



Est. 1974 . . . Thirty-five Years and Counting!

From the WCAA Director

Symbols ... connections. They are spinning in my head as I meditate on the cover pages of this *Bulletin*.

The Western seal — be it *seminarii*, *collegii*, or *alumnae* — has at its center a Roman lamp (symbol of light) standing on top of a book (symbol of knowledge).

The Western College Professorship — the new project of the Alumnae Association — has at its center the continuation of light, of knowledge, long into the future.

How fitting that the Alumnae Association, with its title wrapped strongly around the College (and Seminary) seal, is focused on continuing what was conceived as the CENTER of Western in the days of her founding.

Light and knowledge, communicated by books and professors, past and future ...

Past professors who added light and knowledge to your world are pictured here.

Future professors who will add light and knowledge to the worlds of those not yet born depend on your action now.

Connect to the future.

Judy K. Maldron



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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.

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NEW: BLUE CARD FORM! 38

ATTENTION, ALUMS: Blue Cards will no longer be mailed to you. Please send news to class reps (or WCAA) via e-mail or the new blue card form. Forms, class rep addresses and deadlines are printed in the spring Bulletin for odd-year classes (reporting in fall), and vice versa.

On the cover: *Thirty-five years old this spring, our ubiquitous WCAA seal is both the symbol of our heritage and the signal of our achievement. See page 5 to read how it came to be.*



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What's on Your Mind?

Miami's One Day U is a new program offering alumni and friends an opportunity to hear the latest from experts on a variety of timely topics. To date, "campus" has been set up in Chicago (October 2008) and Cleveland (November 14, 2009). Approximately 60 attended the Cleveland "Classes Without Quizzes" day. Former WCAA president Stevie Bentzen Snook '69 was one of the participants and shares her impressions here.

This past November it was my good fortune to attend One Day U hosted at the Cleveland City Club. For those unfamiliar with this event, it is a day of courses offered by Miami University to its alumni. WCAA members, being friends of Miami, are welcome to take part in this continued learning experience. Topics of sessions are always varied; for this particular event they included: healthcare reform, the Cleveland desegregation movement, interviewing techniques for recording family history, a comparison of social and business networking, and a look at websites designed to make life easier, cheaper and more productive. (This one really caught my eye!)

Due to the wide variety of offerings, the choice of which ones to attend was quite challenging. Although all were engaging, the most useful for me was "How to Hack Your Life." The title attracted me like a bee to a pollen-laden flower, and the session did NOT fail to deliver what it said it would. We were given a list of sites, invaluable for travel, music and video, photos and graphics, starting a blog for business or pleasure, and the definitions of terms helpful in navigation through the web. Even considering that I am fairly computer illiterate, I found the presentation easy to follow, interesting and quite informative. You may wish to check out the link given and see a bit of it for yourself. If this course is repeated in an area near you, it is well worth your while to attend. (www.slideshare.net/khittle/one-day-u-life-hacks)



Stevie Snook (left), making friends during lunch break at Miami's One Day U

Bob Keller, Miami University architect and campus planner gave the luncheon presentation, a fabulous visual history with photos of the Miami campus (including our Western buildings) from its original plan to its current composition, ending with drawings and sketches of projected changes for the future.

One Day U proved to be a most enjoyable Saturday and an experience I hope more Westerners will consider in the future. The courses were fun and enlightening, sharing with others the memories of wonderful times and places in Oxford, and making new friends made it a day to remember.

— Stevie Bentzen Snook '69

Seal of Approval — Evolution of the WCAA Symbol

Just 35 years ago, the official seal of the newly incorporated Western College Alumnae Association appeared for the first time in the April 1975 *Western Alumnae Bulletin*. Next to the sharp black and white graphic were two short paragraphs of introduction and acknowledgment, reading in part: “The Western College seal will never be supplanted as the official seal of the College. Our new Association seal is derived from it, just as the Association itself is an outgrowth of the College. It seems most fitting for our new corporation to have its own symbol; we are grateful to Ed MacEwen for his skill and generosity in creating it.”



The creator was Edward C. MacEwen, trustee of The Western College 1969-1974, and then-corporate design director of PPG Industries. Thus, asking Ed to design the new seal that would become our iconic signature was an obvious choice. (Ed’s wife is Jan Sandrock MacEwen, of this year’s 50th anniversary class – the Class of 1960.)



Ed recalls that “it was easy, as we wanted it to look just like the college seal. I researched the type face in the outer ring and duplicated the style ... with the words WESTERN COLLEGE ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED. Fortunately, there was a lot of space on the college seal so everything fit quite nicely.” And the rest is history ... impossible to count the 35 years’ worth of reproductions on letterhead, publications, t-shirts and sweatshirts, coffee

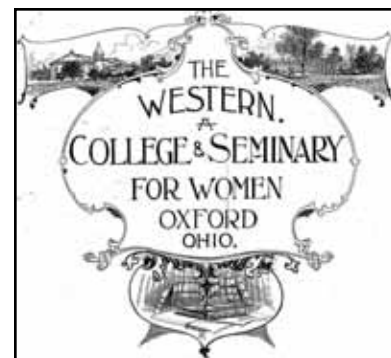
mugs, banners, plaques and – appearing at Reunion 2010 for the first time – pens and pencils!



Most of us know the college seal that became official in 1930-31. A few may remember its immediate predecessor, bearing the date 1855. The change to 1853 that year was significant, as Narka Nelson points out in her history of the college, because it recognized the date of Western’s *charter* – rather than the date of the *opening* – and the dedication of Rev. Daniel Tenney and the 45 incorporators, “who for two year prior to its opening day accomplished so much that was of importance to The Western Female Seminary.”


The original Seminary seal was a sunburst surrounding a star, used on the first diplomas in 1858. In the 1860s, a second seal added the familiar book, lamp, wreath and scroll.

In 1895 – owing to the efforts of Leila McKee, who oversaw Western’s transition from seminary to college – a new seal depicting The Western’s new status, adorned the diploma of Annette Covington, the first to receive the college degree.

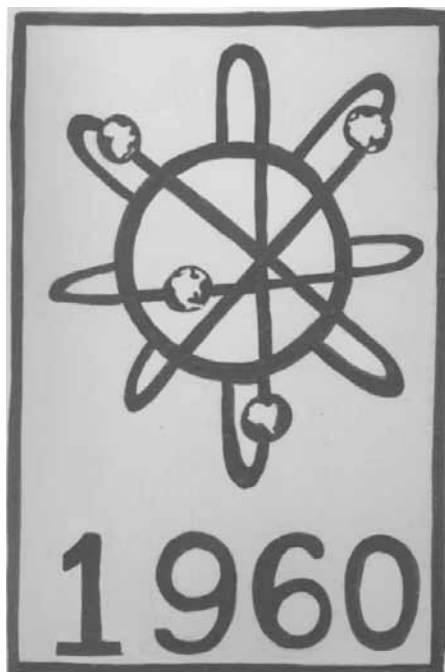


Leila McKee’s personal seal, marking the official change from “the Western Female Seminary” in June 1894.



The scroll now carried the motto of the first class (1856) in Greek: “Lord, what wouldst Thou have me do?”; the outer circle bore the Latin “Sigillum Collegii Seminarii Westernensis.” 

Goin' Like Sixty — and Lovin' It!



Celebrating 50 years!

Sara White Arn did some traveling last year: with husband Dale, a month in Florida plus a catamaran trip through the Panama Canal including a side trip to Bocas Del Toro; and with a friend, an inland tour of Turkey where, she reports, the culture is slowly changing, but women still walk about three paces behind their men. In February she accompanied



Sara

daughter Elizabeth to Guam where Elizabeth and her associates were invited by the local social services department to set up a program they have developed concerning teen-age suicide prevention.



Betty

Betty Milligan Kipp is happy to report that NOTHING happened last year! She is looking forward to being with us in June.

Emmy Lehmann Hammer-Greschel and husband Bill were house-bound for six weeks last year while

Bill fought an infection where his replacement hip had resided. Once the hip was reinstalled they hoped to re-book their travel plans including a trip to the Panama Canal. They've just finished their first year of retirement in South Carolina. Last summer Emmy visited the campus for the first time since graduation and found it smaller than she remembered, but looking beautiful. Depending on Bill's health, she hopes to join us in June.



Emmy

Sally Hoover Harris delights in just being upright and mobile! After 17 years, she resigned her post as one of the wedding directors at her church. She and Tom live in Signal Mountain, TN. Their oldest of four grandsons is 9.



Sally



Syd

Family get-togethers filled out most of **Syd Stout Benson's** year — from Florida to California to New Jersey to New York. They continue to enjoy their newest grandchildren who are twins, now 2. Syd reports that her double knee replacement last

year puts her in great shape for this year's Reunion. She will be traveling with **Susie Peterson Sabin**.

Claudia White Gilmartin's seven grandchildren are thriving with a variety of special interests. Whit spent some time during the too-short summer of '09 exploring Maine with friends, family, and her poodle, Mundy.



Whit

She enjoys all sorts of retirement activities including piano lessons. Practicing is so much more fun as an adult! She hopes to see us in June.

Sadly, **Jackie Power Sheldrick's** husband lost his battle with cancer last year making the time since then a real challenge. New kittens and traveling have helped, including a trip to visit her nephew in San Francisco, sister **Annette "Toni" Power Johnson's** youngest son.



Jackie

Having moved three years ago to downtown Cincinnati (Mt. Adams, to be precise), **Ann Gingrich Kuehn** and husband Ed can finally call themselves city dwellers — they managed to sell their country home in Sabina, OH, this past fall. They can also call themselves travelers, with sights set on a late-summer trip to Europe that will include touring Normandy and cruising the Adriatic. In descending order, their 10 grandchildren range in age from 20 years to 18 months; the 11th is due in June. Late June, let's hope — lest Ann have a Reunion-babysitting conflict.



Ann

As ever, **Christine Dempf Saari** and husband Jon have spent the last year visiting friends and family in many parts of the world when they are not at their residence in Marquette, MI, or their farm in Austria. Singi became a dual citizen earlier this year and continues with many art projects. Most important to her at the moment is the Family Album work that she will ship to Europe to be displayed in gallery space that they will build at the farm. She is also writing a fictional version of 10 years of her parents' life.



Singi

Barb Kong Vlachos and **Connie Everett Cunningham** will be traveling together to our Reunion and hope the rest of us get there "no matter what shape we're in." Connie and partner Antonia went on a kayaking-whale watching-beach camping-snorkeling vacation last year. I'm impressed! She did admit to difficulty with the beach camping part.



Connie



Barb



Nancy

All's well in Idaho for **Nancy Johnson Marshall**. The entire family spent the holidays at their cabin in the mountains, sledding, cross-country and downhill skiing. She and husband Ron spent last year making major changes to their primary home and in between projects, enjoyed trips to Mexico and St. Petersburg, Russia. Nancy has our Reunion dates on her calendar.



Mary



Ann

Mary Flagler Rachau's travel has been somewhat limited this year as husband Ernie has been battling some tough health issues. She continues part-time at the library and gets great exercise bowling and square dancing regularly. She hopes to see us in June.

Ann Hammond continues to work in the schools in Tustin, CA, and travel. This past January she took a trip to the Antarctic.

Following in the wake of *many* others (not just Westerners), **Cathy Bauer Cooper** and Coop cruised Alaska's Inside Passage in August and thrilled to see whales *bubble-net feeding*, glaciers *calving*, and sea lions sunning. She keeps threatening to retire from *Bulletin* editing, but has decided to wait till after Reunion so she can make sure only flattering pictures of our class make it into print.



Cathy

Nancy Kohlman Freeman and husband Peter made two trips to California last year to visit friends and family. And they made their annual trek to Florida during the coldest months to baby-sit grandchildren ages 8 to 11. Their other set of grandchildren includes a high school senior, who will be off to college in the fall, down to the youngest, a 4-year-old spitfire who keeps them all on their toes.



Nancy

Susie Williams Keefer hopes to be in Oxford this June. It is also the summer that she and Jay will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary for which all the family will gather in Wheeling. They experienced water damage to their home while they were away last year but all was corrected by summer.



Susie

With performing roles in several local theater productions, each teaching courses at the Senior College of the U. of Maine, lots of traveling including an Alaskan cruise and the wedding of Kathie's oldest daughter in California, John and **Kathie**



Kathie

Howard Sutherland continued their usual busy lives. They plan to be in Oxford in June.

Sally "Doodie" Allen Masters writes from Naples, FL, that she had a lovely warm cruise on the Mediterranean last year from Barcelona to Italy to France and back. Her sons, their wives and four grandchildren all under the age of 6 helped Doodie celebrate Christmas. She plans to be back in town for our Reunion and hopes to bring **Josette Masson Manougian** along with her.



Doodie



Jo

Isabel Oteo-De Martinez has had a difficult year. After breast surgery and 30 radiation treatments, she is cancer free. She felt very good throughout and then fell and injured her hand. Her husband's Parkinson's is progressing at its usual rate and taking, unfortunately, its usual toll. She quotes a 97-year-old friend who counsels us all to put our "efforts on the side of peace, justice, and helping those in need." Izzy is seriously thinking of joining us in June. What fun it would be to see her again!



Isabel



Helen

Helen Flake Foyle writes of a blessed life since she watched us graduate 50 years ago – already married and a mom. She boasts of good health, a wonderful husband, four children, 11 grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren. She has kept in contact with **Syd Stout Benson** and **Donna McBrien**, who became the sister she never had. She feels that Western gave us all a solid base for the joys and struggles we were to

encounter. She sends best wishes and is sorry she can't return in June because of her husband's failing health.



Jan

Like Betty Kipp, I have very little to report as well. Trips within the U.S., fun with grandkids, continuing with volunteer projects, and lots of music have kept me out of trouble this past year. We, the class of 1960, have been keeping in touch via the printed word and a few pictures for the last 50 years! This June is the big chance to meet once again in person. If Barb can come from Hawaii, Connie from California and Isabel from Mexico, surely the rest of us who live so much closer can make it. Come alone or bring your spouse. Just come.

Jan Sandrock MacEwen '60
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Weston, CT 06883
janmacewen@sbcglobal.net



'56-
'60



The rest of your stories . . .



Elsie Nussmann Steiner passed away November 1, 2009, but not before she joyously celebrated her 100th birthday March 25, 2009.

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wcaa@muohio.edu



From **Theresa Patz Gray**: "While much of the country is blanketed in snow, I have seen minimal snow outside my window so far this winter. I still enjoy Bingo and other planned activities, especially the church services. Gordon continues to visit me almost daily and is recognized by all the staff and residents. This summer, I moved to the Alzheimer's floor. Jo and Jim found my new room in July and

visited me for two weeks. They stayed at Gordon's home while he was playing tourist in England for a month. Joy also visited for a few days. Gordon and his friend Lee helped me celebrate my 96th birthday in October. This fall, I snuggled under my leafy fleece. For Halloween, Gordon designed a queen costume for me with a royal purple cape/robe trimmed with wide, gold braid. Our costume won first place! Jo and Joy will be visiting me Christmas weekend! My new room number/address is: Iroquois Nursing Home 111B, 4600 Southwood Heights Dr., Jamesville, NY 13078."

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Sadly, longtime Class Rep **Marty McCuaig Heath** died June 23, 2009. She was 94. Her daughter Barbara Heath Page wrote to tell us how much she "loved her Western College connections" and that she "enjoyed sending class news to the

Bulletin." Barbara added that she and her sister, Bev, "were proud of her college at Western."

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Greetings again to all you survivors of the Class of '38. I succeeded in reaching two of you and a relative. One surprised me – she is still delivering (by car) Meals on Wheels! She is also treasurer of her garden club. Know who it is? **Mary Harman Ficken**. She lives in her own house at Bellair, FL. Should inspire us to rise out of our recliners! Son Bill and wife, who live in St. Paul, MN, visited her at Christmas.

The daughter of **Barbara Steckel White** called from Seattle, WA, after I had left a message. Barbara is in a nursing home and cannot be contacted, but her daughter says she is well taken care of and close to family. We wish her well.

Anna Shrock Waite of Glendale, CA, has a house next door to older daughter Becky. We send sympathy to her as her husband, Harlan, died Dec. 26, 2009, after their 69-year marriage. He and Anna had authored books dealing with their Welch background and had visited Wales. He was a Methodist minister. Anna says she is doing "remarkably well" health-wise. Keep it up, Anna!

Life has been good for me here at Cape May Retirement Village in Wilmington, OH. Have traveled to North Carolina and Tennessee to visit family and look forward to a visit by son Howard and wife in the next few days.

Could some of us from Ohio make it to Oxford during Reunion, June 18-20, at least for the special noon dinner on June 19? God bless you all ...

Jane Noble Miller '38
175 Cape May Dr., Apt. 205
Wilmington, OH 45177
beverlyjm@webtv.net



Celebrating 70 years!

Editor's note: Sadly, no class notes were received for the illustrious 60-year class, but the office still hopes to hear from intrepid members planning to attend Reunion 2010, June 18-20.

Ruth Bertsch Stilwell '40
8505 Woodfield Crossing Blvd., #201
Indianapolis, IN 46240



Mildred Orr Palmer is the only classmate to use the blue card form printed on page 50 of the fall *Bulletin* to relay her contribution to the spring issue. Midge and Dick celebrated their 66th wedding anniversary on Thanksgiving Day and were to be with family at Gulf Shores, AL, at Christmas time.

Barbara Burke Chesman seems to be our traveling '42er. She enjoyed the Christmas shows at Branson, MO, in December, went to Savannah in April, and Boston in June. Barb's son Tom retired after 34th years with the same company

and now is a school bus driver. Dan is an engineer with the Chicago suburban commuter system.

To read every Christmas letter from **Ethel Burnham Meece** has always been exciting and inspiring. The 2009 letter did not bring the usual wonderful account of long distance travel, but rather descriptions of some of her fellow residents at Channing House in Palo Alto. Eth has previously compared the retirement environment to a college dorm, but now realizes that there is a big difference between them: "Back then we were at the starting line — lives not yet lived. At Channing House, we are in on the harvest but not the labor that went before."

Bernarda Danford Rice described 2009 as a difficult year for some of the younger members of her family, but she is still "plugging along." She is thankful that she can still sing in a 60+ voice chorale, which has recently given two concerts. Another joy is that she, with the cooperation, advice and assistance of fellow residents of her retirement community, transformed an unattractive courtyard into a lovely flower garden. Bernarda wrote that by satisfying her urge for planting and landscaping, she could "create something that would have pleased Ted and also bring pleasure to many friends."

Children and grandchildren of **Kathryn Severin Behm** surprised and honored her in September with a memorable birthday party. Kay wrote: "Carol took me to a restaurant and I thought it was going to be just the two of us. But every 10 minutes several more would appear and, of course, I was shedding many tears." Kay sent with her Christmas card several snapshots of the merry event.

An e-mail brought news of the death of **Harriet Knoell Loos**. Harriet had a successful modeling career and served as an on-stage assistant to magician Harry Blackstone on his USO tours. Survivors include nine nieces and nephews and 18 great-nieces and great-nephews.

We are having more winter here in Kansas than is appreciated. So I will end with, "Three cheers for springtime!"

[Editor's note: We extend our deep condolences to Bea for the loss of her brother, Chuck, in January. Many of us remember him fondly from his visits to campus with Bea when she served on the Board of Trustees.]

Bea Low Notley '42
5807 Park Circle
Shawnee, KS 66216



Editor's note: We were sorry to learn that Nancy has had health problems this winter and was unable to submit your news for this Bulletin. We wish her well and hope to hear soon that she is feeling better!

Nancy Meyer Elofson '44
81 Gordon St.
Jamestown, NY 14701



Our letter begins with sad news of classmates who have died recently. From the Alumnae Association comes the announcement of the death of **Molly Fulton Dolan** on August 18, 1998. In addition I received word from Lois Homma, daughter of **Marion "Mandy" Holtz Homma** that her mother died on August 17, 2009. Those of you who attended our 50th in 1996 will recall that Mandy was present.

News of **Nelle Sicher Frisch's** death in November 2008 was reported in last spring's "In Memoriam," but came too late for Class Notes. Special mention of Nelle's contributions was made, however, in the Greater Grand Rapids Women's History Council newsletter, which noted that she was the former owner of Downtown Books, author of *Celebrating the Harvest* (about Michigan farm markets) and that she donated her time and energy to many local organizations. (Thanks to Betty Baldwin for forwarding the newsletter.)

Betty Buell Baldwin has had little time to travel because she has spent nearly a full year healing a torn calf-muscle. She continues to use a cane with much damage to her ego, but at least she's moving!

Betty Jane "B.J." Smith Carlson celebrated her 85th birthday visiting relatives and friends in the San Jose, CA, area. Exciting news for her was seeing a former student, now principal of a high school in Gilroy, CA. He was very surprised. Due to an arthritic knee, B.J. is also using a cane.

Clara "Clid" Hunter lives a very quiet life and does continue to do some volunteer work. She enjoys dining with friends and playing cards.

ALL classes, honoring Bulletin Class Reps at Reunion '10 ... June 18-20!



Jerry Smith Rector '48 et al., in Napa Valley for the wedding of her granddaughter

Betty Lee Maddox Daniels reports a quiet year with no travel. She and her husband, Charles, visit the health center three or four times a week to keep moving. They attend monthly book review group, library programs, church services at 8:30 a.m., and she frequently makes pitches for sales of *Encyclopedia of Northern Kentucky*. "Trying to keep up with current economic and political events and rereading F.A. Hayek's *The Road to Serfdom* that was required for finals of Ms. Mueller's soc. majors. Don't know how I ever got through it then ... twice as hard now. Enjoyed the first wedding among grandchildren in September. Other five grandsons are still looking. Have lunch once a month with four high school classmates to discuss what a wonderful youth we had compared to the troubles facing youngsters today. Yes, we know all the answers but no one listens."

Our sympathy is extended to **Betty Ann Martin Gardner**, whose husband, Dick, died August 15 2009. Their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren have been a wonderful comfort and help to Betty Ann.

Martha Hall Wedeman reminds us that we have been out on the world stage for 64 years. "Where are the exciting accounts of our influence of the world beyond Oxford? We are all well past 80, so it appears that we are down to modest volunteer activities and cannot claim creative triumphs – no books written, astonishing scientific findings published, new economic theories offered to save the Nation in its current woes!" Martha continues with her report. She says she and her husband, Miles, are doing well in a lively retirement community outside Washington; they are hoping to have a brief cruise in the Adriatic in May. Martha loves e-mail in order to keep in touch with children in Philadelphia; Lincoln, NE; Cairo, Egypt; and in Washington. Martha is retired from her position as trustee with our Alumnae

Association and misses the meetings in Oxford and seeing the campus. She keeps in touch with **Betty Buell Baldwin** and **Anne Mack Dean '47**.

