. In spite of slowing down, I continue to travel, have fun with my grandchildren, enjoy much that Washington has to offer and work with the Woman's Club of Chevy Chase. In June, we had the first wedding of a granddaughter in nearby Frederick, Maryland. Abigail was a beautiful bride on a beautiful day with all the family gathered. Then I had a wonderful 10-day trip to Istanbul and the Black Sea with my nephew and niece.

In August, I visited **Mary Feller Epemian** in Sunapee, New Hampshire. She continues busy working to fund a new library, tending her garden and supporting Democratic causes in New Hampshire.

In April, **Ellen Pletcher Marsden** and **Marilyn McKasson Pletcher** and I had a delicious lunch and lively visit at Dickie's home in Baltimore.

Anne Mack Dean '47
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Chevy Chase, MD 20815
annemack1@gmail.com



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Alumnae Weekend '14: Celebrate 65 years!

Members of the class of '49 are in good shape for the shape we're in, but we have added a few wrinkles and health aids to our daily routine!

Margo Kaufman Freudenthal is in good health, and is managing her own home with some help in the garden. She volunteers with the library board etc. and has been working with ceramics where she won an award. Margo also traveled to Hawaii, China and Japan, and sends greetings to all.

Guileen Lindsey Manuel's family lives in Illinois, except for her step-grandson, wife and two daughters (ages 3 and 5), who reside in Georgia. Her own granddaughter, Bailey (15), pursues her sport of figure skating. She would like to major in business in college.

After losing her husband, Chuck, in 2004, **Jo Moore Becker** moved from Arizona to Leisure Manor, a 55+ park in Aberdeen, Washington, to be near some family. Other children and grandchildren are scattered all over the country. Like many of us, she writes that she has a "wall deficiency," a hazard of apartment living, so lacks places to hang things or place furniture. A tabby cat named Tami is good company. Jo still reads a lot, and has developed several hobbies since she retired, including pencil sketching, flower pressing (to be made into bookmarks), and making aprons for the community bazaar in late October. She does not travel much since she uses a walker.

Life is pretty quiet for **Grace Sherman Streb**, who is slowed down by vision and heart problems, but is still able to drive. Her daughter lives nearby, and she and her husband take care of any problems. Another daughter, who lives in Wisconsin, works in a nursing home and has taken on financial management there. She is a marvelous artist in painting and other media, and is now teaching a class. Grace's twin grandsons are college juniors, and a granddaughter is a vet tech. A granddaughter-in-law has her



Sally Proper Lutz '49 and husband Del, surrounded by their beautiful family

two great-grandsons. Grace asks, "Who could ask for anything more?"

This has been a year of big changes for **Arline Bartizal Proctor**. "Bunny" has had back surgery, and is no longer able to take care of her husband, who has Parkinson's and dementia. They were fortunate to find an excellent care facility only five minutes from home, and she and Stu are in the process of adjusting to the "new normal." One of their sons lives close by and is an enormous help. The other two sons are still in their West Virginia rafting business, which has grown and is called "Adventures on the Gorge." Bunny looks forward to getting together with **Betty Huttenbauer Heldman** in the near future, and hopes to get in a trip to Sanibel Island.

Still doing seven bridge clubs a month keeps **Sally Proper Lutz** busy. She continues to manage the stationery department at St. Michaels Women's Exchange, but only works half-days now. Sally is OK, but her husband, Del, has many problems, which has made the last few years difficult.

Mary Jane Liggett Matson has been able to do some traveling this year — Indianapolis in March for a great-niece's wedding, Ohio in June for the annual family reunion, and Leland, Michigan, in July, where she had a chance to chat with **Peg Krebiel Meeker**.

Following the terrible floods in the Front Range of the Rockies in Colorado, a call to **Anne Schiffmayer Bugbee** elicited the welcome news that the home that she and husband El have in Longmont was safe, with light and telephone in service. Getting around town is difficult because many roads and bridges have been washed away. El recently celebrated his 90th birthday, and enjoys getting out and around. Son David works for IBM, and son Jeff is a geologist. Granddaughter Ashland is a junior at the

University of Northern Colorado, majoring in communication, and her brother Weston is studying architecture at the University of Colorado.

Jane Osgood Tatge and husband Bruce celebrated our 60th wedding anniversary by taking a Road Scholar (formerly Elderhostel) trip to New Orleans and on board the *American Queen* steamboat on the lower Mississippi River, visiting Natchez, Vicksburg, and Memphis. Through daily classes on land and shipboard, we learned a great deal about the history and culture of the region. The accommodations and food were excellent. The ship's crew wisely noted that guests come on board as passengers and leave as cargo! I am continuing my cardiac health program at Ellis Hospital, while trying to manage all the pills that my aging condition demands. Some of you may have sent blue cards to my old address, and may wish to update your address books (see below) ...

Jane Osgood Tatge '49
408 Coburg Village Way
Rexford NY 12148
tatgeb@alum.mit.edu

'50



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WCAA, Inc.
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Oxford. OH 45056
wcaa@miamioh.edu

'51



Please bear with us if the news from the Singing Class of '51 is a little sketchy this issue. Your usually intrepid class representative, **Ruth McVicker Rhodenbaugh**, underwent a surgical procedure about the time blue cards were due. She wants you to know that if her classmates' notes didn't make it this time, they will be included in her next letter.

From **Nancy Hon Krauth**: 2013 started off with Norm and me learning that our identities had been stolen by an online hacker who broke into our credit card company and ran up a bunch of charges under our Social Security numbers. What an ordeal to get everything straightened out! But life goes on and we still enjoy good health and are able to train our retrievers daily, and take the younger one to AKC Hunt Test competitions.

From **Mary Peterson Shenefield**: A most eventful 2013 so far trading the perfect climate of Prescott, Arizona, for the heat of Phoenix. I sold my home in May and moved to a retirement home. Conveniently located 15 minutes from Eric, my son, and his wife, Linette, The Beatitudes is most appropriately named and allows for an active life of one's choosing. The picture is of my visit to my Georgia family featuring four generations: older son, Jordan, two granddaughters with my four great-grandsons, 6 years and younger who provided the energy for a raucous fun-filled trip. Back "home" to Phoenix to tend to health issues that had plagued me. I hope the plan by the specialists at Mayo Clinic will be the path to the physical strength I seek in my new environment. Here is my new address: 1694 West Glendale Ave., Apt. 140, Phoenix, AZ 85021.

From **Nancy McCudden Osgood**: ... no real news except to say I survived the twister at the cabin in northern Wisconsin and am staying here to do it again. I never was snowed in — a big disappointment — and the driving is similar to Minnesota's winters. The wildlife is varied through all seasons, and that's a delight. Now hummingbirds are filling up on their expected trip South soon and the deer are looking for their apple treats. Really missed being with **Natalie Christopher Connelly** this June in Minneapolis, but perhaps they'll be north in October. By the way, my e-mail address is nmcgood@centurylink.net.

Ruth McVicker Rhodenbaugh '51
3939 Erie Ave. Apt. 3030
Cincinnati, OH 45208



Four generations of Shenefields, including, of course Mary Peterson Shenefield '51



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Hurray for the class of 1953 reunion. Our attendance wasn't too large but the seven that attended enjoyed their weekend in Oxford. (See photo.)

I have learned of a couple of class members who have passed away:

Louise Taylor Wright, June 17, 2009
Jeannine Faust Kennedy, October 29, 2011
Netti Mills Grove, 2013
Delores (Dillie) Revelos, March 14, 2013
[reported in the Spring 2013 *Bulletin*]

Marita Lakonen Judge made it possible for **Anne Koch Nevins** and me to get to Oxford for our Reunion. She picked us up and dropped us off at the Cincinnati Airport, and she was an excellent local tour guide. Anne, Marita, and I shared a room in Peabody Hall. We had a lot of laughs, riding in the golf carts all over the Western campus and enjoying the Reunion festivities. Marita told us of her two dogs — one is retired and the other is practicing agility training. Her dog Annie qualified for the national Canine Performance Events. Anne lives in a neighboring Cape Cod town, Yarmouthport. She and

her husband Jack play bridge regularly. Her son Jeremy lives with them and reports that his Mom "plays bridge nearly every day."

Early this spring I had a surprise call from **Aliki Samalata's** daughter Maria who told me about her mother who still lives in Bronxville, New York, at 63 Boulder Trail. Aliki had a small stroke a few months ago and is recovering well. I remember her daughter Maria coming to visit on Cape Cod and running into the saltwater with her shoes and socks still on.

Lee Anne Prendergast Curry writes that she and **Barbara Wonderlich Garver** have been playing phone tag all summer to make plans for lunch. Lee Anne just came back from visiting family in Maine and Barbara returns

September 4th from Seattle, Washington. As seniors we try to keep busy, but sometimes we are a bit too busy.

Mac Culver Daniels and her husband, Keith, attended the 2013 Western College Reunion as they were passing through on a trip from Wisconsin to the Smoky Mountains. After 16 years she has retired as her church's coordinator with the Beacon House

family shelter. She and Keith have traveled by a Norwegian cruise ship down to the Panama Canal, as well as to Washington state to visit her sister Elaine.

Ginny Wells hopes we are well. She has traveled extensively this year and her second great-grandson was born in May 2012.

Marty Wilson Rowan called me at the end of the summer to tell me of her heart valve operation this past June. She is now home and is healing nicely. Her son helps her and as every day passes she grows stronger. She has a new dog and she has a new Mini Cooper car.

Mieke van Waveren Schmidt '54, "the other religion major," sent me a link to a video of an interview she had. Here is the link for those who are interested:
www.youtube.com/watch?v=DoGDK5YkWA. Her address: 13 Freshwater Lane, Hilton Head, SC 29928. E-mail: mhsmit@live.com

Jean Decker Allread is living in Akron, Ohio, and checking in. She has a granddaughter who is a junior at Miami University and a grandson who is at Bentley College in Boston. She asks does anybody have any news on **Doe Greve Campbell**?

This past August **Debbie Cohen Kalodner** and her daughter Liz visited Cape Cod for their annual attendance at the Boston Pops on Hyannis Green. As always, Paul and I



Still proud of their flag (front row left to right): Marita Lakonen Judge, Barbara Johnson Mecklenborg, Cary Kimbark Revere. Back row: Mary "Mac" Culver Daniels, Priscilla Strand Berry '54, Mary Ann McCain Lynch, Anne Koch Nevins, and Joan Willitts Glatte



*Debra Cohen Kalodner '53 (left)
with the Reveres, in Cape Cod*

enjoyed a catch-up breakfast with Debbie at the Holiday Inn.

Vesta Peters Philbrick couldn't make the trip to Oxford for Reunion, but plans to visit later this summer when she travels to Indiana to visit her sister, who is not well.

Arlene Erickson Fraser opened her ice cream shop for the summer of 2013 on Mother's Day weekend. Her children and grandchildren are all doing well in school. Arlene suffered a broken hip and wore a boot to treat some arthritis in her leg. She still manages bookkeeping and payroll for the ice cream shop.

Beryl Wallman Bennewith still lives in the Virgin Islands. Amidst power shortages and travel she worries about the health of her sister, **Sybil Wallman Holtzer '47**.

Mitylene Shaffer Finken checked in and reported **Jeannine Faust Kennedy's** death (see above). All seems well with Mitzie in her home in Michigan.

Doris Jean McIntosh Webb lives with her divorced son, Alan, a retired government contractor, who is attending UVA. Alan's daughter had a baby boy so Doris is a great grandmother. Although she had a mild stroke in May 2012 and her recovery is slower than she'd like, she continues to run the Ebenezer House B & B.

In closing, I would like to share with you part of my short acceptance speech for the WCAA Service Award:

Today, we celebrate our 60th Reunion. We started out as Funny Bunnies and graduated as Young Ladies under the maroon & blue flag that pictures the Lamp of Learning.

Thank you to my classmates for making my job easy. It's fun to hear from you all and I'd be happy to write the class notes for another 50 years, even if I have to make the stories up!

So Class of 1953, give yourselves a hand, and — Keep it Up!

The truth is that as much as I would like to keep the class notes forever, I have decided to retire from this job. Perhaps some one of you would be willing to take over the position. Again, many thanks to all of you ...

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Alumnae Weekend '14: Celebrate 60 years!

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Octogenarians! That is what most of us are now! It is hard to believe we have reached that status and are the matriarchs of our respective families!

Lucile Robinson Allen reports, "We are enjoying our retirement patio home. There are many activities and we are taking advantage of them. We have a brand new grandson. Hopefully we will visit them soon; we were there in June. I've had two trips this year: one to China in May and a cruise to Russia (Baltic Sea) in July."

Another of our classmates has moved to a retirement community. **Sara Babcock Burneson** is now at 5410 Goldenrod Circle, Sheffield Village, OH, 44035. She has a new phone number, too: 440-695-0168. She is still traveling to visit friends and family. She ended her Christmas letter to me with a quotation from Edward Everett Hale: "I am only one, but I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something. And because I cannot do everything, I will not refuse to do the something that I can do."

Barb Giles Grant says she and Walt are staying fairly close to home. "When we bought this home in '74, it was for the schools. Now we're appreciating the hospital and doctor's offices a mile away." They celebrated two high school graduations of grandchildren, went to Eugene, Oregon — a beautiful experience — and she keeps in touch with **Lucile Robinson Allen** and **Margie Stackhouse Flickenger**. "Our weekly talks are great."

On Labor Day, **Judith Schulthess Ruoff** and husband Dave headed to Lake Wawasee, Indiana, for the last big weekend. "Dave is enjoying retirement, much to my surprise. We're so fortunate to be enjoying most things: church, clubs, bridge, reading. Our 2-year-old Siamese cats keep us moving and laughing. Fort Wayne hosted a Four Freshmen Society International Convention in September. The group was quite popular when I was at Western. It brought back fond memories."

The excitement in **Charlene Ashing Barry's** life was a leak from an air-conditioning drainage pipe in the ceiling. (Can you imagine living in the Phoenix area with no AC?) Fortunately, it was repaired before mold could set in and cause big troubles.

When I, **Mary Sicer Moore**, returned from my travels last summer, I discovered a pipe had broken in the bathroom and flooded my house. I lived in an apartment for three months and it took another three for the damaged furniture to be repaired. So ... I took advantage of the flood to weed out many unnecessary items. I also had to evacuate my home during one of two big fires in Prescott this summer, but no damage was done to me. The loss of houses and lives in Yarnell, where the 19 Hot Shot Firefighters died was devastating. My son asked, but I am not yet ready to move to a retirement complex. I made my usual round of trips: With the Archaeology Society I went to New Mexico's Gila Canyon Ruin and Three Rivers Petroglyph Site and to the Hopi Mesas. I went in both fall and summer to Cedar City, Utah, for the Shakespeare Festival. I went to Washington state for my youngest granddaughter's graduation from college, then saw her and her family again in Colorado with my niece, nephew, and their families. And I went to Maine for my grandson's wedding. It has been a busy year and I am glad now to be staying home for a while.

For those of you I have not heard from, I hope you are well and thinking of us now and then. I would love to hear from you again. For everyone, have a good year building new memories and recalling the old.

Mary Sicer Moore '55
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'57 WESTERN

I had a nice, newsy note from **Dorothy Poeschl Hawkes**, who made a trip to Western recently with her daughter and grandchildren. Her older granddaughter is a junior in high school and may consider Miami University after seeing our "beautiful campus." Dorothy has a niece and nephew who attended Miami. Her oldest of four grandchildren, Jasmine, is 24. Dorothy has been widowed for four and a-half years and has been living in the same home for 51 years. She has taken advantage of the activities for seniors in her Cleveland suburb and has now gotten the travel bug. She wants to visit Michigan (good choice) and Pennsylvania and is off to a nine-day trip to Ireland. We'll look for a report on her travels.

Freddie Barber Miller called with the sad news of the death of Don on August 26, 2013. It occurred very suddenly and ended 54 years of marriage. She said that her three children have been wonderful and that she was spending time at each of their homes in Milburn, New Jersey, and McLean, Virginia. We reminisced about meeting in 1958 in the YMCA (the proper place for Western women to stay when traveling alone) when she and Don had just become engaged. Your 1957 classmates and the entire Western family extend our deepest condolences.

