



***Carolyn Jefferson-Jenkins '74  
Freedom Summer of '64 Award Winner***

## From the WCAA Director

Dearest Westerners,

*"Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter."* Martin Luther King Jr.

I have started and re-started this note so many times. There is so much going on in this world, at times I simply don't feel as if I have the right words. So I quote Martin Luther King Jr. as his words instill in us that being silent is to be complicit. Of all the many, many things I have learned from my work with the WCAA, of the most importance is that our collective voices and action can change the world. You all began this work years ago, even before Freedom Summer of '64. You continue that work now in so many ways, including one action I am pleased to inform you that the WCAA Board of Trustees took on your behalf.



Mackenzie

At their most recent (virtual, of course) meeting on June 12, WCAA President Janet Smith Dickerson-Stephens '65 and Vice-President Fran Hoffman '65 shared with the Board a conversation they had with Miami University President Greg Crawford about what actions he intended to take in order to aggressively promote racial justice. At that time, and in the words of Fran Hoffman "the WCAA Board of Trustees recognized a pivotal moment for action to respond to the continuing racial inequality just as the Dean and President of Western College for Women in 1964 did when the college stepped up and welcomed Freedom Summer to the campus, providing safe haven for training the Freedom Riders. Our board voted unanimously to contribute to an initiative by Miami University President Greg Crawford to aggressively promote racial justice on campus and beyond. This gift underscores our trust of President Crawford and his commitment to make critical strides toward this purpose. Social justice and civil rights are key elements of our Western heritage and legacy. Our Board of Trustees considers this gift and commitment as part of its living legacy. We look forward to joining hands with Miami University and the Oxford community to examine and realign our institutions and our culture toward these purposes."

President Crawford's response was that he was once again in awe of the WCAA and its commitment to social justice and civil rights. This is one of the many reasons I know the life of the WCAA will not end, even long after 2024. The WCAA legacy will always be that we do not stay silent.

Speaking of silence, I am glad that our virtual reunions were anything but silent! I hear that lots of good times were had despite a few minor technical difficulties. Thank you to all those able to participate.

Finally, some very sad news to report. Cathy Cooper's beloved husband, Coop, passed away in May. For any of you that may not know, Cathy is the brains and words behind this wonderful Bulletin you receive. Coop was her partner in crime, and volunteered many hours to make sure the Bulletin looked just right. He was a dear member of the Western family, and he will be missed.

It seems appropriate in these times that I sign off by saying I wish you all good health and peace. Be safe. But be loud. We will not be silenced.

In the Spirit of Western,

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

Mackenzie Becker Rice  
WCAA Director

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

IMPORTANT REMINDER:  
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**Mission of the Association:**

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

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**On the cover:** Carolyn Jefferson Jenkins in Kumler Chapel with her Freedom Summer '64 award. On the back cover: composite design from 1970 Multifaria, courtesy of Catherine Strate '70. (See p. 6 for details.)

**Photo credits:** Cover and page 8 photos, Provider/Miami University. Jeff Sabo (cover, Awards photos), Deniz Tektas (Global Sisterhood photos). Copyright Miami University 2020



**BLUE CARDS (see page 35) 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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# From the WCAA Board President

June 2020

Spring 2020 has been unlike any other in recent history.

The COVID-19 pandemic of 2020 stunned us all. Enthusiastic celebrations welcoming the new year and new decade shifted suddenly when, in late January, our national leaders realized that a novel coronavirus that had decimated Wuhan, China, within a few brief weeks was now showing evidence of becoming a menacing presence across the United States. Miami University, which in recent years has enjoyed a vibrant international student community, made the national news on January 28th when two off-campus international students were suspected of having the virus. The Oxford community exhaled a collective sigh of relief when those tests were negative; but little did anyone know at the time that Miami, and universities and businesses across the nation, would be forced to go to virtual instruction or shut down. Within six weeks, our national life was completely upended. Historians would look back to 1864 for a precedent to the disruption that occurred this spring. Then, when “...the times were all ablaze” with the battles of the Civil War, the Western Seminary was forced to close because of a deadly outbreak of malignant typhoid fever brought to Oxford by visiting soldiers. The Class of 1864 Seminary seniors received their diplomas by mail, as will the Miami University Class of 2020.

Then, in late May, the death by suffocation of George Floyd in Minneapolis reopened the festering wounds and scars of systemic racism and charges of police brutality that have plagued our country since its founding. In scenes reminiscent of the 1950’s and ‘60’s, Civil Rights protests and eruptions of violence gripped and convulsed our already distressed and paralyzed nation.

Times are ablaze again, and college and university leaders are “navigating without a map” in the midst of what some business and military leaders have called a VUCA world, characterized by volatility, uncertainty, complexity and ambiguity. Words in our lexicon have

taken on new meaning: social distancing, PPE (personal protective equipment), curfew, quarantine. We are seeking discernment as we attempt to reopen schools and communities safely. Culturally, we are shifting to something new, albeit still unknown.

How are you? We hope and trust you and your family and friends are safe and healthy and have access to information and resources that assure you a stable quality of life. My state, California, mandated that senior citizens “Stay at Home” effective March 15, 2020. While I have continued to work full time, I have ventured out only twice since then. My peers and I grieve our relative loss of independence, but I am grateful for smart technology, a beautiful garden, the amazing support of my family, and all the healers and essential workers who have cared for the ill and kept our economy going. As an African-American, I am also inspired by the scholars and activists in our communities who are telling our stories and calling the names of those we have lost, and whose thirst for knowledge and wisdom will inform and illuminate future public policy.

What are your current circumstances? How have you navigated this new terrain and connected with your communities? What sustains you? What have you learned? We welcome your connecting with us on Facebook (Western College Alumnae Association) or sending your reflections for publication in a future issue of this *Bulletin*.

The WCAA, Inc. has always aspired to be a caring, connected community for our members. Since the Association’s founding in 1974, we have planned annual all-class reunions on the Oxford Campus — this year’s theme was “2020 Vision: Looking Forward to the Future.” We were eager to welcome the extraordinary Class of 1970 for their 50th Reunion and to enjoy the splendor of the Western campus. Personally, I was rallying members of the Class of 1965 to return for our 55th. By late March, however, Mackenzie Becker Rice, Debbie Baker, and I, in consultation with Miami’s leadership team, came to realize that we would need to cancel all travel to Oxford and to hold our April Board meeting as well as the June Reunions as virtual events. Our Board members were in agreement and pivoted quickly. We successfully held committee meetings and a full Board meeting on April 22nd. Our Reunions Chair, **Barbara**



Janet



**Williamson Wentz '68**, confirmed that we would hold Western College Virtual Reunions on Saturday, June 13th. We have experimented with Google Meetings, ZOOM, and other technology. We have been reminded that we can still have intimate and enjoyable social moments despite being physically distant.

**O**ur Board has had to pivot in another way. Because of the economic and political consequences of the pandemic, we were not able to distribute scholarship funds for study abroad. We will, however, continue to award our Helen Peabody Scholarships — needed by our adult and non-traditional scholars more than ever — as well as other endowed scholarships where income is assured. We are making a special appeal for gifts for Emergency Needs Scholarships for first generation students who may not be able to continue their education without additional support. As the University assesses its financial situation, other Western Legacy projects may need to be paused or postponed.

The committees of our Board are unwaveringly moving forward with plans to cease operations of the WCAA, Inc. in 2024. Even with the end in sight, we are eager to contribute. We anticipate that the 2020-

2021 academic year, however it is structured, will invite transformative strategies and new visions for higher education and lifelong learning. We are hopeful that the Western Center for Social Impact and Innovation will be an important part of Miami's future plans. We have learned, through our Western experience, that institutions and programs can change and even close and still be relevant for future generations.

It has been a privilege to serve as the president of this dedicated Board. Our members are spirited, altruistic, insightful, discerning, and fun! We have cordial relationships with President Greg Crawford, Dr. Renate Crawford, and Miami's leadership team. I have experienced the satisfaction of "giving forward" with scholarship and legacy gifts that enliven and enrich students, their families, communities, and our global world.

We are inviting nominations for new Board members; perhaps you, too, will feel called to serve.

Be well,

*Janet Smith Dickerson Stephens*

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



*Wonder what a virtual meeting looks like? Here's the view from Debbie Baker's computer of the June 12 Board meeting held on Zoom. The next day a full schedule of class reunions — looking much the same but with the names and faces changed (and in full color, of course) — was a great success!*

# What's on Your Mind

*With the permission of both the writer and recipient, we thought it beyond fitting that we share Catherine's letter in this issue of the Bulletin. Just as no one was surprised at this year's cancellations of graduation and reunion celebrations, we are certain no one will be surprised that this graduation was not canceled. These were Western women, after all. (For another perspective on the Kent State tragedy, see remarks by Steve Roos '81 in his memorial tribute to Western College Program Dean Mike Lunine, page 28.) As a P.S., Catherine reported that it was "good to see" about 30 of her classmates via Zoom at the virtual 50-year class reunion on June 13.*

Good afternoon Mackenzie,

No, the cancellation of Alumnae Weekend is not a surprise, but definitely a disappointment. I was looking forward to seeing all of the updates and additions that I see in the magazine every year.

But I thought it was worth writing and pointing out the irony of the cancellation of all events this year 2020. You probably don't remember but it was exactly 50 years ago this spring — yes, 1970 — that most colleges and universities canceled their graduations and all activities that spring, including Miami University. It became known as the year of student violence and no graduations. Many campuses (over 450) closed as students protested, cut classes, took over campus buildings. Kent State had happened on May 4, 1970, and most universities across the country told the students they had 48 hours or so to pack and leave for the year. The lines of students trying to get rides out of Oxford were very long.

Western was one of the few schools that went on with the completion of their classes and graduations, as we participated in activities of mourning, hurt, and anger at the incident. Deans Micks and Hoyt gave the students an opportunity to vote as to whether we disband for the semester or, if we wanted to, stay and continue. The campus voted widely to stay. So the Class of 1970 at Western was able to stay and graduate.

So, to me, there is a certain amount of irony that 50 years later we find ourselves in the same situation — although from a completely different tragedy and one that is more pervasive, uncontrollable, and daunting than what closed the campuses previously. Some thoughts down memory lane.

I hope you all are well and safe in Oxford, Ohio ...

— *Catherine Smith Strate '70*



*Senior Class of '70 Officers (l-r): Mary Jean Kelly, Song Leader; Shelly McShane, President (seated); Liza Green, Treasurer; Katy Liu, Secretary; Cathy Smith, Vice President*

*A final word from the editors: Many thanks to Catherine for contributing "virtually" all the pictures in the '70 Class Notes, pages 12-14. In addition, she sent the remarkable photo collage on the back cover, with this note about its creation: "Leslie Bates, who was the [Multi] Art Editor, made the design. The challenge was finding pictures of just our classmates. Many of them were from Christmas caroling through the dorms when we were seniors.*

*"Judy Engst (who was Assistant Editor, and a sophomore) and I spent many all nighters making deadlines because I was not a better planner. Some of our best layouts happened at 2 in the morning."*

## Where Are They Now? *We may not be able to keep up but will herewith attempt to catch up with two of our own!*

**J**ust another busy day in the life of **Carolyn Jefferson-Jenkins '74**. Actually, it was two and a-half days. And it was anything but “just another” couple days. (It was, however, *busy!*)

Carolyn had come to campus to receive Miami's Freedom Summer '64 Award (created in 2017 and previously presented to Congressman John Lewis and Mt. Zion United Methodist Church in Philadelphia, MS, both leading forces in civil rights and social justice and specifically involved with Freedom Summer). In announcing her selection, Miami University President Greg Crawford remarked that throughout her career, she had “intentionally chosen to stand and actively promote the very heart of Freedom Summer – voting rights.”

Indeed, proud Westerners are well aware of Carolyn's achievements and have celebrated her through the years. In

1994, she was elected national president of the League of Women Voters. She served two consecutive two-year terms, the first African-American to hold the office. During Miami's Women's History Month, March 1998, she was invited to be keynote speaker at two major events: the Women's Leadership Celebration Luncheon at Shriver Center and the Friends of the Library meeting in Peabody Hall's Leonard Theatre. At that time, she donated her official papers — as well as papers and memorabilia from her years at Western — to the University Libraries. Her first two books, *The Road to Black Suffrage* and *One Man One Vote: The History of the African-American Vote in the United States*, already in the Western College Memorial Archives, will soon be joined by her third, *The Untold Story of Women of Color in the League of Women Voters*. Alumnae Weekend 2014, she returned to campus for her 40th class reunion and gave the Kumler Chapel closing address.

### ***From Carolyn's Celebrating Sisterhood address, “We Are the Movement Makers”***

*... 25 years of celebrating where history has been made, where it has been altered, and where the future begins. The Center for Student Diversity and Inclusion's focus on supporting, educating and advocating is so consistent with how I have lived my life. I am pleased to be in the presence of so many outstanding young women here this evening. Each of you has or will exceed expectations and challenge norms. ... This is an anniversary for me as well. 50 years ago I first set foot on the campus of Western College for Women — I see myself in so many of you. 50 years ago I couldn't have imagined being here today. With my black-and-white 12-inch television, my bellbottoms, platform shoes and dashiki, and an afro that my mother believed made me a black nationalist. Without hashtags or tweets or a campus organization such as this to provide a safety net.*

*... Anniversaries and Milestones are about celebrating where history was made and where history was altered by focusing efforts on supporting, educating and advocating (sound familiar?) They are moments that will inspire you, but then what? Do we simply enjoy the celebration and move on? How do we turn these moments into the movements that are needed? It takes you, the movement makers. ... 2020 represents a plethora of those moments. It is the year of celebrations and anniversaries. 1920: centennial celebration of the passage of the 19th Amendment, 150th anniversary of the passage of the 15th Amendment that gave black men the right to vote, 115th anniversary of Miami's first black graduate, Nellie Craig, 50th anniversary of my first step on Western College campus, the 25th anniversary for Global Sisterhood celebration.*

*... My experiences in the era of civil rights shaped my life.... What makes my story so important is its improbability. Against the odds, I achieved — so did hundreds of other women of color from the beginning of each movement. I can still recall white-only and colored-only signs in public places. I can still recall the “Do not sell to Negroes” clause on the deed of my family's first house. I can still recall having to sit in the back of the bus. I can still recall never seeing women or blacks in my textbooks or learning about them in school until I came to Western College. Yet we still have firsts in the year 2020, in the richest nation in the world.*


*... So, YES there has been change—NO we are not where we should be or need to be. YES the opportunity still exists to continue to make progress in all aspects of our lives. NO, it does not happen without dedicated people — those who turn moments into movements. ... Whatever you choose to do, remember that it is about spirit, it is about will, it is about determination. Make a difference where you are with what you have. ... How do you make your story happen? Stay informed, mentor, teach your children, be the best you can be on your job, in your community, strengthen your family, care for the elderly — which has increasing importance to me :) — serve the homeless, volunteer, vote, run for office, make your voice heard. **Find your passion and purpose and pursue it relentlessly.***



## Cover story

# Super Achieving Alumna Carolyn Jefferson-Jenkins '74

Carolyn arrived Wednesday, March 11, just as the Covid-19 crisis hit campus. Students were departing and virtual classes, lectures, etc., were announced. Still, she spoke at the evening “Celebrating Global Sisterhood” event at Shriver Center, honoring Yvette Harris, professor of psychology at Miami University, recipient of the 2020 Jennie Elder Suel Distinguished Woman of Color Award. At noon the next day — the day she was to receive *her* award — she gave a slide presentation at King Library, in recognition of Women’s History Month: “The Power of Our Story: Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow.” Then the shortened — but *actual* — award ceremony, held in Kumler Chapel, began at 3:00 p.m. with Carolyn’s abbreviated remarks. (*See excerpts from her intended speech next page.*) That was followed by the presentation of the Freedom Summer ’64 Award and her moving acceptance. (Friday, the 13th’s, scheduled event — participation in a forum of the 18th Race, Class, Gender, Sexuality Symposium on “Rise and Advocate: The Power of the Vote,” was canceled.)

You had to be there, but here are a few pictures and words excerpted from her two speeches, plus a link to the slide show (<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?tab=km#inbox/p2?projector=1>) — the best we can do to give you a glimpse of Carolyn’s incredible sojourn. The consensus of those who were there (and those who weren’t)? “*She’s an amazing Western woman!*” 



Yvette Harris, professor of psychology at Miami University (right), was awarded the 2020 Jennie Elder Suel Distinguished Woman of Color Award at the “Celebrating Global Sisterhood” event held in her honor. Carolyn is holding a plate inscribed with a thank-you for her role as keynote speaker.



Carolyn signs a copy of her book, published February 2020 to commemorate the League’s 100th anniversary, for Raksha Khatri, one of the student speakers at “Celebrating Global Sisterhood.”



“DR. CAROLYN JEFFERSON-JENKINS 2020 FOR REMEMBERING THE PAST, HONORING THE PRESENT, BUILDING THE FUTURE”

Above: Dr. Rodney Scott, MU Vice President, Institutional Diversity (far left); Randi Thomas, MU Director Institutional Relations (third from left); and President Greg Crawford (far right) look on with Miami students as Carolyn Jefferson-Jenkins acknowledges her Freedom Summer ’64 award.



**From the Kumler Chapel address, “Your Turn Will Come: The Continuing Journey to Fulfill Voting Rights”**

... My most cherished memories in this historic building were when I gathered with my fellow Western College for Women classmates to be spiritually inspired, to create anarchy, to be challenged and, even engage in civil disobedience. Yes all right here in Kumler Chapel. ... Thank you to Dr. Ron Scott and his colleagues for ensuring that in this seminal moment in our nation’s history, with all of the watershed events that will take place in 2020, the national conversation on full voting rights for African-Americans and women remains at the forefront.

... So, as we transition from Black History month to Women’s History month (let’s just concede that the recognition for both should occur all year long) I stand before you today with a great sense of institutional pride and personal humility representing both African-Americans and Women who because of Jim Crow laws, voter suppression, gerrymandering, redistricting, and the stripping away of elements of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, have a long road ahead to obtaining full voting rights. We acknowledge that this year is the 150th anniversary of the passage of the 15th Amendment that constitutionally gave black men the right to vote and the 100th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment that constitutionally gave women the right to vote. But just as we use 2020 as a celebration, we must also use it as a call to action recognizing the unfulfilled promise of full voting rights.

... Today we have the opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate Western’s legacy as we remember the significance of two events: Freedom Summer 1964 as memorialized here on campus attesting to Western’s commitment to social justice; and the last graduating class of The Western College for

Women (1974), which I proudly represent.

