

the Bulletin

Western College Alumnae Association, Inc.
Fall/Winter 2019



A Building for All Seasons ...

From the WCAA Director

Dear Westerners,

We hope you are in the midst of a joyous and holiday season. We are wrapping up a busy and impactful year here at the WCAA.

I am pleased to report Alumnae Weekend was a huge success this year. We had a great time and it was great fun to hear all the memories being shared and watch new friendships being made. I hope you plan to come back home next year. Please also be on the watch for alumnae events near you. We encourage you to contact the WCAA office to plan a get-together in your area. We will be happy to attend and to help with all the planning.



Mackenzie

The Board of Trustees met three times this year. Each was an incredibly productive meeting. At all of them — but especially the last meeting in October — the Board spent a lot of time preparing for the sunset of the WCAA Inc. in 2024. As most of you are probably attuned to by now, I love quotes. Shortly after the last meeting, I saw this from an unknown author: *A bird sitting in a tree is never afraid of the branch breaking, because its trust is not in the branch, but in its wings.* It struck me as a powerful metaphor for what the Board is so faithfully doing.

Our branch, the WCAA Inc. itself, will be changing form in 2024. Rightfully so, the Board spends their time not worrying about the branch, as the decision to close down was made years ago. Instead, the Board's focus is on strengthening the wings of Western. The Board's trust and faith in the Spirit of Western and the value of the legacy mandates that they march forward to secure everything in place by 2024 in order to soar well beyond. This mandate comes with a great deal of detailed work and diligence. But always, they operate mindful of the solid mission of the WCAA: to support education and human values. You can rest easy knowing that everything is being done so that even without an incorporated alumnae association after 2024, Western will soar. Let our wings carry us well many, many years into the future

Happiest of holidays to you and yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mackenzie', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mackenzie Becker Rice HA
Director, WCAA

If you have included the WCAA in your deferred giving plans, please confirm your gift designation with staff: (513) 529-4400, e-mail: wcaa@miamioh.edu.

IMPORTANT REMINDER:
MAKE SURE BENEFICIARY IS THE *WESTERN COLLEGE ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION, INC.*,
NOT *WESTERN COLLEGE*.

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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: For our fall/winter issue, two of Peabody Hall's best seasons. On the back cover, the WCAA Board of Trustees and Miami's President and Ambassador Crawford look forward to 2020 reunions.

Photo credits: Debbie Baker, Peabody and pumpkins, October 2019; Board of Trustees with Crawfords. Archives, courtesy of Jacky Johnson, Peabody and bicycles, winter ca. 1977.



BLUE CARDS (see page 39) DUE UPON RECEIPT!

Don't wait for the Groundhog Day deadline — send your news and pictures NOW.

Your dedicated Class Rep will thank you for making her job easier.

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Peabody Expanded, Western Rewarded:

Meet the New Western Center for Social Impact and Innovation!

With the launch of the Western Center for Social Impact and Innovation — *anchored in Peabody Hall* — we are pleased to introduce the first cohort of passionate Social Impact and Justice Scholars. The scholars program is a joint venture between the Western Program and the Department of Sociology and Gerontology. Scholars are provided with \$2,000 per year for four years, and opportunities for additional funding for those who become actively engaged in Western Center programming.

The purpose of the scholarship is to encourage students from any academic discipline to infuse their studies with an ongoing commitment to social responsibility and to influence the wider campus and community responses to the overarching social and environmental challenges of the 21st century. The ultimate goal of the scholarship is to help students pursue their personal interests in and develop the skills to address complex social problems (e.g., affordable housing, international migration, clean water access, violence, etc.), so they will be ready to contribute to practical solutions at every stage of their careers after graduation.

The SIJS is debuting this year with an inaugural cohort of 16 outstanding scholars — 15 are young women — with a clear passion for social impact. The students have an average high school GPA of 4.1 and are very diverse in their chosen majors and their social



Special guests of the WCAA Board at their October meeting: Jacque Daugherty (Acting Director, Western Center), Gabi Hattar (SIJS), CAS Dean Chris Mackaroff, Caroline Riley (SIJS), Kalia Russell (SIJS), and Mercy Hawks (WC Student Programming Assistant)

causes. The following students illustrate the range of interests and backgrounds of the scholars:

Gaby Hattar is an incoming Early Childhood Education major who has deep investment in alleviating poverty around the world. Gaby has volunteered throughout her high school experience and is currently involved in a nonprofit organization called GLAM (Give Like A Mother). She wants to work on issues of educational access for children in poverty and is interested in the role that schools can play in addressing other needs such as hunger



In October, the WCAA Board met with Dean Makaroff, Western Center staff, and three young women of the first SIJS cohort.

Grace Kelly is a Political Science major, with potential law school interests. She is passionate about public policy and aspires to work in state or federal government. She helped to organize last spring's March for Our Lives in Cleveland.

Caroline Riley, a young woman of Lebanese heritage from Tennessee, is an incoming Strategic Communication major with social marketing and nonprofit interests. She plans to combine her major with the SIJS to become an advocate for refugees displaced around the world. As a student of the Tennessee Governor's School for International Studies, she is committed to addressing local and global concerns.

Kalia Russell is a Psychology and Sociology double major with interests in comparative approaches to the juvenile criminal justice system. She wants to learn how to solve issues on a global scale while recognizing the impact each decision has on a society and an individual person.

Ellie Walker, originally from Normal, Illinois, is coming to Miami as a Political Science major with intercultural and gender studies interests. She is looking forward to studying abroad and using her time at Miami to explore a number of different interests and career paths. She has taken on leadership roles in her high school, including as a member of Illinois State Senator Jason Barickman's Youth Advisory Council.

The Social Impact and Justice Scholars program is another link in the long chain of Western College's legacy, and is defined by its commitment to educating ethical, creative, and globally minded leaders.

— *Mercy Hawks, Western Center Intern*

— *Jacque Daugherty, Western Center Acting Director*

— *Nicholas Money, Western Program Director*

Learn about the ICA Inclusive Excellence Award!

Saturday, October 19, was a beautiful fall day in Oxford. Crowded and bustling, as all home football weekends, this one was special. It was Family Weekend and Senior Day, the game was broadcast live on ESPN and the Miami RedHawks beat the Northern Illinois Huskies 27-24.

And one more thing ...

During the first half, **the Western College Alumnae Association was presented the Intercollegiate Athletics Inclusive Excellence Award for Western's role in promoting diversity and inclusion, both as an academic institution and alumnae organization!**



President Greg and Ambassador Renate Crawford applaud as Athletic Director David Saylor prepares to hand the award to WCAA trustees Sharry Addison '61 (left) and Barbara Wentz '68.

Each year, the Office of the President, the Office of Institutional Diversity, and Intercollegiate Athletics recognize members of the Miami community who work to advance diversity and inclusion with this award. This year the “Women of Western” were among the honorees. Here is the website description: *The Western College Alumnae Association came into existence in 1974, and in 2019, celebrated its 45th anniversary, with membership numbering nearly 3,600 throughout the United States and the world. Their mission is two-fold: to preserve communication within the Western family and to support education and human values.* For a list and description of the other 2019-2020 winners, go to <https://miamioh.edu/diversity-inclusion/ica-award/index.html>.

Among the cheering fans in Yager Stadium were Western alumnae and trustees **Sharry Patterson Addison '61** and **Barbara Williamson Wentz '68**, who were there (along with their husbands, Harry and Erv MU '66) not only to enjoy the game but to accept the award on behalf of the WCAA. Barbara says, “It was great fun being at a college football game again. The recognition by Miami was terrific and it is truly wonderful that they recognize the influence Western has had on Miami. I wanted to wear blue, but they asked us to wear red. My shirt under the red jacket is blue!”

And continuing on a serious note, Sharry concurs, “It was an honor to accept the special recognition for Western College and the WCAA. As Greg [President Crawford] and Renate [Ambassador Crawford] presented the award, they told me, ‘that award recognizes who Western was as well as the WCAA today.’ Greg repeatedly says that Western was on the cutting edge and has influenced change at Miami today.”



Barbara Wentz accepts the certificate from MU Director of Athletics David Saylor.



From the WCAA Board President

The year 1964 was intense, and memorable for many reasons. Nationally, the “War on Poverty” was announced by President Lyndon B. Johnson; a Presidential election was underway; and the Viet Nam War escalated as President Johnson authorized the deployment of U.S. combat units. On the domestic front, Civil Rights protests were becoming increasingly aggressive. The 24th amendment to the Constitution eliminating the poll tax in federal elections was passed, and in July, President [Johnson](#) signed the [Civil Rights Act of 1964](#) into law, preventing employment discrimination due to race, color, sex, religion or national origin. (Title VII of the Act established the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission — EEOC — to help prevent workplace discrimination.)



Janet

In Oxford that spring, students celebrated and danced to the Beatles tunes like “I Want to Hold Your Hand” and “She Loves You” and sang along with Bob Dylan’s third album, “The Times They Are A-Changing.” In April, Miami hosted the Freedom Singers and Dick Gregory. Members of the Class of 1964 graduated in the elegant Ernst Nature Theatre just weeks before **President Herrick B. Young** led a Western College Seminar to the Middle East. Our group of 38 people — Dr. and Mrs. Young, two alumnae, 28 students (I among them), and other faculty and staff (including **Gail James** and **Ruth Limmer**) departed for Europe on July 7th for a ten-week tour that included stops in Madrid, Rome, Athens, Cairo, Beirut, Tel Aviv, Teheran, Ankara, Istanbul, and Copenhagen. That trip, with visits to heads of state, American schools, museums, ruins and antiquities, was amazing and truly transformative for those of us privileged to travel.

As we prepared to explore the world, 800 student volunteers in the Mississippi Summer Voter Registration Project, now known as “Freedom Summer,” were on Western’s campus in Oxford. When no other college or university, including Miami, was open to hosting the training project on their campus, President Young and

Dean Phyllis Hoyt approved the request of the sponsoring organizations. The students underwent training to register voters from June 14th to 27th and then were dispatched to Mississippi, where on June 21st, three young Freedom Summer activists went missing and were later found to be abducted and killed. This tragedy galvanized the nation and triggered a critical turning point in the Civil Rights Movement.

The lives of those valiant men, James Chaney, Andrew Goodman and Michael Schwerner, have been honored at Miami University as part of the breathtakingly beautiful Freedom Summer Memorial next to Kumler Chapel. Now, on the 55th anniversary of their deaths, the students in Miami’s Associated Student Government (ASG) have proposed naming the internal common areas of the three new Western Campus residence halls (Beechwoods, Hillcrest, and Stonebridge) after them. President Gregory Crawford wrote: “...in championing this tribute, the students have stated the naming will ‘provide a creative and unique way of commemorating individuals who dedicated their lives to the civil rights movement, and ultimately lost their lives as a result of their dedication, intentionality, and courage.’”

We members of the Board of the WCAA, Inc. heartily endorse this proposal from ASG and see it as an opportunity for recurring teachable moments about the culture and ideals of our singular College. The stories of Western College’s reach, influence, commitment and courage will proliferate and will, we hope, continue to permeate Miami’s culture. Our lived experience is the current students’ history; our spirit, the Spirit of Western, lives on!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Janet Smith Dickerson Stephens".

Janet Smith Dickerson Stephens '65
President, WCAA Board of Trustees

Speaking of the Board — Meet Your New Trustees ...

Sharry Patterson Addison '61 attended Western College for a year and graduated from the University of Cincinnati with a B.S. in Education. She taught second grade in Cincinnati for six years until her first child was born. As she and husband Harry raised their two children in Cincinnati, she became very involved in the community as a leadership volunteer. Until moving to Florida in 2001, Sharry spent many years as a national and international event volunteer serving as co-chair of the 1987 World Figure Skating Championships, consultant and hospitality chairman of the 1988 National Governors' Conference, chairman of the 1989 National Association of Counties Conference, chairman of the 1988 MLB All-Star Game, co-chair of the 2015 MLB All Star Game. She was also co-chair of the 1997 Women's NCAA Final Four. Sharry has held leadership positions for many social occasions in Cincinnati, including four Tall Stacks Balls. Sharry's greatest love, however, is Cincinnati Children's Hospital, where she has been a trustee for 31 years. Her involvement there has been extensive. She has also served as a trustee on many other boards, such as the Cincinnati American Red Cross, Springer School, Special Olympics, and Cerebral Palsy Services Center. Sharry's mother, Mary Ustick Patterson '28, was also a Western alumna.



Susan S. Blake '68 graduated from Western with a degree in art history, after having spent a year abroad in Athens, Greece. After a six-year break, she returned to school, receiving an M.A. in Teaching English as a Foreign Language (now called ESL or ESOL) from San Francisco State University. She spent 25 extremely rewarding years teaching ESL to international students at a small university near her former home just south of San Francisco. She now lives with her husband across the bay in Berkeley, where she is involved in several volunteer activities. One of her activities is being a member of the board of San Francisco Performances, which brings musical artists and dance groups to San Francisco. The school programs, which introduce children to music and dance, are very important to her. She and her husband mentor a Kenyan student in the Graduate School of Journalism at UC Berkeley, who lives at International House.



Elizabeth (Brooksie) Jacobs Harrison '65 graduated from Western with a degree in psychology. She worked in the social service field for 10 years before focusing on the field of nutrition education. She has been serving clients privately and in medical clinics for the last 46 years in Seattle, WA, Austin, TX, and Brattleboro, VT, where she currently lives. She received training through the Institute of Functional Medicine in Gig Harbor WA, and the International and American Association of Clinical Nutritionists based in Dallas, TX. She received her Board Certification as a Clinical Nutritionist in 1991. She has a strong interest in serving the mentally handicapped with healthy food choices. While in Austin, TX, she founded a group home that assisted nine highly functional young people in becoming independent from their families. Currently she is a health coach in a local rural family medical clinic part time. Also she is working to develop a group home for the highly functional mentally handicapped, providing support they need to live independently and to be able to contribute to society in a meaningful way befitting their limitations.



Cecelia (Cece) M. Peabody '68 graduated from Western with a degree in English, married, and moved from Ft. Lauderdale to New Jersey, where she taught high school English while earning her Master of Arts in Teaching (M.A.T) at Montclair University. In 1986, Cece joined her family's advertising firm, which sold local advertising on bowling scoresheets, as well as on golf scorecards and college directories. She hired and trained and set up offices across the country to service accounts, taking the reins in 1991 after her father passed. The business model changed to become a meeting and event planning and nonprofit association management company. Cece designed and taught Meeting and Event Planning and Management for many years as an adjunct instructor in community colleges in the state. Today Cece continues as the executive director of the New Jersey Turfgrass Association, which is aligned with Rutgers University Center for Turfgrass Science, and she assists with recruiting students for the Rutgers undergraduate



turfgrass management program. For more fun, Cece enjoys golf, reading, and doing jigsaw puzzles.