Dru Zearley Clingman and Dave can do a tour of the southeastern United States just visiting children. They have just returned from two weeks in Virginia, helping Karen's granddaughter, Pam, recover from back surgery. Earlier in the summer they went to eastern Pennsylvania for the graduation of Kristin's daughter from high school. And then it was down to Houston for another high school graduation: that of Laura's son. Dru left me with one of her mother's quotes: "Old age isn't for sissies." Dru and I affirmed that we weren't sissies.

I continued to rack up Frequent Flier points on a February trip to Irvine, California, to visit Roxanne, her husband, Kasra, and grandson, Rumi. Roxanne made sure we got to all of our favorite beaches at Laguna, Corona del Mar, Newport, and Crystal Cove. I also saw some California friends. A second grandson, Dominic, arrived in early April and I hurried to Washington, DC, to see him and his parents, Kimya, and Massama Dogo. I had a chance to see him again en route to the Foreign Wives reunion in Stone Harbor, New Jersey.

My 103-year-old friend died June 1st, 19 days short of her 104th birthday. I am now

involved in settling the estate, clearing and selling her home. And in July, Massoud was hospitalized for observation and has been preparing for major abdominal surgery.

I'm grateful to those who wrote or called. I love keeping in touch with friends and recently got together with 15 high school classmates for a 60th reunion. So I look forward to hearing from you ...

Charlotte Klein Varzi '57
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'58 WESTERN

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Liz Vance Frydell and Jane Smucker Fryman represented the 55-year reunion class.

'59 WESTERN

Alumnae Weekend '14: Celebrate 55 years!

Hello, anybody out there? I heard from so few of you that I must assume that you are leading boring, uneventful lives. Or, you are way too busy exploring the Arctic, climbing mountains, sailing the seven seas or just not anywhere near a computer, post office or phone. Could that be possible? Surely we are not that far gone, shame on all of you who are not depicted in the most fascinating updates of our more lively classmates! Next time you must write, email, call or even yell ... we need to know how you are doing!

Mary Jo Porter Brown is keeping busy welcoming her newest great-granddaughter, Monroe Jane, into the world. They met for the first time on Labor Day when the family picnic took place at Deming Park in Terre Haute. Monroe is the fourth great-grandchild! Mary Jo finds lots of fun shopping for the little one. Traveling, church OLLI lifelong learning activities and reading keep her involved. Since returning from Florida in March, she has taken up an exercise class called "Sit and Get Fit" (Says the name enticed her since she is notoriously lazy?) Could that be true not only for Mary Jo but a couple other of us too? She also mentioned the astounding news that Mariah Robertson, Ralph's artist granddaughter, has had a large piece purchased by MOMA in NYC. It is on the third floor in new photographic acquisitions and will be on view until January 6, so if you are nearby check it out!

Susan Gessford Spicer tells us that this has been a year of change for her. After some serious health issues last summer, she sold her beautiful home in Ocean City, Maryland, and moved to a retirement community in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. A severe change in lifestyle, but she is getting used to it and making new friends. Her waistline can attest to the delicious food, which is too good. Sue does some volunteering around the campus, takes local sightseeing trips seeing the Amish at work on their farms and mentors third-graders at the local elementary school. Lancaster has a tremendous amount of history associated with it and she is looking up new stuff every day. A flight with her oxygen equipment to Florida to witness her granddaughter's graduation was a welcome break along with a visit with her son's family. This residence is an independent living facility with continuing care offered as needed. If anyone is in the area, Sue would love a visitor, so please stop by Willow Valley!



Susie Kitagawa '59 with a few of her photographs of Greece at a Tokyo exhibition, August 2013

Luci Bilsland Galloway reports that everyone is getting ready to go back to school. (And Luci is back on puppy patrol.) Taylor is at IU. Chris and Audrey are also back to school. Catilin is finished with her internship with Ford and heads back to Washington (in St. Louis). Where has the summer gone? Amanda has taken on more and more "charge" duties at the hospital. Nancy is enjoying "retirement," getting things done around the house, etc., and traveling with Rick some. Thinks that there will probably be a wedding next summer, after Cait finishes her M.B.A. Probably a small backyard affair. Where she and Marius will be after she does finish, no one knows, could be the East Coast or another large metropolitan area. Luci keeps up with various meetings and choir practice.

Meanwhile, here in the Big Apple, I have succumbed to the call of the theater — off Broadway of course. A friend has gotten me all involved with a show — think that we are the producers!! Anyway, it is a musical that was written by an Episcopal Priest who got an M.A. in music at NYU and is now sort of retired. The show is *Walden the Musical* and is all about Henry David Thoreau and his work with the underground railroad. The cast are all opera singers!! I am having a ball but of course have no idea what I am doing — so far, so good. We seem to be making progress. Will be having something called a "Backer's Concert" in October and getting together money for a spring production in April or May.

Other than that, I am still enjoying the city, especially sitting comfortably in the bird's nest at the Brooklyn Botanic Gardens and taking lots of naps. Figure these must be my Golden Years, and yes, they are full of good times.

Now go wake up from your nap and tell us what is happening with you and your family these days — we are listening! Take care and be sure to smell the flowers along the way.

Jane Toy Thomason '59
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janethomason@hotmail.com



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How wonderful to hear from so many of you!

One of our most illustrious classmates, **Yoriko Konishi Meguro**, won an Alumnae Service Award this year for her international work on behalf of women, families, and the environment. She was unable to attend the Reunion to accept her award because she was giving a policy address on relief for victims of the 2011 earthquake and tsunami in Japan, but sent a DVD of her acceptance speech, which was both impressive and moving.

Honors went to another classmate, **Jeanette Kirkpatrick Duvall**, and husband Harry, from the Needham (Mass.) Exchange Club, recognizing them with its 2013 Book of Golden Deeds Award. A newspaper article says, in part, "The Duvalls are probably best known for their over 60 years of devotion, service, and leadership in the Needham Youth Hockey League where Harry was a coach and Jeanette was a publicity director and ... president of the organization 23 years. ... [they] have been active members and served in leadership positions at Christ Episcopal Church and in many other boards and committees, as well as serving charitable organizations here and in Boston" Johnnie also writes that they have five grandchildren, and that son Duvie and his marathoning friends "left the finish line a few minutes before our city's Tragic Day. Prayers continue for all."

Marian "Tex" Robinson sent an announcement of an art exhibit, "Red Meat and Side Dishes," which was going to open at Guy's Meat Market in Houston this summer, "mid the chickens and chops, etc." She explains, "While standing in line, awaiting my purchases, I experienced an epiphany: 'Hello, walls.' And the walls sought adornment. It seems Steve, who's the butcher/owner agreed. Now his customers have something more to contemplate while they wait: a

variety of visuals, from pencil sketches to collage, to paintings — an array of portraits, still lifes, and abstracts, about 40 works on view." Let's hope that some of our Houston alumnae can visit Guy's. Tex also says that she has retired "(for the second time)—this time after teaching art for 12 years, middle and high school levels (I can't believe a new school year has begun without me!)."

Flora Zimmerman Cohen and husband Richard continue to volunteer and travel. Flora wonders how their "oldest grandson just got his driver's permit even though we know there's no way he can be old enough for that since we haven't gotten any older." Others of us have similar questions!

(Cecelia) Ann Kendrick McCrillis reports that she and Paul have moved into an independent living complex at 1821 Maplecrest Road, Fort Wayne, IN 46815. Ann hears that **Cynthia Ackerman Horne** enjoys playing golf. Cindy also writes that she remains cancer free and in spite of Parkinson's remains very involved in local activities. She sends greetings and invites everyone, saying, "if you come near Canton, just call or knock on my bright red door."

Marcia Jones Friddle sends greetings to classmates and says that for her and her husband, "life has settled into a retirement routine" with a number of volunteer activities, but she is taking a break from that routine in October by traveling to Wisconsin with her sister from Colorado.

New joints (toes, knee) have not interfered with **Julienne Mulette's** busy schedule of counseling and broadcasting. She reports that son Noah writes books and recently married. Dhanny "is a neuroscientist — heads up a research centre in Singapore." She is delighted to have regained her Australian citizenship, which she could not re-



Johnnie Kirkpatrick Duvall '61 and husband Harry show off their Book of Golden Deeds Award to family.

tain while her father worked for the UN, and to enjoy her garden and wildlife. She says, "The best part of getting older? Understanding and feeling even more and more. The worst? The heart being ripped out by those who have died."

Sharon Botsford Moyer had such an experience when her father died at 101 this spring. Many of us knew and loved her parents and visited them at their farm in Centerville, IN. She has traveled to India and Sri Lanka this year, and fished and sailed with children and grandchildren. She had a total hip replacement in September, and at last report was at home, using only a cane.

Jane Miller Brooks has visited her recently. From Toronto, Jane writes that she has visited Vancouver and Buenos Aires, the latter on a visit to her niece, whose husband "will be posted to a different location every two to three years," and she plans "to follow them around the world." She has also hiked in the Alps and spent some days in Paris. She adds, "Later in July we had our annual family vacation in Ontario with my three children, spouses, four granddaughters, one step-grandson and two dogs. As always it was wonderful although I think I'm getting too old for roller coasters." In addition to all this, Jane is still teaching middle-school gifted students.

Volunteer work and family dominate the lives of **Gail Howell Litwiler** and husband Tom. Gail will run again for the local school board, after 24 years of service on it. Both of them are involved in church and educational activities and visit son Tom in Illinois and daughter Trish, husband, and children in North Carolina. After a stint as a stay-at-home mom, Trish hopes to continue work as a marine biologist.

It was a treat at Reunion to room once again with **Anne Adkins Weissenborn**, who is still deeply involved in being a trustee of the WCAA, Inc., and which she highly recommends to classmates. Anne tells us that "The Weissenborn seniors are hanging in there. Daughter Elizabeth is interning with a documentary film production company in Portland, OR. At 82, Ernie continues to work on the occasional piano but in late August he finally relented and allowed pros to attack our out-of-control yard!" In August, Anne relived her past by attending the March on Washington 2013, having taken part in the first one in 1963. Earlier in the summer, Anne and **Renee Harris Yates '71**, with the help of **Sylvia Stanfield '65**, planned and executed a two-week program in DC for their ninth group of Chinese undergraduates, and also shared delight in witnessing the rapid rise of Renee's son, Clinton Yates, as a *Washington Post* columnist and as a commentator on CNN and MSNBC. In the spring Anne was pleased to spend time with **Sandra Metildi Brandt** and two of her darling grandchildren in northern

Virginia, and to hear from **Cindy Ackerman Horne**.

Sharry Patterson Addison is also shining as a trustee.

The **Obuchowskis** are slowing down, literally, and, in my case, in terms of writing, though I indulge in some volunteer activities including editing. Our great joy this year has been the birth in April of grandson Evan Anthony Obuchowski and lots of babysitting, because his parents, Tim and Autumn, live within 10 miles of us. Vol. II of the *Dictionary of Midwestern Literature*, though finished, has yet to see publication.

As this will greet you near the holidays, I wish you happy ones, health, and all good things in the new year. I'm looking forward to hearing from you — sooner, later, for the first time, and again!

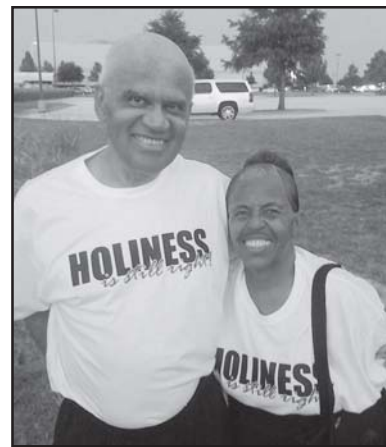
Mary DeJong Obuchowski '61
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My first words as the new class rep: THANK YOU, **Debbie Hunt Perrin**, for *decades* of keeping us in touch with one another! The 20 of us who attended the Reunion so missed you *and* the opportunity to publicly honor you there. Thanks, too, for your lovely note: "This year I feel like reminiscing. I thank God for Western College for Women because not only did I receive an excellent education, but I met my husband, Tom, as a result of going to Western. One Sunday evening after studying, my friend **Gwen Dixon West** and I decided to go to Miami University's student union for a study break. While there, two handsome young men came over to our table and asked to join us. They were Tom and Bob Hart, his future best man. They walked us back to our dorm, and I told Gwen I would really enjoy dating Tom but would never want to marry him. I had to eat those words because Tom and I recently celebrated 48 years of marriage (smiles). How time flies!"



Tom and Debbie Hunt Perrin '63 in Dallas, attending their church's annual convocation, proudly wearing tee shirts proclaiming the theme "Holiness is still right."

Twenty of us attended the Reunion, sporting pink tee shirts emblazoned with a replica of our class flag and motto, *Tempus Rosarum Erat*. **Liz Andrus Schoeberlein** speaks for many of us in her e-mail from Illinois: "Our 50th reunion was expertly planned and organized. It was great to talk to classmates and see how we have all been successful. **Judy Scovel Robinson's** chapel talk was excellent. A lot of Western pride was rekindled. Marching with the band around the campus was a hoot. Thanks to the many volunteers and staff who made it possible." Eighteen contributed photos and/or remarks to the Class Book distributed there, including these five who couldn't attend but sent updates:

Sandra Alexander Akers feels blessed to have her sons and grandchildren in Charlotte, only two hours from her home in Greensboro, North Carolina. Her sad news is that she lost her only daughter, Aimee, to colon cancer last year.

Margaret Bradley Sanford retired from teaching business courses in 2001 and is an active church and community volunteer in Batavia, New York.

Flo Firjanian McGurk certainly has an excused absence: She and Linc were celebrating their 50th anniversary in Scandinavia! She reports that they've had good jobs, early retirement, volunteer work with the Nature Conservancy and a local land trust, summers in Wisconsin and sailing in Florida, where they now live.

Judith Freedman Cohen moved to The Villages, Florida, seven years ago and invites classmates to call if in the area (an hour from Disney in Orlando).

Judith Raices still paints, writes, and loves living uptown in New York.



They're golden! Class of '63 (row 1, left to right): Ella Brown McMahon, Ellen Lee Simarano, Jill Hartley Fulton, Nia Jones Terry; row 2: Mary Ann Theophile Pappanikou, Liz Doerr Steponkus, Judy Scovel Robinson, Nancy Carter Lindfors, Emma Sue Nave Wilson; row 3: Eva Nortvedt Humbach, Liz Andrus Schoeberlein, Loretta Ryder, Susan Grove Hall, Marj Keppel Gross; row 4: Carolyn Myers, Brenda Litchfield Benson, Bonnie McGowan Sammet, Susan Berryhill Hill, Sally Salo Roman

The Class Book also drew responses from these who *did* attend: **Susan Berryhill Hill** taught art history at Penn State, where she received an M.A. and Ph.D., and still serves on various government and civic committees. A world traveler, she also has raised whippets for show.

Ella Brown McMahon and her husband, Joe, met the first day of graduate school at Miami in June 1963. With an M.A. in zoology, she taught for nine years and worked three for the March of Dimes before completing a B.S.N. in nursing at Ohio State. She then spent nearly 25 years at the Chillicothe UA Medical Center. She and Joe welcomed a foster daughter in 1972 and now have three granddaughters, six great-granddaughters, and one great-great-granddaughter. Retired now, Ella volunteers at Hopewell Cultures National Historical Park in the Natural Resources area and writes that even though Joe's post-polio syndrome and her arthritis have slowed them down they have planned their home with adaptive devices so that they can remain in their independent setting.

Nancy Carter Lindfors gets to see five of her eight grandchildren every day, thanks to her job as dean of students and counselor at Trinity Lutheran School in Virginia; the other three live in Japan, where their dad is a Cdr. in the Navy. Husband Bo was a career naval officer, and they still travel for his job as head of the Navy-Marine Corps MARS.

Elizabeth Doerr Steponkus moved to the Washington, DC, area after teaching algebra and geometry at the Emma Willard School in Troy, New York. She retired in 2011 as a programmer and instructor at Federal Sources, a public sector market intelligence company. Married in 1975, she and Bill have a daughter, Sally, who is a leading interior decorator in the DC area.

Nia "Billy" Jones Terry notes that she has met, been accepted by, and lived with "family" on five continents. "My brother and I, as when we were dance partners in our teens, still wow them — even hip-hop youngsters. I can say as an educator I have taught three generations," she writes. "How sweet it is!"