... What I took away from my Western experience was that leaving a legacy is important, that leadership is critical to change, and that life occurs in seasons each with its own unique challenges and opportunities... What were my life’s lessons — that the world was bigger than me? That it is possible to change the course of history. That there is no better time to be involved than now.

... This is not new but it takes a new generation — a new approach, a new season. **I hope you will see “Your Turn will come” is a call to action, not a directive to wait. For some of you this may be a new perspective. Taking up the mantle by design not by crisis.**

... Throughout my life, I have had a lot of titles (and I’m sure been called a lot of things that would not be considered titles) but what has been most important to me is leading with my life. When I first set foot in Kumler in 1970, my purpose became clear. When I spoke in 2014 at the 40th anniversary of graduation, my purpose was being realized. I am still fighting the good fight. I still abhor injustice and inequality and question the reason for war; I still fight to provide a voice to the voiceless. Like everyone here and everyone who has and will be a part of the Western/Miami legacy, I still have a sense of calling, a vision of what the world can be. All of us by our service to the community and country breathe life into that noble tradition that for me was solidified right here in Kumler Chapel.

... We are called upon to draw on the strength, the example, the vision of all who have helped bring us this far. We are called upon to remember that there is much left to do in the world and that we must do it... I leave you with this thought: When will your turn come? Your turn has come today, right here, and right now. **Accept the call!**

**Carolyn’s Acceptance**

I am both surprised and humbled by this honor. It will be one of the most treasured acknowledgements of my life’s work of advocacy, activism and education because it represents not what I have accomplished, but who I am. A person who wants to make the world a better place. A Western College alumnae who carries on the values and traditions of Western College for Women. I accept this on behalf of my grandmother who endured discrimination, yet labored her entire life to advocate and educate for first class citizenship for all people, without the type of recognition that I now receive. I also accept this on behalf of the other heroes whose names we do not know, of people front and center in the struggle, but are invisible in history. You look at me and see what I have done. I listen to you and my list of accomplishments and see what still needs to be done. I continue to believe in the goodness of people. It helps me make sense of the things around me. It is said that visionaries who would right injustice and make a difference in the world are often thought to be crazy, not because of some psychological anomaly but because they are dreamers. They have a vision of how the world can be. I am proud to be in good company with these dreamers, the abolitionist, the suffragists, the Freedom Riders. To follow in the footsteps of Congressman John Lewis and the Mt. Zion United Methodist Church of Philadelphia Mississippi. Look at the legacy they have left.

I will be forever altered by this honor — it reminds me that I still have work to do. Thank You.

## *Western College Endowed Professor Dr. Jana Evans Braziel*

*Five years after she was announced as our first Western College Endowed Professor [see Fall 2015 Bulletin, pp. 16-17] we thought it was about time to find out what Dr. Jana Braziel has been up to ... outside the classroom. Here is her answer! You are further invited to her laptop lecture on YouTube, "Ciudad Corona: A Street Art Installation," one of a series of two-minute virtual lectures produced by Miami's Humanities department.*

For the past five years, or since late fall 2015, I have traveled extensively and repeatedly through four major Caribbean cities — Havana, Port-au-Prince, San Juan, and Miami — photographing street murals and interviewing the artists who have marked their city's walls (in Cuba, Haiti, Puerto Rico, and Florida) as ready-made canvases for artistic creation and political expression. Working with several artists — Yulier Rodriguez Pérez in Havana; Jerry Moïse Rosembert in Port-au-Prince; Colectivo Moriviví, a young women's street art collective, in San Juan; and Serge Toussaint in Little Haiti, Miami — I have visited these four cities each year (in 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, and 2020) and witnessed their growing collections of street art, as well as their inevitable erasures and paint-overs, interviewed the artists multiple times, assembled a vast photo documentary archive for each of the artists, and used satellite imaging (or GPS technology) to map their art murals in the city streets where they work and live.

The artists all range in age, class, gender, and ideological stance — some radical feminist and anti-colonialist (notably, the Colectivo Moriviví); others critical of the gratuitous excesses of capitalism (Jerry, Serge), particularly in Haiti and in Haitian-American neighborhoods in the U.S.; and in the case of Yulier, deeply critical of the socialist/communist regimes of Fidel and Raoul Castro in Cuba and their legacies of censorship, denial of artistic expression, and crackdowns on political dissidence: Yet all of these artists, each in their individual ways and through their unique aesthetic styles, also palpably, visually oppose state political corruption and economic depravity in their island (or mainland) homes.

Like the cities' artists, distinct but with shared common ground, each of the Caribbean cities has undergone major geoeconomic and geopolitical shifts in the past decade. Havana, Port-au-Prince, San Juan, and, to some degree, also Miami have all experienced neoliberalization, privatization, neoliberal restructuring, gentrification and displaced populations, natural disasters and environmental or economic destabilization.

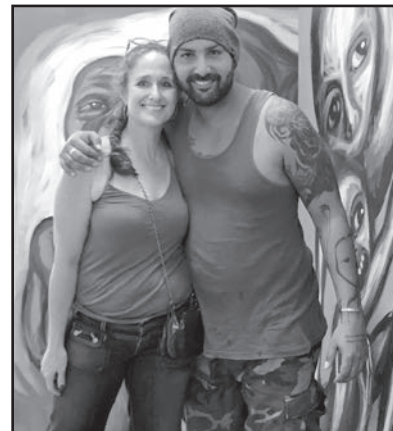
Havana, closed for decades to U.S. influence and visitors, the Cuban capitol witnessed first the opening and then the precipitous closing of diplomatic relations with Washington, DC.

In the research project, I conceptualize urban street art as expressions (sometimes performed, painted, or "tagged") and visible demonstrations of a "right to the city." The murals are artistic manifestations of audience-engaged, urban-mobilized citizenship throughout the Caribbean — specifically in the Greater Antilles — and in creative, cross-island exchanges.

The project contributes to the emerging field of urban studies of the Caribbean archipelago, as well as circum-Caribbean ecologies and Antillean politics, arts, and material cultures — both civically engaged and socially transformative in the ever-expanding global economy.

This five-year intellectual journey forms the core focus of a book-in-progress entitled *¡Ay, Carajo! ¡Ay, Caribe! Urban Street Art in the Greater Caribbean* — a book made possible by the Western College Endowment Fund and the generosity of the Western College Alumnae Association. In the spirit of Western, and with the generosity of the WCAA, I will finish the book in late summer 2020. To close, I say "thank you" to all who have supported me over the past five years.

— Dr. Jana Evans Braziel  
Western College Endowed Professor  
Department of Global and Intercultural Studies  
Miami University



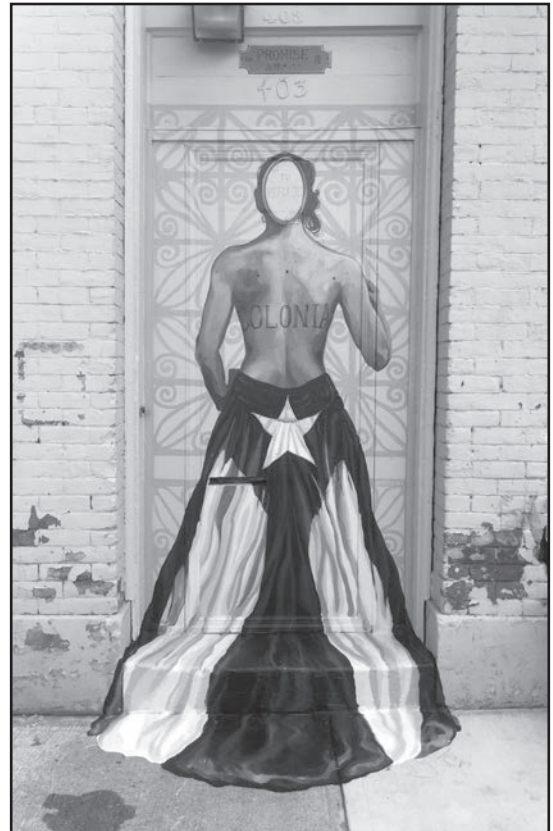
*Dr. Braziel, with Cuban artist Yulier Rodriguez Perez, December 2019*

Photograph by Stan Corkin ©





*Ciudad Corona (Angel)*



*Murals above (PR Flag) and below ("No Hay Estado Intermedio") from Colectivo Moriviví, a young women's street art collective, in San Juan.*

*All pictures this page provided by Dr. Jana Braziel*



*Ciudad Corona Wall Mural (Havana)*

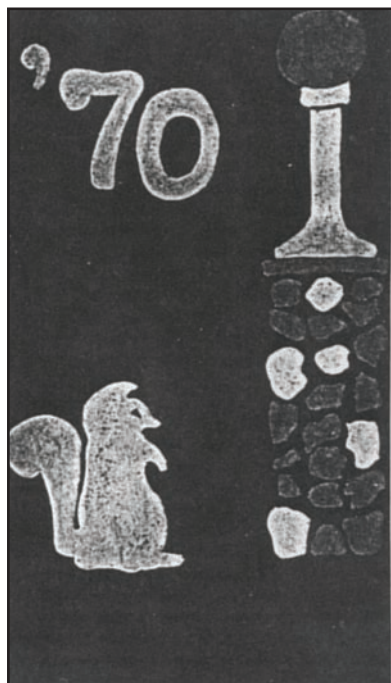




# Congratulations, Class of 1970!

*"I remember what other 50th year reunion classes looked like! They looked old, but I know we don't look old!" — Mary Melison McDonald*

In an effort to do our part for your "virtual Reunion," Bulletin editors are including a few extra pictures in which many of you appear. We did not have immediate access to a 1970 Multi, so most are from your junior year. It should also be noted that we did not attempt to edit out references to Reunion 2020 in spite of its having been canceled well before we went to press. Share the virtual enthusiasm!



**Dee Newell Banks** is celebrating her 40th year as an infectious disease physician, working with a large practice in Youngstown, OH. She has had numerous significant positions in the field: head of Infectious Disease at Allegheny General Hospital in Pittsburgh, PA, as well as the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center-Horizon Campus. She was recently awarded the Watanakunakorn Award for Clinician of the Year from the Infectious Disease Society of America. Her children include Mary, a cardiology fellow at Wake Forest Medical Center, in Winston-Salem, NC; Matthew, a former Judge Advocate General now in private practice in Alexandria, VA; Mark, a music video and film producer in Los Angeles; and Todd, who is a stay-at home-dad in Akron, OH. Dee also has two grandchildren: Grayden, 3, and Olivia, 18 months. A competitive runner for 10 years, Dee has 80 medals in various age groups. She is learning Italian through



Dee

frequent travel to Italy. She hopes to come to our 50th reunion.

## Janny Hadinata

**Morelle** sent a beautiful picture with her husband from Monte Carlo at a recent race. She is enjoying a slower paced life helping her husband with his physical needs plus clubs and museum exhibits. I think your "white-haired senior picture" is stunning!



Janny

## Catherine Smith

**Strate** is also still very busy but she will be at Reunion in June. She's currently in the 14th month of a five-month temporary out-of-retirement assignment at her old position at Emory in Atlanta. She writes that it has been a wonderful opportunity to be back with young persons with a passion to address the issues of public health in the U.S. and internationally (affordable healthcare, health education, health policy, mental health, environmental concerns, third-world challenges) and helping them meet their goals without the engagement in institutional politics. It's been a great way to end a career.



Catherine

Cathy completed a second master's degree in Social Justice, Peace Building, and Conflict Management from the Candler School of Theology at Emory, and is still working with and making presentations to church organizations and congregations to support outreach ministries and advocacy for the oppressed.

She and Harry and have made several trips between LA and NYC to visit granddaughter Joy, now 1, and enjoyed Ethan (7) and Colin (3) in visits to the Bronx Zoo exhibits and the best parts of the Dinosaur Display at the Museum of Natural History. (Please see the wonderful family picture Cathy sent.)

They've visited Norway and sailed across

the Atlantic, visiting the Shetland Islands, the Faroe Islands, Iceland, Greenland, Newfoundland, Quebec and Montreal. A 2020 excursion will be sailing across the Pacific, beginning in Vancouver, through Alaska, over to Kamchatka, Russia, ending with stops in Sapporo and Tokyo, Japan. Incorporated in her note were the entire lyrics from 1970s Class Song. I was pretty amazed until I remembered she wrote it!

Here's a note from **Sally Spayth Slattery** and **Barbara Burgess-Van Aken!** They wrote, "Back in fall of 1966 when we met at freshman orientation in Clawson Parlor, little did we know that we'd remain BFF's through weddings, divorces, deaths of loved ones, and career changes.



Barbara (1989)

True to the Western spirit of adventure, we've traveled to far-flung places by train, plane, and sailboat. Now in our 70s, Sally nurtures nine grandchildren while Barbara nurtures undergraduates at Case Western Reserve University. Going forward, we'll always recall that first day at Western College with gratitude."

From **Priscilla Cannon Williams-McDougal**: "I returned to Western for the reunion of the Modulations, the singing group formed by **Debbie McDuffie '71**.

I saw **Veronica Glover** during the reunion and have not been able to contact her since, so if anyone knows her email address, please let me know at pw985@aol.com." Since the Modulations reunion, Priscilla has retired after 34 years in the New York



Sally



Priscilla



Veronica

City Department of Education, worked as a New York State Consultant on improving poor performing schools, gotten married in 2017 and traveled as much as possible. Priscilla hopes to make it to Reunion 2020.



Mary

She has visited with **Lindel Waugh McCarty** and talked with **Jane Stoer Endres**. She hopes to make Reunion and says, "It just doesn't seem possible that our class is celebrating our 50th reunion. I don't think we look like what I remember other 50th reunion classes looked

like! They looked old, but I know we don't look old!!!"



And from the '68 Multi, Mary Lyon photo (above): Lindel Waugh in the middle next to Sandy Oxley; and (below): Jane Stoer far right inside the tree.

### Lyn Trautmann Pflug

is still working in the business she started in 1974, and will retire when she completes service to her last two clients, aged 94 and 99. Husband John, a new-heart recipient four years ago, also retired this year and joyfully her son Jock returned from his tour in Afghanistan. Completing nine years in the military, Jock returns to his career in physics and engineering as Business Analyst for Eurofins.



Lyn



Kelly

Happy 50<sup>th</sup> everyone!

**Kelly Felice '70**  
6121 Bob Galbreath Rd.  
Clinton, Whidbey Island, WA 98236  
noaprof@aol.com

**Betsy Morris** has had a 50-year adventure of travel: she's lived in five states, 14 towns, and traveled to all 50 states, having driven to all but two. It took several years to find her passion: working in libraries. Some of you may remember she was originally in the Class of 1969, but a cancer diagnosis kept her at home for a year undergoing radiation treatment and recovering. She is unable to attend the 50th reunion because she will be at a Hodgkin's Survivability Conference in Boston with about 100 other long-term survivors.



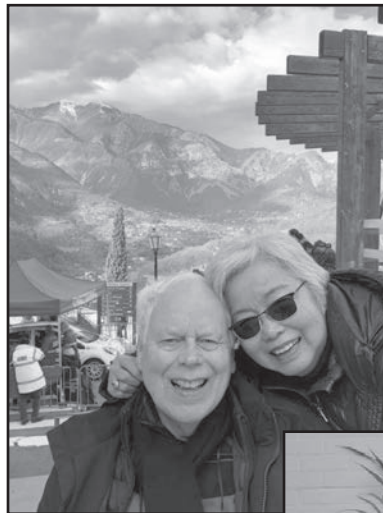
Betsy



Alison

Betsy has many fond memories of all her Western classmates, and a lifelong friendship with **Alison McDonald**. Alison is living in Florida and still practicing medicine. She had adopted two daughters as infants and is now enjoying being a grandmother.

**Mary Melison McDonald** slid her note into my email box right at the deadline! She and John are retired and are enjoying four grandchildren — Alexandria, Eleni, Zoe, and John. They have traveled to Alaska, Greece, and Hawaii, cruised through the Panama Canal and visited the West. Mary really misses traveling with **Sandy Oxley Fehrman**, who passed in 2018.



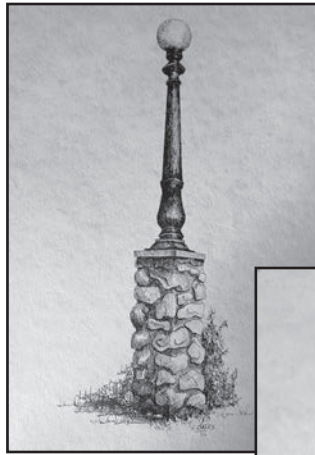
Janny Hadinata's other "senior" picture, here with her husband in Monte Carlo recently.



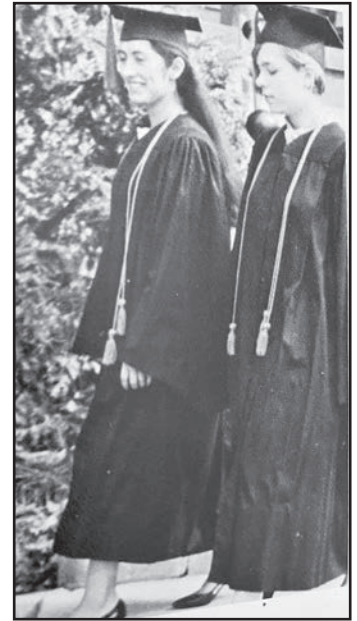
Many thanks to Catherine Strate for sending the pictures from her 1970 and 1968 Multis due to the closing of the WCAA office. She is pictured below with her family as she looks today.







Pen-and-ink  
drawings by  
Leslie Bates  
'70





# “Is the anchor holding in the storm ?” — *Helen Peabody*



Your “long ago Class Rep” (her words), **Bea Low Notley** intimates that she is “seriously tempted to resume a ‘42 note to lead off the short list of class news.” She invites other “survivors” to join her in “catching up before WCAA, Inc. has ended legal status.”

Bea continues, “On Dec. 19, I will have 100-year birthday. Amazing fact!” She had hoped to come to campus for this year’s reunion before she received the news that it – along with Miami’s reunion, as well as commencement – had been canceled. And despite receiving the Fall/Winter 2019 Bulletin in *February*, she wrote, “I am so pleased that it is here for me to still feel a true connection to my Western years.”

