



Westover Alumni News - **May 2020**

Message from the Chair

Dear Westover Council dudes and dudettes,

What are you doing to stay out of trouble during these crazy Covid-19 days? Send us your stories and photos. For Miss Vicki '70 and me, we are staying busy trying to keep up with our soon to be one year old English Cream Golden Retriever, named Luna. What were we thinking? She joins me each day as we wait in the drive thru at Starbucks. She's responsible for free coffees two weeks in a row. The car in front tells the barista what a cutie she is.

We also have a weekly zoom cocktail party with the Pitta's (Rod Pitta '70), Thieringer's (JT Thieringer '70), Robert's (Roger Robert '69), Green's (Peyton Green), and Wither's (Tucker Wither '69) and their respective lovely wives. Imagine these ladies have stayed with this motley crew since we graduated from LC/UofL in the late 60's and early 70's.

For me, I have a big anniversary coming up in August to celebrate my 20th anniversary of my successful heart transplant. Who would have ever thought. Back to the real purpose of this post.

Hold the date for Westover Weekend 2021 - March 19-21.

We will be celebrating the classes that were in reunion for this year, 1950, 1955, 1960, 1965, and 1970, plus those for next year, 1951, 1956, 1961, 1966, and 1971. Looking on the brightside, we'll have twice as many classes celebrating so that should assure a pretty good party.

Again, we would love to hear how you have been getting through your respective lock-ins, or any other news you might have. If any one has come up with a good "corona shuffle" that you would like to share, please send us your video. Hopefully we will not have to edit or delete too much of it.

Lastly, our thanks and prayers go out to all those folks who have been on the front lines protecting us from this virus, as well as those who have been providing us with essential

services. And, of course, our prayers go out to any of you or your family members who have experienced the virus. Hopefully, we are beginning to see signs of relief, but please remain safe wherever you are and what ever circumstances you are dealing with.

Take care Hornets,

Marc Jordan '69

marc@shamgarconsulting.com

A request from Heather Ayers Garnett '05 MEd, Director of Alumni Relations:

We are celebrating the class of 2020! We would like your help in congratulating them. This May, we held a virtual Conferring of Degrees for the class and on October 31 we will hold an in-person commencement for those who will be able to attend; however, no one from the Class of 2020 will experience a traditional Commencement like we all enjoyed. To help them feel like a part of the Alumni Association, we want them to hear from alumni.

Will you please send notes of congratulations and advice to the class of 2020? In July we want to present them with a collection of congratulatory messages and notes. Email us your advice for after graduation or a congratulatory message. We'll combine the messages on a Kudos Board on our webpage. The Kudos Board will be available in July.

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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! We are sorry that we had to reschedule the 2020 Westover

Reunion and look forward to celebrating special reunions with all of you.

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!

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.

Wednesday Wisdom Webinars (WWW) Series

The Lynchburg Alumni Association invites you to join us for our WWW Series. The Office of Alumni Relations will host a series of virtual lectures from University professors and Lynchburg alumni. Every Wednesday two virtual presentations will be held on Google Meet. The first is offered at 12 p.m. and the second is offered at 7 p.m., both EDT. A schedule of virtual lectures for the next few weeks is below. Please [register](#) for the lecture(s) you would like to attend. Additional lectures will be added very soon! If you are unable to join the live presentation, you may [request a link](#) to watch it.

Wednesday, June 3

12:00 noon, EDT

[Laura Henry-Stone](#), PhD, Associate Professor of Environmental Studies and
Sustainability;

Director of Sustainability, University of Lynchburg

Lecture: Thinking like a watershed: The case of College Lake

Wednesday, June 3

7:00 p.m., EDT

[Adam Dean](#), PhD, Associate Professor of History, John M. Turner Chair in the Humanities

Lecture: The Origins of America's Best Idea: The Creation of Yosemite and Yellowstone
Nature Parks

Thank the Garrens

President Garren and Sheila Garren will retire on July 31, 2020. If you would like to express your appreciation to the Garrens, please email alumni@lynchburg.edu. We'll combine the messages to present to the Garrens.

Save the date for their virtual celebration - Wednesday, June 17! The virtual event will be through Google Meet at 7 p.m. to watch a program honoring and recognizing the Garrens and an opportunity for you to add your thanks to them.



President Kenneth Garren and Sheila Garren

Retirement Reception for Tom Cassidy '73

Tom Cassidy '73, Director of Special Projects, and formerly Director of Alumni and Parent Relations is retiring. A number of alumni have expressed their interest in making a gift in honor of Tom Cassidy '73. [Gifts](#) made in Tom's honor should be directed to the Lynchburg Fund and/or the Daura Gallery. Tom will be notified that you made a gift in his honor.

Save the date for Tom's virtual celebration, Wednesday, June 24! The virtual event will be through Google Meet at 7 p.m. to recognize Tom for all of his career achievements throughout his 33 years at Lynchburg and an opportunity for you to express your appreciation to him.

Westover Alumni News

Karen Witt '60

We were in the tornado on Easter Sunday - in our safe place, following all the rules and we were OK!

