

Westover Alumni Newsletter - May 2017



Message to Westover Alumni

Dear Alumni,

Westover Weekend 2017 was a wonderfully energizing experience for all who were able to participate. We are grateful for the hard work of all the Reunion Committees who contacted classmates and organized festivities. The Office of Alumni Relations were the champions that pulled it all together, attending to every detail. Thank you Heather Garnett, Sammi Hoover, Lorraine Potter, and Maegan Songer. This team works tirelessly for all LC alumni.

As Lynchburg College alumni, we share a common bond and experiences. Regardless of the name, the traditions and values of Lynchburg College are important and must live on. Yes, our experiences are varied, but are founded on strong principles which have enriched each of us to make a difference in an ever changing world. Now is the time for us to work together to ensure that the essence of Lynchburg College is preserved and can continue to enrich the lives of our students today.

Sincerely,
Helen Hebb Stidham '66
Chair, Westover Alumni Advisory Council
simandhelen@verizon.net

Please click on the links below for more information on:

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Notes from the Communications Committee

by Denise Duke Hunt '68, '72 MEd, '86 EdS and George Grzenda '71, '73 MEd.

- The Westover Alumni Advisory Council held its April meeting during Westover Weekend - April 21-23, 2017. Dr. Garren presented a State of the College talk to the group. The Alumni Relations staff shared the Alumni portion of the Vision 2020 Strategic Plan and discussed new communications efforts. They showed us the new page for sharing this newsletter on the LC website. It is more user friendly and we thank the staff for their hard work! You can find the link to all past newsletters here: <http://www.lynchburg.edu/alumni-friends/alumni/westover-alumni-society/westover-alumni-newsletter/>
- Central Virginia Area LC alumni enjoyed a social event in the Alumni House lounge area in February. About 60+ alumni attended and we heard from the Food Network Cookie Champion and LC grad, Tarsha Joyner '13. We enjoyed wine and sodas, cheese and crackers, and a delicious chocolate dipping station - yum! Thanks to Heather and the staff of the Alumni Office for arranging this event.
- George and I regret that we did not recognize Dr. Brown Cardwell's doctorate degree in a previous newsletter. We apologize for this error.
- On Wednesday, April 26, 2017, the Central Virginia Chapter of the Lynchburg College Alumni Association enjoyed wine and light hors d'oeuvres followed by a private stage tour and short lecture from Dorie D. Smiley, Director of Operations at the Theatre at the Academy Center of the Arts. 21 alumni and guests learned the history of the Theatre, saw a sneak preview from the stage, and a "Behind the Scenes" tour at the Warehouse. Everyone was excited to know the timeline for the grand opening and see the still-skeleton, curved walls, and plan for seating and events.
- **NEEDED ASAP:** Volunteers (2) to gather Westover news quarterly and work with the Alumni Office to put this newsletter together (everything can be done via email!) George Grzenda and Denise Hunt are no longer able to help with this responsibility. Thank you for your support.
- Graduation is on Saturday, May 20th at 10am. Congratulations to All 2017 New LC Alums!!

Yours Sincerely,
George & Denise
Lynchburg College Forever

Upcoming Events

Westover Weekend 2018

Westover Weekend 2018, where we're celebrating the Class Reunions of 1953, 1958, 1963, and 1968 will take place April 20-22, 2018. Save the Date now and let us know if you'd like to help plan your Class Reunion!

Freshman Move-In August 2017

We need volunteers to help welcome the incoming class of 2021 in August. We provide a water tent and help give directions and information to families and students. It's a great time to show Lynchburg College traditions! Please email alumni@lynchburg.edu if you're interested in helping. Date TBA.

Tentative Upcoming Central Virginia Chapter Events Schedule

August 2017

- Hillcats Baseball Game
- Freshman Move-In

September 2017

- Lynchburg Beer, Wine, and Cider Festival, September 16th

October 2017

- Homecoming 2017 - October 20-21

November 2017

- Art through Downtown Lynchburg

December 2017

- Historic Sandusky and Quaker House Tours

Westover Weekend 2017

by Sandy Allen Walker '67 - 50th Reunion Committee Chair

Our recent Westover Alumni Weekend (April 21-23) was a huge success - especially for the Class of 1967, celebrating 50 years since graduation.

The events organized by the Alumni Office and Class Reunion Committees were varied and FUN! A big thanks to the LC Alumni Office: Heather Ayers Garnett '05 MEd, Sammi Hoover '09, '11 MEd, Lorraine Potter, and Maegan Songer '15 for all their hard work and attention to detail.

The Class of 1967 had our best turn-out ever and really enjoyed linking up with friends - some of whom had never been back to LC since graduation. So a note to others

reading this - don't wait for your 50th Reunion to return to campus!