If I were more comfortable in using my little laptop I would put these comments all on e-mail – maybe next year. Instead I am writing on the computer and will use the printer. I'm so attached to it I even carried it to Seattle for the Christmas holidays so I could get some tips from my Seattle relatives. I'm well, still walking, and – as a friend of mine said on a card – "still upright and taking nourishment." I send my love to you all ...

Dorcas Robson '46
29 La Cumbre Circle
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Where have the years gone? When I talk to my family about college life, they are surprised that it was so different. They only go to school so many days per week, use laptops and don't seem to have college parties or gatherings. I think now that we were lucky in 1944-48!

Today, Feb. 10, I am snowed in here in Troy, MI, so guess it is a good day to write. I am late with this 'cause I kept looking for the blue cards. Guess I should read the notice from Western more carefully.

Maggie McKee Seder seems to be very happy in her senior residence, where Ed and she live. Lots of nice friends, good food, and no garden to weed, etc. She does keep up by e-mail with several of her old friends, but does not like to travel via airplanes. Maggie leads a group of residents in Aquasize in

their indoor pool, several of whom are over 90! Good for them.

From **Jerry Smith Rector**, a Christmas letter telling of a family get-together in Napa Valley for the wedding of her granddaughter. Her family seems to be very happy with various vocations. One grandson is in film production, another granddaughter in Duke University law school, another in the master's program at DePaul, and one grandson a star athlete. All in all, one happy family – as it should be.

Mary Anne Hillman Thornton sent a short note saying that all is well with her. She was given a laptop by her son and daughter-in-law and now is trying to learn all the wonderful things it can do. Mary Anne is getting older – like us all – but life is great.

A little trouble walking, but this does not keep **Jackie Smith Greenhoe** from enjoying her life in a retirement community in Phoenix. The people there are very friendly, the food delicious, and good activities. As always, she is active in her church. Her children are in Montana and California, visit often and spend the holidays with her. Life goes on.

Helen Grinnell lives on in Colorado and I always get a Christmas card from her. She has lived there many years and keeps busy with her family stocks, etc. She was a wonderful golfer, but that is over now. She seems well and happy.

I see **Ellen Siddall Zimmermann** quite often and she still lives in her home in Pleasant Ridge. Three children are near; one son lives in California. Ellen has a lovely cottage in Canada right on Lake Erie, so in summer she is back and forth there. She always has a nice vegetable garden there. We had a potluck supper group for over 50 years, but that is now over. Just two ladies and two men left – all singles – but maybe we can go for lunch sometime!

A long letter and greetings from **Margaret Brauchli Haenni** saying that she had had a rather hectic year, but is hanging in. Her walking is getting worse due to a narrowing in her spine at the neck. She and Edi were looking forward to Christmas for a large family gathering. Nine from the U.S.A., two from Frankfurt. Her youngest grandson is in his freshman year at Miami and loves it in Oxford. Margaret stays in touch with a few classmates, but stays home, especially when there is snow.

A card from **Jane Clapp Towne** tells of her work as a deacon in the Episcopal church in Bismarck. Though she is alone since her husband died a year ago, her church work and visits with children keep her very busy.

A quick note on the Christmas card from **Judy Stuchell Mellicker** says she is fine

and now living in a retirement home, where all is well.

Last fall the Western group from here went down to the Detroit Institute of Arts to have lunch and then see a movie of the opera *La Boheme*, filmed in Europe and very good.

I always get a Christmas card from **Liz Prescott Walton's** son Rick, who lives in Dubuque, IA, and still works for a model soldier company. He's happily married and has a cute little boy and girl.

Last June, **Ellen Zimmermann**, **Marge Hoerres Kalkoske** and I drove to Oxford for Reunion. There we met **Nancy McKinney Fleetwood** and had good fun. Just the four of us from the Class of 1948. **Cy Adams Leslie** (who lives in Oxford) had just left on a trip, so we were sorry she could not join us. Western looked super! Buildings and grounds were in top shape, the Reunion great. So glad that we drove down!

As for me, **Alice Brandon**, all is well. I have lived in this house 55 years and still enjoy the neighborhood. Three children are close, and the oldest lives in Newport, RI, but it is easy to pick up the phone. I do volunteer work, knitting, church work, swimming (2,000 yds., 3x/wk.) and just keep busy. March 5 I fly to Kona, HI, and then on to Tahiti to board a cruise ship for Bora-Bora and smaller islands, with three other ladies; back to Detroit on March 14. This is a travel group from Detroit, and we fly on our own plane – the "Flying Clubhouse" (727) so there are no airports to deal with.

I wish you all a wonderful 2010 and enjoy life. It only comes around once!

Alice Crabb Brandon '48
2874 Pine Hill Dr.
Troy, MI 48098



Celebrating 60 years!

We class reps from that ancient era, the mid-20th century, found ourselves bustling to the extent we're able when in mid-December came news of the deadline for Spring *Bulletin* copy! What to do for news on short notice when half the expected Christmas cards are – one hopes – still in the mail?

Thank you, **Donna Hall Mader**, the most organized of the Fiftians, who admits to a few "senior problems," then reels off a list of civic involvements that a 30-year-old would envy. She confides that "I really want to skid into the pearly gates shouting, Wow, what a ride!" Donna volunteers in and near Alexandria, KY, for her church, an elementary



Barbara Huls Broderick '50, visited by (clockwise, from left) grand-niece Lauren, niece Alicia Broderick '90, daughter Rebecca and granddaughter Elizabeth

school, the Kentucky Symphony, the county library, a support group for a military unit, etc., and has started to present programs about Kentucky women for interested groups.

Our Dayton Western College Club's Christmas luncheon brought about a dozen members of various classes to the Dayton Country Club to feast and reminisce. [See photo, page 37.] Judy Waldron showed a new film presentation on ideas for a new alumnae initiative. Its aim is to seek funds to endow a new professorship at Miami, named in memory of Western College. [See page 39 for more information.] The Dayton alums' reaction was positive.

One of the pleasures of the luncheon was a table arranged so that all of us could hear and participate in the same conversation. I'm sure I wasn't the only one thinking of remembered faces no longer there. Someone brought a Dayton Club program booklet listing the club's activities in the late 1950s. "Look! We're all listed with our husbands' first names!" That brought a laugh.

Helen Anne Noftsger Welsh, avoiding the Michigan winter in Bradenton, FL, sent clippings of leading columnists' views of the state of the nation. She noted how they reflect conditions in what Leonard Pitts calls "The Uh-Oh Decade." Son Rick, a laid-off General Motors engineer, describes his life as a movie extra. Helen spent Christmas with great-grandson Matt and his family in their new Bradenton house, built in a government project for first-time home-buyers.

Phyllis Palmer Vaughn, Allentown, PA, broke a long silence to bring us up to date on her life. "I finally retired from a most successful and challenging career,

which I thoroughly enjoyed, as a physical therapist." She writes of enjoying New England's "spectacular fall color" along with her husband, Albert, her sister, **Audrey Palmer Jones '53**, and Audrey's husband, Dr. Robert Jones. The Joneses live in New Mexico. The Vaughns' four children live in Las Vegas, Minneapolis, Orlando and Naples, FL.

This brief note from classmate **Carolyn Gibson Coulter** was passed on to me this year by the Alumnae Office: "...sociology, biology and music offered me the most happiness after college." What an opener for a conversation! *Western College Alumnae: Today 2009* lists Carolyn as living in Kansas.

Word has come of the death last November of **Virginia Messer Bright**, whom we remember for music, which became her career. She lived most of her life after college in Bedford, OH, south of Cleveland, later in Westerville, near her children. As I remember, her singing was celebrated in *Scope*, Western's literary magazine, in a poem by **Anne Renick '51**.

The Alumnae Office also recorded in the Fall '09 *Bulletin* the deaths of **Barbara Leith Ritzenhouse** and **Elizabeth Ziv Rosenhaus**.

Louise Moore Murray, Portsmouth, RI, writes of the comfort and pleasure of family life for us in the grandparent generations. "Everything is good here. In fact, life is good. My children are near enough that I can help them when needed, and they can help me if needed. I had a perfect week in Maine in early September in my favorite place, Southwest Harbor, and came home recharged."

Your scribe is still scribbling – for fun now, because after 50-plus years, I just can't help it. At Bethany Village (retirement community) I've written features for the apartment buildings' mini-magazine and (currently) comb the newsletter of the area Lutheran women's service group for glitches in the prose. I'm also having fun in a fledgling memoir-writing club. This despite arthritis that causes me to sprinkle extra E's all over my prose, and chronic amnesia about the details of using a computer.

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Mary Sue "Tudy" Allen Gatzert sends birthday wishes to all of us, as most of us will turn 80 this year. I now tolerate birthdays

rather than celebrate them, but thanks a lot, Tudy. Tudy keeps busy enjoying life in Chicago and with trips and family get-togethers. She had nice chat with her first roommate, **Anne Cowan Leverich**, whose husband, Ed, passed away in October.

Joyce Cregar Allen's doctor says that she is normal for a 78-year-old broad. Her macular degeneration has healed and she will be able to have her needed cataract surgery next year. Joyce's dog, Buddy Bear, is the one who needed immediate attention. He was found to have a blood sugar of 436. After treatment, he is improving but has become blind. Her other dog, Beau, is also blind. Joyce says that they are the cataract family.

Barbara Peterson Block had a busy year, but nothing spectacular, she says. Kitchen repainting put off Christmas baking for a while. Their grandchildren are growing up fast, with the oldest now in high school.

Donna Schulz Bloom and Art are still traveling. They have visited Hawaii to see grandchildren, Ontario for Shakespeare, Philadelphia for the symphony and art museums, Buffalo for the architecture of Frank Lloyd Wright and others, to the beaches of Normandy, Barcelona, Jaipur, Agra and Delhi. Donna says that the Taj Mahal and Petra are now crossed off her list. Christmas in Delhi wasn't really Christmas.

Catherine Ross Loveland and Dick have just returned from the Rose Bowl, which they attended with six grandchildren. What fun that must have been, especially with the OSU win! They have had other travels also, such as the International Story Telling Festival in Tennessee, and the Stratford Festival in Canada. Cathie says that things are good. The one downer was a major robbery, but so many positive things have occurred that they have moved on with their lives. Their house renovation project continues.

Joyce Rinckhoff Snell, (my senior year roommate) sent a note and newspaper clipping about **Nancy Wiederstein Evans'** son Doug, who has helped restore a fountain in his home town (Newtown, OH) in memory of Nancy, who gave so much time to civic projects.

Joan Landenberger Trefts sent her lovely card with family picture again this year. Joanie wishes all of you a Happy New Year.

Jo Ann Fley keeps me entertained with her wonderful e-mails, which are often written in the very early hours of the morning and are filled with Western memories. She manages to remember a lot of the mischief which the two of us enjoyed 50+ years ago.

Fortunately, I have only one death to report this year, but it is a sad one for me. **Ardeth Anderson Holmes** passed away

in February 2009 after a long illness. Ardie and I attended several Reunions together and I always looked forward to our long talks. She and Bob hosted a few pre-reunion get-togethers in their home which were quite memorable. [Editor's note: *Belated news of the deaths of Ann Shafer Andrus and Carolyn McKenzie Lochrie reached us after Sue's deadline. See "In Memoriam," page 25.*]

The **Schropes** had an exciting time welcoming our first great-grandchild in August. Charlotte Isabelle Addison is a blue-eyed redhead, who is bringing much joy to our family. It has been quite a while since we have had a little one around, but the magic is still there. We are in good health, though Dan's poor vision limits his activity. He can no longer drive or read, but enjoys sports on big-screen TV and takes care of the two dogs and one cat. Please keep up the e-mails and letters. I love to hear from all of you. Don't wait for the fall deadline. Send me a note anytime!

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We start with unhappy news. Classmate **Joan Gary Caudill** died in January 2009, **Barbara Leslie Swanberg** in May, **Joan Grabill Hayes** in August. I do not have any details, but certainly it is sad for us all.

Also, Richard (Dick) Fossier, husband of **Virginia Meierjohan Fossier**, died April 4, 2009. They had been married 54 years, and he was a wonderful husband to her and dad to Donna and David. His death was especially hard for Jeanie, as they lost their only granddaughter, Natalie, the previous year.

And my husband, Frank McConnell, died in October because of a vicious and aggressive jaw cancer. A note I found later from him urged me not to grieve and to remember that we were luckier than 99.99% of other people. He's probably right; we have a lovely and loving family. Still, it ain't easy.

I have gotten many comforting notes from our classmates, and poignant, encouraging ones from **Cornelia Roettcher Levine** and **Betty Renton Hale** who also lost husbands recently. **Cornelia** says she is doing OK. Her youngest son has MS and has ups and downs, but as long as there are ups, she is



Mieke van Waveren Smit '54 and Henk, with grandkids

grateful. One grandchild is in college; one in high school and one in elementary school. And the sons and partners/wives are doing OK and have jobs, which is "not automatic in the current economy." Of interest is that the University of California Press is printing a paperback version of the New Deal section of the book Corni and husband Larry wrote about letters to Franklin D. Roosevelt, which was published in 2002. We can all look forward to its appearance this April.

And **Betty** reminded me of the considerable amount of paper work involved after Erik's death. She is gradually getting used to living alone. This year there was a Hale/Kahn gathering at Shenandoah National Park in June. The six Kahn brothers were together in one place for the first time in 17 years. Both sides of the extended family got to know each other and now are keeping contact through e-mail and Facebook. She visited all four of her daughters at various times and got caught up on grandchildren, ranging from 10 to 23. She also went to the Florida Native Plant Society Conference in West Palm Beach, the Florida Lighthouse Association Annual Meeting on St. Simon's Island, and an Elderhostel trip with **Sandra Franz Barnes** in New Hampshire. She commented that being out of the house so frequently helped make the year go by quickly.

Sandy also commented on their shared Elderhostel trip and added in a card that it has been an uneventful year for Phil and herself – no big trips, no surgeries, and very few problems. (You can't hope for anything more than that!) She has a better memory than I do, because in her sweet note to me about Frank, she wrote a verse I had forgotten: "A drake may look like he's gliding smoothly through life, but he's really paddling as hard as he can." Very appropriate.

Mieke van Waveren Smit of course topped all of us with travels this year, although her letter started out with, "We did not have an exotic trip planned this year, but a short sweet jump to Europe got me off to a good start." She and her sister made a surprise trip to Holland to surprise their sister on her 70th birthday. (Actually that sounds exotic to me.) She also went

to Seattle for two weeks and from there to Victoria. Then they made their annual pilgrimage to Canada, enjoying the mountains of West Virginia along the way. They visited their children in Welland, and went on to Georgia Bay to a cabin where they stayed for two weeks with Peter and his children. Mieke has enjoyed working on her piano playing, and she and a friend prepared a performance for the members of Tide Pointe. And, speaking of piano, Dasha, her protégé from Odessa, is doing fabulously well. She played in front of a live audience in Boston, and that show was aired nationally on 250 radio stations. She is now studying at Peabody Institute, settling in nicely and loving the school. [Editor's note: The story of Mieke's mentoring of Dasha is featured in the winter 2010 issue of the Meily Society newsletter, "The Anchor."]

Charlotte Bergmann Russell says that her sister and her housemate of 15 years will be moving in with them after Christmas. Both have been ill, and Char feels that living in the sticks of Maine is not the place for them to be, so they will move in until they find senior housing in that area. They come with a dog and a cat. However, this move will not stop Char and her husband from taking their annual island vacation this winter ... and she suggests that by that time, the women may be glad to have the house to themselves.

Dee Randles Hutchinson says that she and Jack are plugging along, at a slower pace these days. They don't travel as much as they used to, now only making trips back and forth from Atlanta to their condo in Sarasota. The grandkids are growing up. Andy is getting his master's at Georgia Tech in aeronautical engineering. Christin is in her first postgrad year at Columbia Seminary in Decatur Georgia ... on her way to becoming a Presbyterian minister. Wes and Jen are in college and Mike and Sarah in high school.

Liz Brown Peelle has been getting treatment on both hands and her right arm, and recently had surgery on one finger on her "good" left hand. There are improvements on the left, and the right arm is "holding even so far." She and Bob are working on renovating and fixing up the 1960s one-floor ranch in hopes of making it more usable. Since her retirement last year, they've had a flurry of activity. She enjoyed the Western Reunion last June where she gave one of her global warming seminars. They had a wonderful family Thanksgiving, hosted by Evelyn and Gary in Houston, and joined by Annette, Eric and grandson William. Also they had an enjoyable trip during the summer to Colorado, revisiting many favorite places.

Willa Ward has a short message that she is still working part-time, volunteering for Friends of the Library and Altar Guild and



Pris and Bob Berry

is in two reading clubs. Both she and **Mimi Chesslin** ended their cards with fond greetings to all of us for a truly happy new year.

Mitzi Carolyn Masters had her life disrupted by a fire in her apartment building last summer. She didn't lose all her things as many others did, but it was a bad experience. She now has a new apartment number, #115. Other than that, all's well with her.

Joanna Bullard Hills called a month or so ago and said she was trying to sell her B&B. Apparently her children didn't like the idea of her living on the 7th floor in an apartment with no elevator. I haven't heard about her progress with that, but she was looking at houses in Maine.

Pris Strand Berry says that 2009 has been a good year. They are in a retirement cottage and their health has been pretty good. They have had delightful visits with friends this year. As for family, granddaughter Leslie has graduated from Indiana U. after doing student teaching in Australia; David and Haley Berry are still at IU. Daughter Betsey and Arlie are in New Jersey with their two boys. Pris keeps busy with her museum docents, church work and outings such as plays and concerts, etc. in Cincinnati. Both she and Bob had birthdays in December, but decided to ignore them. Pris invites us to join them, to use their guest room and to meet their dog, Mr. Happy.

And, Mr. Happy, here's a dog story. Our dog, Mabel, and Frank were inseparable. All day long Mabel still sits by the window hoping he will come home. She used to sneak into



Bar's Mabel and her Puppy

bed with us every night at about 3:00, but she has not done it one time since his death, even if I invite her. Now that's weird. However, she has her Puppy! Puppy is a stuffed beagle toy she has had for six years. She eventually chews into shreds every other toy, but she has never hurt her Puppy. Now she carts Puppy around constantly, and, as the picture shows, she even snuggles down with Puppy when she sleeps.

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The nicest thing about writing these alumnae notes in January every year is that even if a cold rain is beating on my window, as is happening today, I can picture all of you reading this on a sunny spring day. For example, today I'm enjoying an imaginary visit with **Susie McLaughlin Montgomery** at her home in Florida. According to her I could be looking out at her patio and, well, I'll let her tell you in her own words what I might see: "This morning just after I had taken Bo, our Chihuahua, out for his morning do, I came in, poured my coffee, and looked out on the patio. Mr. Bear was looking back at me. He must have come around the house just as I entered the back porch. My heart did not quiet for a long time. He is huge!! He has been visiting us for a year and a-half now." I'd like to see that bear, or the Florida bobcat that walked through their yard in October, as well as the fox and opossums that visit regularly. And I'd love to hear the "gorgeous Rhode Island red rooster that sits on the back fence and crows in the day! He does not belong to us but chooses our fence for his announcements." And after all this, Susie worries that her report is "not very exciting. No overseas adventures or even U.S. trips." To which I say, I'd never leave home if I had such an intimate view of wildlife. Few people are that blessed these days, so keep those "mundane" reports coming, Susie.

It seems from what I read and hear that most of us are slowing down just a tad, through the combined effects of the tough economy and our advancing years – after all, many of us are now three-quarters of a century old, ladies. Even the always peripatetic Norm and **Helen Potts Felsenthal** have had to make an adjustment. Norm's 1988 Honda Civic had just celebrated its 21st birthday when it "couldn't pass inspection and passed on to that great junkyard in the sky. Better the car than either one of us," Helen continues with her usual good humor. Other than becoming a one-car family again, the biggest change



Patty Robinson, walking the Brooklyn Bridge with her granddaughters

in the Felsenthals' life is that Norm is emerging from retirement long enough to teach a course on Mass Media and Society at the University of Pennsylvania for the spring semester. That sounds like a course I'd like to take myself.

One alumna who hasn't slowed down much is **Patty Van Auken Robinson**. I couldn't begin to tell you all the trips and other activities that my former roommate engaged in last year, but I will send along two snapshots – one of Patty walking across the Brooklyn Bridge with her two 16-year-old granddaughters, and one of Patty entering the escape hatch of a Vietcong tunnel when the Robinsons were visiting Vietnam. Her years of regular Yoga practice have really repaid Patty. She assures me it's never too late to begin – I'll let you all know next year whether I've tried out that theory.

Reporting Patty's news reminds me, of course, of **Nancy Adams McCord**. Nancy, Patty and I had a lovely triple in McKee our senior year, before I left so precipitously. Nancy and I had planned a joint February

four days a week as she attends college nearby. Charlotte and Joe walk several miles a day, in spite of the fact that Joe was diagnosed with lymphoma last spring and had chemo every three weeks until the end of September. As of Christmas, Joe's cancer was in remission, happily, and in his Christmas letter to friends he credited Charlotte for helping him through the treatments. Charlotte, you know, had a heart attack some years ago and is now quite involved in the Dean Ornish Reversing Heart Disease program.

Texas no longer – that describes Dick and **Joanne Vyse Jung**. Last May their eldest daughter and her husband bought a home in the mountains of Tennessee. They felt the home could easily be converted into a mother/daughter home, so Jo and Dick took a flying trip to Tennessee, saw and loved the house, and within six weeks start-to-finish they sold their house and moved to the mountains. The housing slump didn't stop them – instead, five days after they listed their home they sold it for more than they were asking, thanks to a pair of competing bidders.

On the way home from a wedding in Texas, last September, the Jungs stopped to see **Gilberta Rickel**. Parkinson's disease and arthritis keep Gilberta in a wheelchair, unfortunately, but her nephew and his wife, who keep in touch with Jo, said last week that more passive exercises and rehabilitation therapy are helping her a lot. Prayers are with you, Gilberta.

At Christmas we got a short note from Jesse and **Darlys Tracy Graham**, who are enjoying a peaceful retirement near Morgantown, WV, where they divide their time between their lovely new home and the farm that Jesse loves



Patty, entering Vietcong tunnel escape hatch

to the examples our professors set and to the way we were taught to use our minds, we're now using those minds in new ways that help us to enrich these later years. For my part, I have so much to be grateful for. Through a lucky fluke, doctors discovered a cancer growing in my bladder before it spread to tissues outside the bladder. A quick and easy surgery removed it completely so that I didn't have to undergo chemo or radiation. I've been able to keep writing, and February 2, 2010, was the publication date of my first "middle grade novel," *Kyle's Island*. I hope some of you will have a chance to read it, particularly if you have grandsons or granddaughters in the 10-13 year old range. I'm realistic enough to know it won't be a blockbuster; it's too quiet for that, but I hope kids will like it.

