

*Western College Alma Mater
Grace and beauty dwell with Thee
Hear the praise of every daughter
echoing from sea to sea
Flashing redbud, sweeping beeches,
peonies that bloom and blow
Bridges where the crocus reaches up to
spring mid winter snow...*

From the WCAA Director

Dearest Westerners,

Audrey Hepburn once said “To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow.” I can remember being a young girl and planting seeds with my grandmother in her garden. It seemed like forever before we reaped the benefit. How much work it was to till and then water and care for the garden! But oh was it worth the wait to savor those ripened tomatoes and watermelon! This year, this quote really has me thinking about Western and all of the planting that has taken place over so many years. Seeds planted by all of you that have resulted in remarkable crops of acceptance, empowerment, innovation, forward-thinking and progression. While these seeds may have been planted long ago, the garden of the Western legacy is flourishing. It is exhilarating and exciting to watch!



Mackenzie

Some seeds are still being planted, many by the WCAA Board of Trustees. They remain ever so firmly fixated on the garden of perpetuity. The Board met in Oxford on April 8-10. It was an incredibly productive meeting. Rest assured that this Board works so hard on your behalf.

One highlight of the meeting was the opportunity to celebrate our very own WCAA staff member Debbie Baker. As some of you already know, Debbie graduated in December of 2018 with her bachelor's degree from Miami, majoring in Integrative Studies with focuses in organizational leadership, family studies, and gerontology. Debbie has been planting the seeds of a degree for 28 years, so we are hard-pressed to think of anyone more deserving! For those of you that know Debbie, you would agree that she truly embodies all of the Western values that we hold dear. The Board, the WCAA staff and Debbie's dear mother had the chance to toast (and maybe a little bit of roast) her over dinner. Stories were told about her true-blue dedication (she has everyone's class year memorized!), her sense of humor (she has been known to get a bad case of the giggles fairly often), and her heroic efforts over the years, including rescuing trustees from a car stranded on a campus bridge (such bridge was not made for cars — so let's not tell Miami that one!). Debbie's garden is now in full blossom, and she would be the first to say that her Western family has encouraged and sustained her along the way. Congratulations, Debbie, Class of 2018!



Debbie responds to toasts and roasts, as her mom looks on.

A second highlight of the meeting was further tilling the ground and planting the seeds for the Western Center for Social Impact and Innovation. Western's spirited legacy combined with its rich vision that empowers students today has provided the groundwork for Miami University to renew its dedication to social progress. The Center was established to serve as the hub of this effort and to strengthen the legacy of Western College. We could not be more excited about what this means —not just for *our* tomorrow, but that of our country and even our world.

From the WCAA Board and staff: It continues to be humbling to work alongside you as we watch the garden of Western legacy flourish, thanks to you all.

In the Spirit of Western,

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

Mackenzie Becker Rice HA
Director, WCAA

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Mission of the Association:

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

On the cover: First verse of the 1961 Western College Alma Mater: words by Narka Nelson, music by Richard Monaco

Photo credit: Front and back cover bridge photos by Debbie Baker HA



BLUE CARDS (see page 31) DUE UPON RECEIPT!

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

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

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Published in the spring and fall and copyrighted 2018 by the Western College Alumnae Association, Inc., 325 S. Patterson Ave., Oxford, OH 45056-2499; telephone: 513-529-4400; fax: 513-529-7400; e-mail: wcaa@miamioh.edu; website: www.miamioh.edu/wcaa; Facebook Group: Western College Alumnae Association

What's on Your Mind

Three-term member and past president of the WCAA Board of Trustees Judith Dudman Henderson '62 regretted being unable to attend the spring 2019 Board meetings, citing a prior commitment. Judy did not offer a doctor's excuse, but we thought she had a pretty interesting one and decided to share it with our Bulletin readers. Read her abbreviated but candid note to fellow trustees in Class Notes, page 13.

To challenge ourselves is an important healthy aspect of getting older. That can look like many things: using your mind by reading a book series and discussing with friends or doing sudoku puzzles, exercising the fingers by knitting, or working hard at authentic rehab to help renew the body after cancer, stroke, hip/knee surgery, or a fall. We know these truths! Hard work. Stay engaged with life. We must applaud ourselves. Each decade I like to challenge myself to do something unusual.

I'd like to share my 70s challenge! Just a year ago my son Wade (age 51) invited me to swim in the National YMCA Master's Swim Meet in Orlando, FL. "Come on, Ma, it'll be fun and you can add points for the Weston/Wilton YMCA Team." I scoffed, yet something in the back of my mind thought it just might be fun. In November he brought it up again — only five months away. Why would I even think about such a thing; after all, I've never swum competitively before. But, I have spent many hours poolside as a swim mom! At Western, I was a synchronized swimmer! In December, I entered a month of physical therapy on my left shoulder — a little tendonitis — I'm getting older you know!

On January 10th, I garnered the courage to go to the local Y and step into the water. Could I even swim to the end of the 25-yard pool and back? Made it — form didn't look too bad — but I had no endurance! Then I noticed in the other pool there was a water aerobics class going on. So I decided that the aerobics might build up my core. So four or five days a week, I arrived at the YMCA at 7:30 a.m. and did two aerobics classes plus one hour of freestyle and breast stroke swimming. But, I had to overcome the biggest obstacle — getting into a bathing suit to swim in front of hundreds of people. Vanity, ugh!

By April, Wade had entered me in this annual national meet, which he with his SMU collegiate team mates swim every year. How great it was to see these now successful men again after 30 years! My friends

found wondrous ways to wish me luck. One of my book clubs said they would pray for calm and courage. But, my 18-year-old grandson, Jack, had more clarity: "No, Nina, you pray for courage." Over the course of the four-day event, I would step up to the side of the pool (are you kidding — get up on those starter blocks — never), plunge into the water, and swim as strong as I was able. I could hear my son's encouraging voice, "Go, Ma — doing great!" I felt so fulfilled doing something I didn't know I was capable of — swimming my first competitive swim meet at 78. The satisfaction was in the joy of the personal challenge. A side benefit was earning 25 points for my Y team and bringing home two gold, a 5th and a 6th place medals.

Yes, we must challenge ourselves because it is an important healthy aspect of getting older. Yes, I am still swimming, but my heart focus is now turning toward financially up-building the Western Center for Social Justice and Innovation. I have recently experienced the power of being a participating team member.

— Judith Dudman Henderson '62

For more about Judy's personal history and accomplishments (already well known to Western alumnae) and lots of fun pictures from the tournament, visit the Y blog page: <http://ymcatulsa.org/blog>



Masters swimmers Judy Henderson and son Wade

From the WCAA Board President

Dear Western Friends,

Our April 2019 WCAA, Inc. Board meeting was full and very productive. In addition to dining with several of our awe-inspiring scholarship recipients — always a highlight of the year for us—we had informative meetings with numerous guests from Miami University:

- We honored Miami's outgoing Executive Vice President and Provost, Professor Phyllis Callahan, who over the years has endorsed and supported many of our legacy initiatives including our Western College Endowed Professorship. On a personal note, one of her daughters is a graduate of the Western Program.
- Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences Chris Makaroff updated us on the progress of planning the new Western Center for Social Impact and Innovation. The first cohort of undergraduate Social Impact Scholars will arrive this coming fall!
- In a thank you note, Dean Makaroff wrote: "I always enjoy meeting and having a chance to dialog with the WCAA. Thank you and the rest of the WCAA for your support of the new Western Center for Social Impact and Innovation."
- The Ernst Nature Theatre, which will be 100 years old in 2021, has a new champion, Miami University project manager Daniel Accrocco. The Board endorsed his proposal for preliminary funding for an improvement project.
- We were informed about the Western College Digital Archives project (see the Multifaria project <https://digital.lib.miamioh.edu/digital/collection/p17240coll3>) from Librarians Bill Modrow, Alia Levar Wegner and Archivist Jacky Johnson.
- Bruce Guiot, Chief Investment/Treasury Officer for Miami University and the Miami University Foundation, described Miami's endowment and investment strategies and recent results.
- David Budig MU'84, Chair of Miami University's Board of Trustees, joined us for a session and brought greetings from the Board.
- We had a delightful breakfast meeting with Dr. Renate Crawford — physicist, former international student, President Greg Crawford's wife, and an energetic University Ambassador for Miami. She wrote: *I certainly enjoyed our breakfast. It's always an honor to meet with the Western Alumnae and look forward to meeting again in June.*



Janet

In other Board business, we reviewed and approved plans for the physical renewal of Patterson Place; recommended 2019-2020 winners of Peabody and International Student scholarships; conducted other business related to governance and the 2024 transfer of WCAA Inc. assets to Miami; celebrated Debbie Baker's graduation from Miami (Class of '18!); and finalized plans for our June 2019 All-Class Reunion, when we will celebrate the 50th Reunion of the Class of '69!

Several Board members were able to remain in Oxford for an extra day to attend the M.I.A.M.I. Women Leadership Symposium.

We were inspired by our scholarship recipients and all our guests to keep the Spirit of Western uplifted. We pledged to contribute, as each of us is able, to the advancement of educational opportunities at Miami — through gifts of time, talent and treasure. We hope to see you in June!

Cordially,

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

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



Your busy 2019 WCAA Board of Trustees and guests (standing, left to right): Pam Watts Coates '70, Fran Hoffman '65, Chris Moranda '74, Director Mackenzie Becker Rice HA, Sharry Patterson Addison '61, Susan Blake '68, Barbara Williamson Wentz '68, Kaye Wolke HA, Janet Smith Dickerson-Stephens '65, Sylvia Stanfield '65, Anne Adkins Weissenborn '61; (seated) Ann Walton '66, Patricia Spokes Snowden '64, Debbie Baker HA, MU '18, Judy Wright (Debbie's proud mom), Lynne Drucker Albukerk '64.



Above right: Peabody scholar Larry Gardner and his wife, Christine: "... inspired by our scholarship recipients." Below right: Bruce Guiot, Chief Investment/Treasury Officer for Miami University and the Miami University Foundation, "describing Miami's endowment and investment strategies."



From the MU Board Chair

Over my eight years on Miami's Board of Trustees, I have been extremely fortunate to have engaged with the Western College Alumnae Association and have learned the significant history of the Western College. In the fall of 1973, Western College and Miami University negotiated and signed a final agreement regarding the closure of the College and the transfer of its property to the University. In July 1974, the College closed and shortly thereafter the WCAA, Inc. was born. Thereby began a collaborative relationship between the University and the WCAA that greatly benefited both.



David Budig

During my time as a student at Miami, I unfortunately did not partake in the wonderful program of Interdisciplinary Studies that was offered by Miami's Western College Program. However, I have come to appreciate the great work being done — then and now — by the WCAA to promote and preserve the historical legacy of Western College. I believe these efforts will

allow Western College to never be forgotten and to always be recognized as a major partner in educating the quality students who graduate from Miami.

Recently, I had the opportunity to attend a WCAA Board of Trustees meeting and was impressed by the passion and commitment of each member. It is clear that the new Western Center for Social Impact and Innovation will provide a lasting legacy for both Western and Miami. I also believe the most critical takeaway is that — even though the WCAA will cease to exist in June 2024 — Western College will never end.

David H. Budig

David H. Budig
Chair, Miami University Board of Trustees

Retiring Miami University Provost Phyllis Callahan receives her citation as trustees (from left) Fran Hoffman '65, Sharry Patterson '61, and Janet Dickerson-Stephens '65 offer congratulations.



"...Professor Phyllis Callahan, who over the years has endorsed and supported many of our legacy initiatives including our Western College Endowed Professorship."

WESTERN COLLEGE ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION

2 0 1 9

Provost Phyllis Callahan

for Dedicated Service to the Western College Alumnae Association Board

Miami University Provost Phyllis Callahan has truly been an advocate and friend to the Western College Alumnae Association Inc. It has been the distinct honor of the WCAA Board of Trustees to work with Provost Callahan to collaborate between Miami University and the WCAA in order to achieve meaningful and mutually beneficial results for the Western alumnae and the students, faculty and staff of Miami University.

In honor of the retirement of Provost Callahan after over 30 years of service to Miami University and the WCAA, and in effort to describe Provost Callahan's tremendous service to the WCAA, the WCAA Board of Trustees would like to say the following about our dear friend Phyllis:

Trailblazer. Just like the Western College women, Phyllis has always been a trailblazer. Working her way up in the STEM field, which was historically male dominated, was never an issue for Phyllis as she has always been driven regardless of the complex situations she may find herself in. Beyond just in her field, Phyllis has been a pioneer and innovator throughout her career in higher education. While we didn't know her as a child, we envision that she has been a leader easily since the day she was born.

Vision. While Miami has multiple examples of how Phyllis' vision has shaped Miami in transformational ways, we too at Western have been forever impacted by her talent for vision. When the WCAA was unsure on how to direct the Western College Professorship to best honor the exceptional Western College professors from the past while making a meaningful impact at Miami on the future, it was Phyllis who stepped in. Knowing the history, traditions and values of Western, Phyllis helped us shape the Professorship to make sure it accomplished both. She then personally went out and recruited the faculty member to fill the inaugural Western College Professor to ensure it was someone who understood and valued the Western heritage. It was then Phyllis who came back to the Board some time later and asked them to think about enduring Western legacy at Miami after 2024. Phyllis had the vision to understand that something else, something big, was needed to truly ensure the Western spirit carried

forward at Miami in a profound way. It was the shared vision of Phyllis and Dean Chris Makaroff that lead us to the Western Center for Social Impact and Innovation. We are forever grateful for Phyllis' strong vision for Western.

Devotion. We are hard pressed to think of someone more dedicated and devoted to the students, faculty, staff and community than Phyllis. It is evident in everything she does. How fortunate for us that that same enthusiasm and steadfast commitment that she has shown to her students, faculty and staff, she has also shown to Western. Phyllis never had to become passionate about the work of Western as it was certainly never in her job description. It was instead Phyllis that wanted to understand the history and traditions of Western more. It was Phyllis who sought the relationship with the Western Board. We'd think we know why she did however. Phyllis embodies the values and spirit of Western. She really is one of us. How coincidental that she shares the same first name as our dear Phyllis Hoyt. And as Phyllis Hoyt once said "Unless there is a depth of understanding of the balance of heart and mind, of learning and thinking, the essence of Western College is hard to catch. It cannot be bought. It cannot be sold. It cannot be captured. It cannot be mimicked. It is too spirited, too lively, too full of zest for that. Think of it carried comfortable by each of you wherever you may be around the world.Our limits are the limits of our lives and the lives we touch from now on." We know without doubt that Provost Callahan has that balance of heart and mind, of learning and thinking. We are comforted to know that even though she may be retiring from her position of Provost, that she carries the essence of Western with her wherever she goes. There is no question she has touched us, and will continue to touch the lives of all those she encounters.

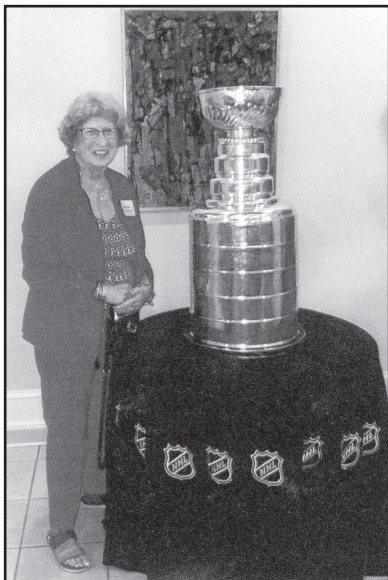
For this, and so much more, the Director of the Western College Alumnae Association Inc., the Trustees of the Western College Alumnae Association Inc. Board of Trustees and the Western community now offer their sincere and heartfelt thanks and gratitude to Provost Phyllis Callahan for her service and commitment to the Western College Alumnae Association Inc. We wish her the very best in retirement.

"... Lifelong Friendships ... Through the Decades"



Donna Hall Mader writes: "The greatest gift I received from Western College was the lifelong friendships of six other people ... friendships that lasted through the decades. I am glad that some part of those college years lives on through the years. Thanks for the precious memories." [Thank you, Donna!]

Jane Lloyd Cantoni, who was (with her late husband, Bob Cantoni MU '50) and still is a huge Miami Red Hawks hockey booster, was just one of the VIPs invited to a special reception at Lewis Place September 5. The occasion was the visit to Miami of the NHL's famed Stanley Cup — arguably the most prestigious championship trophy in all of sports. The 2017-18 winner of the Cup was



Jane Cantoni meets the Stanley Cup

the Washington Capitals, who claim two Oxford natives on their roster: director of goaltending for the championship season Mitch Korn (who coached Miami's goaltenders from 1981 to 1988); and broadcaster John Dalton, "voice of the Capitals" during their title run. President Crawford's reception followed a public viewing of the Cup at the Goggin Ice Center, attended by hundreds, an appearance at Steve 'Coach' Cady Arena, home of the current Red Hawks, and a trip through the heart of town.

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We [reporters: N = Nancy Ryan Rietz; C = Catherine (Cathy at Western) Ross Loveland] are so pleased to have made contact with so many of our classmates, and hope to hear from still others of you. We have had such fun hearing from you, and as C types, she has the four *Multifaria* yearbooks which are opened to each person's picture to trigger memories.

The first person to respond to the letter we sent to everyone for whom we had an address was from **Suzanne Stanley**. She was at Western for only her freshman year, then went on to art school, and has spent the rest of her life in the arts. She is living in San Mateo, CA, moving there to take care of her father, and reunite with her children and their families. She is a happy great-grandmother.

