

# University of Lynchburg



## Westover Alumni News - February 2021

### Message from the Chair

Dear Lynchburg Westover Council Friends,

Looks like we made it through crazy 2020, and heading into 2021, still social distancing. So, nothing has really changed since our Westover parlor days, and we are still social distancing but this is putting it to extremes.

Westover Weekend from Home is March 19-20, 2021. Unfortunately, we will celebrate virtually again. Now that many of us have received our first shot, and some the second (Vicki and I will receive our second on February 27 ), I'm predicting Homecoming 2021 will be live and in person. However, our devoted Alumni staff and University leaders, have planned a big event for us beginning March 19.

Classes in celebration are 1950, 1951, 1955, 1956, 1960, 1961, 1965, 1966, 1970, and 1971. For those of us who lived in Westover and Carnegie Hall, you are asked to send stories and photos.

As a freshman in Carnegie, I have already announced I will refrain from telling stories and heaven forbid, sharing any photos. I'm told the statute of limitations has expired, but I think Dean Tiller is just telling us that so he can clear up any cold cases. This could jeopardize the designation for Carnegie to be added to the Register of Historic Places (just kidding!).

For my friends in the Charlotte area, Vicki and I along with our sweet English Cream Golden, Luna, and our cat Boomer, will be relocating on February 25, to Belmont, NC, where I have exited retirement to rejoin the chamber world. What a hoot seeing my old chamber friends on Zoom, who thought I had actually exited this world. (LOL!).

So, until we all talk and see each other on Google in March, take your shots and mask up until we kick this pandemic's rear!!

See you on the screen.

**Marc Jordan '69**

[marc.jordan@montcrossareachamber.com](mailto:marc.jordan@montcrossareachamber.com)

### **Message from the Director of Alumni Relations**

Hello Westover Alumni,

If you are in the classes of 1950, 1951, 1955, 1956, 1960, 1961, 1965, 1966, 1970, and 1971, please [register](#) to participate in your virtual class call!

Virtual Class Calls - February 22-25, 2021

#### **Class of 1950 and Class of 1951**

- Monday, Feb. 22 | 2 p.m.

#### **Class of 1955 and Class of 1956**

- Tuesday, Feb. 23 | 2 p.m.

#### **Class of 1960 and Class of 1961**

- Wednesday, Feb. 24 | 2 p.m.
- Class of 1965 and Class of 1966**
- Thursday, Feb. 25 | 2 p.m.
- Class of 1970**
- Tuesday, Feb. 23 | 7 p.m.
- Class of 1971**
- Thursday, Feb. 25 | 7 p.m.

I would like to share a few additional pieces of news and a request for your assistance. We have an exciting Westover Weekend From Home, March 19-20. **The events for Westover Weekend will be held via Google Meet. If you are unfamiliar with Google Meet, we are happy to help! We will have training sessions before Westover Weekend From Home 2021. If you want to set up a time to practice before the virtual class calls in February, please email the Alumni Office at [alumni@lynchburg.edu](mailto:alumni@lynchburg.edu) this week. Also, while we are promoting these events as online events, there is an option to join using only your phone. If you want to attend, please register and we can send you the details for the Google Meet or the dial-in information using the phone.**

We would like to request your help with a few projects:

1. **Westover Hall and Carnegie Hall Stories** - We are compiling stories and photos of Westover Hall and Carnegie Hall to share at Westover Weekend From Home and on campus. Please send your stories or photos to the Alumni Office. Thanks to the hard work of Dr. Clifton Potter '62 and Dr. Dorothy Bundy Turner Potter '64, Carnegie Hall has been placed on the National Register of Historic Places. We will be celebrating this exciting recognition during Westover Weekend. We will incorporate your stories into the remarks. Stories about Westover Hall will be included in a display in the new Westover residence hall. **Please email your stories and photos of Westover Hall and Carnegie Hall to [alumni@lynchburg.edu](mailto:alumni@lynchburg.edu).**
2. **Patterson Six Sit-In 60th Anniversary** - December 2020 marked the 60th Anniversary of the Patterson Six Sit-In. Two of our own alumni were involved in this important event in the Lynchburg Civil Rights movement. An event highlighting the two Lynchburg alumni involved will be held during Westover Weekend From

Home 2021. If you have any stories related to the sit-in or your role in the Civil Rights Movement, please share them with us at [alumni@lynchburg.edu](mailto:alumni@lynchburg.edu).