WCAA, Inc.  
325 S. Patterson Ave.  
Oxford, OH 45056  
wcaa@miamioh.edu



Surrounded by so much uncertainty, we are more than happy to publish (itself an uncertainty) letters from all classes – even or odd – in this issue. We are happy to include this from **Ethel Catherine “Kit” Jarvis Fischer**, written March 27, in response to the announcement that our on campus 2020 reunion is canceled.

“I am so sorry for the seniors to miss the hard earned celebrations of their time at Western - forever an important event in their lives. Best wishes to them and each of you who has had to cope with this virus attack, each in his own way.

“My roommate freshman year, **Ardis “Dickie” Dechman Coninx**, and I survived longer after our time at Western than any other combination of roommates. We kept in touch and I was greatly saddened, but hardly surprised, by her death last January. It was almost 75 years for her, and 73 years since I left to become Western’s first ‘war bride.’ I was allowed to return to take my final exams that year. I think Dickie and I attended all our reunions except when we were having babies or caring for a sick husband in my case. Dickie was our Class Representative all those years. I am sorry we will no longer enjoy that connection. I don’t even know

how many members of our freshman class are still alive.

“It would be interesting to know how alumni of all ages are coping with this awful plague I am living alone in my ‘summer home,’ where I isolated myself a week ago. One daughter lives across the road with her husband in isolation. He was scheduled for open heart surgery in early March which has been postponed, of course. Another daughter is isolated with her 8-year-old granddaughter in town and still treats therapy patients by phone. Her daughter and husband and their two sons are out in their home with acreage for them to roam. My eldest, a child psychiatrist, is secluded alone on his farm in Iowa, dealing with emergencies by phone. His children are dealing with the situation in Upsalla, Sweden, and Lansing, MI. My middle daughter is in self-imposed isolation alone on her farm in Ohio with three apartments occupied individually in her barn. Grandchildren and families in DC and Atlanta are teachers coping with children at home now and some classes by Skype. My oldest grandson, a lawyer with the Justice Dept., is also conducting his work from home, but his wife has to keep working in a New York court room where she is defending a client — apparently considered a ‘necessary’ job.

“I am using my free time now to work more on my 20 year-plus project, writing my auto biography of close to a century with many changes in everyday living and my ever changing adaptation.

“Keep in touch with all those Western Women and encourage them to write about their lives, and especially their thoughts and feelings as time went on. This is important to their descendants, particularly future generations. They will have their own thoughts and environment but your expression of your ideals and how you dealt with them will be a springboard for their own ideas. Good Luck to each of you and your families.”

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Oxford, OH 45056  
wcaa@miamioh.edu



From Lake Placid, FL, **Maryel Wertis Clare** says: “It’s always fun and interesting to read about the few people whose names I recognize today. I celebrated my 90<sup>th</sup> birthday last year by flying to England and taking a two-week cruise to Iceland and Norway. I’ve

hiked in places like Bhutan and camped in Namibia, but this was my first ‘cruise.’ Fun, but just not active enough. Upon returning to England, I spent a week with friends and relatives and I even managed to take in the morning and evening shows of *Harry Potter* in London. Recently I drove up to Georgia to visit family. Still volunteering at the local Chamber of Commerce and recently took on another volunteer job: proofreading at the local daily newspaper twice a week. Rocco, my very big Red European Doberman keeps me moving indoors and out. We walk about a mile every morning and evening. Working out with a personal trainer three days a week doesn’t hurt either. Hoping to take a trip out to California to visit friends in the near future.”

**Donna Hall Mader**, in Alexandria, KY, “couldn’t stand to see this blue card sitting on my dining room table” and insists “I don’t have any news anyway.” But we are happy to hear from her – and *you* – “anyway”! And we always welcome compliments such as Donna’s “Keep up your good work and Happy Spring!” She had been trying in vain to get in touch with classmate **Barb Burkland Copenhaver** – can anyone come to the rescue with a current address or phone number?

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Oxford, OH 45056  
wcaa@miamioh.edu



Be sure to check the memorial page updated listing of those to whom we have said goodbye. I have most of the obits if anyone wants to know more about any of them.

The planned mini-reunion in Dayton didn’t work out in February because of the weather, but **Chris Davis Vradelis** was hoping to get to the Columbus Alumnae/i gathering March 28, joining **Nancy Ryan Rietz** and me.

**Jean Fuller Lester** is still taking tennis lessons. She and Cliff, with daughters Jane and Carole, made a memorable trip to the Yucatan and Guatemala to observe the Day of the Dead celebrations and the Mayan ruins.

**Ann Luthy Stachelberg** broke her hip again as well as her pelvis, and is making a good recovery..

**Joan Landenberger Trefts** spent the summer with her daughter in Maine, and is wintering as usual in Dunedin, FL.

**Marilyn Brown Vanvleet** sounds as full of pep as always, splitting time between North Carolina in the summer and Florida in the winter.

**Gloria Wilson Sylvester** has moved to an assisted-living community in Skokie, IL, and is keeping busy there.

**Joyce Rinckhoff Snell** is back in Milford, has had some health issues, but is bouncing back. She and I were remembering how homesick several of us were that first Thanksgiving in Oxford.

**Donna Schulz Bloom** was spending time with her middle son, Jay, and family in Honolulu. Jeff, her oldest son, often travels to Japan, drops her off in Hawaii, and picks her up on his way home. Many former piano students keep in touch with her by mail or visit.

**Jo DuBois Shafer** wrote that they are very happy in their new home in Freedom Village. Dick continues to stay busy with his magic, and they attended two magic conventions as well as three ship reunions. Their children and grandchildren are in widely differing fields, scattered widely, but seen fairly frequently.

**Nancy Ryan Rietz** and Bob managed strategic visits with their two out-of-town sons, attending last year's Rose Bowl (OSU vs. Washington) from Mike's home in Gilbert, AZ, and gathering the families of all three at Gary's, in Wheaton, IL. They were back home in Delaware, OH, with Bill on October 4 – their 67<sup>th</sup> anniversary! – to attend the unveiling of a statue (for which Bill led the fund-raising) commemorating the 119<sup>th</sup> birthday of native son President Rutherford B. Hayes.

**Ann Barton Wiland's** updated address is Friends Fellowship Community, 2030 Chester Blvd., Richmond, IN 47374. She graduated from IU in 1953, worked in Indianapolis for a while where she met her husband to be, a pathologist from Pennsylvania. They moved around for a few years, then settled in Ann's home town. She has three children, a daughter in Dallas and two sons in Indiana. Her husband died in 2014.

Shortly before Christmas, family of **Mary Sue "Tudy" Allen Gatzert** helped her move from Chicago to a memory care residence in western Massachusetts. She is happy to be near her son David Henry.

Dick and I celebrated the anniversary of our meeting on a blind date at Miami on February 12, 1949. Please continue to keep in touch.

**Catherine "Cathy" Ross Loveland '52**  
8159 Riverside Dr.  
Powell, OH 43065  
crl Loveland71@aol.com



**Barbara Drake Mc Connell** left us this year – she was an elementary education major at Western and her teaching career lasted for 20 years. Her special talent was to teach children to read while fostering a love for books. This led to a hobby of collecting notable children's literature – first editions often signed by the author or illustrator. Her grandchildren felt her love as the recipients of a "Grandma's Book of the Month club" – receiving a carefully chosen brand new book in the mail every month. Bar's husband Frank loved the ocean and sailing, so they always lived near the water with their family of two daughters, one son and a series of beloved dogs.

**Miriam "Mimi" Chesslin** was born on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July and maintained her patriotic fervor for over 86 years. She studied law at the University of Chicago after graduating from Western and soon turned her energy to public service law and government service. She championed school integration, battered women's shelters, anti-discrimination law, and American Indian Tribal rights.

When both Mimi Chesslin and **Cornelia Roettcher Levine** lived in the Washington, DC, area they had some good times together and Corni said that Mimi helped her in her "Americanization." Now back living in the Bay area of California, Cornelia leads a busy life. Exercising at the Y, helping friends who no longer are able to drive and taking walks outdoors with a friend who is blind. With many cultural events in the area to choose from, she sounds quite content.

For a number of years **Lucy Liggett** has taken classes and worked to develop her proficiency in conversational Spanish. In March 2019, she joined a Road Scholar group going to Cuba. They had excellent guides and met and talked with warm and welcoming Cubans. "An amazing learning experience." At home in Ypsilanti, Lucy continues to volunteer at the book sales run by the "Friends" group. Almost new books are for sale several hours per week – then three times a year they hold a big book sale with many, many donated books which brings in funds to broaden the Library's outreach.

**Delores Randles Hutchinson** has a new address: Chambrell, 1000 Applewood Court, Apt. 251, Roswell, GA 30076. This is a senior living facility which offers transportation and meals – she's enjoying her new apartment and screened in porch. Highlight of the past year was a family reunion jaunt for 14 to Hawaii for two weeks of sightseeing and enjoying the scenery of those beautiful islands.

Henk and **Mieke Van Wavern Smit** also gathered 14 family members – four generations – for a reunion at Georgian Bay (Canada) last summer. It was fun to see their two great-grandsons from Paris enjoying the sand and water. Then, as the holidays drew near, each of their children came to visit their parents, take care of a few items on the "to do" list and enjoy some warmth and the Christmas festivities on Hilton Head Island.



*Nancy Ryan Rietz '52 and family, presumably at last year's Rose Bowl*

**Elizabeth Renton Hale's** daughters are regular visitors to Ocala, FL, where Betty and her sister Janet live. All of them enjoy getting out to wander through garden centers and explore Florida's Nature Parks. Saturday night is Movie Night at Marion Woods – Betty selects and publicizes the weekly films. She challenges herself with the NY Times crossword puzzles and is a regular patron of the Ocala Symphony and the broadcasts of the Metropolitan Opera

Phil and I, **Sandra Franz Barnes**, have slowed down, especially since arthritis has flared up for each of us. But we are comfortable in our cottage at the Birch Hill CCRC, enjoying friends and events here. We no longer travel but our sons and their families come for visits and on Facebook we can enjoy watching our two 6-year-old great-grandchildren. He is so intent and serious, striking his Tae Kwan Do stances while she loves her ballet and tap dancing classes, especially when she can wear sparkly costumes!

Good wishes to all who read these Class Notes.

**Sandra Franz Barnes '54**  
53 White Birch Way  
Manchester, NH 03102  
psjsjbar@gmail.com



Well, here we are again, ladies, awaiting another spring. (For your reference, I began writing this on March 7, long past its due date, and didn't finish until today, April 1. I'm afraid I have become somewhat irresponsible in my old age — I can't seem to accomplish anything punctually.)

I was pleasantly surprised to learn from **Carol Morton Friedman** that she and Mike have moved back to Ohio, after their long residence in California. The Friedmans are living in Middletown in order to be closer to their older daughter, and, naturally, they have already seized the opportunity to revisit Oxford and the Miami-Western campuses. Carol was happy to find that all three locations are as lovely as she remembered them. Because she wrote that she is wondering how many of our classmates are still in the area, I'm taking that as a sign that she may be at our reunion June 12-14. I do hope so, Carol.

Another couple on the move, **Mihrican Ozdemir Havens** and husband Perry have decided to treat themselves to a new experience, opting for Amtrak round-trip bedroom tickets to take them from North Carolina to the Tampa Bay area to reconnect with good friends whom they've known for 30 years. As someone who, all my life, has loved hearing train whistles in the night, I think that sounds like a lovely idea, Mihirican. Do let us know how the trip went.

The concluding sentence of **Jo Huntsinger's** email expresses, I believe, a conviction many of us share, "I am so very happy that I started my adult life at Western — it has served me well." This follows her account of changes she has made in the 15 months since her eye doctor told her that she needed to give up driving, unwelcome news that many of us have already faced or are dreading. The loss of independence this so often entails is a test of our resilience, but Jo sounds unflappable as she relates exploring different options, finally settling on a move to an independent living community in Flagstaff, AZ, where her daughter Darcy lives. As she moves up the waiting list for The Bungalows, which is connected to assisted living and beyond, she is "sorting and packing and wondering why on earth I ever thought I needed to keep all this stuff."

I don't know where Olmsted Township, OH, is, but isn't that an evocative name? **Joan Anderson Kafer** writes that she and her husband Jack moved there, to a retirement community, the Renaissance, in 2013. Sadly, 2017 saw the end of their 60 happy years of marriage, when Jack died from pancreatic cancer. The Renaissance community has

proved to be a wonderfully supportive one, so that now Joan is active in the residents' association, belongs to two book groups, and can play lots of bridge. With many of her friends from Berea also living there, Joan says it is much like living on the Western campus — "good food, good friends and a safe environment."

Senior Living Apartments, Retirement Communities, Independent Living Facilities — the names, the locations, the size — aren't we lucky that the number of such elder care housing options has increased so greatly in recent years? Sometimes it takes an act of bravery to uproot yourself from the place you are familiar with, the home you love, the area where you've spent many happy years and move to a place which offers advantages we want and need for our older years — closeness to family, assistance of various kinds, the company of others who can laugh along with us at some of our "senior moments," and whose "been there, done that" reassurances keep us from worrying about every little failing.

It's always fun to receive news from **Joyce Roark Phillips**, someone who still has a positive outlook and as much *joie de vivre* as anyone I know. (I use the French phrase as a kind of delayed apology to Miss Bliss, who tried unsuccessfully to convince me to take some French; how often I've wished that I'd followed her advice.) But back to Joyce — she sent an upbeat, chatty letter penned in beautiful, entirely legible script that was a pleasure just to look at. You may remember that after living in Cincinnati for 60 years, Joyce recently moved "home" to Fort Wayne, IN, to be near family. She says it has turned out to be a "joyful experience," mentioning "new pursuits, interests, friends and TIME (sic) to read, etc., etc." I'm dying to find out how she manages to find more time — something I am always short of.

At Christmas time, Joyce heard from **Suzanne Schmidt Smith**, in San Francisco, who is still actively trying to make the world a better, happier place. I wish Suzie and my granddaughter Emily, who lives on an island in San Francisco Bay, could somehow find a chance to meet — they are so much alike in goals and outlook it's hard to believe that their ages are so far apart.

Although **Patricia Van Auker Robinson** and I, as four-year Western roommates, always manage to keep in touch, I didn't want to rely solely on her Christmas letter, so I phoned her this morning. I was delighted to learn a few more details of the Robinsons' trip to England last year. Because Jeff is a retired Episcopal priest, the Robinsons were able to tour the country with a group of clergy assembled through the University of Virginia. The group had their meals in the homes of the deans of religion at universities like Oxford, Cambridge, and Canterbury. Many of the homes were once Royal castles and

such, including one which dated back to the 1100s. Since I am writing this in early spring, we then had to discuss the growing Covid 19 virus pandemic. Ohio is a late addition to the list of states with cases of the virus, so here we are just beginning to have some restrictions on our lives, whereas Patty and Jeff's facility in Florida is almost on lock-down even though at this time no cases have been identified in St. Petersburg itself. We finished our conversation with mutual reminders to wash our hands frequently and make sure we had a good supply of reading material. (A brief hiatus now as I sit and wonder how widespread the pandemic will be by the time this edition of the *Bulletin* is published.)

A few years back, **Ann Hopper Sneden** decided that widowhood would be easier to cope with if she lived closer to her three sons, two daughters-in-law, six granddaughters (two of whom are married) six great-grandkids, and five family dogs. The transition from Tennessee to Minnesota has been a happy one, I gather, "Don't have to go out in the cold — all amenities that you can think of in this building."

One thing I haven't touched on in this letter is our common challenge of facing unwelcome changes in our bodies and/or minds. Last October Ann had a knee replaced, and will have the other replaced this spring. "Not fun, but necessary to keep moving on my own." No complaints here. No self-pity; our years at Western seem to have taught Ann as they taught us all, to look squarely at whatever situation faces us, decide on a course of action, and then follow it with all the confidence we can muster. We may not always be as successful as we wish, but we won't just sit there, wringing our hands and trying to wish our problems away. Good for you, Ann. Good for all of us.

It seems only fitting that alphabetically **Nancy Britton Soth's** news comes right after Ann's. As matter-of-factly as Ann mentioned knee replacement, Nancy mentions Mayo clinic's 2017 diagnosis of her hereditary Alzheimer's disease, and continues calmly, "In the last month my word loss has truly increased, and I should work on it." Again no complaints, no self-pity. After this, she just goes on to relate that she and husband Lauren have transitioned into assisted living, finding a location not too far from their former home, so that they are still close to Carleton's two libraries, its theater, museum and movie theater. As you may remember, Nancy has had four books published. Her first one, titled *Informed Treatment*, "is 'selling'" on Amazon for \$900 and there is also one for \$90." I'm guessing that Nancy, like me, is amazed by the incredible optimism of some used book sellers because she writes, "I must take a picture of that for my obituary." Good idea, Nancy. I may do that myself.