Next C had a delightful phone call from **Joanne DuBois Shafer**, soon followed by a note. They moved 19 times in the first 25 years of their marriage, and then settled in California. After Dick and Jo were living in their Mission Viejo home for 40 years, their next-door neighbor of 15 years said he would like to buy their house — and he did. The three sons came home and managed to share the furnishings that were available. They moved into an independent living retirement community just three miles from their house and feel like this is the right place for them.

Doris May Gilmore wrote that she and N have connected after many years, and have exchanged several phone calls. Doris is back to Maine, moving after her husband, Bob, died in 2016. She is living in an independent place where there is lots to do. One son lives in Houston, TX, and the other near Doris. Her daughter is in New Hampshire with a son and daughter.

LaVerne "Scotty" Leech Phillips, who lives in Largo, FL, has been fighting ovarian cancer since 1989!!! She has around-the-clock caregivers, who have traveled with her to her Phillips family reunions in Michigan. This year there were more than 25 folks there. She has four married children, one granddaughter, six grandsons, and eight great-grandchildren, plus in-laws and sweethearts. Wow!! N has enjoyed some of her paintings on note cards. Keep going, Scotty. [Sadly, news of Scotty's death on February 16 reached the office after Bulletin deadline.]

Marilyn Bosse Funk wrote a very long letter. She and N think they had not connected since graduation. Marilyn lives in Lake City,

FL, near three of her five daughters. She was a teacher, taught piano, and was a choir director while managing a growing family. Her husband died in 1990 and her twin sister, **Carolyn Bosse Watkin**, in 2012. Marilyn loves to travel, especially to California where two other daughters and their families live. She sent a collage of family pictures — she is a grandmother of 12, and great-grandmother of three.

Nancy Ryan Rietz had a busy year; time is just flying by. Regular stuff, but two stand out. In September, Bob experienced an Honor Flight from Columbus, OH, to Washington, D.C. Veterans are treated like



Nancy Rietz and WWII vet Bob

royalty, with visits to war memorials and a hand shake with Robert Dole (95 years old). If you served in the military during the period of WWII, Korea, and/or Viet Nam you are eligible. Do take advantage of this. Bob served from 1952 to 1954 at Fort Sill, OK. (C notes that Dick also had the opportunity to make this very special trip. He was in the USMC active duty 1952-54 plus eight years in the reserves.) For Christmas 2018 the Rietz family went to the Rose Bowl (Ohio State vs. Washington). Our son worked it all out for six of us to go. We were in Phoenix for the holiday, then on to California. What a thrill — a once-in-a-lifetime trip. I want to wish all Western classmates a healthy New Year. P.S. I was very proud of our college and the campus is beautiful. Thank you, Miami for keeping the college going.

Joyce Cregar Allen is using a wheelchair, and has moved in with her sons. She is still in Endicott, NY.

Donna Schulz Bloom both wrote and phoned with news. She moved into Kendal of Ithaca in April, 2018 and is still sorting out her life. Art died in 2017, and she misses him dreadfully. Their three sons are in D.C., Honolulu, and near Pittsburg and have been helpful in the transition. Since moving there she would check in regularly with **Sue Hartdegen Merrill**, who had been in the ad-



Marilyn Bosse Funk: Family cruise 2017

vanced care unit for some time. She was on her way there to visit when she was met with the news that Sue had just died. Donna occasionally sees **Dorothy Warren Rinaldo '46**, who also lives in Kendal.

We were glad to hear from **Marilyn Brown Van Vleet**. She and Dave live in Atlantis, south Florida, and spend six months a year in a mountain home near Waynesville, NC. They are still very active, citing the yearly reunions of the girls who have been in their scout troops. After Scouts she and Dave did lots of hiking and bicycling, and she toured Europe and Scandinavia with a hand bell choir from South Florida. She had directed a hand bell choir for 35 years. Their family members are scattered far and wide.

Joyce Rinckhoff Snell has recently moved back to Milford, OH, putting her Naples, FL, condo up for sale. She is well for her age with the usual complaints, active in the historical society, church work, church archivist, library board, PEO, and serious

bridge. Three of her children live close by with six grandchildren. She states that her life is greatly diminished by the loss of **Jo Ann Fley**. Remember that JoAnn, Joyce, and **Jean Fuller Lester** all attended Milford High School. Their high school foundation raises thousands of dollars each year for scholarships. At a lovely dinner, former graduates are honored for their life contributions. Joyce feels humbled to have been chosen last year. JoAnn was honored previously, and JoAnn did leave a generous donation to the foundation in her will.



... with Ralph mid '60s

Betty Haggarty Spurrier now lives in a retirement home in Springfield, IL. Jim died several years ago. She has found good friends and keeps busy.

Marilyn Davis Harvey has been a widow for five years. She is still in her house in Orlando, FL, with her children around her. She has one great-grandchild. She misses her sister.

C had a lively chat with **Caryl Shaw Sparks** who is now living in Lacey, WA. She and her family have moved many times due to his career in the Air Force, from which he retired from his duty station in Utah as a colonel. He has been active in establishing the Hill Air Force Museum. Their daughter, at 32, is an active member of the Air Force, and is now a Brigadier General. Their son is a helicopter pilot in the Coast Guard. The Sparkses now live in a continuing care community with 1,200 residents, and two of their children live nearby.

Betty Sipe Gerber had just moved her husband, Don, into a memory care unit two weeks before our phone call, so she was in a state of transition. Betty lives in the retirement community in Oxford. She has macular degeneration for which she receives regular shots. [Editor's note: Sadly, shortly after Catherine submitted her letter, we learned that Don passed away March 17.]

Pat Wilson Haines and Roy live in Greenville, OH. They have three children, three grandchildren, and two great-

grands. Roy and C's husband were fellow members of Pi Kappa Alpha at Miami.

Mary Sue "Tudy" Allen Gatzert lives in a lovely condo in Chicago where C visited her three years ago. She continues to see C's cousin a couple of times a week. Her sister **Sally "Doodie" Allen Masters '60** lives in Florida, and sometimes visits in the summer. **Kay Hahn Fulker** and Roger live in Troy, OH. They have four children and a foster child. Three are in California, one in Houston, TX. Kay has been a trail guide for a local park for 20 years, introducing several generations to the wonders of nature. They did not make the usual trip to their island home in Maine this year.

Barbara Peterson Block lives in New Hampshire. She has four grands, two of each sex. The youngest is 16, the oldest 23. Her daughter is really into ice hockey, and accompanied the women's Olympic team to Japan. At the moment of our phone conversation, she shared excitement about the upcoming Super Bowl and her Patriots.

Chris Davis Vradelis has had two years of down stuff. Her husband died over a year ago after a six-month illness. Then Chris fell and fractured her wrist, and later broke a hip. Her boys, in North Carolina and Boston, have been helping her, and she has traveled to be with them during this time. She can't drive because of the wrist, but is doing well in her two-story house in the area where the neighbors have known her for a long time.

Gay Belcher Hadley has moved to a part of the hospital at Westminster Thurber because of the risk of her falling, so she is using a wheelchair. She has written two books of vignettes and poetry about her experiences in the first two years of aging community living that were given to prospective residents, but they are now out of them.

So pleased to hear from **Marilyn Smith Dudrow** who was at Western for her freshman year, then finished up at a conservatory of music. She and Bill have done some travel, especially with the Road Scholars programs, and they go to many music and other arts programs in the Columbus area. She taught for a while, even teaching Latin, followed by many years of private piano teaching. One son lives in Colorado, the other in Clintonville not far from his parents. Marilyn and Bill summer at Lakeside, OH. Bill retired after years of teaching biology.

Marian Freund Schillerstrom is currently living at the Belle Mead Retirement community in Southern Pines, NC. **Kathy Widdifield Duff '49** lives there too, and Marian sees her regularly. Her husband, Tom, died in 2012. She has a daughter living in California and a son and his family living in Silver Spring, MD. She has two grandchildren. Tommy, son of her daughter, (age 27), lives



Honolulu, "several years ago": Most of Donna Schulz Bloom's family



Impromptu reunion in Tipp City, OH: '52ers (standing): Betty Sipe Gerber. Chris Davis Vradelis; (seated): "N" and "C"

in Napa Valley, CA. Emma, daughter of her son (age 18) is a freshman in college. Marian is currently in good health, but, unfortunately, has lost touch with friends from Western and would enjoy hearing from them.

What a welcome phone call C got from **Persis Fuller Alden!** Her husband Bob died in June. They had moved to a CCRC in Stamford, CT, five years ago and Persis is so grateful for that timing, but she does miss having a fireplace. C grew up in Old Greenwich, the next town to Stamford, and she and Persis had never before really talked about their mutual home area. She is just 10 minutes from her former home in Riverside, which overlooked the Mianus River. She has eight grandchildren, the oldest of whom married last July and moved to Coral Gables, FL. Except for that, all three families are in Connecticut.

Jean Fuller Lester's family-produced Christmas letter summarizes the year's activities of son Jack and his family and twin daughters Carole and Jane. All live in California. Jean and husband Cliff managed to attend two out-of-town graduations in 24 hours: Jack and wife Shaila's older daughter, Anisa's, from college at Carleton, Minnesota; and their younger daughter, Julia's, from high school at Branson, California. Otherwise, they have trimmed their travel agenda to a few mini-getaways of one or two days at a time.

Ann Luthy Stachelberg moved into a retirement home in West Palm Beach a year ago. Her daughter and grandchildren live nearby.

Catherine Ross Loveland has given up the hospice volunteering that I so enjoyed in order to catch up on things like this, and to be available to drive when Dick needs it. He is the bridge player, especially with our third son Dan. My competitive gene just isn't there. We go to many of the Life Long Learning offerings in our area. Although it is usually across town, we get exposed to a number of interesting subjects, and there are no tests! I was humbled to be asked to speak at roommate **Betty Groth Diebold's**

memorial service, and happy to see my roommate's daughters and son again and meet the grandchildren. Her older daughter, **Donna Diebold, Western Program '77** had asked me to speak. Two of my sons live in the Columbus area, plus one granddaughter, who is a doctor and the mother of our great-grandson. Another son and his wife live in Franklin, TN, and my daughter and family live in Cornelius, NC. Her closest friend is the daughter of **Sally Trowbridge Blackwelder '53**. Small world. If you haven't read it as yet, this "always a librarian" friend suggests Atul Gawande's *Being Mortal*.

Perhaps some of you are in touch with others that we haven't heard from. Please tell them we would love to hear from them.

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When **Priscilla Strand Berry** left Peekskill, NY, to go to college in Ohio, did she ever imagine that she'd spend the rest of her days in Oxford? Pris graduated from Western in May 1954 and married Bob Berry, a Miami professor, one month later. They made Oxford their home, raised two children there, Roger and Lisabeth, and Pris was an active volunteer in the community, its schools and her church, served on our Alumnae Board and was a docent at the Miami University Art Museum. Sadly, Pris died on December 25, 2017.

As you read this you could wish "Aloha" to **Delores Randles Hutchinson** as she will be on a cruise around the Hawaiian Islands, part of a family reunion group. Such fun! Dee has had health problems over the past few years, but continues to live independently in her condo near Atlanta.

I was delighted to have a card at Christmas time from **Dorothy Hayes Hoffman**, complete with a photo of herself and Pete. For the last seven years they have enjoyed living in a retirement community in Vero Beach, FL, with the added benefit that their children, Jenny and Bill, escape the cold by coming to Florida in the winter.

Lucy Ann Liggett says that she's into "easy traveling," sharing a short cruise in the Ca-

ribbean with a brother, then to California to visit another brother, and the yearly family reunion in Ohio. When at home in Ypsilanti, MI, book discussion groups are stimulating and fun.

In **Mieke Van Waveern Smit's** letter she said that "a pacemaker has given me a new lease on life" and she probably needs that to keep to her busy schedule. In August she and Henk embarked on a cruise from Venice to Athens, seeing all those classic, historical places. Later they joined another cruise from Montreal to New York City, where they visited the 9/11 Memorial, touched by all the memories of that day.

Elizabeth Renton Hale has developed a Butterfly Garden at Marion Woods in Ocala, FL — as have I in New Hampshire. Betty crocheted colorful Christmas gifts for friends and family and she also creates tiny caps for preemie babies at a local hospital. Her sister Janet, who has memory problems, has moved to Marion Woods also and she joins in the "T is for Talk," friendly conversational gatherings that Betty leads twice a month. They go to many musical events in the area and especially look forward to the Metropolitan Opera performances shown at their local Cinema.

My husband Phil and I — **Sandra Franz Barnes** — will celebrate 65 years together this June. For all of us in the Class of '54, how the years have flown by! Despite creaking bones, I enjoy caring for the Butterfly Garden here, and in August we raised 24 Monarch caterpillars at home (safe from predators) to flight stage. I soon will retire as chairman of our Resident Council at the Birch Hill retirement community, but continue on as co-editor of our newspaper — written and produced by volunteers.

So, the challenge to all of you reading these Class Notes is: What have you been doing? What groups do you volunteer in? Is travel part of your year? Please let me know, so that I can share your activities. The Alumnae Office has 28 women listed for our class, the seven paragraphs above tell about only one quarter of the group — so let's hear from more of you!

Sandra Franz Barnes '54
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I need to begin this year's news with an apology. As some of you know, Karl and I moved early last summer. (More about that later.)

After the move, I remembered to change our mailing address with most people and organizations, but I neglected to change my e-mail address with everyone, including the Alumnae Office, so those of you who might have tried to e-mail your news to me had your e-mails bounced back. I am so sorry. Happily, however, a few of you either sent me a letter by snail mail or telephoned, so I have a little news to relay.

One of my first Christmas greetings came from **Joyce Roark Philips**. In true Joyce fashion, adventurous and energetic, she has moved back "home" to Fort Wayne, IN, after living in Cincinnati for over 55 years. The move made it possible for her to be with her brother during his final months — what a gift that must have been for him! Now Joyce is happily settling into her new home, meeting new people and exploring her "new environs." Way to go, Joyce! But Cincinnati will miss you.

After Joyce's early card, I didn't hear from anyone for a long time. Then **Carol Silvernail Swager** called and we were able to have a pleasant chat. Unfortunately, in January of 2018 Carol found herself unexpectedly needing treatment in a hospital emergency room and required eight more hospital stays before the year was over. She was at home when she called me, but she, who never ever smoked, now is relying on oxygen tanks. It hardly seems fair, but as we have always told our children, "Life *isn't* always fair, and there's no use expecting that it will be." Still ...

And that is pretty much the extent of news I have been sent. Two of my most faithful correspondents, **Patty Van Auken Robinson** and **Charlotte Leary Ross** sent Christmas cards as usual but without the newsy Christmas letters I had come to count on. I did know that both Patty and husband Jeff had some health issues last year, so I wasn't surprised by the brevity of her message. I was a little worried not to hear more from Charlotte, and I have been planning to write her just to say hello. (I have been planning to do many things I haven't got around to yet.)

There is no getting around it, Ladies. After years of feeling practically ageless with relatively few, mostly minor complaints to remind us of our advancing years, we are now officially part of the "Old-Old" demographic. As such, more than a few of us are facing serious health issues. Activities we have always enjoyed, (think getting dressed up for a special event, think shopping for and preparing an elaborate new recipe for company, think traveling, especially that which involves trekking through airports, standing in line, taking off our shoes) require more time and effort than they have in the past. Because this is so, I am not really surprised to have received so little news. I hope next time will be better. You may not have anything astounding to report, but it would be

good just to hear you are alive and well. If your garden is thriving in spite of climate change, if you have managed to master Twitter, let us know. If all you have is sad news, who better to share it with than old friends who in all likelihood are facing similar challenges? All of us can take comfort in knowing we are not alone.

As for the Millers — the last year was full of changes. In June 2018, along with our miniature schnauzer Greta and our three cats, we moved into an Assisted Living Residence. We love it here, and the move came none too soon, because in September Karl suffered a stroke. Thanks to prompt medical care and skilled therapists, the effects of the stroke were minimal, mostly in the area of language expression, and each day we can see improvement. As you can imagine, though, I have not been able to get very much done since last September, but the family have been absolutely wonderful in making things easier for us. We have so much to be thankful for.

If I have lost or forgotten to mention anyone's news, please forgive me. Till next time, please stay in touch. I send you all lots of good wishes for your happiness and well-being. Stay Western strong!

Sally Derby Miller '56
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[Sadly, just a month after Sally submitted her letter, we received the news that her husband, Karl, had passed away unexpectedly on March 14.]



We can be so proud that our own **Esin Aka Atil** received the Alumnae Service Award. Esin is so deserving of this award. Congratulations from all of us!

Losing a classmate is really tough, and we were all saddened to learn that our Jane Smucker Fryman had died on October 29, 2018. Our condolences go to her loving and supportive husband, Jack, who wrote in a Christmas note: "She had been in declining health since her open-heart surgery four years ago. She had some major health problems including pulmonary hypertension, weakening kidneys, and congestive heart failure."

"She used a walker and was able to continue her activities in the League of Women Voters, Trustee of the Western College Alumni

Association and as a member of the Independent Learning in Retirement.

"When Jane fell and broke her hip and arm, she was told that whatever she did would be a high risk. She did not want to be bedridden and chose to take the high risk surgery for her hip and arm. She survived the surgery but passed away two days later."

On a much sunnier note, **June Regan Young** shares "her busy, demanding, and quite memorable year." June and Dave decided to downsize and now live at: 149 E. Side Dr., Concord, NH 03301. June had another successful craft show boutique, and Dave continues his lay ministry and volunteer efforts. They made their annual trip to Florida (minus a visit with me, since Somerset, PA, is slightly out of their way!) **Phyllis Yeamans Bailey** enjoys two locations and can be found at a new address: 601 Peter Bryce Blvd. Apt. 403, Tuscaloosa, AL, 35401. She looks forward to visits from her friends and family, traveling, and of course, her piano.