**Please be sure to send in any photos or stories you would like to share by March 1, 2021.**

Continue reading for more details and other news.

Heather Ayers Garnett '05 MEd  
Director of Alumni Relations

**In this edition of the Westover newsletter:**

[Westover Weekend From Home 2021](#)  
[News from Westover Alumni](#)  
[Alumni Reach Out](#)  
[Anecdotes from Carlton Deale '65](#)  
[Update Your Information](#)  
[Deceased Alumni](#)

**[Westover Weekend From Home 2021](#)**

**Westover Weekend 2021 - March 19-20!**

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

Our Westover Weekend celebrations will be virtual this year. Please join us for some special events throughout the weekend:

- Dedication for Carnegie Hall, celebrating its listing on the National Register of Historic Places
- An event highlighting our two alumni who were part of the Patterson Six Sit-In
- Time with President Alison Morrison-Shetlar
- Retirement celebration for Jan Cocke Sigler '65

- Westover history presentation with Dr. Julius Sigler '62, '15 DSc.
- And more!

[Please see the full schedule and register to attend.](#)

### **News from Westover Alumni**

**Bill Atherholt '61:** I have never put my life together on paper in this manner or for this purpose so I will start at the beginning. I was born on September 19, 1938 in Lynchburg, Virginia but the beginning of my effort to decide what I was to do with my life was the year 1952, in the middle of the Korean War. I was in school at Virginia Episcopal School (VES) in Lynchburg. I loved building model airplanes. In the 1950s model airplanes were made of balsa wood and constructed just like a real aircraft. I built many of them and if I produced a good one, I would submit it to the Hobby Shop on 9<sup>th</sup> Street in Lynchburg for grading in the next competition. Building those airplanes significantly influenced me to want to fly one. I decided that I wanted to be a Navy or Marine Corps pilot and fly the Corsair fighter airplane. This was a dream of course but a serious one.

I had one other love also. I wanted to attend Virginia Polytechnic Institute (VPI) and enter the military by that means. At that time VPI had about 5800 students and all but a few were in the Cadet Corps. The school offered only Army and Air Force ROTC training. In October 1955, my senior year at VES, I applied to VPI and was accepted and placed in Army ROTC. Sadly, also in October 1955 my father died. I had lost the guiding person I needed to help me move forward toward my life's goal. In the summer of 1956 before attending VPI I met Mott Mason, who would become a special person in my life. Mott lived in Princess Anne County, Virginia. At VPI, I did not do well academically but I did enjoy the military life. However, there was no way for me to become a Navy or Marine Corps pilot by remaining at VPI. So, before they asked me to leave VPI, I decided that I would leave and hopefully find a path to be the pilot I wished to become.

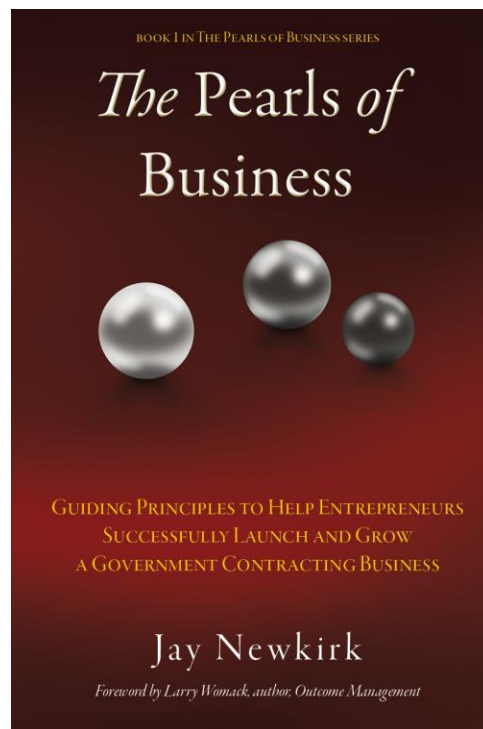
[Enter Lynchburg College...](#)