Our house has some damage. It will be gutted from three bedrooms, two bathrooms, living room and dining room. We are now living in a sweet newly painted fantastic four bedroom with a fenced well-groomed backyard in Cleveland, TN. May be here from 6 months to a year.

In prep for the virus, we had a sick room and had given all the financial information to our daughters out of town. Between the three, they fielded all the phone calls (when I could not even remember my phone number) and handled everything.

I taught Disaster Prep and having someone out of town was in the notes - now I know why! In shock, you just cannot think, remember, or deal with calls. One daughter who came in from Winchester, VA could get out on her phone. Verizon here was dead. The motels did not have phone or internet.

Many of the houses are being demolished - all personal contents scooped up into dump trucks.

I am ok here in Cleveland, but it is very difficult going back into the area.

We are blessed! Our pets are OK, we are OK, and we will recover a lot, and rebuild.

Bernard D. Reams, Jr. '65

Bernard retired on May 17, 2019 from his position in the School of Law at St. Mary's University in San Antonio after 19 years on the faculty. He was designed Professor Emeritus of Law. He resides in San Antonio in self-isolation during the QED 19 crisis.

Virginia Boyd Collings '66

My husband and I have taken this opportunity to explore areas of northeast Ohio on foot. We have found that, in addition to local parks, college campuses provide great places to walk as they are quiet and beautiful with flowers and blooming trees. Within a thirty-minute drive we have Oberlin, Hiram, John Carroll, and Baldwin Wallace. We were fortunate to adopt a wonderful dog, Bella, from our local animal shelter in late March. She has been an affectionate companion and source of amusement. She is a curious mix of chihuahua, dachshund, and terrier! I am looking forward to a return to completing vocational rehabilitation evaluations whenever in-person consultations become feasible.

Louise Jefferson Daniel '66

Gene and I moved to a 55+ community in Chester (VA) three years ago and thoroughly enjoy the convenience of it. While most people are retired at 76 years old, I can't find anyone to take my place as music director of Colonial Heights Presbyterian Church, so continue on with services and concerts a couple times a year with my choir and with my piano partner. It keeps me feeling young! I am thrilled that my granddaughter Rebecca Faulkner has finished her freshman year at UL (I'm learning to say it!). While she is not a music major, she is studying violin and participating in three instrumental groups. I am happy!

Jim Wilson '66

Jim and his wife Becky Wilson '68 have a new puppy – 4 month old Abby.



Ann Woore Smith '67

Ann and a few other Lynchburg alumni got together for lunch in St. Augustine, Florida in March.



James Smith '66, Ann Woore Smith '67, Delmar Lewis '65, Pat Skillman Lewis '67, Teresa Parades Sanchez '67 (Ruben Sanchez), and Raymond Moseley '65.

Nancy Rossler Nadin '68, '69 MAT

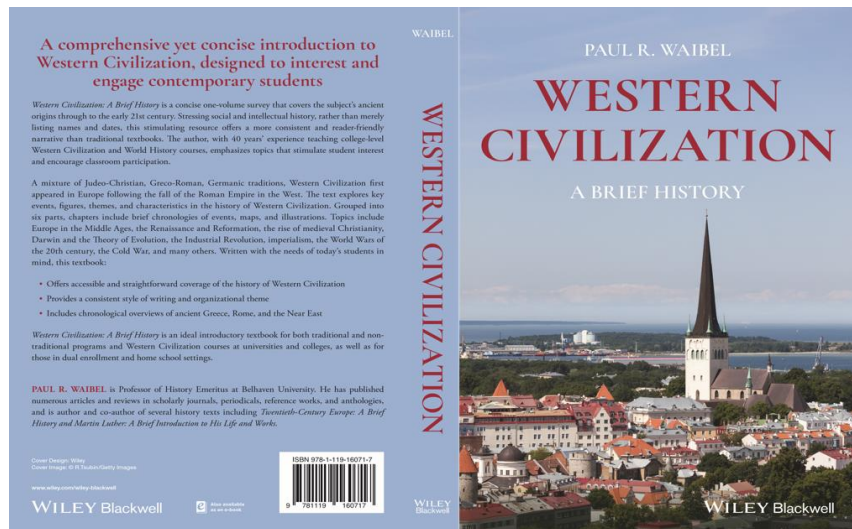
Nancy has a new address: 8721 Basswood Place, Macedonia, OH 44056.

Paul Waibel '68

My latest book, Western Civilization A Brief History (Hoboken, NJ: Wiley Blackwell, 2020) was released early March 2020. It is a college level textbook. This is my 7th book since graduating from LC. It is dedicated to my favorite professor, Sheldon Vanauken. Further information about the book can be found at https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/1119160715/ref=dbs_a_def_rwt_bibl_vppi_i1. I retired in June 2016 after teaching for 42 years. I spent the past 3 years writing the Western Civilization book.



