



Westover Alumni News - **August 2020**

Message from the Chair

Dear Westover Alums,

The freshmen and by now all students have arrived on campus and no one would have predicted the circumstances they are facing. The University leadership, faculty and staff, have done an unbelievable job to prepare for everyone's safety due to the Covid-19 pandemic. We are all praying for the best.

We also welcome Dr. Alison Morrison-Shetlar, our eleventh President, who has already shown her experience, wisdom and passion, and love, for our beloved Lynchburg in preparing for the new academic year. I hope you will have an opportunity to join one of the many virtual opportunities to meet Dr. Morrison-Shetlar over the next few months.

So what have you been doing to stay busy and safe while avoiding potential contact with Covid-19? We really want to know. Send your stories and photos and once we've censored them, they may get published. Lol.

Don't forget to mark your calendars for Westover Weekend, March 19-21, 2021.

We will celebrate the classes of 1950, 55, 60, 65, and 70, from this past year as well as the classes of 1951, 56, 61, 66, and 71. That's quite a party crowd so you don't want to miss this as we hope by then, we will be allowed to resume a somewhat normal life.

These are indeed challenging times, but Lynchburg grads are special people and we can overcome challenges like this. Please let us hear from you, and help welcome our new President to the Lynchburg family. Stay safe.

Go Hornets!

Marc Jordan '69

marc@shamgarconsulting.com

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Upcoming Virtual Events

All of our events have been moved to an online platform. We have virtual events scheduled for the next few months, and hope you will join us. If you have a suggestion or are willing to present to alumni, please let us know.

Red Chair Chats with Dr. Alison Morrison-Shetlar

You're invited to a Red Chair Chat with Dr. Alison Morrison-Shetlar, President of the University of Lynchburg and Dr. Robert Shetlar, First Gentleman this fall. A schedule of the virtual chats is below! An invitation for each virtual chat will be emailed soon for each chapter.

September 1: Central Virginia Chapter

September 3: Roanoke Chapter

September 8: Charlottesville Chapter

September 10: Norfolk/Virginia Beach

September 16: Richmond Chapter

September 17: Baltimore/Maryland

September 22: DC Area Chapter

September 23: Helen Mundy Witt Society

September 24: Boston

September 29: New York

October 1: Connecticut/New Jersey/Delaware

October 7: Chicago

October 21: Raleigh/Durham/Chapel Hill

October 27: Charlotte Chapter

October 29: Texas

November 4: Tennessee

November 5: South Carolina

November 10: Atlanta

November 12: All alumni not able to join in a designated chapter

November 17: International alumni

Homecoming From Home 2020

Homecoming 2020 is all virtual this year. Homecoming 2020 will be from home with many virtual events planned and we are looking forward to celebrating the classes in Reunion: '75, '80, '85, '90, '95, '00, '05, '10, '15 and '20. All alumni are welcome. Online registration will be open soon. For those who register by September 23, a Lynchburg Hornet Buzz Box will be mailed to you with Lynchburg gear to celebrate Homecoming!

Throughout the weekend, join us for:

- Alumni Virtual Classes
- Class Reunions - join us on a virtual call with your class to celebrate! Classes in reunion can submit Lynchburg photos to us from now until October 1 so we can create a collage to share with each class. There will be prizes for the most Lynchburg spirit - decorate your area, wear your Lynchburg gear, etc. Create a Lynchburg drink and share the recipe with fellow Hornets - prizes for the most creative Lynchburg drink!
- Virtual Campus Tour

- Fraternity and Sorority Reunion
- Champagne Toast and Reunion for Class of 2020
- Jordan Taylor '10 Remembrance
- Welcome with Dr. Alison Morrison-Shetlar
- Lynchburg Legacy Pinning Ceremony with Dr. Alison Morrison-Shetlar: Classes of 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024 receive pins.
- And more! An updated schedule will be available soon.

Wednesday Wisdom Webinars (WWW) Series

The Lynchburg Alumni Association has just wrapped up the WWW Series where we hosted a series of virtual lectures from University professors and Lynchburg alumni. Thank you to all of our Lynchburg alumni who attended a virtual lecture. If you were unable to join the live presentations or would like to view a presentation again, you may [request a link](#) to watch it.