Our class was able to connect with Class of 1967 classmates in two ways:

1) Having a team of approximately 8 people calling, emailing, or writing to those in our class, encouraging them to attend the reunion, using a class list provided by the Alumni Office.

2) Making use of a website called Class Creator (also set up by the Alumni Office.) The site allowed all who logged in to see our total class list from 1967 (including those who started their freshman year with us, but transferred out.) Also on this site was a listing of the US states each of our classmates are from, a list of who served in the military, as well as classmates who have passed on. Class Creator had fascinating details such as the costs of various items back then, a list of popular songs/movies/TV shows, and even clips of TV commercials. The real plus of the website is that you can click your own name and enter information you want to share with the class. Anyone from the class who goes on this website can respond to comments made by others, or if there is a classmate you want to communicate with, you can send them a personal message. No email addresses are shared on this site, so it would be up to anyone who received a message if they wanted to continue a correspondence with a classmate. Class Creator proved to be a great way to connect with our classmates - especially good when hearing from some who due to health or other situations, were interested in reconnecting with classmates, but were not able to attend the reunion.

Lynchburg College continues to be one of the most beautiful colleges in Virginia and it was pretty even in the pouring rain. Offered during the weekend was a side trip to the Claytor Nature Center - beautiful land and buildings set up for environmental studies which is located about 40 minutes from the College in Bedford County. Dr. Greg Eaton, Director of the center, gave an enjoyable talk and tour of the property.

Other events included Dr. Julius Sigler '62 who had slides of pictures dating from the very early years of the College as well as photos from the 50s and 60s of former professors and students from that time. New events included a wine tasting time and a display by artists, artisans, and authors - all LC grads. We were impressed by the talent of those in our class alone!

The food for each event was fantastic - definitely nothing resembling our meals back in the 60s! Hats off to the current chef and all those who work in the food services area, along with the student servers who did an excellent job.

The most fun for our class was our Saturday evening dinner MC'd by Donnie Graham '67. Most of us were laughing to the point of tears at his repertoire of jokes. Donnie is incredibly hilarious and is in demand to speak/perform beyond LC events. Our Saturday evening included recognizing Helen Mundy Witt '67 who received the Thomas Gibson Hobbs award last fall for her contributions to church, community, and alma mater. Helen was the first African American student to graduate from LC, and it was wonderful to have her as a member of our class and we're so proud of her. One of her daughters and her son-in-law came from Ohio to be with Helen as we celebrated

our 50th and her accomplishments. Another added feature to our dinner was a raffle of items that were provided by our Class Reunion Committee and Lynchburg College. It's always fun to win something!

Music during the weekend began with a jazz band, "Together Again" on Friday evening at our dinner with the other Westover Reunion classes. This local group was great and included grads from other LC classes as well as an LC professor. Other musical events occurred in Snidow Chapel on Saturday when there were choices to make on where to go for entertainment - which was a hard choice to make. The huge hit musically, certainly appeared to be Taylor Rodriguez '21, an LC freshman who is an Elvis Presley tribute artist. Taylor began performing before the age of 14 when he made his first appearance in Memphis at Elvis Week. Taylor had our crowd in the palm of his hand as he sang, along with his band, many Elvis songs. When you have the opportunity to spend an evening watching and listening to someone who can only be described as a fantastic entertainer, definitely go see Taylor perform. He has the looks, moves, mannerisms, and most of all, an Elvis voice! Lucky for those of us in the Lynchburg area, he is a local guy from Bedford County and often does area benefit performances.

All in all, this Westover Alumni Weekend was a fabulous event. It was a wonderful time to see old, and yes, I do mean OLD friends and renewing close friendships, along with reminiscing about those years in the 1960s at Lynchburg College.

To see the pictures taken during this fabulous weekend, please click the link below:
[Westover Weekend Photos 2017](#)

Westover Alumni News

Here's what's happening with your classmates! Remember if you'd like to see your news here, let us know!

Herman Atwood '58 and Mildred Beech "Bootsie" Atwood '57

Celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary at Walt Disney World in Florida. Herman retired from Sears after 33 years and Dekalb County Schools after 13 years. Mildred taught school for 27 years in pre-K, Kindergarten, and 1st grade. Congratulations!



Susan Garrett Rickert '60

Susan will be going to Tanzania to visit her schools and projects. She has supported these projects for 15 years. If you would like more information about her work, she may be reached at: serengetisue@gmail.com

Sandy Kellogg Gray '61

Sandy is active in her private psychotherapy practice and skiing winter weekends. She still giggles when she recalls Dr. Sheldon Van Auken's MG perched on the library steps! (*I am sure some of the guilty parties are reading this now!* - Denise)

Ann Hancock Walker '62

Ann just published her book, *Out of the Mouths of Babes* which is available on Amazon. It is illustrated by her daughter, Kellie, art teacher and artist. Ann and her husband Richard Walker '62, live in Marietta, GA.