Only people our age will be able to understand the difficulties **Carol Lee Silvernail**



# FINANCIAL REPORT 2019

## 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, 2019-December 31, 2019

### Club Designations

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

**1942**

#### Century Club

Beatrice Low Notley

**1945**

#### Century Club

Ethel Jarvis Fischer  
Virginia Cook Marquett

**1946**

#### Century Club

Eugenia Thompson Sullivan  
Ann Winger Tuttle \*

**1947**

#### Century Club

Joanna Harmeyer Ach  
Mary Davis Reeves \*  
Marilyn Trester Woodrich  
**Donor**

Anne Mack Dean  
Jane Alexander Durrell  
Louise Gutman Goldberg  
Alyce Baumgartner Haines  
Marjorie Arnold Thompson

**1948**

#### McKee Circle

Ellen Siddall Zimmermann  
**Donor**  
Cynthia Adams Leslie

**1949**

#### Peabody Society

Mary Jane Liggett Matson  
**Century Club**  
Evelyn Jensen Hill  
**Donor**  
Betty Huttenbauer Heldman

Margo Freudenthal Kaufman

**1950**

#### Clawson Club

Jane Lloyd Cantoni  
**Century Club**  
Patricia Brewer Benjamin  
**Donor**  
Donna Hall Mader

**1951**

#### McKee Circle

Ruth Dunlap Will  
**Century Club**  
Barbara McGill Benson  
Jeanne Owen Buhler  
Nancy McCudden Osgood  
Marilyn Johnson Ross  
Alice Merwin Tweedy  
**Donor**

Barbara Van Meter Carey  
Jean Dresser Rekow  
Josselyn Bennett Winslow

**1952**

#### Peabody Society

Jean Fuller Lester  
**McKee Circle**  
Joanne DuBois Shafer  
**Clawson Club**  
Catherine Ross Loveland  
**Century Club**  
Donna Schulz Bloom  
Elizabeth Sipe Gerber  
Nancy Ryan Rietz  
**Donor**

Barbara Peterson Block  
Joyce Rinckhoff Snell  
Pat Creighton Snyder

**1953**

#### Clawson Club

Debra Cohen Kalodner  
**Century Club**  
Mary Culver Daniels  
Barbara Johnson Mecklenborg  
Barbara Johnson Wright  
**Donor**  
Patricia Brandenburger Green

**1954**

#### McKee Circle

Sandra Franz Barnes  
Elizabeth Renton Hale  
Charlotte Bergmann Russell  
**Century Club**  
Cornelia Roettcher Levine  
Lucy Ann Liggett  
Maria Van Waveren Smit

**1955**

#### Peabody Society

Sharon English Blake \*  
Charlotte M. Kraebel  
Phyllis Banta Sandmann  
Susan Riley Scherer  
**Clawson Club**  
Barbara Giles Grant  
**Century Club**  
Margaret Stackhouse Flickinger  
Jane Hazelton Gauss  
Dorothy Runyon Medlin  
Mary Sicer Moore

**1956**

#### Clawson Club

Carol Silvernail Swager  
**Century Club**  
Mihrican Ozdemir Havens

Josephine Haines Huntsinger  
Carol Tinchler Keith  
Joyce Roark Phillips  
Charlotte Leary Ross

#### Donor

Sandra Peters Andreucci  
Anne Welch Burnette  
Patricia Allen McKnight

**1957**

#### Peabody Society

Nadine Wenger Patti  
**Clawson Club**  
Ellyn Talbott Bogan  
Diana Haynes O'Keefe  
**Century Club**  
Paula Zearley Armstrong  
Drusilla Zearley Clingman  
Ann Ellison  
Shirley Rakich Giffin  
Dorothy Poeschl Hawkes  
Lois Rehm Koch  
Katherine Johnston Lyons  
Joan Mueller McNally  
**Donor**  
Brigitte Jeglin Dahl  
Theresa Hill Herrnstein

**1958**

#### Clawson Club

Polly Smith Venable  
**Donor**  
Phyllis Yeamans Bailey  
Jennie Fredley Klim

**1959**

#### McKee Circle

Ann Ferguson Zeigler

**Century Club**  
 Peggy Mayer Hill  
 Sis Moeller Horst \*  
 Barbara Konheim Kolb  
 Diana Koch Mascali  
 Hatsumi Takenaka Whitehead  
**Donor**  
 Suzanne Rhodes Crankshaw \*  
 Jane Toy Thomason

**1960**  
**Clawson Club**  
 Catherine Bauer Cooper  
**Century Club**  
 Sara White Arn  
 Patricia Alman Halbig  
 Janet Sandrock MacEwen  
 Susan Getz Morris  
 Ursula Seeler Parobek  
 Mary Flagler Rachau  
 Joan Harrison Sievers  
**Donor**  
 Nancy Kohlman Freeman  
 Sally Allen Masters

**1961**  
**Clawson Club**  
 Anne Adkins Weissenborn  
**Century Club**  
 Sandra Baarsch Baumgardner  
 Flora Zimmerman Cohen  
 Jeanette Kirkpatrick Duvall  
 Sharon Botsford Moyer  
 Mary De Jong Obuchowski  
**Donor**  
 Sharry Patterson Addison  
 Sandra Metildi Brandt  
 Ann Bronaugh Kyle  
 Lynn Bernheim Reese  
 Sally Vinnedge Smith

**1962**  
**Peabody Society**  
 Doris Ning Wong  
**McKee Circle**  
 Judith Dudman Henderson  
**Donor**  
 Judith Bauer  
 Nancy Smith Carlson

**1963**  
**McKee Circle**  
 Susan Berryhill Hill  
**Clawson Club**  
 Sarah Schuster Ronne  
 Loretta W. Ryder  
**Century Club**  
 Jill Hartley Fulton  
 Sharon Williams Hansen  
 Susan Zeller Maxfield  
 Florence Firjanian McGurk  
 Carolyn M. Myers  
 Nia Jones Terry  
**Donor**  
 Ellen Brower Brightly  
 Marjorie Keppel Gross

Mary Ann Theophile Pappanikou  
 Elizabeth Doerr Steponkus

**1964**  
**Peabody Society**  
 Lynne Drucker Albuquerk  
 Linda Roscoe Felicetti  
 Patricia Spokes Snowden  
**McKee Circle**  
 Grace Good Bailey  
 Nancy Fierbaugh Collier  
 Marcia Randlett Oder  
 Carol Thomas Ruikka  
**Clawson Club**  
 Yvette Small Hohler  
 Isabel Kimball Richardson  
**Century Club**  
 Alice I. Baker  
 Carol Shuler Butcher  
 Barbara Griswold Marrs  
 Lois Johnson Wilson  
**Donor**  
 Faith A. Evans  
 Judith White Fogt  
 Carolyn Moss Ford  
 Roberta A. Hair

**1965**  
**Peabody Society**  
 Katherine Egolf  
 Sylvia G. Stanfield  
**McKee Circle**  
 Frances E. Hoffman  
 Janet Smith Stephens  
**Clawson Club**  
 Elizabeth R. Jacobs-Harrison  
**Century Club**  
 Betsy Smith Ames  
 Rita Gehlhoff  
 Barbara Wood Johnson  
 Kathleen O'Brian Lillich  
**Donor**  
 Judith E. Beck  
 Kathy Fansher Parnell

**1966**  
**Peabody Society**  
 Margaret Wilmer Bartlett  
**McKee Circle**  
 Kathi Ramsey Goldsmith  
 Suzanne Lutz May  
**Century Club**  
 Hazel Williams Drew  
 Edith Taylor Molumby  
 Ann E. Walton  
 Carol Maturo Ward  
**Donor**  
 Brenda Grant Davis  
 Carol Schaefer Judd  
 Jane Graham Murphy

**1967**  
**McKee Circle**  
 Muriel Gillette Alexander  
**Century Club**  
 Janina Chadwick

Carolyn Sparks Kokalis  
 Stephanie Smith Siegfried  
 Marlene Benjamin Tuttle  
 Jo Ann Brombaugh Wittmann  
**Donor**  
 Jean B. Ager  
 Lois Dickey Coyle  
 Carol Stone Lehman  
 Jane F. Underwood

**1968**  
**Peabody Society**  
 Susan Blake  
 Kathryn Evans Findley  
 Patricia A. Jayson  
 Karen Prah Voris  
**McKee Circle**  
 Francine Toss  
**Clawson Club**  
 Jeanne Flowers Foster  
 Ella Weingarten Iams  
 Jennifer French Sponsler  
**Century Club**  
 Susannah Davids  
 Patricia Robins Lacey  
 Ellen M. Myette  
 Nancy Niver  
 Leslie Weirman Riley  
 Mary Russell  
 Barbara Williamson Wentz  
**Donor**  
 Hayat Imam  
 Susan Williams Oblinger  
 Cecelia M. Peabody

**1969**  
**McKee Circle**  
 Penny Earle Cook  
 Nancy Wilson Kobayashi  
**Clawson Club**  
 Susan Daigle Davis  
 Sally L. Fliess  
 Gretchen Schmidt Grzelak  
 Cynthia Harrington Hochberg  
 Roberta Smith Hurley  
 Gertrude Muller Moore  
 Ann Noble  
 Susan Bradbard Patrick  
 Cynthia Van Allen Schaffner  
**Century Club**  
 B. J. Gibbons Bramlett  
 Annette Bevan Gallagher  
 Toni Vaughn Heineman  
 Cecelia Henig  
 Susan Hodge  
 Betsy Philipson Kensinger  
 Kathleen O. Kibble  
 Louise Wiedmann Koch  
 Pamela Baldwin Lustig  
 Karen Kling Plumb  
 Carolann Herrold Sharp  
 Stevie Bentzen Snook  
**Donor**  
 Linda Galantin  
 Nancy Hale Priest  
 Betsy Summers Solis

Lynnette Jones Turner  
 Mary Sullivan Webster

**1970**  
**Peabody Society**  
 Mary Kelly Felice  
**McKee Circle**  
 Linda Bartruff Hickey  
**Century Club**  
 Lucy R. Boyle  
 Pamela Watts Coates  
 Patricia E. Pinkowski  
**Donor**  
 Mary Hoge Miller  
 Ruth Senft Noyes  
 Ellyn Trautmann Pflug

**1971**  
**Peabody Society**  
 Christine Jordan Blanchette  
**Century Club**  
 Susan Wolfe Caceci  
 Pamela Waldron-Moore  
**Donor**  
 Ligia M. Galarza  
 Nancy Stokes Saumsiegle  
 Deborah Ricketts Tolley

**1972**  
**Clawson Club**  
 Linda C. Tuxen  
**Century Club**  
 Pamela J. Aduskevicz

**1973**  
**Clawson Club**  
 V Joan Campbell  
**Century Club**  
 Susan F. Adland  
 Marcy Jackoway Cornfeld  
 Rita E. Greene  
 Gita Wijesinghe Pitter  
 Ann M. Powell  
 Jane Rossitto  
 Margaret Littell Strang  
**Donor**  
 Elisabeth Cook Coady  
 Linda Li Ng

**1974**  
**Peabody Society**  
 Elizabeth A. Salt  
**Clawson Club**  
 Christine Moranda  
**Century Club**  
 Nancy Anderson  
**Donor**  
 Sue Anderson  
 Cheryl P. Bonnell  
 Ann Crowley Pagano

**1976**  
**Donor**  
 Elizabeth Rugg Grybko  
 Pheetta G. Wilkinson

**Western Program Alumni****Century Club**

Ann L. Aylwin 1982

**Donor**

Jessica Matuska Allman 2003  
 Michele Deputy Calloway 1991  
 Benjamin D. Gibbons 1994  
 Jacklyn C. Heikes 2017  
 Michael P. Loeffelman 2003  
 Katherine Hallock Lunine 1978  
 Barbara L. Ruben 1982  
 Michael L. Taggart 2016  
 Joy M. Usner 2003

**Western Former Faculty/Staff****Century Club**

Richard Sakurai  
 Josephine O'Brien Schaefer  
 John E. Simmons

**Western Program Faculty****Donor**

R. Hays Cummins  
 Jacqueline D. Daugherty  
 Zackary D. Hill 2002  
 Nicholas P. Money

**Western Honorary Alumnae****Century Club**

Betty Neal Crutcher  
 Mackenzie Becker Rice  
 Judy Kalbfus Waldron

**Donor**

Deborah S. Baker

**Western Friend****Peabody Society**

Jack Fryman  
 Lee D. Hieronymus  
 Edward J. Kenney  
 Robert Larsen  
 Susan C. Larsen  
 Linda Newman  
 Jeffrey Salt  
 Ellen Wallwork

**McKee Circle**

Donna and William Matson

**Clawson Club**

William Trainer  
 Robert Webber

**Century Club**

Andrew G. Mehas, Jr.  
 Cindy Kerr Roth  
 Melissa Schaub and Roger Ladd

**Donor**

Sten Wiedling

**Organizations**

Columbus Foundation  
 Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund  
 General Electric Company  
 Hieronymus Family Fund Inc.  
 In His Steps Foundation  
 Margaret and Marshall Bartlett Family Foundation Inc.  
 Peabody Advertising Company Inc.  
 Raymond James Charitable Endowment Fund  
 Russell's Garden Center Charitable Foundation Inc.  
 Susan Scherer Charitable Foundation Inc.  
 The Henry County Community Foundation Inc.  
 Voris Family Foundation

*Congratulations and Thank You to Our Donors!*

*Of our active Western College Alumnae, 16.5% contributed to the WCAA in 2019, compared to the national average of 11.6% for all colleges and universities. Your philanthropic support, volunteer efforts, meaningful experiences, and continued engagement speak volumes for a college no longer in existence!*

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



## Memorial Gifts

**Louise Kell Ozdemir '21**

Mihrican Ozdemir Havens '56

**Harriet Gebhart Hieronymus '27**

Lee Hieronymus

**Lois Wiggins Newman '29**

Henry County Community Foundation

**Francesse Sutherland Larsen '44**

Robert Larsen

Susan Larsen

Ellen Wallwork

**Alice Schacht Salt '47**

Elizabeth A. Salt '74

Jeffrey C. Salt

**Miriam Chesslin '54**

Cornelia Roettcher Levine '54

**Barbara Frazey Kenney '57**

Edward Kenney

Donna and William Matson

Joan Mueller McNally '57

**Sandra Still Sakurai '57**

Richard Sakurai, Former Faculty

**Jane Smucker Fryman '58**

Jack Fryman

**Carol Towne Schaub '58**

Melissa Schaub

**Dixie Harris Trainer '58**

William Trainer

**Elizabeth "Cindy" Flender Webber '62**

Robert A. Webber

**Suzanne Detlefsen Meyers '66**

Janina Chadwick '67

**Katharine Ehrgood Sturm '67**

Janina Chadwick '67

Stephanie Smith Siegfried '67

**Sarah Lewis Ferreebee '69**

Mary Kelly Felice '70

**Donavon Auble, Former Faculty**

Richard Sakurai, Former Faculty

**Karen Brockmann, Former Faculty**

Josephine O'Brien Schaefer, Former Faculty

**Eleanore Vail, Former Faculty**

Susan Getz Morris '60

**Lillian S. Johnson**

Edward Kenney

**Loia D. McNally** (spouse of Joan McNally '57)

Edward Kenney

### Alumnae Weekend Gifts

Anniversary year classes contributed **\$6,665.**

Non-anniversary year classes contributed **\$15,568.**

**TOTAL ALUMNAE WEEKEND GIFTS: \$22,233.**

## **2019- 2020 Scholarship Recipients**

### **WCAA ALUMNAE SCHOLARSHIPS**

Kennedy Jo Hughes  
Paige Alexandra Pennington  
Abigail Anna Marshall

Arinzechukwu Patrit Mbadike

### **Helen Kaslo Osgood Scholarship**

Brisa Carrera  
Afton Nicole Martin

Elijah Michael Weaver

### **STUDY ABROAD**

#### **Jean Boyd Cable Scholarship**

Gretchen Anna Blackwell  
Madelyne Nichole Wood

#### **Rowena Snyder Scholarship**

Necole Basha Cayton  
Kimberly F. Engle  
Laney Elizabeth Rizkallah  
Christina Marte Unversaw  
Rebecca Jean West

#### **Mary Wylie Wilson Scholarship**

Kori Brooke Kreiser

#### **General Peabody Scholarship**

Miranda Nicole Jacobs  
Kori Brooke Kreiser  
Melanie R McIntosh  
Monica Lynn Piedel  
Mary Katherine Spoerl

### **Malcolm D. Hill Scholarship**

Brisa Carrera  
Jessica Storm Zimmerman

### **Phyllis Hoyt Scholarship**

Michelle Lynne Collopy  
Ashley Renee Cornett  
Jonathan Flenaugh  
Amber Rose Habig  
Alicia Nicole Lenn  
Jordan Tyler McClure

### **Barbara Frazey Kenney Scholarship**

Frenchetta Dione Burks  
Elizabeth Alice Cain  
Carol Leanne Combs  
Elizabeth A Driscoll  
Courtney Lee Dulin  
Stacie Lynn Feller  
Mireille Audrey Fough Mbindi  
Larry Gardner

### **Mary West Liggett Scholarship**

Samantha Susann Holley  
Tabitha Camille Rogala  
Catrina Lynn Schafer  
Jennis Lynn Scott

### **E. Ramona Newton Manners**

**Scholarship**  
Elizabeth Alice Cain  
Cheyenne Leigh Wylds

### **Susanna Rieley McIntyre Scholarship**

Elijah Michael Weaver

Gretchen Anna Blackwell  
Madelyne Nichole Wood

#### **Joseph Thoms and Sarah Darnall Resor Scholarship**

Andriy Dyachuk  
Maggie Shea Laing  
Sophia Lillian Mather  
Charis LeAnn Whalen

#### **Koons Family International Exchange Scholarship**

Ryan Noel Paul McGuigan  
**Grace Osgood Scholarship**  
Jacob George Bach  
Andriy Dyachuk

#### **Alice Schacht Salt International Study Scholarship**

Haley Morgan DeGraff  
Livia Catherine Foust  
Erin Haviland Hart  
Leeann T Tran

#### **Western College Alumnae Study Abroad Scholarship**

Erin Haviland Hart

#### **Rowena Snyder Scholarship**

Jacob George Bach  
Charlotte Alexandra Tennant  
**Edith H. Von Tacky Scholarship**  
Robert Arthur Floyd

#### **Lydia Zimmerman Scholarship**

Emma J LaGuardia  
Brooke Kathryn Lyles  
Jennifer Soos

#### **WCAA International Exchange Scholarship**

Shaza Khaled Kamel Abdelsamie  
Timothy Patrick Doren  
Foster Ellis Edens  
Hana Ahmed Elazab

Sophia Lillian Mather  
Katie Joyce Sawtelle  
Leanne Fiona Thomas

### **OTHER SCHOLARSHIPS/AWARDS**

#### **Clara Appel Scholarship**

Adriana C DeLoach  
Anastasia Katherine Dorenbusch  
Zoe Grace Douglas  
Samantha Usher

#### **Alma G. Bremer Scholarship**

Raymond Rene Pugh  
Madelyn Mary Riordan  
Walter Jack Stratton

#### **Margaret Wilmer Bartlett Scholarship**

Maximilian Cole Micheli  
Alora N Penner

#### **Florence Cockerell International Scholarship**

Emerson Faith Delaney  
Kathryn Jennie Freeman  
Jannie A Kamara

#### **Evelyn May Davis Scholarship**

Casey Garnett Rhew  
Rebecca Helman Scherrer  
Lindsay Katherine Tammaro

#### **Jane Smucker Fryman Western College Scholarship**

Caroline Glenda Riley

#### **Hieronymus Family Scholarship**

Makayla Kathryn Miller  
Alissa Ann Cook  
Bailey Autumn Lepley

#### **Lois Wiggins Newman Scholarship**

Emerson Faith Delaney  
Marissa Marie Dimond  
Kathryn Jennie Freeman

#### **Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Poplis Memorial Scholarship**

James Raymond Lockhart Lukenda

#### **Edgar and Patricia Snowden Scholarship**

Austin J Hampton

## Elizabeth S. Turner Fund

Carli Calabrese  
Connor J Hendrickson  
Madison Adah McQueen  
Nigel Malcolm McKinney  
Diana Rose Mejia-Rodriguez  
Lorelyn Grace Nolte  
Anthony James Patrick  
Kristen Taylor Rabbitt  
Katherine Hoppe Rudie  
Benjamino Carmelo Savarino  
Robert Gavin Schoelkopf  
Vivian Frost Sessions  
Rebecca Nicole Willbrand  
Mauren Williams  
**Judy Kalbfus Waldron Intern'l. Schl'ship.**  
Erin Julia Belcher  
Emerson Faith Delaney  
Kathryn Jennie Freeman

## Susan Ray Woodworth Scholarship

Elizabeth Rose Music  
Ethan Timothy Rude  
**WCAA Creative Arts Scholarship**  
Chase Robert Weimerskirch  
**WCAA Memorial Scholarship**

Naiyi Jiang

Douglas Queen

## WCAA Trustee Scholarship

Nicole Elizabeth French

## Western College Scholarship

Marcela Caraveo Cohen  
Daniel J Craft  
Adriana C DeLoach  
Zachary Stephen Vanderink



International travel is not an experience I thought would be accessible to me during my college career. ... I am a Linguistics major with a minor in Japanese language, so it is not as if I had no interest in seeing the world – it just didn't seem possible. However, I write this letter at the end of a busy semester abroad in Japan ... I made it! ... This endowment from the Western College Alumnae Association has allowed me to see grand temples in Kyoto, the bowing deer in Nara, the flowing river in Uji, and much more. ... I have been able to use Japanese in my daily life ... and found myself growing in linguistic and personal confidences as a result. ... I know this newly earned confidence will benefit me wherever I travel. I would like to thank the WCAA again ... I feel that this is just the beginning of a life of international connections and significance, and I am excited to see where it leads me next.