I'm sorry to have to tell you that one of our classmates, **Sue Dyle Gast**, died on January 9, last year. The alumnae office received word only recently and sent it on to me. Sue had taught for 18 years, had been married for 51 years, and left behind a son, a daughter, and three grandchildren. Although she and I hadn't stayed in touch, I remember her perky smile with fondness, and I know she will be missed.

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visit to Patty's in Tampa, but we decided that we would have to postpone the trip until after Nancy had another course of chemo treatment, as her doctor was recommending. But as soon as the chemo is over and Nancy is feeling up to it, we are going to get some Florida sunshine. My only worry is whether I can keep up with Patty and a newly energized Nancy.

"Keeping up." Whenever one of us starts talking about our grandchildren, you'll hear that phrase. **Charlotte and Joe Ross** have a very active son and daughter-in-law plus five grandchildren living close by. The three grandsons and their parents are all soccer players (or coaches), and of course the Rosses attend all the games they can. In addition to attending the games, Charlotte is doing more cooking these days because their granddaughter Rachel is living with them

so much. Darlys's card reads, "Not much is new in our lives, we just continue to enjoy the privileges of old age." Darlys, thanks for that phrase, "the privileges of old age."

Along that same line, **Ann Hopper Sneden**, in Loudon, TN, who was widowed last year, e-mailed me these words, "I have to pinch myself at times to realize how fortunate I am to be living in a community such as this. I've never lived alone before (I went right from college to marriage) so this is a new experience. I wouldn't choose it, but some things can't be changed, and happiness is found with all the wonderful friends I've made in the 16 years I have lived here."

These last two entries, I think, symbolize the legacy Western has given us. Times change, we lose things, we gain things, and the older we get the more we seem to lose. But thanks

Although I've managed to take up as much *Bulletin* space as usual, actually I heard from relatively few of you this year. Thanks to everyone who sent me news, and to the rest of you, please write or e-mail me any time the spirit moves you. I promise to save your news, and I'd like to remind you that you never know when reading your name in the alumnae news will motivate an old friend to give you an unexpected, welcome e-mail or letter. It might even motivate you to join us at Reunion 2010. I'd love to see you there!

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Not only are the members of the class of 1958 travelers, both near and far, and go-getters, both hither and thither – they are still impacting society and their families in various and sundry ways. I read the letters with pride in their many accomplishments, positive attitudes, and their acceptance of what life has thrown them. Hats off to each of you.

Joan Avakian Poritsky's mother now lives near her, which puts new demands on her time and energy. When her letter arrived, she wrote she was anxiously awaiting her San Francisco family to join her for Christmas. Her daughter Janet took a position with Edutopia, which she loves, and Lynne, who lives in Seattle, now works for Design Labs and on a project for Microsoft. Joan takes no credit for their tech genes! She's in a cohort group with a writing teacher. Although she hasn't produced much of anything and nothing worth keeping, she is grateful for what she is learning about the art and craft, and for having a safe place to work.

Sally Raub Alkire attended the annual Western Christmas party in Indianapolis and sat next to **Judy Weir Vandergriff**. She missed seeing **Joan Lennox Brooks** and

From Switzerland comes news of **Karla Noell Galantay**. Her son, Riki, his wife and their five children moved into the greater part of the Galantay house. Riki's orthopedic practice is doing very well. His wife Damira teaches pharmacology 3x per week while Karla takes the kids for lunch. Oldest grandson Andrew is in a boarding school home on weekends. Next year he'll be in a public gymnase. Edward is a budding violinist at the conservatory. Josephine is the Swiss Junior Champion in skiff rowing and trains 7/7. She is going through her last year of gymnase and next year into medical school. Husband Erwin has written a book about his experience in the defense of Budapest at age 14. He has translated it from English to Hungarian, a German publisher wants to make a German translation, and an American living in Budapest wants to make it into a film starring Mel Gibson. Says Karla, "I've let my hair go grey – one friend says it looks sophisticated. I have to look twice to be sure it's me. I am grateful for good health."

Jocelyn Wilkins Wilks moved: Her address is now 4901 English Dr., Annandale, VA 22003. "It wasn't downsizing but reconfiguring from a large four-floor colonial to a two-story house with lots of guest rooms where my family, all 19 of us, gathered for a Christmas house party weekend. Now I am trying to convince my 99-year-old mother to move in. She is still holding out in her resort house

of all being able to be together. Continue to work with Hospice, doing grief counseling for surviving loved ones. Fund-raising work for the local hospital, my activities with the Adrian Dominicans as a lay associate, and various church activities. My goal is to try to get back to playing the piano this year. Hope my arthritic hands can do so."

Esin Aka Atil sent us wishes for a grand new year with lots of success, good cheer, and healthy/happy times.

Gretchen Wampler Mousetis wrote: "The older we get the faster these years go by!! Stan and I are thankful for a healthy 2009. In May we celebrated our 10th anniversary and are so grateful we found each other. We had a family party in July to surprise Stan for his 80th birthday. During the year we take many short trips to our nine families and 24 grandchildren! In November, we spent our Thanksgiving in California with my brother Joe and all his gang we had a 30-lb. turkey and 27 people for dinner it was great. To all of you my love and a great 2010 I think of you often."

Carol Towne Schaub relates that she "didn't have any exciting adventures this year. My daughter, son-in-law and two grandsons visited twice (and my son comes when they are here to see them too). My mom, who had lived with us for almost four years, died in September at the age of 99.

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Liz Vance Frydell, treasurer of the group, and hoped their absence simply meant they had other plans at that time. Sally is still playing bridge a few times a week and trying to be a "good mother to our seven cats. Actually, I am the 'litter queen'!" Her husband, Jim, is doing pretty well, even though he is still stage four kidney failure. As long as the numbers stay where they are (or get better), he will not have to do dialysis. He still has his bands (40 years) and plays as much as possible. He is also teaching a photography class at local community center. Sally admires his stamina and enthusiasm and especially his energy! Keep up your strength, too, Sally.

Phyllis Yeamans Bailey and husband's orchid business continues to thrive and it takes to different parts of the country. They received Best in Show Award, Best Slipper Award, and another Trophy Award at the Houston Show last April. Maybe there'll be an orchid named after her someday. They have added a raised bed garden of greens, lettuce and arugula plus summer vegetables. They took a trip to Alaska with daughter Susan and her family, including a glacier cruise then spent a week in Homer. The best part of it was seeing the abundance of fireweed blooming everywhere. With a newly tuned piano, Phyl is back at the keys, another special joy in her life.

in Cuernavaca, Mexico, that my parents built 40 years ago. I have lent my au pair suite to a recently graduated granddaughter with others coming along signing up for it. What have I started?!? 'Over the river and through to woods to grandmother's house we go.' My 10 grandkids visit often and are lots of fun, ranging in age from 25 down to 6 years, so there is still lots of floor play, this year with eight ZhuZhu artificially intelligent hamsters cruising around Christmas."

From across the country comes news from **Cay Kawallek Manildi**: "My son, Doug, had a baby girl this year – Ella Grace (named after my mother Grace, who loved Western as much or more than we). This makes grandchild #13. We started a Community Supported Agriculture farm this year on our property. Bruce teamed up with a young, aspiring farmer who wanted to learn from him. These CSAs are becoming very popular, as people buy a share of the farm during the summer and get a basket of groceries each week. All natural and, of course, very fresh. We also raised some chickens and are raising some pigs. Nothing like becoming a farm wife in your 70s. No major trips this year, just visits to kids and grandkids. Had my three children and five of my grandchildren for a week over Christmas. It was a house filled with lots of noise, a stomach flu that went through all the kids, but best

I'm still singing with the Sweet Adelines and enjoying it. And that sums up my very quiet life this year."

Polly Martin Hawver keeps "busy with classes for seniors at Hopkins – Miss Bliss would shake her finger at me if she knew I was enjoying the opera class and even deigning to attend performances at the Kennedy Center. I remember her ridiculing the 'over the top' machinations! I love the lecturer who teaches theater and mythology classes and the art classes which include field trips. I have met a whole new group of people who are very bright and funny. It is a stressless version of Western College. I still do some volunteer work with ex-offenders and spend a lot of time enjoying our six grandchildren who never cease to amaze us in their exploits. On January 8, I will be going to Egypt with a friend, which should be enlightening as well as challenging. I hear that it is quite arduous and involves a lot of climbing in and out of boats and remaining atop a camel. Hope you all are staying healthy and enjoying what keeps you happy."

June Regan Young and Dave celebrated their 50th anniversary with a family party, travels to Florida and Bermuda, and challenges with Mr. Arthur Itis. (We understand and empathize.)

Betty Strong Miller relates many accomplishments of grandchildren but her own safari to Southern Africa tops it all. (What did I say about world travelers.)

Juli Beasley Kinchla enjoyed visits with son and family in California, another son and family in Texas, and a trip with her sister around the north shore of Lake Superior. She is working half-time which leaves her time for Taiji or Tai Chi. (Keep up that exercising, while the rest of us think about those stretches!)

Jane Smucker Fryman and Jack are seasoned travelers, from the Gulf of California, through Kentucky, via Seattle and other points in the Northwest, to Boston, and down to South Carolina. Along the way, they attended family weddings and reunions, and visited friends. They are enjoying good health and send greetings to all.

Janet McKee Banks writes, "Every year the time from the beginning of advent until Epiphany is absolutely loaded with stuff for me. Both my bell choirs played in numerous services through that time and I ended up being the primary person in charge of the music for two separate services. Lots of playing and making some pretty good music, so that is a joy. In addition to all my church activities (bell choirs and accompanying), I'm still president of The Friends of the Farm at Hilltop (www.fofah.com), which has just completed another wildly successful Labor Day weekend fun/fund-raising event. It was so reaffirming to see at a recent workshop run by the Zoning and Planning Commission that Hilltop was considered to be one of three things people are most proud of in town. I also still serve on the town's Heritage Committee and recently worked on the evaluation of uses for a lovely school building in the town center which is no longer practical for a school building. The holidays were made sparkling by an extended series of sleepovers at Grammy's house with my beloved granddaughter, Sarah and her mom, Deborah. We did make cookies and had a decorating day with all the cousins – about 10 people in all, old and young – an absolute delight and total chaos.

Jennie Lou Fredley Klim and husband Paul accept the 99 degrees in the summer and the 29 degrees in the winter with stoic calmness. Unfortunately, all our flowers, bushes, and grass died in the freezing temps but, as in life, we strive to rebuild as necessary. I'm having reflexology treatments on a weekly basis to combat the obstreperous joints that have a mind of their own. I'm stubborn as a mule when it comes to some things, and have now successfully removed two basal cell carcinomas with the herb "blood root." I have become an absolute believer in all things natural and non-invasive, but will

definitely rely on specialists to put straying rotator cuffs back in place. My thumbs have moved into menopause, and resist me when I try to hold the bow and play Mendelssohn, but I concentrate more on teaching, and that's a passion with me. My books remain on hold at Alfred Publishing, thus teaching me patience and acceptance. In the year ahead, I think of you all and sincerely hope that life treats you with kindness. May you all find the strength necessary for each day, and much joy along the way.

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The slickings are mighty pim this time, but I will do my best. Where are all of you and what are you doing? I am hoping this truncated version of these notes will shame you into writing next year when we will be one year closer to our 50th. Wow!

Judi Amos Hubbell's note told of multiple health problems, cardiac and orthopedic. However, she made some adjustments to her living arrangements, and was faithful about rehab, and the bionic woman is doing well. Help from her daughter Lucy and support from the rest of her family made it all bearable. Judi also sent an article about **Donna Shalala**. The University of Wisconsin (where she was chancellor before joining the Clinton cabinet) played the University of Miami (where she is now president) in the Champs Sports Bowl. The article talked about her decision to build Wisconsin into a powerhouse and about her support of the program at Miami. She was quoted as saying she was pleased that the two teams were meeting in a championship game. Consult my husband if you want to know how the game turned out.

Change may be in the air for **Nancy Smith Carlson** and her husband. After saying they were going to age in place, she and Walt are now thinking about giving up their home on the water in Connecticut for something smaller, etc. The decision will be delayed at least until after they return from a winter cruise and time in Florida where they will be visited by all the grandchildren.

We did make a change. This summer we moved to a much smaller, easier to maintain house nearer our girls. This is so much fun! Redecorating makes me feel like a honey-mooner. I am on the Women's Committee of the Rocky River Public Library, have joined a lovely knitting group and I am in

another book discussion group. This time we are doing *Middlemarch*. All of this with the chance of running into the grandchildren at the supermarket. Who could ask for anything more?

I would love to hear from you. Maybe next year? Please write.

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How enjoyable it was for Larry and me to get together with classmates **Marcia Randlett Oder, Daphne Ostle Allen, Marty Cowden, Sydney Schiller Pfeifer, Jeanne Phillips Rannels, and Patricia Spokes Snowden** and to meet accompanying spouses Jay Allen and Dean Pfeifer on Western's beautiful campus at last June's Reunion! I trust that if they enjoyed the celebration, camaraderie, and reminiscing as much as we did, they are already planning to return to Oxford for our 50th – if not much sooner. We know we'll be seeing Marcia at this June's continuation of the 35th Anniversary Celebration of the WCAA, Inc. Perhaps you'll join us, too? We certainly hope you'll be part of a much larger contingent from the Spirited Class of '64 at our next Class Reunion in 2014!

Mary Sarff Forster, now a Facebook friend, reported that she has been in Seattle since 1970 "and would not willingly move to another part of the country." Her family and Mark's are all now living on the West Coast or in Texas, so she doesn't travel East often, especially since she retired. Mary delights in being the grandmother of a baby boy born this past summer. She has kept in touch with **Gay Nellis Walker** and **Vivien Despotopulos Forbes** and saw Vivien and **Faith Evans** when she and Mark were in New England a couple of years ago.

Carol Thomas Ruikka sent an e-mail in late November: "Scary to think next year is our 50th high school reunion and in four more, our 50th at Western. Warm memories of a small college town and beautiful campus; glad I have them."

In early December, **Lynne Drucker Albukerk** e-mailed upon returning from a three-day visit with **Brooksie Jacobs '65** (now known as **Liz Harrison**) and her husband, Ian. "We played in Las Vegas (no gambling, too frugal), visiting Hoover Dam, Red Rock Canyon, Cirque du Soleil: O, and taking on the fab hotels and shops ... all with exquisite merchandise artfully displayed,

elegant sales folk, and not a customer to be seen. Scary." Albuquerks have four granddaughters: Nick and Tali's Ava (2") and Jane (14 months) in Oak Park, IL; and Dov and Tania's Zoe (3') and Ariella (2) in San Francisco. Lynne and Jak visited with all on several occasions, along with daughter Lisa, who continues to teach middle school math. Jak, who is winding down his career as a pathologist, medical examiner, clinic administrator and medical-legal consultant, now enjoys walks, reading, puttering, and helping out at home. Lynne continues working as a psychologist several days a week, mostly with seniors, is becoming "an obsessive online bridge player," and spends many hours on the board of her homeowners' association. Lynne and Jak wish all "a year of Happiness including Good Health, Loving Relationships, Peace and Prosperity...or at least some more economic recovery!"

Betty Treiber Ahrens and husband Bill have been traveling quite a bit. In May, they flew to Switzerland to spend a few days with Bill's nephew. Bill's sister and husband met them there and drove together to Provence, where they stayed in a little farmhouse in Gordes and took daytrips. At the end of October, the same foursome met up in Munich and all traveled together to Dresden. At the time she wrote, Betty was preparing to spend another Christmas with the family in Germany. She and Bill will spend February with friends in Florida, and in March will head for Mauritius via Munich. They intend to stay "around home and have a leisurely summer with no renovations. We've had it with construction workers, plumbers, electricians, painters, etc., for a while."

Pat Scott is amazed that her 50th high school reunion is at hand, her oldest granddaughter graduated from high school, and she's been in a state of reinventing herself after being "retired" for almost seven years. Brittany, the graduating granddaughter, is now attending Rutgers U. in New Brunswick, NJ. "After winning the Rutgers Invitational in 2008, she was offered an athletic scholarship to play golf. Say 'thank you' Title 9." Pat is a volunteer lighthouse keeper at the Turkey Point Light Station: "The light stands on a cliff 100 ft. above the confluence of five rivers into the top of Chesapeake Bay. I enjoy using my teaching experience and my love of history, talking to visitors about the keepers. We are called the 'Ladies Light' because many women were keepers there." Pat also completed a four-year advanced degree in theology from the University of the South, received her degree from the Bishop and continues as a licensed lay reader at services for Saint Mary Anne's Episcopal Church, which recently celebrated its 300th anniversary. As her property bounds the Elk Neck State Park, she has also become something of a "deer whisperer," having befriended a visiting herd of whitetail deer that she feeds each morning.



Nancy Johannes Campbell '64 and family, Christmas 2009

Nancy Bergmann Killough, who apologized for missing our 45th Reunion, says our 50th "is certainly on the agenda. And most of us have our H.S. 50th in 2010 – wow!" Her happy news includes the birth of grandchild #5 in May: Chelsea Killough, daughter of Scott and Jeanine. "The sad news is the death of my dear mother in October. One constant reminder of Mother has been passed down to her 3-year-old great grandson, Jackson, in the form of celiac disease (gluten allergy). Once diagnosed, he's now thriving on the proper diet. Susan and family are doing well in Ft. Worth. Her husband, Charlie, returned safely from a brief tour in Iraq last May with his reserve squadron. This time he flew the F-16 home – long trip in a cramped single seater! Mike and I had a fun reunion with his 10th Engineer group from Germany (where we met) the first weekend of October in Pembroke, VA, at the Mountain Lake Inn – where *Dirty Dancing* was filmed. Mike's still working. I've retired, doing lots of volunteer work at my small church, and filling my time beautifully."

Marcia Randlett Oder wrote: "The big news for the Oders this year is that we semi-retired in August, closing our office and lab. However, Robin is just as busy as ever with his consulting and will never fully retire. Although I spend some of my time working for him, I've become involved with the local branch of AAUW and its annual book sale and am spending a good deal of time helping to organize my 50th high school reunion. You've all gotten mailings from WCAA regarding the Western College Endowed Professorship. The campaign to raise \$400,000 began with the 2009 reunion and continues. The Professorship is an important part of the Western College legacy and I urge all of you to participate. It's also important not to forget giving to the Annual Fund, which is used to provide scholarships

and to help with WCAA operating expenses at a time when Miami has cut back its financial contribution to the WCAA. You can also help lower costs by signing up to receive the *Bulletin* online. Each electronic copy downloaded saves \$5 in printing and postage." Marcia shared **Vivien Despotopulos Forbes'** new address: Meadowview Care & Rehab Center, 134 North Street, North Reading, MA 01864.

Our condolences to **Jan Wood Beaven**, who lost her husband, Doug, to melanoma on January 18. Just before his death she had written to update us, reporting that she has reduced her work as a management consultant to nonprofits, but has expanded her volunteer work. She has joined the Vestry of Trinity Church Boston, and the board of Beacon Hill Seminars (adult learning), while continuing as Chair of First Night Boston and participating in another work project in New Orleans. Beavens have four grandchildren, whom they enjoyed – and Jan, of course, will continue to enjoy – immensely. She concluded, "Sorry to miss the Reunion – I gained a lot from Western. Maybe 2014 will work out."

Cyndy Smith Bailes reported: "Enjoying retirement and my 1-year-old granddaughter Ansleigh. Daughter Darcie is in the process of moving back to Oak Ridge, where they are currently staying with me while she job hunts. Life is good."

Nancy Van Vleck Von Allmen says, "At age 66, I finally became a mother-in-law and at 67 a grandmother! Thought it would never happen! They live in San Francisco, a superb place to visit. Addie's happy June birth sadly prevented my attending our 2009 reunion. Our other daughter, aged 32 and unmarried, lives nearby and is getting a master's in biology at the Univ. of Utah. After all

that international exposure at Western, it's been fun to sell travel for the past 35 years. Am deeply involved in saving the wildlife habitat in Salt Lake City's largest park, and trying to stay fit by swimming, playing tennis, and 40-50 days of skiing each winter at nearby Alta and Snowbird! Our marriage and health remain good and we feel indeed blessed. Except for the desperate world situation, life is good. Am excited to see many of you at our 50th (yikes!) in June 2014."

Mary Prentiss Ryder wrote, "Right now we're snowed in here in the Ozarks. Beautiful looking out over Table Rock Lake with the newfallen snow. But then that's why we're here to enjoy our retirement years. Rural life, no crowds, fellow retirees. We've lived here for almost 20 years, having moved from Mississippi. Our twins, Nancy and Laura, both live in this area, which means our two teenage grandchildren live close by as well. We've been fortunate to go grandtripping with Emily and Matthew the past four summers. Diane is a neurologist in Birmingham, AL, where she and her husband and two children, Rachel and Andrew, have lived since med school. Our son lives in the St. Louis area with his wife and 4-year-old son, Jackson. Bob and I keep busy with our various hobbies and community commitments. My addiction is quilting and Bob is getting into woodcarving. Church and volunteer work keep our calendar filled. We have an RV, so non-winter months you'll find us on the road."

Nancy Johannes Campbell sent a Christmas message accompanied by a neat family photo. Evidently, highlights of '09 included seeing grandson Ian get up on water skis for the first time, and traveling with grandchildren Ian and Brenna to the north woods of Wisconsin for two weeks of boating and fishing, where Brenna proved to be an avid fisherman. The Campbells replaced their Grady-White with another trailerable boat with a small cabin. "Snug," in dry-dock in Jacksonville, FL, will be used for winter cruising, then hauled up to Canada next summer for cruising in the North Channel. Though semi-retired, the Campbells are happy to be back in a more active role at their company, but look forward to summer and boating. Nancy attended the Western College club meeting in Dayton in December and enjoyed a mini-reunion with classmates **Nancy McGregor Nowak**, **Martha Cowden**, and **Kathleen Turner**. She reported that while Marty was recovering from a broken pelvis she continues to be active with her weaving; stories were shared about the Nowaks' amazing Peace Corps experiences in Jamaica; and Kathleen is enjoying life and a new boyfriend. **Patricia Spokes Snowden** drove out to

our 45th Reunion with **Sylvia Stanfield '65** and had a wonderful time en route and on campus. She expressed disappointment in the class's turnout for this event and hopes that the number of classmates in attendance at our 50th will better reflect "the Class with SPIRIT." Patricia keeps in regular touch with **Alice Baker**. She, Alice, Sylvia, and **Ann Adkins Weissenborn '61** attended a lecture in DC about the escape of the schooner *Pearl*, was chartered to carry runaway slaves down the Potomac to the Chesapeake Bay. After the lecture, Patricia hosted a luncheon at her home for the Westerners. In October she spent two weeks in Florence with daughter Julianne, sister-in-law, and best friend: "We rented a great apartment (e-mail me for details: postscript2@verizon.net) just half a block from the Duomo and spent our days walking and church and museum-hopping, absorbing the art and architecture, drinking wine, and indulging in culinary delights."