Marjorie Keppel Gross, determined not to use her math major to teach, has spent her life doing just that — including five years of teaching at Western. She retired from the Community College System in North Carolina but still teaches math online and does some administrative duties for daughter Andrea's business, Productive Environmental Institute. Son Kurtis and daughter Beth both live in Florida: "This Midwestern girl has raised a family of East Coast water babies."

Ellen Lee Simarano attended Framingham State and Boston U after freshman year at Western and now lives in Concord, Massachusetts. She has three children and four grandchildren and loves her garden that **Mary Ann Pappanikou** has helped her grow. In 1994, she developed Lyme disease that resulted in impaired mobility — but she

and Mary Ann made the trip for the Reunion, hooray!

Brenda Litchfield Benson and Don, her husband of 47 years, have enjoyed trips to Europe and China and hope to travel more when he retires this year; closer to home, they enjoy their four sons, three daughters-in-law, and five grandchildren.

Bonnie McGowan Sammet and John continue to enjoy retirement in Venice, Florida, but travel to Philadelphia for visits to their daughter, her husband, and two children; Kaitlyn Elizabeth Perry was born August 21.

Emma Sue Nave Wilson volunteers 20 hours a week as the prayer ministry leader at her church but still finds time to read, garden, bicycle, and keep up with her extended family that includes 16 grandchildren.

After graduate school, **Loretta Ryder** taught elementary school in Detroit for 43 years and sang with the Kenneth Jewell Chorale, traveling to New York and DC to perform at Carnegie Hall and Kennedy Center. She now plays the clarinet in the New Horizons Band and is learning the cello while continuing to sing in her church choir and two or three other groups.

Sally Salo Roman spent 40 years in early childhood settings in Ohio, but she and Roger now enjoy their winters in Florida.

Mary Ann Theophile Pappanikou taught elementary school art while her late husband went to medical school then did a lot of volunteer work while raising their children. Today, she's an avid gardener "attempting to paint watercolors more seriously"; recent travels were to Brazil and China.

Becky Densen Rothfuss regrets that family obligations kept her from our 50th. She has been in Asheville, North Carolina, for the past year and loves it. She has taken up Reiki again with several classes, some for the second time. She recently edited a friend's books ("fun but time consuming") and invites us to look her up if in the area.

Bob and **Bonnie Bowers Koch** have moved to Woodstock, Georgia, to downsize and be closer to family. Bonnie sold her American Saddlebred horses but continues to ride frequently. Together, she and Bob have six children, 13 grandchildren, and one great-grandchild, scattered from California to Georgia, and enjoy traveling to visit them.

Libbe Dennard (formerly **Marion Roberts**) wrote from San Miguel de Allende, MX, where she and Lee spent their first summer. He began rehearsals for a play he will direct during the first San Miguel Fringe Festival in October, and she composed query letters to accompany her manuscript, "The Kindness of Fate," a non-fiction work about her spiritual journey.

Sharon Williams Gale Hansen and I hope to connect when she is in Southern California this winter; one of her two grandchildren attending UC-Irvine will participate in Disneyland's holiday parade. Sharry has been a teacher, a Macy's employee, an x-ray technician, and a travel agency owner, but she and her husband now have a small ranch south of Sacramento and a house in Tahoe.

After the official Reunion, **Judi Bennett Moore** and I enjoyed a long lunch to catch up on our lives now that we've discovered we live only 20 minutes apart. Even though she transferred to Cornell University in 1961 and moved to California in 1967, she has kept Western in her mind. We will carve out time for lunch again when she returns from Sweden and Denmark, where she and husband Bob have been visiting friends they met there several years ago.

Keep the news coming, and let's look forward to official and unofficial reunions as often as possible.

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Alumnae Weekend '14: Celebrate 50 years!

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Faith Barrington: Following college, I lived 10 years in Manhattan, and then 29 years in Stamford, Connecticut. In 2004 moved to Branford, just outside New Haven, to a home on Long Island Sound that has been in my family since it was built in the '20s. I have been a travel consultant handling leisure travel since my years in New York, and am now home based, so I don't have to commute to the office in Stamford. I have traveled extensively throughout these years, with my favorite destination being Africa. I am working part time now, but still enjoy traveling. I have always been involved with singing wherever I have lived, including performing Choral works, and performing in operettas and regional musical theater. I am now loving my involvement with a women's

barbershop group, Silk'n Sounds, in Hamden. We are affiliated with Harmony, Inc. and perform throughout the greater New Haven area, as well as compete in regional and international competitions. I also volunteer at Long Wharf Theater and for other groups. I was sorry to have missed our 45th, but already looking forward to our 50th Reunion though a couple years away. Hope to see you all there.

Judy Bybee Boardman: This year has been a year of travel and family. Bill is still grand nanny to our youngest granddaughter. In spring we took all three kids and their three kids to Universal Studios in Orlando. We're just back from a family wedding in Colorado, where we renewed ties with both sides of the family. It has been a good year.

Sophia Karayannides Browne: This year is much better than last year. Last summer Allen was very ill but has finally recovered. We have now been back in New York state almost three years and I am still unpacking. We no longer have an attached garage but we definitely have a basement full of stuff. Allen's two sons and two of his five granddaughters live about one hour away. Two months ago, we adopted a 7½-year-old Soft-coated Wheaten Terrier from Michigan. He goes to work with me in Woodstock, New York, three days a week at my brother Jim's offices. I would like to know if there are any class of '65 folk living in the New York area.

Margaret Warnock Carlough: I closed my chiropractic office last year, and still enjoying working at the Hancock Shaker Village. I get to dress up and am learning to play. Somehow I missed being a child the first time around. I am working on spiritual growth this summer and fall. I have gotten on the quilting bandwagon. I will display a few at the Village's Country Fair this year. Last fall my father died at age 107. He was joking on Friday, ate a good breakfast on Sunday, and Monday night he died. We should all be so lucky. I had the opportunity to go to him on Monday, so I had closure. When Gene had eye surgery and I broke my shoulder a couple of years ago, we realized that where we live does not have public transportation, so we should probably move before we get too much older. So we are looking at various options, but not quite ready to move. I have somehow used my mother's never-throw-anything-away attitude, and now have to challenge that.

Donna Bennert Conklin: I'm still humming along. I'm also trying to pare down the 70 years or so of my life in Harvard, so I can move to a new house (actually a fixer-upper) at 6513 Sadler Rd, Waxhaw, NC 28173. Now I won't have to shovel snow in the winter, but it's 90 degrees all summer. My house in Harvard, Massachusetts, is still on the market. My housemate and I took a great cruise of the Caribbean in the spring. I'm winding down my last term as president of

the Arabian Horse Association of New England and managed my last horse show at the "Big E" at the end of June. Celebrated my 70th birthday for several days of the 4th of July. Two days later, I drove my granddaughter and friends to Disney World and visited my new house in North Carolina. My interest and mantra is still "making a difference thru education." I support the Afghan Child Education and Care Organization (AFCECO), the Foster Havens that Andeisha Farid has opened in Afghanistan. I exchange e-mails with the children I support there often. They are so happy and the girls (and boys) are getting a good education. Hope all is well with you.

Maryam Daftari: My son and family moved to San Diego last year from Fairfield, Iowa, where I also have my home. Then my grandson was accepted at the UC-San Diego. I am spending six months in San Diego (Nov.-April) and six months in Iowa (May-Oct). When things are quieter in the Middle East, I may travel to Tehran for a month or two. I prefer to live in Fairfield where I live alone and love it, writing poetry (I hope to publish a book of poetry soon), playing my piano, painting traditional Chinese plants, and being a nature photographer. I try to keep up with my past career interest in Chinese affairs. I walk a lot, do tai ji chuan and some yoga. I never knew retirement could be so blissful! I would love to hear from my classmates and anyone I taught for two years at Western. My e-mail: mdaftari@hotmail.com

Mina Lund Davis: Steve and I live north of Tampa, Florida, about an hour and a-half. I keep busy with fun stuff like golf and also try to keep my brain from turning to mush with some volunteering. I have worked several years with the literacy program and am now starting to learn about grant writing. I hear from **Beth Reilly Garifalos**, **Betsy Smith Ames**, and occasionally **Tracy Humason Self**. I love staying in touch and sharing memories. I just returned from NYC, where I was lucky enough to celebrate my 70th with three friends. It was terrific! New York has certainly improved since I lived there my first year after graduating from Western. It is nice sharing news via e-mails. Thanks for encouraging us to do so.

Janet Smith Dickerson-Stephens: I am well and active. This has been a year of some drama in my family because for the first time my husband, Paul, and I are without aged parents or minor children. We are adjusting to the new reality — and the freedom, challenge and responsibilities of retirement. We've traveled together to Washington, DC, for the Presidential Inauguration (we spent a wonderful weekend with **Sylvia Stanfield**); to San Jose, California; Costa Rica; and Nassau, Bahamas; and to Vermont for a wonderful winter weekend with **Liz "Brooksie" Jacobs**, her husband, Ian Harrison, and **Fran Hoffman**.

Separately, I have had the privilege of participating in nonprofit Board activities in New Mexico (the United World College-USA) and the Normandy region of France, where my daughter Jill and I attended a retreat for Swarthmore College managers. Our family enjoyed a nice vacation on Martha's Vineyard this summer — my 6-year-old granddaughter Lucca's first visit. My latest project: I just completed making three "Sound of Music" dresses for her and her friends to wear to a Hollywood Bowl song-a-long!

Kathy Egolf: Now that the Panama Canal Museum in Seminole, Florida, has transferred its collection to the University of Florida in Gainesville, I continue to be involved with it through the Friends of the Panama Canal Museum Collection at the University of Florida (PCM Friends). The university has big doings planned for 2014, the 100th anniversary of the opening of the Panama Canal, with a Centennial Weekend on August 15-17 being a major focus. Occasional cruises have provided us with a fun way to help raise funds. Now that more of us have reached retirement age, this is a great time for cruising! We have two wonderful cruises planned for 2014. For more information about both the Centennial Weekend and the cruises, check out this website: panamacanalmuseum.org.

Brooksie Jacobs Harrison: As a clinical nutritionist, I am working with the Vermont Blue Print Health program which provided a grant to counsel folks in lifestyle changes to reduce medical costs. It is exciting to be part of a program at Grace Cottage Family Clinic in Townshend, Vermont. Ian's son is in Germany working on his M.A. in math. We look forward to his visit this month before school begins in October. Life in Vermont is beautiful. We had a wonderful vacation in the Bahamas recently.

Sandy Severson Harwood: We had such fun last winter in St. Simons! My husband, Alden, and I feel blessed to be able to spend the winters on St. Simons Island with our daughter and her family and the summers in Buffalo with our sons and their families! We have a new grandbaby girl. She met her three boisterous boy cousins this summer. **Kate Lillich** and I had a wonderful reunion last winter on St. Simons! We will meet again this year and we invite you to join us! We are just an e-mail away!

Fran Hoffman: My move to Mystic, Connecticut, from Summit, New Jersey, has led to a strikingly different, but no less busy lifestyle. I definitely enjoyed the brownfields redevelopment work I was involved in — some amazing projects bringing contaminated areas back into bright, new uses. Now, however, I have time to serve on the Planning and Zoning Commission, head up a regional environmental organization (CUSH, Inc.), focused on cleaning up and protecting the waters of Fishers Island Sound. I



Georgia Snowbirds: Kate O'Brian Lillich and Sandy Severson Harwood

am part of the Mystic Garden Club and spend time on the water. Not a day goes by that I don't look out at the estuary, the Mystic River and the Sound and feel so fortunate to be able to live in this beautiful spot. My daughter and her husband, both physicians in San Francisco, blessed us all with a precious granddaughter two years ago, and there's another on the way. My son, a free-lance advertising copy writer, is also in San Francisco — giving me many powerful reasons to visit there as often as I can. Have enjoyed a number of terrific bicycling vacations in Europe, and am off to the Amazon and Machu Picchu this October, not on a bike. Get-togethers with **Liz Brooksie Harrison** and **Janet Dickerson Stephens** here in Connecticut and again in Vermont at Liz's home have been wonderful. And running into **Faith Barrington** at a concert in Old Lyme a few months ago was a treat.

Marie landoli: In September 2012, I gave a 60th anniversary party for my good friend Sister Elizabeth Ross, the Registrar for the Harid Music Conservatory in Florida. We had a lovely concert by two Harid students. It was a wonderful party at the Lighthouse Point Yacht & Racquet Club. I took several courses at the Learning in Retirement Institute, which included Eastern/Western medicine, ballet, and opera. When not busy with them, I worked on my church's Picture Book

project. My cousins Charlie and Eileen visited over Easter. We went to The Norton and Flagler museums and the Miami City Ballet.

Kate O'Brian Lillich: Thanks to the WCAA *Bulletin* for bringing about a reunion with **Sandy Severson Harwood** down here in St. Simons Island, Georgia, where we're both snowbirds for the winter! Tom and I have been coming here the past several years and had no idea that Sandy and her husband, Alden, were doing likewise until I read her posting in our last Class Notes. We have had such fun together and are thankful to the WCAA for making this happen! We look forward to seeing each other often in the coming weeks and years! Sandy and Alden have been coming to St. Simons for 15 years so they can share much about the area, which is great in addition to being fun to be around! All the best to you and fellow Class of '65-ers! Everyone, please let us know if you'll be in southeast Georgia — we would love to see you, too! Sandy and I figured out we must have shared a lot of time in the WC van when we spent a semester student-teaching in Hamilton senior year along with **Alice Wilson Pilafidis**, **Becky Bartholomew Krause** and others

Shelby Smith McFann: I believe this is the first time I have ever responded. John and I are really busy. He is retired, but I still work full-time, running a small private office for a Fort Wayne family. I really enjoy the work, and my boss is terrific! My other job (volunteer) is chairing the Philharmonic Friends Instrument Loan Program, a national award-winning program which ensures that kids who want to learn to play an instrument will have the opportunity. I am in the middle of the school year beginning, so am meeting with families almost daily. Last year we had 76 instruments placed, and it looks like this year will grow even more. Finally, we both sing in the Cathedral choir here, and that season has just gotten under way.



With family gathered around, '65 class rep Pam Eggers Gill stands behind husband Sam shortly before his death in January 2013.

Kathy Fansher Parnell: Health problems have plagued me this past year. I fell over the dishwasher door and broke my wrist. It is still healing.

Shirin Kassam Velji: This year I had surgery on the foot I sprained twice. There was no fracture but tendons got torn, so in May 2013 had the surgery and now doing physical therapy until end of September. I am now using a cane. A wonderful break was when the two daughters and their families treated us to a week in Sunriver, Oregon, at a resort. We were all together in one place and the two girls and the sons-in-law did all the cooking, cleaning, laundry and other tasks and kept the four grandchildren busy with swimming, hiking, tennis, fishing, pony and horse riding, bicycling and lots more activities. We all had great fun. For my husband and me it was a great treat. I am making slow progress in my recovery but am positive.

Pam Eggers Gill: Things changed rather substantially for me this year. Sam, my husband of 33 years, died in January. He was very ill the last months, and it was a blessing that God took him when He did. I am still adjusting to the loss. Other than a significant lowering of income, I am pretty much doing the same things I was doing. I take my antique autos to shows, write my newsletter for the local car club and play a lot of duplicate bridge. I am a director now and manage the local club. My daughter Karen is still in Ashford University Online and doing very well. She has been on the Honor Roll since she started 2½ years ago. My other daughter, Laura, is now teaching first grade at a charter school in Colorado. All my six grandchildren are doing fine. My stepson is living and working on the west coast of Florida. By the way, I plan to be healthy enough to attend our 50th Reunion at Western in 2015. I really hope you are too and will try hard to make it. I have been to most of our Reunions every five years. It is always a great party. See you then! If you want the address or e-mail of any '65er. Please send me an e-mail and I will reply. I have everyone, even those I never hear from. I also wish you and yours a wonderful holiday season and a Happy New Year.

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Diane Eby Ozbal '67 with kids and grandkids in husband Hadi's home town of Gaziantep, Turkey, April 2013



The 2012 Christmas mail brought several year-end notes from classmates.