Peggy Littell Strang '73 graduated from Western, specializing in Spanish education. She began a graduate program in Spanish at Michigan State University, but left in '74 to marry Jim Strang, then an editorial writer for the *Cleveland Plain Dealer*. She then joined the International Department of Nordson Corporation (Amherst, OH), where she worked for 13 years, during which time she earned an M.B.A. at Case Western Reserve University. She left Nordson after the birth of her second daughter and became a full-time mother to her two daughters and her son. During



her time at home with the children, she learned to spin and weave. When her youngest was in third grade, she opened French Creek Fiber Arts, in Avon, OH, where she sold fiber and equipment for spinning, weaving, and knitting, and taught those skills. She closed the shop when her son developed epilepsy and she devoted her time to attend to his needs. She served on the Western College Alumnae Association board for two terms (1994-96, 1996-98). She continues to live in Avon with her husband and son.

... and Our Colleague (and Mackenzie's MU Counterpart), Kim Tavares

Miami University's Sept. 7, 2017 announcement:

Kim Pohlman Tavares (Miami M.B.A. '12), current senior director of advancement communications, marketing and events for university advancement at Miami University, has been named associate vice president for alumni relations and university advancement, after a national search. Her appointment is effective Sept. 20. Tavares replaces **Ray Mock (Miami '82, M.S. '83)**, who retired in June.



Kim Tavares

She has nearly 20 years of experience in membership organization strategy, communications and management. She began at Miami as director for advancement communications in 2009. Tavares was promoted to senior director for advancement communications, marketing and events and made a member of the division management team in 2015.

Among accomplishments, Tavares led a divisionwide effort celebrating the university's 2009 bicentennial across 15 cities. She led a universitywide team planning and executing the grand opening of the Armstrong Student Center and the end of the For Love and Honor campaign celebrations. She also served under Mock as a co-director of alumni marketing 2011-2015 and has been a staff member to both the Miami University Foundation Board of Directors and the Miami University Alumni Association Board of Directors.

Under Tavares, advancement's communications team grew from three full-time employees to 15. Her team has earned more than a dozen regional and international gold,

silver and bronze awards in the past nine years for programming and creative/marketing materials from CASE (Council for Advancement and Support of Education). In her new role, she will oversee an alumni relations team of 15 in the areas of alumni engagement, programming and services for Miami University's more than 212,000 alumni around the world.

Tavares earned a bachelor's degree from George Washington University.

And in Kim's own words:

"I have met with the WCAA board each year on campus as we look for ways to work together on a coordinated, thoughtful integration in 2024. With the WCAA Board's approval, the MUAA has invited Western alumnae to join Miami alumni on a Civil Rights trip, participate in Winter College (the annual alumni education event), and attend Miami's newest alumni program — Grandparents College.

"I am also excited to announce that in January 2020 we will have the first WCAA representative on the Miami University Alumni Association Board of Directors. **Greta Pope Wimp '74 (MU '75)** will serve a three-year term on the MUAA Board to work with the directors, the alumni staff, and the WCAA on additional ways to bring the WCAA into the Miami family while preserving the legacy of Western College. I am honored and humbled to be able to serve this historic institution and the phenomenal women who continue to sustain the college's legacy."

"Let us savor the good times we still have left . . ."



In lieu of blue cards or other messages from classmates, we persuaded your intrepid and faithful Class Representative to allow us to print her news. Suzy's words from a July 2019 letter and September update, slightly edited:

"Bad fall last November (2018). Seven weeks rehab and two months home health — plus 98 years — convinced me single living over, so put house on market and moved May 8 to Monticello West retirement with good and bad living — the most exciting is Bingo twice a week." (And Suzy does not play Bingo.)

She still drives and renewed her license for two more years, ordered a typewriter ribbon for "Old Faithful" from Amazon ("Anyone without any resemblance to a computer is scorned as you would not believe"), tried a Jitterbug cell phone ("not for me and my 19th-century mentality"), fired her first Realtor and hired "a lovely lady from Briggs-Freeman-Sotheby" on September 2. No word of a sale as yet.

She watches PBS, reads the *New Yorker*, works crossword puzzles, and reads library books ("where I can find any"). There are no domestic chores — housekeeping, laundry, and meals are included in her rent. "Like everything else — good and bad. However!"

Suzy did have a "birthday glorious week of three separate luncheons," including a "surprise ice cream cake" at the library where she volunteered for 20 years. ("Gorgeous flowers ... no place to put them except desk or tabletop, etc. but it was fun.")

Belated Happy 99th, Suzy!

Suzy Allburt '41
5114 McKinney Ave. A 112
Dallas, TX 75205



Ginny Cook Marquette still lives in her own home, does her own housework and cooking, and drives locally. She's active in

a church senior group, Clermont County (Ohio) Retired Teachers, and Milford Historical Society. No long trips this year "because most places require more walking than I want."

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Anne Mack Dean is enjoying her new apartment, "finally in a retirement community!" Happily, her five sons and 12 grandchildren "are all well as am I!"

Jo Harmeyer Ach is starting her 17th year, three days a week, as a volunteer at the Friends of the Public Library of Cincinnati. She still lives in her condo and plans to continue doing so. Her husband of 64 years passed away six years ago and their two sons live on the West Coast. Luckily, Jo is "very independent — so far — at the age of 94."

Marilyn Trester Woodrich is doing well, still able to live in her two-story house on a hill overlooking a large vineyard. She belongs to several book groups and is still active in AAUW and PEO. She's grateful for her education at Western and for the Trustee Scholarship that enabled her to attend.

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For the past five years, **Elaine Culver Goodwin** has been with her daughter, Abby, and her family on Southport Island, out of Boothbay Harbor, ME. She is enjoying cross-country, track, and baseball with her 16-year-old grandson, Fox. She has participated in lots of political marches and canvasses for candidates. "Go Dems!" Previously, Elaine and Alan moved from Nashville (after 25 years) and lived in Port

Townsend, WA, on the Olympic Peninsula for a decade. "I have loved the places I have been fortunate enough to live — all beautiful, interesting places — and I am not done yet!"

Anne Schiffmayer Bugbee, who lost her husband last year, has moved with the help of her son, Jeff, to a new location: 14221 E. Evans Ave., Garden Plaza #210, Aurora CO 80014.

Ann Field Spiegler wrote from Columbia, MD, confirming her address for the forthcoming Directory. Ann has four children and nine grandchildren and enjoys travel.

My news consists of buying a third-hand electric scooter, well-used but still in good working condition. It helps me to get around the long hallways of our residential community.

For the second year in a row I have not received any blue cards, so am at a loss to report much news, good or bad, from my classmates.

Jane Osgood Tatge '49
408 Coburg Village Way
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Jeanne Owen Buhler's husband, Frank (MU '50), died at age 92; they had been married 67 years. He had a very successful business career, they were able to "travel the world," and had "a very happy marriage." They raised two children and have four grandchildren and one great-grandson. Jeanne is "living a lonely but busy life" in Lynchburg, VA, and enjoying having their son and daughter living close by. She says, "My four years at Western were the beginning of a good life!"

Turning 90 without Jack to help her celebrate was something **Barbara McGill Benson** wasn't looking forward to. So her son and daughter and their spouses surprised her with a trip for them all to Las Vegas. They thought — "correctly" — that it would be a good distraction for her and a fun way to celebrate. Says Barbara, "I had such a good time being with them and didn't lose much money! Entering a new decade is pretty awesome!"

Check out the WCAA website: www.miamioh.edu/wcaa AND join the Western College Alumnae Association Facebook Group!

This has been a sad year for **Nancy Hon Krauth**, in Toddville, IA. Her husband, Norm, 89, passed away last May from senile dementia. His last two years saw a slow decline in his memory and ability to talk. "He wished to be cremated and his ashes spread in our lake, so we had a celebration of Life in June. Thirty friends and family watched our 12-year-old neighbor row his kayak out and spread Norm's ashes in the lake." On a lighter note, in July son Dave and Nancy drove to Oxford to visit her 96-year-old cousin, Don, at the Knolls. "So many new buildings and construction." They ate lunch at Mac 'n' Joe's. She plans to keep living on the acreage as long as possible.

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Lyn Dixon Present has moved to "a great retirement center" (Twin Lakes, in Cincinnati) and enjoying the many activities her independent living there allows her. Her granddaughter, Lauren, was married in Nassau in June — occasioning a "great reunion of family as well." Lyn keeps in touch with **Vesta Peters Philbrick** via phone and reports that Vesta "seems active and enjoys her life in New Hampshire with her large family nearby." She encourages "other '53ers" to update their status "so that we can communicate."

"Everything is fine here!" writes **Mary Ann McCain Lynch** (North Hollywood, CA). They celebrated her daughter's 60th birthday in Hawaii ("how time flies")! There were also trips to Salt Lake, the Bay Area, and Napa. Her granddaughter is in her fourth year of college and looking forward to graduation. Mary Ann still enjoys being a docent at the Museum of the American West — 25 years now!

Mary Avolyn "Mac" Culver Daniels shared a dramatic story in her colorful style: "Keith and I took a 'repositioning cruise' last spring from New York to London via France and Belgium. It was supposed to include other ports and last for 12 days, but was shortened to 10 for ship modifications. Many passengers did not know about the changes until they boarded! We were among the fortunate who booked Air through the cruise so our flights were correct and we knew about some of the changes in advance.

"Unfortunately, we hit a semi on the way to Chicago to fly to New York the next morning. totaled our '05 Suzuki, but were only bruised

and scratched. Did not harm the semi. Officer said, 'What the heck. Catch your plane and take your trip!' So we did."

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When I threatened my classmates with a column of nothing but my own rather routine and boring (to others) activities, a few stalwarts responded. First was a joint comment from **Barbara Giles Grant** and **Lucille Robinson Allen** saying, "We would send the blue card but we have nothing exciting to share." I think just knowing we are still alive is rather exciting! Lucille went further to say, "Bob and I are doing ok enjoying retirement. We travel to Frisco, Texas, to see our youngest son and his family. Our other two sons live in the area and we see them often."

Then **Barbara Giles Grant** responded with a note of her own. "I saw **Margaret Stackhouse Flickinger** in March at her active retirement center. She's busy as usual. My life is not so active but still doing my volunteer work at the local library. If I lose another 1/4 of an inch, I won't be able to reach the top shelves. My husband Walt died in 2015 so I invited my daughter and her husband to live at my home. They moved in May 2018. It's been great. I even have a grand-dog!"

Margaret Stackhouse Flickinger is "healthy and happy," living in a retirement community in Spring Valley, CA, singing in a large church choir, taking 10,000 steps every day, and taking care of a 7-year-old rescue dog (a Maltipoo).

I am relying on **Madelon Operer Hall's** Christmas card for her news. She now has a three-generation house as daughter Meredith and granddaughter Zoe are currently residing with them. "Granddad and I are learning daily about life in second grade. It is very rewarding to observe Zoe's progress firsthand. She amazes us with her extensive vocabulary. And she is growing from tiny, tiny aged-4 tot to a small little 8-year-old."

Sara Babcock Burneson reports family visit are a biggie in her life. She is still active, taking a Road Scholar trip to Arizona's Marble Canyon and Vermillion Cliffs and heading for Breckenridge, CO, for hiking with the family, some of whom will be hiking in support of the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. And once a year she goes to New York City to join **Kay Williams** in a week of seeing wonderful theater productions.

I heard from **Kay Williams**, herself, who began by saying, "I just appreciated how lucky I was to have been at Western in the early '50s, when roles for women were rather circumscribed. I grew up at Western. I had space to find out who I was, and what I wanted. Western gave me the courage to follow my dream: pursuing a career as an actress. Rereading my college letters I realize how the faculty allowed me to become the person I was meant to be. It was a safe time, a secure time, a generous time — very different for college kids today . . . I am no longer acting, but writing, mostly thrillers. I'm on my fourth." I have read one of them, *Kay, Butcher of Dreams*, and it was GOOD! I recommend it.

Charlene Ashing Barry also reminisced about Western. In addition to many other good things, "One existed that permeated the whole campus. At the time it was given no second thought nor was appreciated. It was taken for granted. But it gave us the freedom to explore, learn, and grow into independent, creative thinking contributors to our own adult presence, thus making the world a better place for our children and grandchildren. The thing is Safety. At Western we had no locks on our doors and often the doors were wide open all day long. We felt safe and secure. Gone are those days, dear Western. Alas, sadly, it something our college students today, our grandchildren, cannot take for granted."

Joanne Wesner Robertson and husband Jer claim they are "cutting back on our activities," but they still get together with their wide spread family at Christmas and Fourth of July and are planning a trip to a remote Russian island to see polar bears, arctic foxes, walruses, and other arctic creatures. They also hope to see mammoth bones which are said to be still visible on the beaches.

A short note from Dee Killough, daughter of **Barbara Lilley Stanley**, told me that sadly her mother had passed away two years ago. "She had an amazing life and is missed by many. She had many memories from her days at Western."

My message to **Barbara Pope Benbow** was returned for a second time. If any of you are in touch with her, please let me know.

And now my, **Mary Sicer Moore**, news. First, my sister, after seven falls in two years decided she could no longer live safely in her own home — or mine — and moved into an assisted living facility. I still take her shopping, do her laundry, and accompany her to the doctor's so I can remind her of what he said. My youngest son and his wife are currently living with me while they wait for their home to sell in Page and can purchase another here in Prescott. I am being spoiled by them: Doug takes me for jeep rides in the back country and Aileen vacuums my bedroom whenever I leave

it and keeps the yard raked, trimmed, and replanted with irises. We share the cooking and Doug cleans up after the meals. I made my first trip to Argentina for my grandson's wedding. I am rereading old favorites, such as Anthony Trollope, and also enjoy new mysteries laid in some of my favorite places, such as Donna Leon's Venetian series with Commissario Guido Brunetti. We are all getting older. Let us savor the good times we still have left.

Mary Sicer Moore '55
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mismoore@cablone.net



From **Sue Mayer Falter** ("per **Char Varzi**"): "My grandson, Zach Falter, son of my youngest son, Tom Falter, spent his freshman year at Miami in Peabody Hall, the same dorm where I lived as a freshman (1953-54) and as a senior in the government suite (1956-57). He lived on the third floor in the back corner — about as far from the center of Miami activities as possible. He liked PH; however, I never was able to teach him to say "pebuddy." It was a long way to ROTC, etc., but he and his trusty bicycle prevailed. It was a treat to see the dorm again and appreciate all the remodeling that has been done since I was a student there. Zach has good memories of living on the Western campus as he starts his sophomore year. By the way, both of his parents are Miami grads.

"I see **Mary Kay Droste Feller** for lunch from time to time and had lunch with **Mary Kay Staley Rader** on one of my trips to Ironton this summer. **Ione Sandberg Cowen** called when they went to Cincinnati as part of their 62nd anniversary tour. I had lots of nice notes from many classmates when Jim died last winter. He loved Western. We were married 61 years, which is a pretty good run! I am cleaning out our house, which contains years of collecting, with the hope that I can make this chore easier for my sons when my time rolls around. Right now, I am well and keeping up with my activities and wish the same good health for all."

Mary Kay Staley Rader celebrated her 84th birthday in August and happily reports that she is doing well. She has three children, six grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren. She stays busy with church activities and local museum. "Life is good!"