— Foster Edens 2021



Originating from Ghana, West Africa where poverty happens to be one of the hindrances preventing young intellectuals from living their dreams. Giving year's gap in my education had always been a worry since my high school education. Through the WCAA Multicultural Scholarship I am now exploring my dreams at Miami University. I look forward to exploring more on the health issues where I would equally give back to society the investment you have made in me. Thank you and may you reap the good deeds you have sown in me and may you continue to be there for others ...

— Mathias Adjel 2023



I wanted to personally thank you for selecting me to be a recipient of the WCAA Peabody Scholarship. It is through your generosity that I was able to continue pursuing my BA in Non-Profit Organization and Community Studies while continuing to make a positive impact in my community. I am a mother of three (13, 11, and 4). ... Having a son with a disability, I have grown to understand how important personal connections are and want to share what we have learned as a family with others. ... Support like yours allows students like me to continue our education while being the best parents we can be.

— Carol Combs 2021



... As a non-traditional student who transferred to Miami from overseas (Ghana), I am very grateful ... Having to work and pursue higher education comes with its set of challenges however support like this keep me motivated knowing that there are people cheering me on regardless of my circumstances. I have read a little about the Western College Alumnae Association and I have been inspired by the rich history, dedication and service that you have put into building a better, fair and productive society. You continue to do so and I am honored to have been part of your legacy. I hope to continue pursuing education and promise to put your kind gesture into creating a better future not just for myself but give back wherever I find myself.

— Salim Abdul-Razak 2021

**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 thirty-five scholarships/awards totaling \$260,758 were distributed for 2019-2020 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

**N**arka 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  
Grete Stern Wrede '51  
Elizabeth Sipe Gerber '52  
Catherine Ross Loveland '52  
Gloria Wilson Sylvester '52  
Mary Culver Daniels '53  
Sandra Franz Barnes '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  
Faith A. Evans '64  
Yvette Small Hohler '64  
Patricia Spokes Snowden '64  
Faith W. Barrington '65  
Ann E. Walton '66  
Susan Blake '68  
Patricia A. Jayson '68  
Barbara Williamson Wentz '68  
Mary Kelly Felice '70  
Ann M. Powell '73  
Christine Moranda '74  
Elizabeth Salt '74  
Lorna Jordan '81  
Ann Rosenfield '83  
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 2020 and 2021 awards will be presented at Alumnae/i Weekend 2021, June 11-13. Please fill out the following form and mail by September 30, 2020 to:**

**ALUMNAE SERVICE AWARD COMMITTEE**

**WCAA, INC.**

*For further information, call 513-529-4400 or E-mail: [wcaa@miamioh.edu](mailto: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 30, 2020.**

- **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 award

- 2020 Susan Blake '68  
Nancy Wilson Kobayashi '69
- 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\*

**Swager** and I encountered in our joint effort to include her news in this document. We are both, I think, reasonably intelligent women, well-acquainted with our computers. The problem is that just as one becomes fairly proficient in a process, things change. Without our knowledge or permission. And that change leads to another, and another, etc. So when I forgot to send my new email address (gsally34@gmail.com) to the alumnae office, and then Carol Lee tried to send her news to my old address ... Need I go on?

Floating somewhere in the Cloud are two or three of Carol Lee's accounts of how her doctors in Missoula put a new aortic valve in her heart last month. The new valve is prolonging her life, but, to Carol's regret, it hasn't removed her need to stay on oxygen. ("I never smoked a cigarette, but both of my parents did ... so I inhaled their smoke for the 18 years before college.") I am sure that Carol's parents, like mine, had never heard of second-hand smoke, and I am equally sure that someday our generation will learn that something we are innocently doing (or not doing) has had a deleterious effect on our children. Ah, well, we do the best we can, right, Ladies?

*Editor's note: Full disclosure and apologies to Sally and Carol. The editor cannot allow your dedicated rep to take the rap here. The office had her correct address (actually printed in the Spring 2019 issue) but the editor hastily copied both street and email address from Fall '18 onto blue card form. It's a deadline thing, right Sally? Mea culpa ...]*

Sometimes I amuse myself as I write these notes by imagining which of you I will visit, if people over 80 are ever allowed to fly again. **Barbara Ballinger Sweet**, as it turns out, could offer me the ideal solution. She has retired from teaching and administrating at the Orme School in Arizona, and now she and husband George are living on 10 acres in the corner of their daughter Becky's farm. (Have I mentioned that I always wanted to live on a farm where goats, horses and other animals abound?) Since Barbara and George like to travel up and down the East Coast, from Vermont to North Carolina in their R-pod camper, I would be more than willing to house-sit for them while they are away. I wonder if granddaughter Whitney, whom the Sweets raised from 15 months through graduation from Bethany College, would mind sharing the house with me?

As I write these notes, I am painfully aware that again today the coronavirus is invisibly traveling around the world, leaving stunned, bereft survivors in its wake. Will I be here to write next year's news? Will you be here to read it? Even if we are, the odds are that many of us will have lost someone near and dear. It doesn't bear thinking of.

But 64 years have passed since our class graduated. Years of amazing discoveries,

unbelievable accomplishments, devastating tragedies; years when the world itself seemed to be teetering on the brink of final, unavoidable annihilation. Somehow, though, just as many of us thought all was lost, miraculously, we stumbled away from the edge of the abyss. The world survived. As did we. We, too, may have faltered and stumbled at times, but the spirit of Western, that determination to stand firm and do good, never left us. Western, indeed, has served us well.

**Sally Derby Miller '56**  
**165 W. Galbraith Rd. Apt. 205**  
**Cincinnati, OH 45216**  
**gsally34@gmail.com**



It's never easy to lose classmates, but in 2019, we had to say goodbye to **Jan McKee Banks** and **Carol Towne Schaub**. They were special gals, and we will miss them. Jack Fryman has remained loyal to Western and we include his dear **Jane (Smucker)** in our thoughts, too. As the years go by, I receive less news, but I'm sure there are others who may be suffering or grieving, so we simply keep them all in our thoughts and prayers.

On a happier note, **Phyllis Yeamans Bailey** loves traveling to see friends and family members, and writes of her great trip to Portugal on the Duomo River, even going into Spain at times. She saw beautiful churches, including one in Salmonica which had five organs. She even had a snack in the cafe where J.K. Rowling wrote most of the Harry Potter series.

It was so good to hear from **Linda Rennie Forcey**, who reports on her good health and is living at Shell Point Retirement Community in Ft. Myers. Her children are scattered across the country except for one who lives near her in Ft. Myers. Linda keeps busy with her writing, classes, politics, and bridge. She just published *Unhappy Warrior: The Life and Death of Robert Starobin*, a political biography, based on the research for her Ph.D. dissertation back in the 1970s, and contains history of the Sixties on college campuses. This book can be purchased on Amazon for \$20. Congrats, Linda, and thanks for your warm greetings to all of us.

**Polly Martin Hawver** writes that she and Derek are enjoying retirement at Maplewood Park Place in Bethesda, MD, where they moved June of 2018. Their two sons' families live in their area, a daughter's family is in California, and a granddaughter works for Senator Feinstein in DC. They enjoy classes for seniors at Johns Hopkins, music programs at Kennedy Center, museum exhibits,

and theater productions. Polly loves finding other Western graduates in their DC area and reminiscing about our years at Western.

**Marie Uveges Holt** is a Slingo Multiplayer on the computer which allows her to play with any person in any state in the United States, including one in St. Louis with whom she has been talking and playing Slingo every night for 16 years. She reports that her life is active yet very simple. She has a cute, intelligent 2-year old great-grandson and a great-granddaughter on the way. After five and a-half months in an assisted living facility, she moved back home and is now happy and contented. Marie still plays a lot of bridge, sings in a choir, volunteers in a Friends of the Library group, and is in a Kappa Kappa Iota group. At 83 life is different but good. She sends love to all.

In her Christmas card, **Juli Beasley Kinchla** shared a note from Carolyn Auble: *It is hard for me to let you know Don died Oct. 19 in the HealthCare area of the Knolls Retirement Facility where we have had a cottage for 20 years. Don had been in a wheelchair for the last three years. He had excellent care for the last three months as his immune system weakened from various aging issues and physical failures. His own thoughtful mind, good humor, and loving care were constant to the last day. I believe we lovingly hold many of our professors at Western in our hearts*

Although the connection may be just a note or phone call, it is always wonderful to hear from **Sally Raub Alkire**, **Esin Aka Atil**, **Joan Avakian Poritsky**, **June Regan Young**, and **Cay Kawallek Manildi**. I would love to hear from others, if only a brief email message to me at jklm321@gmail.com.

As for me, I continue to enjoy the return to my hometown in Somerset, PA, and have resumed my teaching, but this time, my violin students include four senior women who always wanted to learn to play the violin. The group has expanded to include several former students. We now call ourselves "The Somerset Strings," and are playing in churches and retirement homes. I keep writing method and music books, especially for four-part violin ensembles. All my books can be found on Amazon.com.

To my dear friends in the class of '58, I wish you joy, peace, and the best of health. Let's celebrate that we had the good fortune to meet at Western and become friends. Love to all ...

**Jennie Lou Fredley Klim '58**  
**106 Springer Ln.**  
**Somerset, PA 15501**  
**jklm321@gmail.com**





So our class of 1960 has been out of college for 60 years! I hope some of you are planning to be on campus this spring. What a celebration!

Dateline April 1, 2020: I just heard from our favorite Mexican classmate, **Isabel "Izzy" Oteo-De Martinez** who was observing day #22 of self-isolation from the virus. Like many of us with so much unexpected time on our hands, she is going through and organizing old papers. She receives deliveries of food and climbs to the roof of her building for sun and exercise. And she is keeping busy cooking! Daughter Paty and family just returned to Old Greenwich, CT. from living in Switzerland and her son is in Miami.

**Nancy Johnson Marshall** writes a very upbeat report. Two of her children live near her in Idaho and the third flies in for a visit frequently. She continues to enjoy Ed. who is the (new) constant in her life. She loves her townhouse on the golf course with a view of the mountains. And she's getting her 7,000 steps and using her home gym. Much of last year was spent recovering from cervical myelopathy which included wearing a neck brace for six weeks. But she is now almost back to full speed.

Having moved to South Carolina last year, **Nancy Kohlman Freeman** and husband Peter are continuing to settle in and learn some of the "ways of the south." She, **Betty Milligan Kipp**, and **Susie Peterson Sabin** had a fun lunch together recently. Nancy also tries to keep up with **Barbara Kong Vlachos** by phone.

**Jane Ramsey Grant** reports that husband Bob had a difficult year recovering from his fifth back surgery, but they are finally seeing some improvement. Jane and the rest of her family are all fine.

This past year has been one of the best of her life says **Annette "Toni" Power Johnson**. Having moved to a continuing care community in New Paltz, NY, she has enjoyed getting to know some of the fascinating people who live there. One of her sons has a summer home nearby, so she gets to see them occasionally. And the beautiful mid-Hudson Valley is home to lots of opportunities such as theater, hiking and music.

Sister **Jackie Power Sheldrick** traveled to South Africa last year on a photo safari. She loved seeing the animals up close, meeting many natives and getting to know her fellow travelers.

**Ann Hammond** and her new knee are trying to go on as many trips as possible before

"another part of the body falls apart." She visited her family in Cincinnati at Christmas in order to confirm why she lives in California! She heads to Alaska again this summer.

**Alice Anderson Stallings** lives in a retirement community in Atlanta, GA. Her daughter Jocelyn lives nearby and writes grants for nonprofits. Daughter Alicia E. Stallings has become a well-known poet. Her last book, *Like*, was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize for Poetry. She is a Fellow of the American Arts & Science Academy, has received a Guggenheim Foundation Fellowship, a MacArthur Foundation Fellowship and was recently inducted into the Georgia Hall of fame for writers. She has also written six other books.

**Sara White Arn** welcomed two great-granddaughters into the world last year and is looking forward to the arrival of a third great-grand, a boy, in May! She joined the ranks of many of us with her recent cataract surgery. She was excited to be able to move up two floors in her building into a wonderful corner apartment with balcony.

Nothing new to report from **Sue Wylie Moran**. She wishes us all a good 2020.

**Cathy Bauer Cooper** continues as the unparalleled editor of the classiest alumnae magazine going. Husband Milburn "Coop" Cooper — who had some health issues last year — is the tech/design troubleshooter. Congratulations, Team Cooper!

Cathy and **Sally "Doodie" Allen Masters** commiserated in the second month of the virus shutdown. Both sorely missed watching big spring sporting events, such as the Masters (golf) and March Madness (college basketball). But they quickly switched gears, realizing how lucky they were that they and their families have stayed healthy and working.

Former McKee buddy **Val Cook Clark** loves taking care of her great-grandchildren. She also volunteers at the Assistance League in Atlanta — an organization that does a lot for so many. She feels blessed to have her health allowing her to stay active.

Thankfully **Claudia "Whit" White Gilmartin** has been healthy this year, but has traveled frequently to Connecticut to help her sister, who is having health issues. Whit's oldest daughter, Jen, is giving her mom some welcome respite. Before all this, the two sisters drove to Quebec City to celebrate their 60th and 80th birthdays.

The first two of **Sally Hoover Harris's** grandchildren are off to college this year with three more — if I counted right — to follow in the next few years. And an 8-year-old who continues to delight everyone. Sally was getting ready for the holidays, loving the fact that gift cards were invented!

Travel was the theme of **Patty Rees Dewey's** Christmas letter. Back and forth to London, trips between their homes in Indiana and Florida, and family gatherings in Detroit and Chicago. Their immediate family of nine took a holiday cruise around the Western Caribbean. Meanwhile Patty and husband Denis celebrated both their 81st birthdays and 51st wedding anniversary last year.

**Kathie Howard Sutherland** seems to fill 12 months with about 24 months of activity. She and husband John continue to teach and take courses at their Senior College. Kathie concluded a three-year term as president of the World Affairs Council of Maine, was juried into the International Pastel Show in Maine and took up the cello. She and John spent time visiting family around the country and took a cruise on the Danube. Their grandchildren span elementary school to graduate school. Kathie looks forward to seeing everyone at our 60th reunion this spring.

Just heard from **Carol "Coop" Cooper Henry**, who is recovering from hip surgery #2 that didn't go as smoothly as her first one. Husband Bill is still involved in his veterinary practice — now with son Charlie and his wife, Kathleen — but had to cut back because of vision issues. Son Bill just completed editing a season of *Succession* for HBO and will next be working on a new series called *The Golden Age*. On the West Coast, daughter Annie works with athletes who have psychological issues. If I've counted right, Coop has five granddaughters and they and their parents are all involved in one or more sport including skiing, IRONMAN triathlons, gymnastics, sailing, and field hockey.

**Mary Flagler Rachau** reports that she has unfortunately twice sprained the same ankle that's connected to the foot she fractured a year ago. However, she has improved enough to be able to go back to square dancing. Friend Don is still in rehab from a stroke he suffered a year ago. Mary hopes to see many of us in June.

**Sydney Stout Benson** writes in her Christmas letter that she and husband Pete continue with their many volunteer jobs in and around Medina, OH, and with their travels to visit family around the country. Their church is the center of many of their activities including Syd's 27th year as chair of the Circle of Caring. Trips have taken them to California several times to visit their 11-year-old grandsons, New York for family reunions, a tour of Yosemite and Cancun with family. Their biggest news is the birth of their fifth great-grandchild, Nolan Reed.

Just heard from Jay Keefer the sad news that his wife, **Susie Williams Keefer**, died in June 2018. He is hoping to connect with her roommate, **Ruth Wong Roza**, who last I knew was in Vero Beach, FL. If anyone knows anything different, please let me know. [Per 2019-20 Directory: Ruth Wong Roza, 1100 Ponce De

Leon Cir Apt E108, Vero Beach FL 32960;  
(772) 770-0295.]

We **MacEwens** have little exciting news to report from Connecticut. Husband Ed had some health issues this past year, but things seem to have calmed down a bit. We are both lucky to be able to keep busy doing things we enjoy. We spend a few months in the winter in Florida and summer times at the Jersey shore. Two granddaughters will graduate from college this spring, and the other two are freshmen. In the words of **Nancy Johnson Marshall**: "Life is good."

**Jan Sandrock MacEwen '60**  
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Fall Class Rep **Mary DeJong Obuchowski** received this note and picture from **Jeanette Kirkpatrick Duvall** on March 23, 2020. Lacking a crystal ball, the editors feel it best to include **Johnnie's** update now in the spring issue:

"Trust you all are well. We are fine and taking care during this virus season. May God watch over us and our loved ones. We have our cottage and are busy with many activities. Residents are friendly and neighbors are great."

Two years ago, granddaughter Kayla graduated from Skidmore, where she received a leadership award from all girls' sports and enjoyed being captain of the girls' field hockey team. Granddaughter Amber's high school graduation in 2019 was the occasion of family reunion pictured.