I truly regret not being able to attend our reunion weekend. I would have been able to enjoy some time with **Cay Manildi, Juli Kinchla, Polly Venable, and Jane Fryman**. We just never know when we say one last good-bye. All the more reason, to keep in touch and keep each other in our thoughts and prayers.

I am sure that across the country there are classmates who are celebrating happy events as well as being challenged by pain and even sorrow. I am sorry that I have no more to report on them, but they remain ever important in our memory.

After moving back home to Somerset, PA, I thought I had retired from teaching but instead, I now have 10 adult women, between the ages of 60 and 75, who are studying violin with me, in two classes of five each. This is such fun ... no need to motivate or cajole to practice. Recently, two children wanted to play the violin (ages 4 and 6), and I'm off and running, again.

When the temperature is sub-zero, I remember the balmy days of Florida, but my two sons and their families live in my neighborhood, and I have so many former students and friends who stop by. So, I concentrate on them and keep warm with these friendships.

Remembering happy times at Western, I send my love to all of you.

Jennie Lou Fredley Klim '58
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Sadly, my first job is to tell you of the death of **Connie Everett Cunningham** last May (2018). Burdened with having to wear oxygen 24/7 she still continued to bicycle along the California coast on nice days and exercise in a special therapy pool. A funny lady and a character for sure, she kept up her positive spirit right to the end.

I must start off with **Sally Hoover Harris** — in Signal Mt., TN — who exclaimed on my birthday card just how she feels about our most recent birthday: "This is surreal! impossible!" After four months of not adjusting to the idea, she is grateful to be upright but nevertheless still in shock. Of her six grandchildren the first will enter college this fall.

Last June, **Nancy Kohlman Freeman** moved from Norwalk, CN, to Bluffton, SC. Her new address is 20 Dorchester Lane; 29909. She was among the group reporting a broken shoulder a year or two ago. Hers is getting better but she still goes to therapy. Otherwise her health is good. Their grandchildren range in age from 26 to 6. She stays in touch with **Barb Kong Vlachos** in Hawaii by phone a couple times a year.

Although she misses old friends, **Annette "Toni" Power Johnson** has very successfully made the move from New Jersey to Woodland Pond, a retirement community in New Paltz, NY. The best part is now being able to see son Jeremy and family more often. And she has met many interesting and welcoming people. She swims early, hikes in the local preserves, takes advantage of several exercise classes, and enjoys the offerings of near-by universities, theaters and museums. Her new address is 100 Woodland Pond Circle, Apt. 323; 12561.

Cathy Bauer Cooper admits to this year's being somewhat similar to last. And that includes visiting daughter Katy's twins in NYC and spending two months on St. Simons Island in Georgia, where son Matt visited for Super Bowl week. She also keeps extremely busy beautifully editing our biannual *Western Bulletin* for which husband Milburn (Coop) is the design and technical consultant.

McKee buddy **Valerie Clark Cook** sadly writes of the loss of good friends this past year. She continues to keep busy — a very good idea for all of us. She helps with her great-grandchildren and has added hours volunteering at the Assistance League in Atlanta. Bill continues his wood projects including Adirondack chairs and rebuilding their deck.

Pete and **Sydney Stout Benson** celebrated

her 80th birthday in Hawaii, where they were excellently taken care of by **Barbara Kong Vlachos**, who began by picking them up at the airport in her 1998 stick-shift red Ford! Back on the mainland they were able to see lots of their California grandchildren's performances, spend time with all four grandchildren together and help hometown Medina, OH, celebrate its 200th anniversary. This past Christmas they went to Costa Rica with son Scott and family.

Once again the winner for the most active year appears to be **Kathie Howard Sutherland**. To celebrate their 80th birthdays she and hubby John traveled to Morocco and Marrakech, ending up with a final dinner at Rick's Cafe, famous from the movie *Casablanca*. Time was spent with family in southern Ohio, Connecticut, and back home in Maine, where Kathie serves as president of the World Affairs Council. Both Kathie and John continue teaching at their senior college, OSHER Lifelong Learning Center. And she is tickled that two of her grandchildren are attending Miami University.

In Battle Creek, **Jackie Power Sheldrick** joins the new 1960 class legion of great-grandparents with the recent birth of Cooper. She continues to play bridge and golf. In March, she went on a western Caribbean cruise with five friends. And this fall she plans to go on a S. African safari photo shoot, also spending time in Johannesburg and Cape Town.

Not unexpectedly **Sally "Doodie" Allen Masters** stays in top fitness by playing golf and tennis and practicing Pilates. She also plays bridge and volunteers at the nearby Nature Center. Christmas brought her whole family together in Florida where they also staged a belated surprise 80th birthday party for her. Last summer had her on a cruise to Denmark, Norway, Iceland, and Faroe and Shetland Islands.

Another great-grandmother, **Claudia "Whit" White Gilmarten**, is enjoying having four little ones in her family! Her Friendship Force club traveled to Canada for two weeks last summer, staying and touring with folks from Hamilton/Burlington and Niagara Falls. She is also part of a N.H. beach team that studies and posts the sand erosion resulting from Nor'easters each winter. And she continues as a Marine Docent at the Seacoast Science Center, where, she reports, "squid dissection has been in great demand." Go figure! But the kids love it.

Ann Hammond cracked me up as usual. She reports that she spent Thanksgiving in Hawaii and Christmas in Cincinnati and admits she should have done it in reverse, considering how cold it was. She celebrated her 80th this past July — the hottest one in years — and has decided to celebrate her next 80th in the spring. She acquired a new knee in March. Her doctor was in her fourth-

grade class many years ago!

A woman of few words this year, **Susan Wyllie Moran** in Wilmington, DE., has decreed that 80 is the new 40! Sounds good to me.

Our dear Mexican classmate, **Isabel "Izzy" Oteo de Martinez**, had a couple medical issues last year including her sciatic nerve and her gall bladder. But some of November was spent with a friend in Acapulco. And the holidays were happily celebrated in Mexico with her whole family. She was very excited to report that daughter Paty, who now lives in Switzerland, came for a visit in February with her two children, whom Izzy had not seen for a long time.

Another year brought another move for Bob and **Jane Ramsey Grant**. This time it was downsizing to 139 Los Lagos, Twin Falls, Idaho, 83301. She reports it may be the most beautiful place they have ever lived as the nearby Snake River Gorge is unbelievable. Once they recover from the inevitable exhaustion from such a move, they plan to be up for whatever comes along including, for sure, lots of golf.

Nancy Johnson Marshall reports that she is alive and well and still living in Idaho. Becoming 80 years old was definitely a benchmark for her (and all of us!). So she decided not to freak too many people out by even telling them! After being a widow three and a-half years and believing that she would never fall in love again or find anyone to have as much fun with, she started dating someone and they are still going strong after two and a-half years. Life is good.

This past year was doubly special for Dennis and **Patty Rees Dewey**. Not only did they each turn 80 but they also celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. These milestones had them meeting son Joe for a week in Ireland and spending extra time over Christmas visiting children in Greensboro, NC, and Kiawah Island. The elder Deweys' winter months were mostly spent on Singer Island in south Florida. Joe is now stationed in Tacoma, WA. And their four grandchildren in Greensboro are finally no longer in four different schools making life easier for all.

After a year of eating alone and talking to herself, **Sara White Arn** went through the painful chore of downsizing. She then moved into a senior residential high-rise apartment in a suburb of St. Louis. She loves it. She is surrounded by lots of pleasant neighbors in her building and lots she can do and walk to outside. She is looking forward to welcoming her first great-grandchild in May! Sara's new address is 230 S. Brentwood Blvd. Apt. 4G, St. Louis 63105; her phone number stayed the same.

Unhappy news from **Mary Flagler Rachau** in Illinois tells us that she fractured her foot last year on her birthday, necessitating a

two-month boot and lots of therapy. She is now doing well but the man she has been seeing for a long time had a debilitating stroke last July and is recovering very slowly in a rehab center two and a-half hours away.

Ed and I did a lot of visiting up and down the East Coast this summer. We are not close to having great-grandchildren yet, but our milestone is that the fourth and last granddaughter heads to college this fall. My volunteer jobs remain satisfying and somewhat time-consuming, but I decided that the past Christmas concert was my last performance with the singing group we founded 36 years ago. Time to let the "kids" take over.

If you are reading this and your name isn't included, we all want to know WHY! Please. Send mail.

Jan Sandrock MacEwen '60
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Many of us in the classes of late '50s and early '60s can identify with **Nancy Smith Carlson's** story: "Last year was difficult medically for Walter [her husband] — he spent months in hospitals and a rehab facility. I have become his caregiver and have help several days a week for things like showering. It seems as though age has found us, as it has so many! We are grateful Walt is as well as he can be and that there is no pain. Our memories are wonderful. [*The Carlsons live at 113 Little Stannard Beach Rd., Westbrook, CT, 06498; nscarlson05@hotmail.com*]

Not many of us can identify with **Judy Dudman Henderson's** recent feat. She competed with her local YMCA swim team in the YMCA/USMS national championships in Orlando, FL, April 11-14. She was sorry to miss the Board of Trustees meeting, but wrote: "... I have had an exhilarating and exhausting week in Orlando! My first swim meet to swim ever! My three words given to me were courage, calm and confidence. I stroked on all three! I finished with two gold medals, one 4th and one 5th place. DQd in one because I didn't know what a proper breast stroke take off was! Disappointed but I moved on. Did better on next one. Was a great experience — amazing to see so many people working so hard to keep in shape. I climbed a mountain and the view is beautiful!"

Zohreh Tawakuli Sullivan is happily retired from the University of Illinois at Urbana-

Champaign. She enjoyed a Fulbright year, 2013-14, teaching at the University of Jordan in Amman, currently enjoys visiting her sons — Taimur who teaches music at Northwestern University and Kamran, who is a video editor in New York. Her Evanston granddaughters delight her with their skills in bluegrass, banjo, and guitar. She is the Friday vegetarian chef at the local Daily Bread Soup Kitchen and spends rich time seeing friends, reading, and traveling. She has enjoyed occasional contact with her Western College roommate **Loretta Ryder** — whom she'd love to see again someday.

Finally, more sad news From **Sue Veazie Landis**: "My husband, Glenn, died in December after several years of failing health. We had just moved to a very nice apartment in a local retirement community, and I sold our house three days later. Margery Bromley Lauber lives 90 minutes away in a suburb of Philadelphia and has visited us several times a year for many years along, with her two daughters and their husbands and her four grandchildren. They are family. I'm always interested in news from members of our class and others."

WCAA, Inc.
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In this, the 55th year since our graduation from Western College for Women, the Spirited Class of '64 sends its greetings!



Jan Wood Beaven '64 (left). on the march!

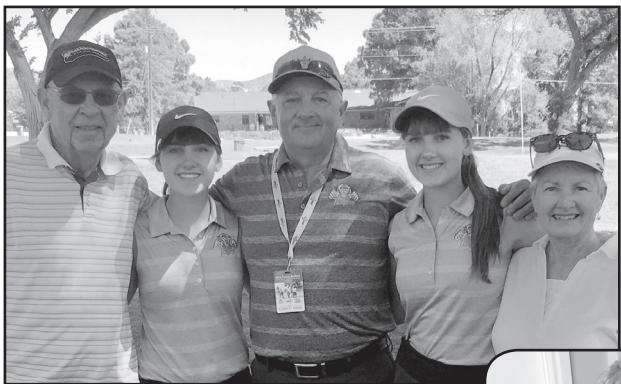
Jan Wood Beaven began her news update with these words: "Yesterday a friend gave me a button that said 'Make America Kind Again.' That idea underlies my major activities this year. I joined a 'giving circle' to make donations to candidates who support

women's rights, better education, better healthcare, and a number of other issues dear to my heart. In March, I attended a rally led by Parkland students on the Boston Common. In May, I took a class offered by the City of Boston to train senior citizens to be advocates regarding policy — we met officials from city, state, and federal agencies. In November, friends and I canvassed for a legislator, who won in a very tight race. As in other years, I have been busy with adult ed. seminars, book groups, nonprofit boards ... nine months of the year. The other three months, I am in Maine enjoying all the state has to offer ... especially enjoying my grandkids who spend a substantial amount of time there with me." While Jan will be traveling in June and missing Reunion Weekend, she looks forward to reading about it and hearing everyone's news.

Gay Nellis Walker wrote about two major events in her life this year: her right knee replacement surgery, from which she is recovering well, and her decision to retire from her private psychotherapy practice at the end of January 2019. She plans to use her new knee "to travel more, exercise more, and enjoy life more!" Gay also reported, "My granddaughters are growing up too fast. Eldest is in her second year of university. Next is in high school. Then my Maui 2 are in seventh and fourth grades. I was happy to take the younger two on a little trip this summer (with their mother). We went to visit my daughter and family in Gardnerville, NV, and then toured southern Utah. The girls live on an island, so they really want to see the rest of the world! We stayed in hotels, casinos, RVs, and tents! A little bit of everything." Gay will be traveling in June with her sister to Vancouver, and will be taking the Rocky Mountaineer to Banff, Jasper, etc., but she says she'll try to join us on campus for our 60th Reunion [2024].

Carol Thomas Ruikka sent this news: "The only thing to report is that after 45 years in Real Estate and many years of threatening to retire, finally did it at end of last year. It was a great ride but gotten too techie and stressful for this old dog." Carol wrote about her interest in contacting and getting involved with an organization which, among other things, helps seniors stay in their homes by providing rides to appointments, shopping, and bringing meals in, or just offering companionship. On her bucket list: a visit to out-of-state family and friends, some of whom are in Ohio, where her parents were reared, and then school friends in St. Louis. She looks forward to being able to manage her own time.

Faith Evans's past year has been a busy one — but mostly related to dealing with her health. "I have had major sleep issues and related problems, and, unfortunately, it has continued. I was hospitalized twice and I am a few ounces better. I am trying daily to improve, take small steps, and get back to



Nancy McGregor Nowak '64 and extended family

the old me. As a result, I have not had any big trips like many of you have. With a lot of luck, I may make it to our 55th reunion in June." Faith further reports that her cat Willie is now 15 and diabetic, requiring insulin twice a day — "always a challenge." Her extended family is nearby. Several members are off to college, and there is also an engagement — "Time does fly." Faith is particularly proud of her grandniece Jennifer, who is competing nationally in tennis and winning a lot of matches. Jennifer was recently ranked fourth out of 130 16-year-old players nationwide. While Faith keeps in touch mainly with **Vivien Despotopoulos Forbes**, **Judy White Fogt**, **Arlene Branca**, and **Marcia Randlett Oder**, she hopes for all of us to be "well, happy, and enjoying your 70s."

Gypsy Kimball Richardson, who lives in Brevard, NC, continues to be involved with her church, UUTC, and active in AAUW and with a number of book clubs. Last February, Gypsy took part in a Road Scholar trip called "The Heart of Winter in Yellowstone."

... In March, Gypsy participated in another Road Scholar trip, this one entitled "Spies, Lies, and Atomic Secrets: Santa Fe Spy Conference. In May, Gypsy and her sister celebrated their birthdays together closer to home. In Greenville, SC, they saw a play and attended an "upscale craft show." In Ashville, NC, they visited the gardens at Biltmore Estates. During the summer, Gypsy managed to attend two to three performances a day at the Brevard Music Center. In August, she traveled with Road Scholar to Great Falls, MT, to learn about Wild West artist Charles M. Russell, the Plains Indians, and the Lewis and Clark Expedition. In September, she spent around three more weeks traveling: on an Alaskan cruise with friends in celebration of their 50th anniversary; two days with their daughter in Portland, OR; and then along the West Coast. Later in the fall, Gypsy flew to North Dakota for a Road Scholar trip that involved a seminar on Teddy Roosevelt. She spent Thanksgiving with friends in Virginia, Christmas at home with her sister and her husband, and finished 2018 with a trip back to VA to again visit with

her friends there. Busy girl! For **Marcia Randlett Oder**, "2018 was spent in a variety of ways and learning to move on without Robin." Marcia is now living in the independent living division of Addington Place (4650 54th Avenue S, Apt. 401, St. Petersburg, FL 33711), where she participates in many of the activities — such as fishing — as well

as taking a number of OLLI (Osher Lifelong Learning Institute) courses at Eckerd College. She has also been traveling a lot, including joining a few cousins for her first trip ever to Disney World. (!) She spent some time in Lexington, KY, and



Tennessee for Robin's burial. During the summer, Marcia headed to New Hampshire and the Boston area for a get-together with the Randlett family and friends.

Unfortunately, she was unable to see **Faith Evans** during this time. "Finally, I have worn glasses since I was 9 years old, but recent cataract surgery now makes them necessary only for reading." As of her writing in January 2019, Marcia's major plans call for a Rhine River cruise with a childhood friend. Reunion weekend will happen the weekend after her return from Europe, but she is planning to attend and is trying to convince Faith to join her. When home, Marcia welcomes Western visitors ("remember, there's no snow and ice here.") Her phone number: 727-864-5261; cell: 412-889-5530; e-mail: moder@magneticseparation.com.

Gail Tobin wrote, "Luckily, we have our health and just keep busy. We continue to make Kent, CT, our home, as most of our grandchildren are nearby, and then we winter in Mt. Pleasant, SC." Four years ago, Gail and her husband inherited his family farm, which was built in the 1760s, and is across from their home. The farm had been neglected for 20 years and was in need of major restoration. They decided to save this important piece of town history, gutted and completely restored the house, which can sleep 10 people, and now offer it as a summer rental, listed as "1760 Historic Farm House" through AirBnB and Vrbo. If anyone wants to know more about this house, you may reach out directly to Gail for availability particulars at jgtobin@gmail.com. Gail also mentioned having gotten together for lunch with **Betty Treiber Ahrens** last year and enjoyed the opportunity to catch up with one another.