Mary Kay Droste Feller is president of their Bethany Village (Dayton, OH) Cottage-Villa Association. She has two married grand-

children: Brittany in August 2018, Frank in August 2019. Mary Kay's husband, Allan, passed away in November 2017.

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Our last newsletter ended with the wild fires that were approaching from the Santa Cruz Mountains. This one is starting with the wild fires just north of us although, so far, thankfully only the smoke has reached us. But the power outages are a constant threat so I'll carry on till the power goes out!

I appreciate the replies I received from my email to all whose email addresses Western has on record. It was great to hear from you ... many for the first time! Please remember me with updates at Christmas (which I'll hold in my handy blue Western file till the next newsletter is due.)

Jane Williams Andrassi replied "after a long layoff." She's been living back in Connecticut for 17 years after years of living in New York and loves the beauty and peace ... "but can't get a real bagel or chopped liver or an authentic cannoli" unless she visits her son in NYC. Her other children live in PA and NC so she has to wait until she has her second knee replaced before being able to visit them. A granddaughter lives in Burbank, CA, with her two great-grandsons. Her occasional chats with her roomie, **Gail Budelman Nutty**, give them a chance to "relive those indelible Western years."

Gail Budelman Nutty is looking forward to staying in touch with her Western roomie more often now that they have each other's current addresses. Gail has just recently made a big move to a retirement community in Colfax, NC, and strongly recommends starting to downsize belongings immediately if a move is contemplated. It seems we of our era have collected the "wrong stuff" that our children don't want now (like fine china and silver and even some furnishings), making moving much more difficult. She wishes everyone well and stay in touch. (I second that!)

Jane Toy Thomason and Bob are doing well, still in Brooklyn and enjoying the shows and concerts NYC offers. She has recovered from her cataract surgery and is thoroughly enjoying their golden years, appreciating each day and spending long weekends with their "amazing great-granddaughters."

Still in NY is **Konnie Konheim Kolb** who is enjoying her apartment living in Rockville Center and reflecting on our Western years with their outstanding education and great memories.

Peggy Mayer Hill and Billy will be meeting son Andy, wife Lyn, and their three children in Oahu for Christmas. Andy lives in Japan, Lyn and children in Oahu, and Peg and Billy in South Carolina, so Hawaii's a perfect meeting place. At home Peggy stays busy with bridge, book club and Symphony Guild (even after two terms as president) because she said she isn't very good at saying "no."

Ellie Spittler Buford had another interesting year. In 2018, her loyal group of 25 Boston friends took a Danube cruise to the Black Sea Delta and were the only Americans onboard. This October she led the same group hiking in the Dolomites getting lots of good exercise during the day, over-nighting in castles and enjoying prosecco and vino rosso in the evening. She served on the Aviano Air Force Ball Committee last year, enjoying with 725 others in the Castel Brando a formal evening celebrating the 100th anniversary of the end of WWI. She still comes back to the U.S. annually to visit family and friends (but never seems to come west of Boston)!

Julia Altoff Laker says she still has fond memories of Western. She and Don still live in Venice, FL, have two daughters and a great grandson ... and she still rides the bike she had at Western and says "it still works but is not as shiny anymore."

Betty Thebaud Sharr and Joe are still enjoying living in Gold Canyon, AZ, and they escape the heat by going to their Big Bear, CA, cabin — often with their whole family. They stay young by playing golf and traveling.

Pat French (Cook) Richardson still feels she's on a perpetual vacation living in Fernandina Beach, FL. She sent me her newsy Christmas newsletter full of news and photos of her handsome family and I expect one again this year including a who's who in the family so I can pass on their news to you next newsletter.

Larry and **Mary Baumer Baker** just returned from a 4,800 mile driving trip from their Indianapolis home to Salt Lake City, Burley, Idaho and Phoenix. Mary did all of the driving and Larry was the navigator. They keep busy and still try to do everything around the house on their own and enjoy traveling by car, plane or ship! Keep going strong, Mary!

The Mascalis haven't left America since last Thanksgiving when the whole family celebrated the holiday together at daughter Dana's abode in Stuttgart. She has recently returned to the U.S., is working in DC and

living in Annapolis. We stayed with her this October, attended the Navy vs Air Force football game, and then drove to John's 65th high school reunion in Allentown, PA, where we had a week of reunions with friends and family. Son John ("Tiger") is still involved with the winery in St. Helena and also works for a company in Ogden, UT, commuting weekends back to their home in Danville, CA. Granddaughter Madison, graduated college in June and has accepted a position with Oracle in Austin, TX, and her sister, Mackinsey, is a sophomore at Washington State University. I stay as busy as I want to be with book club, professional travel organization meetings, family and friends.

A few months ago my happy, active, fun-loving, brilliant roommate, **Sis Moeller Elwinger Horst**, passed away. Last time I spoke with her they were planning another cruise or RV adventure. Her husband, Eric, contacted me with the sad and unexpected news the day after she died and I still can't believe it. To her husband, daughters, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren we send our deepest sympathy.

Please take care, be well and stay in touch.

Diana Koch Mascali '59
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dkmascali@aol.com



The class of 1961 can still be very proud of having two members, **Sharry Patterson Addison** and **Anne Adkins Weissenborn**, on the Board of Trustees of the WCAA, Inc. Thank you, Sharry and Anne, for representing us and Western so well.

We are also incredibly impressed with Anne for being honored (not just included!) for a Lifetime Achievement Award in *Marquis Who's Who*. The article on Anne notes that Western "more than lived up to expectations because of its newly-initiated intercultural studies program with an emphasis on non-western parts of the world." It notes her summer seminars "to Africa in 1958 and ... the Middle East and the Soviet Union in 1960" and also mentions "professors hired especially for their expertise in areas other than Europe," and making "friends with numerous Western students from around the world." The article also includes the fact that Anne taught at Western and describes her career in law and the volunteer activism that she continues today.

Anne, herself, writes that she spent the holi-

days on the West Coast with daughter Elizabeth in Portland and with friends elsewhere. She is adjusting to the loss of Ernie, and has once again immersed herself in "committees/circles including ones addressing racial justice, immigration and Israel issues." This is the same Anne to whom we awarded an Alumnae Service Award! She has been in touch with Johnnie, **Jeanette Kirkpatrick Duvall**, who, with husband Harry, has moved to a "senior complex," Ocean View, at 20 Blueberry Lane, Falmouth, ME 04105, (727) 697-0706 near daughter Suzanne.

Marcia Jones Friddle wrote at Christmas that husband Andy had suffered two falls in July, and now, she says, "I'm sorry to report that Andy died on March 20" of esophageal cancer. Luckily, sons Peter and Phillip were wonderful support and assisted her in moving to a smaller apartment. Like many of us, she revels in her grandchildren, Sean, Ryan, and Siena. She adds, "even though my news is sad, I am looking forward to reading about the other 1961ers."

Also at Christmas, **Flora Zimmerman Cohen** wrote that she and husband Richard continue with volunteer activities and travel, to Hawaii in February, where they "saw lots of whales," and were planning to visit Iceland in September to see the Aurora. She adds that daughters Jennifer in Ohio and Susan in Marietta are thriving, along with two children each.

Over the holidays (2018), **Cecelia Ann Kendrick McCrillis** visited daughter Kathleen in St. Louis and son Nate in Arizona. Her three grandchildren are now scattered in Georgia, Missouri, and Arizona. In the last year he has had her gallbladder removed and receives injections for macular degeneration but feels fine now and is busy and healthy and looking forward to hearing about the rest of us.

Nicole Peth Henry has pleasant memo-

ries of Western and is eager to hear about classmates. Nicki signs her note, "Carpe diem," which is certainly appropriate as we approach and pass our 80th birthdays.

Nicki's freshman roommate, **Sharon Botsford Moyer** announces that she and two friends visited Kuala Lumpur, "traveled to Borneo for an eco-safari at a lodge in the rain forest accessible only by water," and visited Singapore, Taipei, and Tokyo, "the best test of my new knees," over the holidays. In April, Sharon, daughter Jackie, and granddaughter Riley traveled to Guatemala, and July found all of them in Hawaii. "The highlight here was having three generations of Moyers scuba dive from a boat in open water!"

From Toronto, **Jane Brooks Miller** announces that "after always asserting 'this will definitely be my last year of teaching,' I actually did retire this past June. Son Mike and three daughters from Vancouver ("an incredibly beautiful place but not nearby"); son Doug and granddaughter Finley who live nearby; and daughter Linda, in Toronto, all had a wonderful reunion there in July. After hiking "from north to south" in Scotland last summer with Linda, Jane is looking for other places to hike and live in other parts of the world. She adds, "not wishing to end on a sad note but I am sure we are all deeply affected by the loss of three of our classmates: Cindy, Judy and Susie. I feel the need to do something but not quite sure what yet."

After her freshman year, **Linda Marsh Koser** attended and graduated from Ball State University, became a "stay-at-home mom," and earned credits to become a CPA, which she continues to work at part-time. She and husband Randy have been married for 58 years and have three sons in England, Florida, and California, and two grandsons. She would welcome classmates "if you are in the Clearwater, FL area": Lindakos12@gmail.com.



Sharon Botsford Moyer plus family plus two dive masters, scuba diving in Hawaii. The hand gesture is Hawaiian for "OK" or "all is well."

In August, school had already begun for **Ann Bronaugh Kyle**, who is a reading resource teacher in the special education department in High Point, NC. She states that "Southwestern Ohio is not on my travel path," so she will try to visit, because "I cherish our Western time and connections." She was anticipating the wedding of a grandson and being "a little involved" in a visit to NC by Franklin Graham. She sends blessings to classmates.

Susan Baarsch Button writes that she has been recovering from "cancer and strokes for two years, coming through it pretty well." She is able to do limited walking and gardening but cannot read. However, she does meditation and enjoys The Great Courses on CDs and says that she is "enjoying slower pace and life is good." What spirit! She sends "greetings to all."

At the holidays, **Pei Liu Hsiang, '60**, wrote to say that grandchildren "grow up too fast! At 15 and 17, hers are "very tall!" In the process of downsizing, she returned many years' worth of picture greeting cards and inspired me to make gifts of them to my sons.

Also in a Christmas letter, **Pat Pinkowski, '70**, wrote that her busy retirement has included making improvements to her condo, traveling to Italy and Canada, taking classes, and doing genealogy.

Judith Hoek Hester confirmed her Sayville, NY, address on the WCAA office Directory form and reported: "Married 58 years. Three grown children. Three wonderful grandchildren."

Pete and I maintain that we remain vertical, in spite of various health challenges. Last fall, I became the proud recipient of a new cornea and, though cutting back on activities, continue to volunteer in various ways, including editing. We feel fortunate to have both sons and all three grandchildren in town. It is also a wonder and a delight to stay in touch with classmates and keep happy memories of Western.

Mary DeJong Obuchowski '61
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Loretta Ryder says, "There's not a lot to report from my neck of the woods. Still trying to learn how to play the cello and enjoying it immensely. May have to live a century before I master its intricacies but the challenge is fun. Playing clarinet in the

jazz band keeps me counting like mad and I still sing with church choir and two other groups. Detroit continues to "rebound" and I especially like being able to bike to the river along the developing area there as well as around the park that my town-house borders. The arts and culture scene is great as usual.

"Marj Keppel Gross and I visited Atlantic Beach near her home in Newport, NC, when I was there this summer. My home town, New Bern, is still recovering from the very damaging Hurricane Florence last fall.

"About three years ago, on one of my day trips on Amtrak to Chicago to see a matinee performance of the Joffrey Ballet, a son of my junior year roommate, **Zohreh Tawakuli Sullivan '62**, was the saxophonist in the orchestra. Zohreh had informed me that he would be playing. So when I heard the sax warming up, I went to the pit and waved at him but was unable to communicate that I was his mother's college roomie over the cacophony. We had never met, so he was wondering who in the world I was. He realized after I returned to my seat, that I was the 'Loretta' whom his mother had spoken about and found me in the audience during intermission! What a wonderful experience! The ballet was great, too. All good wishes, everyone, and be sure to return for our final few years of WCAA reunions. 2024 is rapidly approaching!"

Emma Sue Nave Wilson, in Miamisburg, OH, is "blessed with good health," which allows her to "do lots of fun things." Such as, volunteering at a local ministry for sexually exploited women and mentoring "one lovely lady." Her husband runs the Disaster Response team for their church and she helps with many of the administrative duties. The Wilsons continue to ride bikes — "much shorter rides than in the past." They have a large blended family, with grandchildren of all ages. Last year they celebrated three weddings: "So much fun!"

This December (2019) Emma Sue will travel with two other women to South Africa to help with Christmas parties for 1,000 children and multiple women's Bible study groups. It's all part of Lydia's Mission, started by a young woman from her church to provide outreach to South African women.

Elizabeth Fourett Adler lives in Cupertino, CA, and still has her "charcoal and old rose" ribbons! She responded to the Directory



An al fresco toast from the Class of '64 (L-R): Kathleen Turner Nieman, Evie Small Hohler, Patricia Spokes Snowden, Lynne Drucker Albuquerque, and Carol Thomas Ruikka

form's invitation to "send us your news" by taking a trip down memory lane. She recalls vivid memories of her time at Western — many shared with her Peabody roommate, **Mary Catherine Liller Tracy** (dec. 2015). "3.2 beer ... being on 'bells' ... meetings in Peabody parlor in pajamas ..." Both regretted leaving Western — "Our teachers were outstanding!" — with their separate reasons. Elizabeth moved to Boston and went on to get a M.F.A.

From Boca Raton, FL, **Marie landoli** writes via blue card that she underwrote the children's opera of *Die Fledermaus*. Approximately 3,000 children had the opportunity to participate in the activities stations and to see the opera. Says Marie, "This is the best way to teach children about opera." She is also assisting at the Hab Center, a local sheltered workshop for retarded and neurologically impaired adults.

Tempus rosarum erat ... So reads our class flag, but it's always a good time for roses to stay in touch. What's new? Or old? Let me know!

Jill Hartley Fulton '63
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Claremont, CA 91711
jillfulton1@verizon.net



You read all about **Fran Hoffman** when she was elected to serve on the WCAA Board of Trustees two years ago, but she was recently appointed "point person" for the Stonington, CT, Plan of Conservation and Development. She is "looking forward to working with others to preserve and enhance the natural environment in this beautiful and prosperous community." She also helps

"initiate alliances that promote agri-business and regenerative farming practices ... the way we should be growing our food and reversing climate change in the process. Good for home gardens and landscaping practices too!"

Carol VanZandt is "long retired" and living in Kansas City, MO. But she spends half the year close to her sisters in Boynton Beach, FL.

Beth Reilly Garifalos is "happily retired and living in Sequim, WA. She lost Jim, her husband of 40 years, recently but has "wonderful friends" and spends her time volunteering, doing yoga, walking, and visiting with those friends. She keeps in touch with **Mina Lund Davis**, whom she has known since seventh grade. A few years ago, they had "a great visit" with **Tracy Humason Self** and **Betsy Smith Ames**.

As of July 24, **Elizabeth "Brooksie" Jacobs-Harrison** is retired from her job as health coach at a family clinic in Brattleboro, VT, but is working on developing a group home for "highly functional mentally handicapped" and serves on the board of Brattleboro Housing Partnerships. (And, of course, is a newly elected trustee of the WCAA Board of Trustees!)