Dr. Dorothy Bundy Turner Potter '64

On April 17, 2017, Bundy was awarded the Shirley Rosser Award for Excellence in Teaching. Bundy will retire from Lynchburg College with 33 years of teaching History at the end of this academic year. Thanks, Bundy and best wishes!

Eddie Shelton "Big E" '65

Eddie is still shoeing horses, farming, and trading a few mules. Eddie and his wife Becky, enjoy keeping up with George and Connie Lamb '64, Rick Howell '64, and Sam Self '64 and July Self. Eddie, Becky, Sam, and Judy enjoy an annual trip on the "American Eagle" in West Virginia.

Paul Goldenbaum '66

Paul and his wife Mary Jo are living in San Antonio, Texas and are busy enjoying visits from their 3 children, Dave, Jenn, and Karen and are also busy assisting MJ's aging parents. In November, Paul completed his second trip to rural Honduras as a medical missionary. He supplied prescription medicine, first aid, and supplies - Great job, Paul! Paul retired from the LC Alumni Board after 5 years of service. Thank you for your contributions and service, Paul!

Jim Wilson '66, Becky Carter Wilson '68, Russ Hovda '68, Sharon Durrett Hovda '68, Carolyn Allen Burnett '68, and Denise Duke Hunt '68 enjoyed the "LC Night at the Movies" concert and breakfast at Market on Main in February. Great fun was had by all!



Judy Goding '69, '75 MEd, Mike Walker '66, Sandy Allen Walker '67, Linda Humphries Zimmerman '70, Don Zimmerman, Don Graham '67, and Denise Duke Hunt '68 volunteered at the LC Relay for Life event in April 2017. The Westover Alumni booth won first place for Best Booth and raised \$400+ for the Relay in the name of Westover Alumni! The team sponsored a contest for a student to win dinner and a movie and her picture is below. *(The Westover Alumni in the photo below are Sandy Allen Walker '67, Mike Walker '66, Judy Goding '69, '75 MEd, and Don Graham '67.)*



Jim Hershman '69

Jim will have his essay, "Virginia on the Cusp of Change," an interpretation of the late 50s and early 60s, published in the book *Historians in Service of a Better South: Essays in Honor of Paul Gaston*. The link to learn more about it is here: <http://www.newsouthbooks.com/gaston>

JoAnne Woernle Dudley '70

JoAnne retired from teaching in the Lynchburg School System in 2013 after 40 years of dedication. Her husband, James Perrow Dudley, passed away June 17, 2015 from ALS complications. Keeping her busy are her eleven grandchildren to "teach."

Janet G. Robertson '70

Janet will retire from the University of Georgia at the end of the academic year. She has taught ballet, international folk dance, dance appreciation, and was an adjunct and senior lecturer since 1985. She is very active in the religious community and finds time for painting and acting. Happy retirement, Janet!

**George Grzenda '71, '73 MEd**

George is retiring after 46 years of teaching and coaching at LC. This past April, he was honored by the Men's and Women's soccer teams by renaming the Shellenberger-Grzenda Golf Tournament to help support those teams. Thanks for your service, George! *(George is pictured below on the right with classmates Paul Kelbaugh '71 and Gene Frantz '71, '76 MEd.)*



Update Your Information

We want to make sure we have the most updated information on all Westover Alumni so we may stay in touch!

Please make sure that the Alumni Office has your updated phone, email, and address. Contact the Office at 434.544.8293 or alumni@lynchburg.edu to update your information.

Deceased Alumni

(Listing includes notifications received by the College as of February 15, 2017 - May 15, 2017)

Mr. Courtland J. Jones '39 - 3/29/17
Mrs. Betty B. Brewer '49 - 3/19/17
Mr. Peyton S. Kulman '52 - 3/29/17
Mr. William R. Scott '56 - 2/21/17
Mr. Davy Crockett '57 - 4/10/17
Mr. Earl G. Dooley '57 - 2/25/17
Mr. J. Curtis Nunn '60 - 2/19/17
Mr. Kenneth E. FcFaden '61 - 2/23/17
Mrs. Lelia W. Myrick '61 - 3/9/17
Mr. Sidney B. Stephens '61 - 3/22/17
Rev. Norman H. Wasson '62 - 3/24/17
Mr. Stephen P. Dunn '67 - 3/10/16

Best wishes,

Heather Ayers Garrett

Heather Ayers Garnett '05 MEd
Director of Alumni Relations



Click on the images above to connect with the Lynchburg College Alumni Association on social media!