The news from **Carolyn Moss Ford**: "Christmas was great this year. Melissa and boyfriend Dan joined us at the cottage. Andrew joined us also, so we had two of our three with us." Melissa is enjoying her mental health job in Seattle; and Andrew, who has just completed his board exams for veterinary medicine, will graduate in April from Ontario Veterinary College. Meanwhile, son Chris lives in Revelstoke, BC, "but is currently working up in Fort McMurray felling huge trees primarily to eradicate the dreaded pine beetle bore, mining explorations, etc. We hope to visit him and Julie in Revelstoke in March to ski." The Fords are also planning a trip to the West Coast in May to visit the kids, to reconnect with some of David's British relatives, and to enjoy Tofino on the BC coast. "David continues to resist retirement. He has had a few glitches – recently an EKG showed an irregularity in his heartbeat, so an angiogram is planned ... he's not happy refraining from squash, snowboarding and shoveling. Also, a fall on the ice walking our lab, Kali, resulted in bruised ribs. Hopefully all is resolved soon." Mossy enjoys gardening, skiing, golf, and bridge, finds the Garden Club of Toronto very interesting, and continues to volunteer in the Canadian Helen Keller Centre.

Faith Evans is still working four days a week and is postponing retirement. She likes her job most of the time, except when she gets too many heavy cases, especially those dealing with potentially suicidal clients. Faith worked for Martha Coakley, who was running for Ted Kennedy's Senate seat. She was also thinking of her next trip, maybe either summer hiking in Calgary, BC, or off to Tuscany in October – or both. Faith stays in touch with **Judy White Fogt**, **Vivien Forbes**, and **Marcia Randlett Oder**.

We **Hohlers** continue to keep busy with Habitat, Rotary, local cultural and political organizations, "mother care," and most of all, fundraising for our orphanage in Meru, Kenya. As I write this, we are finalizing plans for another group visit to Meru in February. We are thrilled to hear that our 59 children are thriving. All are attending school regularly and appear to be doing very well in their studies. Nearly all now have mentors in the U.S. with whom they communicate. Do check out our activities and progress at www.hopechildrensfund.org. And please do keep in touch!

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From **Sue Detlefsen Meyers**: Sue has retired after teaching young children for 30 years. She enjoys not having to be at school by 7:20 but misses the little ones that added so much to her life. Sue and John have four adult children – three sons living in NYC and a daughter in Knoxville, TN. They have two young grandchildren and another due in late January. She is looking forward to not having to take a personal day from school in order to be part of the "event." She would love to hear from her classmates: suzanswer@gmail.com.

From **Kay Levy Harris**: Kay is living in Minneapolis area, where she grew up, with husband of 42 years, Marty. She left teaching in 1980 and worked in commercial real estate for 16 years. Then in 1995, Kay and Marty started their own commercial real estate company, KayHarris Real Estate Consultants, with a focus on precision manufacturing and individual property owners, office and industrial. They have one daughter, son-in-law, two grandsons (2 and 4) and grandpuppies in Forest City, IA, close enough to visit back and forth. Their second daughter, son-in-law and two granddaughters live in Chicago. Michelle is a genetic counselor at Children's Memorial Hospital and her husband is in real estate finance underwriting and analysis. They love being grandparents.

Marty's health is not good and Kay has had two thyroid cancer diagnoses and surgeries, but they both get excellent care at Mayo Clinic in Rochester. Marty faces a kidney transplant in the next year or two. Otherwise, they are good and active. They plan to go to the South Carolina's coast this spring (2010) with their Iowa children.

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spring (2010) with their Iowa children. Kay and Marty visited the Western campus four or five years ago while in Ohio for a family gathering and saw the Freedom Summer Memorial to the Civil Rights activists. It was quite a trip.

From **Sally Sweitzer Skewis**: Sally has been living in Carson City, NV, since 1990. She works for the state of Nevada and SSA as a psychologist, writing mental health disability decisions. In her small private practice, she does general forensic, competency to stand trial, and sex offender evaluations. Her volunteer work for the past 10 years is a profiler/consultant to a local sheriff's hostage negotiation team. In 2007, Sally chaired her 45th high school reunion in New Jersey and found 98 of the 104 graduates using the Internet. She mentions how truly amazing it is that technology has brought our world together. She especially appreciates word processing and feels that without it she would never have completed her Ph.D. This brought to mind my use of erasable typewriter paper which saved me at Western.

Sally has been the primary caregiver (for the past eight years) for her mother, who will be 95 in April 2010. Her mother requires full-time supervision due to ischemic dementia. Sally remains optimistic about this phase of her life, as she provides for her care 16 hours a day. Sally goes back to Baltimore to visit her cousins and attend a Ravens-Steelers game each year. GO STEELERS! (Sally's comment.)

From **Sue Lutz May**: 2009 was a busy year for them. In February, Bernie and Sue spent a couple weeks in Hawaii, one week with Bernie's Peace Corps group. This was their first reunion in 43 years. "It was truly a beautiful gathering, full of amazing camaraderie and love. We visited the place where they did their training, Hilo, Waipio Valley, Akaka Falls, the volcano calderas and the black sand beaches. The discussions and storytelling were quite something, including everyone's cobra encounter story. All in all, a really special trip." In July, they visited their son, Christopher, at his home base in Gulfport, MS. Christopher visited his parents for both Thanksgiving and Christmas. He has now deployed to Afghanistan. We will keep him in our prayers as well as all those men and women who are serving.

In August, Sue and Bernie traveled to northern Michigan to visit Sue's sister and **Edie Taylor Molumby**. Sue and Bernie joined **Ann Walton** at Edie and Bob's house on Crystal Lake. The three ladies celebrated their 65th birthdays together

From **Edie Taylor Molumby**: In July 2009, a second grandson, Emmett Molumby Stuyt was born to Nina and Mike. Emmett joins his big brother, Karsten (3). They live in Seattle WA, so Edie and Bob travel every



Class of '66 mates Edie Molumby, Ann Walton and Sue May, sharing a 65th birthday celebration at Molumbys' lake home

few months to visit with them. Their daughter, Kate, and son-in-law, Patrick, live in Grand Rapids, MI.

From **Ann E. Walton**: While attending the 2009 Reunion, Ann got to visit with Phyllis Hoyt, attend the restored Kurler organ concert and sleep in Peabody with a view of Peabody Green. Ann's comment was, "It can't get better than that." In September, Ann visited **Mary Daftari '65** in Fairfield, IA. Ann continues to "to plug away" at real estate and hopes to see the economy pick up in 2010. We all join you in that hope.

From **Jane Graham Murphy**: Jane made only a few visits to Cleveland in 2009 but did manage to visit **Charla Coatoam**. In the December issue of the *Ohio* magazine there was an article about a conference that Charla helped to organize.

In May, Katherine, her youngest, and Jane volunteered in Morocco in a children's hospital with Cross Cultural Solutions. It was a very rewarding experience for both of them. Jane was also privately celebrating her 45th reunion to the Middle East since traveling with the Western College seminar in 1964. Contact Jane at janieeg@aol.com if you would be interested in details about the volunteer experience with CCS.

Jane continues to live with her son in Wyoming, a suburb of Cincinnati. Her older daughter Becca, her husband and Katherine vacationed in Maine in June. In August, Katherine had a tragic accident and was not able to walk for three months. Jane made four trips to the NY/NJ area to visit her and had received good news in early December that she could start using her leg and begin physical therapy. The plan is for Katherine to move home with Jane while completing her PT. Eventually, Katherine will begin a graduate program in art education. Jane turned 65 in January 2010 and will have been to Egypt and back by the time you read this. She is very thankful for her life – including the influence from her four years at Western and the friendships made there.

From **Cynthia Crosson**: Cynthia continues as the pastor of First Congregational Church in Whately, MA, since November 2007. She is thoroughly enjoying her ministry and guesses that she was meant to follow in her minister father's footsteps as they fit her well. She and her husband, Jim, continue to enjoy their lives. They live close to their 2½-year-old granddaughter, Ruby, who is a joy herself.

In addition, Cynthia is working with service dogs. In 2005, she received Dandi, her Service Dog for Ministry, who has been an integral part of her ministry. Dandi was trained and placed with her by NEADS: Dogs for Deaf and Disabled Americans, an agency based in Princeton, MA. In 2006, NEADS was asked by the Walter Reed Army Hospital to train dogs to assist the men and women who have returned from Iraq or Afghanistan with combat related physical injuries. At that time over 26,000 soldiers had become permanently disabled in combat and since then the numbers have risen.

In 2009, Cynthia was asked (because of her counseling experience with post traumatic stress disorder or PTSD) to help NEADS design a program to place dogs with veterans returning with PTSD and created the program which is currently being piloted. She screens the veterans and helps with their training as well as does the follow up. She was interviewed by CBS about these dogs and the program. Cynthia wrote that "It has been an incredibly rewarding experience! We have found that the impact of these specially trained dogs on the lives of the veterans is amazing and inspiring."

From **Clara Keyes Hardin**: She moved to Panama in 2005 to co-found a real estate company, Arco Properties, with her only son. She writes: "It has been an amazing experi-



Jane Murphy and daughter Katherine, at a children's hospital in Morocco

to move abroad for the first time. There have been many challenges for me at age 61 – a new country, new language and customs even though for the past 100 years there has been a strong American influence. Now five years later, the timing was perfect in every respect. We chose a niche area, Casco Antiguo, which is a UNESCO Heritage site. In addition to selling real estate to an international clientele, we also are restoring some of these wonderful old buildings. I probably won't be retiring anytime soon. Both my son and his wife have created an environment which couldn't be more ideal for me." **Hazel Drew** and Clara had a visit when Hazel was in Panama. Clara welcomes classmates to look her up if you are coming to Panama City.

Ruth Ann Sanati Panepinto, owner of Panepinto & Associates, is a highly regarded mental health care professional and recipient of many honors both locally and nationally. A resident of Morgantown, WV, she is currently serving an appointment by the governor to the WV Comprehensive Behavioral Health Commission Advisory Board and received her St. Clairsville, OH, high school's 2009 Distinguished Alumna award.



Ruth Ann Panepinto

I want to thank the three new contributors to this year's Class Notes. I also thank those that remember each year to send me their updates. There are still some of you that I have not heard from. As you read this, please just drop me a line (see new e-mail below) right now.

2009 started as a very stressful year for me as my employer Genentech was being stalked by Roche. By April, Roche had won and we were absorbed. I was laid off in the first wave in July. Rich and I decided quickly that I should retire. So without any parties or even much thought, I retired. The best part was being able to sleep in and not having an alarm. The next best was my blood pressure and weight dropping. Actually the transition went extremely smoothly. I have taken over the cooking from Rich and I have leased a horse so I can ride most days. Rich and I are spending more time in Tahoe at our cabin.

It is nice being able to just pick up and go whenever we feel like it. Such freedom is a blessing. In September, we visited my aunt in Flagstaff. We got to take care of her first grandson for a couple of days when his mom went back to work. My aunt and uncle from Plainfield and Joliet, IL, came out by train to join us. We had a great time visiting, hiking and playing cards as usual.

Rich and I are planning our first big cross-country trip with our retirement trailer. It has been sitting in our backyard waiting for me to retire for several years. We plan to be gone for a couple of months visiting friends and family all across the country. This is our test trip to see if we really like the RVing life as much as we remember it from our many vacations.

We have no grandchildren but are godparents to now 3-year-old Jeremy. We thoroughly enjoy him and helped his parents move into a new home this fall. Rich is still the best mover I have ever met. They live very close to us and we celebrate all the holidays together. I hope this note finds you all doing well and the economy starting to improve.

Kathi Ramsey Bumblis '66
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Dear Classmates, This year has been another challenging one for our family, as my husband, Bert, was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in November. He is responding well to his chemo, but the treatment is only palliative. As I write this, we are planning to go to Egypt on January 20, so I hope we can go. We are also planning a trip to Germany in June, with stops to visit **Sappho Haralambous '70** and **Meike Trommsdorff** before and after our tour. So keep your fingers crossed.

In July 2009, Bert and I took a road trip to Wyoming and Colorado, where we stayed with **Patty Robins Flint** for two days – what a treat to have a personal guide to Mesa Verde! In August, **Susie Williams Oblinger** visited her brother in SF and came to lunch. My sister, **Gretchen Blake Roy '71**, and I had a wonderful 10 days together in September to celebrate her 60th birthday and a family wedding in Nebraska. I have also seen **Angelique Pinochet '66** several times, as she lives nearby. For those of you who remember our dad, he turned 95 in October and is doing very well.

Deborah Allen Perry has been teaching high school English for the past 14 years at a classical Christian school in Memphis, TN. She has two granddaughters who live in New York. She can't afford to retire, so there she is, at the advanced age of 64, still attending student council meetings. The worst of it is that she still has homework and still feels guilty watching television on Sunday nights. She's an obsessed *Lost* addict so if anyone wants to vent, write her.



Sandy Chanis, "attacking" her 6-ton Carrara marble

Barb Brannen Patrick is doing the same work with developmentally disabled adults. Jen and CJ are still in the Air Force and have each been given commands, Jen at Fort Meade and CJ at Andrews AFB. Landon is 3, in school full-time, and has a new sister. Teagan Elizabeth was born in May and is busy trying to keep up with her brother.

Sandy Chanis is avidly working on several projects and multi-tasking her creative mind. She took the big leap and started "The Marble," a 12,680-lb Carrara white marble. It was delivered to her home by crane, which by itself was a huge project! Since the marble will be a two- to five-year project (yes, you read it right), Sandy is achieving instant gratification by doing ceramic sculptures. She has done a series of Sisters that have now evolved to 3-4-foot-high *Amazon Sisters*. They will be displayed in February at the Solana Beach City Hall gallery. Besides being the ever-supporting mother (now up to four grandchildren), she and partner John Cadman continue to travel, enjoy life and love each other to the fullest. Loves company so visit her! Be ready to play with clay.

Margie Custer Bowles and her husband, Bob, a Miami graduate, spent three months in Greece since retiring. It was wonderful being there at Easter and through the spring. But being gone for three months is a long time, as they have three young grandchildren who live close to them. Both their son and daughter live within 30 minutes, which is wonderful for all. They are returning to Greece in the late summer for a couple of months but know that their home is on the Monterey Bay.

Kathy Evans Findley and her family rang in 2009 in the Caribbean with their two grown children on a cruise to their honeymoon area 40 years ago. July found them on the *Seadream II* for a cruise from Istanbul along the Turkish coast, to many Greek islands, through the Corinth Canal, and eventually up the Adriatic coast to Montenegro and Croatia. They had a double suite on the all-inclusive trip, with every luxury one could

want. It was a toss-up between Ephesus and Delphi for ruins, and Montenegro's gorgeous scenery edged out Santorini's views. Daughter Kate (37) and family are now at Ellsworth AFB in South Dakota, and Chrit deploys in January. Granddaughter Sophia is a real charmer. Son James Jr (30) has completed his course work and language exam, and will take his four-day comprehensives this spring in pursuit of his Ph.D. Please pray for Chrit in the Middle East and James' impending back surgery. Kathy asks us to "Come to NC!"

Susan Fackler Sykes had a great dive trip to Roatan in November. Bob and Sue made a road trip (with their standard poodle, Guy Noir) through Indiana and Ohio. They stopped to see several colleges on the way, including Purdue and Earlham and, on their return through Michigan, University of Michigan and Kalamazoo College. One of the advantages of being a college consultant is that she gets to visit myriad colleges and universities. The true purpose of the trip was to get Susan to Cleveland, where she spoke on the topic of student essays at the annual conference of the Higher Education Consultants' Association. Susan misses having the chance to see Western friends; for some reason, no one wants to live in the tundra, limiting the possibility of a Western Club of the Twin Cities!

Jeanne Flowers Foster writes that she finally stopped saying, "when things get back to normal," and acknowledged that almost constant travel to visit family and friends is indeed the "new normal." The high point was a week in Orange Beach, AL, with her entire family and good friend, Harvey – making a



Geri Pizzi and family (sans Dani)

her 21-year-old, is still in school and "finding himself." Geri has a new toy poodle named Dani – short for Danielle – rescued from a puppy mill. She's her new love.

Brenda Lee Bell writes that Brian has taken the first step toward retirement and now works from home, a really good arrangement except when the support machinery (fax, scanner, etc.) and the computer stop speaking. Their daughter, Kristen, thankfully seems to be able to arrange détente. She has determined that her life's work really is not working in a cubicle after all and is pursuing her graduate degree in education. Her mother approves! Brenda is loving the work she does as her school grows again. In spite of the economy, they are healthy and happily building an addition that will allow them to expand their programs. When not at school, friends and family keep her busy so she cherishes quiet moments with a good cup of tea and a great book.

Miho Matsuda Abedini had a better 2009 than 2008, as she could visit her 90-year-

the balcony commenting on the outfits with their own little Project Runway going on. When the band started up, they of course sang along, just like old times. Son Alexander is in a movie, *Saints and Soldiers*, which won "best picture" at several film festivals and is available on Netflix. She joined weight watchers and lost 19 lbs. in 20 weeks. Lastly, she was in a concert at McCabes in Santa Monica, where she played her guitar and sang a song she wrote – awesome! She'll put DVD on YouTube.

Cece Peabody wrote that The Peabody Group's Association Management company is still going strong. Son Patrick and April moved to Charlotte in June so he could work in marketing for Carolina Panthers football. Cece is proud that Patrick also earned his master's of science in November. Ed and Cece enjoy friends and family often. She hopes 2010 is a banner year for all.

Karen Prah Voris and John had a traveling year: three hiking trips – New Mexico, British Columbia and Wales – and spending time with friends and family scattered all over. Karen is still busy with volunteering on an arts board and docenting with Head Start kids at a contemporary art museum. And, of course, playing tennis. How fortunate we are! Carpe diem, everyone!

Carol Raimondi Meyers' oldest son, Russ, and his wife, Heather, had the first family grandson, Ryan, April 2. Her youngest son, Andy, is getting married in May. Her daughter, Becky, is pregnant and due the beginning of April. She and her husband are living with Carol and Geoff until their house is built. Could be till June. Geoff and Carol

ALL classes, honoring Bulletin Class Reps at Reunion '10 ... June 18-20!

group of 15. When she's not traveling she welcomes friends and family visiting St. Louis – and invites anyone who's in the area to stop in. Jeanne's current federal grant funding ends June 30 so she is contemplating what's next.

Charlie Jones Lamothe wrote that "the Lamothes three" and a niece traveled the western Caribbean in January 2010 to scuba, snorkel and visit ruins. Charlie has kept up with several classmates and one friend/roommate from the '67 class for a long time now on line. Charlie is 6 years old with her new heart and Richard is a cancer survivor by three years now. He is still under the watchful eye of a great doctor. It is great being alive and they are living the retired life with far more to do now than they had when they both were working full-time!

Geri Kuschner Pizzi is working at Coldwater Creek, a clothing store and beginning to want to write again. Her daughter, Julia, 27, is an associate at a big law firm in NYC. She lives in the Village, works horrific hours, and seems to be having quite a life. Robert,

old mother and sister, recovering from an operation, in Japan in the spring; in the summer she visited her second grandchild, a healthy boy, in Vancouver. Finally, she received permanent residence visa status for Canada in Damascus last fall; now Miho and her husband are in Vancouver with their daughter, Mina and her family.

Chako Matsumoto Era Koh is still teaching at a college in Tokyo once a week. Sumiko bought an apartment in Saitama, Japan. Son Kohtaro and his wife, Sae, bought an apartment in New Jersey. Chako is planning to travel in South India in February.

Nancy Niver's 2009 was "interesting." She worked harder and made less money. She took Fridays during the summer as she has box seats at the Hollywood Bowl. **Sandra Chanis** joined her in July for a great symphony and lots of good food and champagne. Spent time with **Jill Hallet Levis** when she and Bob were in Beverly Hills with their daughter Hannah. They had a fabulous room at the Four Seasons Hotel overlooking an up-scale wedding. Jill and Nancy were on

are fine. She finally broke 100 in golf, just needing to play an easier course.

Patty Robins Flint had a wonderful year working full time at Mesa Verde National Park. She also excavated in Montana in Flint Creek Valley, where the information supported some of the theories of her dissertation. She and her stepdaughter, Eve, traveled to Santa Fe to see the opera *La Traviata*. But the best visit was from **Susan Blake Rowland** and her husband Bert for a guided tour of Mesa Verde National Park. Patty continues to volunteer at the Anasazi Heritage Center with the children's programs and in curation. And she's still playing her bells in the Community Band, taking Spanish classes, and singing in the church choir.

Karen Sainsbury King, who lives nearby, also offered to do the notes for me this year, but sent no news.

Meike Trommsdorff's son, Nils, was in Florida for a week in December and was most happy to get away from -14 degrees C at home in Germany.

Susie Williams Oblinger writes that sixth graders are keeping her challenged. No day is ever boring! That's why she loves her job still. One of her sons, Christian, and his wife and daughter live close to her house. Her other son is living temporarily in Reno, NV. He has just finished his master's in forest pathology and is hoping to settle eventually in New England. Susie is hoping to visit **Britt Henne** this June in Oslo, Norway. She wishes all her classmates a happy healthy New Year.

Barbara Williamson Wentz is completing seven marvelous years on the WCAA Board of Trustees which have been so wonderful and rewarding. She has made real friends with women who graduated in many different classes and been very blessed to develop friendships with some Western College Program students. When she is on the campus she feels young again. She continues to work to complete her "bucket list" of going to all 50 states, with only three to go. She and Erv plan to go to Montana and Wyoming next fall which leaves only Hawaii. In July, Erv, the kids, their spouses and the four grandchildren celebrated Barbara's birthday at her brother's vacation retreat in Michigan.

Thanks, as always, for all your news and notes. I always enjoy receiving your e-mails and blue postcards, and feel privileged to write up these notes for you. We, the Class of 1968, now have our very own page on Facebook. It doesn't seem to be a very lively group, but we are there! If you would like to join, ask to be my friend on Facebook and I'll send you an invitation. Also, if you would like anyone's address, contact me.

Susan Blake Rowland '68
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susanblakerowland@comcast.net.



Celebrating 40 years!