Rosemary Gingrich Parks wrote of her decision three years ago to move out of her home and begin downsizing. She is living in a rented room and receiving mail at P.O. Box 7484, Hampton, VA 23666 while she looks for a small house needing little upkeep. Now that she is retired she has been traveling a lot, visiting her daughters and other family members in addition to doing some major sorting and sifting through boxes of items she had gathered over the years or inherited from her parents. She is trashing or shredding items and storing the rest — including some love letters between her grandparents as well as an invitation to a White House tea from Mrs. Calvin Coolidge. Rosie has made several trips to California to visit daughter Marisa and 3-year-old grandson Jordan. During one visit, Jordan asked to see her cell phone, was disappointed that she had no games on it, and promptly found the App Store and downloaded his favorite game. Pretty bad, says Rosie, when a toddler knows more about her phone than she does! Other trips were to Newport News, to see daughter Amber, who is in her 10th year of teaching art in the elementary school, to visit with her two sisters, and to attend the 50th anniversary of a Methodist church founded by her parents.

Highlights of 2012 for Dave and **Stephanie Smith Siegfried** included a March trip to Cuba. This was followed by a family trip to Sun Valley, Idaho, where seven grandchil-

dren and their parents feted Dave on his 70th birthday. An e-mail from **Elisa Kessler Caporale** in February 2013 indicated that she and Steph had met in New York City to attend a show together and afterward caught up on their lives over a cup of tea.

Although retired, Hadi and **Diane Eby Ozbal** seem busier than ever. Hadi continues to teach full-time at the university under emeritus status. In June 2012, he convened a huge international conference on chemical preservation and restoration for the Turkish Chemical Society, a project he had been working toward for several years. At the same time he was working toward moving the family household to the dig site for two months, a site the entire family has been helping excavate for several years. 2012 was their biggest season ever with some tremendous finds. The museum chose 69 items and the cleaning, restoration, preservation, cataloging and photography of these items kept everyone busy, tired, but enthusiastic. Once back home Hadi then was spending his time in his lab doing residue analysis from the various cooking pots unearthed at the excavation. His work has shown that there was a busy dairy industry 8,500 years ago. And yes, he still finds time for running.

While no longer teaching, Diane continues to run the testing program for Robert College administering the SATs, AP Exams and several others. Because of the way these tests are scheduled, there are several weeks, usually around U. S. holidays, when nothing is happening at the school so Diane can use this time to travel to see her parents in Pennsylvania who no longer can make the long trip to Turkey or her Boston grandchildren. The Ozbals' son Jon's small company was bought up by Agilent which is headquartered in California so Jon travels a lot for business. His wife Teresa has been

Class Notes continued on page 29

Western Alumnae Weekend 2013

Friday: Dr. Elizabeth Johnson led a Western Walking Tour. Alumnae searched through the Western College Memorial Archives. The Hodges enjoyed the Walk Through History photo exhibit and welcomed the alumnae. **Judy Dudman Henderson '62** showed how the Hodges' hearts grew to love western. Everyone enjoyed Miami's theater students putting on *All in the Timing*.



Saturday: Alumnae marched down Western Drive and fought off the rain. Tonja Fangman, Peabody Scholarship recipient, reminded us that our donations make a difference. We learned about our alumnae/i authors, enjoyed a great dinner and indulged at the Peabody Speakeasy.



Sunday: We were blessed with an amazing Chapel Service. Ronda Frodge played the organ, **Betty Sipe Gerber '52** led the choir, **Judy Scovel Robinson '63** spoke, **Loretta Ryder '63** sang, **Judy Dudman Henderson '62** presided. Stories were shared and excitement brewed for next year at the Farewell Brunch.



Gather with us next year
Alumnae Weekend
June 20-22, 2014!

2013 Alumnae Service Award Honorees

Lolita McDavid '69 graduated from Western with a degree in Political Science and History. In 1970, she received a Master of Public Administration degree from the State University of New York Nelson Rockefeller School of Public Affairs, Albany. That year she also married Lee Trotter and started working as a city planner in the Department of Community Development in her hometown of Cleveland, Ohio.



But the career for which Lolly (as fellow alums know her) was destined began back east. With her husband in law and business school at Harvard University, she enrolled in pre-med courses as a special student at Mount Holyoke College, about 90 miles away in South Hadley, Massachusetts. Returning to Cleveland, she entered top-ranked Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, graduated in 1979, and trained in pediatrics at the Cleveland Clinic. A fellowship as a Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholar at the Yale University School of Medicine (1982-1984) took her east one final time.

Ultimately settling in Cleveland, Lolly immersed herself in advocating for better health education programs for all children. She became head of the Division of General Pediatrics at the Metro Health Medical Center in Cleveland, overseeing the operations of outpatient clinics, pediatric emergency rooms, nursery, and pediatricians in the Maternity and Infant Health Project. She also taught third-year medical students, residents, and nurse practitioner students.

After seven years, Lolly moved into a position as Advocate for the Children's Defense Fund Greater Cleveland Project, the focus of which is the improvement and extension of health, anti-poverty, pre-school and child support programs. Balancing her family life (she and her husband have two children) with a busy career — including numerous publications in medical journals and presentations at conferences — she still found time to serve on several boards advocating for children in Cleveland and Cuyahoga County, in northeastern Ohio. She has been appointed by U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Kathleen Sebelius to the board of the Ohio Children's Trust for 2010 to 2013. She was the first Western College graduate to serve on the Miami University Board of Trustees, which she did for nine years. She has made numerous appearances on MSNBC and the ABC television affiliate in Cleveland. She was listed as America's Top Pediatrician in 2005, 2006, 2007 and 2008. She has been honored with many awards including Outstanding Young Woman of America and the Francis Payne Bolton Award from the Junior League of Cleveland. More recently she chaired the Susan G. Komen for the Cure Foundation partnership with The Links, Incorporated, an organization of professional African American women dedicated to friendship and community service. She led this group for the Komen Walk in Cleveland, raising over \$1,000 in donations.

Lolly is currently Medical Director, Child Advocacy and Protection, University Hospitals Case Medical Center, as well as Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine.

In 1994, we welcomed this phenomenal alumna from the 25-year anniversary class back to Western as Reunion Chapel speaker. Today it is with great pride and appreciation that we present a **2013 Alumnae Service Award for outstanding professional achievement and exceptional community service** to **Dr. Lolita McDavid, Class of 1969.**

Yoriko Konishi Meguro '61 has been a tireless advocate for women, men, families, and environmentalism as Professor of Sociology at Sophia University in Tokyo, at the United Nations, and around the world. She has published and spoken extensively, with more than ten books and dozens of articles on such topics as gender roles and the status of women in society, the effects of war on men, relationships within and among families, fertility issues, cross-cultural research on women, social change and its effects on women and the family, and environmental issues. She has carried out research in numerous countries, and has taken part in international conferences and leadership programs.



In 1995, Yoriko participated in the United Nations General Assembly as an alternate representative of the Japanese government (nine weeks), dispatched by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Since 1997, she has attended the annual meetings of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (two to three weeks each) in New York; the Asia-Pacific Regional Conference for the Special Session of the General Assembly: Women 2000 (Beijing + 5) in Bangkok (October, 1999); the Special Session of the General Assembly: Women 2000 in New York; the Asia-Pacific Regional Conference for High Level Meeting of the UN Commission on the Status of Women (Beijing + 10) in Bangkok (September, 2004), compiling the Report of the Conference; the High Level Meeting of the UN Commission on the Status of Women in New York (June, 2005), as the representative of Japanese government and head of the Japanese delegation. This is a short version of a very long list.

Before and after her retirement from Sophia University in 2009, Yoriko has worked on a voluntary basis with a number of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's), including the Japan International Cooperation Agency, for which she serves on the Board of Trustees.

Among the many recognitions she has received, two stand out: the Prime Minister's Award for Outstanding Contribution for Promoting Gender Equality (2005) and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) President's Award for contributions to JICA as a major driving force in mainstreaming gender on both institutional and program/projects levels (2009).

And so today, we wish to join the list and honor **Dr. Yoriko Konishi Meguro, Class of 1961**, for her incredible efforts, dedication, eloquence, and compassion by presenting her this **2013 Alumnae Service Award in recognition of her extraordinary career and humanitarian service worldwide.**

This Alumnae Service Award for contributions to the Western College Alumnae Association goes to someone who began her service the very year she graduated from Western College for Women. As far as we know, **Cary Kimbark Revere '53** never said no to a task Western asked her to undertake.



As a brand-new alumna, Cary willingly accepted the responsibility of acting as '53 Class Representative for *The Bulletin*. That involved not only copious correspondence with classmates, but rallying them for attendance at every reunion. In nominating Cary for the award, one classmate writes, "Her efforts are all on record from day one"; another comments, "She is an honor to her class." Sixty years later (after a few years' hiatus in the '70s), Cary is still faithfully collecting and editing her classmates' news, never missing a deadline.

As a member of the Boston Chapter of the Western College Alumnae Association, she served as Secretary in 1954-1955, and President in 1955-1956. When her family moved to Barnstable, Massachusetts, she joined the New England Chapter of the Alumnae Association and once again presided over the luncheon meetings held several times a year in various locations throughout the area. New England neighbors Phyllis Hoyt and Gail James were especially supportive and enthusiastic members.

Not only did Cary serve constituents at the local level, but in addition was elected to and served one year on the Western College Alumnae Association, Inc. Board of Trustees, 1994-1995.

No doubt her artistic skills (Cary's Creations) and her experience as a professional antiques dealer (Red Ribbon Antiques) stood her in good stead as class scrapbooker. Meticulously compiled and loyally kept through the years, her scrapbooks were recently donated to the Western College Archives.

In her dedication and encouragement to others at all levels — constantly corresponding with classmates, generously supporting the annual fund, efficiently organizing area club gatherings, faithfully attending annual reunions — Cary embodies the spirit of Western.

Therefore, this **Alumnae Service Award for contributions above and beyond the call of duty to the Western College Alumnae Association** — before and after the closing of the college — is presented with joy and appreciation to **Cary Kimbark Revere, Class of 1953.**

To nominate for 2014, see form on p. 46.

WCP 40th Anniversary Reunion Weekend 2013

Alumnae/i from the Western College, the Western College Program and the current Western Program enjoyed dinner together at the Lodge on Friday evening. On Saturday afternoon everyone enjoyed the lovely Peabody Hall porch furniture donated by **Donna Shalala '62**.



Following lunch on Saturday we explored the Western Program's Inquiry Center, tarantulas and all! We also took a peek at the 2013 senior projects. The afternoon commenced with a wonderful music celebration in Ernst Nature Theatre.



Alumnae/i and current students came together to create an impromptu talent show. Before the Saturday banquet we rounded up the troops to get a few group shots. We could never say this group lacks energy! We look forward to planning the 45th Anniversary Reunion!



busy too now that the drug she has been working on is finally in the early stages of human trials. Thus during her visits Diane delights in spending quality time with Ayla and Samet now 9 and 4. Back home Diane swims each morning and babysits for daughter Rana's children Berent (5) and Altan (1) until Rana gets home from Koc University where she is teaching.

I was in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, for several weeks during June and July doing genealogy work with my nephew and visiting with family and friends. While there I caught up with **Barbara Zarfos Landis** over lunch. She had been a February guest at the Mayo Clinic where she was diagnosed as having a rotator cuff problem for which she still was undergoing physical therapy which meant no golf for several more months. To help her pass the time she was doing a lot of reading, continuing to volunteer at a local museum and helping Bob with a landscaping project. Several years ago while on a plane to Portugal they met a young female journalist who insisted they spend a day in Lisbon with her showing them the sites. The three met up again last year for another visit and at that time Barbara was asked if they would consider attending her wedding the following year. So in September Barb and Bob were off to Italy to attend the wedding and then had plans to tour Provence before returning home.

I had several phone chats with **Mary Brubaker Garman-Miller** whose life was momentarily in limbo. Her son Byron and his wife Emily who live in Durham, NC, were having their first child in June and Mary intended to be there for the birth and to stay with Emily until her mother could arrive to help her. Landon St. Clair Garman made his arrival a few days before his due date and Mary was in seventh heaven. She spent the better part of the summer on the road alternating between a beach house, Lancaster and Durham. Following the Christmas holidays she and husband Chip plan to spend time in Florida.

Was delighted to hear this summer from **Janice McAleer**, whom I first met freshman year when we were living on Peabody third floor. Jan's roommate that year was **Marsha Taylor** who for a while dated Gary Betz which was how Jan got to know him. She was finally catching up on her emails and was touched by the one I sent her regarding Gary's grandson Carter. She echoed a sentiment that many have expressed, how hard it must be to lose a child or grandchild when they are supposed to outlive us. To bring you up-to-date on Jan's life, she dropped out of Western after our junior year to get married to a ROTC guy she met at Miami. After having two sons, she divorced and returned to Oxford to finish her Western education and a master's degree. After living and working in various places, Jan moved back to Rhode Island to be nearer

her parents in their final years. After they passed away she turned the family house into a vacation rental. While making a business road trip after the 9/11 disaster, she took the time to go back to Oxford and to revisit Western, a place she hadn't been since our reunions in the 1970s. Jan says she walked around the campus, tried out the new footbridge, and was moved by the memorial to the voting rights activists who trained at Western before going to Mississippi. She also was very impressed by how friendly the students were that she encountered on her wanderings. Jan takes delight in her two sons now in their 40s and in her three granddaughters.

A natural segue is the news from Gary and **Judy "Jamie" Mason Betz**. They spent the better part of this past year driving to and from South Carolina to console, grieve with, buck up, etc. daughter Sarah, her husband Paul and grandson Mason following the death last year of 3-year-old Carter. During one visit, Sarah, who thought she couldn't get pregnant again, announced that a miracle had occurred. Judy arrived at their home June 24th but had to wait until July 16th for Sarah and Paul to welcome Porter Longworth to the world. Judy reports that everyone is doing well and she was most happy to finally pass along to her classmates some good news! Incidentally, earlier this year I received a card from Sarah and a note from Judy thanking every one of us for our thoughts, prayers and expressions of sympathy!!

Carol "Hex" Hoexter Mandel has sent news of happenings in her family over the past few years. Carol retired from teaching in 2001. She and Steve became grandparents for the first time in June 2002 (a grandson) and again in December 2002, with the birth of twin boys born in the Lindo wing of St. Mary's hospital in London. In 2005, a granddaughter joined the family. Both families are now living in New Jersey close enough for Hex and Steve to spoil the grandchildren. In 2010 Steve was involuntarily retired. His company had been bought out and without prior warning the new owners decided to eliminate some positions. After becoming bored with retirement, Hex and Steve began looking for something to keep them busy and eventually, with their daughter-in-law, bought a three pack franchise called Elements Therapeutic Massage. They opened their first building in Cranford, New Jersey, in December 2012 and invite all alums to drop by for a massage. This is quite a change from teaching, environmental sales and lecturing. In April, Steve's family gathered in Florida to celebrate his father's 95th birthday, a fun time for everyone, only to have to gather again to say goodbye due to his death in June. Both Mandells are still playing golf and are bowling regularly though traveling has been cut back due to their work schedule. Still on their bucket list is a trip to Antarctica. Hex sees and speaks



Gail Clifford with '67 classmates
Sally Lindquist (top) and Susie
Wilson (bottom)

to former roomie, **Carolyn Sparks Kokalis**, on a regular basis but would welcome contact with other classmates.

A note with marvelous pictures arrived from **Gail Chatham Clifford**. Last year was Tom's 50th high school reunion in Tenafly, New Jersey. Once on the East Coast, the Cliffords took a side trip up to Maine to see **Sally Lindquist**, Gail's sophomore roommate. Sally left Western after that year and the two women hadn't seen each other since, but their visit was as if they had seen each other yesterday. The Cliffords flew home via Denver where they stopped over to visit with their son. Again Gail was able to connect with a classmate. **Susie Jennings Wilson** was in Denver visiting her son. Gail says it was so special seeing both of them within so short a time frame. While Tom and Gail are just enjoying their life in beautiful Montana, they try to travel as often as they can, especially to visit children and grandchildren in other states, but also to broaden their horizons. One of their trips this year took them back to Cleveland, Ohio, for Gail's 50th high school reunion. Undoubtedly the highlight of their summer was a visit from their four children, their spouses and eight grandchildren. Crazy fun, Gail says, with 18 of us all together!