It just so happens that the very next e-mail I received was from **Betty Treiber Ahrens**.

She and husband Bill joined friends on a Baltic cruise last summer. They stopped in Tallinn, St. Petersburg, Helsinki, and Stockholm. "The only negative aspect of our trip was the enormous amount of tourists — so many that we missed a lot. No more travel in tourist season." Betty and Bill spent New Year's in Baden Baden, Germany with friends and drove from there to visit Bill's relatives in Landshut. When home, Betty and Bill are still active in their local historical societies, and they also spend time in NYC. "Bill keeps busy building his airplane in our garage, while I go to the gym." They will be going to Tubac, AZ, for two weeks at the end of March; and upon their return home, they will host Bill's niece from Germany and her three kids, ages 1 to 7 years. Betty's e-mail ended with: "I guess we do have a busy life."

Judy White Fogt wrote from her home in Bethesda, MD, while snow was falling — "beautiful, quiet, clean — love it!" Unfortunately, however, Judy would be missing her evening French conversation class because of the snow. Judy enjoys celebrating birthdays together with **Carol Schuler Butcher** and **Arlene Branca** in January, April, and July — "or after Carol returns from her summer stay at Torch Lake in Michigan where she has been going since early childhood. **Daphne Ostle Baker Allen** is visiting here in Washington from Vermont and we hope to see her for lunch in the next few weeks.

"Our big news here in DC has been the government shutdown. Finally, Federal workers are back on their jobs after a demoralizing and shameful 35-day lockout. Washington is a company town, and the shutdown hit the Federal workers hard, as well as contract workers and businesses here that depend on them — the METRO transportation system, particularly. ..." Judy spent two weeks in November with her daughter, Elizabeth, and her family in Munich, Germany, where Steve is a U.S. Consular Officer. "Thankfully, he didn't miss any paychecks because he works in the Visa Section at the Consulate, but some State Department officials, even overseas, were working without pay." While visiting with Steve, Lis, and their two sons, Judy enjoyed a long weekend trip to Vienna, "where we took in a couple of fabulous museums and one evening drank the traditional Gluhwein, mulled wine, while touring a Christmas Market bedecked with lights and lots of colorful booths and fun food."

While at home, Judy enjoys her two grandchildren who live in nearby Washington. Her "almost 2-year old grandson calls his daddy (whose name is Bear) 'Daddy bear.'" Judy continues with her French conversation class, flower arranging at her church, and weekly yoga, which she says she would find hard to live without. She has also added some OLLI continuing education classes to her schedule ...

Carolyn Moss Ford wrote, "We have been

okay." Son Chris, his wife Amy, and their 21-month-old twins visited at Christmas — "Fun and exhausting." Husband David is slowly retiring, while Mossy enjoys playing bridge and volunteering weekly at the Garden Club of Toronto in a garden for deaf/blind visitors. Also, they love spending time at their cottage which is 2½ hours northeast of Toronto. "Feeling the years creeping up on me as I lost my brother (John) and cousin recently ... I guess that's what happens." Mossy and David have been enjoying "Mona Lisa Smile" on Netflix and encourage all to watch. It's "about a progressive art professor at Wellesley in 1953 ... though much more traditional than a decade later at Western, it did bring back many fun memories of traditions and people who were progressive like many of our profs at Western." Mossy wishes all good health "and keeping our lives fulfilled."

Nancy McGregor Nowak says that she and Jerry "are doing amazingly well for as old as we are." Their twin granddaughters are attending New Mexico State University. Nancy included with her note a photo Jerry and herself with their son-in-law and granddaughters at their state golf championship. This is followed by a photo of Nancy and Jerry with their "sweet dog, Hollis." Nancy and Jerry have just purchased a condo in Bonita Springs, FL, and still spend summers at their cottage north of Toronto. "Both our children are doing well and retirement has been great." Nancy sends her best wishes for good health and happiness to all.

Sydney Schiller Pfeifer and Dean are also still enjoying retirement. They spent a week in Portugal this past fall and had a wonderful time. "We also went to the Music City Bowl in Nashville to see Purdue get clobbered by Auburn. My mother came to visit me in September, 2017 and fell and broke her hip. We sold her condo in Florida and she now lives five minutes from me in a lovely assisted living facility. It has changed the focus of my life, but I am glad that she's close to me. She still loves to put her makeup and jewelry on every day! Not much other news to report. Our children and grandchildren are happy and healthy, as are we."

Nancy Van Vleck Von Allmen reports, "My life is so good and so busy, yet it never changes so it seems so boring to report! Every day is so full with booking our five chalet apartments in Murren (Switzerland), or volunteer work or skiing or selling travel or tending two fabulous grandchildren who live next door or swimming or visiting other two grandchildren in San Francisco. Am feeling so grateful."

Marion Ginman Classen wrote that all is well in Kinston, NC, where Charlie still practices orthopedics and she continues to make costumes for their Boars Head celebration held on Epiphany or 12th night. They will be taking 13 members of their fam-

ily — including kids and grandkids — on safari in Tanzania in August, which will be "hopefully, an eye-opening experience for all." Marion regrets that she will have to miss our 55th Reunion, as she will be babysitting her grandkids while her eldest and youngest children attend their 20th and 30th reunions at Wellesley that same weekend. In addition to their home in Kinston, Marion and Charlie have a mountain house in Elkin, NC, behind the home of their eldest, and they invite you to visit if you're traveling in the area. Marion's parting words, "Have fun at reunion!!"



Nancy Von Allmen with hiking family in Murren ...



... and with husband Beat

As for the **Hohlers**, it's hard to believe that we've been retired for more than 20 years! I personally feel that we taught during a sort of "golden age," when teachers could be creative with their lesson plans, weren't bothered by having to constantly prepare their students for upcoming standardized tests, and cell phones and the internet did not yet influence the youngsters in our classes. Larry and I continue to enjoy Rotary activities, OLLI courses, political activism, and involvement in Port Jeff Village institutions and events. We travel when we can. In April, four days short of my mother-in-law's 100th birthday, she passed away. We celebrated her life in Norwalk, OH — a well-attended event for a much-beloved person. Last June, Larry and I took another marvelous Viking river cruise — this time along the Rhine from Basle to Amsterdam.

Most of our "free time" is still spent, though, as volunteers maintaining and making plans for "our" flourishing orphanage in Meru, Kenya. We continue to help raise money to fund the orphanage through our non-profit Hope Childrens Fund, Ltd. Currently, we care for nearly 100 youngsters. Visited with them for two weeks last September and will do so again this coming September. Want to join us and meet some incredible Kenyan youth? (Contact me ASAP.) Meanwhile, our daughter, Nikki, and her partner, Jose, continue to work and enjoy life in DC. They come up to LI whenever she needs a "beach fix," and we should probably try to visit them more often in our nation's capital.

Will you be joining us on Western's campus June 7th-9th? Would love to see you! Always looking forward to receiving YOUR news via e-mail, snail mail, and Facebook. Please get and keep in touch. Here's to a Happy 55th Anniversary! Cheers!

Evie Small Hohler '64
301 Owasco Dr.
Port Jefferson, NY 11777
hohlerlj@aol.com



From **Charla Coatoam**: "2018 held a faraway adventure for me. I attended the



Charla Coatoam and friend, Monty

Dickens Fellowship annual conference, which was held in Sydney, Australia, this year. Excellent conference, beautiful city

WESTERN COLLEGE ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION, INC.

FINANCIAL REPORT 2018

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, 2018-December 31, 2018

Club Designations

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

1940

Donor

Kaleen Kocikowski Abel

1942

Century Club

Beatrice Low Notley

Donor

Joan Klein Scheineson

1945

Peabody Society

Beth Shirk Bevan*

McKee Circle

Marilyn Inskeep Fischer *

Clawson Club

Ardis Dechman Coninx *

Century Club

Virginia Cook Marquett

Donor

Jane Harris Bugnand

Ethel Jarvis Fischer

1946

McKee Circle

Maria Urueta Wells

Century Club

Eugenia Thompson Sullivan

Ann Winger Tuttle

1947

Century Club

Joanna Harmeyer Ach

Mary Feller Epreman *

Alyce Baumgartner Haines

Mary-Garnett Tillinghast

Marilyn Trester Woodrich

Donor

Barbara Gunnels Daily *

Jane Alexander Durrell

Louise Gutman Goldberg

1948

McKee Circle

Ellen Siddall Zimmermann

Century Club

Judith Stuchell Mellicker

Donor

Cynthia Adams Leslie

1949

Peabody Society

Mary Jane Liggett Matson

McKee Circle

Arline Bartizal Proctor

Clawson Club

Jane Osgood Tatge

Century Club

Evelyn Jensen Hill

Donor

Betty Huttenbauer Heldman

Margo Freudenthal Kaufman

Guileen Lindsey Manuel

Ann Field Spiegler

1950

McKee Circle

Jane Lloyd Cantoni

Century Club

Patricia Brewer Benjamin

Sally Patterson Day

Carolyn Schlieper

McConnaughe

Donor

Donna Hall Mader

1951

McKee Circle

Ruth Dunlap Will

Century Club

Barbara McGill Benson

Jeanne Owen Buhler

Marilyn Johnson Ross

Alice Merwin Tweedy

Donor

Barbara Van Meter Carey

Jean Dresser Rekow

Mary Peterson Shenefield

Josselyn Bennett Winslow

1952

Peabody Society

Jean Fuller Lester

Betty Jean Wright*

Clawson Club

Catherine Ross Loveland

Century Club

Donna Schulz Bloom

Elizabeth Sipe Gerber

LaVerne Leech Phillips *

Nancy Ryan Rietz

Joanne DuBois Shafer

Donor

Barbara Peterson Block

Mary Sue Allen Gatzert

Nancy Allen Rodgers *

Marian Freund Schillerstrom

1953

Clawson Club

Debra Cohen Kalodner

Century Club

Patricia Wilson Barrett

Beryl Wallman Bennewith

Mary Culver Daniels

Audrey Palmer Jones

Barbara Johnson Mecklenborg

Barbara Johnson Wright

Donor

Gayle R. Barrett

Barb Wonderlich Garver

Cary Kimbark Revere*

1954

McKee Circle

Sandra Franz Barnes

Elizabeth Renton Hale

Century Club

Cornelia Roettcher Levine

Lucy Ann Liggett

Maria Van Waveren Smit

Willa B. Ward

1955

McKee Circle
Charlotte M. Kraebel
Clawson Club
Phyllis Banta Sandmann
Century Club
Charlene Ashing Barry
Margaret Stackhouse Flickinger
Jane Hazelton Gauss
Barbara Giles Grant
Dorothy Runyon Medlin
Mary Sicer Moore

1956

Clawson Club
Carol Silvernail Swager
Century Club
Mihrican Ozdemir Havens
Josephine Haines Huntsinger
Joyce Roark Phillips
Charlotte Leary Ross
Donor
Anne Welch Burnette
Kathryn Peterson Gonzalez
Carol Tincher Keith

1957

Clawson Club
Ellyn Talbott Bogan
Diana Haynes O'Keefe
Charlotte Klein Varzi
Century Club
Paula Zearley Armstrong
Brigitte Jeglin Dahl
Mary Kay Droste Feller
Charlotte Knox Eberhard
Ann Ellison
Susan Mayer Falter
Shirley Rakich Giffin
Lois Rehm Koch
Joan Mueller McNally
Mary Staley Rader
Donor
Helen Hinkel Bradfish
Judith Chumlea-Cohan
Theresa Hill Herrnstein

1958

Peabody Society
Joan Avakian Poritsky
McKee Circle
Jane Smucker Fryman *
Julaine Beasley Kinchla
Jennie Fredley Klim
Polly Smith Venable
Century Club
Donna Carpenter Cornman
Rosa Ewing Goldman
Caroline Kawallek Manildi

* deceased

June Regan Young
Donor
Phyllis Yeamans Bailey

1959

McKee Circle
Ann Ferguson Zeigler
Century Club
Suzanne Rhodes Crankshaw
Nancy Hsieh Kuo
Hatsumi Takenaka Whitehead
Donor
Peggy Mayer Hill
Jane Toy Thomason

1960

Clawson Club
Catherine Bauer Cooper
Century Club
Patricia Alman Halbig
Janet Sandrock MacEwen
Susan Getz Morris
Ursula Seeler Parobek
Mary Flagler Rachau
Christine Dempf Saari
Barbara Kong Vlachos
Donor
Sara White Arn
Claudia White Gilmartin
Sally Allen Masters
Joan Harrison Sievers

1961

McKee Circle
Gail Howell Litwiler
Anne Adkins Weissenborn
Century Club
Sharry Patterson Addison
Flora Zimmerman Cohen
Cecelia Ann Kendrick McCrillis
Sharon Botsford Moyer
Mary De Jong Obuchowski
Donor
Sandra Baarsch Baumgardner
Sandra Metildi Brandt
Ann Bronaugh Kyle
Lynn Bernheim Reese
Marian J. Robinson
Sally Vinnedge Smith

1962

Peabody Society
Donna E. Shalala
Doris Ning Wong
Century Club
Judith Dudman Henderson
Donor
Judith Bauer
Nancy Smith Carlson

Susan Rawlings Dunn
Judith Amos Hubbell

1963

Peabody Society
Susan Berryhill Hill
Century Club
Jill Hartley Fulton
Eva Nortvedt Humbach
Susan Zeller Maxfield
Florence Firjanian McGurk
Carolyn M. Myers
Sally Salo Roman
Sarah Schuster Ronne
Loretta W. Ryder
Nia Jones Terry

Donor

Ellen Brower Brightly
Marjorie Keppel Gross
Sharon Williams Hansen
Elizabeth Doerr Steponkus
Emma Sue Nave Wilson

1964

Peabody Society
Linda Roscoe Felicetti
McKee Circle
Marcia Randlett Oder
Carol Thomas Ruikka
Patricia Spokes Snowden
Clawson Club
Nancy Fierbaugh Collier
Yvette Small Hohler
Century Club
Lynne Drucker Albukerk
Grace Good Bailey
Alice I. Baker
Carol Shuler Butcher
Marion Ginman Classen
Martha B. Cowden*
Nancy Bergmann Killough
Barbara Griswold Marrs
Isabel Kimball Richardson
Kathleen J. Turner
Lois Johnson Wilson

Donor

Janet Wood Beaven
Faith A. Evans
Judith White Fogt
Jeanne Phillips Rannells

1965

Peabody Society
Frances E. Hoffman
Sylvia G. Stanfield
Janet Smith Stephens
Clawson Club
Marie A. Iandoli

Century Club

Betsy Smith Ames
Margaret Warnock Carlough
Rita Gehlhoff
Elizabeth R. Jacobs-Harrison
Barbara Wood Johnson
Sue Brewer Thompson
Donor
Judith E. Beck
Kathleen O'Brian Lillich
Kathy Fansher Parnell
Ann Tetrault Raynor
Sandra Gray White

1966

Peabody Society
Margaret Wilmer Bartlett
McKee Circle
Kathi Ramsey Goldsmith
Clawson Club
Brenda Grant Davis
Hazel Williams Drew
Century Club
Charla A. Coatoam
Charlotte A. Dickerson
Edith Taylor Molumby
Ann E. Walton
Carol Maturo Ward
Donor
Carol Schaefer Judd
Sylvia Hoffman Swartz

1967

McKee Circle
Joan K. Barenholtz
Clawson Club
Muriel Gillette Alexander
Katharine Ehrgood Sturm
Century Club
Janina Chadwick
Jane Gayley DuBois
Carolyn Sparks Kokalis
Annie Wu Lee
Stephanie Smith Siegfried
Marlene Benjamin Tuttle
Jane F. Underwood
Jo Ann Brombaugh Wittmann
Donor
Elisabeth Kessler Caporale
Lois Dickey Coyle
Frances Powell Harris
Carol Stone Lehman
A. Jane Huber Wallace

1968

Peabody Society
Susan Blake
Kathryn Evans Findley
Jeanne Flowers Foster

Ella Weingarten Iams

Patricia A. Jayson

Karen Prah Voris

McKee Circle

Ellen Custer Bowles

Elizabeth C. Metz

Cecelia M. Peabody

Clawson Club

Susan Hackley

Hayat Imam

Jennifer French Sponsler

Reynelda Ware

Century Club

Miho Matsuda Abedini

Brenda Lee Bell

Victoria Choy

Susannah Davids

Patricia Robins Lacey

Ellen M. Myette

Nancy Niver

Susan Williams Oblinger

Leslie Weirman Riley

Anne G. Rothrock

Barbara Williamson Wentz

Mary Russell Yablonsky

1969

McKee Circle

Nancy Wilson Kobayashi

Laura Kaye Hedeon Kory

Century Club

Robin L. Bartlett

Susan Talbot Birkett

Annette Bevan Gallagher

Cecelia Henig

Ann Noble

Carolann Herrold Sharp

Stevie Bentzen Snook

Donor

Nancy Galbraith Karoll

Betsy Philipson Kensinger

Karen Kling Plumb

1970

McKee Circle

Linda Bartruff Hickey

Century Club

Lucy R. Boyle

Pamela Watts Coates

Ellyn Trautmann Pflug

Patricia E. Pinkowski

Donor

Mary Hoge Miller

Nancy Stevenson Townsend

1971

McKee Circle

Christine Jordan Blanchette

Century Club

Susan Wolfe Caceci

Pamela Waldron-Moore

Donor

Lynn K. Erstein

Ligia M. Galarza

Linda Brooks Larsen

Nancy Stokes Saumsiegle

Deborah Ricketts Tolley

1972

Peabody Society

Judith L. McLaughlin

Clawson Club

Linda C. Tuxen

Century Club

Pamela J. Aduskevicz

1973

McKee Circle

V Joan Campbell

Clawson Club

Helene Pasquale Cella

Gita Wijesinghe Pitter

Century Club

Kristin Kirkhoff Campbell

Ann M. Powell

Jane Rossitto

Margaret Littell Strang

Jennifer Wilson

Donor

Rita E. Greene

Linda Li Ng

Nancy Alison Owens

1974

Peabody Society

Elizabeth A. Salt

Century Club

Nancy Anderson

Christine Moranda

Donor

Sue Anderson

Cheryl P. Bonnell

Jeffrey E. Shumaker

Joan Hagan Stoutenborough

1975

Century Club

Mary Logan Foard

1976

Donor

Pheetta G. Wilkinson

Century Club

Betty N. Crutcher

Judy Kalbfus Waldron

Western Friend

Peabody Society

Lee D. Hieronymus

Edward J. Kenney

Linda Newman

Jeffrey Salt

McKee Circle

Daniel J. Fairbanks

Donna and William Matson

Clawson Club

Jerome C. Roof

William T. Trainer

Century Club

Robert Webber

Sten Wiedling

Donor

Ruth Baird Martin

Jeffrey E. Shumaker

Organizations

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Dayton Foundation Depository

Incorporated

Delta Airlines

Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund

General Electric

Hieronymus Family Fund Inc.