With regret, there are no class notes this year. I didn't get a single blue card or e-mail, so I'm assuming that you are busy with lives and careers, children and grandchildren, and all of the ways you work to make the world better. But since I'm assured you will get this *Bulletin* in late spring, here's my pitch for you to join us this year in Oxford for our – wait for it – **40th Reunion**. Yes, I'm pretty stunned myself. Information about the planned activities will be coming to your mail/email box soon, but if you are reasonably close to Ohio or can get there, I hope you'll come back this year. See what's new, what's changed, and what has

endured. Catch up with folks you haven't seen in years, reminisce, sing, tell stories and laugh. Celebrate 1970 and that we actually made it to our 60s. See you there!

Kelly Felice '70
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Denver, CO 80220
noaprof@aol.com



Karen Rice King writes: "Well, no one entered last year's publication? So, I will this year, to get 1972 back in the listings. Not a whole lot new here. I am really enjoying teaching, although the recession has slowed it down a little. I have classes posted on shamanicteachers.com and my website karenriceking.com. I am now an ordained minister, so I can share in ceremonies with my students and clients, and facilitate at most when asked. Also, have started working on a children's book to give another view of spirituality to kids. I love the idea of the Reunions including other years and hope to get to one someday!"



Jennifer Free

Jennifer Free lives in Hackettstown, NJ, so apparently she has a daily commute to NYC, where she is director of development at NYU Hospital for Joint Diseases.

And from **Karen Kinnear**, a para-

legal with Holland & Hart in Boulder, CO: "Not much to report here. Traveled to Chile and Easter Island this past year; participated in a dig on Easter Island and had an awesome time. I'm trying to figure out a way to get back there and do more. Trip to Costa Rica planned for January. Working on improving my Spanish. Also working on second edition of my book on women in developing countries. All this while still working full-time – it's a challenge. What do you think about encouraging everyone to try to get to Reunion this coming year? It's about time we all tried to hook up again. Also might throw in a suggestion for class members to get on Facebook – it's a fun way to keep in touch! Best wishes for a Happy New Year!"

My big news is that I am a grandmother. Daughter Kelly and her husband, Beau, welcomed Jack Elliott Gibson on July 3. He is wonderful. Son Dan got married in October, so it's been a great year.

Debbie Caprini Ott '72
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debcaprini@gmail.com



Greetings to the Class of 1974! We had a good 35th Reunion on the Western College campus last June. Our class turnout was small – just **Jocelyn Woodson-Reed**, **Chris Moranda**, and myself – but the three of us had a good time. I hope more of you will be able to come to our 40th Reunion in 2014. In putting together the class column this time, I derived information both from e-mails that you sent to me recently and from the information that you sent for the 2009 Western College Alumnae directory. Thanks to all who sent their news one way or the other for your classmates to read.

Phyllis Adkins is principal of Romulus Community School in Romulus, MI.

Naphalai Chantararak Areesorn lives in Bangkok, Thailand, and has spent the last 30 years working in the media and hospitality industries. Naphalai created and managed the Chiva-Som International Health Resort, which has received awards as the best destination spa in the world from *Conde Nast Traveler* and *Spa Finder* magazines. Naphalai also founded and served as the first president of the Thai Spa Association. She currently runs Horwath Spa Consulting which provides consulting services for those who are interested in investing in the spa business. Naphalai also is editor-in-chief of the *Thailand Tattler*, a lifestyle publication with editions in 10 Asian countries. Naphalai's two sons both work in investment banking – one in Bangkok and the other in London, England.

Marion L. Black is an environmental planner for the Washington State Department of Ecology in Olympia, WA. **Cheryl Pedersen Bonnell** is an associate broker with Coldwell Banker Pulteney Land Company in Waterloo, NY.

Susan Lantz Carr has been working for the same organic greenhouse, Peach Tree Farm in Kintnersville, PA, since 1983. Her hobbies include gardening, photography, and rescuing abused, sick, or deaf Dalmatian dogs. Susan and her husband, Richard, have been married for 28 years.

Amy Robinson Collins and her husband, Jim, have been remodeling their kitchen and bathrooms, and Amy has also found a little time to make a baby quilt for her cousin's first grandchild. Their only trip this year (mid-November 2009) has been to visit their daughter, Becca, her husband, John, and Amy's grandson, Tyler (2) at their

new home in North Carolina. Amy's and Jim's son, Jeff, now lives in Wooster, OH, which isn't too far from the Collins home in Mansfield.

Mary Miller Croxton is a nurse with the Fredonia Central School District in Fredonia, NY. **Teri Ertel Curran** is an accountant with the city of Cedarburg, WI.

Suzanne Kelley Doswell sent news that she has left her seat on the board of the Brain Injury Association of America after six years of service, and the organization gave her a Founder's Award, which was an unexpected honor. Suzanne continues to be the Western Regional Manager for the Brain Injury Association of Massachusetts and has an office near her home in the Berkshire Mountains of western Massachusetts. Suzanne states, "The Brain Injury Association is putting new emphasis on preventive strategies related to concussions in sports, falls in the elderly, and blast injuries in the military as they tackle the important but poorly understood health issue of traumatic brain injury." Suzanne reports that her family is happy and healthy and that she and Bill love to visit their grandchildren who live in the red rock country of Sedona, AZ.

Laura Dupuy is the executive director of the Utah Council for Citizen Diplomacy in Salt Lake City. **Jack Fagan** is the regional director of Shipley Associates in North Granby, CT.

Beth Werst Gaynor works in the Sales and Visual Department at Coldwater Creek in Livonia, Michigan. **Nevine Gulamhusein** works for the World Bank in Washington, DC, and plans to have a book published in February 2010. **Rick Handy** is a financial consultant for Merrill Lynch and Company in Honolulu, HI. **Linda Hayes Holliday** is the retired assistant school superintendent of the Webster Grove School District in

ages a West Marine store in Alexandria, VA, while son Bryn is taking engineering classes while working for Siemens as a building technology specialist.

Melissa Sutton Johnson is vice-president for Strategic Account Sales at Fidelity National Information Services in Atlanta, GA. **Rebecca Smith Koladis** works for Prudential Court Realty in Hartford, CT. **Ken Krawczak** is an attorney with the firm Swartz Campbell LLC in Cleveland, OH. **Patricia Lacamera** is a corporate health strategist in New Haven, CT.

Janet Lucas is still practicing and teaching medicine in Columbus, OH. She said, "Our biggest event in 2009 was Karen and Nathaniel's wedding which allowed more family reunions than we generally have." Janet's other daughter, Linda, and her husband have a little girl named Mia, who turned 2 on January 31, 2010. Janet and Sherrill enjoy visiting their cabin in New Hampshire when they have time.

Ellen Magee wrote in December that she and her husband Guy Fields enjoy doing cross-country skiing and have lots of opportunity to ski during the winter since Madison, WI, where they live, gets quite a bit of snow every year.

Connie McDonald is a home sales consultant who lives in Glen Allen, VA.

Sue Dewitt Mooney wrote that she had dinner during the fall of 2009 with **Jill Rawnsley** (who cooked) and with **Nancy Anderson Wilkinson** and husband Pat during Nancy's and Pat's recent visit to Philadelphia. Wilkinsons' daughter, Catie, is a student at Oberlin College in Ohio and is an excellent speaker of Chinese. She has enjoyed summer work on various organic farms. Sue also had dinner with **Diane Bratcher** and Marianne Weil earlier in 2009, while Marianne was a

Indiana University and director of the Stone Age Institute in Bloomington, IN), **Jocelyn Woodson-Reed** (school psychologist in St. Louis, MO) and **Cameron Miller '76** (Episcopal pastor in Buffalo, NY) were part of a panel discussion on "Men at Western," which was held at Miami University in March 2009.

Deborah Geier Oney continues to help her husband, Steven, with his business – the Cape Cod Radio Mystery Theater. Their daughter, Katie, age 25, mentors male juvenile repeat offenders.

Debra Katz Orrantia is director of sales for *Arizona Weddings* magazine in Scottsdale, AZ.

Ann Crowley Pagano does volunteer work with the instrumental music program at Zionsville High School in Zionsville, IN. Ann and her husband, Lou, have three sons. The oldest, Louis, is in graduate school at Indiana University. Their middle son, Matt, is a student at Washington and Lee University in Lexington, VA. Matt did a study abroad in Vienna, Austria, last year. Their youngest son, Tim, is a freshman at Denison University in Granville, OH.

Ellyn Pitts works in furniture sales and as an interior decorator for Crate & Barrel in Roseland, NJ. **Jill Rawnsley** is a self-employed preservation consultant in Philadelphia, PA.

Sheila Colligan Sobel continues to work as a senior auditor for Warner Brothers Entertainment in Burbank, CA.

Joan Hagan Stoutenborough is enjoying retirement. She and her husband, Paul, are spending their winters in Sarasota, FL, and their summers at Williamstown Lake in Dry Ridge, KY. Although technically retired, Joan has been doing some substitute teaching in both locations, and she and Paul have a small real estate investment business. Last

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Webster Grove, MO. **Carolyn Jefferson-Jenkins** is the executive director of Instructional Support Services for the Douglas County School System in Castle Rock, CO.

Holly Wright Johnson continues to work as head of the Collection Services Department at the Howard County (MD) Library. She spent much of the year helping with the planning and procurement of a new computer system for the library. For her husband, Bruce, nearly the entire year at the Library of Congress was focused on the implementation of next generation technology for his online product "Cataloger's Desktop." Holly and Bruce also continue their service with the Coast Guard Auxiliary and the Sea Scouts. The highlight of the year for the Johnsons was a week and a-half spent cruising in their sailboat around Chesapeake Bay. The Johnsons' daughter, Cristyn, man-

aging professor of art at Haverford College in Philadelphia. Diane works for the pension unit in the Department of Finance of the New York City mayor's office.

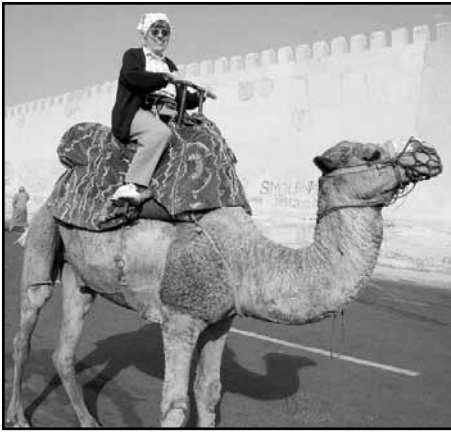
Chris Moranda is the manager of Disability Programs for Ohio Health in Columbus, OH. She also has been serving on the Ohio Governor's Council For People With Disabilities.

Cindy Sonich Mullin works as a health scientist for the Environmental Protection Agency in Cincinnati, OH. **Betsey Kiel Murray** is manager of The Produce Station in Ann Arbor, MI. **Maryellen Snyder Musgrave** is an insurance broker at the firm Robert E. Harris Insurance in Costa Mesa, CA.

Carl Officer (former mayor of East St. Louis, IL), **Nick Toth** (anthropology professor at

fall they got to take a real estate cruise in the western Caribbean where they attended seminars and had informal networking opportunities with about 150 other real estate investors. Both of the Stoutenboroughs' sons live in northern Kentucky and visit their Williamstown Lake home often. Joan and Paul now have two grandchildren: Jenna (2) and Dean (born October 22, 2009).

Flor De Maria Martinez Thomas is a realtor with Coldwell Banker in Mendham, NJ. **Liz Walker** is editor/production director for Teneues Publishing in Brooklyn, NY. **Lesley Clingham Wallace** is a flight attendant for American Airlines and is based at Logan Airport in Boston, MA. **Lindy Walser** is a self-employed cosmetologist in Santa Barbara, CA. **Kathy Albright Willowoode** is a nutritionist and outreach



Class rep Betsy, Agadir, Morocco,
November 2009

counselor at the Sunspot Natural Market in West Lafayette, IN. **Greta Pope Wimp** is a professional singer and president/CEO of Greta Pope Entertainment, Inc., a full service entertainment production company on the Internet at www.gretapope.com. **Sara Bond Young** is a third grade teacher in the Gary (IN) Community School Corporation.

I, **Betsy**, work as the cataloger at the Otterbein College Library in Westerville, OH, and have no plans for retirement yet. I took a couple of interesting overseas trips during 2009. In April I traveled on a Lindblad/ National Geographic expedition cruise to the Seychelles Islands in the Indian Ocean and to East Africa, visiting the Comoros Islands, Mozambique, and Tanzania on the cruise. I then spent an extra week in Tanzania to see the wildlife parks in the northern part of that country. Ngorongoro Crater and the Serengeti Plain proved to be awesome in terms. It was also fun to visit historic Zanzibar (part of Tanzania) where my Western roommate **Shamim Kassam '73** was born.

In November 2009, my father and I took a one-week sailing cruise from Lisbon, Portugal, to Morocco and the Canary Islands. Morocco's traditional Berber architecture and culture in Marrakech and Agadir were fascinating, and the Canary Islands were very scenic with numerous volcanic features and cute Spanish colonial villages climbing the hillsides on the various islands.

Betsy Salt '74
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Jonathan Wye reports that he was able to contact his roommate, **Mark Polanka**, and arrange for Mark to make a week-long visit to Jonathan's home in Scituate, MA. Mark is now Dr. Polanka and is teaching music at University of Akron here in Ohio. Jonathan himself is working as a consultant to a few nonprofit shelters helping them as a grant writer and construction manager.

For the rest of the message about our classmate **Russel Gray**, I will quote Jonathan: "For those of you who may have forgotten, or perhaps never knew, Russ died in the Beverly Hills Supper Club fire, in Covington [Southgate], Kentucky, on May 28, 1977.



Jon Shaw '76 (middle, back row) on a bryology lab field trip
to China, November 2008

Russ was one of the few I knew at Western who knew EXACTLY what he wanted to do, and that was teach. At the time of his death he was a science teacher in an elementary school."

Jon Shaw attended Western 1972-74, then stayed on to take a few classes at Miami. He got his Ph.D. from the University of Michigan in 1983 and is now a professor in the biology department at Duke University and curator of the Duke Bryophyte Herbarium. His research centers on the evolution and diversity of bryophytes (mosses, hornworts and liverworts). The bryology lab, of which Jon is a member, is engaged in collaborative research with the New York Botanical Garden, the University of Connecticut, the Missouri Botanical Garden and the University of Alberta.

Dan Pickard '76
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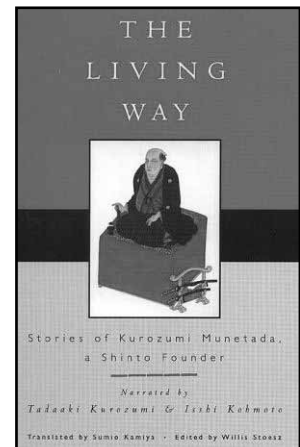
More news from former Western faculty ...

We launched our year-long WCAA 35th anniversary celebration at Reunion 2009, with special recognition for returning Western College faculty and staff. Our goal is to hear from each and every one, and we want to see more of you in person at Reunion 2010, June 18-20!

Willis Stoesz, professor of religion from 1965 to 1970, writes: "Forty-four years and counting ... I left Western College in 1970 for the Department of Religion of then-new Wright State University in Dayton, where I worked for 23 years. WSU provided opportunity for international travel in the spirit of Western. I took part in an exchange program with a Japanese university, which led to editing and publishing three books on a Shinto sect. My wife, Dolores, and I, now long retired, are living in our native Minnesota near

two of our children (the third is in Seattle). Our Western years were interesting times as we all looked for a way through the changes taking place. I like to receive the alumnae *Bulletin* and look for familiar names. It is good to see that the heritage of our work is being maintained.

The *Living Way*, most recent of Professor Stoesz's three books, was published by AltaMira Press in 2000 and is available in hardcover and paperback from Amazon.



In Memoriam

Helen Fahrney Wilson '27

December 2009

Katherine Backus Beverly '28

January 2010

Edith Chabot Blair '28

January 2010

Carolyn Schramm Heinen '29

May 2005

Elsie Nussmann Steiner '30

November 2009

Alice Ellis Miller '31

October 2009

Leah Higgins '33

March 2010

Dorothy Craig Collins '34

February 2010

Natalie Walters Nelson '34

November 2009

Anny (Lily) Christensen Ryan '34

October 2008

Phyllis Peterson Walder '36

June 2007

Louise Simpson Dameron '37

August 2009

Marilyn Young Finkbeiner '43

February 2010

Betty Jeanne Eicher Maybury '43

August 2009

Carolyn Farr Gaebler '44

August 2009

Virginia Martin Daw '45

March 2010

Jane Bales Cheney '46

November 2008

Louise Reynolds Evans '48

March 2010

Jeanne Smith '48

November 2009

Virginia Messer Bright '50

November 2009

Margaret Phillips Grove '50

February 2010

Maeleine Kaffel Loos '50

September 2009

Phoebe Hughes Phillips '50

March 2007

Joyce Hambley McCormick '51

July 2007

Carolyn Hedger Morris '51

October 2008

Ann Shafer Andrus '52

August 2009

Carolyn McKenzie Lochrie '52

October 2008

Joemma Jenkins '53

September 2008

Joan Gary Caudill '54

January 2009

Mona Berger Burger '55

March 2009

Sue Dyle Gast '56

January 2009

Persis A. Whitney '57

June 2009

Lucinda Beneventi Findley '63

February 2010

Benette Yvonne Potts Miller '70

October 2009

Juliana Molloy '74

March 2010

Rosezelia Patton FS

Registrar, 1969-74

November 2009

The Western Program

Greetings from Peabody Hall! As we gear up for the graduation of the final class of the Western College Program in May, we stand, as do our soon-to-be graduates, just on the threshold of the future. The new major in Individualized Studies and the minor in Interdisciplinary Studies will receive final approval from the Faculty Senate this spring and are set to launch in fall 2010. And the program will have new leadership as well, when **Dr. Nicholas P. Money** becomes director of the Western Program in the next academic year.



Mary Jean Corbett

Nik holds degrees from the universities of Bristol and Exeter in England. In 1986, he moved to the U.S. to begin his research career at Yale; he has worked in the Department of Botany at Miami since 1995 and has been a passionate advocate of the new Western Program for the last two years. Nik's expertise lies in mycology and he has taken an interdisciplinary approach to studying fungal development that is evidenced in a series of books written for non-specialists, including *The Triumph of the Fungi: A Rotten History*. His research program is funded by the National Science Foundation and the National Institutes of Health. He serves on the editorial boards of a number of journals, and also works as a consultant on mold-related issues. In addition to his scientific credentials, Nik is a yet-to-be-published novelist and an exceedingly amateur local historian. He lives in Oxford, with his wife Dr. Diana Davis, a biochemist at the College of Mount St. Joseph in Cincinnati. Their children, Adam and Allison, have fledged and now live in Chicago.

Nik writes that he is "very excited about the opportunity to continue to work with the talented faculty and staff of the Western Program, to mentor our first students, and to forge a strong working relationship with Western alumni." I have every confidence that under his leadership, the new program will build on its predecessors' legacy of innovation in concerted and effective fashion. As Nik and the rest of the faculty move forward, they will continue to be inspired by the students we have come to know over the last two years – the indomitable classes of 2009 and 2010, as well as the first-year and sophomore students who are already taking our initial course offerings, participating in the new Inquiry Center, and living in Peabody Hall. They will profit from the wise counsel of Judy Waldron and the Western College Alumnae Association and the ongoing support of the new Western College Program Alumni Association. And they will do their best, I know, to make sure that the circle remains unbroken.

On a personal note, I am extremely grateful for the amazing opportunities the last two years have afforded me and for the generosity and acumen of all the many new friends and colleagues I've made. My understanding of the challenges we face in higher education today has increased exponentially, even as my appreciation for the vibrancy and resiliency of the Western spirit has immeasurably deepened. I wish only the best for the incredible alumnae and alumni who have been so instrumental in sustaining Western over the decades and through all of its changes, and I hope you will all join me in supporting and advocating for the new program in the years ahead.

— Mary Jean Corbett, Interim Director

... and for WCP Alums

An announcement from WCPAA president, Bob Cox '83:

Dear Western Graduates and Friends of the Western College Program, we are writing you on behalf of the Board of the Western College Program Alumni Association to let you know of this new group, and to invite you to get involved. As many of you recall, the WCPAA was established during the summer of 2009 to provide a formal means for WCP alumni to stay in touch.

It is our pleasure to tell you that the WCPAA Board met recently in Oxford to get the group off the ground. The first thing we did was to clarify the basic purpose of the group: The WCPAA has two objectives. First, it is the formal vehicle for graduates of the Western College Program to stay

in touch with one another. It is through this group that we will continue to organize our five-year anniversary gatherings, and we even have in store some more frequent events. We are an official chapter of the Miami University Alumni Association, but focused on WCP graduates and friends. Second, we hope to support the new Western Program, or Western 3.0 as it has come to be called. In this regard we desire to provide the supportive role for the new iteration of the Western spirit that the



Bob Cox

WCAA has provided for our group. Indeed, we also strive to have a strong relationship with the WCAA, the spirited alumnae who graduated from the original Western College. We have an official webpage: www.miamialum.org/wcpalumni.

As our group becomes established, we invite you to get involved. We have organized a number of committees to carry out our work, and hope you will find one of them a rewarding way to stay connected with old friends, as well as meet new friends from other alumni years.

We are pleased to say that at our recent meeting we were graciously hosted by Prof. Mary Jean Corbett, the Interim Director of the new Western Program, who gave us an update on recent developments. In short, we were encouraged to learn of the strong support for Western on campus, and that there is much regret for the high-handed tactics that led to closure of the WCP. Still, we know that experience left a bitter taste in the mouth of many, yet we are cautiously optimistic that Miami faculty and administrators will do the right thing and give the new program the support it needs. When that happens, we will be prepared to throw in our support, too. As an initial positive signal, the web page for the Miami College of Arts and Sciences lists interdisciplinary programs, and the Western Program in particular, as the center of the high-quality, innovative educational program available at Miami. Find this at <http://www.cas.muohio.edu/>.

We will hold a meeting during MU Alumni Weekend, 17-20 June 2010, and we invite all of you to attend. Watch for details as we finalize the dates for the meeting.

Finally, we want to share with you some specific information about how you can stay in touch with us, and help to make the WCPAA successful. First, please consider standing

for election to the Board of Directors. We currently have 11 members of what should be a 12-person board. If you are interested, please contact Jane Sharp at: janey@trusted-email.com.

We also are looking for help with: *Communications Committee*, which manages website, list-serv and announcements (Dan Woltman: danwoltman@gmail.com); *Development and Fundraising Committee*, which raises funds for our five-year anniversary and other activities; (Irene Dvoraczky Bell: irenebell1@sbcglobal.net); *Alumni Relations Committee*, which plans the party and keeps in touch with the WCAA (John Rego: jjregohg11@aol.com); *Student Relations*, which keeps in touch with the current Western students (Jonathan Schneider: jonathanalbanschneider@hotmail.com).