Jan Chadwick decided it would be easier to call to tell me of the death of her father, Jan Charles Chadwick. Jan's father retired as an insurance agent in Naples, New York, 20 years ago and moved with Jan's mother to Vero Beach, Florida. She died in 2005. He continued to live in Vero Beach, commuting to the family summer home on one of the Finger Lakes until a few years ago. As he aged Jan, Alenka, and Oliver split up the year, alternating visits. Jan had just returned home when she was notified that he had entered the hospital on December 19, 2012. On December 23, he was released to the VA Hospice House for home health

care. His death occurred January 4th at age 94. Mr. Chadwick had been born in Radomsko, Poland, and was in the ROTC program there in training for work in the Polish Diplomatic Corps when war broke out with Germany. He escaped and made his way to England, then to America, where he joined our armed service. He was sent to language school and when World War II ended, he was posted to Germany to help in the de-Nazi program. (The Nuremberg Trials era?) Jan and her mother were able to accompany him and lived in Germany for several years. Since her father's death, Jan has been busy dealing with her feelings, his belongings and closing the lake house. She sends greetings to her classmates and wishes for everyone's continued good health.

Gloria Tumino Molella spent three months this summer back in New York because her sister-in-law was ill and needed some help. This visit also gave Chick and her some quality time with their children and grandchildren. It also allowed Gloria and a high school classmate time to plan a 50th class reunion of 90 people at the end of August. She had such a good time seeing old friends that she is now determined to get to our next one at Western. The only drawback for the Molellas was the New York heat, which Gloria says was worse than what they had in Savannah. Once back home they played host to a son and his 6-year-old daughter whose interest was in the swimming pool and going for ice cream. In mid-September, Gloria and Chick took off to Hawaii for five days in Honolulu followed by a week in Kauai. Back home in Savannah they are enjoying some peaceful time, stirring only to play golf. Gloria invites any classmates passing through to get in touch with her. She also would like an address for **Lucy Bardshar '68**. You can contact Gloria at gmoella@aol.com.

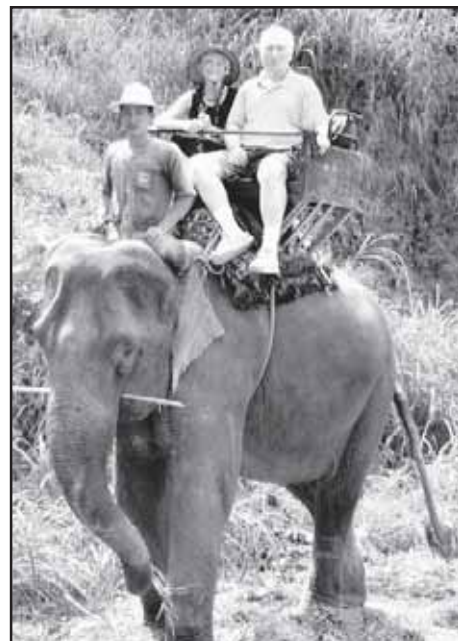
Carol Stone Lehman wrote that she and Fred have been on the road this year. Their first trip was back to Louisville, Kentucky, this spring to finalize the sale of their old home. Later they returned to Louisville for a church conference. Another trip took them to Cincinnati for a family reunion, then it was on to Carolina Beach for a three-generation vacation. Carol and Fred also spent a wonderful week in New York City through a Road Scholar (Elderhostel) program which included several performances (dance, opera and Bach) at Lincoln Center.

Hasna Jasimuddin Moudud sent a note advising that she was now ensconced at the Ash Center of the Harvard Kennedy School where she is at work on a new book. This will be her third work on China and will deal with the Silk Road. To this end, in September she returned to China in order to travel parts of that old road. Once back at Harvard she will be looking for a publisher as she finishes up her writing. Some day she hopes to get back to Western for a Reunion.

Last year **Rauni Pellikka** wrote a column for the EESCOOP (European Economic and Social Committee) newsletter titled "Is there a life after the committee? Yes, and How!" She worked for the EESC in the Finish translation unit as a reviser (1997-2010) and then retired in Brussels, where she has lived for 22 years. For a retiree she is ultra busy. She goes to the gym twice a week and swims once a week. In September, she began her third year of Dutch, having passed the second year exam with flying colors. She says it's an easy language for anyone who knows any other Germanic language. Rauni also is beginning her second year of oenology. Her art course is continuing as well. Rauni does volunteer work in the Finnish Church of Brussels as one of five librarians in a library with over 5,000 volumes. Her love of traveling was somewhat impeded this summer due to a successful cataract operation, but earlier she took short trips to France, Holland, Scotland, and Finland. In March, she explored the Kathmandu Valley in Nepal and then went to Bhutan which she found breathtaking. On her future travel list are Chile and Ecuador in South America, and Australia and New Zealand in the Pacific. A highlight for Rauni this year was the pleasure of meeting **Elisa Kessler Caporale** in Helsinki!

A brief note from **Jo Ann Brombaugh Wittmann** advises us that she and Jack still are on the go. In January they drove to Florida where they embarked on two back-to-back Caribbean cruises. In June, they attended Jack's 50th reunion at Penn State University. Shortly after that Jack was hospitalized for a week due to blood clots in his legs and lungs. Because the blood thinner medication seemed to finally be getting regulated, Jack and Jo Ann decided it was time to get back on the road again and visit some friends. In July they visited West Virginia parks, Indiana and Ohio. Going to Ohio meant a side trip to Oxford where they found the main gate to the campus closed so entered via the Duck Pond road. To their surprise they found the campus under construction with three huge dormitories going up, a new power plant, and a dining hall just beyond our New Dorm. Jo Ann wonders how many other changes will be made before our next Reunion. She also reports that she has been receiving unidentified calls from a 513-529 exchange. In August they spent a weekend in York, PA, and also drove through the Gettysburg battlefields.

In her February note **Elisa Kessler Caporale** advised that she finally had the pending cataract surgery but wasn't very happy with the results since her vision was not as good as she thought it would be. She then was wearing a contact lens in one eye and nothing in the other. Since she made no further mention of this in following e-mails, hopefully things improved as her eyes healed. At least her vision problem didn't keep her from a June Road Scholar tour



Joan and Andy Sosnicky, doing what comes naturally in Thailand

from St. Petersburg to Moscow by boat. They visited Helsinki, Finland, first and were delighted when Rauni Pellikka flew up from Belgium to join them for a day. Now Elisa wants to read more about these areas she has just visited. Of her children, daughter Clemencia has finished the last leg of the Appalachian Trail so she has walked the whole 2,181 miles. Son Stefan and wife Lorie expected their first child in November. Elisa continues to do some teaching and is participating in book clubs and senior sing.

Carolyn Sparks Kokalis' September note told of her rough start to 2013. She began to suffer from vertigo and a prescribed medication put her into delirium. As a result she lost about six weeks of memory. She is doing fine now, well and enjoying retirement in Ft. Myers, Florida. She recently bought a puppy named "Sassy," a Havanese currently weighing about 6 pounds who will weigh no more than 12 pounds when full grown. Even though the puppy is very bright and well-trained, Carolyn says she is not doing much traveling for the moment. Her three sons are well and one son's family lives in Jupiter, Florida so she sees that family regularly, delighting in 2-year-old Alexa, her only grandchild. Carolyn invites classmates escaping the winter cold for Florida to include Ft. Myers on their itinerary.

Joan Roderick Sosnicky has checked in from Castle Pines, Colorado. She and husband Andy have continued to travel with friends or family to see new parts of the world. Since her last note, they have been on a transatlantic cruise from England to New York that included a stop in Greenland. They recently were on a land tour of seven countries in Southeast Asia, including Myanmar (Burma) a real jewel now open to

western tourists. In Chiangmai, Thailand, they took the opportunity to ride an elephant. Their son Jim still lives in Washington, DC, and continues to travel to developing countries for his work. He also is very active in the Army reserve as a civil affairs officer. Joan and Andy try to see him as often as possible. Joan sends her best wishes to all!

News also came in from **Muriel Gillette Alexander**, who lives in Big Lake, Alaska. She has been there since June 1998, going there from her Oregon home on a temporary public health job. It was there she met her husband, Mike, who was part of the health team. On September 9th they celebrated their 12th wedding anniversary. For eight years they lived in Anchorage, then built a house on the lake in 2005, designing it with handicapped access because Muriel was beginning to suffer from severe arthritis in both knees, hips and lower back. She now walks mostly with one or two canes, sometimes when in a large box store, resorting to a motorized ride-a-cart. She is receiving injection therapy in the hope of staving off surgery. Because Alaska winters can have seven months of snow and ice with minus-30 degree temperatures, Muriel and Mike



Muriel Alexander '67

have purchased a small farm in Missouri, fixed it up this summer and planned to move in October 15th and stay through March or April. Her half-year address will be 367 Glover Rd., Richland, MO. Despite her pains Muriel keeps on the go. She and Mike enjoy boating and fishing for salmon. They travel to the West Coast to visit her three children and to Kansas City, Missouri, to visit Mike's son and his two daughters. Muriel has attended the 60th anniversary of her Girl Scout troop in Montrose, California, and a 50th high school get-together of seven friends that was held in College Station, Texas, where a friend had a bed and breakfast establishment. Recently she went rafting down a portion of the Colorado River through the Grand Canyon, long on her to-do list. Muriel attended our 20th and 40th reunions and is determined to make the 50th.

As for me, I had cataracts removed from both eyes over a period of several months last fall, torture for a book junkie used to reading at least three books a week. As a result new books piled up which I only began digging into this spring. Since a number of our classmates are involved in book clubs, I offer you some titles, primarily history, which you may find interesting. Mark Kurlansky has two very readable books, *The*

Basque History of the World, which tells the story of how the people of the tiny area between Spain and France impacted world history, and *Cod: A Biography of the Fish that Changed the World* a food source closely connected to the Basques. I knew little of Silent Cal, so really enjoyed reading *Coolidge* by Amity Shales, a view of this early 20th-century president. That book was followed by Margaret Macmillan's *Paris 1919: Six Months that Changed the World*, a study of the men involved in drafting the armistice of World War I, Wilson's insistence of a League of Nations.

Lighter books by authors such as Clive Cusler and Dan Brown, as well as poetry by Pamela Hadas, break the intenseness of the histories and are often read at the same time. At the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center I have finished cataloging close to 400 books purchased through an ANA grant last year. Good thing that the library there is non-circulating! Took a break and went to Hawaii in November for a family reunion and granddaughter Danielle Almony's wedding, and will be in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, in December and January.

Do keep those notes and photos coming! You all write this column. Best wishes from all of the above!!

Kathy Ehrgood Sturm '67
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kesfgs@aol.com



News for spring '14 Bulletin due Feb. 2!
See Blue Card, page 47!



Alumnae Weekend '14: Celebrate 45 years!

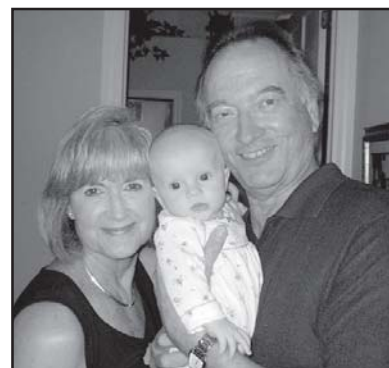
Are you like **Karen Harden Roberts**? Going through some papers she ran across the class notes invitation. She thought she had



Not looking a day over 45, the Class of '68 from left): Cecelia Peabody, Barbara Williamson Wentz, Anne Galbraith Rothrock, and Patricia Jayson

nothing to write about, so tossed it; all was about the same as last year! However, lucky for us, Karen had an inspiration. Her second thought was, "I am working on my bucket list," and she decided to share that. Number one on her list is to get back in shape! As incentive — and if that happens — then number two is to go to Germany, Austria, and Switzerland with a small pack on her back and explore! She will stay in hostels and meet folks from around the world. Do a little easy hiking, but nothing too strenuous. Mostly she'll enjoy the lakes and castles. If this appeals to any of you, please e-mail her! Karen.roberts91@gmail.com She would like to share a double room in non-smoking hostels, or maybe splurge for a night in a hotel on Lake Geneva with awesome views, with someone/some people she knows. She is thinking maybe 2014 spring, summer, or fall for several weeks! So, if you are reluctant to write, have a second thought. We'd love to hear from you.

This has been a busy and eventful year for **Nancy Galbraith Karoll** and family. In ear-



Proud Karoll grandparents

ly January her granddaughter, Michelle, was born in Vancouver, BC, Canada, to her

daughter, Nicole, and son-in-law Andrew. She was there for the event, returning to Florida briefly before spending the following month in Asia with husband Richard. They flew to Singapore where she had lived in the early '80s, spending a few days there before boarding an Oceania cruise that would eventually get them to Hong Kong. In Hong Kong, her one time home, Nancy introduced Richard to her favorite haunts and many friends who she had last seen in 1997. For her, it was a trip down memory lane although it was exciting to see so many changes in every city they visited. For Richard, it was his first visit to Asia and he can now understand why this part of the world has long been a favorite of hers! Understandably they have spent much time in Vancouver to enjoy Michelle's babyhood, and while in the West, they also visited Nancy's son, Mark, in northeastern Nevada where he is presently an airport manager of a small regional airport. Richard continues to work as a financial advisor for Wells Fargo, but they will continue their travels next year with a Baltic cruise and visit to the UK.

BJ Gibbons Bramlett and husband Owen have moved two hours due east to Copperopolis, California, in the Sierra Foothills. They sold their 46-year old waterfront "science project" of a house and bought a house built in 2002 that needs no work! This January, BJ was planning her project list and realized she had none. BJ is delighted with the "real kitchen," two separate sinks and an island. Now she and Owen are doing more cooking together, a necessity as there are few restaurants around or Macy's, etc. Owen was able to move his business as most of his transactions are e-mail, phone and fax; most of his customers don't even know he has moved.

BJ has joined a bridge group that welcomed her although it had been 50 years since she had played. It is a fun group with family dinners so their husbands can get to know each other. In May, Owen bought a quarter horse. He had always had horses, but school and life interfered for 40 years. Now that he was riding he wanted BJ to learn. After a 55-year hiatus, it was ugly at first but she is learning dressage on a borrowed 20-year-old former cow horse, an excellent teaching horse that competed in Western shows.

To challenge her mind, come the cool fall BJ was planning to learn how to play golf with borrowed clubs and a group that plays for fun, not perfection. She says the move has been great. Although it was difficult to load up 30 years of life, she has no regrets.

Betsy Sommers Solice wrote from her Kona, Hawaii, home. She continues to find ancestors and connect with distant cousins she never knew she had through her genealogy involvement with the Daughters of the American Revolution. She was made flag

chairman for the state of Hawaii, a post that involves going to Oahu often. She is still directing registration for Ironman, but gave up one of her condo board positions. This has given her more time to work on her gourd art that she donates to silent auctions. It is good to hear that her old Achilles tendon injury has healed and she is able to run. She participated in two half-marathons and a number of small local races in 2013. Betsy is training for the Honolulu marathon, but may just enjoy it from the sidelines cheering on her friends.

Gretchen Schmidt Grzelak is finally getting the hang of retirement. New interests include mah jongg and water aerobics. This past summer she reconnected with her cousin by joining her Friday mah jongg group. It quickly became a highlight of her week. After the game they spend time catching up and working on their family tree. It has been interesting learning about the family's roots. She and husband Tom continue with ballroom dancing and Bible study. They are going to try camping with their dogs, Sara and Whisper, at a campsite in northern Wisconsin where Tom has been going for 50 years. Now they hope the dogs enjoy it as much as they do. This past summer they took little day trips focusing on Gretchen's love of Clydesdales. The more she gets to touch them, the more she thinks she just has to have one. Gretchen is looking forward to a snowy winter and then our class Reunion in June.

Julie Cook Downing's

passion is supporting family caregivers. For over two decades she filled the role of caregiver multiple times while caring for several family members. She has facilitated Caregiver Support Groups since the late '90s, and is currently the Caregiver Support Group Facilitator for Doctors Hospital of Sarasota, Florida. You can learn about Julie's work at www.caregiverscomfort.com where you can also see her appreciation calendars for Caregivers and Veterans' Caregivers that she has created.

Liz Pippet Shapiro had a nice Labor Day by the sea in her home village of Little Compton, Rhode Island, where life is quiet but busy. She continues to work in the family business, The Donald J Ross LLC, with her son, Alex. They license the name, their biggest client being to a golf sport shirt company. In October 2012, Liz started her second year of art classes in Providence and enjoys this very much.



Julie Cook Downing '69

Her daughter, Victoria, after seven years of working in DC, is now in the Emory University, M.B.A. program. So Liz was in Atlanta, Georgia, in July and found time to see historical sites and learn about area. It is HOT there in June so she also swam a lot!