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"It is with deep regret and sadness that we must inform you of the death in May of your classmate and Bulletin Class Rep, Kathy Ehrgood Sturm. The fall issue of the Bulletin is still a work in progress, so there is time to include a few of your updates We are sure Kathy would want the show to go on" When the office sent out this message, many of you responded with condolences as well as your news:

From **Susan Cohen Grossman**: *"I am truly very sorry to hear about Kathy's passing! So sad! She will certainly be missed."*

Susan and husband Mark celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary with a vow renewal in Hawaii with their entire family this past July. Their actual Anniversary is November 22, 2019. Mark is an independent management consultant as well as being involved in mergers and acquisitions. Su-



Susan and Mark Grossman, renewing vows in Hawaii on their 50th

san is still involved in her baking business, "from SueChef's Kitchen." Keeping up with her business and her five grandchildren is a full time job. Jonathan is a doctor in Fresno, CA, Jennifer is a teacher in southern California, and Jackie is an attorney working as a deputy attorney general in EAM for the state of California, located also in southern CA. "We hope all is well with our class."

Jo Ann Brombaugh Wittmann wrote, *"I was so sorry to hear that Kathy Sturm had passed away. I was hoping to get up to see her after she moved to PA, but she was not there very long. We will miss all she has done for our class."*

She and Jack and continue to cruise and travel by car. Last November, they sailed to Cuba and visited three ports — "... a wonderful experience which we were glad we were able to complete before it was eliminated." They celebrated Jo Ann's 75th birthday, Christmas and New Year's Eve on the *Queen Mary 2* out of NYC to the Eastern Caribbean; in March, they sailed to the Western Caribbean for Jack's birthday revisiting Guatemala, Mexico, and Roatan; in July, they drove to IL, IN, and OH to visit friends and relatives, though unfortunately, they weren't able to get to Oxford this time. In September, they followed Hurricane Dorian up the coast out of Baltimore to New England and Canada. Jo Ann has given up playing golf this year but in October they spent a few days in Myrtle Beach, where she had played in past years. Then they drove on to Charleston, Hilton Head, and Savannah. She continues to play the piano and line dance with a senior volunteer group which performs in nursing homes and for other seniors. She has enjoyed following classmates on Facebook and hopes there will be future WCAA events in the DC area to attend.

Christina Agas Collins: *"I was saddened to learn of Kathy's death and extend condolences to her friends and family."*

She sent this update: "My husband, Max, I celebrated our 51st wedding anniversary

in July. We are a Miami/Western merger! I continue to practice law with Max. We enjoy it and have no immediate plans to retire. My practice involves estate and trust law and guardianship with some litigation when necessary. We are very fortunate to have a circle of good lawyers for friends. There is always something new and interesting arising. We pursue our antique, book, and art collecting when time permits! Wishing all of you a happy and healthy holiday season. Be safe, be well, Class of '67!"

Joan Roderick Sosnicky wrote from Castle Pines, CO: *"I am sorry to hear about Kathy's passing. I remember her fondly as being a warm and friendly person who always had a smile on her face. She was a dedicated member of the Class of 1967. I really appreciated the many years of her service to produce our class column. She will be missed."*



Joan and Andy Sosnicky, celebrating their 50th abroad.

Joan and husband Andy celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in September and she remarks, "Where have the decades gone?" They marked the occasion by taking a trip to Scotland and London (where they honeymooned), followed by a transatlantic Princess cruise terminating in Florida. In the past 50 years they have been fortunate to visit 61 countries together. She says they "are blessed that we have the health and energy to keep seeing the world, in spite of having both of my knees replaced and slowing down a bit with minor aches and pains as we age. Best wishes to all."

Further updates submitted earlier to the office or via Directory form returns:

"To All: Really big changes this year in my life. I sold my town home in Lewes, DE, and

Check out the WCAA website: www.miamioh.edu/wcaa AND join the Western College Alumnae Association Facebook Group!



The entire family of Susan Cohen Grossman '67 and Mark, celebrating their Golden Anniversary — guess where!

have moved into an Erickson 3-2-1 community at Charlestown in Catonsville, MD. Reminds me so much of Western with 1,080 acres of beautiful buildings and grounds. I am in the process of selling my Fort Myers villa and will purchase an investment town home in the MD-DE-PA area so that my eldest son and his wife can move back east from CA and rent. Health wise I am well and looking forward to new adventures at Charlestown. Thanks." **Carolyn Sparks Kokalis.**

"Spent a month in NYC in a rented apt. What a fabulous time not having to rush for a train after a show. Visited over 13 museums, two lectures, two shows and two cabarets one of **Pam Knowles '69** at Lily's bar. **Maria Maldonado** and **Michele Slung '69** also attended. Visited with classmate **Joan Barenholtz** at several restaurants" **Elisa Kessler Caporale**

Elaine Harris Gomperts writes from Wilmington, NC: "We have come through many storms in life but none like those in North Carolina. We have been lucky, but not so our neighbors. Many still had tarps on their roofs when Dorian hit. Please be safe, all, and keep in touch! Thank you to my Western friends who reached out to us." Elaine and Bob are still traveling and playing bridge. Men's and women's clubs have kept them busy — plus four grandkids from 10 to 16 years old.

Life is good" in Cherry Hill, NJ, for **Teryl Woods-Smith Torres**. Grandchildren are growing, some heading out into the world "we" helped create — its positives and negatives and less and less neutrals. Hernando — "the wind beneath my wings" — continues to support and encourage her "creative being" that family enjoy: her photography,

drawings, and writings. He continues to manage their home, as well as his sister's, and is "on call" to help with their daughters' when asked!

And a *condensed* © stream-of-consciousness account from retired registered nurse **Muriel Gillette Alexander** of what life is like in Big Lake, AK, and elsewhere: "January, we were at our farm in the Ozarks Lake region of Missouri, where we have had property since 2013 ... Christmas season's at home in Big Lake ...after driving our truck across country, we spent two weeks at my daughter Melissa's house ... not able to visit with my sons down in Oregon ... came home Valentine's Day, and planted our veggie gardens, with hoop houses over all of them. it was very dry and hot all July and August, so we had marvelous crops as usual, we went fishing, and driving around Alaska to Seward, Valdez, Homer, Soldotna, Kenai, and even up to Fairbanks ... May, I had a knee replacement and go to PT just for strength exercising ... with fall, comes the decline of daylight and the sun keeps getting closer and closer to the five hours of daylight we have at end of year, while in summer we have 18 h 40 m sunlight ... we have moose which visit us all summer, looking to eat whatever they can get their mouths on ... the hoop houses deterred them this year, so they did not come until most of our crops were harvested ... the last four days, a moose has finished off all the remaining kale and cabbage, beet greens that we left for them ... October, we had a group reunion down near Beaverton, OR, at which all my five siblings came, as well as my three children and their children ... it was marvelous to see everyone in one place at once ...

"September, we attended a SCC meeting

up in Fairbanks for the Rep party ... DAR meetings in Anchorage monthly ... Lions meetings here in Big Lake three Thursdays per month ... Lions' Community Rec Center has a natural ice rink, on which water is laid down by Zamboni for ice hockey practices and tournaments during the winter ... Lions scrape 13 rinks on Big Lake itself and have ice hockey tournaments for youth and adults ... June we sponsor Mud Volleyball in four pits where 68 teams competed this year ... will be having a Christmas parade in December and give away turkeys and hams at Thanksgiving with full meals in conjunction with the Big Lake Elementary School and Food Bank ... September we have vision screening at the State Fair in Palmer and at our two elementary schools ... off now to attend a NSADAR joint luncheon in Anchorage with guest speaker from the Veterans' Museum to talk about the 50th Anniversary of the Moon Landing ..."

A note from her sister (Frannie Birkinbine Welch; welchfrannie@gmail.com) let us know that **Marjorie Birkinbine** had suffered a stroke in August 2018. Her recovery has been negatively affected by the dementia she has been experiencing for several years, resulting in her being confined to a wheelchair. "Despite the fact that someone from the family visits her every day," Frannie writes, "she is lonely and frustrated by her limitations. She has always been so loving and active!" Marjorie would surely appreciate any friends sending her news and letting her know that she is missed: Brentwood Center-Rehab, 370 Portland St., Yarmouth, ME 04096.

Editor's note: We sincerely hope that someone from the class will honor Kathy's many years of devoted service as Bulletin rep by stepping forward to continue in her place.

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Well, we the class of 1969, successfully marked 50 years since graduation! Cheers to us all! The reunion on campus was a wonderful party! Many thanks go to the Alumnae Association and Miami University for their work over the years that made it possible for us to be in touch and have a place to gather. The event has left us with the desire to keep in touch, meet up more often, and return to campus for our 55th.

Susan James Duvillard wrote from France that she is very proud of all the girls that

made it to the reunion, and cannot wait to see all the photos in the Bulletin!!!! It was a hot summer for her with torrential rain and frequent hail storms that made gardening a bit difficult. So, they spent a lot of time working on renovating their *alpage*. Dirty indoor work with pleasurable results, she says. They may finish renovations before their 80th birthdays, but they are not in any hurry to reach either! It's a nice place to relax with their daughters and their families far from the maddening crowds. In August, Suzy converted her restaurant for the third time into an Art Exhibition Space and invited seven artists to show with her.

Cynthia Harrington Hochberg wrote that it was really great to see everyone at reunion. After the Western reunion she had a summer full of reunions. In July, she got together for a long weekend with her childhood girlfriends. A week later all her siblings and their spouses joined her for a week at the lake. At the end of August, they took a road trip along the coast of Maine stopping to visit **Karen Weber Carlisle** and Tom then on to visit cousins.

Linda Galantin and her 78- year-old sister (who is in great shape and lives in Arizona) traveled together twice during the summer after reunion. In mid-July they spent 10 days hiking in the Grand Canyon, both North and South Rims, with three days in Zion National Park in between. Then at the end of August they met up again to hike the Great Smoky National Park. They were very proud of

themselves for hiking to the top of Mount Le Conte and back in one day (18 miles with 4,000 ft elevation change). Linda expects she will go somewhere warm this winter, and not strenuous!

This from **Carolann Harrold Sharp**: "I just wanted to reiterate how much fun the 50th Reunion in June was. It was so special to see so many friends again and to walk the beautiful campus. I am so glad I was there." After Reunion, she and Norm had a busy summer at their lake house in Pennsylvania with their boys and their families, and then went home to Virginia several times to help take care of their new grandson. They were looking forward to hosting **Britt Henne** and Thor Christianson for dinner when in the States in early October along with other DC '69ers.

Mary Horsefall Webster, Cynthia Harrington, and **Carolann Herrold** drove together out to Western, and what a reunion they had in the car! Mary wrote, "It was a wonderful weekend. So many of us came; such a tribute to the closeness we felt when we were attending Western. So much has changed. I am a creature of habit and memories. It was great to see Peabody and McKee intact, but so sad to see Alumnae Hall and Mary Lyon gone." Since leaving Western June 10, Mary and Jim spent three weeks with some of their grandchildren: They found 7- and 9-year-olds so entertaining; they say what they think. Swimming lessons, water parks, recreation centers that had climbing

walls, movies, trampolines, bike riding, and of course, a few jobs every day. They spent 10 days in Massachusetts visiting family in Boston and Cape Cod. Their travels were to continue in October when they would visit Barcelona and islands in the Mediterranean: Sardinia, Sicily, and on to Greece.

It was great fun for **Annette Bevan Gallagher** and Dick (Miami 50th as well) to celebrate with their Western friends during the Reunion Weekend. Dick's business, the Sandusky Children's Museum, has entered a new stage which can help them pass their collection on to others. Their generous sponsor, a new board, and volunteer exhibit builders have prepared a place for people to experience science-based activities. Fanciful dinosaur murals were added to the setting in July and August by Ohio artist Derek Brennan. If you visit the Sandusky Children's Museum Facebook, you can see some of the dinosaurs. And here is a story about the Sandusky Children's Museum: www.sanduskyregister.com/story/201811160025.

Susan Hodge wrote that attending our 50th reunion made her curious about Western's history. Before coming to Ohio she read over the historical walking tour, then took it twice during reunion. It raised more questions, like what happened to the Clark gates on the north end of campus. So this summer she read the three books on Western's history, and worked with **Debbie Baker** and **Jacky Johnson** to understand the archival holdings. Et voila. A new writing project was born.



Meet the Peabody Cup-winning Class of '69 (top to bottom, left to right)! Row 4: Penny Earle Cook, Louise Wiedeman Koch, Linda Galantin, Pam Baldwin Lustig, Louise Adkins Ellis, Cynthia Harrington Hochberg, B.J. Gibbons Bramlett, Trudy Muller Moore, Kathleen Kibble, Susan Hodge Row 3: Britt Henne, Mary Sullivan Webster, Betsy Philipson Kensinger, Janet Hunkle, Lynnette Jones Turner, Nancy Hale Priest, Susan Daigle Davis Row 2: Sally Fliess, Stephanie Bentzen Snook, Karen Kling Plumb, Betsy Summers Solis, Susan Bradbard Patrick, Robby Smith Hurley, Annette Bevan Gallagher, Nancy Wilson Kobayashi Row 1: Cindy Van Allen Schaffner, Ann Noble, Carolann Harrold Sharp, Karen Webster Carlisle, Gretchen Schmidt Grzelak, Lolita McDavid, Francine Toss

Susan likes to take on research projects with architectural and art connections, such as the work she did on Indiana architect Juliet Peddle. She noticed that there was a gap in the Western story, for the part she remembers most fondly, the class flags. The small reproductions hung in the banquet room were so diverse. Why not find photographs of these wonderful flags flying? So if you have any class flag photographs, please contact her. [See page 29.] Time is running out on our alumnae office, so please dig for photos and information NOW. She says that you are in for a treat with the beauties she has found so far.



Joan and Darrel Dore

I heard from **Kathleen “Koke” Kibble** soon after reunion. Koke enjoyed reunion and seeing how well we had matured. She had a safe trip home where she was welcomed by her cats. Koke wonders about the future and how we can stay in touch and get together. She will be helping **Susan Hodge** with her project by translating Latin and Greek class mottos.

Betsy Summers Solis wrote that since our wonderful reunion, she had been totally working on and cleaning out their California house, which was to go on the market in September. However they did take off a couple of days in July to go to San Diego for a surprise party for her sister's 60th birthday. It was also good opportunity to take a carload of treasures to a friend's and family in LA. Betsy discovered Facebook Market Place and Next Door to be excellent ways to find good homes for many of the items that she had to say goodbye to. She met many wonderful people during this process: those who will truly love her items and several who focus on re-purposing almost anything. Betsy enjoyed lunch with **Sally Fliess** and **Rebecca Doherty** in Sausalito in July, and found time to complete several local 5k races with friends over the summer.