**Mary DeJong Obuchowski '61**  
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Proud grandparents Harry and "Johnnie" Kirkpatrick Duvall '61 at Kayla's graduation



Greetings, Westerners! Am always happy to share the news from the Class of '64, the Class with Spirit (our flag says it all!)

**Carolyn Moss Ford** sends her best wishes that 2020 brings us all a kinder world filled with love, hope, and peace. She notes that 2019 was a good year during which she actively pursued favorite hobbies and interests. Mossy is still trying to improve her bridge and golf games. She enjoys membership in the Garden Club of Toronto, where she volunteers in the garden at the Helen Keller Center for Deaf and Blind, as well as The Ontario Chapter of the American Ivy Society. She and David spent the New Year's holiday at the family cottage with their son Andrew, who had just returned from a trip to Antarctica. Mossy was looking forward to mid-January, when son Chris, Amy, and their 3-year-old twin boys would join them for two weeks in Revelstoke. Chris will be going on a two-month contract to cut down pine trees in Alberta that had been devastated by the pine beetle bore, while Amy will be healing from a torn Achilles heel. In February, Mossy and David expect to escape the harsh Canadian winter by traveling to Florida, where they plan to visit Mossy's niece in Venice and some

friends in Naples. In May, they will visit all the children "out west" and then head to the UK in June to reconnect with many of David's family. Also in the summer, daughter Melissa and her family are expected to join the Fords at their cottage.

**Patricia Spokes Snowden** emailed an apology for failing to share her news last year. "It seems my only news this past year (2019) has been health issues (pneumonia for two months this fall, double hernia surgery in August, cataract surgery in July and again January — boring!)" She reports that the previous year was much better. Her church choir was the visiting choir at Bristol Cathedral in England. "That meant at least six hours of singing each day between rehearsals and services (daily evensong plus two services on Sunday). We still managed trips to a castle in Wales and almost a full day in Bath. Bristol is a fascinating town to explore on its own, as well. Most of the week was beastly hot, but turned more typically wet and chilly at the end."

In response to a note to our class where I reminisced a bit about the 1963 Latin American Seminar, **Carol Thomas Ruikka** replied that she remembered it all. She especially recalled that on our visit to Peru we ascended to Machu Pichu on the back of a truck after getting to Cuzco via a non-pressurized plane, requiring us to suck on oxygen tubes during the last part of the flight from Lima. Upon arrival in Cuzco, she remembers experiencing altitude sickness, as did a number of our travel group.

Carol agrees that Western was a special place to go to college; and when she and **Kathy Turner** attended Reunion 2019, they decided that "it was a bittersweet visit" as there have been so many changes in the 55 years since they were last on Western's "still beautiful campus." Carol, who retired at the end of 2018 after 45 years as a realtor, says she does not miss the business, though she does miss her fellow agents. She is glad to



On safari in Tanzania last August: all 13 members of the family of Marion Ginman Classen '64





*Marcia Oder (left) with (l-r): stepdaughter Karin, stepson Richard, son-in-law Keith, and granddaughter Shannon*

have this opportunity to keep in touch with Western classmates.

**Faith Evans** remembered well participating in the Western Seminar to the Middle East: "Loved it. Learned so much." She noted that the past year was a quiet one and that she's still dealing with major health issues — mainly insomnia and a bit of depression. Her 16-year-old cat, Willie, had to be put down recently. Though he was diabetic, he was a wonderful friend and companion — thus, sorely missed. Faith says she will always value her Western friendships, too; and she wishes you "a great New Year, one of peace and good health and happiness."

In her holiday greeting card, **Lynne Drucker Albukerk** shared that she had recently returned from Eastern Germany (Berlin, Dresden area) on a Viking Elbe River cruise, with two days extra spent in Berlin. She then traveled solo to Krakow and Warsaw by bus and train and enjoyed greatly getting to know a bit of this part of Europe. Lynne was planning to travel to San Francisco for Thanksgiving before heading to Santiago, Chile, and up the West Coast of South America on a Viking ship, expecting to return home in early January.

**Judy White Fogg** was impressed with our memories of the Latin American Seminar. She was a Seminar traveler, too, and remarked, "It was a fun and educational time — great memories — just like Western."

In a brief note, **Jan Wood Beaven** informed us that she is "still traveling ... have been to Panama, Norway, and the Arctic Circle this year ... loved each area. Daughters are great: Kirsten is a busy head of the Parents Association of the NYC public school her kids attend, and Anne, who is a doctor, heads the lymphoma program at the UNC Medical Center. Grandkids are doing initial looking at colleges. Time flies."

**Nancy McGregor Nowak** says she's "doing pretty good for 77, and I still enjoy playing golf, water aerobics, trips, my husband of 56 years, our family (including our 20-year-old granddaughters in college), and our English cream retriever. We continue to spend five

months in Muskoka, Ontario, two months in Bonita Springs, FL, and the rest of the year either traveling or in Ohio. Can't believe how many years have passed away since we graduated!" Alas, Nancy will not be able to attend Reunion 2020, as she'll be summering in Canada.

**Marion Ginman Classen** is still in Kinston, NC. Charlie continues to practice orthopaedics 3½ days a week. "Last year's great adventure was taking all 13 of our family on safari in Tanzania in August for 12 days. We had a ball. The grands were almost 6, 8, 10, 11, and 15. It was great just having all of us — not even any sibling fights!" Marion still makes all the medieval costumes for her church's annual Boars Head Festival on Epiphany. This was the Festival's 30th year and had 160 participants in costume- "it is quite a production ... but lots of fun!"

**Peggy Cooper Davis** wrote to say that she is still teaching at NYU Law "and enjoying my family — Gordon, our daughter, Lizzy, and her two children (5 and 7 and delicious). I just wanted to say thank you again to all of you, from the bottom of my heart, for honoring me at the last reunion. It meant so much. I'll cherish the scroll and, most of all, the memories I have of all of you."

2019 was a very good and busy year for **Marcia Randlett Oder**. She took a cruise in the late spring with a life-long friend on the Rhine River and spent extra days in Switzerland and the Netherlands, including a visit to the Pilgrims' Museum in Leiden. "Both Joan and I are descendants from a Mayflower passenger. In the fall, I spent several weeks during the peak foliage season with friends and family in the Boston area, on Cape Cod, and in New Hampshire. At Christmas, I spent a week in Lexington, KY, with my stepdaughter and son-in-law, Karin and Steve. Since my northern friends and family like to come to Florida, I don't think there was a month without someone coming or my going, making this a wonderful year for me."

Marcia also takes a number of O.L.L.I. courses in a variety of subjects at Eckerd College, which is next door to Addington Place, the retirement home where she lives. "I am among the younger age group here and also spend a good deal of time doing volunteer work with some of the more elderly residents." She adds an invitation for those of you who live in the Washington, DC, area, to meet her stepson Richard Ode, who has recently formed a new group with L & F, located at 2300 Calvert St., N.W. "If any of you living around DC need an excellent real estate agent, feel free to contact him. Let him know I referred him to you." [See family photo] this page.]

**Nancy Ballard Wegge** began her e-mail, "Each year I tell myself I'll write to you, so finally, here it is! ...Hi, from your long lost classmate! I always enjoy reading about Western friends, so here's what I've been doing the last 50+ years." Nancy reluctantly left Western after her sophomore year when the education program was moved to Miami's campus. She taught elementary school for several years, returned to school, and earned a master's degree and doctorate in adult education, which was then a relatively new field. Nancy worked as an administrator at the community college for 27 years before retiring. She has been married for 55 years to Bill, her "Jersey Shore summer romance." Bill loved visiting her at Western; and back then, he had to stay (as a guest) in the infirmary. "How times have changed! We moved to Missouri for one year 52 years ago and are still here."

"We have three children, all with advanced degrees and jobs, so none has moved back home — thank goodness! Our five grandkids are much cuter and smarter than our kids ever were." Nancy travels extensively with Bill, an attorney and retired state trial judge. They also enjoy long distance walking, are thankful for wonderful memories and continued good health, and are enjoying life.

**Judi Hampton** wrote, "I am so proud of my association with Western College in 1964. Many events associated with the College changed my whole perspective and shaped my passion for teaching and learning." In 1964, Judi became a civil rights activist based in Canton, MS — the same summer that Western's campus became a home base for training civil rights workers before they headed to other communities in Mississippi to do grass roots organizing. Currently, Judi is working on re-releasing the Oscar-nominated documentary series *Eyes on the Prize* (which her brother Henry Hampton created) for a younger generation of viewers. Judi assumed the role of president of her brother's company, Blackside, following his passing in 1998.



*Judi*

Over the course of her career, Judi has worked for Exxon-Mobil, Cornell University, and Northeastern University; and for the last 30 years, she has been the owner of a firm that teaches professional development skills to adults throughout the country. (For more info on this, check out Judi's website: judi-hampton.com.) Judi is now also involved in volunteer work and helping voter registration efforts. "I regularly take classes in subjects that interest me such as James Baldwin's writings and classical music. I try to stay healthy and keep my sense of humor. It was my experiences as a student at Western

College that helped launch my career and I am eternally grateful."\*

What have the **Hohlers** been doing lately? Much of my time has been taken up with Rotary activities, the most recent being a very successful fundraiser — the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Winter Golf Outing — actually a Putt & Pub Crawl throughout Port Jefferson Village, with more than 300 "over 21" participants, many wearing a variety of ingenious costumes (for the Best Costume Contest) showing up to play at nine different indoor "holes," despite — or maybe because of — the rain.

Near the beginning of 2019, Larry underwent some weeks of chemo, and again, he succeeded in returning to a state of remission. Yay! Meanwhile, he continued to take O.L.L.I. courses at SUNY Stony Brook, to meet every Thursday with his cycling buddies, and to plan and lead Hope Children's Fund fundraising activities benefitting our 85 or so orphans in Meru, Kenya. In June, we visited with the Ohio Hohlers and then attended a most enjoyable Reunion 2019 on Western's campus. **Carol Thomas Ruikka** and **Kathy Turner Nieman**, **Lynne Drucker Albukerk** and **Patricia Spokes Snowden** also represented '64 at the celebration. Larry and I hope to return to Oxford for Reunion 2020 in June.

In mid-November, I underwent successful right hip replacement surgery, performed by a wonderful surgeon who just happens to be a Smithtown High School '92 graduate. Feeling great now! Busily preparing for our next HCF fundraiser, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual "Passion for Education" Gala, to be held February 16<sup>th</sup> at The Eastwind Inn & Spa in Wading River, NY. Nikki and Jose will be coming up from DC for the Gala, and, of course, we look forward to seeing them, too. A trip to visit with "our kids" and the staff at the orphanage in Kenya is in the planning stages, as well. This promises to be a rather interesting year.

Dear Classmates: please keep in touch. Let us know periodically how you are, what you're doing, and feel free to share your stories with us. We love hearing from and about you.

**Evie Small Hohler '64**  
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**Charla Coatoam** wrote that 2019 was a good year of book meetings, concerts, theater and some travel: "I attended that annual Jane Austen Society of North America conference in October, held in Williamsburg,

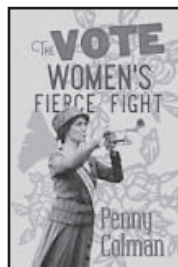
VA. It was delightful to visit this colonial area again after many years. A road trip a few days before the conference took me to Northern Virginia's horse country. I had long wanted to visit the National Sporting Museum and Library located in Middleburg, VA. I was not disappointed in my visit. This special museum and library have superb art and book collections dedicated to all things equestrian. Moven Park in nearby Leesburg has an outstanding collection of historic horse-drawn vehicles and a small museum dedicated to U.S. Hunt Club history.

A post-conference reunion with family took me to Richmond and the superb new Civil War museum at the re-purposed Tredegar Iron Works, the Richmond Museum of Art, and also a visit to the Edgar Allan Poe museum where, right on cue, a black cat crossed our path just as the docent started speaking! I enjoy my retirement in Cleveland where cultural opportunities abound, both for learning and enjoyment. I was able to visit a few times with **Jane Graham Murphy** in 2019."

**Penny Colman** wrote to tell about her latest book *The Vote: Women's Fierce Fight* which was released last October! The cover has a picture of Suffragist Rose Bower, a cornetist and whistler from the Black Hills of South Dakota. There is also a 14-post-series (*The Vote Road Trip*) about



Penny



their three-week road trip through England and Scotland in the footsteps of suffragettes, including a visit to Emmeline Pankhurst's home in Manchester and to Edinburgh to find the landmark to Elizabeth "Bessie" Watson, a 9-year-old suffragette bagpiper.

**Edith Taylor Molumby** wrote that her highlights of the year were of visits to and from their children and grandchildren. Those visits were more fun and enjoyable than the ever growing doctor visits which seem to multiply as the doctors seem to get younger and younger. Molumbys' Seattle daughter, son-in-law and grandsons (10 and 13) met them in Chicago over her 75<sup>th</sup> birthday in August and they celebrated with a dinner cruise on Lake Michigan. "How did we get this old?!" Their Grand Rapids daughter, son-in-law and 3-year-old granddaughter went to Evanston in October to help celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary at an open house that included some neighbors, long-time local friends, and friends from church.

Edie continues: "We spent Christmas in Grand Rapids in mild weather which did not

include snow or ice. Of course, that changed for all of us in the Midwest in January. Bob and I are still trying to exercise often and walk outside when the sidewalks are not icy. We are also trying to downsize in the house we have lived in for over 45 years, which is a very slow process but very necessary. I enjoy talking to or hearing from by email **Sue Lutz May**, **Ann Walton**, **Reda Hackel Garlikov** and **Theda Hollister Wolfe**. I am hoping to see many of our classmates at our 55<sup>th</sup> and final [for us] Western Campus Reunion in June 2021."

**Ann Walton** wrote that after taking Narka Nelson's mythology class, she had always wanted to visit Greece. So in September, she had a chance to go on a University of Michigan trip to Greece. "To see buildings built in 400 BC and still standing, to taste the best olive oil in the world, to see the Parthenon at night with a full moon, and to wade in the Aegean Sea- it was a wonderful trip.

"I serve on the WCAA board which has been very fulfilling as the Association winds down toward 2024. This means, class members, please be thinking of attending our 55-year Reunion in 2021! I am still active in Ann Arbor real estate, PEO, several book clubs, and a local historical society. Looking forward to the next decade!"

**Jane Graham Murphy** reports that she had a very successful hip replacement in January 2019, thanks to a "very skilled surgeon." She continues with last summer news of her daughters: She spent time with Becca and her family in Maine; Katherine and her husband bought a home in Pittsburgh. And grandchildren: Lily hiked the last 150 miles of The Appalachian Trail with her camp mates from Merrowvista. She will attend Occidental College in California in the fall. Finn will be a high school freshman in the fall. Montclair, NJ, has been hit hard with Covid 19 so the family is serious about following safety regulations. I see **Charla Coatoam** and **Peggy Budington** at least twice a year. I'd love to reconnect with other classmates too during this pandemic.

Rich and I are moving slower but as he says we are still vertical. We are in fairly good health thanks to his many doctors. In 2019, Rich turned 88 and I turned 75. I had decided over five years ago to stop the hair coloring and go white. I started getting white hair while in high school so it has been a habit for a long time. Luckily, I scheduled the transformation on Ash Wednesday, 2020, so I did not have to deal with four-inch white roots during the self-isolation period.



Kathi

My big news is that we are now great-grandparents of baby Alice. The other big news is





Velvet

that in July, I adopted my new mare, Velvet. She is 15 years old and fourteen hands (56 inches) at the withers, which means she is easy for me to saddle and mount. She is a quiet Arab and had the same owner since birth and was trained with the same Parelli

Natural Horsemanship that I follow. It was a match made in heaven as they say.

I am also aiding a young Honduran refugee couple who came seeking asylum. I am only one of 50 who have been supporting them while they go through "this crazy legal process." I have become the adopted grandmother to their children, which has been wonderful. They chose the "new expedited" process and had their final hearing in January 2020. They were denied asylum but given CAT which allows them to work (and pay taxes) but not to leave the country or ever apply for citizenship. I have learned a lot about the immigration process and most of it does not make sense.

I hope all of you reading this are staying safe in these uncharted times of Covid-19 ...

**Kathi Ramsey Goldsmith '66**  
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Dear Classmates! Thank you all for your notes for 2020. 2019 was a busy year, which included trips to Western for my second year on the WCAA Board! We had two big overseas trips in 2019: to southern Africa and to Germany. In May, we visited Cape Town, South Africa; Zambia (just to see Victoria Falls); and Botswana, where we stayed in three safari camps, experiencing animals at very close range, quite a thrill. In June, we traveled to Germany with the New Century Chamber Orchestra on their first European tour. While there, we visited the hometown of Joel's father. It was only Joel's second time there, so it was very exciting.

Then in September, I went to visit my sister, **Gretchen Blake Roy '71**, in Maine, to celebrate her 70<sup>th</sup> birthday. She had a party with girlfriends and her two daughters, followed by a "sister trip" to the White Mountains for a couple of nights. Joel and I continue to be busy with local activities, volunteer and others. Life is good! I wish you all a very happy and healthy remainder of 2020, and hope to see you at this year's Reunion June 12-14.



Sandy Chanis '68  
and granddaughter,  
in Paris



**Sandy Chanis** has been doing art! She has been sculpting with clay, with dirt — with that "raw and responsive material creating a world of shadows and empty spaces" that reveal themselves through her hands with that "inexplicable energy that is the spirit of art." She had a solo show in 2019 where surrendering to that spirit of art, clay started to get heads, legs, arms, necks, snakes, hands and fingers with no serious purpose, thus *Frivolous*. Currently, she is showing at Oceanside Museum of Art (OMA) with a series titled *Sentinels* and will again show at OMA in March (2020). In August, she will have another solo show at the City of Encinitas. Sandy just returned with her daughter from introducing her granddaughter to Paris during Fashion Week, the Musée d'Orsay, Versailles, the Eiffel Tower, and the Louvre in all its glory with the Leonardo da Vinci show.

**Margie Custer Bowles** had a total left shoulder replacement on Valentine's Day 2019. Due to her persistence with physical therapy, she was able to swim in the Aegean during her and Bob's annual summer trip to the Pelion Peninsula in Greece with family and friends, and to kayak on her October birthday, a great milestone! In June, they went to Montana for a nephew's wedding in a ranch pasture, where it rained and "rainbow-ed" during the service. During their Greek trip, a highlight was a sunset cruise on friends' sailboat for sunset and swim, and then watching the full moon rise over the town. Margie's passions are her art, painting on glass, creating greeting cards, and illustrating children's books, as well as her backyard garden, planted to give them fresh flowers every day, year round. Both Margie and Bob volunteer at the nearby Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve. ("Whew" as Bob writes!)