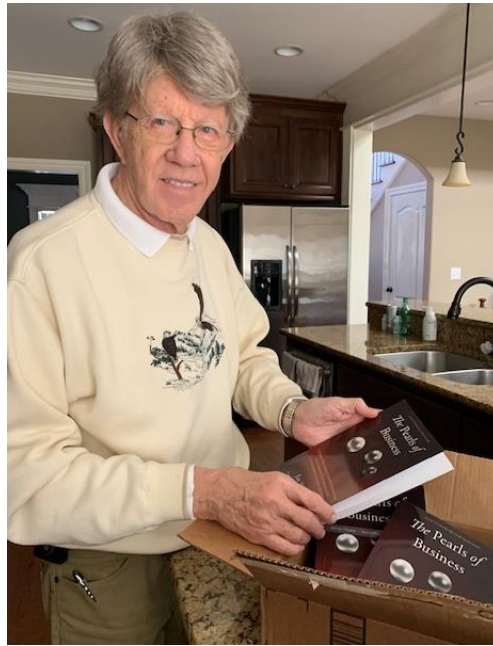
**Richard H. Walker '62 and Ann Hancock Walker '62:** We married in 1963. Richard worked at IBM for 29 years. Ann taught 5th grade in VA and GA until she retired. We have 2 daughters and sons in law, 4 grandchildren, all in GA. Ann lived in Westover her Freshman year when Richard was President of Freshman class and she was Secretary. Girls were on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, boys on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor. We used to send them snap in a box with a rope out the window. I lived in the room with the Turret and had to wear my coat to bed. So cold. We celebrated our 56th anniversary by taking our whole family to Cortona, Italy, where 1 daughter studied art through the University of Georgia abroad program. We are coming up

on our 58th anniversary in February. Happy times THERE AND HERE!

**Jay Newkirk '63:** "It's been my dream since I launched and sold a government contracting business in the 90's to share what I learned with future entrepreneurs and business leaders (including Lynchburg alums!). And now my dream has come true. My first book, *The Pearls of Business*, is finally published. In it, I offer guidance and insights into launching and growing a government contracting business, while I also share personal anecdotes and examples from my work, overlaying everything I teach with inspirational quotes (the pearls) from diverse thought leaders to help drive my guidance home.

The book is [available on Amazon](https://www.amazon.com/dp/1683700000) in both paperback and ebook. My website is [www.jaynewkirk.com](http://www.jaynewkirk.com). Please feel free to get in touch if you have any questions or would like to learn more."





Jay Newkirk '63

**Kemper Baker '67 and Beverly (Bev) Shorter Baker '67 :** Kemper and I are still living in our historic home, "Fighting Creek" on five acres in beautiful Powhatan County. When the pandemic restrictions began in March, we spent many hours outside doing yard work but now we read, plan dinners, work puzzles, and lament the state of the world. I play tennis, paint, and bake. Our son teaches and coaches tennis at Methodist University in Fayetteville, N.C. As Wordsworth would say, "The world is too much with us...."

**Jo Anne Woernle Dudley '70:** I am a retired music instructor from Liberty University, spending the last 17 years of my career there. My teaching career spanned 40 years all together in various school systems around the area. I was widowed in 2015. We had 3 sons together. I now have 11 grandchildren, which give me such joy. I am an organist at a local church and still teach piano.

**Jane VanBoskirk '70** has been hard at work with her team putting together episode 2 of her YouTube series "What Would Eleanor Say." In "[A Christmas Message](#)," she relates what Christmas was like for her family privately and as the First Family of the United States. She reflects on the meaning of Christmas and her hopes for the happiness and well-being of

others. -Submitted by Tom Cassidy '73.