In her little corner of the country, she is happy to have found a fellow Western grad, **Hope Fitzgerald Taylor '63**. Also **Jan Hunkle**, her freshman year roommate, lives on Beacon Hill in Boston and they are in close touch.

Roberta Smith Hurley is semi-retired and still living in Upper Arlington, Ohio. She retired from college teaching in 1998 but has worked in clinical dietetics ever since, most recently in home care which she finds a perfect retirement gig. She and Tom celebrated their 41st anniversary in September. Their 34-year-old son teaches at the elementary school he attended in Upper Arlington, and one of his old classmates attended the Western Program, a nice Western connection. Their daughter and her husband relocated to Upper Arlington last year so now their 2-year-old granddaughter and 3-week-old grandson are also nearby. Roberta has been in Facebook contact with **Betsy Summers Solis, Betsy Philipson Kensinger, Karen Plumb, Sally Fleiss, Sue Bradbard Patrick, Cynthia Wrigley Spurdle and Jane Walker**. She thinks it would be great if we all could return to Western next June!

Stephanie Bentzen Snook has been busy since she wrote last fall. She and Fred celebrated their 40th anniversary in July, and took a trip to the Maritime Provinces of Canada, New Brunswick, PEI, and Nova Scotia. They had a fabulous time seeing the sites and walking on the ocean floor at low tide in the Bay of Fundy. Their granddaughter is growing fast. She's an active girl, too active for grandma to catch in action shots with her digital camera. Stevie and Fred found the truth in the adage, "the spirit is willing but the body isn't," when they helped son Devon and family move into a new home more suited to a family with children and two pony-sized dogs. Another highlight of Stevie's year was filling in on the Western board again. She highly recommends board duty! (And so do I.)

Stevie and **Lolita "Lolly" McDavid** were the only '69ers at Reunion '13, but they had a great time! [Lolly received an *Alumnae Service Award*; see *Alumnae Weekend section to read her citation*.] Fred continues to golf every chance he gets (Stevie still can't get excited about trying the sport) and works with the National Forensics League. Stevie still has her monthly poker and field trip group, euchre group, and works on local and state politics. She misses the daily interaction with students, but is happy to have the time to participate in other passions. When she wrote, Stevie and Fred had one more



The whole Kobayashi clan, together in Japan

Veronica King visited **Marja-leena Gottmann (Sittonen) '66** in Cologne Germany in 2012. They traveled together to Salzburg and Munich for a long-awaited vacation together. They had kept in touch for over 46 years and enjoyed being reunited once again. A photo of them ran in the spring *Bulletin* with the Class of '66 news.

Jane Walker

trip planned, this one to Jackson Hole involving horseback riding after a long hiatus, before the big trip to Reunion 2014 in June.

As usual **Annette Bevan Gallagher** was busy with the Sandusky Children's Museum during the summer. I am glad that they had a rainy day giving Annie time to write. This is her sixth fall to not have to return to her classroom as a teacher, and she loves the range of volunteering that she can do in retirement. Outside of their work together with the museum, she and her husband Dick serve as volunteers for different organizations. That always makes for interesting conversations at dinnertime and during their periodic walks. Dick's years of volunteering in this community were recognized by his fellow citizens. When he opened up the New Year's issue of the *Sandusky Register* on Tuesday, January 1, 2013, he was greeted by a front page picture and an article featuring him as one of the three 2012 *Register* awards winners. To read more, visit <http://www.sanduskyregister.com/article/3021271>.

Susan Hodge writes an interesting Christmas letter each year. She would be happy to send a copy to you too if you ask: hodgetravel@gmail.com. In 2012, it was about her and her adventures on and with a variety of aircraft both on the ground and in the air. Here is an example: "First (was) the American Airlines DC-3 Flagship Detroit, built in 1937. A class act, lovingly restored, she has a window in the bathroom, and windows that open in the cockpit. I decided to take a flight, sat in the seat Eleanor Roosevelt always chose by the back door, and got a bird's eye view of my community, for vintage aircraft fly quite low."

is a support group facilitator for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Oregon Chapter, Springfield.

Now it is my turn, **Nancy Wilson Kobayashi**, writing from home in Kamakura, Japan. As in past years I am busy with hula classes and volunteer work on the "Shonan Post," a monthly English newsletter about this area of Japan called Shonan; having fun with the grandsons, daughter Chrissie's boys, now 3 and 6; and meeting friends. In August, I went to Tokyo to see **Shizuko "Susie" Kitagawa '59's** photos of Greece on display. By coincidence **Hisako "Chako" Matsumoto Era '68** chose the same time to visit the exhibition, so we had a rather noisy but short impromptu reunion.

The highlight of 2013 was bringing our son, Dean, and his wife, Char, to Japan for a family reunion. It is not often that Kazu and I get to have the two kids and their families together with us. This time we had a gathering that included the Kobayashi relatives — 18 people was a jolly houseful. My website www.shonanskies.com has photos of what I've been up to including a recent trip to view some of the areas devastated in the 3.11.2011 tsunami.

Travels for Kazu and me in 2014 will include a stop in Oxford on the weekend of June 20-22 for REUNION #45! Hope to see you all there!

Nancy Wilson Kobayashi '69
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News for spring '14 Bulletin due Feb. 2!
See Blue Card, page 47!



Another year has gone by and unfortunately, I haven't heard from anyone. I would love to hear from all of you since I know there are some very interesting things going on in your lives.

As for myself, I continue to commute between Massachusetts and St. Croix in the Virgin Islands. We are residents in the island and spend most of our time here and wander north for a couple of months in the summer. We are considering selling that house and just traveling in the summer. Without a house to take care of we can be freer. I still fly our plane and last year we did more island hopping that we did in the past few years. Our cat of 18 years, who used to ride in the backseat, died a year ago so no more traveling kitty. We are sad about it but it also frees us to fly more often and to more islands. We love St. Martin, Nevis, and several others down the chain. We flew with a friend to St. Lucia this year and had a ball. What a lovely, green island.

The summer was spent in Massachusetts, fixing up the house to sell with a trip to Mt. Tremblant, Canada, to watch a friend race his vintage Formula One car. Now there's a hobby that I never knew about before. It was great fun but way out of our league.

After reading Laurie's message, **Jenet Kimmel Mullins** responded with this:

"Has it really been 42 years? I sometimes wander back in time and think about the really good times I had at Western. Sadly, the bad choice in a partner prevented me from finishing the last year ... but *c'est la vie*, life goes on and what a wonderful life I have been blessed to have. I may not have had my mansion with a full staff but I have had beautiful homes where my family grew up and formed lifelong memories.

"I have retired, although from what is questionable. I found a niche in sales and sales management, which is odd because I really do not like asking anyone for anything. But I had a measure of success and some fun along the way.



Jenet Kimmel Mullins '71: "C'est la vie!"

"I have experienced love several times. After the pain of the first marriage became manageable, I married my children's pediatrician. A dear, sweet, caring man who brought many wonderful activities to my boys. But a chance encounter in a cocktail lounge had me reevaluate my path and make a change for the third time ... and it was a charm.

"Almost 19 years later, Bob is still my best friend and companion. We have cruised and traveled and cruised some more. We have played golf and laughed at my marvelous golfing. We love wine and probably drink too much, who doesn't? We sold our big historic home in Dayton and bought a 1959 ranch. WOW... did that ever make life easy. My laundry room is now on the same floor as my kitchen. It has been good.

"My boys, all three are successful and happily married. The oldest is leaving Louisville to return to the city of his choice, NYC. They leave within the week for his new position. My middle son is in San Francisco, involved in the gaming world as well as developing a new race car prototype. And the youngest? He is in Roseville, California, working as a golf professional with his wife. And, I have two grandchildren. They live in San Francisco now but have lived in Vancouver and San Diego. They are bilingual, which in California is very common.

"I keep myself busy working for a dog rescue in Dayton, Ohio. We rescue the unwanted, usually from Amish puppy mills and backyard breeders. We completely vet them, microchip and foster until good homes can be found. I am working on fund-raising for the group as well as handling applications for adoption. I also write a monthly blog for Doggyloot.com.

"So my update is chatty, and perhaps a bit silly, but I did not set the World on fire as I had hoped to do. I have been Middle Class America all the way, working to support my boys and worrying about our Leaders and the decisions that are being made for my grandchildren.

"I miss the carefree days of college ... who doesn't? But life is good. I miss some of you who came into my life for a short period of time ... such good times. I hope that perhaps this update might bring a few of us together again. Take care."

I hope everyone had a good healthy year and that this year brings the same. Please think about sharing your experiences next year. We had such an interesting class I know you are all doing fabulous things out there.

Laurie LeGrand '71
289 Main St.
Amesbury, MA 01913
piperlaurie1@msn.com



Greetings all! I am delighted to report that after years of urging all of you to attend the class reunions, I finally walked my talk, and was able to be at our class 40th Reunion, this past June! It was better than I expected, and I'm very glad I finally made it! It was so much fun reconnecting with old friends, and renewing acquaintances of classmates I hadn't known as well. And my question to myself was, "Why didn't I spend more time with them — they're WAY cool!"

Class members who attended the Reunion — either for the whole weekend, or for the special dinner Saturday night: **Joan Campbell**, vjc@wideopenwest.com; **Lisa Cook Coady**, bcoady@peoplepc.com; **Cindy Edington**, Rita Greene, ritagreene@bellsouth.net; **Debbie Hefty Sayers**, farlerdh@miamioh.edu; **Helene Pasquale Cella** (and her hubby, David), helene51@comcast.net; **Nancy Pratt Finfer**, npratt@optonline.net; **Jennifer Wilson**, prunette2@yahoo.com; and myself. In addition, we had a treat: **Janie Rossito**, janiefreetibet@yahoo.com, who attended with us in our freshman and sophomore years, but who transferred to nursing school, joined us for the weekend.

We also got to visit with **Betsy Salt '74**, who came down with her Dad — who sadly passed away recently. I was also thrilled to connect with **Anne Adkins Weissenborn '61**, who married my freshman year German teacher!



Ada Harrigan '73 (right) stays in touch with Diane Bratcher '74 (left) and Cris Arguedas '75. Western memorabilia, anyone?

In addition to sharing all the news from the Reunion crowd that weekend, I heard from several other classmates as well: **Ada Harrigan** writes, "We moved from San Francisco to Oakland's Jack London District six years ago and love it here. My life and business partner of decades (now wife) is Mary Anne O'Connor ('76 Olympic Silver Medalist, basketball). Our consulting company is O'Connor & Harrigan Associates. I'm currently working on a project for U.S. Dept of Energy at Lawrence Berkeley National Lab (in Berkeley, of course) and Mary Anne is doing IT consulting at several Bay Area law firms and businesses." adaharrigan@ohsf.com

Ada has also been in touch with other Western women — **Diane Bratcher '74**, **Cris Arguedas '75**, **Ardis Cameron '70**, and **Nancy (Allison) Owens '73**. They wonder if anyone has news of **Kathy O'Donnell**?

Margaret "Milly" (Adongo) Odede

has been working on a beautiful book about the wonderful artisan work of her native land, Kenya. She is hoping to find a publisher to print and market it, and asked that I share it with all of you to enjoy. E-mail me if you'd like me to send you a copy. If you know of anyone who might like to sponsor this project, please contact me, or Milly directly at nyodesh@yahoo.com.



Milly, from her book

Ann Beardsley (Meeker) reported, "Elliott and I celebrate the independence of our younger daughter, Margie, so we are officially empty-nesters at last. To celebrate, I finally found time to finish my first book of fiction, *Tilted Windmills*. My next book, *Backyard Weather Forecasting* (nonfiction), is currently making the rounds but is, at present, an orphan. Elliott has narrated two books for Audible as well, and is enjoying the process, so we've become



"Way cool" Class of '73 (front left to right): Debbie Hefty Sayers, Helene Pasquale Cella, Christy Wines. Back: Rita Greene, Janie Rossitto, Elizabeth "Lissa" Cook Coady, Joan Campbell, Nancy Pratt Finfer, and Jennifer Wilson

quite the literary household." She also mentioned that she and hubby have become enthralled with sailing; and Ann is in training for the Dopey Challenge in Orlando in January (a 5k, 10k, half-marathon, and marathon on four consecutive days). annmeeker@swiftpassage.com

I'm also in touch with **Joan Hagan Stoutenborough '74** — who met me for coffee and



Christy and Joan

catch-up on my incoming flight to the Reunion, (see photo), **Maria Ligia Galarza (Simmons) '71**, who lives in Kansas; **Agnes Lafitte '70**, who lives outside of Paris, France; and **Mohammed Al Barwani '75**, who lives in Muscat, Oman. They're all enjoying retirement (or semi-retirement), and grandchildren. Contact me if you'd like their contact information. Please consider making long-term plans for our 45th in five years, and if possible, attend the yearly Reunions. It really is a wonderful way to honor our friendships, our education, and our lives! Many blessings to you all ...

Christy Wines '73
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Bonita, CA 91902
winescl@aol.com

'74



Alumnae Weekend '14: Celebrate 40 years!

News for spring '14 Bulletin due Feb. 2!
See Blue Card, page 47!

'75



No news to report from classmates, but Cyndie's holding down the fort.

Cyndie Cole '75
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chey_80@yahoo.com

'76



News for spring '14 Bulletin due Feb. 2!
See Blue Card, page 47!



Greetings from Hudson, Ohio!

While I only heard from two classmates in regard to these class notes, I'm Facebook friends with many Western cronies so I am in touch with quite a few people. However, I am not totally comfortable taking the liberty of sharing news they have shared via any form of social media as it seems a breach of Internet etiquette (and perhaps a bit of an invasion of privacy). With that said, may I suggest that you search for classmates on Facebook, LinkedIn, and/or any of the many other sites out there? I guarantee that someone out there would love to hear from you.

Dan Becker is as busy as ever; he's now playing in three bands in addition to teaching guitar lessons. He's playing with a traditional Irish band, a rhythm and blues band, and his own band, Dan Becker and the Tourists. His oldest daughter has two daughters and a son, and his youngest daughter got married and had a son this year so he now has four grandchildren to love. Dan says that "being a grandfather is the greatest job in the world."

Branton Shearer writes: "Hi All, Life in Kent, Ohio, continues to flow along in interesting ways both personally and professionally. I'm writing this right before I leave on a week-long trek with my son, Dylan, (28 years old) to Palo Alto, California, in his Miata sports car. I may have to hire a full time chiropractor for my back when we arrive! But it will be worth it to spend concentrated time with my 'adult' son who now works for the Dept. of Defense. *Interesting.* After that my professional life heats up when I travel to give keynote presentations in Puerto Rico and the Philippines and then cools down with a trip to the Netherlands. I am very blessed to get paid to travel and share my work with the multiple intelligences with many diverse audiences. Every once in a while I am reminded of my *diverse* friends from my freshman year at Western. It was a great mind expander for a small town boy to meet folks from around the world. Today is freshman 'move in' day at Kent State and I walked around campus with my dog watching parents with frowns in mini-vans lugging boxes for anxious teens. If I try hard, I might be able to recall that delighted teen boy that was I 40 years ago!! I was thinking, Free at last! Free at last! Thank God Almighty I'll be Free At Last! Ha. And then I was awake at 6 a.m. to work in the cafeteria. I think Hobart and I washed many an egg-smeared plate that year ... I wish all well and wonder how many of you are thinking of enjoying that odd period of life called 'retirement'? I might have another nine years ... until Free At Last

... Branton Shearer, 1973-1974, the Last Western Year"

David and I are well. He's still happily employed at Rockwell Automation (the Allen Bradley Division in nearby Twinsburg). I spent the last year involved in various projects every bit as eclectic as I am. I spent months researching vintage costume jewelry, some time trying to artistically (I hope) cut and paste a good friend's nine patents so they can be transferred to Metalphoto. We joined a CSA — "community supported agriculture" — and began to write a book about the experience, and a friend and I are researching a small, out-of-the-way Irish cemetery here in Hudson.

Life is very good. I'd love to hear from you; you know how to reach me. All good wishes for a fantastic 2014!