Paul Waibel '68



Paul's book

Phil Mazzara '70

Phil was named President & CEO of The Doughboy Foundation and elected to its board of directors at its annual board meeting on May 20. The foundation is the fundraising arm of the U.S. World War 1 Centennial Commission. Both organizations have worked since 2013 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the end of WW1 on Nov. 11, 2018, the principal project of which is the construction of a \$50 million National World War I Memorial at Pershing Park, Washington, DC. Previously, Mazzara served as the foundation's chief development officer. Progress on the construction of the Memorial and the "A Soldier's Journey" 38-figure bronze sculpture can be seen on their website at: www.worldwar1centennial.org.

Phil will present a virtual lecture in our Wednesday Wisdom Webinar Series in late July! We will send more details and how to register to attend his lecture.

Stuart Satterwhite '70

Stuart and his wife Barbara celebrated their 55th anniversary on May 26.

Barbara retired in September 2000. I retired in August 1999. Since then we have traveled to Norway, Denmark, Germany, Poland, Russia, Estonia, and Sweden. Also to Canada and Hawaii. We have traveled to Berlin twice. Loved Berlin.

We are well and as you can see, we have enjoyed our retirement.

Bruce Jacobson '71



Gail Aveson B.A. '73, M.Ed. '74

Article on Gail Aveson from 2018: Gail will be in concert on Sunday November 18 at 3:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary of St. Mark's United Methodist Church in Easton for her 50th Anniversary Concert. Aveson, a familiar voice on the Eastern Shore began her solo singing career at St. Mark's during the summer of 1968 accompanied by then dental student Mark Higginbottom. She became a soloist with the Swarthmore High School Choir, the Swarthmore Methodist Episcopal Church Choir, Lynchburg Concert Choir and Madrigal Group and the Choir at Historic Christ Church (Episcopal) in Irvington, Virginia. Gail has been a soloist for most of the churches in the Easton/Oxford/St. Michaels area over the years.

On the stage, she has performed with the Colonel Richardson Players, The Skipjack Players, Easton High School and the Tred Avon Players. She has been a soloist with Miles

River Musicales, Abendmusiken and the Easton Choral Arts Society. A charter member of the Heart and Music Cast, Gail has performed in all eight shows.

Several highlights of her career have been the solo concerts she sang to benefit the Avalon and her three solo concerts at Chesapeake College for the scholarship fund.

Gail has sung as far south as Florida, as far west as Chicago and as far north as Philadelphia.

Her teachers include Evelyn Whitmore Smith (Swarthmore College), Dr. Robert Ellinwood (Lynchburg College), Norman Heyde (Salisbury University), Dr. William Wharton (Chesapeake College), David Price (Wilmington), Susan Chadwick (Baltimore) and Melissa Bidlack Towson).

Songs in the concert include her very first solo again accompanied by Dr. Mark Higginbottom, *O Mio Babbino Caro*, *Steal Me* from Menotti's *Old Maid and the Thief* as well as two contemporary duets: *Never/Easy* (Closer Than Ever) with soprano, Debra Smith and *I'd Give it All for You* (Songs for a New World) with Joe Tyler. Also accompanying is Gail's longtime friend and organist at St. Mark's, Dr. William Wharton.

Gail has been teaching voice for 20 years. Her students range in age from 6 to 80. A retired school counselor, she is also on the adjunct faculty at Wilmington University and is a Licensed Professional Counselor.

Westover Reunion Booklet - Updated

The Reunion Booklet for the classes of 1960, 1965, and 1970 where alumni shared their stories of life after Lynchburg has been updated since the last newsletter in February. Click the link below to see the booklet!

[Westover Reunion Booklet - Updated](#)

Anecdotes from O. Carlton Deale '65

Carlton has written many stories of his time at Lynchburg! To read his latest anecdote, click on the title below. *Mild disclaimer: A warning to the reader that events and memories of events that occurred five or six decades ago are shrouded in the mists of time and alumni may well have differing memories of those happenings.

[Upstanding](#)

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 February 19, 2020 - May 28, 2020).

Bettie Hudgins Miles '41 - 3/31/2020
Ann Hudgins Sawyer '47 - 3/31/2020
Melba Cornett Crank '49 - 3/3/2020
Robert L. Finch '51 - 4/9/2020
John M. Shumate, Jr. '51 - 2/29/2020
Marie Vause Austin '52 - 4/5/2020
Royce Woodford Teague '53 - 3/19/2020
R. Ralph Crockett '54 - 3/22/2020
Annette English McQuinn '54 - 4/15/2020
Nancy Cochran Wooldridge '54 - 3/26/2020
George B. Cress '56 - 4/22/2020
Edward K. Williams '56 - 3/16/2020
Margaret Taylor Wood '56 - 4/9/2020
Ronald E. Martin '59 - 4/30/2020
Kenneth R. Burnett '60 - 4/24/2020
John W. G. Wallace, Jr. '60 - 3/24/2020
Glenda Haywood Minnick '62 - 3/16/2020
Dr. Barry E. Campbell '63 - 4/19/2020
Paul L. Dalton '64 - 5/5/2020
George E. Gilmer '65 - 4/9/2020
D. Dean Pugh '66 - 2/27/2020
Sharon V. Reitz '69 - 2/29/2020
Thomas A. Policastro '71 - 4/22/2020

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!