LPL Financial

Margaret and Marshall Bartlett

Family Foundation Incorporated

Raymond James Charitable

Endowment Fund

Russell's Garden Center

Charitable Foundation Inc.

The Henry County Community

Foundation Inc.

The Miami Foundation

Voris Family Foundation

Congratulations and Thank You to Our Donors!

Of our active Western College Alumnae, 16.5% contributed to the WCAA in 2018. Considering that nationally for all colleges and universities the average is 12% and for public universities only 9%, our 16.5% speaks volumes for a college no longer in existence!

Memorial Gifts

Louise Kell Ozdemir '21
Mihrican Ozdemir Havens '56

Lois Wiggins Newman '29
Henry County Community Foundation

Helen Corkwell Riley Bierly Sandbo '30
Susan Riley Scherer '55

Marilyn Inskeep Fischer '45
Ann Winger Tuttle '47

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Joan Avakian Poritsky '58

Sybil Wallman Holtzer '47
Beryl Wallman Bennewith '53

Barbara Frazey Kenney '57
Edward Kenney
Donna and William Matson

Sally Riley Bishop '58
Susan Riley Scherer '55

Jane Smucker Fryman '58
Elizabeth Salt '74
Polly Smith Venable '58

Dixie Harris Trainer '58
William Trainer

Judith Ulmer Brockschmidt '61
Sharry Patterson Addison '61
Helen Hinkel Bradfish '57
Flora Zimmerman Cohen '61
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Jerome and Jeanne Roof

Suzanne Detlefsen Meyers '66
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Hazel Williams Drew '66
Loretta W. Ryder '63
Elizabeth Salt '74

Sarah Lewis Ferrebee '69
Mary Kelly Felice '70

Edna Carmen Greaves
Edward J. Kenney FR

In Honor of
Kaye Becker Wolke HA
Judy Waldron HA

Alumnae Weekend Gifts

Anniversary year classes contributed **\$17,865.**

Non-anniversary year classes contributed **\$9,582.**

TOTAL ALUMNAE WEEKEND GIFTS: \$27,447

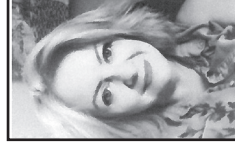
2017 - 2018 Scholarship Recipients

WCAA ALUMNAE SCHOLARSHIPS	Berta Maria Fuentes Melinda Nicole Mienko Jasmine Nana Amma Gyamfua Prempeh John Kelly Whitt		Clara Appel Scholarship Adriana C DeLoach Zoe Grace Douglas Hangyi Li Samantha Usher Yifan Yu
PEABODY SCHOLARSHIPS	Mary Wylie Wilson Scholarship Joshua Raymond Sweet	STUDY ABROAD	Margaret Wilmer Bartlett Scholarship Ruby Sunshine Cribbet Maximilian Cole Micheli
Fritzi Mueller Beckett Scholarship Meghan Sydney Howells Brianna Faith Kelly	General Peabody Scholarship Lamont Eric Bohannon Frenchetta Dione Burks Jean Michelle Collins Carol Leanne Combs Elizabeth A Driscoll Courtney Lee Dulin Stacie Lynn Feller Mireille Audrey Fough Mbindi Donna Lynn Holbrook Martha Delynn Mills Scherrica Danielle Moultrie Raymond Ortiz Kyle Louis Smith Mary Katherine Spoerl	Jean Boyd Cable Scholarship Emily Catherine Froude Katelyn Melissa Scheive	Alma Bremer Scholarship Casey Renee Heindl Kaylie Christine Sampson Spencer Lewis Strohm Micaela Beth Wexler
Marian F. Hawk Scholarship Gift Senior Baffour Gyau Mark Travis Ball Christina M. Burkart Lauren Ashlee Taylor-Bryant	Malcolm D. Hill Scholarship Eman Mohammed Abu-Alwafa Timothy Adam Wiggins	Joseph Thoms and Sarah Darnall Resor Scholarship Eleanor Paige Chinn Mayah Abigail Haidar Phuong Uyen Ho Addison Taylor Patrick Jacob Paul Youst	Evelyn May Davis Scholarship Jeffrey Lwon Caldwell Casey Garnett Rhew Rebecca Helman Scherrer
Phyllis Hoyt Scholarship Deborah Oforiwa Adofo Michelle Lynne Collopy Larry Gardner Amber Rose Habig Kenneth Chance Humphrey Maureen Patricia Ruppert	Grace Chu Scholarship Burak Koray Polat	Lois Wiggins Newman Scholarship Sydni Ann Baker Cecilia Bell Comerford Benjamin Turner von Stein	Catharine A. Gerber Technology Award Arcadia Davies Rowland Tatlor
Barbara Frazey Kenney Scholarship Robyn Barnard Tara Spaulding Carly Jamison Zeis	Grace Chu Scholarship Burak Koray Polat	Florence Predergast Cockerell Scholarship Micailah Imani Guthrie Koons Family Scholarship Rebekah Star Johnson	Hieronymus Family Scholarship Benjamin Hugh Bierley Alissa Ann Cook Bailey Autumn Lepley
Mary West Liggett Scholarship Eman Mohammed Abu-Alwafa Melissa Leslie Horney Tabitha Camille Rogala	Herrick Black Young International Scholarship Nabin Bastola	Grace Osgood Scholarship Xiao Xuan Chua John Huoi Ngoo Florence Turner	Marie Iandoli Scholarship Jacob Henderson Almeda
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Susanna Rieley McIntyre Scholarship Elizabeth Alice Wilburn	Multicultural Scholarship: International Nabin Bastola Yvonne Hellen Opuh	Edith H. Von Tacky Scholarship Ronald Lee Kelhoffer Gage A Roberts	Lois McCullough Whitter Scholarship Jamaira Helm Heather Storm McCowan
Helen Kaslo Osgood Scholarship Elizabeth A Driscoll Afton Nicole Martin	MULTICULTURAL US RESIDENT R/L/V Scholarship Graciela Rose Hart Kevin L Kong	Lydia Zimmerman Scholarship Matthew Griffin Faulkner Micailah Imani Guthrie Megan Elizabeth Sens Sarah Joan Strack	WCAA Memorial Scholarship Arcadia Laurel Davies
Rowena Snyder Scholarship Candice Necole Davis	Multicultural Scholarship: U.S. Resident Worley Drew Stidham	General Study Abroad Scholarships McCarthy L Kneppshield Justin T Moon Kathleen Maureen Rigazio Cooper Charles Terwin Jacob Paul Youst	WCAA Trustee Scholarship Kristie Cordeiro Arcadia Laurel Davies Elizabeth Grace Huddleston
		OTHER SCHOLARSHIPS/AWARDS	

Olivia R Overmoyer
 Nicholas Andrew Saxton
 Zachary Scott Sudnik
Western College Scholarship
 Marcela Caraveo Cohen
 Daniel L Craft
 Adriana C DeLoach
 Rachel A Kotchman
 Zachary Stephen Vanderink



"As an Individualized Studies major in the Western Program, I have come to love the spirit of friendship that roams the rooms of Peabody Hall. Through my education in the Western Pro-gram, I have been exposed to so many different cultures and have learned through different lenses. As a first-generation college student, my education has always been my top priority. With your generous support, I am able to continue my education in this wonderful program." *Heather '20*



"I am a non-traditional student who is a single mom, trying to help my daughter through college too, by supporting her. I work one full-time and one part-time job. I am the first of my siblings to obtain a degree. I sincerely appreciate your assistance with the scholarship I was awarded. It is very nice to know that people care enough to help others out and I will try to pay it forward in any way I can. Thank you!" *Judy '20*



"I am honored to be one of the recipients of the WCAA Multicultural Scholarship. Throughout my college experience, I have always felt like my dream of pursuing a career in industrial engineering is becoming a reality, thanks to your support and mentorship. Growing up in a less privileged community (Nairobi), a higher education has always been considered a luxury for a girl. However, through your support you have empowered me to believe in my potential and to chase my career and life goals." *Yvonne '19*



"As an involved student at Miami University (Speech Pathology and Audiology major), I greatly admire the Western College's establishment of an honor system, domestic service credit, and music and dance programs. I am so thankful to have support from an association whose values align so strongly with mine. Thank you for giving me the confidence to embrace every opportunity I am presented with, for it has already made my Miami journey so amazingly fulfilling." *Paige '20*

Alumnae Scholarships Awarded to an outstanding incoming student enrolled in the College of Arts and Science or Fine Arts. Award covers one-half the cost of tuition and is based on merit, then 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.

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

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.

Study Abroad Scholarships Awarded to undergraduate students enrolled in either a semester or full year study abroad program. One-time partial award.

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

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

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

One hundred eighteen scholarships/awards totaling \$265,847 were distributed for 2018-2019 thanks to YOUR support! To learn more about creating a named scholarship, please call WCAA Director Mackenzie Becker Rice at 513-529-4400.

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.



Jeanne Ott Saunders '40
Nancy A. Myers '46
Jane Alexander Durrell '47
Mary-Garnett Tillinghast '47
Julia Ashcraft Armstrong '48
Grete Stern Wrede '51
Elizabeth Sipe Gerber '52
Catherine Ross Loveland '52
Gloria Wilson Sylvester '52
Mary Culver Daniels '53
Sandra Franz Barnes '54
Miriam Chesslin '54
Lucy Liggett '54
Maria Van Waveren Smit '54
Rosa Ewing Goldman '58
Caroline Kawallek Manildi '58
Ann Ferguson Zeigler '59
Anne Adkins Weissenborn '61
Susan Berryhill Hill '63
Joan Kowalski Jordan '63
Florence Firjanian McGurk '63

Lynne Drucker Albukerk '64
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Patricia Spokes Snowden '64
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Mary Kelly Felice '70
Ann M. Powell '73
Christine Moranda '74
Elizabeth Salt '74
Lorna Jordan '81
Ann Rosenfield '83
Curtis W. Ellison HA
Burton Kaufman FF
Judy Kalbfus Waldron HA
David A. Rook and Svetlana Beros Rook 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 Mackenzie Becker Rice, WCAA Director: (513) 529-4400, e-mail: beckerml@miamioh.edu

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

Call For Nominations

ALUMNAE SERVICE AWARD

Western College Alumnae Association, Inc.

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

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

The award will be presented at Alumnae/i Weekend 2020, June 11-14.

Please fill out the following form and mail by September 15, 2019 to:

ALUMNAE SERVICE AWARD COMMITTEE
WCAA, INC.

For further information, call 513-529-4400 or E-mail: wcaa@miamioh.edu

To fax your nomination, 513-529-7400

I WISH TO NOMINATE:

Name(s) _____ Class of _____

(Please include all information as the selection will be **based on this nomination form**.)

Attach any additional pages, bios, clippings, letters, etc.)

Please mail no later than September 15, 2019.

• Community and Humanitarian Service

• Professional or Career Accomplishments

• Service to Western College, Western College Program, and/or to the Western College Alumnae Association, Inc.

Your Name _____ Class of _____

Telephone or Email _____

PAST AWARD RECIPIENTS

(please do not re-nominate)

*deceased
^posthumous

- 2019 Peggy Cooper Davis '64
Jane Smucker Fryman '58^
Patricia Jayson '68
Suzanne Off Schroepe '52^
- 2018 Donavon Auble, former faculty
Esin Aka Atil '58
Judith Dudman Henderson '62
Frances E. Hoffman '65
Mary Kaye Wolke HA
- 2017 Farida Abou Shady '69
Beth Merrill Dixon '86
- 2016 Jennie Lou Fredley Klim '58
Suzanne Lutz May '66
Rhian Miller '78
John Rego '81
- 2015 Vasso Papagregory Louvakis '57
Gretchen Wampler McDowell
Mousetis '58*^
Shirin Kassam Velji '65
- 2014 Yvette Small Hohler '64
Katharine Piper '58*^
Doris Ning Wong '62
- 2013 Lolita McDavid '69
Yoriko Konishi Meguro '61
Cary Kimbark Revere '53*
- 2012 Anne Adkins Weissenborn '61
- 2011 Judy K. Waldron HA
- 2008 Patrick Callahan '83
Kathleen Hayes Ransier '69
- 2007 Hélène Mambu-Ma Disu '72
Rachel DeLugish Hastings '94
- 2006 Deborah J. McDuffie '71
Ann B. Rosenfield '83
- 2005 Kyle W. Farley '83
Lucy A. Liggett '54
- 2003 Emily Wilson Greenland '47*
Catherine Ross Loveland '52
Sylvia G. Stanfield '65
- 2002 Deborah L. Moran '72
- 2001 Ruth Elzey Rawlings '31*
Josselyn Bennett Winslow '51
- 2000 Gay Belcher Hadley '52
- 1999 Dorothy Mershon Bajak '48*
Robin Lynn Bartlett '69
Jane Alexander Durrell '47
- 1998 Janet Smith Dickerson '65
Ann Niehaus Tobias '50*
- 1997 Phyllis Hoyt FF*
Eleanor Van Dervort Talbot '34*
- 1996 Mary Kinzie '66
- 1995 Catherine Bauer Cooper '60
Valerie Dickson-Horton '71
- 1994 Martha McKee Keehn '43*
Nancy Ewing Travis '40*
- 1993 Carman Wolff Hunter '43*
Margaret Gardner Markel '27*
- 1992 Donna E. Shalala '62
- 1991 Rosemary Ferguson Dybwad '31*
Helen Potts Felsenthal '56*
- 1990 Betty Maddox Daniels '46
Nancy Boerner Larkin '48*
D. Ann Goldstone Marcus '43*
- 1989 Elizabeth Brown Peelle '54
- 1988 Alice Lanterman Hammond '28*
Frances Hall King '29*



Jane Murphy '66: Daughter Katherine's "beautiful and untraditional wedding"

(it was their spring) with several day trips — wineries, mountains, parks. I did my best — attended a concert at the beautiful Sydney Opera House, patted a koala at a wildlife preserve, drank the local wine, welcomed foraging lorikeets to my outdoor café table (the restaurant staff did not), enjoyed harbor and river cruises, and visited some of Sydney's beautiful gardens and museums. So much to do — not enough time. At home I continue to be involved in literary organizations and enjoy entertaining and tending my garden. I visited with **Jane Graham Murphy** and we stay in touch by phone or e-mail. I'm looking forward to 2019 still enjoying retirement!"

From **Jane Graham Murphy**: "My younger daughter was married a year ago, which I forgot to share last year. The wedding was very beautiful and untraditional. My family,



The Murphys' Christmas in Switzerland

with the exception of my son, celebrated Christmas in Switzerland. Becca and Wes and their two children and Katherine and Ryan are all excellent skiers. They all agree now that skiing in the Alps has ruined their experience of skiing in the East. Since I was having knee replacement surgery a week later, I enjoyed sipping wine and being a spectator on the decks. Katherine and I had fun touring in Ireland in April 2018. The prior December my granddaughter Lil and I had a grand time touring Scotland. I am hoping she will consider attending graduate school there but that's really setting long range goals since she is a high school senior now. My short and long term goals focus on being able to enjoy walking again and to continue traveling."

From me {Kathi}: We started 2018 with a week in Hawaii for our granddaughter's wedding. There were over 80 guests who made the trip and it was a wonderful time. I have continued placing my Free Lending libraries for Children around Prineville. We received a grant this year to buy new books for all five of them. In May, an old friend from Ohio met us at our Tahoe cabin for a week. In July our cousins from St. Louis came to the ranch for a week-long visit. Since last fall, we have been helping a Honduran family seeking asylum. We are learning a lot about the immigration and asylum process. What I have learned is that it is complex and confusing. It is definitely set up so that it is extremely difficult for anyone to be approved. In Oregon less than 40 percent are granted asylum and that is with an immigration lawyer. It is less than 10 percent without a lawyer. On a more positive note, Rich and I are doing well and still managing to keep the ranch going without help, but I fear that will change in the coming years. We are very excited and looking forward to the birth of our first great-grandchild this coming August.