As you can see, we are making great progress in establishing ourselves as a proper alumni group. Without the direct support from the WCP that we relied on in the past, we need to pull together to keep our alumni group going. Please read this as a call to get involved and to stay in touch.

Bob Cox, President, Class of 1983
Irene Dvoraczky Bell, President Elect, Class of 1982
Jane Drexler Sharp, Past President, Class of 1980
Eric Becker, Treasurer, Class of 1980
John Rego, Class of 1981
Mike Conaway, Class of 1990
Dan Woltman, Class of 1991
Jonathan Schneider, Class of 1992
Sam Ackerman, Class of 1998
Karen Gotter, Class of 2009
Andy Miller, Class of 1994



Alex McDonald writes about some exciting developments in his song writing and teaching career: "Hi, all. Can't believe it's been 35 years (!) since we met freshman year. Hopefully, like me, you haven't gotten any older, just more forgetful, I mean, distinguished. If anyone remembers 'Strange New Animal' and the other shows I put on, I'm still plugging away with a musical-theatrical-comedy thing called Paranoid Larry and his imaginary band. (It's a real band.) There are songs and videos you can link at the website below. We perform regularly, mainly in New York City. And, as you can imagine, the women go wild! Have had some cover versions of some of my songs. The Sony Classics picture *Please Give* starring Catherine Keener, Oliver Platt and Amanda Peet will be in theaters spring 2010 and features The Roches version of one of my songs in the opening credits. So check it out if you see a listing.



er. Oddly, my tonsils were removed when I was 10. Apparently however, there was enough of a molecular launch pad to set off a chain reaction that began with surgery (a breeze) followed by radiation therapy (best not mentioned in polite company) and ended with a rather anti-climactic convalescence from the effects of having one's mouth, tongue and throat fried, refried and blackened for good measure. Smoothies and soups. Smoothies and soups. Repeat as necessary.

"While this experience has eroded my opportunities for food evangelism and martini drinking, it has certainly reinforced the truth of my final things you might want to know about me, in 2005. I have been kept alive, literally and figuratively, by the affection and support of my family and friends, whose sum total is my proudest boast and matters much more to me than my bank balance or intelligence quotient." Hopefully, some of you caught Shelia on her book tour when the paperback came out: March 16, Washington, DC, at the Barnes and Noble downtown; March 19, Charlottesville for VA Festival of the Book; March 25, Boston at Newtonville Books.

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Celebrating 30 years!

Many thanks to **Mary Taflinger**, who has tried for years to get contributions from our class and to Paul and Carolyn who bowed to my threats and cajoling to send in updates.

Paul Beno: "First I want to thank **Janey Drexler** for motivating me to write this blurb, blog, blip or whatever. The most fun and interesting thing I've done lately has been to go on a volunteer vacation. Me and 25 of my new best friends out camping and working on trails and a good time was had by all. I hope all of you are out there doing great things. Stimulate the economy, solve global warming etc. And as you do all that, don't forget to have a little fun along the way. Best wishes to all." P.S. For those who are interested, Paul was on trails in the Ocala National Forrest in Florida. The national catalogue for trail vacations is available on the American Hiking Society website.

Carolyn Jones McConnell: "We bought a Class B RV so we can load up the dogs and go visit our sons. Andrew is a junior at Benedictine College in Kansas and Will is a sophomore at Hobart & William Smith

in New York. I look forward to the next WesternPalooza and seeing WCP friends."

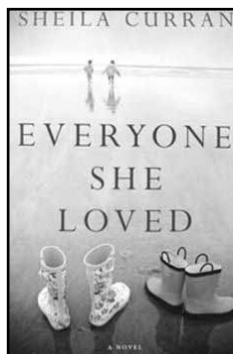
Steve Nieman, reporting from Philadelphia: "OK, so here's the quick run-down of what's been happening here. I remain healthy and happily married. I think I can say with assurance that my wife, Judy, is too. She continues to work part-time doing title insurance work. Meaghan is in the sixth grade and Sean in the fourth. Meaghan is a very good student who loves to read and spend a lot of time with our newest family member Oliver, the 6-month old Boston terrier puppy. The puppy is as cute as Dickens' buttons and seems to idolize me, which is an altogether pleasant feeling. I'm hopeful that my fingers will soon heal and that his lunges at my nose will cease. Meaghan loves animals and dreams of being a veterinarian. Sean is much less certain around animals, but seems to be coming around. He – Sean now – likes to entertain himself by doing math puzzles. I mean if that was Oliver I was talking about that would be amazing – he's a puppy for crying out loud! He can't count yet. Again back to Sean – he's a good student as well, particularly in math. He and I are both very busy in Cub Scouts. I hope to earn all the badges I didn't when I was his age! Sean has really become interested in watching football this year. I'll often ask him what's going on in the game, 'cause I don't have the time to pay a lot of attention, and I usually get a pretty good run-down. I caught him reading the sport section of the newspaper the other day. It's funny how kids grow up.

"I'm at least a year older than the last time we corresponded, still working the same job as a transportation planning consultant, because they still insist on paying me decently. I look for it to suddenly change, but so far it's going in my favor. The work's been a little different lately since transportation funding is in such a crisis. I've been going on the road a lot over the last year and a-half. A couple of us are traveling the country teaching a course on linking transportation and land use and so I'm away a week every two months. I was in Vermont earlier in the year. Next stop – are you ready – Schenectady! All right, so it's not glamorous and it's a lot of work, but I enjoy it. I was able to get back into bicycling this past year, so that was fun. I also finished building a wooden kayak I was working on for over a year. I got it out on the water a couple of times and was really pleased. Heck, that was a pretty good review of what's been happening. It'll have to do for now."

As for me: In May 2010, 30 years after my graduation from Western, I will once again walk in a commencement exercise at Rutgers for an MPA. I took classes every Fri. and Sat. for two years in a cohort program. The camaraderie among classmates definitely reminded me of Western. We collaborated on a class capstone project and

"My wife, Shirley, (mentioned as a girlfriend in a long-ago *Bulletin*) is a music teacher and our daughter, Vonna, is a year away from high school(!). Speaking of school, I'm in my 26th year of teaching (Shakespeare, Sophocles and Spitballs) to NYC public high schoolers. I enjoy it because something funny happens every day and it's a rewarding job. Still, I've had a recent revelation, and I now realize why I'm here on Earth, and what God wants me to do with my life: He wants me to retire and collect a pension! All the best ..." www.paranoidlarry.com; proveitmusic@hotmail.com

Sheila Curran's second novel, *Everyone She Loved*, was published last year, a year that also brought a new perspective after her battle with a rare form of cancer. "I've had a recent brush with a somewhat rare form of tonsil can-



proposed a Center for Youth Leadership Development and Civic Engagement at RU. In Oct. my contract with the NJ Dept. of Human Services ended and I have ventured into the world of a private consultant. To see more of what I am up to, check out my website www.sharp-ideas.org. Oh, and since my son went off to college last fall, I transferred my mommy instincts to a golden doodle puppy, Gibbs, who very much reminds me of my son at age 2.

Congratulations to **Barbara Knuth**, professor and associate dean in Cornell's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. She has just been named vice provost (effective April 1) and dean of the Cornell Graduate School for a five-year term, beginning July 1.

Many WCP alumni have gone viral and joined Facebook (probably in an attempt to communicate with our teenagers). In addition I know that **Ken Weil**, **Mary Scrocco Shelly** and hubby Jim are enduring senioritis with their children as they prepare to send them off to college. While others like Paul, Carolyn and me are empty-nesters hoping that our offspring can somehow find the magic of the "Western Experience" in their college years. As Walter mentioned last fall **Janet Jordan '80** and **Caroline Quine '79** organized WesternPalooza for grads and friends from '78-'81 in Cleveland last summer with assistance from **Bill McMahon '82**, **Joe Conway '81**, **Robbie Burns '81**, and **Jerry Dowling '78**. Plans are afoot for another gathering at the Burning River Festival in July. If you enjoy listening to Caroline and **Steve Madewell**, catching up with friends and laughing until your sides hurt, come on down. www.burningriverfest.org/ ('78 -'81 grads can e-mail: caroline@cq-graphics.com.) Till next time, peace and love.

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This is the year that many of us turn 50, and I know we all have celebrated (or will) this milestone in our own inimitable ways. My way to mark the event was to go hiking around Lake Louise and Banff in the Canadian Rockies – glorious! How did you celebrate? Write and tell all for next year's *Bulletin*.

Dan Adamson wrote to say that he is confronting an empty nest with one daughter at Earlham College and the other a senior in high school and applying to colleges. It is odd, he writes, to visit Earlham with it being so near Oxford and its "Western-like"

qualities. He continues to practice energy and environmental law, and is trying to figure out what to do when he is "in my 50s" other than taking Pilates. He invites folks to look him up if in DC: Davis Wright Tremaine LLP, 1919 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Suite 200, Washington, DC 20006; (202) 973-4240; danadamson@dwt.com; www.dwt.com

Best wishes to all for a terrific 2010!

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Diane Wright reports that she and her two sons are living in a new apartment on the east side of Cincinnati. She continues to work at Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health Services as the quality improvement director and client rights officer. Diane is also licensed to officiate weddings in the state of Ohio, and has had the pleasure of helping 14 couples marry or complete commitment ceremonies (please get in touch if you know someone who wants help planning a ceremony!). Diane's older son is now a freshman at UC in mechanical engineering, and her younger son is in third grade. Keep in touch via Cincinnati. officiant@gmail.com.

Amy Simmons Healy wants to know if there are any Western grads living in Nevada besides her. Amy left Boston for northern Nevada in 2005 to join up with her fiancé Dennis Healy, and they were married that August. Amy lives in a small town called Genoa in the rural Carson Valley, just south



Amy, with daughter Audrey – just as beautiful as Mom



'86 Class Rep Beth, with son Benjamin in Peru. She's hanging onto him "just because he's so cute."

of Carson City and only a half-hour drive from Lake Tahoe. Amy reports that it is incredibly beautiful and that the people couldn't be friendlier – lots of sun, cattle and mountains everywhere. Amy and Dennis have a 2-year-old daughter named Audrey, who keeps life fun and reminds Amy that she knows nothing about parenting! After 17 years in financial services, this life has been quite a change, but a most welcome one. Amy looks forward to e-mails: amysimmons0214@yahoo.com. And check out the picture.

Marcy Mulford Shultz says that she and her husband, David, will soon be living with three teenagers: Maddy will be 16 and the twins turn 13 in a few weeks. Marcy reminds us that for many years she worked/telecommuted with **Anne Elhajoui '85** as a graphic designer for the magazine *Discipleship Journal*. Marcy was laid off two years ago (the magazine folded this past spring) and she started her own business, Spiral Studio, mostly from word-of-mouth. Marcy is busy building her website and being a business owner. She and David enjoy Columbus and love seeing Western friends.

Ginny Beatty reports that during the first week of January 2009, she spent a week in Ireland with 50 of her closest friends. She got to be a "roadie" for one of the Irish bands she follows, Fin Tan (out of Dayton, OH), on their Ireland tour. She had a great time touring Dublin, Waterford, Killarney, County Kerry, and Limerick. She (and friends) performed in locations, such as the Gravity Bar in the Guinness Storehouse in Dublin, an 18th century pub in Waterford, and a pub full of rowdy rugby fans in Limerick. It was a tremendous experience to see the country and help boost the Irish economy. May-December, Ginny lived in Cincinnati as a technical writing consultant on a project team, updating documentation products for a large billing system. The work provided a unique experience, as her team members were located in Cincinnati; Orlando, FL; Hyderabad, India; and Cambridge, UK. Ginny is once again working on her competitive job search strategy, looking for opportuni-

ties in documentation, business analysis, or training. She's also a training volunteer for the Career Transition Institute of 40 Plus of Central Ohio.

As for me (**Beth McNellie**), my big news is that I am now the shortest person in my house. Benjamin, who will become a teenager this May, has shot up like a weed and will soon eat me out of house and home. He is busy with the trombone, his running, soccer and school. We continued our travels this past year and went to Peru over the summer (hence why I missed the reunion) and Madeira/Portugal for Christmas and New Year. Spring Break will find us in Syria. I continue to serve on the Dean's Advisory Board for the College of Arts and Science and the Alumni Advisory Board for the Pre-Law Program. The picture is of Benjamin and me (Jon is the photographer) at Machu Picchu – a wonderful, magical, simply breathtaking place.

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Celebrating 20 years!



Alicia Broderick, visiting her aunt, Barbara Huls Broderick '50, in Scottsdale, Arizona

Tonya Lovelace contributed an update for the WCAA website (www.muohio.edu/wcaa), where you can read more about her inspiring career. She is currently serving as project manager for the Women of Color Network (WOCN), part of the National Resource Center on Domestic Violence (NRCDV), where she oversees the national training, technical assistance and support provided to WOCN constituents and colleagues. She has conducted numerous training sessions locally and nationally, earning honors and awards from the likes of Wright State University, WROU radio in Dayton, OH, and the Dayton chapter of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. Now living in Harrisburg, PA, Tonya is the "proud single mother of one," dedicated to raising a "strong, confident daughter in the midst of ongoing global inequity for women of color."

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Cathy Brigham is now working at the Council on Adult and Experiential Learning, where she is senior consultant. Parlaying her experience running a program for non-traditional students at a private college in Texas, she now is able to help other colleges and universities interested in improving their services for adult learners. She's based in Chicago, where she is learning the train system and trying to stay warm, but her family and gardens are still in Texas – 1,000 miles and sometimes as much as 60 degrees away. She had a rough year, having lost her mother painfully. She remains grateful for Facebook and other tools that have allowed her to re-connect with Western friends from all over the country.

Kevin Grasha continues to write about crime and the seedy underbelly of mid-Michigan for the *Lansing State Journal*. Wife (Bay) and daughter (Sawyer) hear too much about aforementioned underbelly.

Alice Wondrak Biel, along with husband Mark and daughter Abbey, richly enjoyed scratching Michigan's underbelly with the Grasha family during a Christmas trip back east last year. Also spent a lovely evening with **Stephanie Wiant**, **Colin Fogarty** ('94), and their three delightful cubs in Portland, OR. We are still working for the National Park Service and living in Sundance, WY, where Abbey is loving preschool. It's quite something to watch your daughter scrawl her name for the first time when just a few years ago she had no idea that hand was even hers! We



Catherine Comello Stehlin '92 on campus after a visit to the Western Gift Shop. Take a close look at the kids' tee shirts.

love the remote life, but I plan to turn 40 in Las Vegas this year. *Laissez les bon temps rouler!* Look me up on Facebook and please keep in touch.

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Hey Y'all! The big thing is we have a Facebook group!!! Thanks to Facebook there have been a few spontaneous gatherings of Western majors from our era around the country. Join us and who knows who could end up crashing on your couch – or at least post some pictures and share goofy anecdotes. This group is not restricted to class of '94 only – if you were around Western at that time please join us! The group is "Western class of 94," my Facebook account is under "johanner" so search for me and I'll hook you up.

UPDATES!

Tyrus Burgess: "Umm ... I continue to live in Brooklyn, NY, and survived two rounds of layoffs at the *New York Times*. **Stacey** and **Emmie** came to visit last summer. We connected with **Turtle** and **Nicole** and **Eric** and **Spencer** and had a blast cracking each other up in all manner of inappropriate ways."

Kurt Squire: "Just had baby #2, Warner. Getting my you-know-what kicked by the workload. Watching too much 'Dora the Explora.'"

Joe Isaacs: "I love my job and I am happy to have it after last year when I was very semi-employed substitute teaching and doing some part time ESL work. My family is great – my daughter Yael is 10 (fifth grade) and my son Yoni is in third grade (8) and my wife Carolyn is 37 and a-half. I am still 20 of course (in my mentality). We still live in Columbia, MD. I am still playing guitar and singing at coffee houses. I have been joined recently by a lead guitar player, bassist, and djembist all of whom are really good and it's been a lot of fun. My daughter just wrote a beautiful poem that won a contest:

Life, by Yael Isaacs

The clouds drift over my head lazily,
close enough to touch. A light breeze
blows the leaves back and forth,
back and forth. The grass sways
brushing my legs.

Ahead of me, tall ferns nearly hide a
stream, but not completely. The wa-
ter is as smooth as glass; the river's
smell fills my nose. It was so quiet.
I can hear the rustling of the grass,
the sound of small animals scam-
bling everywhere. There is so much
life.

Suddenly the big white clouds sepa-
rate from each other.

A ray of sunlight hits me golden.

The sun shimmering in the blue sky,
everything shimmers in the sunlight,
like diamonds. I can hear my breath
and know it is time for me to go.

As I walk back the sky grows dark.

The first stars appear in the night sky.

All is quiet and peaceful.

(The consensus of the Facebookers is that Yael is awesome, by the way – Johanna.)

Shairstin Ransel Fierro: Charlotte turned 2 months today. Just hanging out at home a lot and learning to be a mommy! Um, I live in San Jose, CA, – just bought a house this summer. Still own a condo in Chicago and am being a landlord. I'm a nurse at Stanford – intermediate ICU for heart and lung surgeries. Will be returning to work from maternity leave in March!



Teri Mae Rutledge and wife Katie Hern, at the mini-reunion

Sharney McLaughlin: "I resigned from my job with the County of San Diego (working in community health promotion) a couple years ago to fulfill my dream to take a long 'sabbatical' to hike and study Spanish in Costa Rica and Nicaragua. Upon my return, I was ready to 'settle down' back in San Diego with my English boyfriend, Nick. We were married in '08 and welcomed our first child, Rowan (a boy), to the world in June '09. I am now working on a public health grant for the local chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics."



Class Rep Johanna shoots Stacey Hall and Shairstin Ransel Fierro (still a mom-to-be) at the San Jose mini-reunion at Shairstin's house.

Stacey Hall: "After a decade on the north shore of the Buckeye State, I returned to the SW environs and old haunts a couple of years ago. I have a lovely country home that I presently share with two dogs, a gerbil, and a rotating schedule of nieces and nephews. I work as director of a domestic violence shelter in Cincy, which is not nearly as fun as the jail work I did in Cleveland, but it pays the bills and warms the heart. (Or not, depending on the day.) I feel ongoing guilt for not yet connecting with more Cincy area WCPers beyond FB. I had the distinct privilege and plain old good fortune of participating in TWO Western mini-reunions/No Car Policy TV movies in 2009.

"The first in NYC included a star-studded cast, lovely accommodations by **Tyrus** and **Nicole**, and unrivaled comedic performances by **Turtle**, his man, **Emmie** and many more. **Eric Ford** and **Spencer Sunshine** made plot-turning cameo appearances as themselves.

"The West Coast crew – not be outdone – gathered at Shairstin's house in San Jose. (You know the way!) The lovely mom-to-be hostess and her man served up fab dinner and wonderful wine to an esteemed panel of conversants including Johanna and THE TMR. This was followed by a NW ho-down with **Mona** and **Jimi D** and Mona's beautiful twin babies. Hope to see more of y'all in 2010!"

Emmie Hutchison: "Dutch and I are raising four kids. They are pretty awesome and I enjoy all aspects of their lives. We have a teenager, a fourth-grader, a pre-schooler and one on the cusp of baby and toddler. I'll let him advance when he weans and/or sleeps through the night. The range of ages keeps us busy with their different developmental needs and three different schools and whatnot. I have been working in the Children's Department of Lakewood Public Library for six years and it is still a source of satisfaction and pride. I have a toddler story time I present, and I plan middle school programs with a loosely-role-playing theme

... last time it was Harry Potter and this time it centers on the great Percy Jackson series. Other than those two things, it's all about keeping crime down and literacy up. I might look for a full-time job soon and have Dutch do most of the staying at home. Any ideas? What do people do? If I pursue a master's degree, it's still between library science and education. I have enjoyed the heightened connection to Westerners through Facebook and hope it inspires more visits and get-togethers. Y'all are always welcome in Cleveland and no matter what anyone tells you, it's a really fun city. Unless it's winter. Peace and Love!"

Chris de la Cruz: "My dad and I are trying to help Hispanic immigrants in Northwest Arkansas and it looks we will be going to see the Incan ruins of Machu Picchu in the Andes of Peru in April."

SPECIAL GUEST STAR CHRIS WOLFE!!!

Christopher Wolfe (faculty): "They ripped me a new ear hole – literally. I am making a good recovery from two surgeries in 2009 and have landed on my feet in the Department of Psychology."

And me, I'm **Johanna Smith**. My daughter is now 5. I'm still puppeting and professing and trying to hold on to sanity in Southern California. I've had the chance to do some neat things lately, like tour a puppet show through China ... but the biggest source of happiness has been reconnecting with a bunch of you folks, which makes this thing-Prince-called-life so much more fun. I'm eternally grateful and pleased to interact with minds as fundamentally twisted as my own. Please join us on Facebook and fill what remains of your free time with Western nuttiness. Much love and good mojo into the next decade!

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Since the Class Rep didn't hear directly from many people, he decided (inspired by **Johanna Smith '94**) to compile a compendium of Facebook status updates. **Carey Smith Obye** is blaming it on the weather. **David Paransky** reports he has a lot of dust in his house from his two dogs. **Jeffrey Kean** at least had time for some chowdah. **Kara Blake** got a puppy. **Meredith Glueck** doesn't like moving per se, but really likes the change and the sense of a fresh start. **Oliver Baty** has two awfully cute kids. **Rachel Blair Perrone** has the theme to "Alice" stuck in her head. "Early to bed, early to rise..." **Beth Lorz Long** hid the candy in the trunk of her car (so don't even try looking for it). **Greg McGill**, at the time this was written, had gone running 74 days in a row. **Brendan Bogosian** says, "Someone get me off YouTube ... the insipid comments are getting to me, but I'm starting to post them myself!" **Eve Gilmour** requests her status from last year be re-used, since not much has changed.

Jenelle Peterson reports that she was married on November 27, 2009, to Alin Tose, a Romanian she met at a reggae concert two years earlier. Alin took Jenelle's last name, so they are officially Jenelle and Alin Peterson. She is still teaching fourth and fifth grade at the Maui Preparatory Academy, in Maui, HI.

John Blair still lives in Oakland, CA, with Susanna Laaksonen and his 11-year-old son, Ethan. He's been working in the Solar Magic group at National Semiconductor since the startup he was at was acquired in late 2009.

John requests that members of the class of 1996 who are using Facebook please join the Western College Program Class of 1996 Facebook Group.