Kim Rotonto Dregalla '77
6971 Darrow Rd.
Hudson, Ohio 44236
westerncollege77@aol.com

... Post Script



Martha "Marty" Ley '65 died of pancreatic cancer in February 2006. Now her partner of 28 years, Joelle Yuna, has put together a beautiful book of Marty's photographs and writings to, in her words, "honor Martha's voice and vision." Always a gifted photographer and story teller, Marty didn't begin writing seriously about her life and experiences until the 1990s — even though she gives Western professor Ruth Limmer full credit as her inspiration. Limited copies of *Voice & Vision* are available for a small donation to the charity of your choice. For information, contact Joelle Yuna: jdakotaj@aol.com.

In Memoriam

Frances Hall King '29
Trustee, 1974-77; 1984-87
Class Representative, 1974-
July 2013

May Moore Friend '33
December 2008

Leah A. Higgins '33
March 2010

Susannah Brown Cowden '36
June 2013

Carolyn Duvall Campbell '37
April 2013

Marjory Wallingford Meanwell '40
May 2013

Eleanor Barr Schwab '40
September 2013

Ruth Harry Hathaway '41
May 2013

Georgann Shufflebarger '41
February 2010

Ora Jane Craig Tipton '42
Trustee, 1977-80
July 2013

Jane Moore Black '43
January 2013

Helen Fahnle Dhonau '43
February 2013

Charlotte Schmidt-Fellner '43
February 2013

Barbara Staff Kaplan '44
May 2013

Jean Bass Tinsley '44
September 2013

Suzanne Goldberg Gruber '46
May 2013

Alice Clark Vidler '47
December 2012

Patricia Magini Caruso '48
May 2013

Lucy Seiter McClelland '48
July 2013

Carolyn Lloyd Lindquist '49
June 2013

Anne Dick Pew '49
October 2013

Irene Freedman Speare '49
September 2013

Joan Elliott Dunn '51
June 2013

Carol Davis Payne '51
June 2012

Mary "Polly" Jackson Currie '52
December 2012

Joann Bolster Snyder '52
March 2013

Jeannine Faust Kennedy '53
October 2011

Netti Mills Grove '53
2013

Louise Taylor Wright '53
June 2009

Bulletin policy is to list deaths of Western College alumnae, former administrators, faculty and staff in "In Memoriam." WCAA trustees and Bulletin class representatives will be so designated and their terms of service noted. Obituaries are not printed, but class representatives are notified and encouraged to include personal remembrances in class notes at their discretion. Administrators and faculty members with exceptional, long-term service will be eulogized. (Deaths that occurred more than five years prior to publication are not included.)

We regret that most WCP classes are not 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 receive a reply from the Class Rep. If your class is not included — either here or on page 47, there is no designated Class Rep. In that case, please send your update directly to wcaa@miamioh.edu. **We want to hear from you!** While well aware of the many alternative ways of keeping in touch with each other, we continue to believe the WCAA Bulletin is your 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 class news deadline, turn to page 47.

'81



Greg and son Alex, in Prague

A graduate of the University of Denver Law School, **Greg Russi** is an attorney primarily representing workers' compensation claimants. Greg is a member of the New Castle [Colorado] Town Council and advocates the preservation of open space and the development of trails within them. Greg's son Alex is a senior at NYU majoring in art and art history.

Greg says that his Western College experience was instrumental and transformative. His life has followed a certain trajectory, as if he were blown out of a peculiar cannon at Western. At first, Greg wandered. Law school was a particularly negative experience because the typical legal education stresses neither philosophical inquiry nor critical contextual thinking. Later while practicing, he found the interdisciplinary technique indispensable and realized he could

bring Western's unusual gifts to bear on a trade. In a sense, he had received the best of both worlds academically.

I am sad to report that our Class of 1981 classmate, **Alan Kalish**, lost his wife to cancer. Claudia Kalish died on September 21, 2013, after a valiant four-year struggle with brain cancer.

Tim Matune '81
tmatune@cafarocompany.com

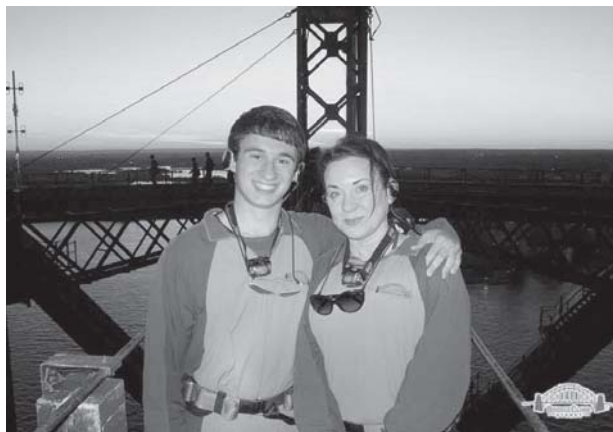
'85



News from **Sue Merrilees**: "I moved to Australia in late 2011 to take a position at the University of Sydney's Medical Foundation, and have been enjoying life 'Down Under' ever since. No accent yet, but I have picked up sailing and am watching rugby matches."

And she sent a terrific picture in the hope of inspiring classmates to share their adventures on these pages!

WCAA, Inc.
wcaa@miamioh.edu



Sue Merrilees '85 with her 17-year-old nephew, doing the Bridge Climb on Sydney Harbour at sunset

'89



Twenty-five years, gang! Find yourself in your class picture, page 40 — then attend the WCAA 2014 all-Western reunion June 20-22 and compare notes.

Dana Lundell '89
bugabooumn@yahoo.com

'91



We sent Lara a class list, but apparently her attempted "shakedown" yielded no results. No news is not good news, '91ers!

Lara Osborne '91
lara.osborne@gmail.com

'93



To the Class of 1993: As I write this, details are being finalized for the quinquennial all-

Western reunion in Oxford next week. There has been a lot of excited chatter on Facebook, but also many more regrets expressed than "see you there." Unfortunately, I count myself among those who wish they could attend but I am previously committed. It would be wonderful to connect with all of you in person again, to sing "Will the Circle Be Unbroken," sample a Peabody seminar, dine in Alexander (although I'm told the dining hall is being rebuilt). I'm not really a sentimental guy, but I have vivid memories of the last get-together, a bittersweet weekend

commemorating the end of an era, where we cried, we laughed, we drank and we re-kindled a love for learning long since dulled by the drudgery of life's relentless responsibilities.

I'll be honest with you. I've spent much of the last five years very angry with Miami University about the dismantling of Western as an academic division. That was also the year Facebook opened to the masses, and one by one members of our little community found each other. ...

Facebook doesn't supersede the need for this annual missive, however. A good number of our cohort is either not on Facebook or has kept their participation hidden from me. That said, most of the updates contained herein are the result of me nagging the folks I can reach on Facebook. We would love to hear from the rest of you next year.

Jeff Sikorovsky sounds happy in West Virginia, reporting that he is "head coach of [daughter] Zoey Rose soccer team called the Crickets and newly-named Marketing Director for HospiceCare here in Charleston." He also very generously offers "lunch on me for any classmates heading by the Gold Dome on I-77/64. Stop and let me show off the most beautiful state capitol in the nation."

Noemi Margaret Robinson checks in with verse:

*I was busy all day, from morning to dark
Making sure sailing fans left not a mark
Working all summer
Is kind of a bummer
But at least it was spent in a park
I did get away for a big Vespa fest
Scooting in Mexico was totally best
Drinks from señor
Have helped me ignore
The pitiful National League West
Max is near seven, and in second grade
Willful, funny and of cuteness made
He does make me daft
With his love of Minecraft
But still for this one I won't trade*

She adds a P.S.: "Now that I've thrown down the gauntlet, I'm going to be disappointed if there isn't a haiku or two, or perhaps a sonnet in the next update. After that of course, we can discuss the patriarchal nature of different forms of poetry."

Brady Christoph reports that he is embarking on a new career: "After spending time in elementary education and wildland fire I am making a third stab at a new career. This fall I am beginning work on a doctorate in physical therapy at the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, WA. I continue to enjoy spending time cooking and running with my wife and two middle school aged sons."

Ericka McDonald (nee Yaeger) sounds like she's taken on the toughest assignment of us all: homeschooling her kids! But the periodic updates she sends are inspiring me to consider giving it a go. "Hi! I'm busy making art, frequenting the farm markets, and tirelessly reading in Baltimore with my husband (Neal) and kids (Ella and Henry)," Erick writes. "I recently made a big career change from strategic planner/consultant (for information systems) to public librarian. And we just decided to homeschool the kids this year (deep breath... here we go..)! Hope you all are well. Would love to hear from you (emcdonald70@gmail.com). Xoxo"

Amy Glesius sent a photograph of her brood and a promise of an update ... if she had time. When you see her brood, you'll understand why she might not have had time!

Other than that, I did get to spend time in the last year with other Western types. Technically, I know, **Ben Gibbons** and **Robin Whitsell** (nee **Sylvester**) graduated in 1994, but they matriculated with us in 1989, so I consider them every bit as part of this class. I had the great fortune to catch up with Ben and his gorgeous family in August when they road tripped to D.C. And I spent the week before seeing Ben with Robin and her family at their beach house in North Carolina, where the kids bonded over marathon sessions of Let's Dance on Xbox while the adults did more civilized things like consume adult beverages and discuss current events (with more and more passion as the night went on, natch). Both Ben and Robin are excelling professionally, and it was a pleasure to see them.

I also get to see **Jeremy Holmes** a lot, since he lives just a few miles from me. He's super busy chasing after his 3-year-old, David, and continues his mastery of finance at the Federal Aviation Administration.

Me? Not much changes for me these days. Like Jeff, I am a coach, only for softball rather than soccer. Both my girls are playing fast-pitch softball, and I am the head coach of one team and the assistant on the other. It's a lot of work, but also super rewarding to watch my players improve and progress. Practices and games are a welcome break from the day-to-day job of marketing and communications for Ernst & Young.

I did get to travel to Moscow this past May. That was exciting. While there I ran into a friend from high school in Worthington, Ohio, which was completely random (but those of you on Facebook already know this since I only uploaded about 2,235 pictures). I also caught up with some (non-Western)



Amy Glesius' brood: Big sis Stella + triplets

Miami University friends while there. I also made a trip to Ottawa, and I may be off to Singapore next month.

I do get a lot of ribbing about my job these days. The cool travel aside, it's pretty opaque what I do — a lot of speechwriting, articles, strategic public relations, etc. The official description of my duties is — wait for it — "thought leadership." But if you think about it, this is the one thing I actually trained to do in college. When we graduated in 1993, I wrote on my mortar board, "Will Think for Food." Twenty years later, I literally do.

Anyhow, that's it for now. I hope this letter finds you healthy, happy, and at peace. My offer for a place to stay if you find yourself in the D.C. area still stands — we have a guest room! Feel free to e-mail me directly at ryandonmoyer@gmail.com. Or, as I've already pointed out, I'm easily found on Facebook.

Until next year, may you have new dreams, maybe better dreams and plenty, before the next revolving year is through.

Ryan Donmoyer '93
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Alexandria, VA 22302
thedonmoyers@gmail.com



Dear class of '97, I hope this update finds you well. I don't have much to report on my end. This year has flown past! My big news is that I am expecting our second kid in mid-Feb and Lucia (now 5) is very excited to be the older sister. This year my travels for work took me to Copenhagen, Denmark (where I think I would like to live one day) and back to South Africa to begin what may become a long-ish term project designing a writing program for the University of Western Cape in Cape Town, South Africa. This will be a

huge project since it is a large university (about 30,000 students) so I expect to be traveling back and forth to Cape Town over



Class Rep Rebecca with two of her favorite animals

the next year or so. During my last visit I got to go into "the bush" and stay at a research facility near Kruger National park about 5-ish hours north of Johannesburg. The research facility has its own wild game park (for seeing not shooting!) and each morning I saw a mama warthog and her babies, tracks for their very shy cheetah, lots of impala, zebras, and my favorite super friendly and sweet giraffes!

It was great to hear from many of you and if you are on Facebook and have not friended me, please do so. I am thinking of creating a group page for these kinds of updates.

Elizabeth Warren:

Elizabeth just opened up her own law practice in Hilliard, Ohio. She is focusing on all issues pertaining to family law with an emphasis in alternative dispute resolution. She is loving life in Ohio, living with her partner, Clara Platt, and kids, Riley and Nic. If you are ever in the area feel free to stop by!



Elizabeth, in Chichen Itza

Hannah (Erich) Hardy: "In February, I started my dream job at Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens as the Director of Programming and Operations for Let's Move Pittsburgh (think First Lady Obama and healthy kids). I am interested in connecting with other alumni who are working on similar projects so please reach out at hannaehardy@gmail.com. Still living in Pittsburgh, the mom of a second-grader!!! (Galen) and kindergartner (Ezra)."

Christopher Bridges: "Now serving as the Associate Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students at Mansfield University in PA (Keeping with the MU theme), a small (3,000) public. We are up to four kids

now (and done!), Gabe is 16, Kelly at 7, EB is 3 and our girl, Virginia, is 1. If anyone is out in the Endless Mountains, stop by and say hi!"

Jessica Schultz: "After spending 14 years indulging my love for land conservation and directing stewardship work for a region land trust in Massachusetts, I was ready for a change of pace. I moved to the western part of the state two years ago and began work for the Hitchcock Center for the Environment in Amherst, MA, where I currently serve as Communications and Capital Project Coordinator. The big excitement for me is working on our new environmental center, a project that aims to achieve Living Building Certification. In my spare time I'm most often hiking or dancing, and typically found with my camera developing my photography business."

Sarah Bernhardt: "Our boys are 5 and 2. We still live in the historic neighborhood, the Heights, in Houston, Texas. I started a new job in May as the Director of the Galveston Bay Estuary Program. Please get in touch if you are ever in Houston."

Rebecca Dingo '97
rebecca.dingo@gmail.com



Michaela Meyer has been awarded tenure and promoted to Associate Professor of Communication at Christopher Newport University and is the 2013 recipient of the National Communication Association's Randy Majors Award. She also gave birth to a healthy baby boy, Caleb Dean, in February 2013.



Michaela and Caleb

After several years in Colorado, Florida is now home for **Natalie Owens**, who lives there with her partner and two children. She earned her M.B.A. in 2008. Natalie would love to hear from Western friends and can be reached at owensnr@hotmail.com.



Lloyd and Molly (Meyers) LaBadie (left) with Karla (Schneider) and Billy Guinigundo at — you guessed it! — Walt Disney World!

Molly (Meyers) LaBadie is Youth Services Lead Librarian for Worthington Libraries. She married Lloyd LaBadie in July 2013 and they live in Worthington, Ohio, with their child (a.k.a. cat), Penelope.

Leah Wilson Trotta is an Elementary Autism Specialist and Behavior Consultant for Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools in North Carolina. She and her husband Nick have two children, twins Adeline and Elliott (15 months).

Engaged to be married this December, **Marie Ptochny** lives and works in Richmond, Virginia. She received a master of fine arts in creative writing from Virginia Commonwealth University in 2010 and won the Virginia Commission for the Arts Fellowship in fiction in 2011. She has a growing list of short story publications, including one forthcoming in the December 2013 issue of the journal *Ploughshares*.

Rebecca Penix-Tadsen lives in Newark, Delaware, with husband Phill and daughters, Josie (6) and Roxy (3). She is in her second year of graduate school at the University of Delaware for Spanish literature. She spends her time traveling, nesting, gardening and composting.

I, **Karla**, returned to Oxford as a Miami University staff member in January 2012 and was recently promoted to Associate Director for Global Initiatives. My husband, Billy, and I live in West Chester, Ohio, and are proud parents to two cats, Tiger and Nala.

Karla Schneider Guinigundo '99
8179 S. Port Dr.
West Chester, OH 45069
guinigkm@miamioh.edu

'03



Joy "reached out," but to no avail. She is still ready and willing to represent the now 10+-year class!

Joy Usner '03
joyusner@hotmail.com

'07



Your Class Rep is on a leave of absence, in her last year of grad school, "cramming in as much research as possible as I write my thesis and try to make connections so I can find a job after I graduate." She'll pick up where she left off next year.

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

'09



It has been a very busy year for the members of Western class of 2009. This stage of life finds us each in different professions, locations, elevations, and depths and some even have had the opportunity to return to our college. It seems the social media posts about job offers, plane/train/U-Haul adventures and engagements/weddings are an often occurrence for our class. A few have

been so kind to take a few moments and share their updates this year:

Christopher Feran currently lives in Cleveland, where he's operations guy for a company that produces and distributes mind-altering substances (mostly those with caffeine). He encourages competitors to stay out of his territory and offers the following advice: "You have to respect the science." He enjoys riding bikes and trolling n00bs on the Internet.