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Dear Classmates! Well, we've achieved the milestone of membership in the Meily Society — honoring the 50th anniversary of our graduation. It was a glorious weekend of celebration and reflection. I was so very happy to be able to attend and spend three days with all of you who were able to be there. And also, I was able to introduce my husband to Western — he has heard ad infinitum about Western, and has met several Western friends. But finally, after visiting the campus, meeting so many alumnae, and at-



Bob and Margie (Custer '68) Bowles, celebrating their golden anniversary

tending most of the events, he understood what Western means to me, and to all of us. At the Business Meeting, we heard Dean Christopher Makaroff, Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences, tell us about an exciting new center at Miami, which you read about on pages 8 and 9 of the Fall 2018 *Bulletin*. The Center is called the Western Center for Social Impact and Innovation. Please also see Hayat's comments on page 9, given at the Reunion, including the following: "It is truly heartening that the qualities that made Western most special, its dedication to Service and Social Responsibility, will be a continuing legacy at Miami University." So far the Center has received \$310,000 in donations from non-Western graduates, and about \$5,500 from Western graduates plus \$10,000 through Alumnae Weekend giving last June. Please note the large amount of donations from non-Western graduates who support the mission of the Center and value Western College.

For me, 2018 travel included an April trip to Paris with my sister, **Gretchen Blake Roy '71**, and her two daughters, one of whom is now married and living in Paris. Then Joel joined us, and he and I continued on to the Dordogne, a very beautiful area, with few tourists in the spring. There were also two trips to Maine to visit Gretchen and trips to western North Carolina to visit family. We survived the California fires, none near us, but we had to wear masks outdoors because the air was so bad. As I write on February 1, we are being inundated with rain — our sump pump is going continuously! Quite a change after five drought years. In May of 2019, Joel and I will travel to southern Africa: Cape Town, then Victoria Falls and Botswana. We are thrilled to have this opportunity! I continue busily with service on two boards, one a local music organization, and the other as a new member of our WCAA Board! I also have twice-monthly neighborhood book club meetings (at one of which I recently directed a short play), and activities and committee work at another Berkeley club I am quite active in. Those activities plus exercise, including yoga, hiking and walking our dog, keep us both quite busy.

Sandy Chanis is still as happy as happy can be: healthy, living with her soulmate of 23 years (John Cadman) in her home in Carlsbad, CA. At present she is busy creating sculptures for a solo art show she will have in coming months. She is still making the anticipated individually made sculpture awards for GLAS Animation which takes place in Berkeley, which then find their homes all over the world! Wishing all of you the same joy she is experiencing in life.

Margie Custer Bowles and her husband, Bob, returned to Western for their 50th! Even though Bob also graduated 50 years ago from Miami, he preferred to join us at Western! Bob and Margie posed for a picture in Kumler Chapel where they were married 50 years ago in April before graduation! Margie was so delighted that her freshman year floor mate, **Betsy Campbell Metz**, and her husband, Tom, joined the celebrations. Betsy did not graduate from Western, yet she always felt it was her alma mater. She pursued her teaching credential at another institution. Margie wrote, "It was a delight to visit with all who attended. The years slipped away as friendships continued to blossom. We were hosted so beautifully with events, meals and some free time just to explore all the changes that have continued to beautify our lovely campus."

Kitsy Dunlop continues to enjoy horse camping and weekend trail riding with her husband, Greg, and their local horse club. While horse camping in Troy, AL, this last summer, she was able to enjoy "swimming" with her horse for the first time. "Very exhilarating!"



Kitsy Dunlop, enjoying a swim with a friend

Another family dynamic has been Greg's uniting with eight siblings from his birth father's family and five siblings from his birth mother's family. Adopted at birth, Greg began his search a few years ago, discovering his mother's family through a public obituary. Newspaper announcements are important! This past year, Ancestry.com led him to his birth father's family. Amazing is the impact of the DNA era! The connection has been meaningful for all. Kitsy wishes all a year of good health of family JOY.



Jeanne Flowers Foster and "kids"

Kathy Evans Findley wrote that Hurricane Florence put three feet of water inside her and Jim's home in New Bern, NC. It was cost prohibitive to restore and rebuild, so they will raze the house and sell the property when the speculators go away. Meanwhile, they have purchased a new home that is considerably higher in elevation and on a golf course. (With so many losses in the area, getting a builder is at least a two-year wait.) Granddaughter Sophie (14) spent several weeks this summer with Kathy and Jim and attended a local theater workshop. (She excelled in singing and improv.) Grandson Alex celebrated his first birthday with both sets of grandparents in attendance. He is smart and cute just like everyone's grandchild. Kathy and Jim took a bucket-list cruise to Cuba that was interesting, relaxing and fun. The workers' paradise didn't have very many creature comforts, but the Cubans they came in contact with were gracious and welcoming.

Jeanne Flowers Foster loved being back on the Western Campus and connecting with old friends for the 50th reunion. Jeanne's big news for 2018 is her retirement as national director of the Oasis Intergenerational Tutoring program. She misses her great staff and colleagues but is looking forward to some new volunteer opportunities in health, nutrition, and physical fitness. She and her entire extended family (17 people!) celebrated Jeanne's retirement on the Big Island of Hawai'i. It took a couple years of planning to get everyone scheduled, but she reports that the week of family time was "priceless."

Susan Hackley wrote that it was a joy to be back on our beautiful campus for our reunion, and most of all to reconnect with some of the great women of WCW '68. She is deeply grateful that she got to explore and share her memories of Western and the Sixties in her chapel talk; it was very meaningful for her. She's still working fulltime at Harvard Law School. Loving her job makes it hard to give up, though retirement beckons, too. She's also excited to be nearing completion of a five-year project, a half-hour documentary film, *Veteran Children*, about the impact of our wars on America's children. It's a labor of love, and it's definitely also hard work and challenging. Every year she goes to Alaska, where her son lives; her daughter and family

live nearby in Wellesley. She's feeling very fortunate, despite health issues. She rode a camel in Dubai in late 2018!

Hayat Imam wrote that 2018 was both an amazing year and also a sad year for her: a new baby grandson came along, born exactly on her mother's birthday, and later that year her mother passed away peacefully. Hayat was thrilled to see old friends at the 50th Western College reunion and enjoyed seeing the Legacy Circle. She sends her best wishes to Western friends, the grandest group of women ever!

Brenda Lee Bell thoroughly enjoyed reconnecting with classmates at our 50th reunion, especially rooming again with **Karen Voris**. Attendees were such interesting and accomplished women and included a few husbands (and one son!) who were remarkably good sports. She enjoyed seeking out old favorites in Oxford and on Miami's campus with husband Brian, as well. After an excellent road trip to and from the reunion, that allowed visits with good friends along the way, life in The Villages continues at its usual brisk pace. Highlights include a two-day painting workshop with Jane Slivka, multiple trips to Disney and the completion of a reversible tee-shirt quilt on her grandmother's sewing machine for daughter Kristen. She is now a retired quilter and admires anyone who has ever made more than one! 2019 brings a tiny great, great-niece to visit, anticipated houseguests and a week at the beach before the lazy days of summer. Brenda wishes all good health and happy days ahead.



Miho Abedini (right) with Chako Era and Nancy Kobayashi '69,

Miho Matsuda Abedini wrote that last year was a year of full happy and sad memories. In February, she and Mansour enjoyed a Caribbean cruise. In June she attended the great reunion in Oxford, followed a reconnection with her old friend **Nevine Fawzy** with the help of **Maria Maldonado '70**. During the summer, Miho and Mansour had a two-month stay in Iran experiencing the unexpected high inflation. In late autumn, she visited her mother in Japan. Shortly after her return to Toronto, she learned that her mother was seriously ill and she had to fly back to Japan. Her mother (99) passed away peacefully at home the last week of January. To quote Miho: "Life goes on like this."

Chako Matsumoto Era's daughter, Sumiko, invited Chako and Koh to celebrate their golden wedding anniversary at a Chinese restaurant. Miho called Chako last year while she was visiting her family in Tokyo. Miho, **Nancy Kobayashi '69** and Chako had a lunch to see the photo collection of **Susie Kitagawa '59** (who passed way last April), which Nancy has kept, and to remember Susie.

Nancy Niver wrote that in 2017 she moved into the Long Beach, CA, beach house her parents built in 1942. It's only 550 sq. ft., but a totally fun and creative place



Nancy

to live. Recently, **Jill Hallett Levis** and her husband, Bob, stayed with her. Nancy loves having guests at her tiny house but they have to be warned not to bend over in the shower because the door flies open. She's also seeing **Sandra Chanis** and sees **Pamela Knowles '70** when Pam is in California.

Last summer Nancy went on a culinary trip to Portugal for 18 days. Lots of cooking demos, eating, drinking and walking. She said it was a miracle that she only gained 4 lbs. Then in the fall she enrolled at Long Beach City College and took a course in music theory. She had not taken a serious class since Western but was determined to work hard and create some new brain cells, and in the end received an A. In February, she will be assisting artist Patrick Dougherty in creating an environmental installation made of sticks at the Long Beach Museum of Art. (See his

work at www.stickworks.net.) Then in June, she goes to the Santa Cruz mountains for a week to attend Jazz Camp as she has every summer since retiring in 2012. She says it has inspired her to keep singing, explore jazz and take more theory classes. Life is good.

Cece Peabody attended our 50th reunion in June joined by her son, Patrick Yannarelli. He was impressed with the campus, our classmates, and amazed that we still care about our college even after 50 years. And he fit right in with everyone. Cece noted that it was impressive that our classmates came from far and wide to share in this weekend ... and to now be a part of the Meily Society and have a "secret" handshake ... that topped it all. Cece continues to be the Executive Director of the New Jersey Turfgrass Association, a professional membership association of almost 1,000 members that holds events to raise monies for Rutgers students, research projects in turfgrass, and for professors. She also has recently become part of a Rutgers committee to target student recruitment for the Rutgers turfgrass undergraduate programs, an exciting adventure to be sure. Cece wishes all an amazing 2019 filled with adventures, good health, and lots of fun!"

Karen Prah Voris writes from Arizona that it was great to see the Western campus and the Class of '68 attendees. It's been a wonderful year of travel — Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia in January; Finland with their two daughters for a "Roots" trip; England to see the Ph.D. dance performance of daughter **Amy (WCP '94)**; and U.S. travels. John and Karen love spending summers in Gig Harbor, WA, about an hour from their three granddaughters. 2019 will be another travel year — Patagonia in January, the Master's in April, and England in July with the whole family to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary.

Patty Robins Lacey visited the Yucatan in February 2018 to see the Maya Civilization archaeological sites. She continues on the Cortez, CO, Historic Preservation Board, volunteers at Canyons of the Ancients National Monument, plays in the Four Corners Community Band, and helps at church. She enjoys book club, water aerobics, and walks.

Karen Rengier Farmer retired from her career of 45 years as a psychotherapist in August 2018. She has no regrets about the decision but does miss her colleagues and clients a lot. The local VNA has a program similar to NPR's Story Corps, and Karen will soon be interviewing VNA patients as well as "storytellers" from nearby councils on aging to



Barbara Wentz, with Paul and Susan Hackley

make their lifelong experiences permanent on CDs. This will definitely help to fill the void along with travel (February to Thailand) and to Brooklyn and Pittsburgh where her daughters and grandkids live. She is pleased to have Neil, her husband of 46 years, continue to accompany her on this journey called life!

Meike Trommsdorff had two eye operations last year, and it took a lot of time to come back to "normal." Now, everything is fine except that she has lately started to feel REALLY OLD! She hates winter — and they are having lots of snow lately!!! She hopes we are all fine! And she writes, "If anyone is planning to come (near) Munich, Germany, please let me know!" She sends all her best wishes to all of us.

Susie Williams Oblinger had a great time at reunion in June. She proclaims that the skit at our next reunion will be longer and better! For her, looking outside at the snow falling, reading a good book is one of life's pleasures. When she retired, she realized that every day would be a snow day! That rocks! Her granddaughters continue to bring her joy every day. Having tea parties and playing games are so much fun when there is a precious granddaughter calling you Grammy. That's what life is all about! She is continuing to enjoy trips across the country to Oregon to visit her 4-year-old granddaughter there. She sends love to all her Western friends! "What a great reunion weekend!"

Barbara Williamson Wentz reports that Erv continued to have health challenges in 2018, but they did take their winter Glamping trip to visit friends and family in the South. In Florida, they visited Brian and **Brenda Bell**. After Erv's back surgery in May, they walked down the aisle of Kumler Chapel in Oxford in June to renew their wedding vows. Because it was reunion weekend at Western, **Brenda Bell**, **Susan Blake**, and **Karen Voris**, three of their bridesmaids, were able to share this happy event, as well as their daughter, grandchildren, and several other classmates. Barbara was thrilled to see classmates and enjoy the 50th reunion of the great class of 1968.



Barbara Wentz (center) with Anne and Britt Rothrock

In August, she and Erv flew to Minneapolis for the wedding of their oldest granddaughter. Other travel this year included a final Glamping trip to their favorite destination, New England, where they enjoyed cool weather, beautiful leaves and visits with **Anne Rothrock**, **Susan Hackley**, **Pat Jason** and **Fran Hoffman '65**. They have sold their trailer and will have to find new ways to enjoy their love of travel. With Erv's health issues they are still trying to establish their "new normal," but are thrilled they live in a community which can meet their needs and that they are together. Barbara is happy to continue serving Western on the Board of Trustees and looks forward to being joined by Susan Blake and Cece Peabody.

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Let me begin with a shout-out to **Maria Maldonado**, who supplied so many notes this year — thank you!! She really connected with a lot of people and also sent along some great pictures. Maria reconnected with **Pamela Waldron-Moore** (of Guyana), who is a professor at Xavier University of Louisiana. They met up a second time for a Broadway show, lunch, and a dance performance at Grant's Tomb park, starring **Pamela Knowles**. The two Pamelas had not seen each other in decades, so it was a very happy occasion. Maria attended an art exhibit where **Lola Schmidt Stanton '67** (Nicaragua) had a couple of pieces in the exhibition, and met **Elisa Kessler-Caporale '67** there. She also had a great weekend with **Sappho Haralambous** and **Michele Slung '69** at Pamela Knowles' wonderful cottage in Massachusetts. Speaking of



Maria Maldonado (left), Pamela Knowles, and Pamela Waldron-Moore '71

Sappho, she still lives in Rome but spends time in Greece, volunteering with Mosaik, a support center for refugees and locals in Lesvos, which provides services from language classes to legal aid.

As to Maria's own activities, she and husband Bernie started a support group for people in Middletown, NJ, who have reached their platinum years and are facing old age issues (health, finances, mobility, downsizing, loneliness). Starting with only seven people at the local library, they are up to 23 people now. She continues as a volunteer for Citizenship Now! sponsored by CUNY and the NY *Daily News*, to help immigrants become U.S. citizens. Her not-for-profit New Women New Yorkers has continued to grow and prosper as the number of graduates increases. She still conducts a workshop for the United Nations Institute for Training and Research designed to teach new diplomats how the United Nations General Assembly works, and how to draft, negotiate, and submit resolutions for adoption. Maria intends to be at Reunion 2020 along with Pam Knowles and Sappho.

Sherry Glickman is still living in Nyack, NY, and loving retirement. She and her husband travel extensively and have two grandchildren living in Boston and the Berkshires. A note to **Leslie Boyer Haines**: "where are you? I have such great memories of us spending the last trimester traveling cross country, writing a paper on child rearing practices across the USA, and receiving a 4.0 for a wonderful, eye-opening experience. I would love to hear from you at sherrilah@optonline. net Sherry hopes to be at Reunion 2020.

Pamela Watts Coates and husband Ted head off on another bucket trip, a trans-Atlantic cruise with a few days in London. She's working on genealogy and hopes to connect with a maternal cousin while in England. Unfortunately, no sign of grandkids yet. Pam will be at Reunion 2020.

Sally Spayth Slattery was heading off to Anna Maria Island, FL, to escape the Cincinnati winter when she e-mailed. She is headed to Italy with **Barbara Burgess VanAken** for a delayed 70th birthday celebration. Sally is still busy with volunteering, political activism, travel, yoga, loving eight grandchildren and taking naps! Sounds about perfect!

Catherine Smith Strate thought she retired two years ago, but was recently recalled by Emory University to fulfill a temporary position for six months. She had retired as the Director of Enrollment Services at the School of Public Health working with 1,500 master students. In the meantime she graduated from the Candler School of Theology a year ago with a second master's in Religious Leadership with an emphasis in Social Justice, Conflict Transformation and Peace Building. She is working at different levels of congregations and the Synod to heighten awareness and develop advocacy programs for social justice. Catherine and Harry celebrated their 45th anniversary in May with visits to their far-apart children, a son with two grandchildren in New York and daughter in LA with another granddaughter. Catherine says they will stay in Atlanta for a couple years and then decide what is next. She definitely plans to be in Oxford for reunion.

A sad note came from **Nancy Tuan Yang Hsuing** reporting the loss of her husband, Tom, in February 2018. They had been married for 48½ years and had spent much time caring for their grandchildren, Frank and Rose. Nancy is glad to have her family close, and is working with Frank on Chinese calligraphy. I was so sorry to hear of your loss.

It's a quiet life on Whidbey Island, WA, and I too love my retirement. After a life lived in cities, except my Western years, my life has changed completely and it's hugely restorative. Still thinking about how my years in nonprofit work can be useful here. There are over 100 efforts on this small island, but my interests lie most with helping our resident pod of orcas that are living in life-threatening circumstances. Traveling still to our beloved Kona as often as we can.