Roberta Smith Hurley wrote that nothing has changed for her since the reunion, but she wanted to say how glad she is that she attended, not only to reacquaint with old friends but to be reminded how very special Western is to all of us, and knowing that the Western experience will continue on with the Western Center for Social Impact and Innovation is a comfort. She also appreciates how Miami has cared for our campus and programs for nearly 50 years. Robbie had a friend ask if the reunion was going to be at Kenyon or another school since Western closed. Little did he or most other people know how well the Western spirit has been kept alive! Robbie hopes to see everyone in five years!!

Joan Freeman Dore went to Western for two years and wonders if anyone remembers her. Well, I do, and it was good to hear from her! Joan wrote that she dropped out to marry and moved to Germany with her husband who was in the army, and who died

in 1980. She has been married to her present husband, Darrel, for 25 years. Twelve years ago, they retired and moved from Capitol Hill in Washington, DC to Pawleys Island, SC. They have three children and four grandkids whom they adore. Joan is very involved in politics. She worked for the Obama and Clinton campaigns and attended the Democratic National Convention in Charlotte in 2012 and Philadelphia in 2016. She is also a delegate to the South Carolina State Convention, is an outreach and canvass coordinator in her county. She now appreciates the liberal and inclusive education she received at Western, and wishes she had been a more serious student back then.

Post 50th reunion, the summer has flown by, wrote **Penny Earle Cook**. She and Rod spent a week in Maine with their son and daughter-in-law and her family, and still believe there's nothing better than a good old-fashioned New England lobster bake on the beach. They were off to the south of France in September and looking forward to more travel to Mexico, Ireland, and back to Africa in 2020. Morning bicycle rides, volunteer activities, and photography fill the rest of her days. Life is good!

Cynthia Van Allen Schaffner cherished seeing Western classmates at our 50th in June and appreciates the work of the Alumnae Association in keeping the Western spirit alive. It was the start of a great summer, which, as she was writing, was waning in Maine where she and husband Bob had gone to be with the younger generations and her brother Peter and his family. They were doing their best to keep up with the younger folks' activities, but occasionally made excuses. Cindy is still enjoying memories of our reunion and the wonderful opportunity to renew friendships and looking for ways we can all stay connected.

Stevie Bentzen Snook and husband Fred are enjoying retirement and their three grandchildren. They are also looking forward to continued travels.

Laura Kaye Hedeon Kory is serving her 11th year as a state delegate in Virginia, having won the primary with 66 percent of

the vote and thereby running unopposed in the November 2019 election.

Via the Directory form, **Susan Talbot Birkett** passed along the news that **Pat Jayson '68** had been featured in a *Chronicle* article August 14, 2019. No one who knows Patty will be surprised that it had to do with sailing. She was credited with bringing the 175-year-old New York Yacht Club back to New Bedford Harbor — after more than a century! She is a longtime member of the club, also on the board of the New Bedford Whaling Museum, and had always thought the annual cruise should include New Bedford on its itinerary.

As for me, **Nancy Wilson Kobayashi**, Kazu and I continued in reunion and nostalgia mode for a while after leaving campus. We visited Dr. Don Auble (psychology) and Carolyn at the Knolls of Oxford for a time of reminiscing, and then spent the night at Hueston Woods Lodge. Our son, Dean, has settled in Ohio, so that's an extra draw toward Oxford. This summer we were on Maui for three weeks. Our stays keep getting longer! As I write, we are looking forward to an October cruise in the Greek islands.

Nancy Wilson Kobayashi '69
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Kamakura, Japan 248-0022
nancykobayashi22@gmail.com



The year is rapidly coming to an end, and holiday madness is already in full effect. More and more Western folks are liking the Western College for Women Class of '71 Facebook page, but once again ... no news. I am happy to report I have found a coordinator for my memoirs, “Reign of the Jingle Queen,” which is an interactive book that not only tells my story, but is chock full of music, videos and photos!

I have yet to retire from teaching, enjoying my teenage students, who keep me young, if not stressed! I will be sending out an email blast soon, so the class of '71 will be better represented in future Bulletins. I am realizing a lot of our generation do not do Facebook, or any social media for that matter. I am also considering sending out postcards, hopefully to catch some alums who don't do email either. On behalf of the class of '71, we wish all of you fellow Western alumni a happy holiday season, and a blessed and prosperous New Year!

Debbie McDuffie '71
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Fleming Island, FL 32003
msmbsmusic@gmail.com

Class Notes cont. on page 27

Alumnae/i Weekend June 10-12, 2019

Crossing Bridges Connecting Our Past and Future!



Members of the 50th Anniversary Class reunite with smiles, hugs, and lots of reminiscing. Miami Ambassador Renate Crawford greets Westerners at the Welcome Reception. Following a tour of the Western College Memorial Archives, jaunts to favorite campus locations, a lively reception, and scrumptious dinner, alums returned to Stonebridge Hall for photo fun, more celebration.





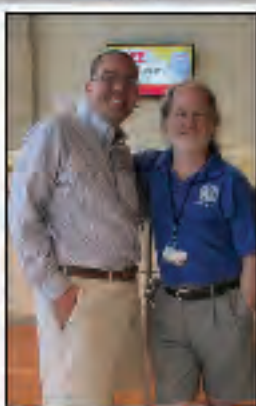
Saturday: the traditional parade of classes led by Barbara Williamson Wentz '68, reunion chair, followed by the Annual Meeting, and the luncheon. The Class of 1969 was honored and inducted into the Meily Society.



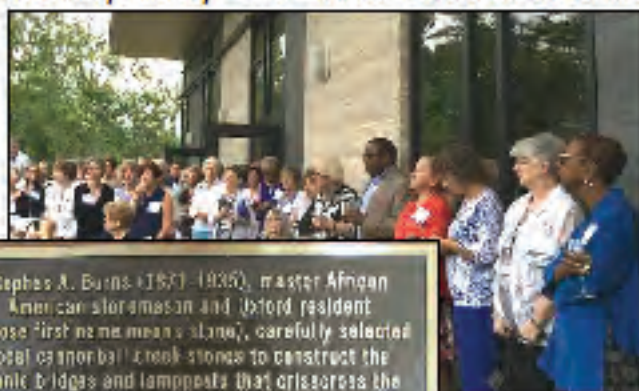
Janet Smith Dickerson Stephens '65 delivers the president's report at the Annual Meeting.



Chris Makaroff, Dean, College of Arts and Science, provides an update on the Western Center for Social Impact and Innovation. Carol Stone Lehman '67 demonstrates the Meily wave.



After lunch: the Class of '69 visits McKee Hall then poses for a fun photo when their golf cart malfunctions. In Leonard Theatre, Anne Adkins Weissenborn '61 introduces the documentary, "Training for Freedom: How Ordinary People In An Unusual Time & Unlikely Place Made Extraordinary History." WCP "Mikes" reconnect and alums admire the Legacy Circle.



Cephas A. Burns (1873-1935), master African American stonemason and Oxford resident (whose first name means stone), carefully selected local cannonball creek stones to construct the iconic bridges and lampposts that crisscross the Western Campus: Kautler Chapel, Ernst Nature Theatre, Western Lodge, and Stillman Kallay Studio contain examples of his incredible work.



Reception on the Western Dining Commons patio and plaque dedication honoring Cephas A. Burns, master American stonemason. Class photos with cheers and the banquet honors begin ...



Saturday banquet: honorees and presenters (second row, left to right) Honorary Alumnus Award to Robert Keller, MU Architect Emeritus, Presenter Janet Smith Dickerson Stephens '65, Honorary Alumna Award to Jacqueline Johnson, Archivist Western College Memorial Archives, Presenter Pheetta Wilkinson '76, Alumnae Service Award to Pat Jayson '68, and Catherine Ross Loveland '52, one of many class reps in attendance honored for their many years of service to Western. Also honored with Alumnae Service Awards but not pictured: Suzanne Off Schroepe '52, Jane Smucker Fryman '58, and Peggy Cooper Davis '64,



Sunday: Loretta Ryder '63 leads the Alumnae Choir. Also participating: accompanist Henry Hutchinson, Keynote speaker Brit Henne '69, presider Ann Walton '66 ...



**ALUMNAE SERVICE AWARDS were presented at the 2019 Celebratory Banquet
on behalf of the Western College Alumnae Association, Inc. to the following:**

**Peggy Cooper Davis, Class of 1964
In recognition of Community and Humanitarian Service
through her Career Accomplishments**

Peggy Cooper Davis graduated with honors from Western College for Women in 1964, having majored in philosophy. A journalist who interviewed Peggy during her Western days wrote that she was “deeply involved with the National Student Association and its efforts to inform students about a speaker ban bill that had been passed by the Ohio legislature.” She was inducted into Honor Society her junior year, sang in the Western College choir, and was a jazz vocalist with a band and trio with gigs in Middleton, Dayton, and Hamilton. Given Peggy’s musical talent and interest in moving to New York, the journalist suggested that success in the field of arts and entertainment might be in her future, but Peggy chose to pursue a different career path. Peggy did move to New York and spent her senior year at Barnard College. She earned a J.D. degree from Harvard Law School in 1968 before returning to New York and beginning what has been a distinguished career in law and academia.

Long concerned with social justice, Peggy started as staff attorney with the Williamsburg Legal Services, representing indigent clients in family, landlord tenant, and consumer matters. She was a law clerk for a U.S. District Court judge in New York and served as Associate Counsel with the Capital Punishment Project — an initiative begun with the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund Inc. — litigating appeals of inmates on death row. In 1977, she became the first African American female professor at Rutgers University School of Law, where she taught criminal procedure and civil rights law. From 1978 to 1980, she was the Deputy Criminal Justice Coordinator for the City of New York, managing coordination among criminal justice agencies, reform of the City jail system, and the establishment of the Juvenile Justice Agency. She served as judge with the Family Court of the State of New York from 1980 to 1983.

In 1983, Peggy joined the New York University School of Law faculty, where she taught lawyering, evidence, and family. In 1986, she became a full-time professor.

Considered an important leader in innovation and law school pedagogy, she was named the John S.R. Shad Professor of Lawyering and Ethics at the New York University Law School in 1992 and has been Director of the School’s Experiential Learning Lab. The interpretive, ethical, and social dimensions of the practice of law have been a major focus of her teaching and leadership at the school. For ten years, she directed the Lawyering Program, an experiential learning program that distinguishes the law school’s first-year curriculum. Her civil rights seminars and simulation courses in family practice reflect her commitment to engaging her students in a dynamic and adaptive process that prepares them to think critically about the human dimension of their practice.

A prolific scholar, she has published two books and more than 50 articles and book chapters that have been influential in the areas of child welfare, constitutional rights, family liberty, and interdisciplinary analysis of legal pedagogy and process. Among her publications a 1997 book, *Neglected stories: The Constitution and Family Values*, is said to “illuminate the importance of anti-slavery traditions as guides to the meaning of the Fourteenth Amendment.”

In 2008, she received the New York University Distinguished Teaching Award. She was recognized by New York University as the Martin Luther King, Jr. Scholar in 2015-16 for her “leadership, excellence in scholarship and teaching, and commitment to the values of community service and social justice.” In 2018, she was the Covington and Burlington Distinguished Visiting Professor at the Harvard Law School. She has served on the boards of numerous organizations such as the Brennan Center for Justice, the Vera Institute for Justice, and the Russell Sage Foundation.

Peggy and her spouse, Gordon Jamison Davis, are the parents of a daughter, Elizabeth Cooper Davis. In 2011, Peggy and her daughter published *Enacting Pleasure: Artists and Scholars Respond to Carol Gilligan's Map of Love*. Elizabeth is a performing artist and scholar who received her doctorate from Harvard in African American Studies. Now an Assistant Professor in the Department of Performing Arts at Emerson College, she has a particular interest in the role of arts in social movements. (Elizabeth is also the mother of Peggy's "two spectacular grandchildren.") ...

Jane Smucker Fryman, Class of 1958*
in Recognition of Community Service and Service to Western College,
the Western College Alumnae Association, Inc., and the Western College Program

Jane Smucker Fryman '58 was an incredibly dedicated Western alumna from the moment of her graduation. She was serving as a Trustee of the Western College Alumnae Association Inc. Board of Trustees at the time of her death in 2018. She had served with distinction in the WCAA's formative years, 1976 to 1979, and then two more contiguous terms in the 21st century, 2011 to 2018.

She graduated from Western with a degree in psychology, worked in Cincinnati as a visiting teacher for two years, then taught fourth grade in Hamilton, Ohio, for a year. Some years later she embarked on a new career as Material Manager at McCullough-Hyde Hospital, retiring in 2002. She and husband Jack (MU '51) raised their three children in Oxford, where Jane was involved in many community organizations both as a volunteer and in leadership roles. She was an active member of the League of Women Voters for more than 40 years, chairing several committees and serving as president. The Frymans' two sons, James and Thomas, are graduates of the Western College Program ('83 and '86 respectively) and daughter Katherine graduated with a Miami University degree in 1989.

Jane's sense of community also rings true with her work on the WCAA board. She consistently made sure our Board and the broader Western community — including Western 2.0 and 3.0 — are united and energized. She served on virtually every Board committee, including Alumnae Service Award, Finance, Legacy, Publications, and WCP Connections. She was behind the Sunshine committee — making sure we sent some token of Western spirit to a Board member going through a rough time. In her last term in office, she chaired the Curatorial committee, a natural fit for her strong commitment to keeping WCAA artifacts, artwork, and antiques placed in the Oxford community as visible recognition that this is and will always be the history of Western College. In fact, she served on the office staff as archivist before the creation of the Western College Memorial Archives.

Jane was a giver, generous with her time — at, as well as after, Western — and, together with husband Jack, generous with financial support in many ways. Her dedication and commitment to the Oxford community were generously imbued with her Western spirit.

We knew Jane as a natural giver of wisdom, a guide to a sense of peace and grace and possessed of that twinkle in her eye and that special smile that always drew us all in. How we miss her!

So now, with full hearts but everlasting gratitude and pride, we humbly pay tribute to **Jane Smucker Fryman '58** by presenting this Alumnae Service Award, albeit posthumously, for her deep and constant service to community and to Western College. ...

** presented posthumously*

Patricia A. Jayson, Class of 1968
in recognition of Community and Humanitarian Service
and Service to the Western College Alumnae Association, Inc.

There is no denying **Patricia A. Jayson** loves the ocean and has lived her life knowing the many ways it can enrich one's life. Like Patricia, the ocean elicits beauty, commands respect, and even challenges to help in ways we do not necessarily anticipate. A classmate shares a compelling line from a song that provides the metaphor for how she has lived her life: *She never sings her own song, but is an immediate hand for those in stress upon the sea.* Pat makes being fiercely independent a positive quality, ever willing to help others in extraordinary ways in both her professional career and her life.

Pat graduated from Western College with a B.A. in philosophy in 1968 and later went on to complete a M.B.A. degree from Boston College in 1984. The critical writing and editing skills developed at Western provided the oar that would propel her career forward.