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Well, the '98 Update is back. We're so glad to talk to everyone and hear what's up. By we, I mean Kjirsten and the cats. Dayton is still here; not empty like all the newspapers say, and never boring. I'm still dancing, absorbing the local arts and foods, working for The Man (not complaining about

being employed, tho) and slowly turning my 100-year-old house into something that meets fire codes. I've heard from some lovely people this season and wanted to share their stories, with my comments too.

From **J Adam Metcalf**: "Oh My. Yes, the update. Well ... professionally I've been a recruiter for several years now, and started my own company (Network Recruiting) about a year ago. The cleverly named website is www.networkrecruiting.com. LOL. We find people for job openings that companies have a hard time filling. It's what I've done for the majority of my career, and it's pretty fun being 'the man' instead of working for him. (Something tells me I need J's expertise!!) I have a couple recruiters and a researcher ... so not too big yet. We have a list of 10 charities that we ask our candidates to choose from when they are placed ... we then donate \$250 of the placement fee to their choice of charity. It's sort of a neat way to get people involved. Usually I can get the client company to match my donation as well ... so it often ends up being \$500. It feels good to do. I recently got a letter from Google saying that Network is a 'favorite place on Google' which was sort of exciting to me.

"I live in Houston, TX, after moving around for a few years after graduating ... and these days am having the itch to move again - even though I'm so proud of my city for electing Annise Parker. The work I do can be from anywhere really, so any suggestions on good cities in the U.S. to move to would be so appreciated. (DAY-TON!!!! :-)) I'm not seriously dating, never been married, have a lovely puppy named Belami. I would love to connect to anyone from school on my FB page. www.facebook.com/somohapien

"What else do I do... I like coffee... I play World of Warcraft (and I'm PROUD of that fact, so take that all you haters!!!), I'm still gay, and I love my iPhone. Vodka was my favorite drink, but I'm trying to give up drinking hard liquor for 2010, so I am on light stuff like wine these days. I hate doing laundry, I love going on long walks with the dog, and my favorite TV show is NCIS. I'm going along the life path the best way I know how. Nothing too fancy, just taking it where I can. I don't have any crazy vacation stories cause I'm too much of a workaholic to leave. I hope you can make me sound more exciting than all this. LOL Who knew we would all grow up to be homebodies?" I'm right there with you, J, who knew?

From **Sam Ackerman**: "I'm working with **Russell Wood '88** on a project in San Francisco. We met in SF unaware that we were both Western grads and through conversation eventually discovered this fact. He has recently gone into private practice

and requires the design and consulting services that my company offers. Advancing Ideas, LLC. Bright people, brilliant design. Samuel K. Ackerman, Executive Producer. Mob: +1.510.823.4245. Sam@AdvancingIdeas.net. Good workin', Sam and Rusty! Keep us posted on your successes.

In other WCP '98 news, **Amy Taylor** and **Brandon Ney** made appearances in recent weeks on the West Coast allowing at one point, **Sam Ackerman**, **Ryan Davanzo**, **Amy Taylor** and **Jeff Kent** to get together for drinks in a drag-bar featuring one of the world's largest animatronic Santa collections in Hayes Valley, SF. It was glorious!

Jessica Croxton is engaged to be married in the fall of 2010. Oh, send us pictures Jes!

And from **Jonas Green**: "I hope all is well. I just got the e-mail requesting an update, and since I haven't updated in a while ... I now live in Santa Monica with my wife, Dafna Hopenstand, an environmental and litigation attorney. Since my WCP days, I first taught in San Francisco before going to medical school and getting additional training in public health. I am now an internist and NRSA Health Services Research Fellow, still at UCLA. Dafna and I dream about the day when all Americans will have easy access to efficient health care, the environment is safe for humans and other species, and we can finally own a puppy and a home large enough to house it. jonas@ucla.edu." Always one for a challenge - Good work!

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Celebrating 10 years!

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Hello, faithful *Bulletin* readers! After the big blowout 5-year update party from last year, there are only a handful of updates this time. Nevertheless, there is some exciting news from fellow '04 classmates. Let's get right to it, in alphabetical order:

Craig Eley wrote an update for the first time! "I'm still living in Iowa City and working toward a Ph.D. in American studies from the University of Iowa. On December 10th, I passed my comprehensive exams, which was a huge amount of stress followed by a huge amount of relief. They gave me a master's degree for the effort. For a variety of reasons, the whole process made me really appreciate Western's commitment to interdisciplinarity. While I don't think I had a meaningful grasp of how truly different Western's approach was at the time I was there, over the last few months of studying and writing, many of my experiences there have come back to serve as a kind of model for how and why I want to be involved in higher education.

"Also, fellow Westerner **Emily McClanahan '06** lives a few hours down the road from me in Des Moines, and we get to hang out every now and again. Hope all is well with you!" 713 E. Washington St., Iowa City IA 52240; 412 353-9129. Thanks, Craig!

Genevieve O'Malley Knight writes that she is "back in Peabody Hall, working for the new Western Program. There's a great group of new faculty and students, and while what they're building is not what we had, it is shaping up to be a really great program, too." She thinks these people "get it." Please do see the website or contact her if you want to learn more



Leah Farzin rocks her Miami spirit, ice skating at Fenway Park.

about it. Also, she says, it is a real treat to work with the final WCP class of 2010, who are all awesome. In other news, Genevieve's knitting hobby continues to take over large portions of her life and living room. New this year, she is on Facebook. Feel free to put this magazine down and friend Genevieve on Facebook right now. I'll wait. Back now? OK, you can reach Genevieve at: 6027 Vereker Dr., Oxford, OH, 45056; phone (new): 513-330-0276; e-mail: knightga@muohio.edu.

Fellow Bostonian and Westerner **Matt Lincoln** wrote: "I'm still living in Boston, in the North End, with my girlfriend and our cat. I'm still working at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard. I got promoted and put in charge of course scheduling, course evaluations, exams, and teaching assistants. Most Westerners would probably think it's funny how much time I spend worrying about school now considering how much I thought about it while I was at Western. I'm still plugging away at a master's at night. Just recently, fellow Westerners **Eric Fox, Eric Weaver, and Leah Farzin** were nice enough to meet up for my birthday. Sorry, no pics (might be for the better)." Agreed. Thanks Matt!

Ryan Salcido wins this year's Most Exciting Update Award: "Since we have talked last I have gotten my wings with the Navy, and have moved to Whidbey Island (outside Seattle) to fly in the E/A-18G Growler. I also got married, and my wife and I are expecting our first son shortly. I have used Facebook to connect with some Miami alumni and found that **Brad Martin** lives down in Seattle, so I'm looking forward to connecting with him. I encourage any other alumni of Miami or Western who live in the Puget Sound area to e-mail me at salcidojones@gmail.com." Congratulations Ryan!

Lastly (but not least, it's just the alphabet) **Randy Wilson** writes: "I continue to swing between unemployment and over-employment (working 80-100 hrs/wk). Earlier this year I worked on a national campaign to unionize Wal-Mart workers to gain better wages and benefits, which obviously didn't succeed. After that I lucked into an Americorps service term with the Montana Conservation Corps and led groups of teenagers into the National Forests for a month of dirt-eating, treehugging Western-style community-building, environmental education and trail construction. It was only a matter of time until I was living in a tent, but it wasn't quite the situation I had expected; I now have a greater appreciation for mountains, bears, indoor plumbing and teenagers. I'm back in Ohio looking for a job, applying to grad schools, and searching for new ridiculous situations to get into." Thanks Randy!

From Boston, **Beth Price** contributed a recent update for the WCAA website (www.wcaa.org).



Introducing Mr. and Mrs. Ryan Salcido! Congrats!

muohio.edu/wcaa), calling herself a "jack of all trades." She teaches (composition and research writing at Boston Architectural College; graphic novels as literature at Emerson College) and writes, guides historical tours, and – oh, yes – paints (commissions for individuals and churches in Ohio, Massachusetts and Texas)! Creative works in progress include a series of paintings portraying super-heroines, two illustrated young adult novels and a graphic novel.

As for myself, things have been nice and steady; in this terrible economy it's nice to have some stability. I'm still working at Emerson College as an assistant to Kevin Bright, and last summer I was rehired as an associate producer for the children's show *Fetch! with Ruff Ruffman*. I did a fair amount of traveling this past year. My family went to Pasadena to watch Ohio State win the Rose Bowl, and for *Fetch!*, I went to the



Eric, showing his Miami spirit in Grand Teton National Park, WY

Yellowstone-Grand Teton area for a week, producing segments about the beautiful environment and ecosystem there. I also traveled to Las Vegas with the show, producing a segment with special guests Penn & Teller.

As you read above, I still occasionally hang out with fellow Boston Westerners. I saw **Matt** at his birthday party, went ice-skating in Fenway Park with **Leah**, and see my brother **Jason '07** a lot since he moved to Somerville. It's nice to be so close to family.

Although our *Bulletin* update only comes out once a year, many, many, MANY of our classmates are on Facebook, so connect up and keep in touch year-round. Of course, nothing compares to a face-to-face meet up, so I hope to see you at the next reunion. Until then, all the best to our Westerners all around the globe!

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Alex Dodwell is living in his condo in downtown Austin, TX, enjoying spending days out on the lake in his kayak, and working at a nonprofit, the Texas Public Employees Association. He recently designed and edited his first magazine publication.

Brenton Calaway works at a coffee shop in Columbus, OH.

Elizabeth Nellums is working as a Land Protection Specialist at a land trust in Michigan, Chikaming Open Lands.

Graham Filler is searching for legal field related jobs in DC and Chi ... and he is a law school graduate, '09.

Jesse Murphy and **Jenny Gallow** are living in Loveland, OH. In 2009 they added to their family, adopting Domino, an American bulldog mix puppy. When not spending time with their dogs they enjoy working on their home. Jesse continues to expand the services his web design company offers (www.creekjumpercreations.com), moving into e-newsletters. Jenny works for SHP Leading Design and spent the year studying for the NCIDQ Exam (National Council for Interior Design Qualifications). This December she learned she passed the exam.

Kyle Gibson is still living and working in LA.

Robyn MacConnell is living in Oakland, CA, and is going to UC Berkeley to get a master of social work.

Shaina Horner is living in Cincinnati and working as Hispanic ministries coordinator at the Healing Center (healingcentercincinnati.com).

She is loving her job and her husband is loving being a stay-at-home dad. Their son is now 5, and their daughter is 2.

Shannon Wilhelm is now Shanti and has mysteriously vaporized into the universe, currently trekking across rainbows from California to Arizona seeking organic gardening, yoga, energy healing and money-making opportunities. She hopes to be a part of the universal love awakening on the planet by being true to herself and listening deeply to the signs all around and within. Namaste.

Stanton Hugger will remain in Centerville, OH, for part of 2010, finishing his second year at PQ Systems, a productivity and statistical quality improvement company. In later 2010, using the fruits of this labor, he plans on beginning his adventures around the country and the world, seeking inspiration for eventual graduate studies or happening upon some gratifying service-work with the disenfranchised. Lift a rock and you may find him WWOOFing somewhere or talking to himself about resisting hegemony in one form or another. Stanton's optimism pulls him towards the social sciences, but his realism pushes him towards honing his self-sufficiency; every path he sees is filled with continuous opportunities to build solidarity and spread self-determination in the world. He expects that an extended stay in New Zealand at the end of the year will help clear his mind of localized white noise and revitalize the energies he'll need for the next chapter! Stay tuned.

Tya Dawson is currently living in Atlanta, GA. She is in business development.

Mark Chapman lives in Chicago and works in sales for a French-based company called Euler Hermes.

Year of 2010. Year of Tiger. Year of Sexyback. Year of No Mo Bullsh!t. Year of Decisions. Year of Love. Year of Self-Empowerment. Year of Free-ness. Year of Lyrics. Year of Poems. Year of Blogs. Year of Lakers. Year of Kamikaze. Year of ME. Year of Control. Year of Flight. Year of Life ...

Robyn MacConnell '06
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Oddly enough, getting responses this year was a lot easier than last time, with a handful of people sending me updates within a day of my mass e-mail to the class. I was

well and truly shocked. After that, there was a steady flow of responses coming in, with of course the standard few last minute updates that came in after some nagging. It's always great to learn what my classmates are doing, and how each and every one of us is growing in our own ways and carving our own niches.

I finally got an update from **Matthew Anderson** after two years and several e-mails later. He is living in San Francisco (which he loves, he says), and working as a graphic designer. "I'm working with some great environmental groups like 350.org and Rainforest Action Network, and generally serving the nonprofit world. For fun, I'm riding bikes to the beach and playing soccer, and overall things are great! I love the West Coast!" Matt's shameless plug: <http://matthewanderson.cc>.



*Matt Anderson,
all smiles*

Emily Garritson is in the second semester of her second year of medical school at Indiana University School of Medicine. "It has been another year full of studying and class work, but we are finally starting to spend some time with patients in the hospital. I also got more hands-on experience over the summer where I participated in an eight-week hospital specialty program. In addition, I spent a week at the Betty Ford Center in Palm Springs, CA, participating in a summer program for medical students interested in addiction medicine." She adds that she has one more semester of "book intensive" classroom work before starting clinical practice in Indianapolis. I'm expecting lots of dramatic stories from her in the following years, like those in the medical dramas on television. We all know those are exactly what doctors' lives are like, don't we?

Hailee Gibbons is "currently serving her second year as an AmeriCorps*VISTA, working as a service-learning coordinator in the Office of Community Engagement



*Hailee and Eva D'Intino '09,
dressed as mice for Eva's first-
grade class Halloween party*

and Service at Miami University. When she isn't saving the world, one service-learning class at a time, Hailee spends a majority of her time viewing Lady Gaga videos, g-chatting with her friends who actually left Oxford, and watching past seasons of *House* over and over again. In an interesting turn of events, Hailee found out her best friend **Eva D'Intino '09** is pregnant and as a result developed a sympathy pregnancy. Now, she cries more than Eva about the child and learned to crochet just so she could make the baby a rainbow blanket. Next year, Hailee is doing Teach for America in Chicago, teaching K-8. She and Eva plan to live together and raise the baby in a beautiful feminist household." All Hailee's words. No paraphrasing necessary.

Jocelyn Haugen is currently working as a Media Intern for DGWB Advertising & Communications in Santa Ana, CA. "I got



Jocelyn, with boyfriend Mike

my foot in the door and am now working hard to make a name for myself in the industry I am so passionate about." Jocelyn is also starting an online integrated marketing communications master's with West Virginia University in January and is "eager to continue the Western streak of doing academic things differently than 'Main Campus' by not pursuing an M.B.A.!" She still lives in the O.C. and is proud to have mastered "the art of floating – referring to it as surfing is just an overstatement I'm not comfortable making!" In other news, Jocelyn has moved in with her boyfriend, Mike, and both of them are happily raising a beta fish named Captain Planet, after unsuccessful parenting of two other betas. She explains: "Apparently I can kill the fish that is never supposed to die, since CP is my third beta. I wish him a long and healthy life! By the way, it is not my fault fish don't like Cheerios."

Since his last update, **Matthew Huelsenbeck** left Ithaca "on the most epic road trip to leave Ithaca since *Road Trip* the movie. I drove towards the setting sun and ended up in San Diego, CA. Here I am a master's student in marine biodiversity and conservation at Scripps Institution of Oceanography, UCSD. The program I am in loves the word 'interdisciplinary,' almost as much as Bill Newell does. For

my capstone, I am researching the effects of ocean acidification (the lowering of the ocean's pH due to anthropogenic carbon dioxide emissions) on the behavior of fish larvae, as well as communication strategies for explaining ocean acidification. The school is right on the beach, so when I'm not in class or the lab I like to surf or use vernacular such as 'bra' and 'dude' ad nauseam. If all goes well, I will be graduating in June 2010 and hopefully sticking around to enjoy the sunshine a bit longer. I like housing visitors, so drop me a line."

Denise Kwan is still living in Cleveland and working as a manager at Macy's. She now has two puppies called Mr. Snickers and Pepe. Denise says her life thus far after graduation is still the same, but I think she forgot to mention her goal of one day taking over Macy's and having a Denise-shaped balloon float in the Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York.

Stephanie Lee is currently in her second year of teaching math and science special education in South Central Los Angeles. "I'm really taking to teaching, but due to budget cuts and layoffs, will be leaving my school district (and LA) next year and moving back east. My partner and I are in the midst of applying to Ph.D. programs and trying to plan our move, which is stressful but also sort of exciting." Summing up the past year, Stephanie proudly lists that she has "learned how to be a long-distance cyclist, an improvisational cook, a successful teacher, and a yogi. I also recently saw James Cameron's *Avatar*, but wasn't so impressed."

Michael Litchfield is going strong photographing weddings in Chicago. He shot "something like 38 weddings in 2009, assisted on some fun shoots with major photographers in the Chicagoland area, been playing my hand at the portrait game and I also finished up the new version of www.mrlitchfield.com." Next, he hopes to get into making videos as well. "Other than work, I have been trying to travel as much as I can, catch up on some reading and work on my cooking skills. 2009 was a great year and I am looking forward to an even better 2010!"



"Hope," by Michael Litchfield, 2008

Sudie Niesen returned from her year in India as a Young Adult Volunteer (with the Presbyterian Church U.S.A) and moved to Texas, the one state she vowed never to live in. She is currently enrolled in a master of divinity and master of science in social work dual degree program at Austin

Presbyterian Theological Seminary and the University of Texas in Austin. So since she is in the city that is the one saving grace of Texas, we'll forgive her. When I asked her for one sentence summing up her seminary experience thus far, her reply was: "umm ... everything they've taught you in church is a lie!" She then gets serious: "I am very happy here at APTS, feel like I made the right decision, and am excited to explore my vocation further." Parting note, "Thank you, Western for teaching me how to write papers." Also, you may all now call her a Texan.

John Obrycki is "pursuing a Ph.D. in American history from Brandeis University in Waltham, MA. He still continues to have lots of books checked out from the library. While still researching farmers in Ohio, John is currently studying farmers in and around Boston during the late 1800s and early 1900s. Though Massachusetts has lots of amazing woods and trails to run around in, John still likes the trails behind Peabody the best. There is a lot of neat history to connect with around Brandeis," John writes. "For example, he can take a train out to Concord, MA, to conduct some archival research, and is taking the same route some of these Concord farmers took decades ago to get their produce to market." As obvious from his update, John likes to talk about research, and probably doesn't do much else. John also likes to talk about himself in the third person.

Emilie Orians is still in Cincinnati – "Oakley, to be exact" – and working in market research. "Now that I've been here for a while I'm finding different ways to get involved and volunteer – particularly with youth mentoring programs."

You will find **Tom Schleiter** in a recording studio somewhere in Chicago. Tom is working as an independent record producer, and is in the process of mixing his band's second record. He realized his update is pretty much the same as last year's, and then explains, "This album's taking a while."

Reporting from Niger on her Peace Corps site, **Jessica Slack** has a lot to update us on. "There's been a lot of terrorist activity on the Mali border and for a while I thought I would be sent home. But since Thanksgiving I've been back in my village helping run local student government elections. I also got a large donation of books and am going to do a book-mobile." In more personal news, Jessica adds, "I am officially engaged to Moctar Yagi, an engineering student in my village. We are planning to have a traditional Muslim ceremony when my service is over in August. We are also in the process of getting him a fiancé visa to have our legal wedding in the U.S. upon return." Thinking ahead, Jessica is "dreading going back to school" but feels it may be inevitable.

Louisa Versaw is living in New York City, working as a program assistant in the Sexual Violence Prevention and Response Program at Columbia University. "Sexual assault prevention work is a nice change from direct intervention with survivors," she says. Louisa is also going on lots of hilariously bad blind dates, which I guess is one way of interpreting "interdisciplinary." The Western people Louisa sees often are **Sydney Willcox**, **Pukit Datta**, and **Amy Pomante '07**.

Sydney Willcox wins the prize for being the very first person to send me her update. She very excitedly announces: "I've settled into my dream job of being a CHEESE monger!!! Basically my job is to study and know all about cheese – the creation process, the molds, the aging, the flavor developments, fat contents, milk types, etc." Sydney works at Murray's Cheese, the oldest and largest cheese shop in New York. She works with "the coolest people" and loves her job, her responsibilities, "the education I'm getting, all the crazy New Yorkers I meet, the tourists, etc. I've even waited on Wallace Shawn, Phillip Seymour Hoffman, and Ronald Pearlman." I really never thought the world of cheese could be this exciting and I'm sure all of you must be craving some cheese as you read this.

Nurit Yastrow is living in Cleveland and working on her master's in social administration at Case Western Reserve University.

"My internship this year is at the Cleveland Rape Crisis Center, and it has really sparked my interest in working with survivors of trauma. I will graduate in May, so I'm spending a lot of time getting ready to take the social work license exam and search for jobs." And the big news: "I've also recently become engaged to Aaron Friedberg, who is also a Miami grad, and we are planning a wedding for sometime in 2011."

Martin Yip is finishing his master's in economics at Miami. Always looking at the positive side, he says still living in Oxford is "great because I get to visit the amazing folks in Peabody and hike in the Western Woods." Martin has also started a global job search in a finance-related field, and is determined to land a job quickly. As a parting note, he adds, "I am doing very well with Faye, my fiancée. Keep in touch!"

I am writing this from New York City, where I am currently pursuing my master's in cinema studies at Tisch School of the Arts, NYU. I have also been interning with director Mira Nair since September 2009, which at times makes life here seem very amazingly surreal. I am in love with New York's infectious energy, endless possibilities and unpredictability. I have learned to say cawfee," to always walk as if I'm in a hurry, wear predominantly black clothes, and grunt at tourists that block the sidewalks staring confusedly at maps and guidebooks. I am



Pulkit and Sudie, staying upbeat on a frigid night in Times Square, NYC

also keeping the WCP connections very much alive here; I live with **Cameron Berner '09**, and have been very fortunate to see so many Western friends since moving here last fall: **Nicole Brasseur '08**, **Tya Dawson '06**, **Gayatri Guhanarayan '07**, **Kara Love '07**, **Mike Litchfield**, **Robyn MacConnell '06**, **Sudie Niesen**, **Amy Pomante '07**, **Marisa Rendina '09**, **Elliott Rossbach**, **Louisa Versaw**, **Sydney Willcox**, and **Martin Yip**. I hope everyone has a fantastic 2010! Until next year!

Pulkit Datta '08
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Tea Party . . . Western Style

The Western Program's monthly teas have moved from Thursdays to Tuesdays this semester. On March 23rd, students and faculty gathered in Peabody's front parlor for tea, cookies, a brief presentation and lots of lively conversation.



Sophomore Kunduz Kyzy shares her take on health care reform with WP professor Kevin Armitage. From Kyrgyzstan, Kunduz is the recipient of a WCAA International Scholarship.