By my count, at least eight of us will, or will try to be at Reunion 2020. We will advise the date as soon as it is known. Have a great year.

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Maria Maldonado (right) with Elisa Kessler Caporale (left) and Lola Schmidt Stanton, both '67

Editors' Favorite: Yet another of what we call "Small (Western) World" stories. '72 Class Rep **Beth Cramp Dague** seems to have more than her share of them [see Spring '17 Bulletin, p 22.]

Recently, I was teaching a class at Quilt Beginnings in Dublin, OH. One of my students was dressed in full Miami University regalia and we looked a comparable age. I thought we might have been in Oxford about the same time. I told her that I was a Western grad and asked when she graduated.

Her name is Diane Rudder and she had originally gone to Wilmington College but had left early to get married. Fast forward some years, she and her husband had two kids in college and she had the need to contribute more, financially to their education. She felt if she could finish her degree it would be possible. But with two kids already in college it was just out of the question.

Through some channels she heard of the scholarships the Western College Alumnae Association was offering especially for returning students. She applied and received one. Diane shared the importance of that "blessing" from the WCAA. It was a stepping stone, not only for added family income but future degrees and professions.

I listened to the gratitude in her voice when she expressed her appreciation for the WCAA and her scholarship. I realized so many things would not have been possible without that jumpstart. I was reminded of the long line of achievers that made it all so possible. I was proud to be a part of that lineage. Western Lives On!

Beth

Wendy Anold Seeley has been living in Venice, FL, for the last few years. The transition from Washington, CT, where she had lived for more than 40 years was difficult. However, she reports that life is actually quite lovely in Florida. The days are warm and sunny with bright blue skies and amazing clouds. Moving from a "blue" state, she has to be mindful of her political conversations and is trying to listen and to understand what others believe. It is difficult and can be quite frustrating given the country's current political climate.

She has made some good friends from all over the U.S. as many of Florida's residents are transplants from other states. Since retiring in 2014 from the education field, Wendy wanted to continue to give back. She is a volunteer guardian ad litem for the Florida foster care system, a big sister in the Big Brother/Big Sister national organization, active in the missions of her church, and walks dogs at a local shelter. Walking, gardening, biking, and yoga fill up her days. She and her husband, Greg, have been a "Miami Merger" for 46½ years. Last year they went boating in the northern Gulf Canadian islands with their cousins, took a Viking River cruise from St. Petersburg to Moscow, and have planned another cruise this year from Amsterdam to Budapest. Their son, Bryan, lives in Long Island City, NY, and is the Executive VP and Assistant Deputy General Counsel to Major League Baseball.

To get away from the Florida heat, Wendy took a six-week road trip north and actually spent time in Oxford, taking a tour down memory lane on the Western campus. Alan deCourcy, her husband's cousin, and his wife, Lynne Hugo, came to Western to marry them in 1972 and Alan became the chaplain for a few years before the college closed. However, they still live just outside the town.

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Amy Robinson Collins and her husband, Jim, sold their house in Ohio and moved into a new home near Colorado Springs, CO, in April 2018. They have a view of Pikes Peak from their yard. They had to get used to dry



Dilu Walji Valliani '74 (right), with husband **Aziz Valliani**, daughter **Amira**, and son-in-law **Karan**. Amira and Karan were married in Connecticut in September 2018

air and 100-degree heat in the summer. They made it through two big hailstorms which caused damage to their home. Despite all of these weather inconveniences, Amy says, "We love the 300 days of sunshine and get outdoor exercise almost every day." In November 2018, Amy and Jim left Colorado to spend the winter at their condo in Wilmington, NC, where they stayed until February 2019.

Holly Wright Johnson retired from the Howard County (Maryland) Public Library System at the end of June 2018. Her husband, Bruce, retired (again) from the Library of Congress in February 2019. Holly and Bruce have downsized and moved to Annapolis, MD. They are keeping busy with their Coast Guard Auxiliary volunteer work and hope to spend more time this summer sailing Chesapeake Bay on their sailboat.

Janet Lucas retired from her ob-gyn medical practice in June 2018. She says, "In one whirlwind week in June, I turned 65, had office hours for the last time, shared my sister's delight as she welcomed her first grandchild, and left for a two-week stay in Florida with our mom, who is 91 and going strong." Janet and her partner, Sherrill Howard, spent time in 2018 working on re-plastering five rooms in their 1880s Victorian home in Columbus, OH, and also made some improvements to their cabin in New Hampshire. These included adding an attached garage and a fire pond with a hydrant dry valve. They also spent time in Vermont and the Adirondacks to visit family and to see their granddaughters in a school play and dance recital and to see their grandson playing soccer. They also went to a family reunion in St. Augustine, FL, for Thanksgiving 2018.

Chris Moranda and her wife, Jane Russell, took a cruise in 2018 that started in Tahiti and went to others of the Society Islands, the Marquesas Islands, and Hawaii. Chris has

just begun her second term on the WCAA Board of Trustees; she served her first term 1997-2003.

Nick Toth writes, "We recently received a 3.2 million dollar grant from the John Templeton Foundation to study the driving forces of human cognitive evolution, which will fund three years of field work and science outreach in Tanzania, the Republic of Georgia, and China."



Nick Toth



Kathy Schick

Nick and his wife, Kathy Schick are archaeologists with the Stone Age Institute in Bloomington, IN. [Check out: www.magbloom.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/The-Stone-Age-Institute.pdf]

During March 2019, they traveled and lectured in Tanzania and also met **Mohammed al-Barwani '75** for a visit on the island of Zanzibar.

Dilu Walji Valliani's daughter, Amira, was married in September 2018. Dilu and her husband, Aziz, have done a lot of travel during the last year. They have made frequent trips to Seattle, Boston, and Houston and also went to Portugal during 2018. In January 2019, they took an interesting trip to Vietnam.

Nancy Anderson Wilkinson and her husband, Pat, spent two weeks in France during September 2018. Nancy is still working, but she is thinking about retirement which would allow more time for travels, hobbies, or interesting second careers.

I (Betsy) am keeping busy with my Westerville, OH, volunteer activities at Inniswood Metrogardens and the Hanby House, an historical home that was a stop on the Underground Railroad.

My main event of interest for 2018 was a cruise through the South Pacific in late November and early December. I flew to Tahiti, where I got on the cruise ship Regent Seven Seas Mariner. From Tahiti, the ship went to Raiatea and Bora Bora in the Society Islands. We had two days at sea after visiting Bora Bora, and then the ship stopped at American Samoa. We spent one day there on the island of Tutuila, and then went to Samoa (the country), which is just west of American Samoa. American Samoa and Samoa were refreshingly non-touristy, and the people were very friendly. From there, the ship made two stops in Fiji at Suva and Lautoka. Fiji gets a lot more tourists than Samoa does. There were many tourist shops and Fijian cultural and dance programs to see. The cruise ended in New Zealand, where I spent three extra days sightseeing around the northern part of the North Island before I flew home.

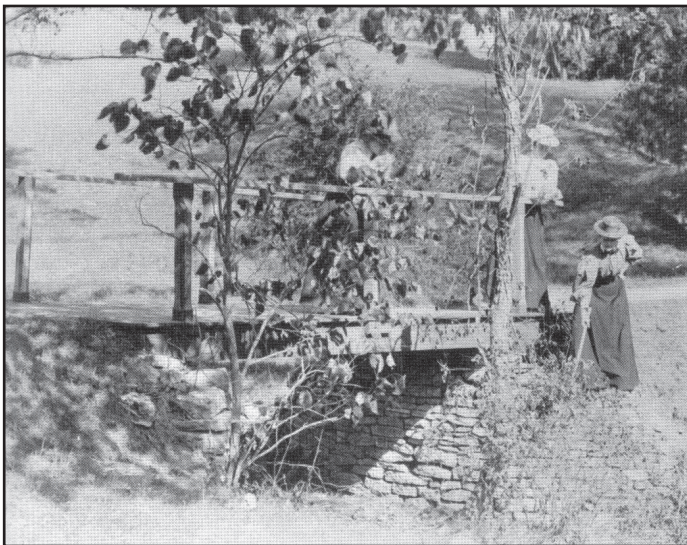
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Happy to report a small but lively DIY reunion! **Betsy Salt '74** convened the Columbus group at Giammarco's Italian Restaurant on Saturday, April 27 and provided an update on WCAA Board and campus activities, including the new Western Center for Social Impact and Innovation. Her engaged audience consisted of **Joan Campbell '73**, **Jan Chadiwick '67**, **Gretchen Zimmerman Crawford '61**, **Ella Brown McMahon '63** (and friend Constance), and **Nancy Ryan Rietz '52**.



Following a busy two and a-half days of Board meetings (April 8-10), Pheetta and fellow WCAA trustees **Sylvia Stanfield '65**, **Fran Hoffman '65**, and **Sharry Patterson Addison '61** attended the annual M.I.A.M.I. WOMEN Leadership Symposium. Keynote speaker, nationally known personal-finance journalist and author Jean Chatzky addressed the theme, "Know Your Value." But they were particularly impressed with the closing session, a panel discussion of diversity and inclusion, moderated by University Ambassador Renate Crawford, who noted that "the women of Western College were way ahead of their time with diversity and inclusion."

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*"Crossing bridges ... connecting our past and future."
Where have you heard that before?
All-Western Reunion 2019, Western campus, June 7-9!*

In Memoriam

Rosemary Wilson Colby '39
May 2017

Lucille Sheets Knerr '39
July 2018

Frances Brooks Beierl '42
November 2018

Phoebe Carman Bradford '43
December 2017

Nancy Ankrom Beckmann '44
March 2018

Jane Stansbury Hemmenway '44
October 2018

Ardis Dechman Coninx '45
Class Representative, 1949-2018
January 2019

Lucy Ashbrook Tavener '45
December 2018

Emily W. Greenland '47
Class Representative, 1948-2003
March 2019

Susan Sargent Hard '47
February 2019

Josephine Farrell Vogel '47
December 2018

Beth Wagner Gurrister '49
January 2019

Blandina Phraner Stewart '49
April 2015

Sally Silliman Bishop '51
April 2019

Yvonne Beaumont (Buchanan) McCullough '51
February 2019

Dolores Aron Rappaport '51
June 2016

Jeanne Anderson Haynes '52
June 2015

Mary McFarren Harshman '52
March 2017

Cary Kimbark Revere '53
Class Representative, 1982-2013
February 2019

Doris Hawthorne Statler '53
September 2018

Rosalind Chu '58
March 2019

Rowena Y. Toomey '62
January 2018

Judith Freedman Cohen '63
July 2018

Martha Cowden '64
January 2019

Jean Kirby Reed '70
March 2019

Cynthia S. Payne-Meyer '80
March 2019

Karen Brockmann FF
Assoc. Professor of German, 1965-74
March 2019

Dr. William H. Newell FF
Western College Program Professor, 1974-2010
April 2019

Eleanore Vail FF
Professor of Music, 1947-74
April 2019

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

The Western College Program

Hello from Oxford!

As the weather gets slowly warmer and the students are in the final weeks of the semester, I am proud of what we have accomplished as well as excited about the upcoming events we have planned. Also, as you may remember, April reminds us of the time when we were putting the finishing touches on our senior projects. Rest assured, the current seniors are hard at work!



Mike Loeffelman

I hope that you saw the excitement of the **45th Mega Reunion** in the fall 2018 *Bulletin* and the connections that were made during the weekend in October. After the reunion, the Board was energized by the conversations and the support of Miami administration to propel Western into a new type of innovative program. Since that time, the Board has been working very hard — as has the administration — to make that innovation into a reality: the **Western Center for Social Impact and Innovation**.

In addition to the Mega Reunion last October, I know that there are mini reunions happening all across the country. I want to take time to recognize folks who spend the time to put these events on — I appreciate your commitment to building community! I especially want to thank **Bridget Enderle '01** and others for the second annual Bash which took place over MLK 2019 weekend at Monte Toyon Camp in Aptos, CA. There

were so many alums and family members — the photos were wonderful! A great time was had by all!

I do want to make sure that you are knowledgeable about the Western Center for Social Impact and Innovation. The official launch of the Center is slated for fall 2019, so preparations are underway and moving quickly. Western faculty member **Dr. Jacque Daugherty** is the acting director of the Western Center and has been successful in recruiting faculty as well as promoting the Center across campus to relevant stakeholders. The Center will welcome its first group of students as the Social Impact and Justice Scholars who will be involved with the Center's projects throughout the 2019-20 academic year. For more information about the Center, please see Nik Money's letter in this *Bulletin*. I encourage you to be in the lookout for communications for ways that you may want to become involved. While one way is giving, other ways may include mentoring students and supporting the Center's social impact projects. The WAAMU Board is committed to working with Dean Chris Makaroff, Dr. Daugherty, and others to ensure that the Center represents the values of Western.



Jacque Daugherty

There are several upcoming alumni events that I am very excited to report. First, Individualized Studies hosted a panel of alumni providing career advice



Second Annual Bash, at Monte Toyon Camp, Aptos, CA



Alumni panel members, from left: Mike Loeffelman '03, Thad Kerosky '07, Laura Dobbins '86, Marla Guggenheimer '17, and Ben Gibbons '94

to current Western students. The panel took place on April 9 in Peabody. The panel included **Laura Dobbins '86, Ben Gibbons '94, Thad Kerosky '07, and Marla Guggenheimer '17**. The students were very engaged and appreciated the time that they were able to interact with the alums. Special thanks to **Meryl Haque '18** who initiated this event and who also serves as the Western Student Activities Coordinator for the 2018-19 academic year.

Later in April is West Fest which will take place in Ernst Amphitheater on April 13. Many may recall this as Ernst Fest or Spring Fest. This is the annual music festival which welcomes the spring with excitement and

sound! The Fest begins at 4 p.m.! Also, in April will be the Senior Project presentations. Please look for a communication and watch Facebook as the program intends to live-stream the event.

In June, I encourage you to save the date for the **WCAA Alumnae/i Weekend Reunion, June 7-9**. (As a reminder, this is both Miami's and the Western College Alumnae Association's reunion weekend.) In addition to a board meeting, WAAMU will be hosting a lunch for alums who will be in town as well as an open house in Peabody for visitors. Please watch out for future communications and consider stopping by Peabody to say hello!

As we move forward, the WAAMU Board continues to consider "What is our legacy?" and effective ways to engage alumni. While the Board works to support the current program and its students, we also look to support the future of the program which includes our continued collaboration with the Western College Alumnae Association (WCAA). Our alumni group is comprised of almost 2,000 members of diverse backgrounds who all value the experience of Western. As alumni, we have the power to shape the future of the program and invest in the current students — let's work together to evoke change and meaningful experiences for future Western students.

*— Mike Loeffelman '03
Board President, WAAMU*



***"Crossing bridges ... connecting our past and future."
All-Western Reunion 2019, Western campus, June 7-9!***

'86 WESTERN

Grant Shull reports that he has a new wife, lives in a new city, has a new job, and has two new children! Grant's wife is Irene Santander from Argentina. They live in Orlando, FL, where Grant works for Tata Consultancy. His new children are Giselle and Luciano (23 and 10, respectively), with six all told. Grant asks that if you are dropping by to feed the mouse, play quidditch with Gryffindor, or soak up the sun while it's still free, send a howler, and he'd love meet up for a growler if the schedules align.



Beth, with cross country champ: son Ben

I, Beth, remain happily practicing law at BakerHostetler in Columbus. This year I've been tagged with the added managerial responsibility of being the Columbus office's litigation coordinator. My husband and I continued our travels, this year visiting Japan, Italy, and Costa Rica. My son, Benjamin, will graduate from Harvey Mudd College in May. I was very sorry to miss the Reunion, but Ben was running in the conference meet on the cross country team's way to the national championship.

Beth McNellie '86
emcnellie@bakerlaw.com

'88 WESTERN

Held every spring in Orlando, FL, the *International Conference on the Fantastic in the Arts* (ICFA) is a scholarly conference "devoted to all aspects of the fantastic (broadly defined) as it appears in literature, film, and the other arts." The parent organization, the nonprofit International Association for the Fantastic



Karen and Andy, conferring at the IAFA

in the Arts (IAFA), was founded in 1982 for scholars, writers, and publishers of science fiction, fantasy, and horror in literature, film, and the other arts.

At this year's conference, March 13-16, I was an attending author and read fiction and was on a comics panel. **Karen Dollinger '90** also attended; her paper was titled "Ghosts of Cuba's Past: Politics of the Supernatural in *El hombre, la hombre y ey hombre*, by Diana Chaviano."

Andy Miller '88
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'90 WESTERN

Hey, there, Class of '90-

Delighted to hear from **John Lohmann**: "As this model has hit 51 years I do notice the plugs firing slower and there is rust on the rocker panels. The air filter is clogged (my own fault) and miles have added up. But still a daily driver. Sturdy, if temperamental. But that's what you get with UK/Swedish imports. Electronics are hit and miss. Won't go into the leaks (the horror)

"I've never sent one of these before so ... In less metaphorical terms, I'm currently an Assistant Professor at Fitchburg State University in the Business Administration Dept. I was with the University of Wisconsin Platteville prior to this gig. I married Dr. Laura Bayless last year (Miami U. MS '91). My oldest kid is in his last year at University of Michigan and is auditioning for a seat with various symphony orchestras. Number two spent a number of years in Denmark (having found their true love there) and is an EMT. Number three is finishing high school in Wisconsin and has inherited his old man's love of cars and other machines. Number four is studying viola at Interlochen Arts Academy in Michigan. Number five is in an environmental science-based middle

school. One of my kids is transgender and I am very proud of them.