Starting as a textbook editor in Columbus, Ohio, she found herself too far from the ocean! So she moved back east and accepted a copy editor position in Darien, Connecticut, making the critical tack toward the medical field. At the New England Medical Center (NEMC), over the course of eight years Patricia wrote articles for house publications, edited clinical papers for faculty and was called upon for research and health care planning recommendations. At NEMC she wrote a proposal to assess CAT scans and how they might better service rural and small health care facilities. Her work in this emerging technology led to NEMC's first clinically approved scanner! In Boston at Massachusetts Institute of Technology/International Nutrition Program she continued to apply fiscal management for clinical programs and write grants for United Nations-funded programs in developing countries. Similarly at Tufts University/School of Veterinary Medicine she pulled her weight at the oar in developing relationships and preparing grant proposals to secure corporate and foundation funds for expanding facilities. In 1984, she joined the Color Film Corporation in Stamford, Connecticut, rising to the position of vice-president until her retirement.

Music has always enhanced Pat's life. When there was no small choral group at Western, she started an a cappella group! Aware that the music department occasionally had to borrow a harpsichord from Miami for a concert, she built one! After graduation, hearing it could be done, she wrote the company for parts, assembled it from a kit, then donated the finished harpsichord to the Western College Music Department.

There are many other ways Patricia has supported Western. She served on the WCAA, Inc. Board of Trustees from 1986 to 1991. She loved organizing club events, acting as an "ambassador" in cities from the East to the West coasts.

In her seaside community, if an event had to do with boats or sailing, there you would find her! The last surviving American wooden whaling ship, the *Charles W. Morgan*, after undergoing a massive restoration process, was towed by tugboat back to its original port at New Bedford. Pat spent a year planning and hosting its return. The welcoming flotilla extravaganza stretched over two miles to welcome this stately piece of nautical history to her new home at the New Bedford Whaling Museum, whose board of directors, Pat continues to serve on.

At 50 when Pat could not find a boat she liked, she decided to build her own! Some say it looks like a New England lobster boat — sea-worthy! sleep worthy! She christened her *Purity*, "as it is a pure classic plus she has a certain elegance about her." While living on *Purity* all summer, she organized and ran sailing events along the Eastern seaboard. Her pure classic was shared with many!

When a crippling storm (i.e. stroke) knocked her down, Pat garnered the independence and tenacity that had served her so well all her life and made a strong recovery. The waves of her life are gentler now. She reflects on her time as a trustee for Schools for Children, Inc. and National Public Radio at the University of Massachusetts, plus work with Choate Rosemary Hall and the New England Medical Center Employee Council. She is gratified that her critical thinking and writing skills through grant writing and the planning process have made life better for many.

As an independent woman, Patricia, your sails are now efficiently trimmed, an inspiring agent of change. You've always found a way to accomplish a goal, even if it meant "build it yourself!" Any of us at Western would be proud to crew with you any day.

Presented to Suzanne Off Schrope, Class of 1952 *
in Recognition Service to Western College,
the Western College Alumnae Association, Inc., and the Western College Program

Sue Off Schrope '52 graduated from Western with a B.S. degree in chemistry, trained as a medical technologist, and became one of the first to earn specialty certification in microbiology. While living in Houston, Texas, she held the position of Microbiology Supervisor at both Sam Houston and Memorial City hospitals there. Once she was “back home” in Anderson, Indiana — she was actually born in Indianapolis — she took on the same role at St. John’s Healthcare System in Anderson. She retired in 2012, having worked there for over 20 years.

Devoted to Western, Sue relished her status as an alumna of the college she loved, never missing an opportunity to spread the spirit. She delighted in sharing the story of her “find” in an Anderson antique shop: a 1917 *Multi*. With help from the WCAA office, she managed to unearth the entire life story of its owner — one Agnes Ross Wilson '17 — whom she came to know through her copious research and regard affectionately as a fellow alumna!

She demonstrated her passion for Western in countless other ways, including but not limited to: attending over 30 WCAA Reunions, always participating in choir (both during her time at Western College and as an alumna). At home she was a member of multiple singing groups, as well as a hand bell choir. Singing came naturally to Sue, and she was called upon to lead us in song at more than one of those reunion luncheons or banquets.

She rarely missed an Indianapolis club meeting, of which there have been many over the years. She made a special trip to Oxford to represent the WCAA at a WCP reunion. She served on the WCAA Board of Trustees from 1997 to 2004 and returned for another term in 2013, serving until her death in 2016. She served as *Bulletin* Class Representative from 2006 to 2016.

Perhaps foremost among the many Board committees Sue served on — Alumnae Service Award, Nominating, Publications, Reunion, WCP Connections, and Scholarship — was Curatorial, which she chaired. Her care, commitment, and passion for the WCAA’s antiques, artifacts, and artwork inspired her enormous efforts to preserve Western’s history for generations to come.

Sue and husband Dan raised two sons, Thomas and Peter, and were especially close to their granddaughter, Bambi. In her 2013 Class Notes, she enclosed a picture and wrote adoringly of great-grandchildren Charlotte and Benjamin. Sadly, Sue was predeceased by both Dan and their elder son, Thomas.

As a trustee, Sue could always be counted on to offer a calm wisdom during stormy times and enthusiastic dedication to the wellbeing of the WCAA at all times. There is no doubt that to know Sue was to love her. ...

* *presented posthumously*



From their '71 yearbook: Deb McDuffie, Valerie Dickson, and Lucretia Taylor in the big elm (?) tree outside New Dorm



Greetings fellow classmates! I imagine everyone is living their busy lives and sending out news items for the Bulletin is maybe not of highest priority! This time, as last, I only heard from Joan Campbell. So, this is another lean column, alas.

Joan Campbell says, "This summer Ben and I returned to Iceland in July, 13 years after our first trip there. We were aware that tourism to Iceland had exploded, but actually seeing four times as many visitors was sobering. Fortunately, we were with a 10-person, nature-oriented tour (through Natural Habitat Adventure, with whom we've traveled many times), and our guides were expert at finding us ways to escape the crowds. We returned home exhausted but also delighted to explore some beautiful areas of the country that we'd not been able to see on our previous trip.

"We headed back to the Canadian Rockies in September; our annual trip up that way falls in either July or September, depending on what else is on our schedule, and we always look forward to amazing scenery and hiking.

"Western classmate **Lyn Miller Neely** was here for a few days recently with her daughter Elisabeth, for us to attend our 50th Westerville High School reunion. Lyn and I met on the first day of 10th grade, and we were together through Western, including on the same junior-year-abroad program in Nantes. It was a joy to catch up in person for the first time in years.

"**Lissa Cook Coady** will be coming to visit this fall, and she's hoping to bring **Linda Li Ng** with her. Plans are still a bit fluid, but we're keeping our fingers crossed that everything works out. Last fall we were not able to schedule a get-together because of Ben's and my trip in South America.

"Anyway, that's about it. What's up with you? I know it's a way off, but I do hope you'll be able to come back to Western for our 50th in 2023. Wouldn't it be terrific if we could muster a big turnout?? I haven't been back since our 40th, so it'll be about time."

Elizabeth "Lissa" Cook Coady, Spring Run, PA, updated the Alumnae Office per her Directory form. She retired after about 25 years of nursing and has been caring for her husband, Robert, who has progressive MS, and for their small flock of sheep on their mountain hillside. Over many decades, she has been active in community chorus, which performs at the Mercersburg Academy Chapel in Pennsylvania twice a year. She takes a break from home by visiting **Joan Campbell** in Ohio and **Linda Ng** in Maryland whenever possible. Coadys' three grandchildren (all involved in music) live within driving distance and bring them much joy.

Also from the office: **Ada Harrigan** had a party at her home in Richmond, CA, September 27th, and guess who came to dinner! Westerners **Diane Bratcher '74** and **Cris Arguedas '75** among others. Diane was visiting from New York and Cris drove over from Berkeley. Ada forgot to take a photo but assures us, "We are all still beautiful and look youthful. :) "

As for me, I continue to love my career as Holistic Health Practitioner, (with a side gig of officiating at weddings, funerals, and other ceremonies); although I have started to work less often in preparation of possibly retiring at age 70, or thereabouts.

The past three years I've rented my spare bedroom to visitors through Airbnb, which enabled me to save enough for my long-planned trip to visit my son, Gino, in Somerset, England. I spent an amazing month last year from September 20th until my arrival home on the 22nd of October, 2018. It was a fabulous trip, and I got to meet his girlfriend, Vivian, as well as her lovely parents, who live in the Cotswolds! During my stay, we spent a few days each in Dublin, Edinburgh, and the Highlands in Scotland, and Wales.



Few but mighty! Returning members from the 45-year class of '74 (L-R) Betsy Salt, Ann Pagano, and Chris Moranda:

I visited my other two kids and their families in Naples, FL for nearly a month this past March/April, for spring break. Part of that time we went to Orlando and I got to swim with a dolphin! That was a dream of mine. Too bad it's all so scripted. I'd love to join a pod in the wild but learned that it's against the law — both for human safety and the protection of the dolphins themselves.

The rest of the time I spent with my kids and grandkids and other family members, enjoying the bounty from my son, Hugo's organic garden, having several "paint nights", trying some local craft breweries, and just basically relaxing in a hammock with a cold drink!



Christy, whisky-tasting in Orlando

In the spring I made a few quick trips: (1) to a seaside villa on the Pacific Coast in Baja California Sur with a girlfriend who owns the property; (2) with two other friends to Newport, OR, to visit a third friend who just moved there; and (3) a trip to Oakland/San Francisco for the wedding of one of my young cousins. All three trips were fabulous. Can't wait for my next one! I'm possibly heading back to Ireland and the UK in May of 2020!

Well, that's enough for now. Wish I had heard from more of you, but you can always send me an email and I'll include you next time! Blessings to one and all!

Christy Wines '73
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Check out the WCAA website: www.miamioh.edu/wcaa AND join the Western College Alumnae Association Facebook Group!

Many thanks to those who responded to my email and snail mail notes for news of our classmates! I heard back from some who participated last year and from a few new voices. It was great to hear from folks.

Sally Stark wrote, "Though I did leave Western early, I ended up in the job I love most: working with books, in libraries, as well as the occasional bookstore. When my Dad retired, we moved to San Diego. The whole family ended up on the West Coast: My brother and his family are in Seattle, and I'm in Escondido, in a senior residence. The people are really lively, with a lot of retired military and "zesty" language. It's fun, because it's like having my Dad around. Another great thing, is the internet: I'm on a lot of film and movie sites, and can answer 'reference' questions to my heart's content. I still miss the old days, though. I also miss 'seat of the pants' research ... when you'd go through a couple of years of microfilm to find verification of what you're looking for. I still have wrist scars from the old-fashioned microfilm readers. One last thing (part of the 'seat of the pants' reference story): I actually got Wikipedia to correct a 'wowsler' in one of their biographies with a microfilm print of the actor's *birth certificate*! I guess I'm a 'pit bull' when it comes to accuracy."

In May, **Maria Janavicius Vasys** helped her research center host a group of scientists from around the Great Lakes for a meeting with Congressional staffers. Then in early June, 100 scientists arrived for a three-day satellite team workshop. At the end of the month, she oversaw an earth science summer camp for 17 high school students. That same week, Maria also provided logistical support for an international meeting in China! (So much for a "lazy" summer ...) After a few smaller meetings this fall, Maria will end the year with a large (180 scientists) weeklong international conference near Montreal!

In addition to work, it was a busy year for family connections, as well. July started with a wonderful reunion with Maria's six siblings in northern Illinois. After a tour of Milwaukee, they spent four days talking, reminiscing, cooking, eating, and drinking around her brother's pool. Her sister Nora was also able to come to Madison for a day. Maria and I have had the chance to see each other several times this year on my trips to and from Chicago, and that's been great!

Yungven Vivien Lee continues to follow her call to a cloistered life near Los Angeles, which includes prayer and daily activities

that serve her Guru's work. She writes: "The challenge for all religious, and all persons of faith, is to practice the Presence and remain anchored in His peace while our physical body continues to serve."

Cris Arguedas is still practicing law but taking fewer cases, traveling more, and incessantly working on her golf game. Cris wrote: "Last year, my partner and I rented a villa in Provence and invited two sets of 10 friends for a week to join us. Among them was my very close friend still, **Ada Harrigan '73**, from Western. We also took a cruise to Papua New Guinea with friends. [I don't recommend it. It was fun being with our friends, but more like being on a boat than being in PNG.] And this summer we will go to Milan and Lake Como. We also will take our annual yoga/zen retreat to Tassajara Hot Springs. A Buddhist retreat center with no electricity, no cell service, no internet. It takes about five minutes to get used to it."

"I'm in touch with **Biff Hough '73** and **Diane Bratcher '74**. And I think of Western as a special place that launched me on a good life. A place that gave us an excellent, open-minded education, and where even in 1972 [only a few years after Stonewall] it was basically OK to come out and feel supported by enough people to feel good about it."

Nick Toth '74, wrote in the spring *Bulletin* that he and his wife, Kathy, had met up with **Mohammad al-Barwani** in Zanzibar. (One of Mohammad's favorite vacation places.) Mohammad sent along a note for our class: "It's been 44 years since we last got together. And 44 years has changed in how we all look! I am currently on vacation in LA and San Diego. I am regularly in the USA either for business or for pleasure. I am married to my wife for 40 years and we have five children and nine grandchildren. We live in Oman and are all involved in a family business (MB Holding, which I started some 33 years ago)."

Kay Thomas Berger wrote that her life is "simple, full, and very satisfying." She married Ted (MU alum) and moved to a 120-acre farm in Missouri. They have a daughter, Heidi, 35, married, who has the only grandchild, Taylor (4). "We love her dearly. They are in Joplin, MO — about three hours away. Our son, Jacob, 30, married and just moved 1½ hours away. We love that he's closer."

Kay and Ted have a large organic garden. For years they did market gardening but now just grow for themselves and friends. They love growing things and have two high tunnel season-extending green houses, growing year round. "We eat like kings!" Kay retired from teaching about eight years ago,



Kay and Ted Berger, with daughter, son, spouses and lone ("so far") grandchild

but still does a little. She and Ted stay busy riding bikes, hiking, kayaking, and hanging out with friends. She finds her friends a great support, since they are all in the minority politically where they live, and are hoping for change soon!

Once in a while Kay hears from **Kansas Cooke** and she makes it back to Ohio to visit relatives about every year. Stopped in Oxford a few times. Kay writes: "I'm very happy with my life —other than the fact everyone one is getting old! I've lost a few friends and I'm not really ready for that to be the 'new norm.'" Kay says they are "so rural" that there is only limited internet and no cell service. I think that can be a blessing these days ...

Pamela Carlson Hammers went back to school in 2011-13 and received a master's in substance abuse counseling. Jobs in that area have not materialized, so she is serving as a companion worker and works with an 88-year-old woman from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. each day. She calls it her "retirement job"! Her husband, David, has retired from the federal government and they have been able to move into her mother's home, which she and her brother inherited. Her family faces several major health challenges, and she serves as a support for them, as well. In the midst of her busy life, she and David took time off in 2018 to celebrate her 65th with a trip to Norway. A highlight was seeing the waterfalls and glacier near Gairinger.