Jan Shanklin is still living in Washington DC and working at a law firm called Hogan Lovells doing corporate law. In addition, she has continued to serve as a member of the Pre-Law Alumni Advisory Board at Miami University, a position she has had since 2010. This position not only allows Jan to work with Miami University alumni to advise and support the efforts of the Pre-Law Program, it also allows her to venture back to Oxford twice a year.

Amy Humphrey is living in Chicago and working on her doctorate in clinical psychology. She is busy writing her dissertation about transgendered individuals and the effect transitioning has on the significant relationships in their lives. She is also an advanced therapy extern at Roosevelt University's Counseling Center.

Garret Koehler quit his job a year ago at the world's largest online group coupon factory ("Groupon") and moved to the world's largest bankrupt municipality to organize a grassroots campaign to persuade ESPN to make Detroit the new home of the Summer X Games. This was a pet project with fellow Western Alum and non-action sports athlete Kevin Krease. Garret can't stand on a skateboard, but had an appreciation for the immediate economic impact an event of that scale would have on Detroit, and was interested in the long term social, economic, and

cultural impact the re-branding opportunity would have on the city's nascent revitalization. Together, they turned a coffee-shop idea into a finalist bid and a regional movement, but ultimately lost to Austin this past summer. Upon losing they decided to develop their own festival experience and engagement platform that aims to amplify and further the rebuilding of Detroit by showcasing its emerging energy through the contexts of music, action sports, social innovation, and art. It's called ASSEMBLE, it launches in August 2014, and tickets are very discounted for Western Majors who aren't practicing corporate law. For those who are, sponsorships and VIP tickets are available. MOVE TO DETROIT.

I am living in Atlanta and working at Deloitte Consulting LLP within the Public Sector practice. I spend the bulk of my days helping those in large Federal Health Agencies do more with less. I consistently get to use my global health experience and travel here and there (most recently to New Delhi India!) and have always returned safely for which I am very thankful. In addition to working, I fill my days adventuring with my husband and 2-year old puppy, mentoring students from Miami and Emory (where I did my Masters), and playing tennis.

I recently came across the transcript from Dean Gracie's commencement remarks at our graduation ceremony, from which I will leave you all with one quote, "each of us must know when to ask questions; when to explore...most importantly—all of us must learn to act on what we have discovered and to act on what we know... [as it] sometimes brings results and compensation that will shake us to the foundation." Western love ...

Alison Kernohan Sullivan '09
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Class of 1989 . . . As You Were Twenty-five Years Ago!



Western College Program Mega-Reunion!

Dear Friends: The weather was spectacular and Western welcomed us home, as she always does, with open arms. Peabody has aged gracefully with both elegance and classic style. Thanks to **Donna Shalala** (Yes, that Donna Shalala and WCAA Alum) there is a new set of furniture on the front porch including a large table and matching chairs, comfy benches and new glider. Leonard is as warm and inviting as ever with lots of high tech upgrades behind the scenes, a perfect blend to show the new digital re-release of *Fresh-western* complete with intro from **Phil Paternite**, well wishes from **Pat Prim** and kudos to **Zharko Levak's** students circa 1979. I for one was misty-eyed looking back to those simple slow-paced days when personal communication devices and video chats were only found on episodes of *Star Trek*.

We laughed, we sang, we ate, we drank (Thank you. Western 3.0 for the open bar!!!), we walked the hills and questioned the wisdom of the Shore-to-Slimy-Shore cardboard boat race across the duck pond (I still have a persistent rash). For those of us who made the pilgrimage, our memories were made clear again (We all had to help each other fill in some blank spots but that was half the fun). The images, both old and new are now fresh in our minds, complete with the smell of falling leaves, the touch of soft breezes cooled by a long slow trip through Western Woods and the sound of familiar voices calling us by nicknames that we have not heard in many years. Yes, the faces were older, the hair a little grayer, the vintage rock concert tee shirts a little tighter but the big smiles and the warm hugs were timeless and nourished a part of our souls that can only be reached by

friends that shared those cherished years when we were both kids entering the world on our own for the first time and young adults forming ideas, opinions and dreams that would take a lifetime to realize. We knew everything and nothing all at once. (This is where **Mike Lunine** would make a Zen reference, something to the effect ...”The Dali Lama walks up to a hotdog vendor and says “ ‘Please, make me one with everything.’ ”)

Thank you, thank you, thank you to all who joined us for the 40th anniversary of our beloved Western College Program and everyone that worked so hard to make it happen. Honor and appreciation to those who came before us — WCAA you are an inspiration. To the students of the WP-Western 3.0, enjoy coming down to class in your pajamas, eat, drink and be merry at your community dinners, don't geek out too much over your Senior Projects and know that there is life after Western. We are living proof that an Interdisciplinary-Individualized Studies education has a meaningful and purposeful place in the world and that you are going to be just fine, in fact, you are going to be great! We made a commitment to you during the reunion to reach out and be as helpful as we can be by sharing our experience and insight with any of you that would like it. **Mike Conaway**, our new Alumni Board president, will be overseeing the building of the foundations of programs, networks and connections that will join our Alums with your interests and efforts. Together, We are Western. See you all in five years.

— *John Rego*

Retired President of the WCP Alumni Board



WCP and WP alums, already commingling at the 2013 All-Western Reunion (left to right): David Schmidt (Architecture '89), Hannah Mills WP '13, Liz Cantonwine Schmidt WCP '91, Mike Conaway WCP '90, Emily Volkmann WP '13, Andy Miller WCP '88, and Colin Matsumoto WP '13

The Western Program

Message from the Director

Fall Semester Update: Western is hosting the 35th Annual Conference for the Association for Interdisciplinary Studies (AIS) in November and we are very busy organizing this event in Peabody Hall. **Dr. William Newell**, Professor of Interdisciplinary Studies in the Western College Program, was one of the founding members of the association.



Nik Money

Meanwhile, seniors in today's Western Program are embarking upon their capstone projects, and I thought that you might enjoy reading a little about three of the projects. **Jeff Folz** is examining similarities and differences in the research practices of faculty in the sciences and the humanities. Scientists can claim, with significant philosophical support, that the only way of knowing anything with a high degree of confidence is to test alternative ideas by experimentation. Objectivity is the essential ethic in science. With recent publicity about widespread errors in biomedical studies, however, it is evident that there are problems with the application of this method. Many scientists assume that scholars in the humanities use entirely different approaches for answering questions. Our student, Jeff, is not convinced that there are fundamental differences in practice and is looking for evidence of similarities in inquiry between, for example, me, as a biologist.

Another major, **Jacie Nowland**, is interested in the psychology of happiness and is exploring different therapeutic techniques used to enhance a patient's sense of well-being. There is, of course, no universal definition of happiness, and happiness may be most evident to us when it is absent. This is interesting given the emphasis placed on cheerfulness in our Declaration of Independence. Jacie is looking at research on happiness — you may be surprised to learn that there is a peer-reviewed periodical titled *Journal of Happiness Studies* — and is particularly interested in Buddhist ideas about contentment.

A third student, **Kyle Sauerbrunn**, is studying geographical illiteracy, which is viewed as a common characteristic of Americans. The inability of a middle-school student to find Spain on a map may seem relatively unimportant given other educational deficiencies, but speaks to a much wider isolation from national and global concerns. Kyle is conducting an experiment to see whether some simple lessons can increase geographical literacy.

We have 11 seniors this year and all of them have compelling subjects for their projects. We are looking forward to hearing about the results of their studies next spring.

— Nicholas P. Money

Western Program Director, Professor of Botany

Last Year's Graduation Class . . . Also Eleven!



Report from the Western Program Student Activities Coordinator

Goings On In Peabody Hall

I am writing to you from my cozy office in Peabody. I cannot imagine a better place to take in the snowy landscape of Western Campus. Reflecting on this past semester brings only happy thoughts.

In October, we hosted our annual Spiders & Cider Event. Students enjoyed hot apple cider and a few brave souls held one of our friendly tarantulas! Our students are constantly pushing themselves to be more aware of the beautiful and mysterious world that surrounds them.

In November, several Western Program students took the opportunity to partake in a panel presentation at the 35th Annual Association for Interdisciplinary Studies Conference. They reflected upon the benefits and challenges of student-to-student mentoring. They represented the Western Program with exuberance and wit. The panel was hosted by **Hays Cummins** (Western Program Faculty) and **Audree Riddle** (WCP '10).



Kaleb Campbell and friend



In December, Dr. Cummins received a University Distinguished Teaching Award for excellence. For details, go to: <http://miamioh.edu/news/top-stories/2013/12/teaching-awards.html>.

During the last week of classes I had the pleasure of listening to a group presentation in WST 341, a course focused on learning through service. The group (**Derek Biggers, Andrea Christman, Jeff Folz, Keelan Jamison, Kyle Sauerbrunn, and Ali Vincent**) pictured above, coordinated a non-violence training workshop. Bringing together their workshop experiences for us, they focused their presentation upon how to bring forth the spirit of Freedom Summer to enact positive social change in the present.

We will miss the students' energy over the extended winter break, but they are sure to enjoy some well-deserved rest.

— Hannah Mills '13
Student Activities Coordinator

And what are Western Program alums doing in their post-grad lives? Here are two answers ...

From Colin Matsumoto '13: *After graduating I'm living again at home in Westerville, Ohio. Working at Franklin Park Conservatory as the Exhibitions Assistant, where I help plan, install, and maintain the artwork. Making my own art, planning new projects. Currently awaiting the arrival of girlfriend Cayla Adams (WCP 2010) for a Christmas visit home from the Peace Corps in Ukraine.*

From Sarah Hess '13: *I am in my final semester at Miami. After graduation, I will be moving to West side of Cincy and continuing to work at The Hole In The Wall Bar as Bar Manager. Once enough money is saved, I will be moving back to my home state of California (!) to pursue my career in film.*

Nota Bene

At Miami — Project Dragonfly



Applications are now being accepted for 2014 field courses and the Global Field Program master's, which offer groundbreaking courses in 13 countries throughout Africa, Asia, Australia and the Americas. New for 2014 is a course in India.

Earth Expeditions graduate courses and the Global Field Program (GFP) master's degree bring together graduate students, scientists, educators and community leaders at critical conservation sites worldwide. Sites for 2014 include the Amazon, Australia, Baja, Belize, Borneo, Costa Rica, Guyana, Hawai'i, India, Kenya, Mongolia, Namibia and Thailand.

Earth Expeditions and the GFP can be completed part-time from anywhere in the United States or abroad. They are open to educators and other professionals who hold a bachelor's degree from any discipline. For information and to apply: Earth Expeditions: <http://earthexpeditions.org> or Global Field Program: <http://gfp.miamioh.edu>.

Project Dragonfly reaches millions of people each year through inquiry-driven learning media, public exhibits and graduate programs worldwide. Dragonfly is housed at Miami University, a state university in Oxford, Ohio, established in 1809 and listed as one of the eight original Public Ivies.

At Patterson Place — more Peabodys . . .

On August 22, Charles “Phil” (great-nephew of Helen) and Thelma Peabody visited the Western Campus. They had not been part of the Peabody family contingent who



All in the family (left to right): Thelma, Helen, and Phil Peabody

attended Reunion 2012 (WCAA *Bulletin*, fall 2012), so came to see historic Helen Peabody Hall for themselves. A tour of the building was provided by Kim Ernsting, assistant director of the Western Program headquartered in Peabody. Jacky Johnson shared Western archival information on Great-Aunt Helen. WCAA staff, joined by local historian Elizabeth Johnson, met with the Peabodys at Patterson Place, where Phil and Thelma shared their Peabody family records and posed with the familiar portrait of Western’s first principal. They wrapped up their visit with a stop at her Oxford Cemetery gravesite.

. . . Shakespeare



Theater professor Howard Blanning (back left) found the parlor to be just the right setting for his fall semester Shakespeare class.

. . . and a Visiting Alum



Judi Hampton '64 (left) with WCAA director Mackenzie Becker Rice

In October, when distinguished alumna **Judi Hampton '64** was invited by Miami to speak as part of a “Freedom Summer: Understanding the Past, Building the Future” series of events sponsored by the Center for American and World Cultures and Institutional Diversity, the WCAA invited her to an informal dinner with a few area alums. President of documentary film company Blackside, Inc., Judi has over 30 years of experience as a business skills seminar leader and coach, professor, and public relations executive. Western memories were shared, ideas exchanged, and a good time was had by all!

At Area Clubs — in Indy . . .



October 31 luncheon (from left): Jane Smucker Fryman '58, Sue Off Schrope '52, Emily Greenland '47, Luci Bilsland Galloway '59, Pam Watts Coates '70, Sally Raub Alkire '58, Barbara Wolf '55, and Linda Watts '73

From the Archives

Archivist **Jacky Johnson** has more than a few irons in the fire this year.

On September 14, the Smith Library of Regional History and the Western College Memorial Archives sponsored a program in observance of the 160th anniversary of Western's chartering in 1853. Retired art historian Elizabeth Johnson presented an illustrated talk on Helen Peabody Hall.



Jacky (left) with Elizabeth Johnson (center) and Smith Library director Valerie Elliott

The WCMA/University Libraries received a \$10,000 grant from the Ohio Humanities Council for the production of a documentary focusing on the events of Freedom Summer in Oxford. In addition they also received \$1,000 from the Oxford Community Center and \$1,000 from the Miami Humanities Center. Portions of the documentary, titled *Finding Freedom*, were filmed on campus this fall.

The Pictorial History of Western College: 1853-1974, which she has written for Arcadia Publishing's "Campus History Series" is in production and expected to be available for sale by April 2014. Westerners can look forward to serious browsing at Alumnae Weekend!

. . . and Dayton



December 10 holiday tea (ascending left): Martha Cowden '64; Kathleen Turner '64; Sue Mayer Falter '57; Kaye Wolke, WCAA staff; Mary Kay Droste Feller '57; Joan Willitts Glatte '53; Nancy Johannes Campbell '64. Descending middle: Nancy McGregor Nowak '64; Ursula Seeler Parobek '60; Radmila Adamovich Sullivan '60; Cathy Bauer Cooper '60. Kneeling: Debbie Baker, WCAA staff; above her: Mackenzie Becker Rice, WCAA director. Not pictured: Kathy Fansher Parnell '65.

Finally, Jacky is spending winter term (December 27, 2013-January 24, 2014) in Luxembourg with Miami University's faculty-led study abroad program. She and Miami English professor Gwen Etter-Lewis will be teaching *Ways With Words*, a workshop taking a comparative look at women's historical journals, modern-day blogging, and oral histories.

Policy Statement

The Western College Memorial Archives is dedicated to acquiring and preserving any and all materials directly related to the Western College for Women. The Archives includes Boards of Trustees records dating back to 1853, original materials from Western College presidents and an impressive photographic collection. Primary sources are available in a variety of media including audio and video.

The following categories of resources are included in the Western College Memorial Archives:

Materials produced by or about the college such as administrative records, policies, catalogs, biographical information about faculty and alumnae, Western College publications, photographs, and other documentary media.

Reference copies of monographs reflecting the history of Western College for Women.

Freedom Summer materials directly related to activities that occurred in 1964.

The Miami University Libraries welcomes the donation of materials appropriate to the mission and scope of the Archives, as determined by the Western Archivist.

Alumni of the current Western Program may send items for delivery to the University Archives in Withrow Court.

Alumnae Service Award Call For Nominations

The Board of Trustees invites nomination(s) of any alumna, alumnus, former faculty member, 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 2014, June 20-22. Please fill out the form below and mail by **February 28, 2014** 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*

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

Past Award Recipients

(please do not re-nominate) * deceased	
2013	Lolita McDavid '69 Yoriko Konishi Meguro '61 Cary Kimbark Revere '53
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 February 28, 2014.**

- 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 _____

Send your news for the Spring '14 Bulletin NOW!

E-mail, or clip and mail the form below to your Class Rep or the WCAA by February 2!

If no name is listed for your class, please send your update to the WCAA address.

Dear Class Rep: _____

Your full name and class year: _____

Address: _____

Phone number and e-mail address: _____

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Western Alumnae/i Weekend 2014 June 20-22

The Soul of Western:



Join us on the Western College Campus as we ...
Celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the WCAA
Honor the 5-year Anniversary Classes
Commemorate Freedom Summer 1964
Reconnect with old friends and make a few new ones too!