"We've had our knocks over the years, for sure. I can't share a lot of those. But I'll share some because I hate those letters that make it sound like everything is sweet and wonderful all the time, ya know? Heart attack in my 30s (small, very small). I was a truck driver, no kidding, during the Great Recession (after a divorce and losing a house). And I met Bill W 19 years ago.

"But things are pretty good these days. It's been a long strange trip. I miss the Western crew a lot. I hope you are all finding your paths and have many more miles on your tires. Much love."

I also got word from **Peter Sweeney** and **Kristin (Wagner) Sweeney**. They're both Class of '91, but Pete started out in the class of 1990, and I know we all remember him as part of our class. They've been happily married for 25 years and live in Cleveland with their two boys, Wyatt and Jack. Kristin is the administrative judge of the Cuyahoga County juvenile court, and Peter teaches computer science at University School. It is strange to think that they will soon send their two sons off to college. A big shout out to all of their friends from Western. That was a special time.

And **Alicia Broderick '90** and I are still in New Jersey. We're having an addition put on the house (currently in the 11th month of a four-month project), so we'll have plenty of room for you if you want to come visit.

I did make it back to Ohio for two reunions this year, the WCAA reunion in June and the WCP Five-Year reunion in October, and managed to see a few familiar faces. [See pictures next page.]

Michael Conaway '90
msconaway@hotmail.com



Daniel Netev (far left), the tenth of Andy Miller's German exchange students, recently visited Andy's '88 classmate, Janet Gray Gannon (far right), who lives in Atlanta.



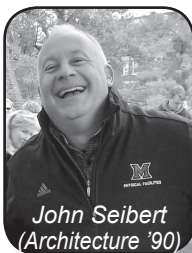
Mike Conaway '90 (standing) and familiar faces: Andy Miller '88, Robin Hart Ruthenbeck '91, Val Kirby '90,



Jessie (Rezabek) Holland '92



More familiar faces: David Schmidt (Architecture '89), Liz (Cantonwine) Schmidt '91, Mike Conaway '90, Brian Johnson '90, Amy (Reynolds) Johnson '90



John Seibert
(Architecture '90)



Bill Douglas



E. Jewelle Johnson is Assistant General Counsel and Chief Employment Counsel for Graphic Packaging International, LLC — a global paperboard packaging company based in Atlanta, GA. Jewelle also serves as chair of the State of Georgia Personnel Board, member of the State's Employee Benefits Council, director of the National Employment Law Council, and member of the Women in Power and Law Advisory Council. Jewelle's free time is devoted to her 3-year old daughter, Klave Elizabeth.

Chavella T. Pittman, Ph.D., was recently promoted to full professor of sociology at Dominican University (River Forest, IL). The prior year she roamed in and outside of the U.S. while on an earned yearlong sabbatical from her university position. She is also the owner of Effective & Efficient Faculty (effectivefaculty.org) — a faculty development company that supports diversity, and inclusion in college teaching.

From **Don Rudawsky**: "Does anyone remember the surrealist ball in Clawson basement, spring of '91 I think? My spouse (ed: Janet, you silly, we all know and love her, as she is an honorary '94 grad) and I

recently used that as a fundraiser for a local arts organization. We helped raise over \$20,000 for the arts. Thanks Western!" I (Johanna) actually wrote a book and it was actually published. It's called *Puppetry in Theatre and Arts Education: Head, Hands, and Heart*. So that's making the professorial life kinda interesting these days. When I'm not professoring and puppeting I am taking my 14-year-old daughter to swim practice or swim meets. Because she's on the swim team. If that wasn't clear.

Johanna Smith '94
johanner@gmail.com



Amy Biolchini-Barczy: Her husband, Jason, and she are living in Detroit with their daughter, Violet, who is about to turn 1 year old. She's been covering the marijuana industry in Michigan for MLive.com, a statewide news website that includes a chain of eight local newspapers.

Renee Pilourde: Her and her husband's new adventure for this year is getting to know their daughter, Larkin Emery, who

was born on January 13th! They're still living in Seattle and exploring the Northwest as much as they can.

Chelsea Mitchell: This last year has been crazy for Chelsea! She and her husband moved from California to Virginia, bought a house, and Chelsea started a new job in November that she really loves. She was hired at harbor freight as the sales supervisor and loving life back on the East Coast!

Teresa Day: Teresa is going to finish her M.S.W. this year, and she and her husband are in the process of foster-to-adopt with a toddler whom they love so much already. They are living in St. Paul, MN, and Teresa currently works for the Red Lake Nation Band of Ojibwe/Chippewa as their urban Indian Child Welfare advocate.

Abby Hills: Abby is still in Gloucester Point, VA, for Virginia Sea Grant (a NOAA college program) as their project coordinator. She also started back at school, part-time, for her education degree (Ed.D.), focusing on environmental education and behavioral influences. Her favorite part is learning from her peers, most have been teaching for as long as she has been alive! It has been an incredibly humbling and motivational experience for her.

Kat Hayes: She's still working on/cursing at her many-times-derailed dissertation, back in Oxford until it's either done or it becomes kindling, having some exciting applied-learning experiences with the mess of various social safety nets as she tries to make rent as an adjunct in the process. Does everyone remember those giant campus raccoons that just sat there eating pizza out of the trash cans and didn't even bother to act alarmed when people approached? She is one of them now.

Cayla Matsumoto: I still live in Columbus with my husband, still work for the Council of Development Finance Agencies and have taken over some of their work on exploring how communities can better support localizing their food system. I've also taken over their grant through the EPA for brownfields (contaminated site) redevelopment. In 2018, I applied to grad school and am currently waiting for admissions decisions to see what our new adventure will be.

Cayla (Adams) Matsumoto '10
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Message from the Western Program Director

Spring is a reliably busy time of the academic year for the entire program, as our seniors in Individualized Studies get closer to completing their independent research projects. The students face the additional challenge of planning the next phase of their lives after graduation from Miami. Their plans include studies in highly-competitive masters and doctoral programs, the pursuit of opportunities in the private sector, and, in a few cases, taking a little time for travel and contemplation after their years in college. It is always with some sadness that we say farewell to our graduates as we celebrate their accomplishments in Kumler Chapel in May. They face many challenges on this warming globe, but their youth, intelligence, education, and enthusiasm will serve them well.



Nik Money

The faculty and staff in Peabody Hall are also preparing for the official launch of the new Western Center for Social Impact and Innovation in the fall semester. Through a partnership with a student-led campus organization called the “Zero Waste Club,” which I mentioned in the last “Message from the Director,” the Western Center has already engaged with local actions germane to sustainability. With our support, Zero Waste Oxford opened Miami’s first pop-up Thrift Store in the Armstrong Student Center earlier this semester. This was made possible with the help of many volunteers who collected clothing donations, washed hundreds of items, and stocked and operated the store. These highly enterprising students have also launched a food waste composting program in Peabody Hall, in collaboration with the Miami Institute for Food Farm, and the organization is hosting a campus lecture by Bea Johnson, described as the Priestess of Waste-Free Living, later this month.

My colleague, **Dr. Jacque Daugherty**, is the Acting Director of the Western Center, and has been successful in recruiting faculty representatives from all of the

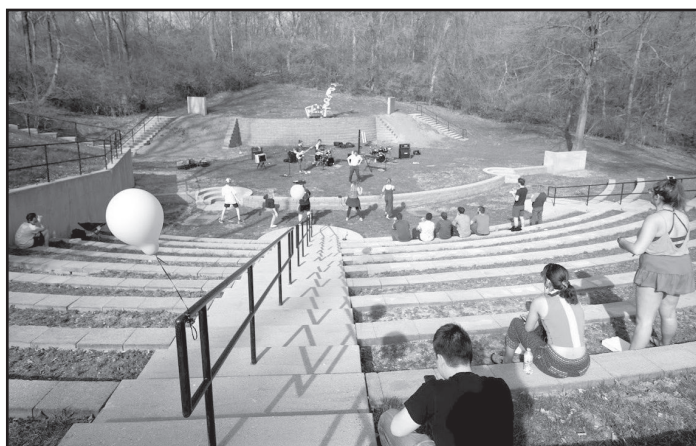
divisions on campus to assist with its development. She is finalizing plans for the official launch of the Western Center and for welcoming the first group of Social Impact and Justice Scholars from the class of incoming freshmen.

Finally, I am very pleased to announce that a new faculty member will be joining our team in the fall. **Dr. Wen-Ching Chuang** will be the Assistant Professor of Environmental Policy and Advocacy in the Western Program. For the last couple of years, she has been a National Academy of Sciences Research Fellow at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in Cincinnati. Wen-Ching is very excited about teaching at Miami. Her expertise in modeling the resilience of cities to climate change makes for a perfect fit with the interests of many of our majors in the Western Program and for working with students and faculty from across the university through the Western Center.

— *Nicholas P. Money*

*Western Program Director/Professor of Botany
Peabody Hall, April 2019*

Update from the 39°84° West Student Center



A few weekends ago, the Western Program put on the **A** third annual WestFest Community Music Festival. Many students from all over the university, Western faculty and staff, and friends of the Program came out to enjoy the beautiful weather, live music, and activities at Ernst Nature Theatre. Four local bands from the Oxford and Greater Cincinnati area played rock sets, and there was even some dancing!

WestFest also featured some awesome campus organizations, including the Institute for Food farm (Miami University's organic educational farm) selling local salsa, Zero Waste Oxford headed by two Western students, and the Miami University Bee Club. We had art for sale from a Western student, Grace Huddleston, and Billy Simms, next year's Western Center Coordinator.

WestFest organizers **Meryl Haque**, current Western Student Center Coordinator, and **Arcadia Davies**, Western student, were very grateful for our amazing volunteers, who were happy to help in any way possible!



In terms of activities, there was plenty for all to do, from a raffle with unique prizes donated by Western faculty and staff to badminton to free food from Miami University's food truck, STREATS!



Volunteer Arushi Chalke, hard at work face-painting ...

In the past three years, WestFest has been a blast, both to attend and to put on. A couple of current Western students are interested in putting on next year's WestFest in April 2020, stay tuned for details!

— Meryl Haque
39°84° West Student Center Student Coordinator



Here are some of our volunteers posing by our banner ...

From the Archives

Miami University Archivist **Jacky Johnson** has alerted us to two mega archival projects directly related to Western College: the making of a 40-minute documentary portraying the events of Freedom Summer 1964 and the digitization of hundreds of documents recording campus activities of the five institutes of higher learning existing in Oxford in the 1850s — Phase One of which includes digitizing all Western College Multifarias

Coming soon to a library (King) near you ...

Funding from the W.E. Smith Family Charitable Trust Grant will allow **Walter Havighurst Special Collection and Archives** to continue the project, recording the campus events related to administrative and student activities “to provide us with snapshots of history of these institutions, commemorate the events of the past, document the strong personality of its leaders and help us understand the demographics of the students, faculty, staff, and the cultural and institutional shifts.”

Here’s what the website says about our yearbooks: *First published by members of the senior class, this yearbook appeared in 1910 under the title The Western Multifaria. Its initial volume was dedicated to President Newman. In subsequent years, the junior class produced the yearbook, which became known simply as The Multifaria. The Multifaria chronicled the year’s activities with photographs and illustrations of organizations, extracurricular activities, academic classes, faculty, staff, and students of the Western College for Women.*



Meredith Riney, Class of 2019, scanning Multis?

Jacky assures us all Multis — as well as the college catalogs — will be online and available for your browsing pleasure by September 2019!

Coming this summer to CET/PBS Dayton Television ...

Training for Freedom: How Ordinary People in an Unusual Time & Unlikely Place Made Extraordinary History is a 40-minute documentary presented by **Kathy Conkwright**, former Miami Clinical Professor in the School of Journalism, Media and Film; and **Jacqueline Johnson**, University Archivist.



Jacky Johnson

They teamed up to apply for a grant from the Ohio Humanities Council and Oxford Community Foundation to create a documentary focusing on the Freedom Summer 1964 events at Western College in conjunction with the 50th Anniversary Freedom Summer Conference held October 11–14, 2014. They were successful and, as they say, the rest — literally, in this case — is history. Jacky served as the Senior Researcher and Kathy’s Make-Wright Films produced the film.



Kathy Conkwright

Here is part of what they wrote to describe *Training for Freedom*: “A 40-minute documentary that captures the transformational story of how idealistic college students and black activists teachers came together in a small Mid-western town to find their humanity and the common ground to fight as one in the freedom struggle that would define a nation and alter the course of history.

“Weaving intimate personal stories from participants and local residents with critical historical analysis from noted historians and scholars, the clips explore how people from dramatically different worlds broke down barriers of race, class and gender to organize the most comprehensive campaign of the civil rights movement.

“In the summer of 1964, volunteers and trainers for the Mississippi Freedom Summer Campaign descended upon the unlikely small, rural town of Oxford, Ohio, to attend a week long Orientation held on the grounds of the Western College for Women. Situated against the peaceful backdrop of the remote, pastoral campus, volunteers learned how to register black voters; teach basic math, literacy and black history erased from the segregated public schools; and stay alive using non-violent disobedience tactics and hard learned rules for survival in the most dangerous and violently oppressed state in the Jim Crow South.

"The experience not only transformed participants, but also deeply touched many in the local community. Watching the participants prepare to challenge racial discrimination and oppression in the South raised their awareness and desire to confront similar issues in their own backyard; and provided those who saw themselves as far removed from the freedom struggle a chance to get involved and contribute to the movement in seemingly small but highly significant and enduring ways."

Of particular note, a teacher's guide is included, with standard lesson plans for social studies, language arts, and art classes for school students in grades first to high school, college and adult level.

Many people with both local and national connections contributed interviews and performances: Dr. Nishani Frazier,

Recently, WCAA office multitasker Debbie Baker HA interviewed Kathy Conkwright for more details. Here are excerpts:

Kathy did the background research and story development seeking new, unique and relevant details to tell the story of Freedom Summer. She discovered that although the training on the Western Campus had often been mentioned in other works, no one had "really zoomed in and looked at this particular moment." The theory by most is that this event was a necessary part of the whole campaign. ... It was an interesting moment that brought people with an "altruistic and volunteer spirit" together, albeit from different backgrounds. The volunteers probably did not understand each other's worlds, but they came together to work toward a common goal.

"This was such a super important story and it was able to happen not only because Western was willing to take the risk to open up their campus and their facilities, also kind of give their stamp of approval because they felt it was really important." The organizers, the Council of Churches, were very smart organizers. They hired professional facilitators and people who were a part of organized labor unions.

It was important to Kathy to film the interviews on campus in the places that the trainings occurred. Some of the filming occurred in Leonard Theatre and the grassy area near Clawson Hall. She tried to include the architecture and spaces to preserve the physical memory as well.

A subset of the story of Freedom Summer ... is "the kind of responsibility and the courage that leaders at Western College showed, they put their money where their mouth was. It was a Christian college that had values and principles. They sent women across the world to learn about other cultures and diversity. In its own backyard when really tested, I think it is amazing what Western decided to do. They chose to stand by the institution's principles even at the risk of offending some people, losing some financial support."

"This story is so relevant because it demonstrates that we can all be different - have no dog in the fight or our dog is on the lifeline - and still work together to accomplish something that is better for everybody in the long run. For the greater good."

Associate Professor of History, Miami University; Dr. Tammy Kernodle, Professor of Musicology, Miami University; Dorie Ladner, SNCC Organizer; Miami University Gospel Singers; Dr. Rick Momeyer, SNCC Organizer, Professor Emeritus Miami University; Robert Moses, SNCC Organizer, Director Freedom Summer Campaign; Victoria Nash, Oxford, Ohio Resident and Activist; Charles Neblett, Freedom Singer, SNCC Organizer; and Bruce Watson, Author, *Freedom Summer That Savage Season of 1964*. Participating Freedom Summer volunteers included Carole Gross Colca, Jim Kates, Mark Levy, Dr. Gwendolyn Zoharah Simmons, and Robert Zellner.

Nor did the project lack sponsors. Generous support came from the Ohio Humanities Council and Oxford Community Foundation, as well as a long list of Miami University entities: Office of the President; Office of Institutional Diversity; Office of the Provost; Department of Media, Journalism and Film; Western College Alumnae Association; The Western Program; Department of Statistics; University Libraries; College of Arts and Science; Center for Humanities; Department of Physical Facilities; University Bookstore; Center for American and World Cultures; Center for Digital Scholarship; Department of Physical Facilities; Walter Havighurst Special Collections and Archives; Web Services Department; AccessMU Department.

Coming this June to the Western Campus ...

Apropos of the 2019 Alumnae Weekend theme (see back cover), Oxford master stonemason and peerless builder of bridges **Cephas A. Burns** will be honored with a memorial plaque in a ceremony during the reunion.

Cephas is beloved by Westerners as the artist and creator not only of the ten original bridges that crisscross the campus, but the builder who dammed the pond, walled the two-deck stages of Ernst Nature Theatre, erected the massive fireplace and chimney in the Lodge, and crafted the stone facade of Kumler Chapel.

WCMA Archivist Jacky Johnson received a grant from the American Library Association of Ohio to study the Burns family in 2012. Two years later she was the featured speaker at the City of Oxford's presentation of a historic marker honoring him. Now it is our turn. Stay tuned!



Cephas A. Burns

Send your news — *and pictures!* — for the Fall '19 Bulletin NOW.

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

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Western Program 3.0

WCAA, Inc.
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Dear Class Rep: _____

Your full name and class year: _____

Address: _____

Phone number and e-mail address: _____

Western College Alumnae Association, Inc.

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Alumnae/i Weekend 2019, June 7-9

**All-Western, All-Classes Reunion
Crossing Bridges: Connecting Our Past and Future**