Barbara Hoffman is a teacher with the San Luis Coastal Adult School, and prepares students at the jail for their high school equivalency tests. They do not use the GED (for which she is grateful — "not a fan of the new GED"), instead using a test called the HiSET. She also recently took on an evening class preparing Spanish speakers to take the HiSET exam in Spanish. Her daughter, Katie, and her two children moved in with Barbara and her mother two years ago. She says the timing was good, because her mother "has increasingly disappeared in dementia" and Katie's being around meant they could keep her at home longer. In June, they finally had to place her in board and care and now Katie is developing her cottage business of baking and selling cupcakes.

"It is a great joy to live with my daughter and her children. This is a beautiful area of the country — the Central Coast of California — four hours north of Los Angeles and four hours south of San Francisco. We live in Los Osos, next to Morro Bay ... lots of open space, nature preserves, parks, and an educated population. Not only is this area where many people from other parts of California come to retire (hence the high cost of housing), but California Polytechnic San Luis Obispo (you may have seen their float in the Rose Parade) and Cuesta College, a high caliber community college, are here." My own life has been busy and I keep wondering how people learn to move into retirement! I am still serving three little churches once a month, each in various parts of Minnesota. One north, one south, and one in the Twin Cities area. I did a consulting gig with a church back in West Virginia, where I served for 11 years before retirement.

I've done some visiting of my sons and grandkids. My youngest son works for the Chicago Red Stars (women's soccer) and I got to attend a game against the Orlando Pride, for which Alex Morgan plays. Go USA! I have also gone canoeing on the St. Croix National Waterway, hiking with my brothers in Poudre Canyon (near Ft. Collins, CO), and will spend a week up near the Boundary Waters in Sept. My sister and I find places to visit or go to dinner each week, to give her a break from group home living. (Although her group home is awesome.)

Last fall, I attended a presentation of a documentary called *Tribal Justice*, sponsored by a Native American congregation with which I work. If you haven't seen it, find it on YouTube. It's pretty amazing. In April, I

went to a retreat in Massachusetts entitled the *Gospels and The Four Directions*, given by Bishop Mark McDonald, the bishop for the Indigenous Peoples in the Anglican Church in Canada. He's originally Ojibway/European from Minnesota.

In between all my wanderings, I enjoy my deck, which overlooks a small pond, encircled with mature trees and natural grasses. Ducks in the spring and turtles and frogs all summer. Cardinals, goldfinch, an occasional downy woodpecker, if the squirrels haven't gotten to the birdfeeders first!

Thanks again for sharing your news and may you have a grace-filled year!

Faith Crook Perrizo '75
541 Deer Ridge Ln S
Maplewood, MN 55119
fperrizo@gmail.com



Marty Coleman '77 is a training program coordinator for marathon runners. He qualified for the Boston Marathon and will run it in April 2020 at age 65! Go, Marty!!

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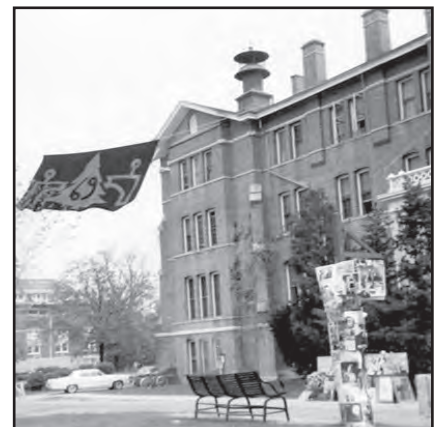


Josephine Schaefer, approaching her 90th birthday (11/28/19), wrote from Littleton, CO: "So many of the people I taught with at Western have died that each death brings warm memories of my years teaching at the most extraordinary college in my long professional career. The Brockmann boys and Vail girls, as well as Ruth Limmer and Margaret Barrier, created part of my own children's extended family. The campus was their backyard and the students were their trusted big sisters. I feel my time at Western College offered the deepest emotional and intellectual satisfaction of my life. I am tremendously grateful."

Jacqui Wallace has published her memoir, *The Door Is Open!* What a treasure for her — and her husband, Jack Wallace's, two families. Because they have equal time, it seems, in this beautiful book — in both text and pictures. As reported (belatedly) in the Spring 2019 *Bulletin*, Jacqui actually finished writing the 163-page book in 2017. She has inscribed a copy for us: "*To Western Friends, With warmest thoughts, Jacqui Wallace, Director, December 1982 to January 2000.*" It will be placed on the shelves of Western authors in the Western College Memorial Archives, now located in King Library.

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Calling All Flags! ...



Susan Hodge, class of 1969, writes that she is searching for photographs of our wonderful class flags. If you have any class flag photographs, please contact Susan at classflags4western@gmail.com. ANY CLASS, ANY FLAG. You may include who designed the flag, what the class colors are, what the symbols on the flag mean, class mottos. [Here's a sample of what she's turned up so far.]

In Memoriam

Jane Murphy Wall '42

December 2018

Phoebe Carman Bradford '43

December 2017

Norma Dannerfelter Lohman '44

July 2018

Mary Jane Rehm Dawson '45

May 2018

Marilyn Barnhill Casebere '46

July 2019

Betty Ann Martin Gardner '46

August 2019

Ann Winger Tuttle '46

August 2019

Maria Urueta Wells '46

March 2019

Mary Teel Paulin '47

October 2016

Julia Ashcraft Armstrong '48

August 2019

Betty Ebeling Leipold '48

August 2019

Venus Jonson Miller '48

August 2019

Eleanor Maresh Tomko '48

May 2011

Juliette Persons Doster '49

May 2018

Priscilla Trumbull Wilcox '49

July 2019

Nancy Dilloway Booth '50

December 2018

Joy Hendricks Prescott '50

February 2012

Mary Peterson Shenefield '51

May 2019

Joyce Cregar Allen '52

April 2019

Margaretta Frey '52

May 2019

Mary Alice Berger Rankin '52

July 2014

Joanne Olson Shaffell '52

March 2018

Betty Ritter Siefert '53

September 2019

Miriam "Mimi" Chesslin '54

July 2019

Barbara Drake McConnell '54

July 2019

Barbara Pope Benbow '55

March 2014

Carolyn Southard Callahan '55

May 2019

Barbara Lilley Stanley '55

October 2016

Margaret Holliday '58

March 2015

Carol Towne Schaub '58

May 2019

Sis Moeller (Elwinger) Horst '59

August 2019

Audrey Portugill Danziger '60

December 2015

Janet Vyse Fish '60

August 2019

Judith Amos Hubbell '62

Class Representative, 2013-2018

May 2019

Judith Rash Nims '62

April 2018

Judith Slagle Stabelli '66

October 2015

Katharine Ehrgood Sturm '67

Class Representative, 1974-2018

May 2019

Jo Ellen Thornton '69

August 2010

Crystal Ingram '70

August 2018

William H. Thompson III '84

March 2019

Donavon Auble FF

Professor of Psychology, 1954-1974

October 2019

Nancy L. Nicholson FF

WCP Professor, 1975-2009

July 2019

*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 in the current or a subsequent issue. Deaths that occurred more than five years prior to publication are not included.*

Lynne Drucker Albukerk '64 Remembers Donavon Auble ...

Dr. Auble, along with his wife Carolyn, epitomized the mission of The Western College for Women. I believe that, for him, the purpose of education was to expand the student's ability to dissect, analyze and organize the presented material. He taught us to listen, think and question.

Two academic vignettes stand out as I reflect on my belief that Dr. Auble was a gifted professor. In one class several of us grumbled our distaste for the expressed opinions or offered scientific proofs in the assigned reading material. Dr. Auble explained he chose these works, so different from his own outlook, so we could compare and contrast the oppositional viewpoints of other noted scientists with those he espoused.

Statistics was a required subject for many science majors. Many students, including me, feared the subject. Dr. Auble stated the class taught the most useful specific information that we would use throughout our lives. He was correct. Understanding statistics allows one to judge the validity of conclusions proffered in all manner of studies.

Dr. Auble respected each student and their ideas while motivating us to reach academically and personally. My class, 1964, had five psychology majors. Two of us earned Ph.D. degrees. This is an unusual achievement for women of the era when most of us were as focused on attaining a prefix of Mrs. to accompany our suffix of B.A., as on our career development.

Dr. Auble could be self-deprecating, as when he told us he believed he earned the smallest salary of any member of his graduating class at Yale. He was an environmentalist [before the word was widely used] riding his bicycle to class, planting a garden and avoiding waste. His style, especially in ties, was famous — or infamous.

Dr. Auble's biography will detail his academic achievements and progression from assistant professor of psychology through senior administrator at Miami University; along with his extensive volunteer service to the Oxford community where the Aubles have chosen to spend their lives supporting and being supported by caring family and friends.

From the time I met Dr. Auble in the fall of 1960, to my final visits with Don in October 2019, he remained a caring, principled, insightful, self possessed man and loyal friend.

— Lynne Drucker Albukerk, B.A., M.A., Ph.D.



Donavon Auble

Faith Crook Perrizo '75 Remembers Karen Brockmann ...

Dear Sons of the best German Prof ever,

You would not remember me, but I was a student at Western College 1971-74 and had your mom for German class while I was there. I finished my senior year at another college the year after Western closed, and also took con ed classes in German several years later. No one held a candle to the quality of your mother's teaching. Very few held a candle to the quality of her character. She was straightforward, caring, attentive to others, had a great sense of humor, and was a role model for all of us young women just beginning to find our place in the world.



Karen Brockmann

One of my favorite memories is the role she played in obtaining the last Christmas tree for Western College's dining room the school year that Western closed. Someone had forgotten to order the 25 ft. tree that went from the bottom floor up to the ceiling of the second floor Your mom, being as ingenious as she was, worked with Cindy ... to make it happen. Cindy had a boyfriend who worked at the Boars Head, which just happened to have a huge old station wagon for deliveries. Your mom had a professor friend who worked for Miami U and just happened to have parents who owned a tobacco farm in KY. ... So the professor, Cindy, one of you three boys ..., myself, and two other Western students ... drove down to somewhere south of Louisville, KY We found a tree, chopped it down, dragged it through the snow, and affixed it to the top of the station wagon. (My guess is that it was not quite 25 ft. long, but must have been close to 20 ft.)

Your mom's diligence allowed us to celebrate one of the traditions of Western College for one last time. Not only having the tree, but being able to have the student body, with every fourth student from another country, gather all the way around the tree on the balcony of the dining room and sing "Let There Be Peace on Earth." Sounds like a "Kumbaya" moment, but it was anything but schmaltzy. It celebrated the amazing community that Western College was, thanks to Karen Brockmann.

— The Rev. Faith C. Perrizo

Ginny Weckstrom Kantor '69 Remembers Eleanore Vail ...

When I came to Western College, I had no intention of being a music major — a rebellious gesture no doubt against my parents, who were both musicians and wanted me to carry

on the family tradition. I had studied piano for 13 years, so I did sign up for piano lessons. Thus, I was assigned Eleanore Vail as my academic advisor.

When I walked into Eleanore's office in Presser Hall, I remember thinking that Eleanore was a beautiful, statuesque woman who at first impression seemed elegant but quite cool. I think I was a bit afraid of her. We went to her studio and I played and also sight-read for her. Then she introduced me to Dr. Monaco, and I sight-read for him. Somehow that day, I was "advised" to take music theory and music appreciation, as well as becoming the accompanist for the Western College Choir. ... I think Eleanore immediately had an intuitive sense that music should be my path, and I discovered she was absolutely right.



Eleanore Vail

My first impression of her was wrong. She was a warm, caring person who gave 100 percent energy to her music, her teaching and her students. She was creative in making sure the students in her music appreciation class were keeping on task and listening to musical assignments by giving the class regular "drop the needle quizzes." She would play small portions of repertoire and we needed to identify the composer and the piece. The class often listened to homework assignments together and we found mnemonic aids to remember our pieces for identification. For example, we would sing the words, "Everybody loves Mrs. Vail. She would never let her students fail" to the opening phrase of the last movement of the Tchaikovsky's 4th symphony. As I remember, we all passed.

Eleanore was an accomplished pianist. She had high expectations and never relaxed her standards either for herself or the people around her. I was motivated to always work very hard, and the first term of my sophomore year, I earned all A's in my courses — *except for piano*. Eleanore gave me a B+. When I asked her about it, she smiled and said, she was glad that "she" was the one who gave me a lower grade, because I "needed to continue working hard and also remain humble." I did earn that A in piano the next term.

Eleanore had so many wonderful qualities. Perhaps it was in part the climate of Western being a small, intimate campus, that faculty were not just academically inspiring, but personally and sincerely interested in their students' welfare. Eleanore always "went the extra mile," never wavering in support of her students. Eleanore, and her husband, Paul, traveled with the Western College Madrigal singers one summer in Europe, an incredible, memorable trip for us all. I had dinner at her house, and got to know her wonderful daughters Sarah and Martha. Eleanore often drove me to the Cincinnati and Dayton airports at the end of the year (with

all my luggage) and said, "it would be no trouble." She also gave a reception for me at her home after one of my recitals. Faculty does not normally do that. She taught me to make Swedish coffee and how to sew drapes which then hung in her office at Presser. ...

Eleanore's support did not stop even after I had graduated. Eleanore invited me to perform on a series she directed at Holy Trinity in Oxford and also a series at Earlham College. She invited my husband and son to play with me on another concert at Earlham. ... Her family was most important to her. She was proud of her daughters and I remember that she would take a grandchild to Europe when they became old enough. She loved sharing travel with her grandchildren. When I spoke with her on the phone, she would always share updates on her family's activities. I felt like her family was my family too.

Eleanore had what I would describe as an indomitable spirit. I have used her as my role model, the person I would most like to emulate. When her hands became gnarled with arthritis and she was experiencing much pain, I asked her how she could still continue to play and perform. She answered simply, "It depends on what kind of pain one is willing to endure, the psychological pain of not playing or the physical pain in your hands. I choose to ignore the physical pain." Now that my hands have some arthritis, I use that statement as my mantra.

In her 80s, Eleanore traveled through much of the world including South America, Australia, Vietnam and the Middle East. Her energy and ability to keep going were amazing. I said to her that she would most likely visit most of the world before she left it and she said, "That is my intention."

One of my last, fond memories was coming to Western for a reunion and being able to play together with Eleanore on the Revue and then perform the Schubert Four-hand Fantasie at a Kumler Chapel service. She was already in her mid-80s and I felt it was such an honor to be able to do this. It equaled the overwhelming feeling I have had playing with my husband and son. It could not have been more special!

I sent Eleanore a braided Finnish Coffee Bread at Christmastime (we shared a Scandinavian ancestry), and I will miss making it and sending it to her this year. Although Eleanore has left the earth, I will always carry a part of her with me. She was teacher, mentor, role model and a major influence in my life. Her spirit will endure.

— Ginny Weckstrom Kantor

(Lynne's and Ginny's tributes were requested by Bulletin editors; Faith's words are taken from a letter she wrote to the Brockmann family, parts of which were read at Karen's memorial service.)

The Western College Program

Hello from Ithaca, NY!

In July, my family and I moved to Ithaca so I will no longer reporting from Oxford. However, in June, the board supported my continuation as President, and I began my second term. I am looking forward to building on what we worked on in the past as well as new initiatives that propel us for success in the future.