**Kitsy Dunlop** wrote: "How often I feel gratitude for the Western years we all shared, opening our hearts to the common thread uniting women of the world." Kitsy has been a dutiful student of French via Babbel.com and Duolingo.com, bringing back memories of studying French at Western. Kitsy and Greg's older son, Dylan, just married Sarah Laurent, a native of France, who teaches French and Spanish in Tampa. Three family members at the wedding spoke no English, hence Kitsy's need to brush up on her French. Sarah was an exchange student in Keene, NH, 18 years ago. A wedding photo of the family includes son Trevor, and his wife, Alex. Kitsy hopes that grandparenting and renewed travel will be on their horizon. She wishes us all JOY in 2020.

**Kathy Evans Findley** wrote that after losing their home in Hurricane Florence, she and Jim are settled in their new "open concept" house with lots of new furniture and refurbished antiques. Their highlight of 2019 was their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration in New Bern, a luncheon hosted by their son and daughter, followed by a Viking Ocean cruise from London through the British Isles to Norway. They found Oslo much changed from when they lived there, especially the new museums. Kathy had a gangrenous gall bladder scare from which she has recovered, but has had to give up her title of French Fry Queen, resulting in weight loss and lower blood pressure. They have two guest rooms with baths and welcome visitors to their home in eastern North Carolina.

**Jeanne Flowers Foster** writes that 2019 brought more visits with family and some fun trips: one to New York City and another to Washington, DC, where she and **Ella Weingarten Iams** were able to catch up in person. Jeanne's retirement goal was to volunteer with her former employer's health program. She now facilitates Oasis classes for older adults in both Matter of Balance (fear of falling/falls prevention) and the Aging Mastery Program. She's worked in several locations around St. Louis and loves exploring new areas and meeting people who are enthusiastically embracing life.

**Anne Galbraith Rothrock** and Brit had a busy year. She taught four aerobic classes a week at the Waldo County Y, and Brit continued to work full time for the Waldo County Emergency Management Agency. They have been buying fresh raw milk from a local Amish farm, whose owners asked if they'd like to take a road trip, after learning that Anne grew up on a dairy farm in Ohio. They drove the young farmers for three weeks to Pennsylvania, North Carolina, Tennessee, Kentucky, and Ohio, then Pennsylvania again and New York. They stayed in Amish homes, attended their family devotions and church meetings, and went to their schools. They had a wonderful experience. In May, they were in Ohio for the ham radio conven-



*Kitsy Dunlop '68, Greg, son Trevor and his wife, at older son Dylan's wedding*

tion, where Anne won a radio for the second year in a row, after spending most of her life never winning anything! Their last trip was a six-day trip of older adults from their Y to London and Paris. Fortunately, they are both in good health!

**Susan Hackley** was delighted and relieved to finish her half-hour documentary film, *Veteran Children: When Parents Go to War*, after five years of work. It premiered on Indiana Public Television last April and has been shown widely, including at The National WWII Museum in New Orleans on Veterans Day. She has shown it at Harvard and other universities and plans to show it in high schools and on military bases. For information, check out [www.veteranchildren.com](http://www.veteranchildren.com). She is still working full time as managing director of the Program on Negotiation at Harvard Law School, and she is grateful every day for friends and family, including three adorable little grandsons.

**Jill Hallett Levis** and **Nancy Niver** had a reunion in Ventura in February. See their photo!

**Pat Jayson** wrote sending her love and best wishes to all. She won't be able to make it to reunion in June because of a conflict. She said she hopes to visit Western while Barbara, Cece, and I are all on the Board.

**Martha Kitchen Casazza** and Larry have been downsizing in Chicago for the last several years. They continue to travel internationally, with a recent trip to India being one of their favorites. They have promised to take each of their four grandchildren anywhere they choose when they turn 10 years old. The first trip was to Italy with their oldest granddaughter where she announced, upon visiting the Vatican, that she was going to be the first female pope! The second trip will be this summer when they take their youngest granddaughter to Oxford, England, with Road Scholars for a Harry Potter tour. They are spending more time in Sayulita, Mexico, where three years ago, they founded a cooperative, Montessori-based preschool, meeting with the community to be sure they were designing a school the community wanted.

The school is tuition-free and serves 25 local children from ages 3-5. To learn more, visit their website at [www.escuelasayulita.org](http://www.escuelasayulita.org)

**Brenda Lee Bell** continues loving retirement and all the freedoms it affords. Having time to enjoy books, movies, lectures, projects, and excursions is such a gift. Highlights of the last year include a family beach trip, a 50th wedding anniversary celebration, a get-away



*Nancy and Jill, February 2020*

at an historic inn and holiday celebrations spent with old friends. She was very much looking forward to a visit from **Karen Prah Voris** in the winter as well as a reunion with former Ohio neighbors. She hopes her Western sisters are well and finding fulfillment in this season of life.

**Miho Matsuda Abedini** wrote from Toronto that last year she was taking care of her mother in Japan. She said that while there she was learning how to accomplish one's life, which was very meaningful for her. After returning to Toronto, she and her husband went to Tehran, where they found very high inflation due to the U.S. sanctions. Afterwards, she had another trip to Japan. During 2019, she was able to renew contact with **Nevine Fawzy** with the help of **Maria Maldonado '70**. Miho says, "Thank you Maria!"

**Chako Matsumoto Era** wrote that her and Koh's son, Kohtaro, along with his wife, Sae, and little son, Syun, visited them from New Jersey in November.

**Nancy Niver** – see **Jill Hallett Levis** above!

**Karen Prah Voris** writes from Arizona that she and John celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary last June in England with the whole family. It was a grand two weeks! Karen and John spend summers in Gig Harbor, WA, near their three granddaughters. Karen visited **Brenda Lee Bell** in Florida for a roommate reunion.

**Patty Robins Lacey** had a great 2019. In January, she visited Tikal and other Maya sites in Belize and Guatemala. She stays involved in civic life with the Cortez Historic Preservation Board, Four Corners Community Band, Canyons of the Ancients National Monument and church.

**Mame Russell's** service/volunteer activities continue to "keep me sane" amid the construction chaos of a new rental unit on her property. At the Autry Museum of the American West, she tours school kids; at church, as a member of the St. Laurence Guild, she helps put on five major events a year; and through two other groups, mentors young women. Mame visited family in the summer and fall in Portland, Manzanita (OR), and the Muskoka Lakes (Ontario, Canada). A 2019 highlight: In October, she was a guest at a special benefactors' weekend at Best Friends (Kanab, UT), where she heard about encouraging new collaborative initiatives for no-kill animal shelter programs. She has two rescue cats and just adopted Bella, a 13-year-old Siberian Husky. She road biked her annual charity rides for MS and the LA River Coalition and happily managed to ski a couple times. She welcomes the chance to share the cultural riches of LA with any classmates who may be planning a visit there in 2020.

**Susie Williams Oblinger** wrote that **Britt Henne '69** and her husband visited her last June while Britt attended her 50th Reunion at Western. Susie had a knee replacement in January and is recovering with a long road of physical therapy ahead. She hopes to see **Susan Blake** when she is in Oxford for WCAA Board meetings. She sends love to her Western friends.

**Barbara Williamson Wentz** wrote that her daughter, Jennifer, underwent treatment for breast cancer in 2019. After lengthy and difficult treatment, she is now cancer free. For Memorial Day (2019), they drove to Minnesota to be with son Michael's family. They had a big trip to Ireland and the northern Mediterranean, enjoying the few days of summer in Ireland! The heat in the Mediterranean was a bit challenging, but Barbara was finally able to see the Sistine Chapel, which she had missed when she was in Rome with **Diane Eby Özbal '67** in 1966. On September 21<sup>st</sup>, Barbara and Erv became great-grandparents! Rosemary (Rosie) Jade Kragness is the granddaughter of Michael and Sonya. Barbara continues with water





*Safari in Tanzania, rock-climbing in Kenya: Cynthia Clark '72, husband Willard, and three of their grandchildren with Margaret, their childhood pen-pal.*

aerobics and bridge, as well as activities of their community – and, of course, being a WCAA trustee.

**Susan Blake '68**  
**2900 Forest Ave.**  
**Berkeley, CA 94705**  
**ssblake68@gmail.com**



**Cynthia Clark** admits “it has been a while since I last contributed news to our Western classmates, so thought I would for the next newsletter.” And so, since we didn’t hear from



*Granddaughter Seanna and her award-winning FenceART canvas*

any other classmates, we are hereby turning the column over to Cynthia. The several interesting pictures on this page are hers also ...

From **Cynthia Clark '72**, in her own words:

“I have continued volunteering on projects in various parts of the world, using my legal skills and/or my teaching literacy skills to young students struggling to get on the reading ladder at any level. My husband does the same and we have been recently back to Africa, to the slums of Kibera and Mathare Valley in Nairobi, Kenya, to do

this in 2018 and took all three of our grandchildren, now 21, 19 and 17, with us to go on safari in Tanzania and then volunteer and meet the student with whom they have been pen-pals since they, and she, were just



*Cynthia and Willard, hiking in New Zealand with Willard's son, Sam*

learning to read and write. Margaret was thrilled to meet them [we met her on earlier trips as well] and to go rock climbing on the only inside rock walls of Kenya in Nairobi. Grandson Malcolm is a serious climber and all spent our last three hours in Nairobi climbing every wall in the place.

“Granddaughter Seanna took a photo of the school uniforms of the girls line drying on the roof of the safe house associated with one of the schools and it won an award and now hangs as a large canvas in the FenceART program of our city, Newton, MA. (My own photography has also won multiple awards in



*Cynthia Clark '72 and her fence banner*

both group and solo shows in the past few years and a banner for the fences!)

“Willard and I continue to volunteer also here in Boston with first-graders and to study Italian literature through graduate classes at Boston College and are enmeshed this winter in the Plague as written about by such writers as Boccaccio and Manzoni. We last traveled to New Zealand with Willard's son, Sam, to hike the Milford Track and check out the wonderful wines throughout the country and were there for six weeks, and nine months later, this past October, we spent a month trekking, camping, and visiting Peru from the northern Andes (visiting the pre-Incan Chachapoyan grave sites and fortresses) to the Amazon and Machu Picchu to Lake Titicaca and Lima, Cusco, and all in-between.

Next up, if the current Coronavirus does not keep us away will be two months exploring the five ‘Stans’ of Central Asia in the fall of 2020, but first we have a lot more protesting and removing of office to try and accomplish and a candidate to decide on ... As we tell our kin, ‘The world is a book and those who do not travel and help others in it read just one page, and poorly.’ Best to all.”

Finally, Beth here: We are all healthy and sheltering in place. Our New York kids are good, each trying to do their jobs while attending the needs of a 1½-year-old in a small apartment. Our daughter has had a crash course in teaching first grade on Zoom. We are thankful that all four of our kids have not been furloughed. ...

**Beth Cramp Dague '72**  
**265 S. Cassingham Rd.**  
**Columbus, OH 43209**  
**beth@dague.com**





**Sue Anderson** reports that she had successful cataract surgery in November 2019. She says that she loves retirement. She is active in the DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution) and went to Washington, DC, in June 2019 for that organization's annual convention. Sue went to Las Vegas with friends in July 2019, and they also visited the north rim of the Grand Canyon and Hoover Dam in Arizona and then went to Zion National Park in southern Utah. Sue sends her classmates her greetings and says, "All the best to everyone."

**Cheryl Pedersen Bonnell** is still actively selling real estate in the Finger Lakes region of New York. She is also dabbling in antiques and very much enjoys time spent with her three grandchildren.

**Mary Miller Croxton** has been retired for several years but is still keeping very busy. She is the president of the Chautauqua County, New York, League of Women Voters, and she does a lot of advocacy work and has also been involved with celebration of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the organization and of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment. Mary has been selected to be an NGO delegate at the United Nations in March 2020. The forum she will attend there is the Commission on the Status of Women. Mary also belongs to a Shakespeare club that is 140 years old. The club chooses a topic for each year, and everyone makes a presentation related to the topic sometime during that year. Mary still enjoys playing tennis two or three times a week. Mary's husband, Jack, is still working at the State University of New York at Fredonia. They have three grandchildren; two of them live nearby, so she gets to see them often.

### A ZOOM view of a few from the '70s, virtually reuniting ...



**Carolyn Jefferson-Jenkins** has been selected to receive the Freedom Summer of '64 Award from Miami University. [See cover story, page 7.] This year marks the third presentation of the award. Carolyn has been a public school teacher and administrator and was the national president of the League of Women Voters of the United States from 1998 to 2002. She has also been chair of the League of Women Voters Education Fund. Miami University President Greg Crawford will present the award on March 12, 2020, in Kumler Chapel, and Carolyn will speak on the topic: "Your Turn Will Come: The Continuing Journey to Full Voting Rights."

**Harper Putnam** (formerly **Cindy Putnam**) has changed to a gender neutral first name. She chose the first name Harper as a tribute to Harper Lee, the author of *To Kill A Mockingbird* because that book influenced her life in her younger years. In March 2020, Harper, who lives in Oakland, CA, plans to get together in the San Francisco Bay area with three other Western 1974 classmates who will be visiting: **Ellen Magee** (from Wisconsin), **Mary Ellen Snyder Musgrave** (from southern California) and **Jamilla Hakimi Chaves** (from northern California). They are planning a two-day outing together to the redwood forests in northern California.

**Joan Hagan Stoutenborough** and her husband, Dan, have been retired from teaching public school for 11 years now. They enjoy migrating back and forth between their summer home in Williamstown Lake, KY, and their winter home in Sarasota, FL. Joan and Dan have four grandchildren ranging in age from 3 to 12. Two live in Florida, and two live in Kentucky. Joan's hobbies include reading,



Retirees Joan (Hagan) and Dan Stoutenborough et al.

walking, watching Netflix, music, traveling, and water sports. Joan says she would love to hear from others from our class and/or find them on Facebook or Twitter. Joan can be reached at: joanstout2051@yahoo.com if you want to get in touch with her.

I've been busy this year with four volunteer organizations in the Westerville, OH, area. One of these is Inniswood Metrogardens, where I run the Library Committee and manage a collection of about 1,300 gardening, horticulture, and nature books. Another is Hanby House, where I am a guide. It is a 19<sup>th</sup> century home which was a stop on the Underground Railroad. I also am part of the volunteer groups that do activities to support the Westerville Police Department and the Westerville Fire Department. I still like to travel, and I took a small ship cruise in the eastern Caribbean in November 2019. It started in Puerto Rico and went to St. Thomas, St. Kitts, Dominica, St. Lucia, Grenada, and Barbados islands. It was warm and sunny, and the islands were mostly mountainous and very scenic. My great-niece, Cora, will be two years old in June 2020. She lives with her parents in the San Francisco Bay area. It's amazing how fast these little ones grow up!

**Betsy Salt '74**  
642 Mallard Dr.  
Westerville, OH 43082  
esalt@otterbein.edu



Nothing to report, but sincere wishes to all to stay well!

**Pheetta G. Wilkinson '76**  
4500 Butterfield Pl.  
Cincinnati, OH 45227  
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## In Memoriam

**Margaret Spears Bates '42**  
December 2019

**Mary Huber Davis '44**  
November 2016

**Marjory Reed Kimbell '47**  
July 2019

**Nell Morris Nance '47**  
June 2019

**Katherine "Peggy" Keiler Ragnar '49**  
March 2020

**Emma Love Gimbel '50**  
February 2019

**Nancy Pierce Kasperzak '50**  
February 2020

**Susan Jones Niedenfuhr '50**  
October 2019

**Harriet Hokanson '51**  
November 2019

**Carolyn Elizabeth Downing Bellware '52**  
February 2020

**Ann Anthony Brophy '52**  
November 2019

**Dorothy Lomax Brown '52**  
February 2015

**Doris May Gilmore '52**  
August 2019

**Gay Belcher Hadley '52**  
May 2020

**Dorothy Armstrong Watkins '53**  
May 2018

**Esin Aka Atil '58**  
February 2020

**Suzanne Rhodes Crankshaw '59**  
Trustee 2010-2011  
December 2019

**Hope FitzGerald Taylor '64**  
February 2020

**Charlotte A. Dickerson '66**  
November 2019

**Myron "Mike" Lunine**  
Dean, School of Interdisciplinary Studies  
(Western College Program) 1974-1980  
May 2020

**Milburn "Coop" Cooper**  
Design/Technology Consultant, *The Bulletin*, 1995-2020  
(Spouse of Cathy Bauer Cooper '60)  
May 2020

*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.*

## A Few Words About Dean Myron “Mike” Lunine

*A newly created school, actually a division of Miami University, the School of Interdisciplinary Studies (Western College Program) opened its doors the fall after Western’s doors closed in 1974. Mike Lunine was its founding dean and served until 1980. Having taught or been in administration at the universities of Iowa, Colorado, Fisk, Istanbul, and Kent State, he came to Oxford directly from Hampshire College in Amherst, MA, where he had also been dean, with an extensive background in interdisciplinary work. After leaving Western, he taught at San Francisco State until the fall of 2019. In an article in the Spring 1975 Bulletin (reprinted from the Cincinnati Enquirer), he explained his charge (see excerpts on the opposite page). The “WCP,” as it came to be called, was incredibly successful under Dean Lunine and his successors until 2006, when it lost divisional status, merged into the College of Arts and Science, and in 2009, became, The Western Program. Just ask its devoted alumni. Here are remembrances from two of the many who remained closely in touch with Mike and his family.*

Mike Lunine was a true force of nature. He touched so many in powerful ways — his work on Gandhi, almost 40 years teaching at SFSU, even the unheralded role he played as mediator on May 4, 1970, at Kent State.

But of course so many of us treasure his memory for the seven years or so he spent in Oxford — his visionary creation and then gentle leadership of the magical Western College community that we loved and that changed so many of our lives. For that I and countless other Western College Program alumni are forever grateful to him.

One of the things so many of us appreciated in Mike: he was an absolutely brilliant man who would take the time and patience to make every student feel important and respected. It was this beautiful way of giving students a feeling that they mattered. That was probably what touched many of us most of all. And that beautiful gift lives on in all of us, as part of Mike Lunine’s enormous legacy.

— Christopher Kerosky '81

Of all days. At about 5:00 a.m. Eastern Time on May 4, 2020, a pair of eyes closed for the last time. Exactly 50 years earlier, on May 4, 1970, at about 5:00 a.m. Eastern Time, those same eyes opened to meet the day.