Project Dragonfly program associate Debbie Shelley (above) describes Wild Research, just the latest of Dragonfly's many and varied science programs built on "real kids doing real science." In partnership with zoos and aquariums nationwide, Wild Research involves families in science investigation and conservation. Still headquartered in lower Peabody, Project Dragonfly began in 1994 with Dragonfly magazine, the first national magazine to feature children's investigations – the concept of WCP professor Chris Myers (Project Dragonfly's director) and his wife, Lynne Born Myers, both WCP class of '83.



Western College Women Share Secrets of Success



Nik Money, Western Program director-to-be, had questions for panelists (from left) Robin Bartlett, Lolly McDavid and Hayat Imam about how to preserve the special aspects of women's education in the co-educational environment of the WP.

On March 30, Peabody Hall Gallery was once again the scene of a lively exchange of ideas. A panel of distinguished Western College for Women graduates presented their views on how the women's college experience has impacted their professional lives to an engaged audience of students, faculty and friends.

From the Archives

WCMA archivist **Jacky Johnson** is pleased to announce that it is finally possible to find Western on the National Register of Historic Places through the website of the Ohio Historical Society (www.ohiohistory.org). Look for "Western Female Seminary." She has been pushing for the listing since 2008.

We asked Jacky for some stats and FAQs:
Reference questions answered in 2009: 1,104.
Collections processed: 12, including ca. 2,000 documents.

Most frequent inquiries: When was Kumler Chapel constructed? How many stained glass windows are there? When the bridges were constructed? How many are there on the Western campus? How many times has Peabody Hall been renovated? Have you any information on the ghost of Helen Peabody? Have you ever seen her?

An article published March 24 in the "Reminisce" section of the *Lima News*, profiling Olivia Meily Brice and her husband, Sen. Calvin Brice, required research from both the Miami Art Museum and Western Archives. Color photographs featured both the Tillinghast stained-glass window in Kumler Chapel and the Carolus Doran portrait of Olivia and her daughters, hanging in the Patterson Place parlor.

The featured speakers were **Robin L. Bartlett '69**, professor of economics at Denison University, Granville, Ohio; **Hayat Imam '68**, consultant, Grassroots International: Funding Global Movements for Social Change, Boston; and **Lolita McDavid '69**, pediatrician and director of advocacy, Rainbow Children's Hospital, Cleveland, Ohio.

From very different backgrounds – Robin was the first in her family to go to college; Lolly was the third generation of college-educated women; Hayat was surprised that she, rather than her brothers, was being sent abroad to be educated in the U.S – they emphasized common themes in their Western experience: bonding with other students and faculty alike, the importance of collaborative learning in classes that were more like seminars, and gaining intellectual confidence. All three said they came into their own at Western and left, believing "I can do, or be, anything I want to be."

Indy, Dayton Clubs Gather for Holidays



December 5, Luncheon at The Forum at the Crossing, Indianapolis



December 16, Luncheon at the Dayton Country Club

*Scheduled spring meetings: **Columbus, OH, noon, Saturday, April 10, Columbus Country Club; North-eastern Ohio, 2 p.m., Saturday, April 24, Bainbridge Library Community Room (Chagrin Falls); Indianapolis, 11:30, Saturday, May 1, Binkley's Kitchen & Bar, Indianapolis.***

Send your news for the Fall '10 Bulletin NOW!

E-mail, or clip and mail the form below to your Class Rep. Deadline: September 6.

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Dear Class Rep: _____

Your full name and class year: _____

Address: _____

Phone number and e-mail address: _____



WESTERN COLLEGE PROFESSORSHIP

In tribute to the faculty of Western College, alumnae and friends are joining together to create a Professorship in the name of Western College. The professorship will be awarded to outstanding faculty working in the areas of women's history and/or public history and/or the history of social justice. Annual earnings from the endowment principal will supplement the professor's income, as well as provide support needed to pursue research, work with students outside the classroom, present at national conferences, and more.

This important campaign for Western's legacy has three goals:

- To achieve the total required to endow a professorship: \$400,000
- To welcome MANY first-time donors as partners
- To keep the name and spirit of Western College alive in perpetuity

Support for the Western College Professorship can be done in several ways:

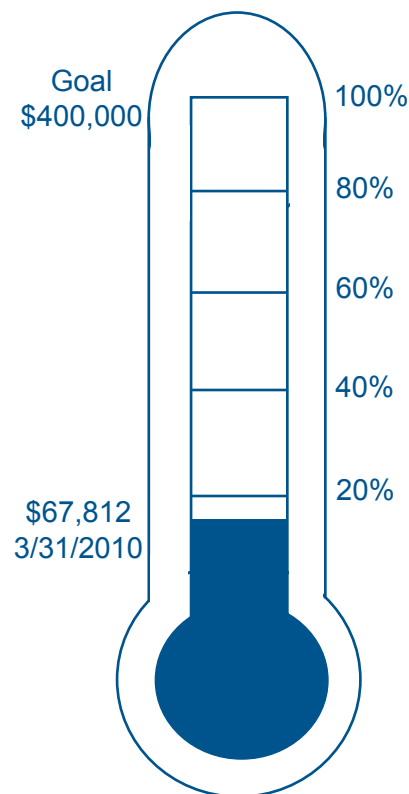
- Give to the Reunion Fund each year
- Make a five-year commitment to the Professorship Fund
- Transfer appreciated securities to the Professorship Fund



We are pleased to report that our national campaign to create the Western College Professorship is off to a good start! To date, 184 of our 2,404 constituents have responded. This Professorship is a very important part of our legacy plan to keep the spirit of Western College alive and active IN PERPETUITY, so I urge you to respond affirmatively and generously when asked. If you

are ready to make a commitment and have not yet been approached personally, please contact me!

*Doris Ning Wong '62
425-512-9755; dnwong@comcast.net*



Western Reunion 2010: June 18-20

Rally ALL Westerners ...
welcoming Classes 1930-2010!

Cheer Our Cheerleaders ...
honoring Bulletin Class Reps!

Touch Down at Finale ...
closing year-long 35th anniversary!



The Beat Goes On – 35 Years, 36 ... and Counting

WESTERN COLLEGE ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION, INC.

FINANCIAL REPORT 2009

Honor Roll

A list of donors to any (or all) of our three funds:

Annual (*), for ongoing expenses such as mailing the *Bulletin*, supporting reunions, giving annual scholarships

Reunion/Class (^), for a special project that can be created only by combining gifts from all classes, different every year

Endowment (+), for major projects/programs to keep the spirit of Western alive such as named scholarships, professorships, lecture series

During the year January 1, 2009-December 31, 2009

Percentage of donors appears with each class.

Club Designations

Peabody Society	\$1,000 and up
McKee Circle	\$500-\$999
Clawson Club	\$250-\$499
Century Club	\$100-\$249

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From Emily Phillips-Roth, MU '11, recipient of Rowena Snyder Study Abroad Scholarship:

I am a junior at Miami, studying in Nice, France, this semester, and was very thankful to receive your generous scholarship. Nice is a very beautiful place, but it is quite different from Oxford! This past weekend, I was able to travel to the village of Eze, which is a 20-minute bus ride from Nice up into the mountains. Eze is a really neat place to visit because it still has a totally preserved walled city – it is just like being in the Middle Ages! At the very top of the village is an exotic botanical garden that has fantastic views of the mountains and the coastline. On the clearest days, you can even see all the way to Corsica! It is also home to a Fragonard Parfumerie factory, which I got to tour. Thank you for helping to make this trip possible for me!



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From Dana Berendt, MU '11, recipient of General International Exchange/Study Abroad Scholarship:

My experience in Edinburgh, Scotland, has been amazing. I'd been planning on going since I was 10; and now that I'm here I can honestly say it's even better than I imagined. One of the highlights of my experience so far was learning that I'm a 10-minute walk from the Edinburgh Castle and when I walk home at night I can see the castle above my flat. Another highlight would have to be my trip to Aberdeen. It's up north and the third largest city in Scotland. I took a train up there to see Dunnottar Castle. It was one of the best sights I've ever seen in my life. After walking around all day, I finally caught my train at 9 p.m. after a few wrong bus rides; only to have another train break down in front of us and have to return to Aberdeen. We sat on the train for hours and, while it was frustrating because I was exhausted, I got to talk to many amazing Scottish people with interesting stories to tell. After we were let off the train, we got a bus to Dundee and a taxi to Edinburgh. I arrived back at my flat around 4 a.m. It was a tiring journey but I'd do it again in a minute.



From Allison Chasko, MU '11, recipient of General International Exchange/Study Abroad Scholarship:

I am studying abroad in Valparaíso, Chile, this spring semester. Because the southern hemisphere is on a different academic calendar, I arrived in Chile March 6. Thankfully, the area where I am living and studying was unaffected by the massive earthquake in Concepción in the south of Chile. However, I am quickly discovering that the earthquake, while centered in the south, is affecting the entire country. For example, my host father works for an engineering company that ships materials by train throughout the country, which is very hard to do because the earthquake has caused destruction to a lot of the tracks. Thus, he is experiencing extreme difficulty at his job, working around the clock to get the materials where they need to be by other routes and means of transportation. Another effect of the earthquake we are feeling directly is that the city of Viña del Mar has cut off water in the city for three days in order to help areas in the south that have been without water since the earthquake. Therefore, we are functioning as best we can with a reserve of water. I have managed to see a lot of the area already, traveling around Viña del Mar, Reñaca, and also to Valparaíso, where my university, Pontificia, is located. I would like to thank the Western Alumnae Association for providing awards to students studying abroad. The education and experiences we are gaining while abroad are absolutely priceless. It is the opportunity of a lifetime and every bit of financial assistance makes it that much easier to be able to focus on the adventure and get the most out of our time abroad.



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continued on next page

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Louise Wilson Braley '52

Barbara and Maury Swanson

Mary Gene Flowers Maher '54

Joan Grabill Hayes '54

Barbara Frazey Kenney '57

Donna and William Matson

Edward Kenney

Dixie Harris Trainer '58

William Trainer

Catherine Alexis Anfreyev '68

Ellen Myette '68

Mary Etta Knapp FF

Cathie Koutsogiane Cipolla '64

Gift in Honor

Shanta Anand Singh '56

Ravijit Arora

Reunion/Class Gifts

Anniversary year classes contributed **\$14,537.**

Non-anniversary year classes contributed **\$15,282.**

WCP non-anniversary classes contributed **\$758.**

TOTAL REUNION/CLASS GIFTS \$30,577

Designated for Other Programs (\$275)

Total for Western College Professorship \$30,302

Gifts for Reunion 2009 supported the Western College Professorship.

Club Gifts

Columbus Area

Dayton/Miami Valley Area

Western College Professorship

Western College Professorship

TOTAL CLUB GIFTS \$255

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

WESTERN COLLEGE ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION, INC.

STATEMENTS OF ASSETS, LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE MODIFIED CASH BASIS

December 31, 2009 and 2008

ASSETS	2009	2008
Cash	\$51,130 (b)	\$42,699 (b)
Investments (Market Value)	\$194,306 (c)	\$174,254 (c)
Other Assets		
Antiques and Art	\$39,875	\$39,875
Gift Shop Inventory	\$15,638	\$13,825
Total Other Assets	<u>\$55,513</u>	<u>\$53,700</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$300,949</u>	<u>\$270,653</u>
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE		
Sales Tax Payable	\$31	\$110
Fund Balance	\$300,918	\$270,543
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE	<u>\$300,949</u>	<u>\$270,653</u>

STATEMENTS OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND FUND BALANCE

MODIFIED CASH BASIS

Years Ended December 31, 2009 and 2008

REVENUES	2009	2008
Alumnae Giving:		
Annual Fund Gifts	\$68,858	\$72,828
Reunion Gifts	\$30,207	\$15,960
Endowment Gifts	\$443,218 (c)	\$226,331 (c)
Total Giving	<u>\$542,283</u>	<u>\$315,119</u>
Other Revenues and Additions:		
Reunion Weekend Revenue	\$18,452	\$17,058
Gift Shop, Patterson Place, Misc. Revenue	\$3,915	\$2,640
Interest and Dividend Income	\$1,776	\$2,334
Gains (Losses) on Investment	\$28,319	(\$62,859)
Total Other Revenues and Additions	<u>\$52,462</u>	<u>\$40,827</u>
TOTAL REVENUES AND ADDITIONS	<u>\$594,745</u>	<u>\$274,292</u>

STATEMENTS OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND FUND BALANCE MODIFIED CASH BASIS, continued

EXPENSES	2009	2008
Alumnae Relations (including <i>The Bulletin</i> , Clubs, and Annual Reunion)	<u>\$44,063</u>	<u>\$43,996</u>
Fund Raising and Stewardship Operations	<u>\$4,211</u>	<u>\$2,837</u>
Patterson Place Expenses	<u>\$11,361</u>	<u>\$10,873 (e)</u>
Patterson Place Renovations	<u>\$1,341 (f)</u>	<u>\$1,289 (e,f)</u>
	<u>\$0 (f)</u>	<u>\$8,004 (f)</u>
Education: (d)		
Archives	\$1,308	\$410
International Exchange Program	\$0	\$2,040
International Scholarships	\$1,500	\$2,160
Luxembourg Program	\$0	\$2,650
Peabody Scholarships	\$6,670	\$2,450
Western College Program	\$0	\$1,200
Special Educational Programs	\$1,566	\$2,200
Total Education	<u>\$11,044 (d)</u>	<u>\$13,110 (d)</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>\$72,020</u>	<u>\$80,109</u>
TRANSFERS		
Annual/Reunion Gifts to MU Foundation	\$49,132	\$44,616
Endowment Gifts to MU Foundation	\$443,218 (c)	\$226,331 (c)
TOTAL TRANSFERS	<u>\$492,350</u>	<u>\$270,947</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES/TRANSFERS	<u>\$564,370</u>	<u>\$351,056</u>
Increase (Decrease) in Fund Balance	<u>\$30,375</u>	<u>(\$76,764)</u>
Fund Balance Beginning of the Year	<u>\$270,543</u>	<u>\$347,307</u>
FUND BALANCE AT END OF YEAR	<u>\$300,918</u>	<u>\$270,543</u>

(a) The above Statements of Assets, Liabilities and Fund Balance - Modified Cash Basis and Statements of Revenues, Expenses and Fund Balance - Modified Cash Basis were prepared using the modified cash basis of accounting. Assets and liabilities are recorded and revenues and expenses are recognized on the cash basis, modified for sales tax payable and unrealized gains and losses from investments.

(b) Cash of \$50,980 is held by Miami University for the benefit of the WCAA.

(c) WCAA Investments and WCAA Endowment Accounts are held by the Miami University Foundation for the benefit of the WCAA.

(d) Education expenses listed are from Annual Fund gifts only. They are supplemented by distributions from WCAA Endowment Funds as available.

(e) The 2008 figures have been restated to separate Patterson Place Expenses from General Operations Expenses.

(f) Funded by revenues from the use of Patterson Place.

In addition to the above figures, for fiscal year 2008-2009, Miami University provided allotments of \$194,622 for salaries, benefits, publications, student wages and other operational expenses. Miami University also maintains the interior and exterior of Patterson Place and grounds.



Alumnae Scholarships

Susan Elizabeth Durr
Jensen Kober Henry
Ryan Kincaid
Richard Yeager

Donor-Designed Awards/Scholarships

Catharine A. Gerber Technology Award
Michelle Kirby
Hieronymus Family Scholarship
Danielle Gladeau
Harriet Gebhart Hieronymus Scholarship
Matthew Gaffney
Justin Andrew Griffin

International Exchange/

Study Abroad Scholarships

Florence Prendergast Cockerell Scholarship
No award
Koons Family Scholarship
Samuel Jacobsen
Luxembourg Scholarship
No award

Susan Ray Woodworth Luxembourg Scholarship
No award

Lois Wiggins Newman Scholarship
No award

Grace Osgood Scholarship
No award

Joseph Thoms & Sarah Darnall Resor Schp.
No award

Rowena Snyder Scholarship
Evelyn Duskey
Emily Phillips-Roth

Edith H. von Tacky Scholarship
No award

Lydia Zimmerman Scholarship
No award

General International Exchange/
Study Abroad Scholarships

Melanie Brenner (Czech Republic)
Tanisha Charles (Czech Republic)
Matthew Cheung (China)
Lindsey Daniel (Czech Republic)
Dana Berendt
Allison Chasko
Evelyn Duskey

Memorial Scholarships

Laura Flamm

Multicultural Scholarships: International

Grace Chu Scholarship
Ana Machado Lima (Brazil)
Mboya Family Scholarship
Sheryl Kavetza (Kenya)
General Multicultural Scholarship: Intl.
Emiddio V. Hadjilira (Cyprus)
Kunduz Kyzzy (Kyrgyzstan)
Manuela J. Valencia (Colombia)

Multicultural Scholarships: U.S. Resident

R/L/V Scholarship
Meredith Cole
Sean Connor
Jonathon R. Dreeze
Jenny Lily Hua
Nyssa Luise Kim

2009-2010 Scholarship Recipients

Michelle Sloneker
Brian Stincer
General Multicultural Scholarship: U.S.
Resident

Jacqueline Ysolde Grody
Daniela Santisteban
Nicole Sharp
Leah Toledo
Jessica Vasquez
Trevor Yamada

Peabody Scholarships

Fritzi Mueller Beckett Scholarship
Kenji Conley
Lora Graham

Marian F. Hawk Scholarship
Trisha Cook

Malcolm D. Hill Scholarship
Maggie Simpson

Phyllis Hoyt Scholarship
Anna Borchers

Dawn Smith

Barbara Frazey Kenney Scholarship
Kelly Spurlock

Mary West Liggett Scholarship
Anna Borchers

Leigh Brock
Chrystal Butler

Bryan Cavanaugh
Christopher Huelisman

Richard Mathes
Stephanie Nixon

Jennifer Skirvin

E. Ramona Newton Manners Scholarship
Shannon Rutz
Kelly Spurlock

Helen Kaslo Osgood Scholarship
No award

Rowena Snyder Scholarship
Julie Harmeyer

General Peabody Scholarship
Melissa Barahona-Cliche

Kenji Conley
Angela French

Julie Harmeyer
JenChieh Hsueh

James Huelseman
Rebecca Jenkins

Peggy McCracken
Autumn Meade

Patricia Miles
Bernadete Miller

Jacob Mink
Georgina Ntow

Christel Zajbel
Jodi Zimmerman

Trustee Scholarship

Abigail Hils

To learn more about creating a named scholarship, please call WCAA Director Judy Waldron at 513-529-4400.

Alumnae Scholarships Awarded to an outstanding incoming student enrolled in the Liberal Arts or Fine Arts. Full scholarship, based on merit, then financial need, renewable for four years.

Donor-designated Awards/Scholarships Criteria vary, established by creator of the scholarship/award in conjunction with the university.

International Exchange Scholarships Awarded to undergraduate students in international exchange/study programs. One-time partial scholarships, based on merit and financial need.

Memorial Scholarships Awarded to upper-class Western Program students with need. (Funds made available through annual gifts to the WCAA in memory of classmates.)

Multicultural Scholarships: International Awarded to incoming undergraduate international students. Full and partial scholarships based on merit, then financial need, renewable up to three years.

Multicultural Scholarships: U.S. Resident Awarded to incoming undergraduate African-, Asian-, Hispanic- or Native-American U.S. residents. Partial scholarships based on merit and financial need, renewable up to three years.

Peabody Scholarships Awarded to non-traditional undergraduate students (over 25) who have had their college education interrupted. One-time partial scholarships, based on merit and financial need.

Trustee Scholarships Awarded to upper-class Western Program students who exhibit exemplary leadership. One-time partial scholarships.

Sixty-seven scholarships and awards totaling \$164,732 were given out in 2009-10, thanks to YOUR support!

THE NARKA NELSON CIRCLE

WESTERN'S PLANNED GIVING SOCIETY

Narka Nelson – earnest student in the Class of 1920, passionate classics professor until retirement in 1965, official college historian – made a very generous gift to Western College before the college was closed. However, since her inheritance first provided for members of her immediate family, it was many years before the gift came to Western.

Unable to thank Narka for her gift, the WCAA Board of Trustees decided to establish a special “society” to thank in advance those individuals who have made a gift that continues “the spirit of Western” on campus through a deferred giving instrument such as a charitable gift annuity, pooled income fund, charitable trust, IRA, or bequest.

The individuals listed below have done just that. We are grateful to them for their foresightedness and generosity. They invite you to join them.



Ruth Repass Wheeler '35
Jeanne Ott Saunders '40
Ruth Bertsch Stilwell '40
Ruth Harry Hathaway '41
Beth Shirk Bevan '45
Nancy Ann Myers '46
Martha Hall Wedeman '46
Jane Alexander Durrell '47
Emily W. Greenland '47
Mary-Garnett Tillinghast '47
Dorothy Mershon Armistead '48
Julia Ashcraft Armstrong '48
Margaret McKee Seder '48
Ann Niehaus Tobias '50
Marjorie Grahm Winter '50
Grete Stern Wrede '51
Jo Ann Fley '52
Elizabeth Sipe Gerber '52
Catherine Ross Loveland '52
Sue Off Schroepe '52
Gloria Wilson Sylvester '52
Betty Jean Wright '52
Mary Culver Daniels '53
Sandra Franz Barnes '54
Miriam Chesslin '54
Lucy Liggett '54
Maria Van Waveren Smit '54
Sandra Grimes Abouzeid-Surico '57

Lois Rehm Koch '57
Mary Ann Fichtner Mountain '57
Rosa Ewing Goldman '58
Caroline Kawallek Manildi '58
Ann Ferguson Zeigler '59
Mary DeJong Obuchowski '61
Anne Adkins Weissenborn '61
Susan Berryhill Hill '63
Joan Kowalski Jordan '63
Lynne Drucker Albukerk '64
Faith A. Evans '64
Yvette Small Hohler '64
Patricia Spokes Snowden '64
Faith W. Barrington '65
Ann E. Walton '66
Patricia A. Jayson '68
Barbara Williamson Wentz '68
Mary Kelly Felice '70
Ann M. Powell '73
Christine Moranda '74
Elizabeth Salt '74
Lorna Jordan '81
Ann Rosenfield '83
Phyllis Hoyt FF
Curtis W. Ellison HA
Burton and Diane Kaufman FF, HA
David A. Rook and Svetlana Beros Rook FR
Judy Kalbfus Waldron FR

If you have included the WCAA in your deferred giving plans and your name is not listed or if you wish to learn more about becoming a member of the Narka Nelson Circle to help continue the legacy of Western College, please contact Judy Waldron, WCAA Director. (513) 529-4400, e-mail: waldrojk@muohio.edu

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