Mike, Jenny, and Lauren Loeffelman

I am inspired by the commitment of so many alums wanting to ensure that new generations of students have a meaningful undergraduate experience within Western. The Western Alumni Association at Miami University (WAAMU) is an important organization to me and I am committed to representing it with Love and Honor.

In June, the Board met to discuss strategic actions moving forward regarding legacy. The Board is committed to supporting the WCAA as the organization transitions and as we get closer to 2024. The WCAA is an extremely important part of Western's history and the WAAMU is dedicated to ensuring as smooth a transition as possible. I am thankful for **Kim** and **Kent Ernsting '78** for stepping up to support the relationship between WAAMU and the WCAA. In addition to supporting the WCAA, the Board is also committed to supporting continued growth of the Western Center for Social Impact and Innovation.

I also want to take the opportunity to welcome two new members to Board: **Gwen Morris '90** and **Joan Brook '82**. Gwen is a graduate of Georgetown Law and currently serves as deputy general counsel and senior vice president at Fifth Third Bank. Gwen lives in Cincinnati and is eager to help us out! Joan is a current Adjunct Faculty instructor at Appalachian State (NC) in both First Year Seminar and Commercial Photography. A photographer and researcher, Joan has her own business with roots in Texas and beyond. Joan is passionate about Western interested in doing what needs to be done!

A big project that the Board will be working on in the coming months will be focusing on strengthening communication efforts. We will be focusing on addressing the gaps in communication to better inform alumni. Through a collaboration with the class representatives and the Alumni Office, the Board will be reaching out to alumni to ensure the best contact information. The Board feels that this is a critical step in ensuring that the alumni are fully aware of the current program, the projects of the board, the Western Center, and the demographics of current students.

In the coming months, please be on the lookout for continued communications regarding the communication project as well as other alumni initiatives. As the president of the board, I am excited and honored to work with both the board and alumni from across the country in continuing the strong Western legacy and tradition. Please don't hesitate in contacting me with your thoughts, concerns, and interests — it is so vital that we continue the dialogue on how we can all work together to move Western/Individualized Studies forward.

*The summer did bring some sad news to many of us. We were deeply saddened to learn of **Bill Newell's** passing earlier this year. Many of us used that time to reflect on what Bill meant in our own personal and academic experience. In addition, some of us realized the lasting impact he had on us that far superseded our time as undergraduates. We worked*



Bill Newell

*with Bill's family to establish the Bill H. Newell Memorial Scholarship which will support current Western seniors in the completion of their year-long, interdisciplinary research and action projects. The senior project experience owes so much to Bill's work on Western. This fund extends Bill's legacy by providing seniors with the investment needed for the highest quality of scholarship. I am especially thankful for **Beth McNellie '86** for her hard work on this initiative.*



*In addition to learning of Bill's passing, we also were saddened to hear of **Nancy Nicholson's** passing. Nancy was an amazing faculty member in the Natural Sciences and was one of the first professors of the Western College Program. Nancy taught at Western for over 30 years and had great loves of biology, botany, horses, and working with undergraduates. We are*

currently working with several faculty members and alumni to develop the appropriate legacy gift for Nancy and hope to communicate that to all alumni by end of the year.

— Mike Loeffelman, '03
President, WAAMU Board
mloeffelman@gmail.com



Dear Western Community,

The class of '81 is stepping up to the microphone!

Rob Cole reports that he and his wife, Sharon, downsized a year ago to a house in Clarkston, MI. This summer, they celebrated their 31st wedding anniversary! They are also grandparents! Danielle, their oldest daughter, gave birth to her first child, Michael Alan Rose. Danielle and her husband, Nick, live outside of Madison, WI. She teaches high school math and he is a professional Boy Scout. Less than a week later their middle child, Julie, married Noel García in Holly, MI. Noel and Julie live in San Francisco. She is working on her Ph.D. at UCSF; he is in sales for Hilton. Their youngest, Evan, is at Wayne State in midtown Detroit; he's almost done with his Pharmacy degree.

Sue Mason reports that “some days I’m so happy I just want to pinch myself and ask, ‘Girl, what took you so long?’”! In the past 10 years, she has executed two estates, earned a master’s, given herself permission to end her marriage, and has seen her daughter graduate from high school, college, and graduate school. She’s in her ninth year as an intervention specialist at a public Montessori High school in Cincinnati, and her fifth year working with adult learners. She teaches them how to cook healthy food, linking passions from Western (holistic health and sustainable living) with her current vocation of teaching.

Greg Russi's big news is retirement! After 34 years practicing

law in Colorado, he will fully exit the profession on January 31, 2020. He built a guest house in the jungles of Costa Rica, a mile or so above the beaches just south of Dominical, on the South Pacific end of the country. He says it's a good place for hiking, surfing, or bird and monkey watching. Guests are welcome for a few days — roughly November through April. Contact him at (970)618-8019 or gsrussi@gmail.com. Otherwise, his son is healthy and working in New York City, and the summers in Colorado are — in the words of **Allen Davis** and **Mike Lunine** —
“Ommmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmm.”

Maureen Murphy lives in Dublin, OH, and works in three emergency departments doing behavioral health assessments. The flexible, 12-hour shifts allow for lots of travel with her husband of 30 years, Mike. She has been to 55 countries and almost all the states. She met her husband indirectly through her Western roommate, **Kim Hartsock**; Maureen says this is one more positive influence of Western!

Chris Kerosky reports that friends from Mary Lyon Hall in 1978/79 continue to gather for an extended weekend of telling stories, playing music, eating, and drinking to excess. In July, they met at Chris's house in Sonoma County, CA, and took a nostalgic trip into Berkeley, where most of them lived in the '80s together. Chris, **Steve Sphar**, and **Mike Kent** live in the area, while **Tom Gordon** came from Colorado, **Ken Vincent**, **Rick Edmiston** and **Steve Roos** arrived from Ohio. **Jim D'Andrea** flew in from Florida and **Mark Gizzi** traveled all the way from Egypt! A highlight was lunch with Western

College's first dean, **Mike Lunine**, and his wife, Kay (see photo). Mike turned 90 in August. If you want to send a few words to them, Mike and Kay's email is: klunine@gmail.com

In August, **Kurt Niemeyer** and **Laura Zappia** revived the Bellefontaine Hill Climb for sports cars in Logan County, OH. The original climb was conducted from 1953 to 1974. Laura captured over 50 documents concerning the event's history. Kurt drove the 1958 Alfa Romeo Guilietta Spider he acquired in 2014, the same car his father and Uncle Bob Niemeyer used in the event in the first half of the 1960s. **Tim Matune** regularly helps with the Alfa Romeo, but had other commitments and could not attend. A total of 56 cars took three passes each up Corkscrew Hill.; another 40 modern cars entered a Time-Speed Distance Rally. About 600 spectators watched

Last but not least, I (**Jean Fudge**) have been on a constant mission to evolve, be kinder and stronger, and have more fun. I feel like Rosie the Riveter with my birth sister, Susan, and my mud sister, Patsy. That's New Orleans mud, which I swear is mixed with petroleum. I love it!

Jean Fudge '81
jaf529@earthlink.net



Jean Fudge (far right) shows her love of mud with her birth sister, Susan, and her mud sister, Patsy.



Kurt Niemeyer drove his 1958 Alfa Romeo Guilietta Spider.



Chillin' after 2019 Bellefontaine Hill Climb were, left to right: **Kurt Niemeyer**, event reviver and chairman; **Bob Colaizzi**, automotive/aviation artist and racer; **Laura Zappia**, Wonder Woman and event co-chair; and **Patricia Rigler**, photographer's assistant.



Mike and Kay Lunine (center, front) enjoyed lunch with alums **Chris Kerosky**, **Steve Sphar**, **Mike Kent**, **Tom Gordon**, **Ken Vincent**, **Rick Edmiston**, **Steve Roos**, **Jim D'Andrea**, and **Mark Gizzi**.



Message from the Western Center Coordinator

Hello, I'm **Billy Simms** and I'm very excited to introduce myself to the Western College Alumnae Association as the new Western Center Coordinator. I come to Western via a long and winding road that includes degrees from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in theatre, the Johns Hopkins University in special education, and most recently, an M.F.A. in art from Miami.



Billy Simms

My goal as Center Coordinator is to create a space that is inviting, relaxing, and enjoyable for Western majors, supporters of the Western Center for Social Impact and Innovation, faculty, alumni, Peabody residents, and anyone else, as all are welcome to join us in the Western Center.

My approach to programming for the Center is two pronged. We have regular weekly programs Monday through Friday for Westerners and friends. These include traditional activities like Weekly Tea and new programming that I have implemented: Ice Cream Monday, Omelet Tuesday, Graphic Novel Club, and Disc Golf with Zack and Billy.



A bird's eye view of our weekly Tea and Conversation

Programming is also being designed and implemented by the Center's amazing student workers. Examples are Book Club, Meditation, Self Love, Movie Night, and Arts and Crafts.

In addition to our weekly programming, the Western Center for Social Impact and Innovation shares space and organizes guest speakers and other special events. So far this has included:

- partnering with Zero Waste Oxford for Pumpkin Carving as part of Sustainability Week (attended by 45 students!)
- a meet and greet with students and Western alumna **Kate Black** (co-author of *The Woman's Guide to Running for Office* and former chief of staff for EMILY's List)
- supporting students during the Ernst Theatre honeysuckle removal
- a Sunflower Walk and cookout at **Professor Hays Cummins'** property
- Stargazing with an astronomy class
- and supporting Peabody Hall's Halloween Haunted Helen Event

Future events include a meet and greet for students with Cincinnati Zoo Education Director Dan Marsh, a group trip to the Miami Art Museum and partnering with the Creative Writing Program and *OxMag* for the 2019 Writer's Harvest fundraiser for Oxford Community Choice Pantry.

The Western Center has also gotten a little TLC with new furniture and holiday decorations (Halloween was a spooky time in the center!). We now have The Western Center Art Gallery with a wall dedicated to showing student and alumni artwork. The work currently on display is by senior art student **Nikki McGlosson**, who had a reception and artist talk in October.

Please come by the Western Center and visit us!

— Billy Simms
Western Center Coordinator

FAQ: What and where is the Western Center?

The Western Center is located on the lower floor of Peabody Hall. This houses the new Western Center for Social Impact and Innovation and serves as an informal study space for Western Program students.



From Omelet Tuesday with Jim McCutcheon performing.



Pumpkin Carving in The Western Center, co-sponsored with Oxford Zero Waster.



Earlier last year (2019) — May 18, to be exact...

Eighteen Individualized Studies majors in the Western Program held their “unofficial” graduation ceremony in Kumler Chapel, modeled after the 1954 Western College academic procession, in which the Mace, designed by Professor of Theater William Ireland Duncan, was first carried. It is not intended as a replacement for Miami’s. In fact, Miami’s main ceremony — as well as the College of Arts & Science ceremony — is held the same day. (Usually the all-University is in the morning, the CAS starting at 7 p.m.)

The Western Program has a reception starting around 2:30-3 p.m., then all adjourn to Kumler around 4, with the ceremony starting around 4:30 and ending by 5:30. Thus, students and families can make it to CAS if they so wish.

According to **Zack Hill**, Western Program Coordinator & Advisor, “We usually have a handful of students that go to two of the three [ceremonies] and a couple more that do all three, and the rest (usually about 50 percent) just do ours.”



Audrey Lipps, voted class representative/class speaker, leads the procession, carrying the Western Mace. Following her in alphabetical order, is Sydhi Baker.

Below: Katie Freeman (L) lights the candle of Arcadia Davies.



Opportunities at Miami: Travel and Learn

Civil Rights Tour

“If we remember the past, we can understand the present and shape the future.” So says tour leader **Dr. Ron Scott**, MU Vice President of Institutional Diversity

Join the Miami University Alumni Association on a legacy bus tour that focuses on experiencing and developing a deeper understanding of one of the most significant social movements in American history: the civil rights movement.

The tour and program trace the modern history and struggles of the movement that was comprised of individual acts of courage and sacrifice, grassroots organization and mobilization, boycotts, demonstrations, marches and mass actions. Cities visited on the tour will include Jackson, Baptist Town, Money, and Sumner, Mississippi; Little Rock, Arkansas; Memphis, Tennessee; and Birmingham, Selma, and Montgomery, Alabama.

“On the Road To Freedom/Understanding the Civil Rights Movement” will take place March 22-29, 2020. For full details on costs and itinerary, call *MU travel* :513-529-1443 or visit: Miami/Alum.org/Civil-Rights-Tour.

Project Dragonfly

Miami University’s Project Dragonfly is accepting applications for 2020 Earth Expeditions graduate courses that offer extraordinary experiences in 16 countries throughout the world. Applications are due by January 28, 2020. <http://EarthExpeditions.MiamiOH.edu>

Earth Expeditions can build toward the Global Field Program (GFP), a master’s degree that combines summer field courses worldwide with web learning communities so that students can complete the GFP master’s part-time from anywhere in the United States or abroad. Applications are due by January 28, 2020. <http://GFP.MiamiOH.edu>

Project Dragonfly also offers the Advanced Inquiry Program (AIP) master’s degree that combines web instruction from Miami University with experiential learning and field study through several AIP Master Institutions in the U.S. Applications for Miami’s 2020 cohorts are being accepted now with place-based experiences provided at zoos and botanical

gardens in Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Denver, New York, San Diego, Seattle, and St. Louis. New for 2020: residents of the Jacksonville, Florida area can study and earn the AIP master’s through Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens, AIP’s newest Master Institution. Applications are due by February 28, 2020. <http://AIP.MiamiOH.edu>

Graduate tuition for all programs is greatly reduced because of support from Miami University.

VOA: “US Colleges Seek to Change the Shape of Higher Education”

Recently WP Director **Nik Money** and MU Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs **Jason Osborne** were interviewed by VOA “Learn English” for an article (potentially viewed by millions) on new protocols in academia. From the article:

At Miami University in the state of Ohio, Nik Money says the college’s Western Program helps students who have not chosen a major. The program helps students identify their interests and choose related classes related to those interests at the public research university. Some past examples include the effects of opening a small business in a poor community and sex discrimination in competitive gaming.

Money says the program helps them through this process, but students must produce a major project connecting everything they have learned in the end.

“We’re actually asking a lot of the students in ... asking them to take responsibility ... for determining their own

Let’s Do Lunch!



WCAA Associate Director **Debbie Baker HA** (left) reported on office activities to members of the Southwest Ohio area club, meeting for lunch December 5, at Cincinnati’s Montgomery Inn restaurant: **Cathy Bauer Cooper** ’60, **Chris Davis Vradelis** ’52, **Cynthia Adams Leslie** ’48, **Betty Sipe Gerber** ’52, **Betty Huttenbauer Heldman** ’49, **Bunny Bartizal Proctor** ’49, **Barbara Williamson Wentz** ’66, **Sue Mayer Falter** ’57, and **Sharry Patterson Addison** ’61.

Send your news — *and pictures!* — for the Spring '20 Bulletin NOW.

E-mail, or clip and mail the form below to your Class Rep. If your class does not have a Rep, send your update directly to the WCAA. Beat the deadline: Groundhog Day, February 2!

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