Westover Weekend 2021

Save the date for Westover Weekend 2021 - March 19-21!

The Classes of 1950, 1951, 1955, 1956, 1960, 1961, 1965, 1966, 1970, and 1971 will all be celebrating Reunions!

During the weekend you will enjoy live music, class photos, wine tastings, tours, special meals, class events, and more.

We would love to have you as a volunteer – join your Class Reunion Committee to offer suggestions for events and encourage classmates to come celebrate this special weekend. Please contact me at garnett_h@lynchburg.edu or 434.544.8293 to learn more!

Memories and Stories of Westover Hall

Thank you to our Westover alumni who shared their memories of Westover Hall for the 50th anniversary. We are excited to share those with all Westover alumni! Click on the link below to view the memories. If you are not able to open the link, please email

alumni@lynchburg.edu to receive a copy.

Westover Memories

News from Westover Alumni

William Bowles '53

I was a local Lynchburg boy and did not live on campus. I was fortunate to meet my wife while attending Lynchburg. Her name was Lou Anna Byrd. She too lived off campus, until here Junior year. She then moved on campus. She moved on campus to the beautiful building that was the building in the photo you sent. While attending, I joined the US Naval Reserve so that I could become a career sailor when I graduated from Lynchburg. That happened in 1953. When Lou graduated she joined me at the US Navy base and we lived together in Norfolk VA. Lou taught school at the Navy base and I sailed around the world. We had two wonderful children and then they brought us four grandchildren. Today I live in Texas, but I never miss an opportunity to come back to the great campus and look forward to seeing our classmates. Unfortunately, Lou Passed away in 2019 and now is buried in Lynchburg at Forest Hill. We were blessed with 65 years of married. Thank you for this opportunity to share our wonderful memories.

Neal Thompson '62

From Marquis Who's Who®: F. Neal Thompson Celebrated for Dedication to the Field of Financial Services. Mr. Thompson channels more than 50 years of professional expertise into his work with Financial Services Consultants Incorporated.

GLEN ALLEN, VA, May 27, 2020, F. Neal Thompson has been included in Marquis Who's Who. As in all Marquis Who's Who biographical volumes, individuals profiled are selected on the basis of current reference value. Factors such as position, noteworthy accomplishments, visibility, and prominence in a field are all taken into account during the selection process.

Inspired to bridge the gaps between the banking and insurance industries, Mr. Thompson began his career in the field of finance and insurance as the vice president of Fidelity Corporation in 1971. Years later, he was appointed by Wheat Insurance Services as the chairman of the executive committee, with which he supervised sales and insurance products, as well as training for institutional and retail staff. Since 1996, Mr. Thompson has excelled as President of Financial Services Consultants Incorporated.

During this time, Mr. Thompson also served as a Colonel in the Virginia Defense Force

Department of Military Affairs between 2001 and 2015. Outside of his exemplary work with his consultancy, he has contributed to those in need through Alzheimer's Association and the Interstitial Cystitis Association, for which he served as a treasurer and board member for more than 10 years. With a plethora of knowledge at his disposal, Mr. Thompson has provided his research to a number of publications, including "Assessing Individual Managerial Performance: Particularly of Field Sales Managers."

In pursuit of his career, Mr. Thompson initially earned a Bachelor of Arts in economics from Lynchburg College. He subsequently obtained a Masters in economics and finance from the University of Richmond's Robins School of Business. Mr. Thompson concluded his academic efforts with a law degree from Liberty University School of Law.

Over the years, Mr. Thompson also became certified as a financial planner, a chartered life underwriter and a chartered financial consultant. For his outstanding as an adjunct faculty member, he was presented with an award for 20 years of service to the College for Financial Planning in addition to a Meritorious Service Award. Looking toward the future, Mr. Thompson intends to continue his career and work to educate all Americans in the "Rule of Law" and the economics of life.

Jim Wilson '66

After asking about half dozen class members if they have any interesting news, I got the total response of -- NO. With the coronavirus keeping everybody at home, people have cancelled trips and gatherings. Thus, NO NEWS IS GOOD NEWS.