The students on the college campus were stirred up. Some were committed to just going to class, while others were loud and even destructive. This group had even burned down a building, and the Governor called in the National Guard to bring order. The situation was becoming more and more intense and was approaching a breaking point.

The man with the open eyes met with his colleagues and also the students and the Guard through the morning, going back and forth among them, negotiating for a peaceful resolution to the conflict. He himself was a student of peace, having studied the thoughts and actions of Gandhi and King and others. He tried his best, but at around noon realized the tense atmosphere was escalating further and would certainly lead to violence.

At 24 minutes after the hour, in a space of only 13 seconds, the world was turned to smoke. Jeff, Sandy, Allison, and Bill were gone. As predicted, slaughter would be imminent.

Fifty years later, when those eyes closed finally, they were opened in another place. Parents and other relatives were there, welcoming and embracing the newcomer. And also there, in young visages frozen in time, were Jeff, Sandy, Allison, and Bill. For the newcomer, this moment was a half century in the making, but for the four of them, but a moment.

“You did all you could,” they said.

— Steve Roos '81





*The family originally settled in a house on campus*



*From left, Rick Edmiston, Ken Vincent, Tom Gordon, Steve Sphar, Mike, Mike Kent, chatting in the Lunines' living room, Berkeley, July 2019*



Tracing the Western legacy, Mike went all the way back to the Western Female Seminary's opening in 1855 (from the *Enquirer* interview): "At the first opening they had 150 students, 10 faculty members, unfinished facilities and terrible weather," he said, noting conditions at their September 1974 opening "were much the same."

"The basic thing we are trying to do here is recreate the style and spirit of a small college with its human scale within a large public university. ... Some of the spirit of the old college remains at Western. Although we're a part of Miami University, we have a real sense of the legacy of the place."

"The emphasis is on the concept of the 'learning community' in which faculty and students live and learn together — an idea that is centuries old."

"The atmosphere is informal, and much of the learning takes place outside the classroom. Most of the students and faculty are on a first name basis."



*The Lunines, with a just a few devoted alums, Delhi Diner, Berkeley, California, Summer 2019*

Please see the WCPAA — The Western College Program Alumni Association — Facebook Group for further information and to share your memories.

# The Western College Program

## Hello from my living room in Ithaca, NY!

Currently, we find ourselves in difficult and unprecedented times as we practice social distancing and find new ways to connect with each other. Miami and Western have been engaged in completely virtual learning for current students since March 11. In this virtual-based environment and social distancing, what does connection look like? It is this theme of connection that I want to focus and spend time reflecting on.



Mike Loeffelman

Many alumni, including myself, were looking forward to the June reunions for both Miami and the Western College Alumnae Association. We were saddened, although understanding, when we heard the news that both reunions had been cancelled. When the Western Alumni Association at Miami University (WAAMU) Board heard this news, it prompted us to focus our efforts on strengthening the alumni community as well as considering new initiatives designed to build community connections. As President of the Board, I look forward to sharing some of these initiatives with you and welcome your feedback. Further, I am hopeful for your involvement on some of these initiatives moving forward.

First, the project that we are most excited about will be taking shape within the coming weeks. We will be working in collaboration with the Miami Alumni Office to update all of our individual alumni contact information. Our alumni base is currently over 1,700 which includes Western 2.0 (1974 to 2010) and the growing members of Western 3.0 (2010 to present). Unfortunately, the contact information for many of our alumni is out of date. Therefore, many are not receiving information. Our plan to address this issue is to have alumni volunteers reach out to class representatives and other alumni to ensure updated contact information. It is our hope that this will build a foundation for a stronger alumni community. If you are interested in assisting us with this project, please e-mail [mloeffelman@gmail.com](mailto:mloeffelman@gmail.com).

Second, the Board is committed to making sure that you are fully educated about Western 3.0, the Individualized Studies Program, the amazing work of current

students, and the Western Center for Social Impact and Innovation. We know that there have been changes over recent years and for our alumni to be engaged, they need to be informed about the current program. Western and Miami are committed to interdisciplinary problem solving and the legacy of social justice imbedded within the history of Western. The Board is continually impressed by the hard work of the Western Center's acting director, **Dr. Jacque Daugherty**. Jacque is dedicated to Western ideals, supporting undergraduate student inquiry, and collaborating with alumni. We are looking forward to the exciting projects that the Western Center has in the coming months and encourage you to review Jacque's article in the *Bulletin* about the Center. As part of the Board's commitment to ensuring alumni are well-educated, we are also continuing the publication of the e-newsletter on a biannual basis. The e-newsletter will have short articles as well as spotlights (alumni, faculty, students, etc.) that will continue to provide opportunities for alumni engagement.

Last, I am pleased to announce several small initiatives that the Board is working on that further strengthen the Western alumni connections. These include an Awards Committee that will be annually recognizing the achievements of alumni, the strengthening of the relationship with the WCAA, supporting Friends of Western, supporting the needs of the current Individualized Studies program, and providing stronger support to the Class Representatives. While each of these initiatives may seem minor, when they are added together as part of the bigger picture, they encompass community building. I am impressed with the Board for stepping up to work on these projects during this challenging time. Their commitment to the greater Western alumni community is evident and much appreciated.

While we will not be seeing each other back on Western this summer or for the foreseeable future, I hope you can continue to find ways to connect with fellow Western alumni. It is these relationships and connections that will carry us through these unpredictable times. I hope you support the Board's various projects and I encourage you to contact me with any questions.

— Mike Loeffelman '03  
WAAMU Board President





It's me again, with updates for WCP Class of 1978:

**Alex Echols** is still living in Virginia, focusing on improving environmental quality, particularly water, especially in agricultural management. He would love to catch up if you're ever in the area!

**Steve Seiple** will retire March 1 after spending nearly 40 years in the legal department at Columbia Gas of Ohio. Congrats, Steve! Now you'll have more time to spend with that third granddaughter when she arrives in the spring!!

**Martin Steger** recently retired from a successful career in law, most recently at Kegler Brown Hill & Ritter.

**Shmuel Steven Klein** and his wife of 38 years have raised nine children and have many wonderful grandchildren to enjoy time with. They split their time between upstate New York and Florida, where Steve enjoys scuba diving. He and his family strive to be Lubavitch Chasid. His law practice includes bankruptcy work, and class actions against several auto manufacturers.

I am still enjoying retirement in Bucks County, PA, with the kids nearby for the most part. I find enrichment doing various volunteer work at church and in the community, and hope to convene a mini reunion dinner soon in Philly for some '78 and '79 alums.

Respectfully submitted ...

**Larry Blankemeyer '78**  
blanks0330@gmail.com



**Sara (Tewart) Dale** reports that she is in her 32nd year of teaching third grade in Worthington, OH, at the same school system that she attended from kindergarten to graduation. She feels blessed to work at Liberty Elementary School with such a wonderful staff, families and students, and that they keep her young! Her husband, Andy, is retired and they have recently purchased a Class A RV for travels this summer. Sara included a photo of a church spire in Brugge, Belgium, that was taken during her time in Luxembourg, which has hung in her home ever since. She is trying to find the photographer so that she can give it an appropriate home, as she is now



downsizing. If it's your picture, please reach out to me and I can connect you to Sara. [Editor's note: Unfortunately, it could not be printed here in color, which greatly diminishes the chances of its being recognized.]

**Grant Shull** reports that he has finally accepted his role as the VoxOfMercy.com, and is involved in Whirled-Pease.com ... Delivering World Peace, one bowl at a time, and inviting The Refreshing ICED-T that is YOU to Party For Mercy's Sake Like Never Before, celebrating 9/11 as Peacemakers-Day.com each & every September ... FOREVER, so that we can bind ourselves together with The-Agility-of-Grace.com, and, by Grace conquer The Earth for Good as we build our Walls of Sorrow into Bridges to Tomorrow, even as each & every one of us learns how to BE-A-PEACEMAKER.COM (it's a book available with others at LMSSPT.com, GoFundMe initiative, an ethos for living, his dream for a better, brighter future). And, Grant and his wife, Irene, are hiring, so, if you would like a job that means Happiness, all YOU need to do is say: HELLO-Mercipalooza.com!

**Amy Mohr** reports that she is busy running her family's business, Mohr Crane Service. She is a certified crane operator, and took over her father's company after his death in 2014. Check out the work on the company's Facebook page under the same name. Amy notes that after college she went on to earn a M.S. in Agency Counseling at Indiana State University, and holds an LCSW (Licensed Clinical Social Worker) credential that she uses on a PRN basis at a psychiatric hospital in Greenwood, IN. Amy vacations in Northwest Ontario for fishing and escape. She loves to travel, go on missions through church, and sing.

**Greg Lynn** reports that he currently lives in Los Angeles, Boston, and Princeton. He is a Professor in the School of Art and Architecture at UCLA where he has been for more than 20 years and a University Professor of Architecture at the University of Applied Arts in Vienna for 17 years. He also runs his design studio in Los Angeles and is CEO of a robotics company in Boston that he co-founded called Piaggio Fast Forward; they launched their first product on the market called "gita." Greg's wife, Sylvia Lavin, is a Professor in the Architecture School at Princeton University and they have

two kids who are both now in college. Greg's oldest daughter was just in Oxford for a week this summer, rowing on Acton Lake!

**Missy Moon** reports that she is moving — 2,349 miles to be exact. She is leaving Las Vegas for a little town near Harper's Ferry, called Shepherdstown, in West Virginia. Her belongings were in a truck as this was written. Missy loves having a chance to explore and is looking forward to much more! She invites any Westerners in the area to visit — there is a fun, open Appalachian Jam every Thursday at O'Hurley's. She hopes to see you there!

The big news in my life is that my son, Benjamin, graduated from Harvey Mudd College in May and is now gainfully and happily employed in Seattle, working for Amazon on very secretive, high-tech adventures. Ben also ran in the cross country club national championship in December in Bethlehem, PA, so our days of cheering him on at races are gladly not yet finished. Jon and I have decided that adult-Ben is way cooler than we ever were, recognizing that is a low bar. When you are reading this, I'll have been on a skiing trip with Ben to Whistler. This past year, Jon and I traversed the Andes



View from the hacienda

and actually slept in a shipping container (OK, it was heated, but literally in the middle of nowhere) at about 14,000 feet. (See pic: a view from the hacienda in Argentina.) It was an amazing, bucket-list kind of trip with fabulous hiking, sights and food, and new friends in both Chile and Argentina. I am still practicing law with BakerHostetler in Columbus and am actively engaged in several ministries at my church.

**Beth McNellie '86**  
emcnellie@bakerlaw.com



I did get one update from Class of '88: **Janet (Gray) Gannon**: "For the past 30 years I've been living all up and down the East Coast from Florida to Maine. Somehow I keep ending up living on islands that can only be



accessed by boats. Sounds romantic but really frustrating when you want to order a pizza. I either am a scientist who loves teaching or a teacher who loves sciencing — I can never decide. I'm currently a lab manager and instructor at a small state college on the coast of Georgia, where my husband and I take care of our older parents and are refitting a sailboat with intentions of eventually going where the wind blows us. I also have a side gig: sewing canvas and upholstery for boats." Best ...

**Andy Miller '88**  
miller @nku.edu



Hello, Class of 1990, if indeed you're out there! Hard to be sure given the low response this year to my annual pestering for updates. However, there are a few items to share:

After the better part of two decades at our alma mater serving on the Planning, Architecture and Engineering team, **John Seibert** (Architecture, 1990) has moved on and is now the interim Associate Vice President of Planning+Design+Construction and Director of Project Management at the University of Cincinnati. He tells us that **Ted Christian** (Architecture, 1990) still holds the torch for us at Miami's PAE office.

And although she's not from our year, I heard from **Gwendolyn Reece** (1991)! She's renting a house in Washington, DC, with her sister, **Emily Reece** (1998), which they have named Sistrahme. It is a regular gathering place for philosophy circles, board game nights, activism, and a whole lot of magic. Gwendolyn is a Pagan priestess and author and is the Associate Dean and Director of Research, Teaching and Learning at American University Library.

She created Absentee Ballot Day in 2018, helping over 1,000 university students request an absentee ballot. So far, 20 universities are committed for 2020. Do you work for a college or university? Contact

Gwendolyn! She wants everyone to vote. Gwendolyn is also the President of the Sacred Space Foundation and runs the largest annual gathering of intermediate/advanced magickal practitioners. She still regularly gets together with her architect roommate, **Carissa Faroughi** (1991) and with **Suzanne DeMass Martin** (1991).

I'm afraid that's all the updates I received, although Alicia and I did manage to see a handful of Westerners over the last year — see the photos!

**Michael Conaway '90**  
msconaway@hotmail.com



**Mike Conaway '90 and Jessie (Rezabek) Holland '92**



**Alicia Broderick '90, Julie (Janis) Clayton (Architecture '90), and Paula Taschler '90**



**Alicia Broderick '90, Paula Taschler '90 and husband Bill, Margie Legg '04, and assorted kids.**



**David Schmidt (Architecture '89), Liz (Cantonwine) Schmidt '91, beloved Western Mom Jane Reynolds, Amy (Reynolds) Johnson '90, Brian Johnson '90, and Mike Conaway '90, caught before we knew the photographer was ready.**

**Bill Douglas '94 and significant other Kirsten, in the Oxford UDF!**





## Message from the Western Program Director

Like every educational enterprise, The Western Program has been rocked by the viral pandemic. There have been some bright spots. When the announcement came that classes would be taught remotely for the remainder of the spring semester, Western faculty and staff responded swiftly, professionally, and with admirable grace. Over the remainder of the semester, we taught almost 300 students through our online classes, held remote advising sessions, and organized weekly e-gatherings of students to stay in touch. The students have been marvelous too. Our traditional Monday “Tea and Conversation” continued throughout the semester and we are so proud of our 21 seniors in Individualized Studies who completed their research projects and graduated on May 16. **Jacque Daugherty** has been similarly inspiring in her leadership of the Western Center for Social Impact and Innovation in these difficult times.



Nik Money

This is not the first time that Western has struggled with infectious disease. In her illustrated book, “The

## Message from the Western Center

### A Watershed Inaugural Year for the Western Center for Social Impact and Innovation!

During its first year, the Western Center has lived its mission to work at the intersections of science and social impact on a number of humanity’s most pressing problems. From water access and climate change, to women’s political leadership, this is perhaps best demonstrated by the range of programming and creative collaborations we forged.

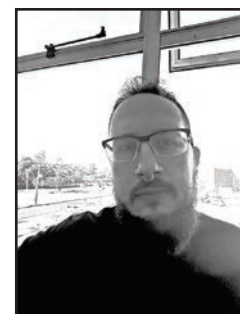
The Western Center’s core programming supported the deconstruction of complex problems, and reconstruction of creative solutions. Water is our biennial theme, and we launched our first curricular offering on it: WST 301 Water Access and Policy. Twenty-seven students explored why clean water access is critical

Western College for Women,” published in 2014, my colleague, **Jacky Johnson**, described the outbreak of typhoid at the seminary in 1864. This bacterial disease had been introduced by soldiers returning from the battlefields of the Civil War. It resulted in several deaths and forced the school to close for the remainder of the academic year. More than a century and a half later, a similarly virulent microbe has challenged the Western community. As scientists seek a vaccine and public health experts work toward a plan for reopening, wisdom lies in understanding that we occupy a planet that has always been dominated by microbes. As I have been explaining to students at Miami throughout my career, “The microbes are everywhere and will outlive us by an eternity.” Nevertheless, we look forward to working with incoming freshmen and returning majors in the fall, with the togetherness that has made the Western experience so valuable throughout its distinguished history.

— *Nicholas P. Money*  
Western Program Director  
Professor of Biology

For a visit with Nik and a virtual update on his 20 graduating Individualized Studies seniors, go to <https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?tab=km#search/moneynp%40miamioh.edu?projector=1>

to fighting COVID-19 and created comprehensive policy briefs on the merits and challenges of water management in a number of settings, from the shores of Lake Erie to the informal settlements of Lima, Peru. We sponsored our first visiting scholar, **Vitor “Yama” Chiodi**, a Brazilian anthropologist and artist whose work explores end-of-the-world narratives through the lenses of climate changes and fungal biology. His research interests are mainly in a place of encounters between the arts, anthropology, and biology, and he focuses on an ethic of care rather than despair.



Yama Chiodi

And, we welcomed our first class of 15, mostly women students, Social Impact and Justice Scholars. They lived up to our expectations with over half of them engaging at high levels with center programming,





*SIJ Scholar, Alia Agee (right), at her winter internship with the Crossroads Health Center in Cincinnati*

including **Alia Agee** (Pre-Med), who served as an intern at a low-income health clinic and **Gabi Hattar** (Early Childhood Education), who volunteered with low-income children in a central Cincinnati neighborhood.

Our many co-curricular offerings engaged the community beyond Miami's campus. These are some highlights.

- September 2019: hosted author and alum, **Kate Black**, who spoke with students about women in politics
- October 2019: joined with Zero Waste Oxford for an eco-friendly evening of pumpkin carving
- November 2019: collaborated with the Miami Creative Writing Program to raise money for the Talawanda-Oxford Pantry and Social Services organization

- January 2020: partnered with Miami's Project Dragonfly for an environmental activist art exhibition at The Oxford Community Arts Center
- March 2020: worked with the Institute for the Environment and Sustainability (IES) to bring environmental activist Peggy Shepard to share how to address climate change through community organizing
- March 2020: helped the Farmer School of Business organize its third annual Social Innovation Weekend.

Though our students' accomplishments are broader than we can include in this summary, it is worth highlighting that Western Individualized Studies major and rising senior, **Jannie Kamara**, was elected the first black woman to serve as Student Body President. Congratulations Jannie!



*Jannie Kamara '21*

Since March, we have developed podcasts and webinars to engage Miamians while we are at home, as well as hosting weekly virtual teas with our students and alums.

— *Jacqueline Daugherty*  
Western Center Acting Director

— *Billy Simms*  
Western Center Coordinator

<https://www.miamioh.edu/cas/academics/centers/western-center/>



*Zero-Waste Pumpkin Carving at the Center*

Photo by Bo Brueck | The Miami Student

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

**E-mail, or clip and mail the form below to your Class Rep. If your class does not have a Rep, send your update directly to the WCAA. Beat the deadline: Labor Day, September 7!**

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**Your full name and class year:** \_\_\_\_\_

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# *Happy 50th Anniversary, Undauntable Class of 1970!*