**Tom Cassidy '73:** retired July 31, 2020, as director of special projects at the University of Lynchburg after 33 years of service in Alumni and Parents Relations, Stewardship, and Special Events - particularly the Drysdale Student Center Campaign. He joins his wife, Laurie '02, retired administrative assistant in art, theatre, and the Daura Gallery (now the Daura Museum of Art) in retirement. Tom and Laurie live 1 mile from campus and look forward to seeing many of their Alumni friends at Westover Alumni Weekends in the Spring or Homecoming in October. Contact Tom at 434-941-4601 or [cassidy.t@lynchburg.edu](mailto:cassidy.t@lynchburg.edu) to let them know when you will be on campus! Tom would like to thank all the students, faculty, staff, alumni and parents volunteers he worked with over the years. He also has special thanks for working with the late President George Rainsford and President Charles Warren and his wife Nancy. Last, but not least, Tom enjoyed his time working with President Emeritus Ken Garren and his wife Sheila, especially when they were working with the Alumni and Friends Travel Program.

### **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](mailto:alumni@lynchburg.edu).

### **Anecdotes from O. Carlton Deale '65**

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

[Playing with Fire](#)  
[Second Chance](#)  
[Symbolic Logic](#)

### **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](mailto:alumni@lynchburg.edu) or calling [434.544.8293](tel:434.544.8293).

### **Deceased Alumni**

(Listing includes notifications received by the University as of November 16, 2020 - February 16, 2021).

Norton W. Hurd '38 - 1/8/2021  
Elaine Fitch Panzarino '42 - 12/12/2020  
Ruth Smith Ottinger '47 - 12/18/2020  
Cecil W. Driskill '49 - 1/15/2021  
Robert K. Pearson '49 - 2/12/2021  
Mildred "Mimi" Bowers Cannon '50 - 2/12/2021  
J. Carlton Londeree '51 - 1/13/2021  
Juanita Seward Coleman '52 - 11/16/2020  
Harold S. Johnson '53 - 12/24/2020  
Frederick G. Overstreet '53 - 1/27/2021  
Brig Gen. Ralph E. Hickman, Sr. '54 - 12/17/2020  
Ernest R. Garbee III '55 - 12/8/2020  
Rev. Bobby C. Buchanan '56 - 12/5/2020  
Jane Daniel Dye '56 - 1/14/2021  
John T. Hundley '56 - 2/14/2021  
Dr. Elliott L. Shearer '57 - 12/7/2020  
Roger P. Jones, Jr. '60 - 1/22/2021  
Dr. Edward L. Overman '60 - 12/26/2020  
Barbara Cowan Dowler '61 - 1/29/2021  
Kenneth W. Farmer '61 - 1/16/2021  
Ralph J. Shotwell '61 - 2/8/2021  
Henry R. Bateman, Jr. '62 - 1/12/2021  
John B. Walker '62 - 1/25/2021  
Ryland O. Wilbun '62 - 12/21/2020  
Steven G. Foley '63 - 2/8/2021  
Phyllis S. Campbell '64 - 1/13/2021  
Betty Roseberry Lindsoe '64, '69 MEd - 1/17/2021  
Billie Newman Carwile '65 - 12/22/2020  
Thomas E. Gough '65 - 1/16/2021  
Frederick C. Wingfield '66 - 12/26/2020  
Dr. Helen Mundy Witt '67, '78 MEd, '13 DEd - 1/8/2021  
Ronald S. Hathen '68 - 2/11/2021  
William B. Martin '68 - 1/5/2021  
Anne Royster Gunther '70 - 1/10/2021  
Linda Baughan Norton '70 - 1/26/2021  
Thomas F. Wade '71, '77 MEd - 2/6/2021  
Sue L. Kennedy '73 - 1/18/2021

Robert R. Rowland '73 - 2/7/2021  
Geoffrey G. Gattis '74 - 1/12/2021  
Kimberly Hulligan White '74 - 11/23/2020

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](mailto:garnett_h@lynchburg.edu).

Until next time,

*Heather Ayers Garnett*

Heather Ayers Garnett '05 MEd

Director of Alumni Relations



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

[Home](#) | [Admissions](#) | [Apply](#) | [Visit](#) | [Athletics](#)

University of Lynchburg | 1501 Lakeside Dr., Lynchburg, VA 24501 | 434.544.8100  
[Privacy Policy](#) | [My Email Preferences](#)