However, Jim later contributed the following:

Our puppy ABBY has been with us 6 months as of August 14th. About eight months old and 28 pounds, this mixed breed mutt continues to drive us crazy!

Oh, this coming Thursday, August 13th, I am selected to portray a Catholic Priest in a multi-plot film about the supernatural. This is by JC Films (www.jcfilms.org). They told me to bring along an old beat-up Bible.

Because of the coronavirus pandemic, most movie sets have shut down. But they assure me that this scene will be COVID-19 safe. [Recall that as a hobby, I was hired to appear in about 75 movies and TV series.]

Meanwhile, the U.S. Census Bureau has called me to help finish the U.S. census. The deadline is now September 30th. You can see that I like to keep busy.

Our son, Matt, continues to work at Snows Landscape Center in Charlottesville. Although Matt nearly completed his Master's degree in communications at Georgetown University, he loves landscaping. Follow your heart!

Becky (class of 1968) loves gardening; perhaps that's where Matt got his calling.

Virginia Boyd Collings '66

I recently organized a "Socially Distanced Evening" for the three streets in our neighborhood. Neighbors came out and either picnicked on the lawn or walked around with masks, to meet and greet. This replaced our usual neighborhood picnic.

Our adopted Chihuahua/Terrier mix Bella has been a source of entertainment and affection since joining us in March.

JoAnn Koff '73

JoAnn Lord Koff's poem, "Target on your Back," recently was selected for publication in *Gargoyle Magazine*, Issue #73, May of 2021. Black Bough Poetry selected 2 of my poems for their September issue.

Linda Fernald Kangaroo '74

I currently live with my husband of 43 years on a ranch in the mountains above the Shenandoah Valley with four horses and a lot of wildlife. We went back to LC for my 20th reunion and I sang in the choir with Mrs. E directing once again. It was terrific!

Alumni Reach Out

Want to know how your fellow Hornets are doing during this challenging time? Reach out to them! Contact one or two of your college friends to see how they are doing or just to say hello. You can email, give them a call, or send a letter. For contact information, please email us at alumni@lynchburg.edu.

Anecdotes from O. Carlton Deale '65

Carlton has written many stories of his time at Lynchburg! To read his latest anecdote, click on the titles below.

[Telephone](#)

[Double](#)

Update Your Information

We want to make sure we have your most up-to-date information so we may stay in touch! To update your phone, email, address, etc., please contact us by emailing alumni@lynchburg.edu or calling [434.544.8293](tel:434.544.8293).

Deceased Alumni

(Listing includes notifications received by the University as of May 29, 2020 - August 16, 2020).

Lorraine Kiley Flint '43 - 7/9/2020
Fred Bryant '50 - 8/4/2020
Lillie "Penny" Pennington Dudley '53 - 6/1/2020
Robert Hunt '54 - 6/22/2020
Betty Womack Read '56 - 8/10/2020
Kenneth Roach '56 - 6/2/2020
Barbara Maddox Salmon '56 - 6/4/2020
Boyd Evans, Jr. '62 - 8/11/2020
Patricia Woodroof Salmon '62 - 7/4/2020
Bradley Babcock '63, '70 MEd - 6/2/2020
John Kern, Jr. '65 - 6/3/2020
Frances Simpson '65, '74 MEd - 7/26/2020
Roy Jessee '66 - 7/26/2020
Ellen Rucker Canode '67 - 6/7/2020
Martha Anne Smith King '68 - 7/18/2020
Jerry Boteler '69, '77 MEd - 6/24/2020
Mary McIvor Nash '69 - 7/3/2020
Henry "Al" Prillaman '70 - 7/20/2020
Dr. Donald Roberts '70 - 7/26/2020
Dr. Robert J. Casanas '71 - 6/21/2020
Rita Firestone '71, '79 MEd - 6/18/2020

We extend our condolences to family and friends.

We hope you enjoyed reading the news about fellow Westover Alumni. If you have thoughts or ideas for this electronic communication, please share them with me at garnett_h@lynchburg.edu.

Until next time,



Heather Ayers Garnett '05 MEd

Director of Alumni Relations



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